

# Document Pack

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



30<sup>th</sup> November, 2012

## **MEETING OF PARKS AND LEISURE COMMITTEE**

Dear Alderman / Councillor,

The above-named Committee will meet in the Lavery Room (Room G05), City Hall on Thursday, 6th December, 2012 at 4.30 pm, for the transaction of the business noted below.

You are requested to attend.

Yours faithfully

PETER McNANEY

Chief Executive

### **AGENDA:**

1. Routine Matters
  - (a) Apologies
  - (b) Minutes
  - (c) Declarations of Interest
2. Schedule of Meetings - 2013 (Pages 1 - 2)
3. Support for Sport Development Sports Grants (Pages 3 - 6)
4. Finance Report - Quarter 2 (Pages 7 - 18)
5. Dundrod Cemetery - Update (Pages 19 - 22)
6. Ulster GAA Partnership - Development Update (Pages 23 - 30)

7. Departmental Plan - Mid-year Review (Pages 31 - 38)
8. Growing Communities (Pages 39 - 40)
9. Young Adult Association Areas (Pages 41 - 56)
10. Tennents Vital (Pages 57 - 60)
11. World Police and Fire Games - Temporary Accommodation (Pages 61 - 68)
12. Lagan Valley Regional Park (Pages 69 - 72)
13. Laganscape (Pages 73 - 76)
14. Hospitality for Events (Pages 77 - 80)
15. Proposed Event - NI Schools Cup 'Quarter Finals Day' (Pages 81 - 84)
16. Pilot Night Activity Programme (Pages 85 - 94)
17. Briefing of Culture, Arts and Leisure Assembly Committee (Pages 95 - 96)
18. Clement Wilson Park Bridge (Pages 97 - 106)
19. Mountain Bike Trail at Barnett Demense (Pages 107 - 112)
20. Beechmount Harriers (Pages 113 - 114)



### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Schedule of Meetings 2013</b>
<b>Date:</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> December 2012
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Mr S McCrory, Democratic Services Manager, ext. 6314
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Mr B Flynn, Democratic Services Officer, ext. 6312

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To advise the Committee of the dates and times of the meetings of the Parks and Leisure Committee for 2013.

<b>2.0</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	Members will be aware that the monthly meetings of the Committee are held normally at 4:30 pm on the 2nd Thursday of each month. However, due to the holiday periods and the timing of the monthly Council meetings and, in order to assist with the decision-making process, it has been necessary on occasions to reschedule some of the meetings.

<b>2.0</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>												
2.1	A full list of the proposed meeting dates for 2013 is set out hereunder: <table style="margin-left: 40px; border: none;"> <tr> <td>10<sup>th</sup> January</td> <td>14<sup>th</sup> February</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14<sup>th</sup> March</td> <td>11<sup>th</sup> April</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9<sup>th</sup> May</td> <td>13<sup>th</sup> June</td> </tr> <tr> <td>July - no meetings</td> <td>8<sup>th</sup> August</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12<sup>th</sup> September</td> <td>10<sup>th</sup> October</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14<sup>th</sup> November</td> <td>5<sup>th</sup> December</td> </tr> </table>	10 <sup>th</sup> January	14 <sup>th</sup> February	14 <sup>th</sup> March	11 <sup>th</sup> April	9 <sup>th</sup> May	13 <sup>th</sup> June	July - no meetings	8 <sup>th</sup> August	12 <sup>th</sup> September	10 <sup>th</sup> October	14 <sup>th</sup> November	5 <sup>th</sup> December
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14 <sup>th</sup> November	5 <sup>th</sup> December												

<b>3.0</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
	None.

<b>4.0</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
5.1	The Committee is asked to approve the schedule of meetings for 2013.

<b>6.0</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
Following approval of the dates of the meetings by each of the Committees, a bound copy of the schedule will be issued and the website updated accordingly.	

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### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Support for Sport Development Grants
<b>Date:</b>	6 December 2012
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks & Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Claire Moraghan, Sports Development Officer

<b>1</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
1.1	Members will be aware that delegated authority was given to the Director of Parks and Leisure for Hospitality and Development applications requesting up to £3,000 and £1,250 respectively; including a one off equipment grant of £250.

<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	The Director and relevant officer met on Tuesday 27 November to discuss Hospitality applications received during November 2012. 2 Hospitality applications were received and 1 was brought back for re-consideration following the submission of additional information.
2.2	The Hospitality applications for November are listed in Appendix 1.
2.3	Detailed applications are held in the Parks and Leisure Department and can be forwarded to Members on request. A copy of each application will be available at Committee.
2.4	The Hospitality fund is now exhausted and will reopen in March 2013 for April Committee.

<b>3</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
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3.1	<p><u>Financial</u> The table below indicates the amounts allocated from the 2012/2013 budget.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="300 286 1359 474"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="300 286 528 439">Area</th> <th data-bbox="528 286 699 439">Total available</th> <th data-bbox="699 286 884 439">Allocated to date</th> <th data-bbox="884 286 1155 439">Proposed allocation for November 2012</th> <th data-bbox="1155 286 1359 439">Remaining after allocation</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="300 439 528 474">Hospitality</td> <td data-bbox="528 439 699 474">£25,000*</td> <td data-bbox="699 439 884 474">£19,195</td> <td data-bbox="884 439 1155 474">£1,805</td> <td data-bbox="1155 439 1359 474">£5</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p data-bbox="300 474 1359 555"><i>*following review hospitality reduced to from £31,000 to £25,000 (P&amp;L Committee 12 April 2012)</i></p> <p data-bbox="300 586 568 622"><u>Human Resources</u></p> <p data-bbox="300 658 1257 734">There are no human resource implications other than officer time to process the applications.</p> <p data-bbox="300 770 711 806"><u>Asset and Other Implications</u></p>	Area	Total available	Allocated to date	Proposed allocation for November 2012	Remaining after allocation	Hospitality	£25,000*	£19,195	£1,805	£5
Area	Total available	Allocated to date	Proposed allocation for November 2012	Remaining after allocation							
Hospitality	£25,000*	£19,195	£1,805	£5							
3.2	<p>Not Applicable.</p>										

<b>4</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Considerations</b>
4.1	All applications have been assessed in line with the current Support for Sport scheme.
4.2	Following the review of Support for Sport, the revised scheme has undergone equality screening in accordance with Council requirements. This process has 'screened out' the revised scheme, identifying only minor, positive equality impacts, and determining that there is no requirement to proceed to Equality Impact Assessment.

<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
5.1	That committee note the content of this report with regard to Support for Sport Hospitality applications.

<b>6</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
The Sports Development Officer to arrange the award of all Support for Sport Grants by 31 December 2012.	

<b>7</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
None	

<b>8</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
<b>Table of Recommendations</b> Appendix 1: Hospitality Applications November 2012.	

Appendix 1 Support for Sport Hospitality Grants December 2012

ID	Club/Organisation	Title of event	Date of event	Tourism Appeal	Guest information	Recommendation	Amount recommended
H-135-13	St. Paul's GAC	Danske Bank Ulster Minor Club Football Tournament 2012	1 January 2013	County Minor Champions compete in event to become Ulster Champions.	120 at presentation dinner	Recommend subject to the confirmation of finalists to meet criteria.	£600.00
H-137-13	Northern Ireland Judo Federation	Northern Ireland Open Judo Competition	21/22 April 2013	Annual competition that is a British ranking event for those players wishing make the GB squad.	600 Particiapants & 50+ officials expected to take part from all over UK & Europe.	Recommend	£1,200.00
H-138-13	Belmont Bowling Club	London Irish touring team	19 August 2013	Touring team will stay in greater Belfast area for 1 week	40 visitors including bowlers and their partners	Do not recommend does not meet the criteria of 50+ visitors	
<b>Total Allocated to date: £23,195</b>			<b>Total Allocated November 2012: £1800</b>			<b>Total remaining:£5</b>	

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### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Financial Reporting – Quarter 2 2012/13
<b>Date:</b>	6 December 2012
<b>Reporting officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact officer:</b>	Jacqueline Wilson, Business Support Manager

<b>1.</b>	<b>Relevant background information</b>
	<p>The Strategic Policy and Resources Committee agreed on 18 June 2010 that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the council would produce financial reporting packs for the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee and each Standing Committee on a quarterly basis</li> <li>• the Budget and Transformation Panel would also receive monthly financial updates if there were any significant issues to report.</li> </ul> <p>The reporting pack (Appendix 1) contains a summary dashboard of the financial indicators and an executive summary explaining the financial performance of Parks and Leisure Committee in the context of the overall financial performance of the council. It also provides a more detailed explanation of each of the relevant indicators covering the year to date and the year end forecast position.</p> <p>The style and layout reflect much of the discussion and feedback arising from the members' financial training at the end of September 2010. As we previously advised the committee, we will continue to develop the style and contents of the reports in liaison with members.</p> <p>Central finance and our departmental management team have worked together to develop the information within this financial reporting pack.</p>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Key issues</b>
	Current and forecast financial position 2012/13

The current performance in quarter two of the Parks and Leisure department shows a (0.2%) variance against the year to date budget; i.e.; an under spend of £25K

There are a number of key reasons for the department's current financial position.

Income for the department is down 8% or £443k on budget:-

- Leisure Centres are down by 15% or £190k on the budget for fees and charges. Promotional activity especially around the new membership scheme is ongoing and campaigns have been underway from June.
- Income from fees and charges at the Zoo is down 15% or £119k against budget and the income at the shop is also down £81k but this is offset by a reduction on expenditure on supplies. Visitor numbers are currently down slightly on the same period as last year despite 100,000 visitors to the Zoo in July and August. The poor weather and the opening of other prestigious visitor centres have impacted on the Zoo.
- Income from fees and charges in Parks and Open Spaces are up by 8.2% largely in relation to events and pitch hire and the Crematorium which is up on budget by £55k.

Utility costs although currently on budget are a concern the department. However the Zoo has been experiencing recent problems with the use of water from the existing borehole which has resulted in the Zoo being reconnected to the mains water supply which will have financial consequences for the revenue budget and potentially the capital budget..

Grounds Maintenance expenditure is currently under spent against budget by £320k. £106k of this relates to the maintenance of paths and £85k in relation to playgrounds but both projects are on schedule to be completed by the end of the year.

Supplies and Services within the department are under spent by £125k. This expenditure relates to a number of programmes of work that are being developed and also programmes of work with external partners that are underway and are being monitored on a monthly basis. This also refers to the issue of the Zoo shop referred to above which has reduced its supplies for resale by £60k in response to poor sales.

The department will continue to monitor the variance between actual and budgeted expenditure/income during quarter 3

The financial reporting pack contains more detail on both the overall council position and the financial performance in each of the Services

	within the Department.
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<b>3.</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
	There is a year to date under-spend of £25k and a forecast over-spend of some £0.35m or 1.5% by year end mainly due to utility costs, the impact of maintenance closures and the issue with the borehole at the Zoo and the predicted income for the year.

<b>4.</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Implications</b>
	None.

<b>5.</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
	Members are recommended to note the above report and associated financial reporting pack.

<b>6.</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
	N/A

<b>7..</b>	<b>Key to abbreviations</b>
	None.

<b>8.</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
	Appendix 1: Financial reporting pack

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Parks and Leisure Committee

Quarterly Finance Report

Report Period: Quarter 2, 2012/13

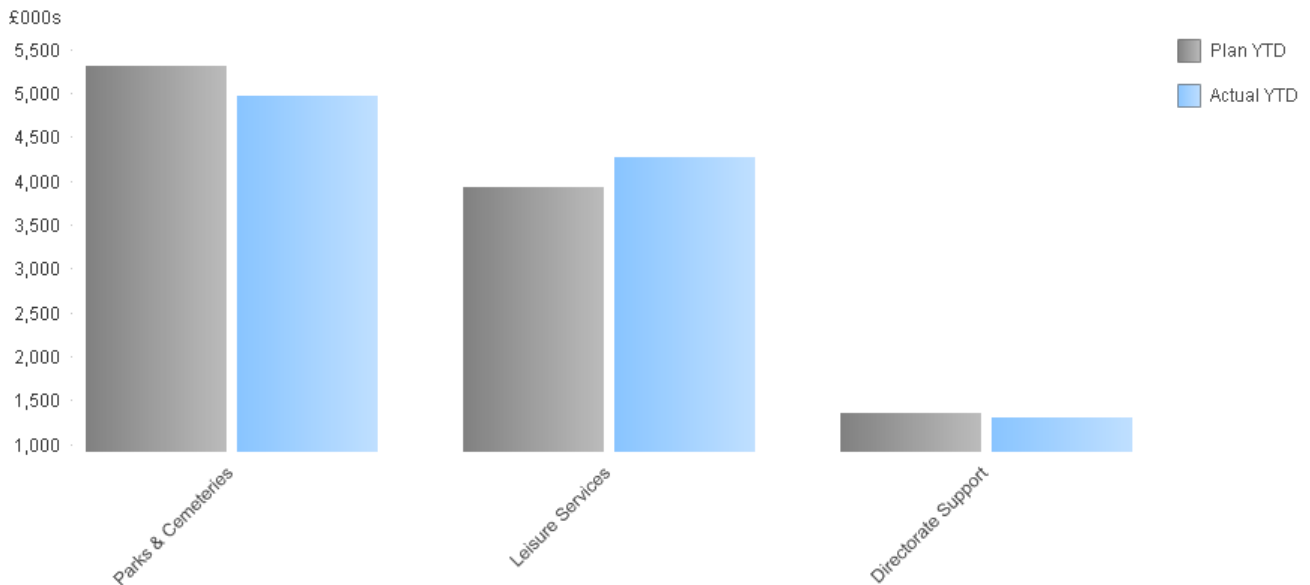
## Dashboard

Revenue Section							Page
Service	YTD	YTD Var £000s	Var %	Forecast	Forecast Var £000s	Var %	3&4
Parks & Cemeteries		(327)	(6.2)%		(70)	(0.6)%	
Directorate Support		(48)	(3.5)%		(30)	(1.1)%	
Leisure Services		349	8.9%		450	5.5%	
<b>Committee Total</b>		<b>(25)</b>	<b>(0.2)%</b>		<b>350</b>	<b>1.5%</b>	
Total of all Committees	YTD	YTD Var £000s	Var %	Forecast	Forecast Var £000s	Var %	
Belfast City Council		(1,228)	(2.1)%		(1,277)	(1.1)%	

Note: Total of all committees is draft until ratified by SP&R.

Key Performance Indicators (KPI)			
KPI	Actual	Target	
Compliant Purchases	82.4%	85.0%	
Timeliness Of Goods On System	49.9%	65.0%	

### Committee Net Revenue Expenditure: Year to Date Position



#### *Commentary and action required:*

The current performance in quarter two of the Parks and Leisure department shows a (0.2%) variance against the year to date budget; i.e.; an under spend of £25K

There are a number of key reasons for the financial performance within the department as follows:

Income for the department is down 8% or £443k on budget. Leisure Centres are down by 15% or £190k on the budget for fees and charges. Promotional activity especially around the new membership scheme is ongoing and campaigns have been underway from June.

Income from fees and charges at the Zoo is down 15% or £119k against budget and the income at the shop is also down £81k but this is offset by a reduction on expenditure on supplies. Visitor numbers are currently down slightly on the same period as last year despite 100,000 visitors to the Zoo in July and August. The poor weather and the opening of other prestigious visitor centres have impacted on the Zoo.

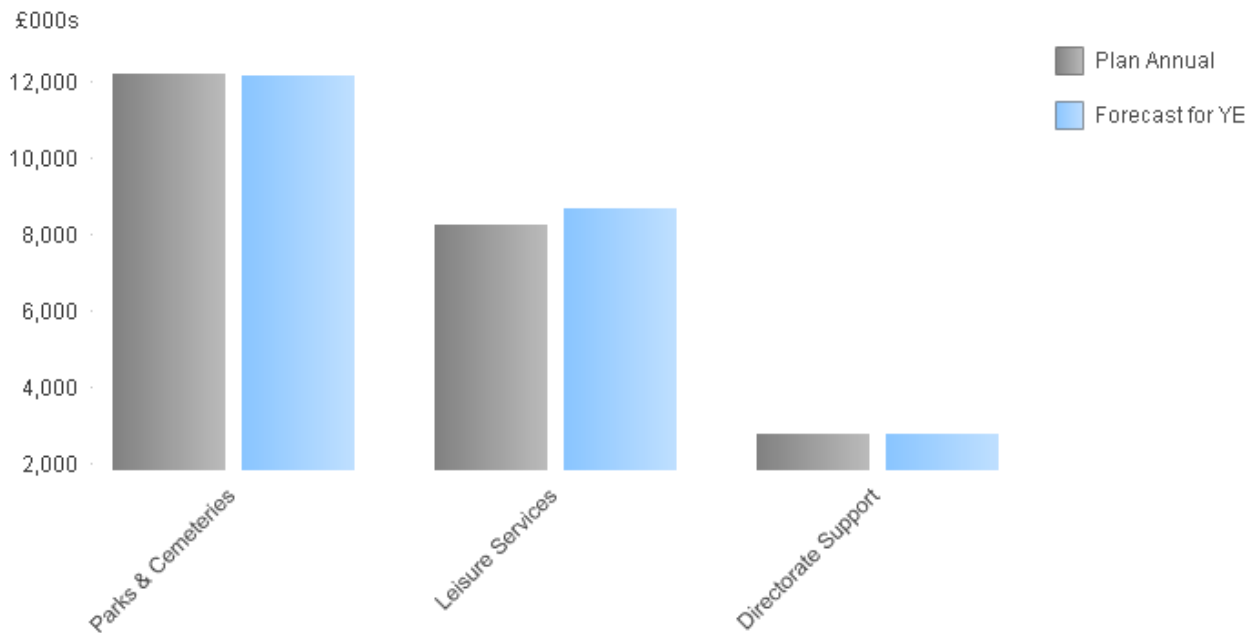
Income from fees and charges in Parks and Open Spaces are up by 8.2% largely in relation to events and pitch hire and the Crematorium which is up on budget by £55k.

Utility costs although currently on budget are a concern the department. However the borehole at the Zoo has also been experiencing problems which has resulted in the Zoo being reconnected to the mains which will have financial consequences.

Grounds Maintenance expenditure is under spent against budget by £320k. £106k of this relates to the maintenance of paths and £85k in relation to playgrounds but both projects are on schedule to be completed by the end of the year.

Supplies and Services within the department are under spent by £125k. This expenditure relates to a number of programmes of work that are being developed and also programmes of work with external partners that are underway and are being monitored on a monthly basis. This also refers to the issue of the Zoo shop referred to above which has reduced its supplies for resale by £60k in response to poor sales.

### Committee Net Revenue Expenditure: Forecast for Year End (YE)



#### *Commentary and action required:*

The yearend forecast for the department at Quarter two is reported as £350k overspent.

The main issues for Leisure are in relation to Utility costs and it is expected that Gas and electricity will be over spent by almost £200k. Staffing costs in relation to restructuring, sickness and overtime could potentially increase the over spend by £100k. In relation to income the service is forecasting that its performance will be £150k down on budget however promotional work is ongoing to improve membership and the Participation Manager is now in post and will be implementing an improvement programme across the city.

Avoniel Pool is currently undergoing maintenance which may require it to be closed for the remainder of the financial year. This could result in a loss of income of up to £70k and this is reflected in the figure above.

For Parks a number of programmes of work are currently being implemented but have experienced delays which may result in an under spend of approximately £150k. Management may also want to delay projects to try and reduce the level of overspends experienced by the department. Also the zoo is forecasting approximately £200k reduction (11%) in income due to a fall in throughput which it will not be able to pick up during the year. However promotional activities are on going to respond to this. The Zoo shop sales have also fallen however the supplies for resale have been reduced to balance this out.

The issue of the borehole at the zoo and the requirement to link to the mains for a period of time could incur charges of up to £120k

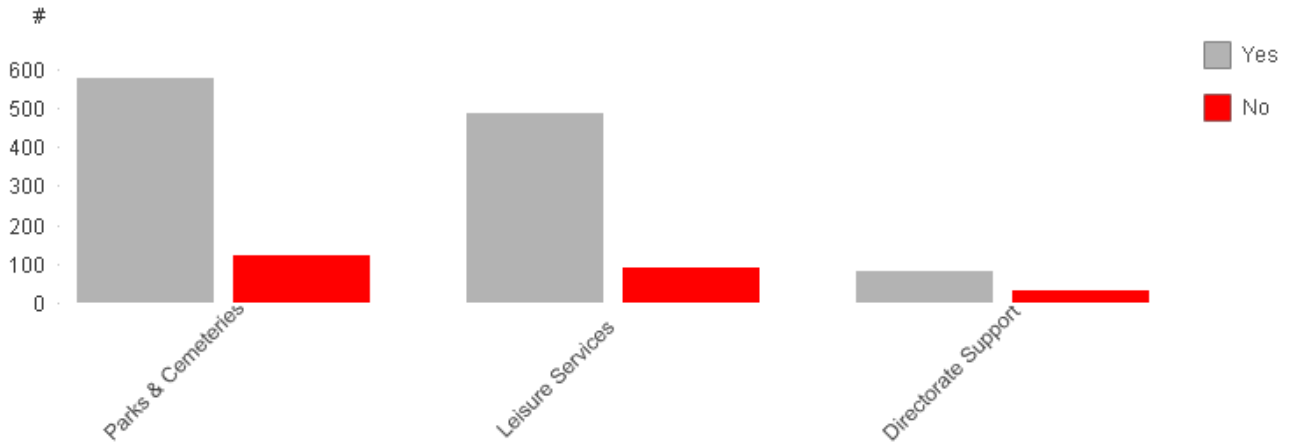
Fees and charges in the crematorium and from pitch hire are looking more favourable and the service is forecasting approximately £240k of additional income by year end.



### Key Performance Indicators (KPIs): Procurement Compliance

Procurement Compliance refers to the purchases that are made in compliance with the standard procure to pay process in BCC. These processes help ensure that our creditors are paid in a timely fashion and our accounts are accurate and up to date. The following indicators are intended to give a flavour of how well we are doing at adhering to the processes.

#### Indicator 1: Compliant Purchases (Purchase order created on system before ordering goods)



The impact of ordering goods without a purchase order being created on the system are that a) the authorisation for purchasing goods has not gone through the proper channels, b) incomplete records are available and decisions are being made based on information that is not correct and c) suppliers whose invoices do not have purchase orders take longer to pay and this contravenes an objective of the investment programme, negatively affecting supplier relationships with BCC.

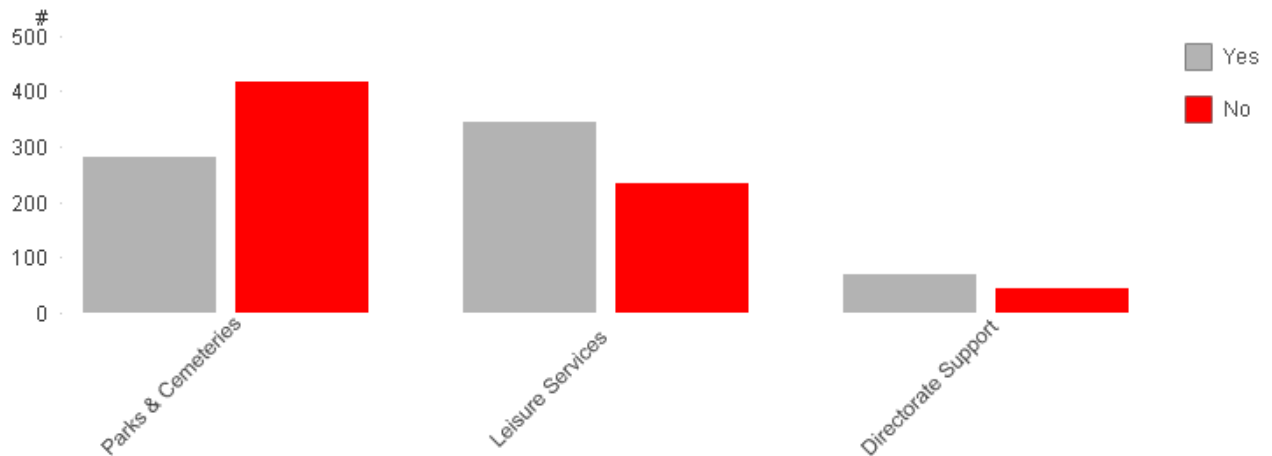
*Commentary and action required:*

The Parks and Leisure Department is 82% compliant in relation to raising purchase order on the system prior to receiving goods and the supplier invoicing for them.

The department is monitoring performance on a monthly basis and identifying any areas where there is non-compliance and reinforcing the policy.

## Key Performance Indicators (KPIs): Procurement Compliance

**Indicator 2: Timeliness of Goods on System** (Goods received and marked received on system within 5 days)



The impact of not marking goods as received onto the system is that a) BCC records of goods on site are not up to date and b) there is a risk that a department might overspend its budget as goods have been received but are not showing against the budget and c) it can take longer to pay the suppliers invoices and this contravenes an objective of the investment programme, negatively affecting supplier relationships with BCC.

### *Commentary and action required:*

The Parks and Leisure Department is approx 50% compliant in relation to goods receiving orders on the system prior to the invoiced being received.

The department is monitoring performance on a monthly basis and is identifying any areas where there is non-compliance to reinforce the policy. On occasions the delivery note is also the invoice and this note would normally generate the goods received on the system. Also in relation to supply of services the receipt of the invoice is the document that informs managers that the service has been completed. The department is working on addressing these issues and also reinforcing the process with our suppliers.

## Parks & Leisure Committee

Service	Section	Plan YTD £000s	Actuals YTD £000s	Variance YTD £000s	% Variance	Annual Plan 2012/2013 £000s	Forecast for Y/E at P6 £000s	Forecast Variance £000s	% Variance
<b>Total</b>		<b>10,580</b>	<b>10,555</b>	<b>(25)</b>	<b>(0.2)%</b>	<b>23,166</b>	<b>23,516</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>1.5%</b>
Parks & Cemeteries	<b>Total</b>	<b>5,298</b>	<b>4,971</b>	<b>(327)</b>	<b>(6.2)%</b>	<b>12,178</b>	<b>12,108</b>	<b>(70)</b>	<b>(0.6)%</b>
Parks & Cemeteries	Landscape & Planning	770	505	(265)	(34.4)%	1,848			
Parks & Cemeteries	P&C Development	89	99	11	11.8%	178			
Parks & Cemeteries	Parks & Cemetery Services	4,521	4,314	(207)	(4.6)%	9,358			
Parks & Cemeteries	Zoo	(82)	52	134	(163.5)%	795			
Directorate Support	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,359</b>	<b>1,311</b>	<b>(48)</b>	<b>(3.5)%</b>	<b>2,768</b>	<b>2,738</b>	<b>(30)</b>	<b>(1.1)%</b>
Directorate Support	P&L Directorate Support	884	881	(3)	(0.3)%	1,770			
Directorate Support	Policy & Business Development	475	430	(45)	(9.6)%	998			
Leisure Services	<b>Total</b>	<b>3,923</b>	<b>4,272</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>8.9%</b>	<b>8,220</b>	<b>8,670</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>5.5%</b>
Leisure Services	Leisure Centres	3,735	3,953	218	5.8%	7,671			
Leisure Services	Leisure Development	188	320	132	70.1%	549			

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Publication of Committee Reports on the Internet.

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### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Ulster GAA Partnership Development Update
<b>Date:</b>	6 December 2012
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks & Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Emer Boyle, Policy and Business Development Manager Elaine Black, Policy and Business Development Officer

1.0	Relevant Background Information
1.1	<p>The purpose of this report is to;-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Provide an update on the ongoing partnership development with the Ulster GAA and;</li> <li>(ii) Seek approval to formalise the governance arrangements through a joint management board in the interim until 'agreements for use' are finalised and in place.</li> </ul>
1.2	<p>Members will recall at November Committee a new Playing Pitches agreements policy was agreed which will manage requests received from sporting organisations or clubs (amateur to international level of competition play) to enter into 'agreements for use' of parks and leisure sites.</p>
1.3	<p>This forms part of the department's overall approach to the development of a framework which will consistently manage the requests from external organisations to provide services and / or develop the use of assets in partnership with the Council.</p>
1.4	<p>The engagement on the draft policy is being planned and over the next year the operational changes required to service delivery will be made for 'Agreements for use' to go live in the next business year.</p>
1.5	<p>In the meantime officers in the council continue to develop and maintain relations with a range of partners at all levels and in this interim period it is likely these arrangements will need to be formalised.</p>

<b>2.0</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	Ongoing liaison with the Ulster GAA has reached a point where the legal and management arrangements need to be progressed in order for their financial contribution to be drawn-down.
2.2	The Joint Management Board type of arrangement can still be delivered via an 'Agreement for use' rather than a FMA or a lease. Legal Services are currently drafting a prototype 'agreement for use' document to enable the partnership discussions to proceed.
2.3	A joint management board (JMB) is the preferred governance model which will manage the detail of the Agreement for Use and it is proposed that the Council will sit on the JMB alongside Ulster GAA, Antrim GAA and Down GAA Board.
2.4	Appendix 1 outlines the general terms proposed for a joint management board - aligned to the 'agreement for use' arrangement agreed last month. The "sample" terms of reference set out the purpose and scope of the JMB governance arrangement along with the general roles and responsibilities of the partners and the benefits to be realised from the partnership. N.B. Officers continue to work with Legal Services and Estates to finalise the details of these arrangements. GAA will also have to agree to the terms of the Joint Management Board.
2.5	A draft timeline is provided in Appendix 2 to outline how the partnership will be developed and bearing in mind the wider picture of the engagement on the playing pitches agreements policy.
2.6	<p><b>Wider Council position</b></p> <p>Council agreed a draft playing pitches agreement policy which forms part of the department's partnership management framework in November 2012. This partnership is being developed in parallel to the engagement period for the draft policy and finalising the operation of 'agreements for use and may need to adapt or adopt depending on the outcome of this work.</p>
2.7	<p><b>Joint management board</b></p> <p>A joint management board is a management structure that can be applied to any other partnership with any other governing body or equivalent level body.</p>
2.8	<p><b>The prototype 'agreement for use' between Ulster GAA and the Council</b></p> <p>The arrangement between Ulster GAA and the Council will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- remove the need for individual agreements for use with the individual clubs and is the preferred route by the Council to strategically develop playing pitch provision across the city.</li> <li>- Ensure any specific requirements do not contravene any obligations the council may have under covenant or in setting precedent that cannot be provided equally to any other party.</li> <li>- Provide an agreed schedule of specific sites and requirements to be delivered through the partnership which is appended to the legal document;</li> <li>- Ensure any revisions or changes to the purpose which impact earlier agreements by Council need to be presented back to the relevant committee.</li> <li>- Protect the investment of the GAA in the programme to ensure that clubs get</li> </ul>



	adequate pitch time at the sites invested in.
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<b>3.0</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
3.1	<p><u>Financial</u> To date GAA have agreed on investment of £1Million to contribute to the development at Cherryvale, Woodlands, Musgrave and Cliftonville. A formal letter of offer has not yet been received but is imminent. Discussions are still ongoing about the level of investment on specific sites.</p>
3.2	<p><u>Human Resources</u> Ongoing officer time from a range of officers across the department will be dedicated to implementation and ongoing management in the medium to long term. Legal services support and advice and assistance from Estates and Property / Projects will also be a requirement during the next stage.</p>
3.3	<p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u> There may be a requirement to consult on the development of the partnership at the related sites which may require resources.</p>

<b>4.0</b>	<b>Equality Implications</b>
4.1	The final draft of the legal document and terms of reference of the partnership will be screened in line with the council's existing equality screening process.

<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
5.1	<p>Members are asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) note the update provided and the ongoing work continuing at officer level on the draft sample terms of reference for joint management boards ;</li> <li>(ii) authorise officers to continue discussions with Ulster GAA to finalise the terms for an appropriate Joint Management Board to cover the pitches which are to be partly funded by the GAA.</li> </ul>

<b>6.0</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
6.1	Members will a further partnership development update by April 2013.

<b>7.0</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
7.1	Facility Management Agreement – FMA

<b>8.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
	<p>Appendix 1: SAMPLE terms of reference for the Ulster GAA and Council Joint management board (for further review and agreement with Legal / Estates) Appendix 2: Ulster GAA and BCC joint management board Implementation timeframe</p>

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## **Appendix 1 : Sample Terms of Reference for Ulster GAA Joint Management Board**

### **1. Purpose**

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Ulster GAA and Belfast City Council are the recognised partners in a joint management board to strategically develop and plan the requirements of the code in Belfast and develop use on the agreed council sites.

### **Scope**

The board will operate under the terms and conditions set out in the Council's draft playing pitches agreement policy (November 2012) and the business model for the operation of synthetic (3/4G) playing pitches.

The joint management board will add value to the Council delivering the service on its own.

### **2. Governance requirements**

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An agreed term of reference needs to be in place to progress the partnership approach;  
The management of the board will be the responsibility of Ulster GAA;  
Ulster GAA will be responsible for the development and delivery of the sports development plan through its constituent clubs;  
The partnership will provide recommendations or proposals for the Council to consider however this is not a commitment or consent that they can proceed unless presented using the agreed Council structures and governance;

### **Membership**

The Joint management board is set up with representatives from BCC, the governing body and other relevant stakeholders / agencies.

In certain cases representatives from County Boards or leagues will also sit on the board – this will be agreed by BCC and the governing body.

The joint management board will not be open to individual clubs.

### **Rules of engagement**

A meetings schedule will be agreed and all meetings will be in minute.

### **Rules and procedures at all meetings:**

The decisions of the board need to be available in an open and transparent way;  
The chairperson of the meeting will be alternated between partners or as agreed at the first meeting.

Minutes of all meetings will be circulated to all parties within two weeks of the meeting taking place;

All minutes need to be agreed at the nearest meeting;

Both parties to be represented at each meeting otherwise it is not a recognised meeting.

### **Financial support**

The partners will agree the resources to support the partnership;  
Proposals which require funding will be required to follow the Council's normal procurement or grant aid processes.

### 3. Roles and responsibilities

The table 1 outlines the general roles and responsibilities for each partner:

<b>Table 1: Roles and responsibilities</b>	
<p><b>BCC will:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provide a financial contribution if applicable;</li> <li>- Regularly engage on the development of provision for competition play to meet the reasonable requirements of the sport or area of interest;</li> <li>- Maintain each site to a quality standard which covers competition level including replacement, repair and renewal of the physical fabric;</li> <li>- Ensure a balance of interests for public and restricted public access is maintained at all applicable sites through the agreed sports development plan;</li> <li>- Provide a booking system for all sites;</li> <li>- Consider the offer of any funding for development of a pitch or site in the context of any mutual benefits it will bring.</li> <li>- Consider any request for advertising at sites.</li> <li>- Training and support including through the Clubmark scheme and sports development plans;</li> <li>- Accommodate competition play as appropriate by allocating the agreed level of access and pitches on the priorities identified by the governing body and operational requirements.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Ulster GAA will:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ulster GAA will administer the meetings of the joint management board and ensure the relevant governance arrangements are all in place;</li> <li>- Identify priorities for their code in relation to BCC pitches and how working with BCC will deliver a mutual benefit.</li> <li>- Manage the allocation of pitches to leagues/county board and clubs ensuring that wider public access will be maintained at all times.</li> <li>- Identify any funding available to develop pitches and bring these to the Joint Management Board for discussion and agreement.</li> <li>- Produce a sports development plan with its relevant clubs to actively the sites;</li> <li>- Agree how the sports development plan will be delivered including how sites will be manned including key holding arrangements</li> <li>- Work with clubs to ensure that any agreed preparation of pitches for activities is undertaken.</li> <li>- Prevent unauthorised advertising onsite and bring all requests for advertising to to BCC for permission.</li> <li>- Provide all usage and monitoring information required by BCC to ensure the partnership is effectively delivering the agreed service.</li> <li>- Ensure Council officers will be permitted onsite at any time</li> </ul>

### 4. Dissolution

A partner can suspend or dissolve the partnership at any time or it can be succeeded as is by any new form of governance agreement either partner may require to deliver the purpose.

**Appendix 2: Ulster GAA and the Council joint management board  
Implementation timeframe**

Area of work	November 12	December 12	January - March 13	April 13	May – December 13
Ulster GAA & BCC joint management board established	–	Proposal presented to Parks and Leisure Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– If agreed meet with Ulster GAA and finalise the terms of reference and legal agreements.</li> <li>– Implement the operational arrangements for the Joint Management Boards</li> </ul>		
Playing pitches agreement policy	Draft policy agreed by Parks and Leisure Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Engagement period for the draft policy</li> <li>– Plan for operational implementation of ‘Agreements for Use’</li> <li>– 3/4 g business model developed</li> </ul>		Final policy presented to Parks and Leisure Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Implement the policy</li> <li>– Transition period for FMAs</li> <li>– Departmental systems and procedures adapted as appropriate</li> </ul>

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### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Parks & Leisure Departmental Plan 2012-13 update
<b>Date:</b>	6 December 2012
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Emer Boyle, Policy and Business Development Manager Karen Anderson-Gillespie, Policy and Business Development Officer

<b>1</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
1.1	The purpose of this report is to provide a six month progress report on the 2012-13 departmental plan highlighting key achievements during this period and to ask for Members input into the development of the 2013-14 departmental plan.
1.2	The Parks and Leisure departmental plan 2012-13 was approved by Committee on 14 June 2012 with agreement that a six month update report would be presented to Committee at the mid-year point. This update is for the period April 2012 to October 2012.

<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	The departmental plan describes how the Parks and Leisure Department's purpose, vision, values, objectives, activities and key performance indicators for the year 2012-13 complement those outlined in the Corporate Plan and the Investment Programme.  <b>Project, Programme and Activity update 2012-13</b>
2.2	Lead officers were asked to provide updates on the status of their service/unit projects, programmes and activities under each of the departmental objectives, providing commentary if necessary. As many of the department's projects involve land re-development, repair and improvement, a number of the projects continue to feature on an ongoing basis in the department's plan.

	<p>Progress and achievement against Departmental and Corporate Investment projects, programmes and activities are summarised under each of the corporate strategic themes below.</p> <p><b>Investment Programme</b></p> <p>2.3 <b>Leadership</b> In the Parks and Leisure Department this theme is about partnering and leading. The Parks and Leisure Department takes a strategic lead role on behalf of the Council in working with other partner organisations and communities to realise the city's full potential as outlined in the Investment Programme 2012-15.</p> <p>2.4 A range of strategic capital enhancement and programming projects have been progressing successfully. A plan for the management and maintenance of the <b>Connswater Community Greenway</b> sites was submitted to the relevant Connswater Coordination Group for this year and is now being implemented. A risk workshop on the project was held in October 2012. The procurement of the design team for the <b>Tropical Ravine</b> is complete and work is underway on procuring other services. The <b>Mary Peters Track</b> and field are complete and have been handed over to the Council. The upgrade work is due for completion in January 2013 and due to open in April 2013. The department continues to deliver year two actions of <b>the Playing Pitches Strategy</b>. A design team has been appointed and a phased approach for the construction of playing pitches has been agreed by the Parks and Leisure Committee in February. Initial construction work began in September 2013 and final completion is due in October 2015. Work is also ongoing in the development of a delivery process around the £750,000 fund for the enhancement of educational facilities in order to increase community usage.</p> <p>2.5 The Department continues to manage a robust plan of work relating to strategic <b>cemetery and cremation</b> development in Belfast. In line with the Investment Programme 2012 - 15 work is ongoing in relation to reviewing the options for renewing <b>the leisure estate</b>.</p> <p><b>Additional Corporate Priorities</b></p> <p>2.6 <b>Better care for Belfast's environment</b> In the Parks and Leisure Department this theme is about protecting and linking the city through its parks, open spaces and leisure centres. In protecting our sites which are important for biodiversity, we will help to deliver a cleaner and greener environment for the city's ratepayers.</p> <p>2.7 In 2012-13 the department achieved 3 new Green Flags and retained 7 – bringing the total achievement to a record 10. The development of management plans for two additional sites: Grove playing fields and Lagan Meadows are now underway. In partnership with the Roads Service and the Department for Social Development we have secured funding for new street tree planting and we are currently working on new project management agreements. The department is developing capacity to deliver improvements in dog services and dog control in parks in line with new Clean Neighbourhoods Legislation.</p>
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	<p>An update on the implementation of Dog Control Orders was brought to the Parks and Leisure Committee in November 2012 outlining the proposed implementation of two further dog control orders in April 2013.</p>
2.8	<p><b>Better opportunities for success across the city</b>          In the Parks and Leisure Department this theme is about physical regeneration in local neighbourhoods and the department playing a key role in the local economy.</p> <p>The department continues to develop means of using our facilities and open spaces, including cemeteries, to enrich the city's cultural, tourism and heritage offering including flagship city park events such as Rose Week, Spring fair and heritage trails.</p>
2.9	<p>Our operational staff continue to work with the Departmental Portfolio and Programme Manager to develop local communities' programmes for the Connswater Community Greenway, Dunville and Woodvale Park with anticipated commencement in June 2013. Discussions are currently ongoing with local community representatives in order to implement future management arrangements. In November 2012 the Parks and Leisure Committee agreed the operational approach and structure for implementation at the Belfast Zoo over the next 6 months.</p>
2.10	<p><b>Better support for people and communities</b>          In the Parks and Leisure Department this theme is about participation and lifestyle. We want to make best use of our assets to contribute to creating safer, healthier, engaged and more active communities.</p>
2.11	<p>The department will continue to provide programmes and services to make people feel safer and encourage people to lead healthier and more active lifestyles. The Park Warden Pilot plan was produced and was formally launched in April 2012. The Parks and Leisure Committee agreed a report in November 2012, which outlined the current position, the progress to date of the Park Warden Pilot and recommended that the role of Park Warden becomes a permanent role within the Department.</p>
2.12	<p>A range of Olympic activities were held including city hall taster sessions in eight sports to coincide with local Olympians on Live Site Screen. A paralympic flame festival was held at Andersonstown Leisure Centre and a sports festival at Orangefield Park. An opening ceremony event was also held at Ormeau Park in which 400 attendees participated.</p>
2.13	<p>We have managed and maintained 10 leisure centres and maintained more than 1,100 hectares of open spaces and delivered a range of health and wellbeing programmes and activities in order to reduce health inequalities across the city. Participation levels include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 12,725 participants (including 7872 females, 2744 disabled and 1,895 older people) have been involved in the Active Communities Programme (which involves 8235 hrs coaching);</li> <li>▪ 155 attendees attended the annual sports conference;</li> <li>▪ 19,400 children registered on the summer scheme programmes - an increase of 40% since 2008;</li> <li>▪ 3250 patients referred to the Healthwise scheme;</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 2275 patients completed the Cardiac Rehabilitation programme;</li> <li>▪ 345 children participate in the Activ8 programme;</li> <li>▪ 2,977 children participated in the Make a Splash scheme;</li> <li>▪ 200 Young people took part in Teenage Kicks 2012, with five schools participating including two special needs schools;</li> <li>▪ Delivered coach education training to over 161 coaches and volunteers;</li> <li>▪ A total of 27 clubmark clubs have been accredited for good practice management, safety and quality sports opportunities;</li> <li>▪ Hosted 2,300 children at 14 Parks Fun days to promote exercise;</li> <li>▪ Introduced the parks 'Mile Walk' across 8 parks attracting 960 participants;</li> <li>▪ Over 650 people participated in a wide range of urban sports events at Bridges Urban Sports Park.</li> </ul>
2.14	<p>The Parks and Leisure Department have also delivered the Primary Schools Athletics Programme in June 2012 and extended the "Park Run" to include Falls Park. We have also facilitated two 'Try It' themed sports events to date with 460 children involved in a host of sporting opportunities linked to our clubmark clubs and partner sports organisations. The department has facilitated the delivery of community programmes and activities through Support for Sport grants, including the following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Large Development grants – 13 grants of £5,000;</li> <li>▪ Small Development grants - 150 successful awards totalling £140,000;</li> <li>▪ Hospitality fund- 22 awards totalling £23,200 allocated. £1,800 remaining; and</li> <li>▪ 27 Elite athletes offered support ranging from £250 to £1,000.</li> </ul>
2.15	<p>The draft Growing Communities strategy has completed a 12 week consultation phase and the final strategy will be presented to the Parks and Leisure Committee in February 2013. An internal operational steering group has been set up to take forward the internal management and operational requirements of the Growing Communities strategy. A small Growing Communities implementation group will be created, consisting of delivery partners who will monitor and review the delivery of the strategy.</p> <p>A draft boxing strategy for the city has also been endorsed by the Parks and Leisure Committee and is currently undergoing a period of public consultation which will close on the 8 February 2013.</p>
2.16	<p><b>Better Services</b></p> <p>In the Parks and Leisure Department this theme is about delivering a proficient service and listening to our customers. As part of the Parks and Leisure Improvement programme we will continue to improve the structure and alignment of parks and leisure services. Our new customer-focused agenda and the implementation of our customer charter has enabled us to deliver our services to the highest standards. Further work is ongoing to develop robust mechanisms to measure performance in this area.</p> <p>The Department will continue to deliver service improvements right across the department. Operational reviews identifying and delivering improvements and efficiencies in both Parks and Leisure Services are currently underway.</p>
2.17	<p><b>An Organisation fit to lead and serve</b></p> <p>This theme enable the Parks and Leisure Department to establish clear</p>

	<p>defined processes and procedures of working, building on progress made in raising standards across the department. As a department we also focus on improving efficiencies, financial management and effectiveness in managing our human resources. It is important that the department supports staff through investment in training personal development and performance management to improve our skills based.</p>
2.18	<p><b>Human Resources</b></p> <p>Managing Conflict training has been developed and is being delivered to all Managers across the department. Customer complaints and Data Protection awareness training has been developed and is being rolled out across the Department. An absence improvement plan and a stress action plan have also been developed and implemented by the department.</p> <p>The PDP process and departmental induction has been developed and implemented and we are currently in the process of developing Community Park Supervisors IT skills training course - to be delivered by March 2013. The department is currently in the process of implementing the recommendations stemming from operational reviews including the driver/gardeners, outdoor leisure and leisure management reviews.</p>
2.19	<p><b>Finance</b></p> <p>The department continues to identify opportunities and implement initiatives to maximise income most notably through launching a new Boost pricing policy to increase leisure membership. We have successfully delivered procurement management training session for operational managers and completed a procurement plan for the year. We have improved governance and engagement around financial monitoring and reporting by operational managers. The draft revenue estimates have been submitted for 2013 -14.</p> <p>The department continually strives to source, secure and manage external funding from a variety of sources, recent successes include the following: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• European Commission Through the 2012 Preparatory action: European action on sports we have secured €20,000 for the WAP walking people project and €16,000 for the promoting urban sports for all project.</li> <li>• Heritage Lottery Fund We have secured a total of £4,450 for biodiversity Olympics project and £11,650 for the hedgerow hopes project.</li> <li>• The department has also submitted applications to the Reconciliation / Anti-sectarianism fund and the European Union Peace III Programme which are pending outcome at the moment.</li> </ul>
2.20	<p><b>Policy, Planning and Performance</b></p> <p>The department continues to develop, monitor and review its business planning and performance management processes in line with corporate priorities and linked to the corporate outcomes framework and consultation and engagement strategy. A planning and evaluation framework was been agreed by the Departmental Management Team (DMT) in October 2012. This framework suggests a new set of more relevant outcome/impact measures for the department to measure going forward in 2013-14 and work will progress in the new year to establish systems and process to support this</p>

	framework.
2.21	<p><b>Information Management</b></p> <p>The Parks and Leisure Department have upgraded the TLMS system used in leisure centres to also manage three of our customer facing services, namely indoor leisure, pitches and event bookings and the zoo and work continues on the rollout of clockwise. Bespoke reporting software has been developed to assist in the provision of accurate and relevant management information. The department are piloting the use of Qlickview as a reporting tool to gain effective management information on absence, agency use and overtime. An electronic booking and managements system has also been introduced within Bereavement Admin. The system has allowed us to streamline processes and, it is intended, will lead to the development of improvements such as online booking for funeral directors.</p>
2.22	<p><b>Communication and Engagement</b></p> <p>The Parks and Leisure Department have improved awareness of and compliance with the council's communications policies both internally and with our partners. This has been achieved through educational sessions with our staff and by highlighting our corporate standards to partners. This year to date we have delivered £30,000 of modernised signage in our Green Flag parks and we are working with the Parks Quality Manager to ensure that a tender is put in place so that this process continues as required.</p> <p>We have delivered several internal staff newsletters this year and made greater use of the Getting People Connected screens located in remote venues. These have been well received by staff. The Parks and Leisure Department are currently carrying out Leisure product research and development with a view to a Boost brand refresh. The main purpose of this project is to review the current Boost leisure marketing approach and develop a strategic plan to ensure effective marketing across Belfast.</p>
2.23	<p><b>Performance update 2012-13</b></p> <p>Work is ongoing on a revised departmental planning and evaluation framework. This framework defines a draft set of new outcome/impact measures for the department to measure in 2013-14. The department is currently piloting some of the evaluation techniques in order to go live in April 2013. A snapshot of the Department's performance has been outlined below. The KPIs illustrate the value that Parks and Leisure deliver for the city of Belfast.</p>
2.24	<p><b>Quality Up</b></p> <p>The Department has successfully achieved 10 Green Flags making it the best performing local authority in Northern Ireland. Green Flags are a measure of high standards of quality, management and community engagement in our parks and open spaces. Provided and maintained quality standards for the public at 135 sport pitches, 74 playgrounds, 12 bowling pavilions, 3 cemeteries and a crematorium, a golf course and an adventure playground.</p>
2.25	<p><b>Visits Up</b></p> <p>The Department has provided services to more than 9,444 'Boost' members at our leisure centres. We have attracted over 202,000 visitors to Belfast Zoo</p>

2.26	<p>and almost 104,000 people have participated in events organised by our parks. Provided a service for almost 1 million indoor and outdoor leisure facilities users. Almost 96,000 people participated in outreach and health programmes, delivered by the Department throughout Belfast.</p> <p><b>Planning for 2013 - 14</b></p> <p>Work has already commenced on the development of a draft departmental plan and improvement programme for 2013 -14. It is proposed that a draft will be presented to the Committee in Feb-March 2013. Key priorities for action will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• continuing with the Parks and Leisure Improvement Programme to modernise service delivery in line with customer expectations;</li> <li>• implementation of the actions within the “Growing Communities”, “Boxing Strategy” and the Active Belfast Strategy;</li> <li>• retaining 12 green flags (current 10 plus 2 in 2013) and attaining 2 additional in 2014;</li> <li>• ongoing development and regeneration of our parks and open spaces;</li> <li>• delivery of local neighbourhood programmes and events;</li> <li>• agile local programme development and diversionary provision to deal with anti-social behaviour in and around our sites;</li> <li>• active development of friends groups in a number of sites.</li> </ul> <p>This list is not exhaustive and input from Members would be welcome.</p>
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<b>3</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
	<p>There are no additional resource implications at this time. The 2012 –13 Departmental Plan will be developed in line with the department’s allocated budget.</p>

<b>4</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Considerations</b>
	<p>Where necessary all projects, programmes and activities contained within the Departmental Plan have been subject to equality screening in line with the Council’s processes.</p>

<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
	<p>Members are asked to note this update report for the 2012-13 period and advise if there is anything they feel should be addressed in the draft departmental plan for 2013-14.</p>

<b>6</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
	<p>There is no decision tracking attached to this report.</p>

<b>7</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
	Departmental Management Team (DMT) Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

<b>8</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
	None



### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Growing Communities Update
<b>Date:</b>	6 December 2012
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officers:</b>	Emer Boyle, Policy and Business Development Manager

<b>1.</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
	<p>As Members will be aware, in 2011 the Council in partnership with the Public Health Agency, Belfast Healthy Cities and the Belfast Health Development Unit commenced work on the development of the Growing Communities Strategy – a citywide approach to supporting and encouraging growing activities including allotments, community gardens, and Grow-It-Yourself initiatives.</p> <p>In September 2011, the Growing Communities Steering Group was established comprising 40 representatives from the private, community and voluntary, and statutory sectors. Over a period of eight months officers engaged with the Steering Group in order to develop a draft Growing Communities Strategy. This was presented to Members for review in May 2012.</p>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
	<p>On 21 June 2012, at the opening event for Musgrave Park community garden and allotments, the draft strategy was launched for public consultation. The period of formal public consultation on the Growing Communities Strategy closed on 5 October 2012. On 9 November 2012, a request was made to the Steering Group for final comments on the draft strategy.</p> <p>From the above, a total of three responses were received – from the following organisations:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– GIY Ireland;</li> <li>– Belfast Healthy Ageing Strategic Partnership; and</li> <li>– The Conservation Volunteers.</li> </ul> <p>Two of the above responses were received late and, following appropriate revision of the strategy content, work will also be required to produce a finished document for publication. For this reason, it is proposed that the final strategy document will be presented to Members for endorsement at the February Committee meeting along with a wider Growing Communities update.</p> <p>Following completion of the strategy, it is proposed that the Growing Communities Steering Group no longer operates, and that an Implementation Group of key partners will be established to monitor and review delivery of the Growing Communities Strategy.</p>
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<b>3.</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
	<p><u>Financial</u> None.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u> None.</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u> None.</p>

<b>4.</b>	<b>Equality and good relations implications</b>
	<p>There are no implications at this stage. However, Equality and Good Relations factors will be taken into account in any activities being delivered in line with the strategy. The strategy will be equality screened in line with the council's existing equality screening process.</p>

<b>5.</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
	The Committee is asked to note the update on Growing Communities.

<b>6.</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
	Revised strategy document to be provided to Committee for endorsement with the next Growing Communities update in February 2012.

<b>7.</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
	None





### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Young Adult Association Areas in Falls Park, Musgrave Playing Fields and Botanic Gardens.
<b>Date:</b>	6 December 2012
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Pete Murray, Antisocial Behaviour Coordinator. Ext: 3564

<b>1.</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
	<p>Members will be aware that complaints and concerns are raised by residents of Belfast and councillors regarding antisocial behaviour (ASB) in park areas across the city as a result of young adults (aged 14 to 16 years) gathering to socialise or consume alcohol.</p> <p>There are pilot interventions designed to reduce ASB currently taking place in parks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tackling sectarian attacks in Ballysillan playing fields</li> <li>• Supporting local youth activity programmes in Reverend Robert Bradford park and</li> <li>• Enhancing fencing to reduce trespass in Woodlands playing fields.</li> </ul> <p>An increasing amount of resources are directed towards dispersing and diverting young adults who gather in parks before and after closing time, however there is no evidence that these interventions are changing the habits of young adults who wish to gather in parks.</p> <p>This report will present proposals designed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provide a long term alternative to increasing staff presence at night,</li> <li>• manage groups of young adults who continue to access parks in large numbers or trespass after closing regardless of any increase in staff numbers,</li> <li>• reduce damage largely created by young adults,</li> <li>• tackle the high risk activities young adults participate in</li> </ul>

- create attractive, defined and visible young adult association areas within parks
- create areas that can be easily accessed day or night by local youth outreach services, Park Wardens or PSNI

<b>2.</b>	<p><b>Key Issues</b></p> <p>The following table profiles incidents largely created by young adults trespassing, causing damage, or involving substance misuse in parks across the city:</p> <p><b><u>Table 1</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Incidents of damage, trespass and substance misuse in parks (2012)</u></b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Location</th> <th style="text-align: right;">Number of incidents</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Falls Park</td> <td style="text-align: right;">82</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Botanic Gardens</td> <td style="text-align: right;">80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Woodvale Park</td> <td style="text-align: right;">44</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ormeau Park</td> <td style="text-align: right;">38</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Musgrave Playing Fields</td> <td style="text-align: right;">32</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Waterworks</td> <td style="text-align: right;">28</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cavehill Country Park</td> <td style="text-align: right;">15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Belfast Castle Estate</td> <td style="text-align: right;">6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Orangefield</td> <td style="text-align: right;">3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Belmont Park</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Greenville Park</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dunville Park</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Although some of these parks have significant numbers of incidents, the parks have different assets and characteristics. Of the six parks which are at the top of the table; Falls, Botanic, Ormeau and Musgrave are parks regulated by closing times, they currently have yards where vehicles are stored and they have buildings which are valuable assets. Woodvale is closed and under development and Waterworks is open to pedestrian access from Westland Road.</p> <p>The proposals request approval to create open young adult association areas which are designed to be distant from residential buildings to reduce noise nuisance, therefore the areas which have been identified to immediately benefit from the proposals are Falls park, Botanic gardens and Musgrave playing fields.</p> <p>These parks have similar profiles caused by young adults gathering in large numbers.</p> <p><b><u>Falls Park</u></b></p> <p>The issue of trespass and damage in the park has become a regular occurrence, and several discussion have already taken place with local councillors to explore appropriate actions.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. As there are no explicit areas where young adults can socialise, they inevitably gravitate towards playgrounds and regularly leave glass and litter behind. During the summer evenings youths gather preventing families from accessing the play equipment.</li> </ol>	Location	Number of incidents	Falls Park	82	Botanic Gardens	80	Woodvale Park	44	Ormeau Park	38	Musgrave Playing Fields	32	Waterworks	28	Cavehill Country Park	15	Belfast Castle Estate	6	Orangefield	3	Belmont Park	2	Greenville Park	1	Dunville Park	1
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2. Park staff spend a significant amount of time clearing up glass and rubbish in playgrounds, causing upset to park users due to the high demand from children and young families.
3. The playground is not visible from the road and therefore the PSNI will not know if there is any reason to enter the park to patrol.
4. Serious damage was caused to the bowling pavilion, the playground and service yard after the park closed at night.

Although there has been an increase in staff resources to respond to or control these issues, the damage and upset continues.

#### **Musgrave Playing fields:**

This area suffers from the same issue of youths gathering and causing nuisance and damage. It is proving expensive to maintain a staff presence and there is still damage being caused by youths to the fabric of the park including recent additions such as the therapy gardens.

1. Large numbers of youths gather around the interior of the park. The park has suffered damage, for example, trees are being burnt in the Grovelands area of the park and bottles are broken onto paths.
2. Youths are gathering around the playgrounds during the evenings and causing damage to the therapy garden.
3. The interior of the park and the therapy garden is not visible from the road.
4. Staff spend a significant amount of time clearing up the glass, damage and rubbish the following day.

#### **Botanic Gardens**

The gardens are frequently subject to very large groups gathering, usually when the sun is out.

1. Crowds gather on the great lawn and openly drink, leave litter and play boisterous football, rugby or frisbee games. There is no doubt that this activity upsets and displaces families and older people.
2. Groups of youths gather at the bandstands and they in turn attract older more hardened drinkers.
3. Member of staff have raised serious concerns about lone working & safety in the park when the crowds gather.

A number of actions have been identified to reduce the impact of antisocial behaviour and respond to the complaints from local residents. Each of the park areas have hotspots near assets that staff are trying to protect from potential damage. Due to sheer numbers gathering, and risks involved in ejecting large groups from the parks, there are few options to manage drinking and rowdy behaviour. It is impractical to exclude all young adults, therefore it is proposed that in Falls, Musgrave and Botanic, a defined area is created near to an entrance, which is visible to PSNI and is attractive to young adults. It is also proposed to enhance existing playgrounds and park facilities to encourage more families and older people to use the parks.

(See Appendix one: Proposed location of young adult association area in Falls Park; Appendix two Proposed location of young adult association area in Musgrave playing fields and Appendix three: Proposed location of

	<p>young adult association area in Botanic Gardens)</p> <p><b><u>Young adult association areas</u></b>  The areas are to be secured from the rest of the park and will contain natural seating, adventure activities, robust outdoor games and soft grass, bark or sand surfaces.  It is envisaged that these areas will be developed and supervised in conjunction with local youth service providers, community representatives and PSNI.  Each of the sites selected to locate the young adult association areas are visible from a public road. As the areas are to be secured from the rest of the park and have their own entrance, they will have permanent open access. This will enable young adults to come and go as they please, allow youth providers access to appropriate activity areas outside regular park opening hours and allow PSNI to freely enter and patrol.</p> <p><b><u>Enhancement of existing facilities</u></b>  Seating and picnic tables will be placed to create more attraction for families and older people in existing playground formal garden and bandstand areas. Further appropriate use will be supported through performances by formal dance clubs, brass and silver bands or children's entertainers during periods of peak usage.</p>
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3.	<p><b>Resource Implications</b></p> <p>The approximate costs are illustrated below and are proposed to be drawn from the ASB programme budget for 2012-2013 and existing departmental budgets.</p> <p><b><u>Falls Park</u></b>  Fencing and landscaping: £8000  Adventure elements, basic rain shelter &amp; natural seating: £10,000  Optional Lighting: £1000  Crown lift trees: £2000  Extending play and picnic facilities in playground: £4000.  <b>£25,000</b></p> <p><b><u>Musgrave Park</u></b>  Fencing youth area: £5000  Fencing around playground and therapy garden: £7000  Adventure elements, basic rain shelter &amp; natural seating: £10,000  Optional Lighting: £1000  Crown lift trees: £2000  <b>£25,000</b></p> <p><b><u>Botanic Gardens</u></b>  Active leisure elements at PEC: £15,000  Crown lift trees reduce shrubs: £6000  Picnic tables seating: £4000  <b>£25,000</b></p>
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	<b><u>Total £75,000</u></b>
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<b>4.</b>	<b>Equality and good relations implications</b>
	Much of the antisocial behaviour programme work spans activities related to reducing interface or internal community tensions and bringing youth together to take part in positive programmes and activities. All of the programme work is in line with the council's equality and good relations policies and procedures.

<b>5.</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
	Members are asked to approve the following actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the playground footprint and create a young adult association area in Falls Park</li> <li>• Erect a fence around the therapy garden and playground and create a young adult association area in Musgrave playing fields</li> <li>• Enhance family friendly activities in the formal gardens, bandstand and great lawn and create a young adult association area in the Queens University Physical Education Centre area of Botanic Gardens.</li> </ul>

<b>6.</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
	Regular ASB programme updates will be brought before the Parks and Leisure committee and the development of the young adult association areas will be profiled through these reports.

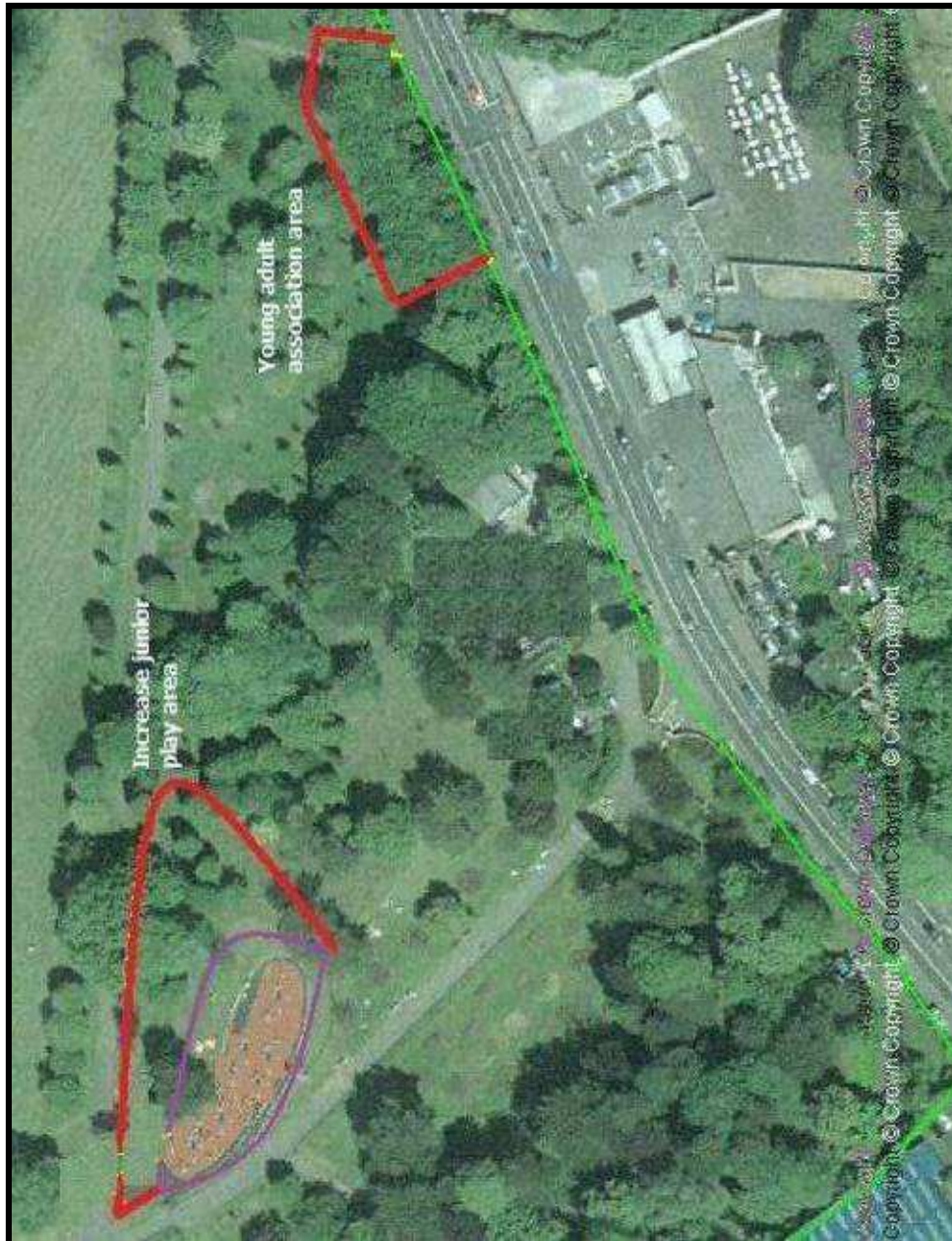
<b>7.</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
	ASB: Antisocial behaviour PSNI: Police Service for Northern Ireland PEC: Queens university Physical Education Centre

<b>8.</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
	Appendix 1: Proposed location of young adult association area in Falls Park Appendix 2: Proposed location of young adult association area in Musgrave playing fields Appendix 3: Proposed location of young adult association area in Botanic Gardens

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Appendix one

Proposed location of young adult association area in Falls Park









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Appendix two

Proposed location of young adult association area in Musgrave Playing fields



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Appendix three

Proposed locations of youth association areas in Botanic Gardens



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By virtue of paragraph(s) 2 of the Council's Policy on the  
Publication of Committee Reports on the Internet.

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### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Request for use of Ormeau Park and Botanic Gardens during World Police and Fire Games for temporary accommodation
<b>Date:</b>	6 December 2012
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Rose Crozier, Assistant of Director Parks and Leisure

1.	Relevant Background Information
1.1	Belfast Visitor and Convention (BVCB) have been contracted by WPFGB Ltd to undertake the accommodation booking and sourcing for the World Police and Fire Games (WPFGB) in Belfast from the 1-10 August 2013. As part of this process not only is BVCB aiming to contract with regular registered accommodation providers – they are also exploring new options to bring in extra beds to meet the demand which is projected to be in the region of 10,000 participants and up to 15,000 friends and family .
1.2	As a result BVCB are asking the Parks and Leisure Committee to agree to permit 'All About Space' to erect temporary pop up accommodation in both Ormeau Park and in the playing fields in Botanic Gardens from the 24th of July to approximately the 12 of August, (the early arrival is to accommodate Ice hockey teams).
1.3	The WPFGB are a biennial athletic event open to active and retired law enforcement and fire service personnel throughout the world. The Games are a well established brand and one of the top three international multi-sports events, on par with the Olympic Games and Commonwealth Games in terms of the number of athletes competing. Belfast was awarded the honour of hosting the 2013 Games following an international competition beating Washington DC, Denver, Calgary and Innsbruck in the final stages of the bid process.
1.4	The 2013 Games will be held from 1st August – 10th August and is expected to attract in the region of 25,000 visitors from over 71 countries- to Belfast and

1.5	<p>Northern Ireland. With over 10,000 athletes expected to compete across 67 sports the Games will provide Northern Ireland with an opportunity to raise its profile internationally by hosting the largest sporting event ever to be held here. It is anticipated that the Games will inject upwards of £21m into the local economy and leave a lasting legacy.</p> <p>WPFG Ltd commissioned Deloitte in September 2012 to undertake a Belfast/Northern Ireland accommodation review which found that whilst the attendance targeted visitors outlined within the WPFG Strategic Plan was achievable, a number of measures would have to be considered and acted upon to fully accommodate all guests and deliver a satisfactory visitor experience. Various forms of additional accommodation options such as 'Pop-up' hotels/portable accommodations, converting boarding schools and training facilities into tourist accommodation are currently being explored by BVCB with the view to getting them certified by NITB and available for booking.</p>
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2.	Key Issues
2.1	<p>WPFG/ BVCB are currently in the process of submitting a business case to NITB for approval to seek DETI agreement for an exemption from the accommodation certification process to permit currently two pop up hotels (and possibly a third) to provide temporary portable accommodation for the games . If this exemption is permitted companies could trade as accommodation providers for a temporary 28 day period without having to seek either planning permission or building control approval. CPD have inspected both products and if NITB board approve the business case on the 13th of December a request to DETI will be made for an exemption from certification under the Tourism (NI) order 1992.</p>
2.2	<p>One of the providers 'All About Space' is interested in building two pop up accommodation complexes in two of BCC parks– Ormeau Park (beside the Ozone) and in the Playing Fields in Botanic Gardens.</p>
2.3	<p>'All About Space' has two types of units - podules which are ensuite and cabins which are standard rooms. An outline specification and pictures of the proposed accommodation can be found at Appendix 1.</p>
2.4	<p>'All About Space' can connect into local services supply (water, waste and power) but can alternatively bring its own services and be completely stand alone. However, utilising and accessing local services is the preferred option as it brings down the selling price of the units. From previous experience, 'All About Space' would expect to be stand-alone in terms of power (using generated power) but an access to a freshwater feed and mains drains are the areas where the most cost savings can be achieved.</p>
	<p><b>Botanic Gardens</b></p>
2.5	<p>For the Botanic Gardens site the proposal would be to install in the region of 40 ensuite double or twin units into Botanic Gardens playing Fields.</p>

2.6	The units are “flat packed” and assembled on site. This enables more units to be transported in one move and the units themselves can be unloaded by forklift. Essentially a level base is set up from base pads arrangement and the unit lifted onto this. The top section is then raised, corner posts set in place and the walls folded out. Separate en-suite and service units are then attached to the rear. In spatial terms this arrangements provides good internal circulation space while still being able to offer a good level of fit out.
2.7	There is insulation built into the structure thermal fire and acoustic protection. The units will stand individually (in rows) with approximately one metre space between each to give some form of protection.
2.8	‘All About Space’ would employ an operations co-ordinator, maintenance and security staff and housekeeping. All linens and a housekeeping and reception service would be provided. Food would not be provided on site but arrangements would be made with Queens PEC, the Students union and the Lyric for catering. Where possible local staff would be employed.
<b>Ormeau Park</b>	
2.9	‘All About Space’ would propose using the playing fields located beside the Ozone in Ormeau Park for 100 non ensuite units. These 100 units could accommodate two people each – or two adults and a twin in single and double beds.
2.10	‘All About Space’ would propose using the group showers and toilet facilities attached to the Ozone – and ideally would require a meeting space within the complex .In addition they would bring some extra portable toilets and showers. In addition they would bring some extra portable toilets and showers if the extra facilities were required.
2.11	As with Botanic Gardens ‘All about Space’ would support the site with the necessary – security, operations and housekeeping requirements.

<b>3.</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
3.1	<p><u>Finance</u></p> <p>‘All About Space’ are coming to Belfast at their own commercial risk but will contribute to the running cost of the games by providing 8% commission to BVCB. If accommodation commercial targets are met the initial £140, 000 will go back into the funding costs of the games. If BVCB makes any additional income over this level, the surplus will be split with WPFGB and any extra coming back into BVCB will be used for marketing and visitor servicing activity for the City. On this basis BVCB have asked that the sites are provided free of charge.</p>
3.2	Further investigation will be required to assess the impact on the Ozone and

3.3	<p>its ability to open for business as usual during this period.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u> None established at this stage.</p> <p><u>Asset</u> Some bookings re: summer leagues will be displaced and will be accommodated in other sites. Prolonged use of the site for this purpose will cause damage to the grass and 'All About Space' will be required to reinstate the sites after use. A bond of reinstatement will be required. Reinstatement may have some impact on the start of the winter season.</p>
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<b>4.</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Implications</b>
	Local residents groups will be consulted regarding the use of the sites for this purpose.

<b>5.</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
	<p>It is recommended that Committee, in principle grant authority to use Ormeau Park, Botanic Gardens and the Ozone for the purposes of providing temporary accommodation for the WPFG on condition that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. the organisation(s) resolves all operational issues to the Council's satisfaction;</li> <li>ii. appropriate legal agreements are completed, to be prepared by the Assistant Chief Executive and Town Solicitor; and</li> <li>iii. the organisation(s) meets all appropriate statutory requirements including health and safety.</li> </ul> <p>A further report will be brought to committee at a later date when detailed planning has been completed and the full impact on Council sites is known.</p>

<b>6.</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
	Stephen Stockman, City Park Manager (East)

<b>7.</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
	<p>NITB - Northern Ireland Tourist Board  DETI - Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment  CPD - Central Procurement Directorate</p>

<b>8.</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
	Appendix 1 Outline Specification of Units

## Appendix 1

The outline specification for the pop up ensuite cabins are:

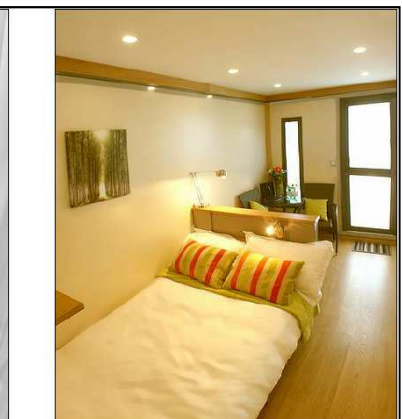
- Each flat packed room is around 2.3 x 3m external dims
- Rooms ready in minutes!
- Available with 1 or 2 single beds per room dependant on your requirement
- 20 cabins = up to 40 beds / sleepers
- 20 flat packed cabins travel on 40ft trailer
- Individual room keys for security and central lighting
- Electrics connect via ceeform socket
- Minimal impact to site during build and de rig
- We can supply decking, roadways etc
- Great branding opportunities both externally and internally
- Costs based on amount of rooms hired, period of hire and distance to site
- We can supply toilet and shower trailers to match your budget
- Can be supplied empty for use as office, store, changing room, medical ....
- En-suite wet room with power shower, wash basin & toilet
- Full thermostatic air-conditioning
- Mini fridge and radio / iPod dock
- Smart wood effect flooring
- Slick low voltage lighting and side lamp
- Double bed with duvets, pillows and fresh linens
- Fresh white towels, robes and luxury toiletries
- Kettle, cups and condiments
- Clothes hanging system with shelf
- Thermal and sound insulation
- Seating area with table and chairs
- 4 power sockets for your gadgets
- Fully lockable, secure and safe
- Decking step

The outline specification for these non ensuite cabin units are:

- Smart wood effect flooring
- Built in lighting
- Single bed/s (can be pushed together)
- Chair/s and table
- Opening window, privacy blind and ventilation
- Clothes storage hanging unit
- Thermal and sound insulation
- 2 power sockets for your gadgets
- Electric oil filled thermostatic heater
- Fully lockable, secure and safe
- Options include all bedding, decking, external furniture, heater, branding etc.

**Podule Ensuite Images**

**Botanic Garden Playing Fields**



**NOTES**

**Do not scale**

Roofing	Roofing with waterproofing layer, with battens and tiles or equivalent system, including underlayment and 50mm of mineral wool insulation.
Walls	100mm EPS insulation, 100mm brickwork, 100mm plasterboard, 100mm plaster.
Floors	100mm EPS insulation, 100mm concrete, 100mm screed, 100mm tiles or equivalent flooring.
Windows	Double glazed, uPVC or aluminium, with 16mm air gap, 100mm frame.
Doors	100mm solid core, 100mm frame, 100mm weatherstripping.
Services	100mm solid core, 100mm frame, 100mm weatherstripping.
Lighting	LED lighting, 100mm depth, 100mm diameter, 100mm diameter.
Electrical	100mm depth, 100mm diameter, 100mm diameter.
Plumbing	100mm depth, 100mm diameter, 100mm diameter.
Other	100mm depth, 100mm diameter, 100mm diameter.

**Front Elevation Scale 1:50**

**End Elevation Scale 1:50**

**Plan Scale 1:50**

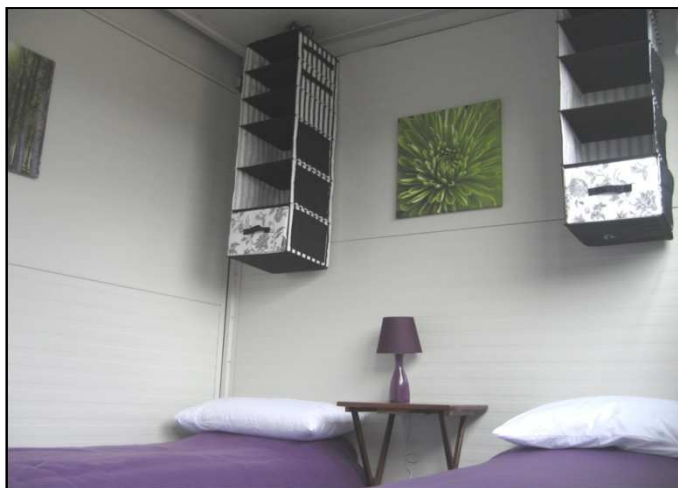
**001**

All About Space Ltd  
 Garden Street, Copwood Business Park, Clipping Works, Ouse, OS17 9BE.  
 T: +44 (0) 1544 624 2028 E: info@www.allaboutspace.co.uk

All About Space - Podules  
 Plans, Elevations, Perspectives & Tech Specs

**Non Ensuite Cabins**

Ormeau Park



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### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Funding for Lagan Valley Regional Park
<b>Date:</b>	6 December 2012
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Agnes McNulty, Open Spaces and Active Living Manager

<b>1.</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
	<p>The Committee is reminded that at its meeting on 10 September 2009 approval was given to provide an annual grant of £21,551 to £23,309 to Lagan Valley Regional Park (LVRP) for the period April 2010 until March 2013. Members will be aware that LVRP is a partnership between Belfast City Council, Castlereagh Borough Council, Lisburn City Council, Department of Culture Arts &amp; Leisure and the Northern Ireland Environment Agency. Belfast City Council has been one of the main partner funding organisations for LVRP since its inception in 1967.</p> <p>The purpose of this report is to seek Committee approval to continue funding the LVRP for a further three years.</p> <p>Members are reminded that the former Parks and Cemeteries Sub-Committee at its meeting on 13 June 2007 agreed to support the formation of the Lagan Valley Regional Park Company and that two Councillors would be appointed as Directors to the Board. Currently these are Alderman Tom Ekin and Councillor Ruth Patterson. Members are also reminded that the LVRP Company successfully secured a total of £1.5 million from the Heritage Lottery Fund for a range of specific projects throughout the Park. A number of grassland and wetland enhancement works have been completed on Council sites and further grassland and wetland projects have been proposed for Lagan Meadows and Sir Thomas and Lady Dixon Park.</p> <p>The Council has benefited significantly from the work of LVRP through organised events, wardening by LVRP Rangers, additional signage,</p>

	<p>community engagement; education and from other partnerships developed through the LVRP. Over the last three years, the achievements of LVRP include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ establishment of a Friends of LVRP group;</li> <li>▪ initiation of a strategic review of LVRP to provide a management framework for the next 10 years;</li> <li>▪ delivery of an annual programme of events on topics ranging from nature and heritage to conservation and recreation;</li> <li>▪ provision of a Ranger Service, a key interface with the public along the towpath which in 2011 had a recorded usage of over one million users;</li> <li>▪ promotion of the park as an educational resource through its new Lagan Valley Learning website;</li> <li>▪ engagement of the community in environmental projects within the park;</li> <li>▪ undertaken surveys of bats and butterflies and collation of information for inclusion in national databases;</li> <li>▪ received a Tidy NI award for an annual river and canal clean up which was undertaken in conjunction with other partners and the scouts; and</li> <li>▪ raised the profile of the Park on the nationwide programme 'Countryfile'.</li> </ul>
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<b>2.</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
	<p>Following an economic appraisal the option which includes the employment of an additional Promotions and Visitor Officer will be taken forward. On this basis LVRP has requested further funding commitment from the Northern Ireland Environment Agency, the Department of Culture Arts &amp; Leisure and the three participating Councils and is requesting a contribution from the council for the next three years as follows:</p> <p>April 2013 – March 2014 £26,360  April 2014 – March 2015 £26,680  April 2015 – March 2016 £27,370</p> <p>This contribution represents 16% of the overall costs and approximately 13.5% increase on the 2012/13 contribution.</p> <p>This will enable LVRP to continue functioning for a further three years, during which time it will help deliver a number of key projects that will complement and support Belfast City Council including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ complete a strategic review of the Regional Park and update the Management Plan for the next five years including sustaining the legacy of the Laganlandscape project which is due to finish in 2013</li> <li>▪ organising and delivering an events programme offering a broad range of interests and activities that will enhance our own Council events' programme</li> <li>▪ continue to provide a Ranger Service along the towpath which complements and supports our parks that lie within the boundary of</li> </ul>

	<p>LVRP and develop a towpath initiative focusing on issues raised by park users</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ continue to engage the local community in projects in the Park encouraging them to manage their environment as well as the associated physical and mental health benefits.</li> </ul> <p>Funding the LVRP for a further three years will support the work being done by the Council and will enhance many other areas of work including biodiversity, education, community engagement, countryside recreation and promotional activities. If the Committee accedes to this request, it will be necessary to review and update the Funding Agreement between the Council and LVRP for the next three years.</p> <p>It is envisaged that under the Review of Public Administration, the makeup of the Regional Park partnership will change which will have financial implications. A further report will be brought to Committee if there are consequent implications for the Council.</p>
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<b>3.</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
	<p><u>Financial</u> The contribution requested is as follows:</p> <p>April 2013 – March 2014 £26,360          April 2014 – March 2015 £26,680          April 2015 – March 2016 £27,370</p> <p>The draft revenue estimates for 2013/14 provides for this grant and provision will be made in future years.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u> There are no additional human resource implications at this time.</p> <p><u>Assets and other Implications</u> The work of the LVRP promotes and enhances the natural environment along the Lagan Corridor, and in particular makes a significant positive contribution to Lagan Meadows, Clement Wilson Park, Barnett Demesne, Sir Thomas and Lady Dixon Park and Lagan Lands East.</p>

<b>4.</b>	<b>Equality Implications</b>
	There are no known equality and good relation implications.

<b>5.</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
	It is recommended that the Committee agree to provide financial support

	to the Lagan Valley Regional Park for a further three years and the funding agreement is updated accordingly
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<b>6.</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
	Officer responsible: Open Spaces & Active Living Manager

<b>7.</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
	LVRP – Lagan Valley Regional Park

<b>8.</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
	None



**Belfast City Council**

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Laganscape Partnership Scheme Project
<b>Date:</b>	6 December 2012
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Agnes McNulty, Open Spaces and Active Living Manager

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
	<p>Members will be aware that, in September 2012 the Committee agreed to allocate human and financial resources in order to complete the Council's programme of activities within the Laganscape Partnership Scheme Project and fulfil its requirement to the programme. Specific agreement was as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agree that a contribution of £10,000 "in-kind" be made to the project for this final year of the original agreement in order to fulfil our obligation to the programme;</li> <li>• Agree that any further request for financial or "in-kind" support would be subject to a more detailed proposal from Laganscape being submitted to the Parks and Leisure Committee for review and agreement in line with current planning and estimates processes.</li> </ul> <p>At the Council meeting held in October, due to representations from Laganscape partners, the matter was referred back to Committee for further consideration.</p>

<b>2.0</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
	<p>Following a number of meetings with the Laganscape Project Manager it was agreed that Council would reconsider its original commitment to "in-kind" contribution upon written receipt of the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Copy of revised Laganscape strategy, approved by Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF);</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Confirmation that Council’s total “in-kind” contribution to the project is £40,000;</li> <li>• Confirmation that to date Council has evidenced an “in-kind” contribution in the sum of £4,407 leaving an outstanding balance of £35,593 to be evidenced;</li> <li>• Confirmation from HLF that the following costs are an eligible expenditure towards “in-kind” contributions:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Council staff time;</li> <li>- Contractor costs;</li> <li>- Hire of machinery; and</li> <li>- Purchase of materials</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>The Laganscape Project Manager resigned from post in November however prior to his resignation Council received the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A copy of the revised Laganscape Strategy approved by HLF confirming an increase in grant percentage from 70.95% to 75.0%. HLF has advised that they are not yet in a position to issue a revised letter of offer to Laganscape to verify the changes in these funding terms and conditions until such time as Laganscape submit proposals to HLF for the replacement of the project manager and these are approved by HLF;</li> <li>• Confirmation that Council’s total “in-kind” contribution to the project is £40,000; this has been verified by HLF;</li> <li>• Confirmation that Council has, to date submitted an “in-kind” contribution in the sum of £4,407, leaving an outstanding balance of £35,593 to be evidenced;</li> <li>• HLF has confirmed that the following costs are an eligible expenditure towards “in-kind” contributions:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Council staff time;</li> <li>- Contractor costs;</li> <li>- Hire of machinery; and</li> <li>- Purchase of materials.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>In the interim, Council has submitted a revised programme of works to the Laganscape Partnership for completion on Council sites during the period January to September 2013. The proposals were approved by the Laganscape Partnership Sub-Committee on 19 November 2012 and the proposals are being developed further for approval by HLF.</p>
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<b>3.0</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
	<p><u>Financial</u></p> <p>As outlined above, it is proposed that the remaining balance of £35,593 is contributed (by way of “in-kind” contribution) to the Laganscape Partnership in the financial period 2012 to 2014. This will be provided for from the Parks budget for the area.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u></p>

	<p>Officer time will be required for planning, coordinating and delivering project activities.</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u> The project activities will contribute to the biodiversity value of a number of Council parks and ongoing maintenance will need to be incorporated into the relevant parks management plans.</p>
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<b>4.0</b>	<b>Equality Implications</b>
	There are no known associated equality considerations associated with this project.

<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
	<p>It is recommended that the Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Note the contents of this update report; and</li> <li>• Agree that, upon receipt of the revised letter of offer from HLF as detailed in paragraph 2.0 above, a contribution of £35,593 “in-kind” be made to the project during the financial period 2012 to 2014 in order to fulfil our obligation to the programme.</li> </ul>

<b>6.0</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
	A report outlining the programmes achievements will be presented to Committee in the final quarter of 2013/2014 financial year by the Open Spaces and Active Living Manager.

<b>7.0</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
	HLF: Heritage Lottery Fund.

<b>8.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
	None

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**Belfast City Council**

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Hospitality for events in 2013
<b>Date:</b>	6 December 2012
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Agnes McNulty, Open Spaces and Active Living Manager

<b>1.</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
	<p>The purpose of this report is to seek approval from Members for hospitality to be provided at some of the annual events and award ceremonies taking place in 2013.</p> <p>In the past the Council has provided hospitality at the following events in the form of light refreshments or lunch. The annual events at which hospitality was provided in 2012 were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Spring Fair;</li> <li>• Belfast Parks' Primary Schools' Athletics event;</li> <li>• Belfast Parks Photographic Competition;</li> <li>• Rose Week; and</li> <li>• The City of Belfast Autumn Flower Show.</li> </ul> <p>Specifically, the type of hospitality provided this year was as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refreshments for the members of the spring flower show and autumn flower show committees; these committees each met with Officers on three occasions to discuss and assist with the planning for these events;</li> <li>• Morning coffee and lunch for members of flower show committees, judges and invited guests during the Spring Fair, Rose Week and the Autumn Fair. Many judges were local but several travelled from the Republic of Ireland, England and Scotland. During Rose Week</li> </ul>

	<p>an international panel of judges was invited to judge the International Rose Trials;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A reception in Belfast Castle for international judges visiting Northern Ireland for the international rose trials at Sir Thomas and Lady Dixon Park, local judges, sponsors of the international awards and invited guests.</li> <li>• Refreshments for the pupils and teachers of the winning primary schools who took part in the Belfast Park's Primary Schools' Athletics event;</li> <li>• Refreshments for the winners of the Belfast Parks photographic competition, the judges and the sponsor of the competition;</li> </ul> <p>Similar hospitality will be required for events held 2013.</p>
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<b>2.</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
	<p>The Council seeks to reinforce its partnership with the various horticultural societies and organisations involved in the annual programme of events in parks. Some of these partnerships have been forged over many years. Throughout the year there is a significant amount of voluntary involvement with these events and without that support and goodwill the continued success of such events could be undermined.</p>

<b>3.</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
	<p><u>Financial</u> The estimated value of providing the hospitality is £7,300. In compiling the estimates for 2013/14 Officers have provided for this amount in the Open Spaces and Active Living Unit's budget.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u> There will be no additional human resource implications at this stage.</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u> The partnerships formed with various groups and organisations and the provision of events and activities in parks helps to promote appreciation of the social value of parks, both locally and internationally.</p>

<b>4.</b>	<b>Equality Implications</b>
	There are no known equality implications.

<b>5.</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
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	The Committee is asked to approve the provision of the hospitality for events in 2013 as outlined in the report.
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<b>6.</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
	Agnes McNulty, Open Spaces and Active Living Manager

<b>7.</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
	None

<b>8.</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
	None

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### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Proposed Event – NI Schools Cup “Quarter Finals Day”
<b>Date:</b>	6 December 2012
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Paula Irvine, Community Parks Outreach Manager

<b>1.</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
	<p>The Committee is asked to note that the Council received a request on 31 October 2012 from the Northern Ireland Schools Football Association (NISFA) to host the quarter finals of the NI Schools Cup at the City of Belfast Playing Fields (Mallusk). The event will have approximately 600 participants from schools across Northern Ireland. Approximately 25 schools have teams competing in the quarter finals. Age categories range from under 12's through to under 18's. The date proposed for the event is Wednesday 13 February 2013.</p>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
	<p>This will be the third year running of this event at Mallusk and bringing the event to a single location has proved extremely successful. The use of a single venue enhances and promotes cross community participation and engagement through the medium of soccer, and has ensured effective and efficient running of the finals.</p> <p>The NISFA has once again formalised a relationship to work in conjunction with the BBC and the Belfast Telegraph to raise the profile of the schools cup. Both will be present at the event ensuring media coverage. Raising the profile of the Schools Cup will have a positive effect on participation levels in schools.</p> <p>Similar to last year the NISFA have requested Council representation at the televised draw for the finals which is planned to take place at the UTV studios.</p>

	<p>The Community Parks Outreach Manager will liaise with the Lead Communicator and Corporate Communications with regards to the potential media coverage and promoting the Councils role.</p> <p>The event organisers will complete the agreed event management plan. It will address all relevant issues including health and safety to the satisfaction of Council officers.</p> <p>As the event will be held mid week usage reports for the site show that there will be no displacement to regular users.</p>
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<b>3.</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
	<p><u>Financial</u></p> <p>Each school participating will cover the cost of their own transport and the sponsors of the NI Schools cup will cover the cost of the referees. Potential revenue for the use of the pitches is £506.00 however the committee are asked to note that the organisers have made application for free use of both the pitches and the ancillary facilities. Committee are also asked to note that the organisers have requested that four pitches be re-marked to accommodate junior football. As a result of this these pitches will need to be re-marked again in time for the weekend league fixtures.</p> <p>It is estimated that the event will require two members of staff to supervise and assist with the allocation of dressing rooms. The ancillary facilities will then need to be cleaned afterwards for the weekend fixtures. Staffing costs for both is estimated at £138.00</p> <p><u>Human</u></p> <p>Two members of staff to supervise and clean the dressing rooms during and after the event</p>

<b>4.</b>	<b>Equality and good relations implications</b>
	<p>There are no known associated equality considerations associated with this request.</p> <p>The competition runs at boys age groups U12, U14, U16, and U18 as well as girls at U18 level. The 600 participants represent a range of different age groups, gender, ethnic and religious background.</p>

<b>5.</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
	<p>The committee are asked to approve:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. That the quarter finals are held at Mallusk subject to the completion of an appropriate event management plan to the satisfaction of Council officers.</li> <li>2. That the event organisers are given free use of the pitches and ancillary facilities.</li> </ol>

<b>6.</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
	All actions will be completed by Paula Irvine, Community Parks Outreach Manager and Jackie Turkington, Community Parks Manager
<b>7.</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
	NISFA – Northern Ireland schools Football Association
<b>8.</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
	None

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## Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Pilot Night Activity Programme – Donegal Pass
<b>Date:</b>	06 December 2012
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Cailín Lynn, Project coordinator

<b>1</b>	<p><b>Relevant Background Information</b></p> <p>The purpose of this report is to inform the committee of an evening pilot which Parks and Leisure officers are working on in collaboration with our dedicated partners Belfast Education and Library Board (BELB) Youth Club, South Belfast Alternatives and the Police Service Northern Ireland (PSNI) to take place in Reverend Robert Bradford playground and local area.</p> <p>Since August 2011 the department has invested £20,000 developing an overused grass pitch adjacent to Rev. Robert Bradford Playground.</p> <p>The issue of lighting was raised by the community upon completion of the maintenance, a pilot temporary lighting scheme was suggested however this did not progress for a number of reasons;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Due to the completion of the maintenance being so close to Christmas, the pilot was not a priority for the community.</li> <li>- Officers tried to sign post young people to Blythefield MUGA, an area which has facilities with lighting, however the young people were unwilling to relocate their evening activities out of their own community.</li> </ul> <p>Local community representatives from Donegal Pass have since met with BELB Youth Club, South Belfast Alternatives, PSNI and council officers and have indicated that and the community is now ready to pilot temporary lighting to facilitate evening activities.</p> <p>Donegal Pass has been chosen to pilot this programme for a number of reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strong community Stakeholders</li> <li>• This location is a safe environment for children and young people to participate in facilitated night time sessions.</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opportunity to assess community need for lighting.</li> </ul> <p>The pilot will involve temporary lighting and programming of evening facilitation and activities. We propose that this pilot take place pre and post Christmas 2012.</p> <p>A five week programme of events will take place before Christmas. Council officers and partners will work towards providing facilitation for at least two evenings per week.</p> <p>To make this project sustainable our partners BELB and South Belfast Alternatives will take the lead programming four/five weeks of activities after Christmas. We will encourage local coaches/ businesses and facilitators to become involved in this pilot project.</p>
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<b>2</b>	<p><b>Key Issues</b></p> <p>There has been ongoing consultation with our partners BELB youth Club, South Belfast Alternatives and PSNI regarding a pilot evening programme. This pilot will take place in Reverend Robert Bradford playground after the playground is 'closed'.</p> <p>Our aim as Belfast City council officers is to work with our partners and young people to promote positive activities, shared space and collaborative working in Donegal Pass.</p> <p>We will work in partnership with community representatives and young people to develop a participation plan focused on building respect and ownership of their local park and enhancing skills and personal development in young people. Council officers and partners will be involved in the monitoring and evaluation of this process.</p> <p>If this pilot is successful we will encourage local coaches/ businesses and facilitators to become involved to enhance community participation in the programme and enhance the opportunities for capacity building among the young people involved.</p> <p>The department hopes that this project, if successful may be rolled out city wide, in areas where it is believed the project can be successfully led and sustained by the community.</p> <p>Adequate risk assessments will be carried out and actions taken in relation to various activities.</p> <p>This pilot programme is in line with Parks and Leisure departmental objectives in terms of animating the city's parks and increasing community involvement and participation. Monitoring and evaluation forms will be completed throughout the pilot.</p>
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<b>3</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
	<p><u>Financial</u>  Provision can be provided for this within the Parks and Leisure Anti Social Behaviour Coordinator budget as follows:  Lighting: £245 per week  Sports Facilitation: £120 per evening  DIY workshops: £125 - £250 per evening</p> <p>Total per week: £860 - £985</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u></p> <p>There are likely to be some additional staffing costs to cover evening activities. Council officers will play an active role in participation and facilitation throughout the pilot programme, to include workshop facilitation and interaction with young people and adults to continually evaluate and assist in the organic development of this pilot programme.</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u></p> <p>Provision of this programme will enhance the asset by its increased use by the community and reduce the incidents of antisocial behaviour within the park.</p>
<b>4</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Considerations</b>
	<p>There are no implications at this stage however equality and good relations will be taken into account in any activities delivered throughout this pilot, to ensure that the programme is facilitated in an inclusive manner.</p>
<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
	<p>It is recommended that the committee grant authority for a pilot to take place in the Reverend Robert Bradford Millennium Park by South Belfast Alternatives and BELB subject to satisfactory terms being agreed by the director of Parks and Leisure and on the condition that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The groups resolve all operational and health and safety issues to the council's satisfaction;</li> <li>• Parks and Leisure part fund this pilot programme.</li> <li>• To grant authority for the young people to generate funds for future activities.</li> <li>• An evaluation report be submitted to committee in March 2013 with recommendations on how this can be applied across the city.</li> </ul>

<b>6</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
	All actions to be carried out by Community Parks outreach team, Lynne McCreery and Cailín Lynn and ASB coordinator Peter Murray. A report will be brought back to committee in March 2013
<b>7</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
	BELB – Belfast Education and Library Board PSNI –Police Service Northern Ireland MUGA – Multi-Use Games Area
<b>8</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
	Before and after photographs of MUGA at Rev. Robert Bradford playground.



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### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Request for officer attendance at Committee for Culture, Arts and Leisure
<b>Date:</b>	6 December 2012
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Rose Crozier, Assistant of Director Parks and Leisure

<b>1.</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
1.1	The Committee is advised that the department has received a request for officers to attend the Committee for Culture, Arts and Leisure on 17 January 2013 to provide a briefing on the Council's draft Amateur Boxing Strategy.
<b>2.</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	The Director and Assistant Director of Parks and Leisure will attend the committee as requested to provide a briefing.
<b>3.</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
3.1	<u>Finance</u> No implications
3.2	<u>Human Resources</u> No impact
3.3	<u>Asset</u> No impact
<b>4.</b>	<b>Equality and good relations implications</b>
	None

<b>5.</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
	The Committee is asked to note the attendance of officers at the Committee for Culture, Arts and Leisure.
<b>6.</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
	Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>7.</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
	None
<b>8.</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
	None



**Belfast City Council**

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Replacement of Bridge at Clement Wilson Park
<b>Date:</b>	6 December 2012
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Rose Crozier, Assistant Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Stephen Walker, Departmental Portfolio Programme Mngr

<b>1</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
1.1	<p>Clement Wilson Park is located in the South of the city adjacent to Shaw's Bridge and forms part of the Lagan Valley Regional Park and is also part of the Sustrans Cycle Route. It can be accessed from a number of locations within the area. One of these is at the bottom of New Forge Lane where access to and from the park is via a bridge. The Committee is reminded that it received a report at its meeting on 16 June 2008 regarding the condition of the bridge. As a result the bridge was restricted to pedestrian and cycle access and it was agreed that it be recommended for inclusion in the Capital Programme.</p> <p>The purpose of this report is to update the Committee on the replacement of the bridge.</p> <p>Since June 2008 further reports on the condition of the bridge have been received. The replacement has been placed on the Committed list of the capital programme and work is now on going to undertake the construction of a new bridge. The current position is as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A design team has been appointed and a planning application has been submitted in November 2012 to the Planning Service seeking the necessary consent;</li> <li>2. Consultation with the Lagan Valley Regional Park Board and Sustrans have been commenced, letters will be sent to those living in the area in December 2012 and signage will be erected in the New Year to inform users of the proposals;</li> <li>3. A photograph of the proposed new bridge is attached as Appendix 1 and a site map is attached as Appendix 2; a technical drawing of the structure is attached as Appendix 3.</li> <li>4. It is anticipated that a select list will be drawn up during December</li> </ol>

	<p>2012 from which tenders will be invited in the New year;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. To minimise the disruption to park users it is intended that the bridge will be constructed off site and will be delivered to the site and lifted by crane to its agreed position which is the site of the existing bridge; this will however require a licence agreement with the owner of the car park area;</li> <li>6. It is anticipated that it will be necessary to close this access point for approximately 8 weeks, this is to allow for the removal of the existing bridge (and the avoidance of any environmental damage), preparatory work for the new bridge and its installation; this is likely to be during the Spring of 2013.</li> </ol>
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<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to note the following key points:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The bridge needs to be replaced on health and safety grounds;</li> <li>2. Repairs have been carried out to enable it to be used up to the construction time;</li> <li>3. The closure of the bridge and access point will be an inconvenience to some users;</li> <li>4. Discussions will continue with the main stakeholders;</li> <li>5. It will be necessary to use the existing car park area at New Forge Lane as a base for the bridge prior to its installation and for the necessary lifting equipment required to position the bridge. As the land is not owned by the Council it will be necessary to enter into an appropriate legal agreement with the land owner. Members are asked to note that without agreement it may be necessary to consider alternative construction methods which may mean the closure of the bridge for an extended period of time, perhaps up to 6 months;</li> <li>6. Early notification signs are currently being prepared and will be erected in the New Year to inform park users of the need for the works and of the need to close the access point, indicative timescales will be provided;</li> </ol>

<b>3</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
3.1	<p><u>Financial</u></p> <p>Provision of £2,000,000 for the replacement bridge has been allowed for in the Council's Capital Programme.</p>
3.2	<p><u>Human Resources</u></p> <p>There are no additional human resource implications.</p>
3.3	<p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u></p> <p>The replacement is required on health and safety grounds. In addition,</p>

	the replacement will ensure the connectivity between the park and its environs and will support mobility and access for cyclists, pedestrians, runners for an estimated life of 40 years.
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<b>4</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Considerations</b>
4.1	There are no equality implications

<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
5.1	It is recommended that the Committee note the issues and current position.

<b>6</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
	None

<b>7</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
	None

<b>8</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
	<p>Appendix 1 – Photograph of similar bridge at Newcastle</p> <p>Appendix 2 – Site map</p> <p>Appendix 3 – Outline drawing showing bridge</p>

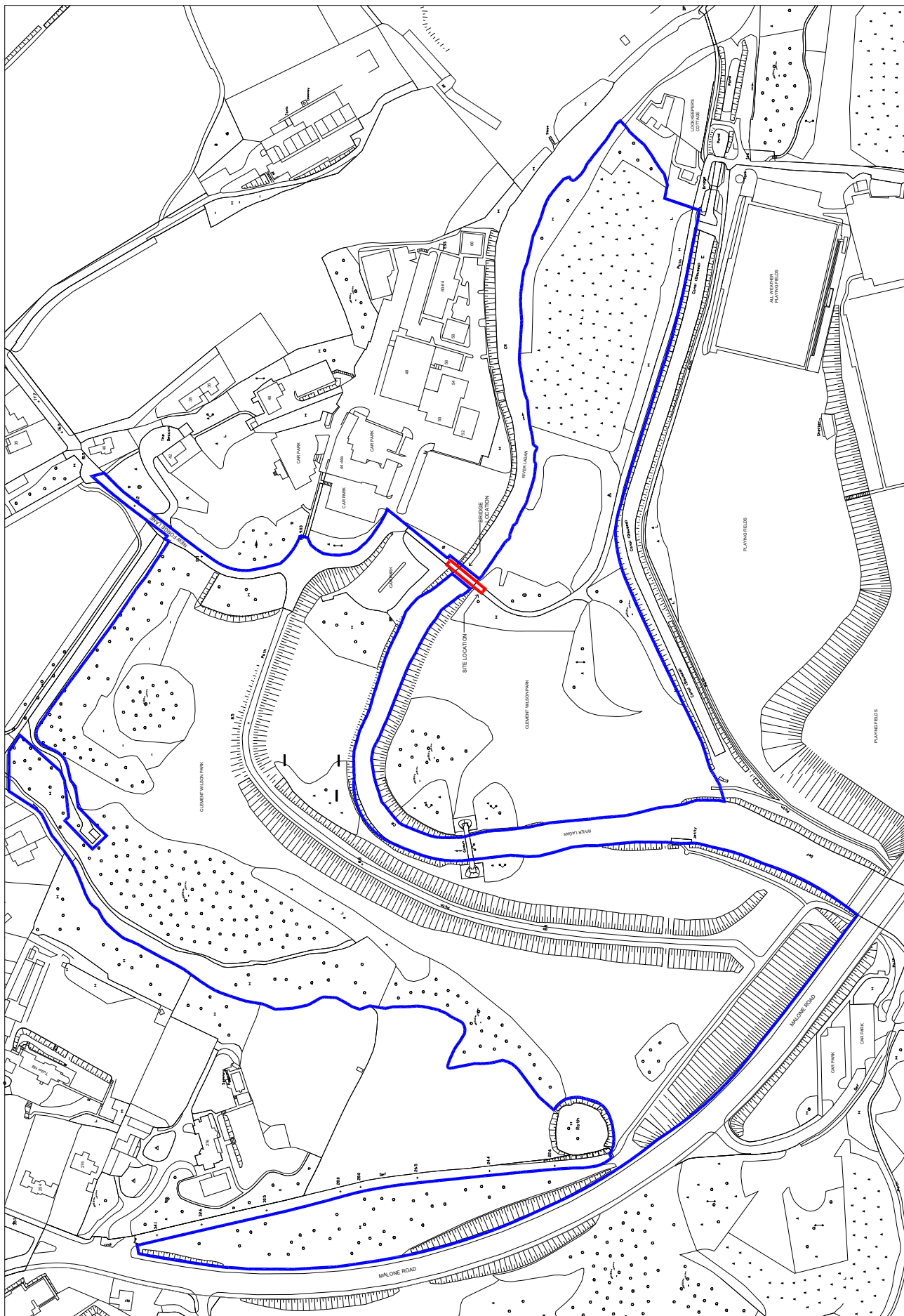
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Appendix 1 – Proposed replacement bridge at Clement Wilson Park



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Site Location Map

Clement Wilson Park  
Replacement of Foot & Cycle Bridge

Planning  
Belfast City Council

CONSTRUCTION/DEMOLITION	WATER/SEWERAGE/CLEANING	DEMOLITION/REPAIRS
Other	Other	Other

NOTES

By	Date
Drawn	15/11/20

Drawn By	DA
Checked By	PK
Approved By	RS
Date	15/11/20

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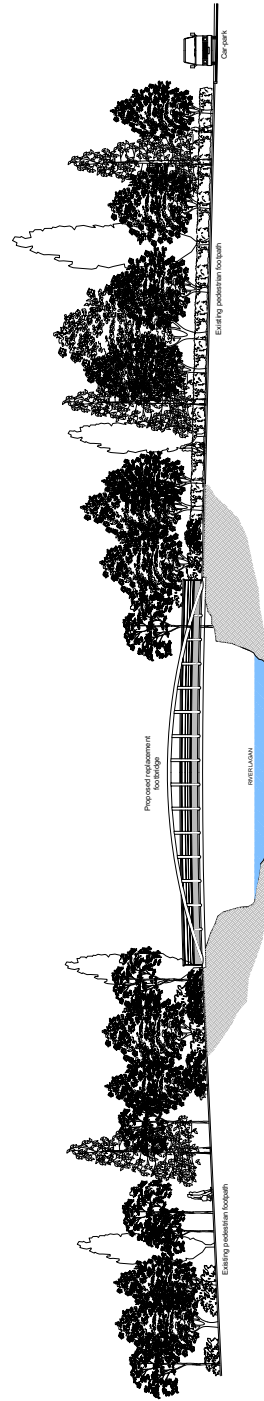
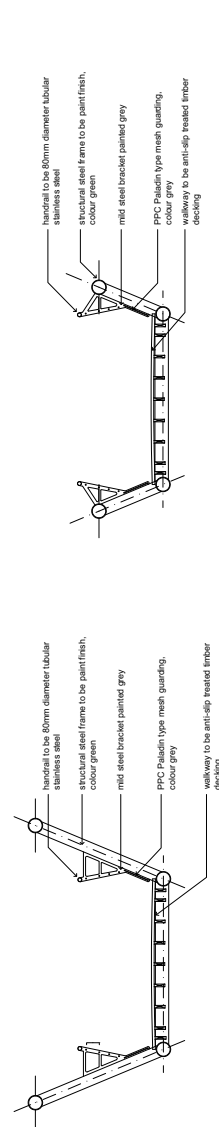
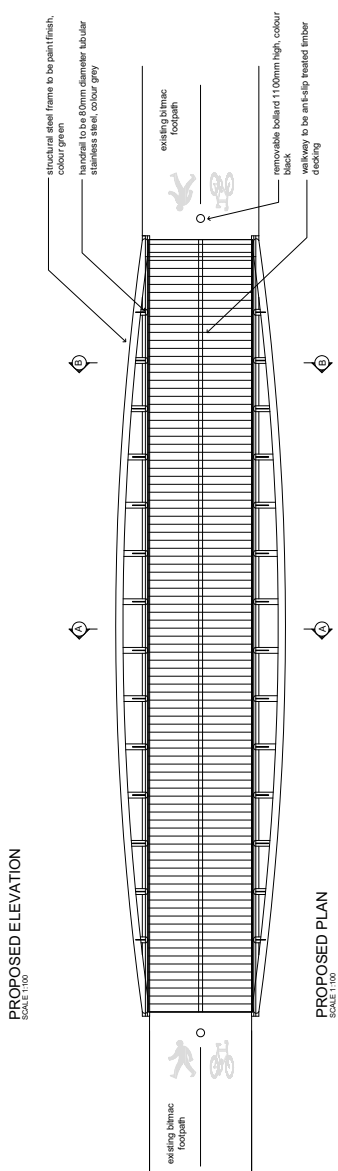
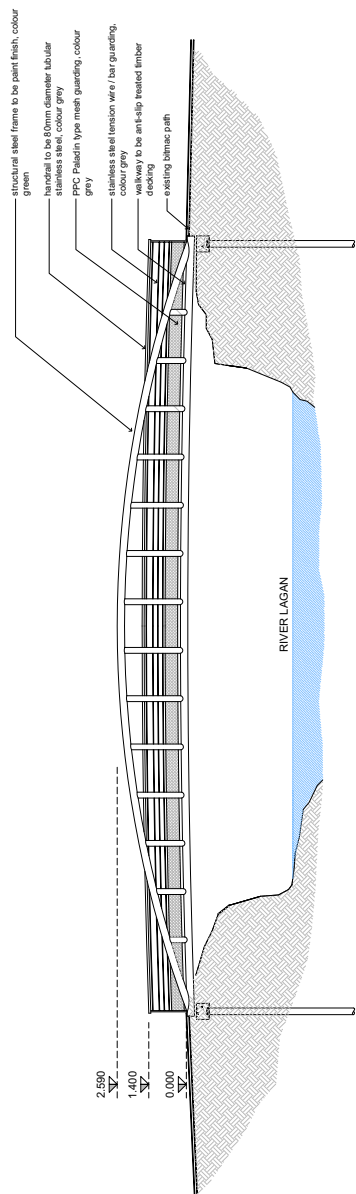
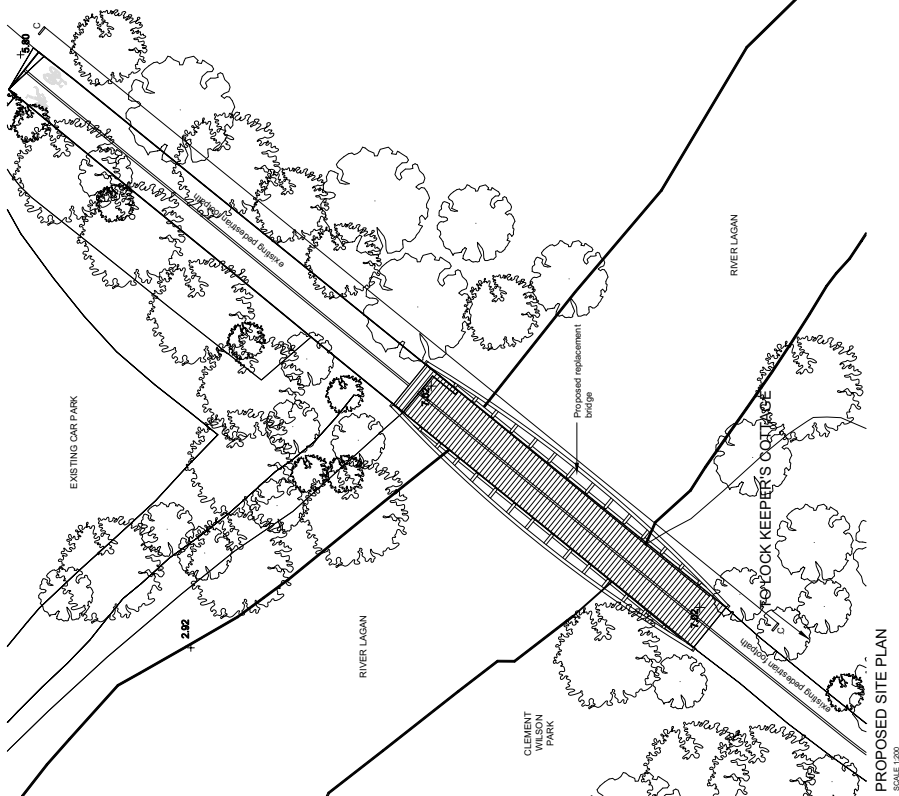
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PROPOSED BRIDGE / PATH ELEVATION C-C  
SCALE 1:200

**Proposed Elevations and Sections**

**Clement Wilson Park  
Replacement of Foot & Cycle Bridge**

Planning  
Belfast City Council

CONTRACTOR(S) WATERLOO / CLEARING  
DRAWN FOR(S) CHIEF  
In addition to the information normally associated with the type of work, details of the work to be carried out by a competent contractor shall be set out in a separate method statement.

Project Code	By	Date

Drawn By	Checked By	Approved By	Date
47059473	RS	PK	05.11.12

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URS Infrastructure & Environment UK Limited  
47059473 - 4003

SAFETY HEALTH ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

Project Title  
Client

Notes

Notes

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**Belfast City Council**

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Mountain Bike Trail at Barnett Demesne
<b>Date:</b>	6 December 2012
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Rose Crozier, Assistant Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Stephen Walker, Departmental Portfolio Programme Manager

<b>1</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
1.1	<p>The Committee is reminded that the development of a Mountain Bike Trail at Barnett Demesne is included within the Investment Programme 2012-2015. Members may recall that there have been a series of reports regarding this item in the past. These reports have essentially considered three elements to this project:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The issue of unauthorised jump trails at Cavehill County Park and Barnett's Demesne and the need to make provision for this growing sport and past time;</li> <li>2. The funding opportunity through the Rural Development Programme to support the development of a trail; and</li> <li>3. The funding opportunity through Sport NI and the Community Capital Programme to provide an enhanced mountain bike trail.</li> </ol>
1.2	<p>The end result of this is that funding has been secured from both RDP and SNI and a 12km mountain bike trail will now be delivered at Barnett's Demesne. This will be a partnership project involving the Council, the two funding organisations and Outdoor Recreation Northern Ireland. A site map illustrating the trail is attached as Appendix 1. Members will note that the trail has been designed to meet a range of mountain bike skills level from the novice / beginner through to the more experienced / expert user.</p>

<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>

2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to note the following key points:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The contract for the construction of the trail has been awarded with effect from 6<sup>th</sup> November 2012;</li> <li>2. Physical construction has commenced and is scheduled to complete by the end of March 2013;</li> <li>3. Signage has been erected in advance of the work being commissioned and will be displayed prior to the commencement of the construction works;</li> <li>4. A consultation event with the mountain bike trail users is being arranged, possibly prior to Christmas to consider a programme of events and put in place protocols for use.</li> <li>5. A budget for a launch event is available through the Rural Development Programme and consideration is being given to this at present;</li> <li>6. Operational maintenance of the trail will be undertaken by the Council. During year 1 this will be primarily undertaken by Council staff who have been trained in the maintenance of trails. In addition it is intended to enter into a call off contract with the contractor to support the work if required and this will be within quotation limits.</li> </ol>
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<b>3</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
3.1	<p><u>Financial</u></p> <p>This £400,000 project has been funded through support from the Rural Development Programme, Sport NI and Belfast City Council. Provision has been made within the Capital Programme.</p> <p>In addition, £10,000 has been provided through departmental estimates to meet the annual maintenance requirements of the trail.</p>
3.2	<p><u>Human Resources</u></p> <p>There are no additional human resource implications at this time, a review of the maintenance element will be undertaken at the end of year 1.</p>
3.3	<p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u></p> <p>This trail will provide a much needed resource for this growing sport. It will also enable the Council to more effectively manage unauthorised use of its sites for mountain bike.</p>

<b>4</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Considerations</b>
4.1	There are no equality implications



<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
5.1	It is recommended that the Committee note the report.

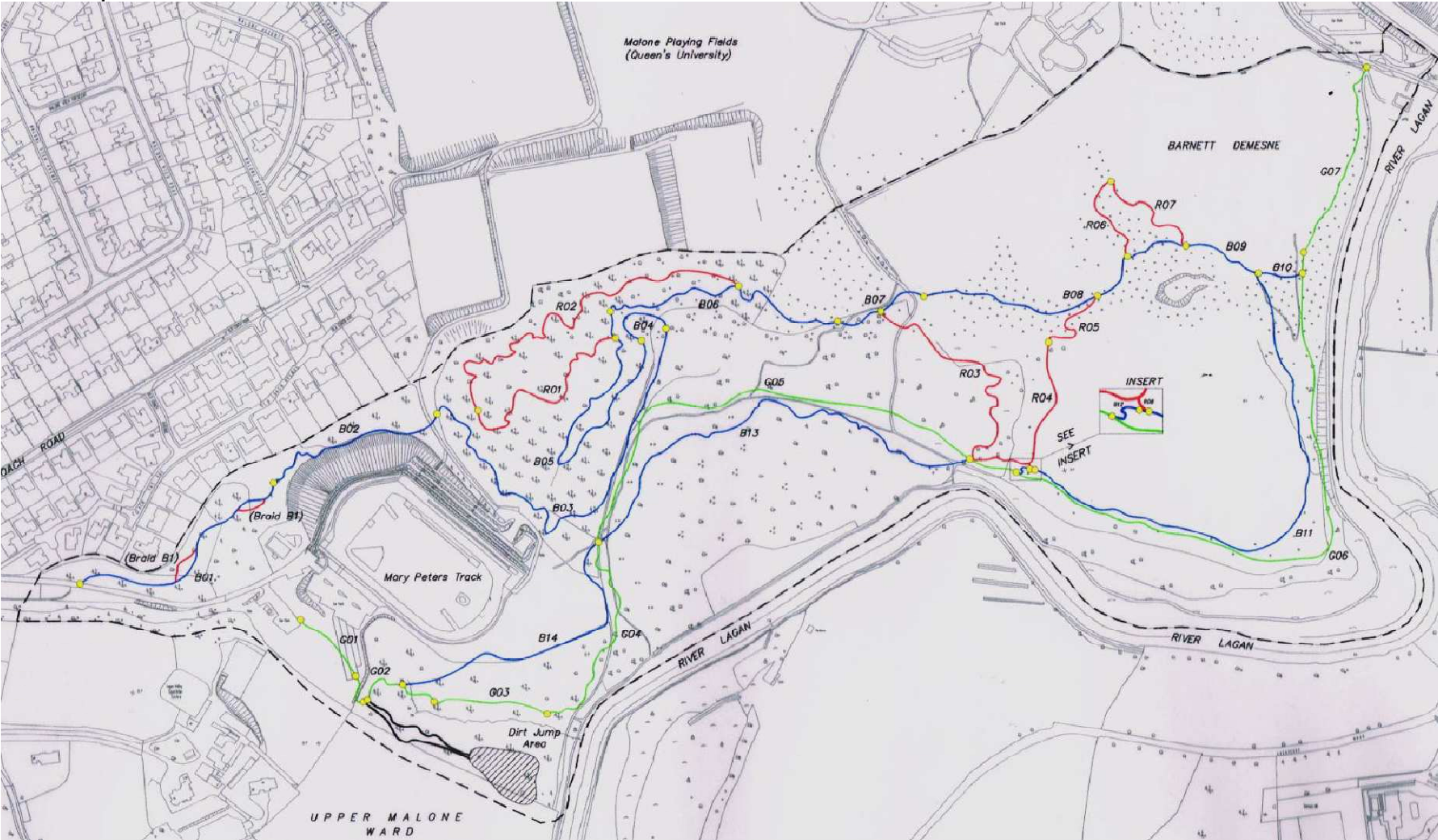
<b>6</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
	None

<b>7</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
	None

<b>8</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
	Appendix 1 – Site map illustrating the trail

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Site Map



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### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Use of Falls Bowling Pavilion by Beechmount Harriers Athletic Club
<b>Date:</b>	6 December 2012
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Rose Crozier, Assistant of Director Parks and Leisure

<b>1.</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
	<p>The Parks and Leisure Department has received a request from Beechmount Harriers Athletic Club for use of the bowling pavilion at Falls Park free of charge for an initial period to allow the club to become established in the park. They have stated they would like to use Falls Park and the pavilion as their home base.</p> <p>The club has been in existence for almost 30 years and currently has around 100 members with ages ranging mainly from 8 to 18 years old.</p> <p>The club currently meets four days a week: Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday and as they don't have a club house or base they meet in three different venues. The Harriers are already very active in the park and help organize the successful Falls Parkrun every Saturday morning in the park.</p>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
	<p>The Council wishes to promote the city and the use of its parks and open spaces for participation in healthy activity.</p> <p>The club's catchment area is throughout West Belfast and most of the members would come from low income families and would be the target group for many health improvement programmes currently supported by the Council.</p>

	<p>The club is actively engaging young people in healthy activities and retaining their membership which is often a challenge for this age group.</p> <p>Positive use of the park promotes the park as a safe open space and encourages other users into the park.</p> <p>It is proposed that the Harriers are given free use of the pavilion for a three month period from January to March 2013 to help them become an established group in the park.</p>
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<b>3.</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
	<p><u>Finance</u> The hire of the bowling pavilion is £18 per hour and the suggested free usage would amount to £126 per month or £378 lost income for the three month period.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u> None.</p> <p><u>Asset</u> The Harriers presence will encourage positive use of the park.</p>

<b>4.</b>	<b>Equality and good relations implications</b>
	None

<b>5.</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
	It is recommended that Committee accede to the request to provide Beechmount Harriers Athletic Club free use of the pavilion at Falls Park for a three month period from January to March 2013.

<b>6.</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
	Ricky Rice, City Park Manager (South West)

<b>7.</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
	None

<b>8.</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
	None