

Public Document Pack

**Democratic Services Section
Chief Executive's Department
Belfast City Council
City Hall
Belfast
BT1 5GS**

7th March, 2017

MEETING OF PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

Dear Alderman/Councillor,

In addition to those matters previously notified to you, the following item(s) will also be considered at the meeting to be held at 4.30 pm on Tuesday, 7th March, 2017.

Yours faithfully,

SUZANNE WYLIE

Chief Executive

AGENDA:

- (m) Request for the use the Girdwood Site (Pages 1 - 6)

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Agenda Item 6m



Belfast
City Council

INSERT COMMITTEE NAME

INSERT AGENDA ITEM

Subject:	<i>Request to hold a BBC youth debate programme from the Girdwood site.</i>
Date:	<i>7 March 2014</i>
Reporting Officer:	<i>Nigel Grimshaw, Director City & Neighbourhood Services Department</i>
Contact Officer:	<i>Rose Crozier, Assistant Director City & Neighbourhood Services Department Fintan Grant, City Park Manager (North) Paula Irvine, Community Engagement Officer – Girdwood.</i>

Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
	To seek approval from members to hold a TV youth debate programme at the Girdwood site.
2.0	Recommendations
	It is recommended that council approve this event providing all the relevant paperwork and statutory approvals are in place prior to the broadcast.
3.0	Main report
	<p>The City and Neighbourhood Services Department have been approached by Stephen Nolan to seek permission to broadcast a youth debate programme from the Girdwood site in North Belfast. The objective of the programme is to engage more young people in politics, debate and current affairs and it is proposed that a panel of politicians will take part in the debate to discuss issues raised by the young people that affect the community they live in.</p> <p>The date of the show is yet to be confirmed but it is anticipated that it will be held at 8pm</p>

on an evening in the second week of May. At the core of the show will be a 20 metre dome in which the show will be held. The message being that the BBC is travelling into the heart of communities so that they are on the ground listening to the next generation.

The event presents a promotional opportunity for the Girdwood site which will be showcased as a facility which helps young people to constructively improve their lives.

There are a number of areas within the site that can accommodate the dome and due to the fact that it will be lit up for visual effect we will work with the BBC production team, and officers from BCC Property and Projects, to establish which of these is best suited if committee approval is granted.

The dome will accommodate 150 - 200 young people aged between 16 and 21 years. The audience will be sourced from youth groups and it is proposed that a cross section of the demographic in this age group will be involved. Officers will utilise their current engagement channels, including the BCC Youth Forum and neighbourhood Youth Forums and networks, to ensure we facilitate a representative group for the debate.

Set up and take down of the set will take place over two days. A professional BBC production team will be hired to provide all logistical support required to hold such a production.

This is a trial show, produced through Stephen Nolan's independent production company and if successful the concept could be used to hold future events in other parks throughout the city.

Financial & Resource Implications.

A bond may be required to carry out any potential re-instatement works to the "set" location. City & Neighbourhood officers will support event organisation and engagement including the use of Park Wardens to patrol the site as part of their normal duties and to assist in issues such as traffic management etc.

Equality or Good Relations Implications

This event will provide an opportunity for young people across the city to voice their views on a range of issues and will have a potential positive impact on good relations and equality.

4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	Appendix 1: 'A new age in politics' Proposal from Stephen Nolan.

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A New Age in Politics

Objective : to engage more young people in politics / debate / current affairs

Reasoning : There are not enough young voices talking on BBCNI and I want to try to do something about it. This is a trial project, produced through Stephen Nolan's independent production company.

I want to create a debate show specifically for young people, so that they can feel able to challenge politicians and affect the community they live in. I do not want this to feel like a "youth show" - instead I believe young people should feel this show gives them a real, authoritative base to express themselves.

Branding : At the core of this show, a large 20m dome will travel into the heart of communities.



The message is that the BBC is travelling to them, so that we are on the ground, listening to what matters to the next generation.

I really like the idea of bringing The Dome to parks throughout Northern Ireland , so that the park itself can also be seen as providing another facility to help young people constructively improve their lives.

Proposal: The intention is to run a broadcast trial of the concept in Girdwood, Belfast in May. We would like to record at 8pm.

Detail : I would hope to have 150- 200 young people for our audience. The majority of these under 21 year olds will be sourced and researched from youth groups.

There will also be a panel of politicians.

The professional BBC production facility will be hired to provide cameras, equipment and lighting etc .

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