

# Document Pack

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



3<sup>rd</sup> May, 2013

## **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, 9th May, 2013 at 4.30 p.m., 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. Support for Sport Development Grants (Pages 3 - 16)
3. Improvement Programme - Commercial Operations (Pages 17 - 22)
4. Fund for Enhancement of School Pitches (Pages 23 - 26)
5. High Hedges Act Implementation Review (Pages 27 - 30)
6. Grove Wellbeing Centre – Provision of Pool Seating (Pages 31 - 32)
7. Stadia Update (Pages 33 - 36)
8. Request for Use of the Ballysillan Playing Fields (Pages 37 - 40)

9. Update on Avoniel Leisure Centre (Pages 41 - 44)
10. 'Big If' Belfast Event (report to follow)
11. New Attraction at Belfast Zoo (Pages 45 - 50)
12. Pilot for Dog Parks (Grove Park) (Pages 51 - 56)
13. Summer Schemes 2013 (Pages 57 - 60)
14. Leisure Centre Public Holiday Closure Dates (Pages 61 - 62)
15. Land Lease Agreements (Pages 63 - 66)
16. Belfast BMX Trails Jam Event (Pages 67 - 68)
17. Strangford Avenue - Key Holding Arrangements (Pages 69 - 72)
18. Request for the Use of Dixon Playing Fields - Bloomfield Gospel Hall Outreach Initiative (Pages 73 - 74)
19. Polo in the City 2013 (Pages 75 - 78)
20. Royal Life Saving Society Annual Awards (Pages 79 - 82)



**Belfast City Council**

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Support for Sport Development Grants</b>
<b>Date:</b>	9th May, 2012
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure, ext 3400
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Claire Moraghan, Sports Development Officer, ext 3414

<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 Monday 29 April to discuss Small Development and Hospitality applications under delegated authority. 41 Small Development applications were received for April and 8 Hospitality applications.
2.2	Following the review of Support for Sport it was agreed that sports clubs achieving Clubmark accreditation should be rewarded with a one off grant. The proposed award will be £1,000 for Gold and £500 for Bronze.
2.3	16 Belfast sports clubs have achieved Clubmark certification, 4 at the highest Gold level and 12 at Bronze.
2.4	The Small Development applications are listed in Appendix 1. Hospitality applications are listed in Appendix 2. Clubmark sports clubs are listed in Appendix 3.
2.5	Detailed applications are held in the Parks and Leisure Department and can be forwarded to Members on request.
2.6	A copy of each application will be available at Committee.

<b>3</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>																				
3.1	<p><b><u>Financial</u></b></p> <p>The table below indicates the amounts allocated from the 2013/2014 budget.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Area</th> <th>Total available</th> <th>Allocated to date</th> <th>Proposed allocation for May 2013</th> <th>Remaining after allocation</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Small Development</td> <td>£120,000</td> <td>£5,255</td> <td>£33,346</td> <td>£81,399</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clubmark</td> <td>from small dev pot</td> <td>£0</td> <td>£10,000</td> <td>£71,399</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hospitality</td> <td>£25,000</td> <td>£3,000</td> <td>£7,900</td> <td>£10,100</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Area	Total available	Allocated to date	Proposed allocation for May 2013	Remaining after allocation	Small Development	£120,000	£5,255	£33,346	£81,399	Clubmark	from small dev pot	£0	£10,000	£71,399	Hospitality	£25,000	£3,000	£7,900	£10,100
Area	Total available	Allocated to date	Proposed allocation for May 2013	Remaining after allocation																	
Small Development	£120,000	£5,255	£33,346	£81,399																	
Clubmark	from small dev pot	£0	£10,000	£71,399																	
Hospitality	£25,000	£3,000	£7,900	£10,100																	
3.2	<p><b><u>Human Resources</u></b></p> <p>There are no human resource implications other than officer time to process the applications.</p>																				
3.3	<p><b><u>Asset and Other Implications</u></b></p> <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>Recommendation</b>
5.1	The Committee is requested to note the content of this report with regard to Support for Sport development applications.

<b>6</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
The Sports Development Officer will arrange the award of all Support for Sport Small Grants by 30 May 2013.	

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

<b>8</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
<p><b>Table of Recommendations</b></p> <p>Appendix 1: Small Development Applications May 2013.  Appendix 2: Hospitality Applications May 2013  Appendix 3: Clubmark accredited sports clubs May 2013.</p>	

## Appendix 1 Support for Sport Small Development Grants May 2013

Reference	Area	Club	Activity Details	Date of Event	Recommendation	Amount Recommended	Offer	Breakdown of award
D-938-14	West	Boccia NI	Boccia Coaching Sessions and Tournament	30/05/13	Deferred awaiting confirmation of affiliation			
D-939-14	North	Sporting Leisure	U19 Football Team	12/05/13	Deferred awaiting additional information			
D-940-14	Lisburn	Saints Amateur Boxing Club	Fundamental Boxing Skills Divisionary Programme targeting females and promoting health and fitness.	Jun-Oct 2013	Not Recommended		Saints Boxing Club is based in Twinbrook. Club will be directed to Lisburn Sports Development team.	
D-941-14	North	Donegall Diamonds Waterpolo Club	To sustain the rapid growth in the club they require Level 1 & Level 2 Waterpolo coaching qualifications for their volunteers.	9-11 Sep 2013	Recommended	£981.00	Support to a maximum of £981 not representing any more than £75% of eligible costs	Coach education:£1308-75%= £981
D-942-14	East	Templemore Amateur Swimming Club	Club wish to train up 22 volunteers in various levels of STA Teaching Awards	May-Oct 2013	Recommended	£1,000.00	Total: £1333-75% = £1000;	Coach education:£1333-75%= £1000
D-943-14	North	Ballysillan Elim YM Football Club	Football Coaching Programme targeting Males 16-40 years.	May-Oct 2013	Deferred		Bank Account details not supplied	



## Appendix 1 Support for Sport Small Development Grants May 2013

D-944-14	West	Divis Bowling Club (Men's)	Following on from an successful primary "Try-it" event last year the club wish to introduce males 12-16 years Coaching to Falls Bowling Pavilion	May-Oct 2013	Recommended	£930.00	Support to a maximum of £930 not representing any more than £75% of eligible costs	Coaching Costs: £1040 Marketing Materials: £200 Total: £1240-75%=£930
D-945-14	West	Ulster Rockets	Development of new junior section for Ulster Rockets Women's basketball providing a pathway for talented girls to play high level basketball.	TBA	Recommended	£1,250.00	Support to a maximum of £1000 not representing any more than £75% of eligible costs + £250 equipment grant	Facility Hire Costs: £1333 Total: £1333-75%=£1000 + £250 equipment grant
D-946-14	N,S,W	Redhog Wrestling Club	UKCC Level 1 & UKCC Level 2 Wrestling qualifications	02/06/13	Recommended	£600.00	Support to a maximum of £600 not representing any more than £75% of eligible costs	Coach Education: £800 Total: £800-75%=£600
D-947-14	West	Greater Shankill Sports Committee	Celebration events following an Active Communities 6 week programme of activity. Boys & girls from 8-18 will come together from across the city to compete and try out their new skills.	Jun-Nov 2013	Recommended	£945.00	Support to a maximum of £945 not representing any more than £75% of eligible costs	Transport within Belfast: £1260 Total: £1260-75%=£945 Facility Hire: £300 Marketing materials: £200 Medals/Certificates: £200 Officials costs: £315 First Aid: £140 Travel within Belfast: £178 Total: £1333-75%=£1000
D-948-14	West	St Pauls Boxing Club	Boxing Tournament to build confidence in new & less experienced boxers. Event will lead to return invitations to other local events.	26/05/13	Recommended	£1,000.00	Support to a maximum of £1000 not representing any more than £75% of eligible costs	Marketing materials: £200 Medals/Certificates: £200 Officials costs: £315 First Aid: £140 Travel within Belfast: £178 Total: £1333-75%=£1000

## Appendix 1 Support for Sport Small Development Grants May 2013

D-949-14	West	Beann Mhadaghain Football Club	Newly established club putting on a recruitment drive targeting senior & U20 males. Plan to raise awareness of men's health during men's health week with a nursing practitioner.	Jun-Aug 2013	Recommended subject to signing of constitution by club trustees	£855.00	Support to a maximum of £855 not representing any more than £75% of eligible costs	Coaching costs:£180 Facility Hire:£960 Total:£1140-75%=£855 equipment grant already received.
D-950-14	North	Manor Hearts Bhoys	Newly established club requesting support with IFA Level 1 and facility hire costs	Ongoing	Recommended subject to signing of constitution by club trustees	£963.00	Support to a maximum of £713 not representing any more than £75% of eligible costs + £250 equipment grant	Coach Qualifications:£500 Facility Hire:£450 Total:£950-75%=£713 + £250 equipment grant.
D-951-14	North	Clifton Athletic Football Club	Coach education programme that will train up present coaches and enable the club to increase memberships.	May-13	Recommended	£863.00	Support to a maximum of £855 not representing any more than £75% of eligible costs	Coach Education:£750 Facility Hire:£400 Total: £1150-75%=£863
D-952-14	North	Glenpark Football Club	level 1 - 3 coaches and hosting a tournament that will also tackle issues of mental health, suicide & drug awareness.	30/05/13	Recommended	£803.00	Support to a maximum of £803 not representing any more than £75% of eligible costs	Coach Education:£750 Facility Hire:£320 Total: £1170-75%=£803
D-953-14	North	Cliftonville Girls Football Development Centre	Club wish to start a development centre working with younger girls on balance, co-ordination and technique in the hope of progressing into the club.	Apr-Sep 2013	Recommended	£1,250.00	Support to a maximum of £1000 not representing any more than £75% of eligible costs + £250 equipment grant	Coaching costs:£600 Facility hire:£683 Marketing materials:£50 Total:£1333-75%=£1000 + £250 equipment grant



## Appendix 1 Support for Sport Small Development Grants May 2013

D-954-14	N,S	Belfast Boat Club	Development of Junior & Senior Squash	31/5/13-02/06/13	Recommended	£990.00	Support to a maximum of £990 not representing any more than £75% of eligible costs	Coaching costs:£990 Marketing:£130 Trophies:£200 Total:£1320-75%=£990
D-955-14	N,E	Dockers Boxing Club	Cross Community Boxing Event with Dublin team	03/05/13	Recommended	£1,000.00	Support to a maximum of £1000 not representing any more than £75% of eligible costs	Accommodation:£650 Marketing materials:£150 Medals/trophies:£200 MC:£60 Ring Transport & Set Up:£200 Official Costs:£73 Total:£1333-75%=£1000
D-956-14	North	Norman Whiteside Sports Facility	Summer Soccer Coaching and fair play Tournament with an emphasis on health, bullying and good relations.	01/07/13-05/07/13	Recommended	£1,000.00	Support to a maximum of £1000 not representing any more than £75% of eligible costs	Coaching Costs:£1333 Total:£1333-75%=£1000
D-957-14	West	Falls Bowling Club	Taster Days to increase junior membership.	Jun-13	Recommended	£360.00	Support to a maximum of £360 not representing any more than £75% of eligible costs	Coaching Costs:£480 Total:£480-75%=£360
D-958-14	South	Windsor Lawn Tennis Club	Invitation Tournament for the top ranked players in Ulster	22/06/13	Recommended	£465.00	Support to a maximum of £465 not representing any more than £75% of eligible costs	Officials costs:£300 Marketing materials:£160 Trophies:£160 Total:£620-75%=£465



## Appendix 1 Support for Sport Small Development Grants May 2013

D-959-14	East	CIYMS Cricket Club	Elite Junior Coaching to encourage progression to senior cricket.	Jun-Sep 2013	Recommended	£1,000.00	Support to a maximum of £1000 not representing any more than £75% of eligible costs	Coaching Costs:£1333 Total:£1333-75%=£1000
D-960-14	East	Bloomfield Football Club	Youth Football tournament for U10-U13's both male and female.	25/05/13	Recommended	£848.00	Support to a maximum of £848 not representing any more than £75% of eligible costs	Coaching costs:£720 Trophies/Medals:£200 Officials costs:£160 First Aid:£50 Total:£1130-75%=£848
D-961-14	North	Ballysillan Amateur Boxing Club	Fundamental Boxing Skills Divisionary Programme on Friday evenings promoting health and fitness.	May-Oct 2013	Recommended	£690.00	Support to a maximum of £690 not representing any more than £75% of eligible costs	Facility Hire:£920 Total:£920-75%=£690
D-962-14	East	Glentoran Football Club Academy	UEFA 'A' Licence Soccer Course	08/06/13-14/06/13	Recommended	£1,000.00	Support to a maximum of £1000 not representing any more than £75% of eligible costs	Coach education:£1333 Total:£1333-75%=£1000
D-963-14	North	Shamrock Football Club	Coach education for volunteer coaches and progressing Grassroots football.	Various	Recommended	£1,000.00	Support to a maximum of £1000 not representing any more than £75% of eligible costs	Coach education:£1240 Marketing materials:£93 Total:£1333-75%=£1000
D-964-14	East	Rivers Community Project	Family focused Fitness/Movement/Co-Ordination & Dance sessions	Mondays	Recommended	£870.00	Support to a maximum of £870 not representing any more than £75% of eligible costs	Coaching costs:£900 Marketing:£200 Medals:£60 Total:£1160-75%=£870

## Appendix 1 Support for Sport Small Development Grants May 2013

D-965-14	West	Gleann Amateur Boxing Club	Boxing Tournament for 10-25years both male & female.	14/06/13-15/06/13	Recommended	£994.00	Support to a maximum of £994 not representing any more than £75% of eligible costs	Facility Hire: £250 Marketing Materials: £200 Trophies/Medals: £200 Ring hire: £400 Transport within Belfast: £275 Total: £1325-75% = £994
D-966-14	West	Holy Trinity Youth Centre	Coaching Sessions aiming to establish a soccer team for boys and girls from 7-11 years.	04/06/13-06/08/13	Recommended	£1,000.00	Support to a maximum of £1000 not representing any more than £75% of eligible costs	Coaching costs: £1133 Trophies/Medals: £200 Total: £1333-75% = £1000
D-967-14	N,W	Abbey Gymnastics CIC	End of Year Display & Prize Giving	22/06/13	Recommended	£563.00	Support to a maximum of £563 not representing any more than £75% of eligible costs	Facility Hire: £350 Marketing Materials: £200 Trophies/Medals: £200; Total: £750-75% = £563 *Max allowed for marketing = £200
D-968-14	South	Belfast Harlequins Women's Hockey Club	Junior Hockey Training to maintain thriving junior section.	Sep 2013-May 2014	Recommended	£1,000.00	Support to a maximum of £1000 not representing any more than £75% of eligible costs	Coaching Costs: £1333 Total: £1333-75% = £1000
D-969-14	CW,S	Instonians Cricket Club	Multi Sport Summer Scheme targeting primary 2-7 in the hope of them joining the club.	Jul-Aug 2013	Recommended	£1,000.00	Support to a maximum of £1000 not representing any more than £75% of eligible costs	Coaching Costs: £666; Facility Hire: £667; Total: £1333-75% = £1000
D-970-14	West	Saint Agnes Gaelic Football Club	Summer Gaelic Football Festival - July	01/07/13-05/07/13	Recommended	£1,000.00	Support to a maximum of £1000 not representing any more than £75% of eligible costs	Coaching Costs: £758 Facility Hire: £375 Medals/trophies: £200 Total: £1333-75% = £1000



## Appendix 1 Support for Sport Small Development Grants May 2013

D-971-14	West	Saint Agnes GAC Hurling Club	Summer Hurling Festival August	12/08/13-16/08/13	Recommended	£1,000.00	Support to a maximum of £1000 not representing any more than £75% of eligible costs	Coaching Costs: £758 Facility Hire: £375 Medals/trophies: £200 Total: £1333-75% = £1000
D-972-14	Citywide	Belfast Deaf Utd FC	Deaflympic Games Preparation Camp	Jun/Jul 2013	Recommended	£1,000.00	Support to a maximum of £1000 not representing any more than £75% of eligible costs	Coaching Costs: £250; Facility Hire: £500 Officials costs: £150 Accommodation: £433 Total: £1333-75% = £1000
D-973-14	South	Greater Village Regeneration Trust	Fit4Life Volunteer Development Training	Ongoing	Recommended	£956.00	Support to a maximum of £956 not representing any more than £75% of eligible costs	Coach Education: £975 Facility Hire: £250 Marketing material: £50 Total: £1275-75%=£956
D-974-14	South	Sandy Row Football Club	Health & Fitness Programme for Players	Aug 13- Jan 14	Recommended	£1,135.00	Support to a maximum of £885 not representing any more than £75% of eligible costs+£250 equipment	Coach Education: £220 Coaching costs: £480 Facility Hire: £480 Total: £1180-75% = £885 +£250 equipment grant. Facility Hire: £600;
D-975-14	West	Immaculata Junior Football Club	Cross community Under 9's Competition with 8 teams over 5 weeks.	14/05/13-14/06/13	Recommended	£938.00	Support to a maximum of £938 not representing any more than £75% of eligible costs	Trophies/Medals: £200; Officials Costs: £300; Room hire: £150; Total: £1250-75% = £938 *Max allowed for medals/trophies = £200 Refreshments ineligible.

## Appendix 1 Support for Sport Small Development Grants May 2013

D-976-14	Citywide	Northern Ireland Community of Refugees & Asylum Seekers (NICRAS)	Coaching Awards for young refugees who will host a tournament during refugee week.	Various	Recommended	£1,250.00	Support to a maximum of £1000 not representing any more than 75% of eligible costs+£250 equipment	Coach Education: £680 Coaching costs:£480 Facility Hire:£153 Marketing materials:£20 Total: £1333-75% = £1000 +£250 equipment grant.
D-977-14	South	PTA Naiscoil agus Bunscoil An Droichead	Coach Education, Coaching & Tournament	Afterschools TBC	Not Recommended		Support for sport does not fund schools. They will be directed to the Active Communities coaches and encouraged to use their own school facilities.	Coaching Costs: £480 Facility Hire: £540 Medals/trophies:£60 Marketing materials:£50 Total: £1130-75% = £847 equipment ineligible - junior section already established.
D-978-14	South	Albion Star Youth Football Club	Fundamentals Soccer Start Programme	Ongoing	Recommended	£847.00	Support to a maximum of £847 not representing any more than 75% of eligible costs	
<b>Total Amount allocated to date: £5,255</b>							<b>Allocation for May 2013:£33,346</b>	<b>Total Allocation to date:£38,601</b>



## Appendix 2 Support for Sport Hospitality May 2013

Ref	Area	Club/ Organisation	Event Name	Date of Event	Event Venue	Recommended /Deferred	Amount Recommended	Tourism Appeal	Guest Information
H-141-14	West	Clonard Waterpolo, Falls Leisure Centre	Dermot Neery Memorial Cup	11/05/13	Falls Leisure Centre	Recommended	£400.00	8 Masters Waterpolo teams from Belfast, Dublin & Galway. Travelling teams expected to stay 1 night.	80 guests made up of competitors and guests
H-142-14	East	Bloomfield Football Club	Bloomfield Football Club Invitational Cup 2013	25/05/13	Orangefield Playing Fields	Recommended	£500.00	Teams travelling from Nottingham & Dundalk staying 2- 4days	360 in total made up with other local teams.
H-143-14	East	Orangefield Old Boys Football Club	Dennis McNamara Community Cup	08/06/13	Cregagh Sports Club	Recommended	£2,000.00	3 Dublin based teams traveling and staying 2 nights	20 teams with 140 travelling players approx.
H-144-14	South	Queen's University Belfast Boat Club	The Ramada Plaza Belfast University Boat Race 2013	08/06/13	Queens University PEC	Recommended	£1,000.00	3 teams from Dublin, Limerick & Cork	3 travelling teams staying 1 night
H-145-14	North	Dockers Boxing Club	Dockers v Drogheda Holy Family Boxing Match	03/05/13	Whitehouse Working Mens Club	Recommended	£300.00	60 fighters and support staff, parents etc. from Drogheda	60 staying 1 night.

H-146-14	South	Belfast Tropics Basketball Club	Belfast Tropics Invitational Tournament	21/09/13	Madisons Hotel, Belfast	Recommended	£2,000.00	Teams from USA, London & Dublin, Donegal, Galway	200+ competitors and guests. Travelling teams staying 2-3 nights in Belfast.	
H-147-14	Citywide	County Antrim Boxing IABA	Belfast Box Cup 2013	12/05/13	Shankill Leisure Centre / City Hall	Recommended	£1,200.00	10 travelling teams expected from across Europe	80 guests for dinner at City Hall following the event.	
H-148-14	Citywide	Left Field (Ultra Running)	Energia Belfast 24 Hour Race	20/07/13	Athletics House	Recommended	£500.00	Competitors travelling from New Zealand, Europe, England, Wales & Ireland for 24 hour race at Mary Peters track.	75 Guests for supper.	
<b>Total Allocated to date: £3500</b>							<b>Total Allocated May 2013: £7,900</b>		<b>Total remaining: £13,600</b>	

**Appendix 3**

Support for Sport Belfast Clubmark sports clubs

<b>Club</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Date awarded</b>	<b>Amount awarded</b>
Queens Basketball Club	Gold	23/11/2012	£1000
Andersonstown Basketball Club	Gold	19/11/2012	£1000
Cathal Brugha Water Polo	Gold	05/12/2012	£1000
Abbey Gymnastics Club	Gold	14/11/2012	£1000
Hillview ABC	Bronze	14/11/2012	£500
Chung do Kwan	Bronze	30/11/2012	£500
Ardoyne Holy Cross ABC	Bronze	06/01/2013	£500
Midlands Boxing Club	Bronze	29/01/2013	£500
Cregagh Wanderers	Bronze	19/02/2013	£500
Sirroco Youth FC	Bronze	22/02/2013	£500
St Paul's ABC	Bronze	12/03/2013	£500
Aquinas FC	Bronze	12/03/2013	£500
Orangegrove Athletics	Bronze	13/03/2013	£500
Ballysillan ABC	Bronze	28/03/2013	£500
Immaculata Boxing Club	Bronze	10/04/2013	£500
Immaculata Junior Football Team	Bronze	12/04/2013	£500
		<b>Total</b>	<b>£10,000</b>

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### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Improvement Programme - Commercial Operations</b>
<b>Date:</b>	9 May 2013
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure, ext 3400
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Rose Crozier Assistant Director of Parks and Leisure, ext 3460

<b>1</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
	<p>The Committee will be aware that the department's Improvement Programme was discussed by the Committee at its meeting on 14th February 2013.</p> <p>Reference was made at that time to the Development review which had commenced and to the significance of the commercial businesses within that, i.e. Belfast Castle, Malone House and the Zoo. Members were informed that proposals were being developed for the creation of a new post of Commercial Manager to manage all three commercial operations and to ensure the implementation of the reviews of the business models at all three sites.</p> <p>Income is under pressure at these three sites, as well as across the leisure operations. This is clearly in part due to the current state of the economy.</p>
<b>2</b>	<b>Key issues</b>
	<p>The recent review of the Zoo indicated the need for the development of a longer term strategic plan together with a capital development plan for the business. It also clearly indicates the need to focus on the commercial operation of the Zoo.</p> <p>The operating models for Belfast Castle and Malone House are also in need of review.</p> <p>The Commercial Development Manager role is considered as being fundamental to turning the performance of the functions around. The role will also take a lead in delivering a revised operating model and managing any appropriate corporate contracts.</p> <p>The department has considered the performance of the three commercial businesses and, given the decline in income and the increased subsidy, there is an urgent need to develop the commercial capacity.</p>

The parks commercial operations urgently need to review:

- the products
- how they are packaged
- the potential for collaboration with other partners
- pricing
- positioning in the market

To allow these businesses to gain some competitive advantage and start performing positively.

In the review of the business model at the Zoo, the need for a more professional approach to Commercial Management was identified. It is intended to extend the remit of the post to manage the operations at all the sites. It is also the intention to include some duties of a corporate nature to enable best use of the resource to assist other commercial operations in the Council.

It is anticipated that this proposed post will report through the Departmental Business Manager in the first instance. The interim structure is attached.

### **Programmes and Pricing**

In September 2012, the Committee was informed of a programme of initiatives being rolled out in relation to Leisure Centres to address the retention of our members and also to grow memberships and casual use through weight loss programmes and other marketing initiatives. These have proved to be beneficial and the number of members has grown by 12% for full members and 30% for concession members. However due to the decrease in our membership fees the income per member has reduced and we still to need address the gap this has created in income. Promotions and incentives are needed to increase our membership and ensure retention. During 2013/2014, the department would like to continue to run promotions and develop specific programmes that will require strategic pricing especially in relation to retaining customers.

To help address the decline in income the department is looking at how it can more effectively take advantage of events and activities that are run by the department and the Council as a whole. A number of promotions have been developed and are hoped to be rolled out in the next few months for the Zoo, Leisure Centres, Malone House and Belfast Castle.

As an immediate response to the Easter closures at the Zoo, a promotion was offered for all those attending the Spring fair which allowed them to avail of a 20% discount until the end of May. The Zoo also intends to work with the local schools in the area to offer incentives and also the local media to ensure any losses in relation to Easter can be recovered.

Governance will need to be considered in terms of the commercial functions' agility, i.e. their ability to make critical decisions about product/pricing etc. in a timely fashion to gain advantage and meet market demands. This will require delegated authority for the Director to set and agree prices and promotions.

<b>3</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
	<p><b><u>Financial</u></b></p> <p>The post of Commercial Development Manager has been provided for in the 2013/2014 revenue estimates. The job description is currently being finalised and it is anticipated that it will have a notional grading in the range of PO8-PO10, subject to evaluation. All promotional and marketing activities will be provided for within existing marketing budgets.</p> <p><b><u>Human Resources</u></b></p> <p>Staff and Trade Unions will be consulted throughout the review of the operating models of Belfast Castle and Malone House. The marketing staff in conjunction with operational managers and corporate communications will agree a programme of promotions and activities.</p> <p><b><u>Asset and Other Implications</u></b></p> <p>The effective use of resources will ensure that our facilities are properly maintained, secured and used.</p>

<b>4</b>	<b>Equality Implications</b>
	None

<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
	<p>The Committee is requested to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. approve the creation of a Commercial Development Manager post in the context of the overall approach to the commercial operations.</li> <li>2. grant delegated authority to the Director to approve a range of measures to increase business at our key facilities as set out above</li> </ol>

<b>6</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
	All actions to be completed by the Business Manager

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

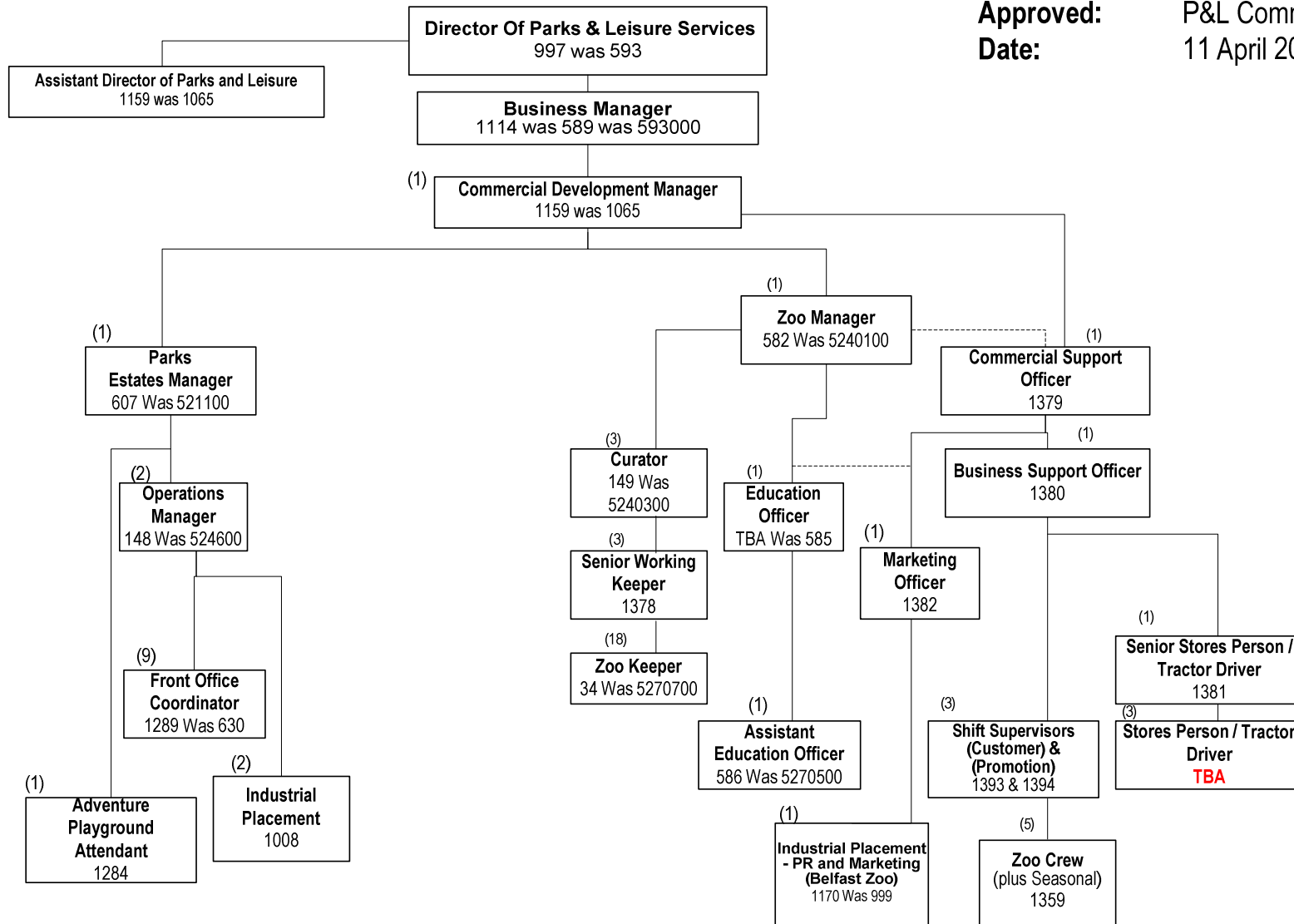
<b>8</b>	<b>Document Attached</b>
	Interim structure

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# Parks & Leisure Services - Parks Development

Status: Proposed  
 Approved: P&L Committee  
 Date: 11 April 2013



Total Permanent Posts = 59

\* Excluding Director, Assistant Director & Business Manager Parks & Leisure Services In Post Count

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### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>£750K Fund for Enhancement to School Pitches</b>
<b>Date:</b>	9 May 2013
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officers:</b>	Claire Sullivan, Policy and Business Development Officer

<b>1.</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
	<p>Members will be aware that they have previously agreed to the allocation of £750,000, to a fund for capital enhancements to playing pitches owned by schools, as part of the Playing Pitches Strategy.</p> <p>The purpose of the capital enhancement is to achieve greater community access to pitches facilities, for example the installation of flood lighting to allow the pitch to be used by the local community in the evenings. Any application to the fund would have to demonstrate that the capital enhancement would increase wider community usage of the playing pitch.</p> <p>At its meeting in November 2012 this Committee agreed the application process for the £750k for schools. Within this process it was agreed that there would be a minimum award of £70,000 and a maximum award of £150,000. The Council would fund up to 100% of the construction costs, up to a maximum of £150,000. Design costs would not be eligible.</p>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
	<p>Members will be aware that the application process opened on the 10 December 2012 and closed on 29 March 2013 and we received a total of 15 applications requesting a total of £2,017,818.96.</p> <p>A panel consisting of the Director and Business Manager from the Parks and Leisure Department and a representative from the Department of Education met to assess the applications against the prioritisation matrix.</p> <p>On assessment 5 of the applications were deemed ineligible in that they did not meet the criteria of the fund.</p> <p>The remaining 10 applications were assessed and received the following scores out of 300:</p>

School	Amount requested	Description of project	Total Score
St Marys Christian Brothers Grammar School	£85,211 (no funding being sought from elsewhere)	Floodlighting for all weather pitch	300
Aquinas Grammar School	£150,000 (part of large scale project and funding being sought from several sources)	Upgrade of existing grass pitch and concrete basketball area to synthetic area, floodlit grass pitch and MUGA	260
Bunscoil an tSleibhe Dhuibh	£73,000 (no funding being sought from elsewhere)	Upgrade existing MUGA to 3G surface	235
Grosvenor Grammar	£150,000 (no funding being sought from elsewhere)	Floodlighting	205
Corpus Christie College	£150,000 (part funding being sought elsewhere)	Construction of 3G MUGA	195
Belfast Royal Academy	£150,000 (shortfall in funding being covered by the school)	Floodlighting of existing synthetic hockey pitch	190
Ashfield Girls	£150,000 (no funding being sought from elsewhere)	Floodlighting	180
Belfast Girls Model	£150,000 (no funding being sought from elsewhere)	Floodlighting	155
Methodist College	£150,000 (shortfall in funding being covered by the school)	Construction of new all weather synthetic pitch	150
De La Salle College	£73,712.16 (no funding being sought from elsewhere)	Replace and extend surface of existing pitch and replacement of current fence with ball stop fencing	70

Based on the scores and the amount of money available it is recommended that the following applications are forwarded for delivery and cost screening as a due diligence exercise:

St Marys Christian Brothers Grammar School - £85,211  
Aquinas Grammar School - £150,000  
Bunscoil an tSleibhe Dhuibh - £73,000  
Grosvenor Grammar - £150,000  
Corpus Christie College - £150,000

	<p>Belfast Royal Academy - £150,000</p> <p>Total applications - £758,211</p> <p>The due diligence process will test both deliverability and provide cost assurance. As part of this schools will be asked to provide a project plan; risk management framework; procurement strategy; costs and designs; and necessary approvals. It will also give assurance where match funding is required.</p> <p>No letters of offer will be forwarded to schools until this due diligence has been completed.</p> <p>It may be that the costs will vary or that the process will identify high risk projects and it is therefore recommended that the Ashfield Girls School as 7<sup>th</sup> highest scoring application is also forwarded for delivery and cost screening, as a contingency.</p> <p>We anticipate that funding agreements, with the necessary terms and conditions, will be issued by December 2013.</p> <p>All projects will have to be completed by 30<sup>th</sup> September 2014.</p>
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<b>3.</b>	<p><b>Resource Implications</b></p> <p><u>Financial</u> £750k has been allocated for this element of the Playing Pitches Strategy.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u> No additional human resources known at this time.</p> <p><u>Asset and other Implications</u> None at this stage although the implementation of the strategy will have implications on the number and type of playing pitches provided by the council.</p>
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<b>4.</b>	<p><b>Equality and good relations implications</b></p> <p>Policy Arc Ltd was appointed to externally verify the equality dimensions to the development of the strategy which has been subject to an EQIA. The full EQIA can be downloaded from the Council's website.</p> <p>This element of the overall strategy has been screened out and a screening form has been forwarded to the Council's Equality and Diversity Officer.</p>
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<b>5.</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
	The Committee is asked to approve the recommendations made in relation to the award of funding.
<b>6.</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
	The Director will ensure the next steps outlined will be progressed.
<b>7.</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
	BELB – Belfast Education and Library Board MUGA – Multi Use Games Area
<b>8.</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
	None



### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>High Hedges Act Implementation Review</b>
<b>Date:</b>	9th May, 2013
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure, ext 3400
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Alan McHaffie, Senior Woodland and Recreation Officer, ext 3433

<b>1</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
	<p>A High Hedges Bill was introduced in the NI Assembly on 26th April 2010 and the Bill received Royal Assent on the 3 May 2011 becoming the High Hedges Act (Northern Ireland) 2011.</p> <p>In summary the Act provides a means of redress for people who are suffering loss of amenity because of a high hedge on a neighbour's land acting as a barrier to light and provides district councils with certain powers to deal with complaints about high hedges. Not all types of hedge are covered by the legislation.</p> <p>At the Council meeting on 4th March 2013, the following amendment to the Parks and Leisure Committee minutes of 14th February, under the heading of 'High Hedges Act' – Implementation Review was agreed:</p> <p><i>'That a letter be forwarded to the Minister responsible in DOE enquiring as to what steps could be taken within the legislation to address the problem of High Hedges at properties for which no owner can be identified'.</i></p> <p>Following the Council meeting, officers' have discussed the issue with the Councillor and reviewed the legislative provisions regarding answers.</p>

<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
	<p>On receipt of an informal enquiry from a member of the public regarding a nuisance hedge, the current position is that the Council in the first instance will offer factual information by way of an information pack which gives all the necessary help, guidance, letter templates and contact details for the complainant.</p>

	<p>The information pack includes the steps to take if the complainant is unsure of who owns the property where the nuisance hedge is situated.</p> <p>In this situation the complainant can call at the Land and Property Services offices which are located in the city centre and for a fee of £8 they can receive a copy of the map for the property in question and information on ownership. The Council has been informed by Land and Property Services that ownership of property can be confirmed at their offices.</p> <p>From April 2012 to date, the Council has not received any calls or correspondence from the public regarding any difficulty in sourcing ownership of property where a high hedge is causing a nuisance. We have successfully dealt with 131 complaints and all but one of these was dealt with informally.</p> <p>In light of this information we are suggesting that it is not necessary at this time to write to the Minister in relation to this issue.</p>
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<b>3</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
	<p><b><u>Financial</u></b></p> <p>There are no financial resources implications associated with this report.</p> <p><b><u>Human Resources</u></b></p> <p>There are no human resources implications associated with this report.</p> <p><b><u>Asset and Other Implications</u></b></p> <p>There are no asset or other implications associated with this report.</p>

<b>4</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Implications</b>
	<p>DoE NI has undertaken an equality impact screening of the High Hedges Bill and High Hedges fee regulations concluding that “there is no adverse impact for any of the nine categories listed under Section 75”.</p> <p>The High Hedges legislation was presented to the Council’s equality consultative forum and it was suggested that the High Hedges process was reviewed after a 12 month period. From the analysis of the enquiries/complaints that we have received we do not feel that there is any adverse impact on any of the nine categories under Section 75.</p>

<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
	<p>The Committee is requested to note the contents of this report and to reconsider the issue of writing to the Minister at this time.</p>

<b>6</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
	None
<b>7</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviation</b>
	DoE NI – Department of Environment Northern Ireland
<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>	<b>Grove Wellbeing Centre – Provision of Pool Seating</b>
<b>Date:</b>	9th May, 2013
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure, ext 3400
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure, ext 3400

<b>1.</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
	<p>Members will be aware that the Grove Wellbeing Centre was opened in 2008 as a replacement to the Grove Swim Centre. When the decision was taken in 2003 to build the centre it was made on the basis that priority should be given to public recreational swimming rather than to swimming clubs. As a result the main pool in the Grove Wellbeing Centre was not designed or built to accommodate spectator seating to allow for competitions to be held.</p> <p>Significant work was undertaken with swimming clubs displaced by the closure of the Grove Swim Centre to endeavour to meet their needs, although it was not possible to meet all their requirements.</p> <p>Since that time, one of the clubs, Alliance Swimming Club at Grove Wellbeing Centre has continued to press the Council to make structural alterations to provide spectator seating. This club has been actively engaged with a number of local politicians in pursuit of this goal.</p>

<b>2.</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
	<p>Clearly the provision of spectator seating in the pool area would require significant structural alterations. To investigate what if anything is possible a feasibility study would be required.</p> <p>Members will be aware that in the process confirmed by the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee at its meeting on 22 March 2013 any emerging capital schemes require the approval of that committee to proceed to have such a study undertaken.</p> <p>Members will also be aware that as part of the Investment Programme it has been agreed to develop proposals for leisure transformation. It is anticipated that there will be extensive political engagement over the next number of months to develop proposals for the renewal of the leisure estate and the transformation of</p>

	<p>the service delivery. As part of that process, consideration will have to be given to the needs of swimming. Therefore a decision will be needed on whether the Council should in one of its proposed developments make provision for gala swimming.</p> <p>There are two options open to Members when considering the request from Alliance Swimming Club:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. refer the request for the provision of spectator seating at the Grove Wellbeing Centre to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee as an emerging capital project with a request that funding be allocated to enable a feasibility study be carried out, or</li> <li>2. decide not to pursue the request from Alliance Swimming Club for the provision of spectator at Grove Wellbeing Centre on the basis that the Council is currently engaged in a review of its leisure facilities and that it will take into account the needs of swimming clubs in the city when making decisions on the shape of the future estate.</li> </ol>
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<b>3.</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
	<p>These are unknown at this stage and could only be clarified through more detailed work, but are likely to be significant.</p>

<b>4.</b>	<b>Equality Implications</b>
	<p>There are no equality or good relations implications at this stage.</p>

<b>5.</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
	<p>It is recommended that the Committee adopts option 2 and not pursue the request from Alliance Swim Club at this time.</p>

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

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

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



### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Stadia Update</b>
<b>Date:</b>	9 May 2013
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure

<b>1.</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
	<p>Members will be aware that in March 2013, SP&amp;R agreed to continue the 'in principle' decision to move both the Olympia and Andersonstown Leisure Centres to Stage 2 of the Capital Programme as the first phase of the Citywide Leisure Estate Review.</p> <p>SP&amp;R Committee also agreed to further develop the regeneration plans in respect of both sites concurrently as far as possible working toward an investment decision in May with a completion date in 2016.</p>

<b>2.</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
	<p>Intensive discussions have been ongoing with the IFA/DCAL re: the lease agreement if the Council was to relocate its facility into Windsor. These discussions have ranged from the IFA proposing an initial rental cost of £200,000 per annum, and a further revised proposal of £142,500 per annum reviewable annually in line with RPI and based on a 25-50 year lease term. IFA were basing their rental proposals on a 'return on capital' investment principle.</p> <p>While there are clearly benefits to both the Council and the IFA in terms of co-location, the Committee considered a number of critical issues:</p> <p>a. Correspondence from the IFA to date has been vague in its detail. It <b>has not definitely confirmed that the relocation will be at a nil rental nor give any confirmation re the lease period</b> to be offered to the Council – this currently does not represent a value for money proposition for the Council</p>

- b. IFA have highlighted that agreement on relocation *“is subject to a **funding methodology** which would enable the Association to **develop significant social capital in the local area by way of community developments**”*. Preliminary discussions have taken place with the IFA in this regard but the **nature and quantum of this remains to be agreed**.
- c. Option 3 (Relocation) anticipates a contribution of £2.6m being made by DCAL/IFA in respect of the shell for the leisure facility which in effect represents the ‘community benefit’ contribution of the stadium development.
- d. **Phase 2** of this proposal (the ‘sports village’) concept **needs further development**. **Substantial additional enabling works** are also required in order to facilitate the relocation of the leisure facility within the West Stand. This includes the cost of the boulevard access road, the relocation of the two pitches (existing Council and Linfield), potentially a new stand and a new play park. Discussions are also ongoing re the potential of relocating the existing community centre closer to the Village area
- e. **The timescales for this project are extremely tight**. In order to meet the programme for delivery of the stadium there will be a significant amount of work which will need to be undertaken within the coming weeks including final specification for the centre, detailed costs and designs.
- f. The **layout of the new centre is constrained** by the site boundary and the shape of the proposed shell. Officers will proactively work to ensure a design which maximises the use of the space while ensuring its flexibility.

In light of these issues, the Committee agreed:

- **‘in principle’ with relocation only on the basis** of a nil rental and a lease of at least 25years is agreed with the IFA (subject to the detailed terms of the lease being agreed by Council’s Town Solicitor and Estates Manager) and a mutually beneficial agreement is reached by the IFA and the Council in relation to the social capital/community benefit arrangement.
- a definitive position should be sought from the IFA to allow an update report to be taken to the SP&R Committee meeting in May
- the **Council continues to work ‘at risk’** on this project in the

	<p>coming weeks on developing costs and detailed designs in order to meet the timescales for the delivery of the stadium programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- officers also <b>continue to explore alternative options</b> in the event that a mutually beneficial agreement cannot be reached with the IFA</li> <li>- a <b>further report on Andersonstown/Casement</b>, including an update on community benefit, should be brought to Committee in due course.</li> </ul> <p>Further updates and information on decisions required will be brought to SP&amp;R Committee in May and June.</p>
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<b>3.</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
	<p><b>Financial:</b> Not quantified at this stage but likely to involve significant financial investment in regard to the two leisure centres and associated assets required to fulfil regeneration opportunities. There may also be potential revenue consequences in relation to the community benefits.</p> <p><b>Human Resources:</b> There will be significant staff resource requirements from relevant departments in order to develop each project in line with DCAL's tight timeframe. Potential staffing issues will be examined as part of the overall review of the leisure transformation programme. Any resultant HR issues will be managed in accordance with the Council's processes, policies and procedures for dealing with HR matters and TU consultation.</p> <p><b>Asset and Other Implications:</b> Unknown at this stage, however comprehensive regeneration of the stadium developments should lead to improved services and benefits for the community and aesthetic improvements at Council sites.</p>

<b>4.</b>	<b>Equality Implications</b>
	<p>The phases of the overall leisure transformation will be subject to equality screening. This will include the periodic screening of the stadia developments as part of phase 1 to identify differential impacts and any mitigating actions required, in accordance with standard Council procedures.</p>

<b>5.</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
	<p>Committee is asked to note the above report.</p>

<b>6.</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
	<p>The Leisure Transformation Board will be responsible for the development of this project, and reporting back to Strategic Policy &amp; Resources Committee.</p>



<b>7.</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
	IFA – Irish Football Association DCAL – Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure
<b>8.</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
	None



**Belfast City Council**

**Report to:** Parks and Leisure Committee

**Subject:** **Request for Use of the Ballysillan Playing Fields**

**Date:** 9th May, 2013

**Reporting Officer:** Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure, ext 3400

<b>1.</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
	None

<b>2.</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
	<p>An enquiry has been received from Mr. William Mawhinney, County Grand Orange Lodge of Belfast regarding the availability of the Ballysillan playing fields on 12th July between 13.00 and 16.00.</p> <p>Mr Mawhinney has subsequently indicated that they intend to use the car park space as a meeting and/or dispersal point for up to 8,000 people, should the need arise, as part of the parade. It is not for the purposes of an event. They will provide their own stewards. Mr Mawhinney has said that they are only enquiring at this stage on availability and will confirm their request closer to the day.</p> <p>The request was referred to the Council's Joint Group of Party Group Leaders Forum and Historic Centenaries Working Group. They advised that the request should be forwarded to Parks and Leisure Committee for their consideration.</p> <p>The playing fields and car parks are available and not in use for soccer at that time.</p>

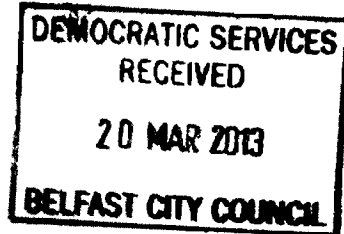
<b>3.</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
	<p><b>Financial</b> None – a charge would only be incurred if the use of the space was for the purposes of an event.</p> <p><b>Human</b> No staffing implications in addition to normal provision. Stewards to be provided by County Grand Orange Lodge of Belfast.</p> <p><b>Assets</b> The space likely to be used is a hard surface area and there will be no detrimental effect to the sports ground. There may be restricted access to the playground but this is unlikely to affect many users.</p>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Equality Implications</b>
	The relevant equality and good relations implications have been taken into consideration and a completed screening form has been forwarded to the Equality and Diversity Officer.
<b>5.</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
	The Committee is requested to note the correspondence from the County Grand Orange Lodge of Belfast and consider granting delegated authority to the Director of Parks and Leisure to grant use, should the request be formalised.
<b>6.</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
	Director of Parks and Leisure by 12th July, 2013
<b>7.</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
	None
<b>8.</b>	<b>Document attached</b>
	Correspondence from County Grand Orange Lodge of Belfast

# COUNTY GRAND ORANGE LODGE OF BELFAST

**PARKS & LEISURE DEPARTMENT**  
 Mail Ref. 5983  
 Scanned 20 MAR 2013 Logged   
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Mr Jim Hanna  
 Democratic Services Officer  
 Democratic Services Section  
 City Hall  
 Belfast  
 BT1 5GS



19<sup>th</sup> March 2013

Dear Mr Hanna,

On behalf of the County Grand Orange Lodge of Belfast may I make an enquiry as to the availability of Ballysillan Playing Fields and any associated costs on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2013 from 1pm to 4pm inclusive.

Thank you for your attention to this request.

Yours Sincerely

**William Mawhinney**  
 County Grand Secretary

**County Grand Master**  
 George Chittick  
 75 Erinvale Avenue  
 Belfast, BT10 0FP  
 T: 028 9029 1528  
 M: 0750 6373 112  
 E: geochittick@hotmail.co.uk

**County Grand Secretary**  
 William Mawhinney  
 112 Ainsworth Avenue  
 Belfast, BT13 3EP  
 T: 028 9028 8292  
 M: 078 7640 6018  
 E: billymawhinney@hotmail.co.uk

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### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee.
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Update on Avoniel Leisure Centre</b>
<b>Date:</b>	9 May 2013
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure, ext 3400
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Adrian Walker, Acting Leisure Operations Manager

<b>1</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
	<p>The purpose of this report is to update members on the pool closure at Avoniel Leisure Centre.</p> <p>During mid August 2012 leakage increased significantly and a decision was made to drain the pool and progress with exploratory excavation works in order to investigate the source of the leak. The pool has been closed from Monday 20 August and the current work is on-schedule.</p> <p>Colleagues from facilities management hosted an elected member site visit during January 2013 and updated upon the schedule of works.</p>

<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
	<p>During March 2013, works to refurbish changing rooms and the health suite corridor were commenced and the two temporary external changing facilities continue to be operation providing service continuity.</p> <p>The temporary changing areas have unfortunately been the target of vandalism by local young people. As a result the centre has organised a young people's diversionary activity evening in conjunction with the participation unit involving local community groups with potential sponsorship from Mc Donald's. This diversionary activity takes the form of activities for young people on a Friday night from 8pm --- 10pm and has initially been scheduled for eight weeks. The activities include trampolining, hip hop dance, football and indoor games. The first session involved over 60 young people and there has been no repetition of the vandalism since this initiative started.</p> <p>The health suite has been closed from 3rd April in order to facilitate re-tiling of the corridor. Facilities management currently advise that all remedial works are scheduled for completion during early June with a tentative re-opening date of mid June.</p>



	<p>New signage has been delivered and located within the entrance foyer, stairs area and cafe windows onto poolside at Avoniel. This is bright in colour and replaces the previously blacked out window coverings in the cafe area. Written progress updates on site also confirm the position of remedial works thus far and what remains to be undertaken. This has further been enhanced by recent photographs of the work in progress</p> <p>Management continue to provide transportation to Ballysillan Leisure Centre for the displaced senior citizen groups. Additional classes are also continuing in the dry facilities. In addition Templemore swimming pool has accommodated a small number of school / club groups affected by the closure.</p> <p>Re-opening events are being scheduled during the summer and the already established summer scheme will commence as planned.</p> <p>Members are asked to consider whether a further site visit would be appropriate prior to the centre re-opening.</p> <p>It is proposed that this will be the last routine report on Avoniel.</p>
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<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>Resource Implications</b></p> <p><b><u>Financial</u></b></p> <p>The projection for lost income is approximately £130,000 from August 2012 - May 2013.</p> <p>Costs for the hire of temporary changing units are £250 per week therefore an estimated cost in this area is £2000.</p> <p>Costs for the hire bus to transport displaced senior citizen groups are £125 per bus per week. Therefore the overall cost is expected to approximate to £1750.</p> <p><b><u>Human Resources</u></b></p> <p>The level of staff required at the centre has reduced with the pool being closed. A number of staff have been temporarily redeployed to other centres through consultation with staff and Human Resources.</p> <p><b><u>Asset and Other Implications</u></b></p> <p>Management will not be in a position to finalise all associated costs and asset implications until the remedial works are nearing conclusion. It should, however, be noted that substantial refurbishments and repairs will positively impact upon the asset base at Avoniel.</p>
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<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>Equality and Good Relations Considerations</b></p> <p>A high proportion of older people use Avoniel pool and we are directing them to alternative swimming pools in the City. A number of additional activities have temporarily been put in place. Membership has been suspended temporarily where requested.</p>
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<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
	<p>The Committee is requested to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• note the contents of this report</li><li>• consider if it wishes to visit the centre again prior to its re-opening in June 2013</li><li>• note that this will be the last routine report on Avoniel Leisure Centre</li></ul>
<b>6</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
	<p>Adrian Walker, Acting Leisure Operations Manager.</p>
<b>7</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
	<p>None</p>
<b>8</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
	<p>None</p>

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### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject</b>	<b>Pilot Dogs off lead enclosure at Grove Park</b>
<b>Date:</b>	9 May 2013
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Rose Crozier, Assistant Director of Parks and Leisure

<b>1.</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
	<p>The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act (NI) 2011 strengthens the legislative powers available to district councils to help them deal more effectively with a range of local environmental quality problems, including dog control.</p> <p>Members are reminded that under Part 5 of the Act, Council's may create up to four separate orders to help manage issues associated with dogs in their area. Dog Control Orders can be made in respect of any land in the district council area, subject to certain exemptions, and can relate to the following four matters:</p> <p>(a) Dog Fouling;  (b) Requiring dogs to be kept on a lead in designated areas;  (c) Excluding dogs from designated areas; and  (d) Limiting the number of dogs a person can be in control of at any one time.</p> <p>At its August 2012 meeting the Parks and Leisure Committee adopted a recommendation that a Dog Control Order be made in respect of dog fouling. The Dogs (Fouling of Land by Dogs) (Belfast) Order 2012 became operative on 1 October 2012, replacing the dog fouling provisions contained in the Litter (NI) Order 1994.</p> <p>The Order limiting the number of dogs which a person may take on to land was considered at the Health and Environmental Services Committee of 7 November 2012. The recommendation to limit the number of dogs to four was subjected to public consultation and agreement to make the order was confirmed by the Health and Environmental Services February 2013 committee. It received full Council approval on 4 March 2013 and became operative on 1 April 2013.</p> <p>At its November 2012 meeting, the Parks and Leisure Committee agreed the recommended approach to deciding whether or not to make a dog</p>

	<p>control order excluding dogs from cemeteries, children’s playgrounds and playing fields or pitches in the city. This order was subjected to public consultation at the same time.</p> <p>The Council therefore provided clarification on the meaning of “exclusions” within the draft Order and stressed that the exclusion from land Order was, in effect, repeating the terms of existing bye-laws whilst giving the Council stronger enforcement powers.</p> <p>Issues were raised about the need for facilities to allow dogs off lead. This refers to the order requiring dogs to be kept on a lead in designated areas which was still under consideration by the Dog Control group and proposals had not been brought forward at this stage.</p> <p>Due to the public response, the consultation on the exclusion from lands order was suspended to allow further clarification and consideration of the issues raised.</p> <p>The Dog Control Group considered the issues raised and in particular the need for areas to allow dogs off lead.</p> <p>To help inform the implementation of further dog control orders a pilot project was proposed to trial this approach in the North of the city.</p>
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<p><b>2.</b></p>	<p><b>Key Issues</b></p> <p>The proposed pilot will allow the group to ascertain the benefits of providing such a facility and provide evidence to inform a decision on future provision.</p> <p>It is proposed that the pilot will be in operation from June 2013 and will be monitored for a period of six months.</p> <p>An area within Grove Park has been identified as the location for the facility due to the number of dog issues on site, the availability of land to meet the requirements and its potential catchment area within North Belfast. The proposed area is outlined on the map attached at Appendix 1.</p> <p>The enclosed area will measure 80metres x 30metres and will be secured using 1.5m ranch style fencing with chain link attached.</p> <p>It will provide a social hub for dog walkers (a sizeable percentage of users) to exercise their dogs in a controlled environment. It will be a sustainable facility, easily maintained and attract new users to the site and help with the overall issues of controlling dogs in parks.</p> <p>Signage will be erected at the entrance to the facility advising users on the rules.</p> <p>The proposed rule are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No children under sixteen</li> <li>• Only two dogs per person allowed in.</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People must be supervising their dog at all times.</li> <li>• No food permitted.</li> </ul>
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<b>3.</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>												
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of 250m<sup>2</sup> of parkland.</li> <li>• Costs (as below)</li> </ul> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Element</th> <th>Price</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>150 metres of 3 rail chain link attached fencing</td> <td>£4000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3 gates</td> <td>£ 600</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Install a gravel path to the entrance and install a 4m sq holding area.</td> <td>£2000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Signage</td> <td>£400</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total Cost:</b></td> <td><b>£7,000</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The cost of installing the facility will be met from existing budgets.</li> </ul> <p><b>Human Resources</b> There are no implications associated with this report.</p> <p><b>Asset and Other Implications</b> It is anticipated the new facility will enhance the use of the park and improve the experience of visiting the park for all users.</p>	Element	Price	150 metres of 3 rail chain link attached fencing	£4000	3 gates	£ 600	Install a gravel path to the entrance and install a 4m sq holding area.	£2000	Signage	£400	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>£7,000</b>
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<b>4.</b>	<b>Equality and good relations implications</b>
	The Friends of Grove Park and local residents will be consulted prior to implementation and during the pilot period to assess the pilot in terms of usage and effectiveness.

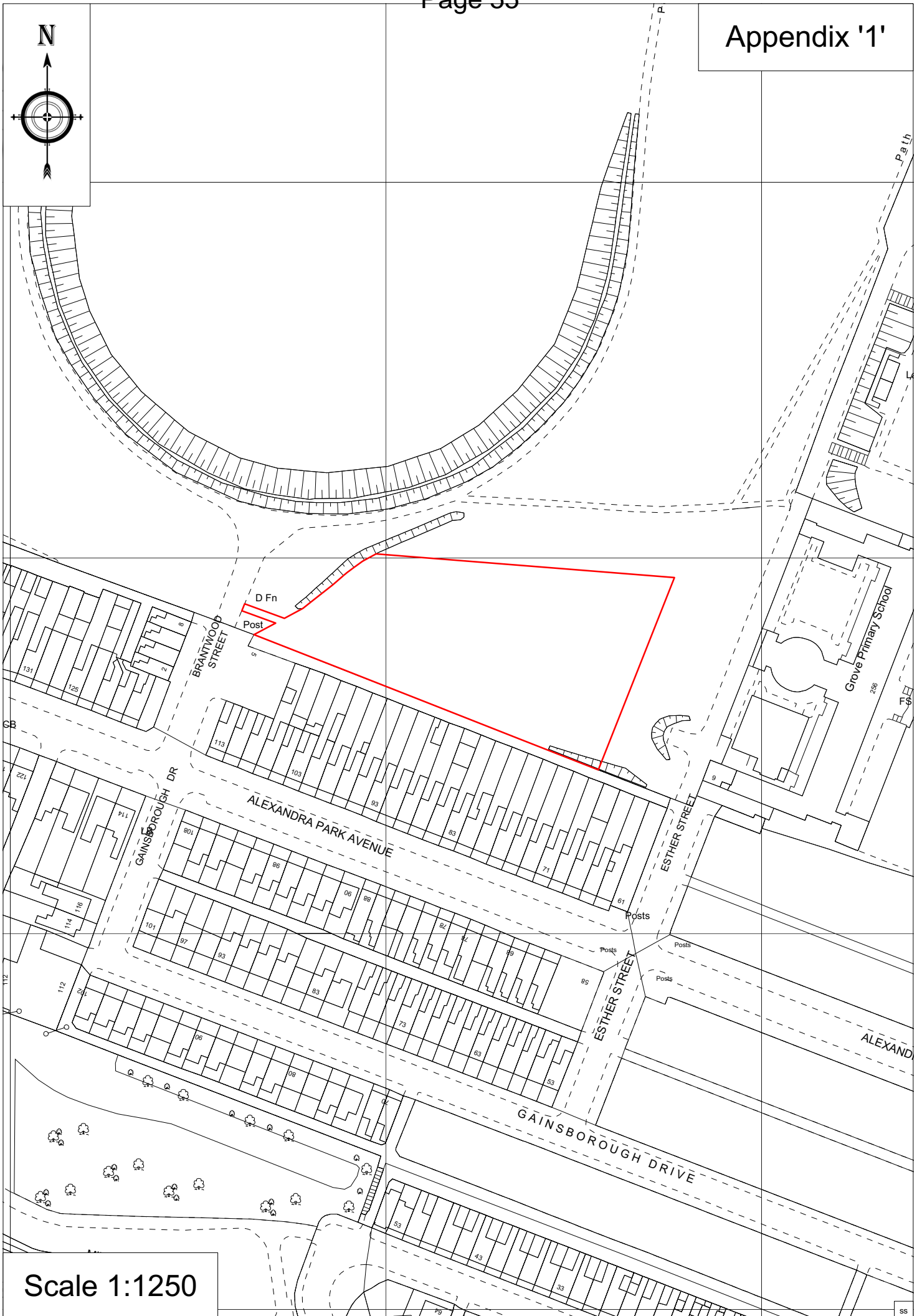
<b>5.</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
	Committee is asked to approve the installation of the pilot dog off lead enclosure at Grove Park.

<b>6.</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
	Assistant Director of Parks and Leisure

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

<b>8.</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
	Appendix 1 – Plan of Park and outline proposal

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### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Summer Schemes 2013</b>
<b>Date:</b>	9 May 2013
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Adele Faulkner, Leisure Improvement Manager

<b>1</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
	<p>Each year summer schemes are organised in leisure centres providing a programme of sporting and play activities to young people over the months of July and August.</p> <p>In recent years the summer schemes have been a huge success with numbers attending last year reaching 19,400 compared to 11,700 during 2008. The 2013 schemes have been developed to include four sunrise clubs, one in each area of the City. In 2012 two centres provided access to children under five years of age and in 2013 this will be extended to four areas in the City. A pilot youth scheme aimed at 12-15 year olds is also being held in four centres across the City.</p> <p>Free use of swimming pools has been offered in recent years to those community groups which are in receipt of Summer Scheme funding from Community Services, subject to availability.</p> <p>Free entrance to the zoo has also been offered to children participating in Leisure Services Summer Schemes and concessionary entrance fees are offered to community groups which are in receipt of Summer Scheme funding from Community Services, subject to availability.</p> <p>Free entrance to the Adventurous playground has also been offered to children participating in Belfast City Council Leisure Centre summer schemes, and free entrance before noon for community group schemes which are in receipt of Summer Scheme funding from Community Services, subject to availability.</p> <p>All users of Belfast City Council leisure centres benefit from a subsidised service, funded through the rates.</p>

	<p>The Parks and Leisure Department are also currently working with other council departments to better align all summer intervention schemes.</p> <p>In January 2013 due to the demand for the Summer Scheme at Grove Wellbeing Centre the Committee gave approval to pilot a new approach to pre-registration for the Grove Summer sScheme. The approach prioritised places for local children in BT14 and BT15 in front of other Belfast residents and residents outside of the Belfast boundary.</p> <p>This report provides members with an update on the pre registration which took place in April 2013.</p>
<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
	<p>The Grove Summer Scheme offers places for 72 children on a daily basis for five weeks. A communication plan to raise awareness of the new approach to registration involved utilising the following approaches to inform the public of the scheduled pre- register day on Saturday 13 April 2013:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BCC website advertising from 29 April – 15 April 2013</li> <li>• Notices at Grove Well Being Centre from 3 April 2013</li> <li>• Notices on Facebook from 8 April 2013-05-01</li> <li>• Article on UTV news on Friday 12 April 2013 including a live interview</li> <li>• General coverage in City Matters in January and February 2013.</li> </ul> <p>136 applications were received from within BT14 and BT15. An additional 40 applications were received from outside of this postcode area. Management at the Grove are confident that they can accommodate the 136 BT14 and BT15 applicants as all applicants did not apply for all five weeks. The additional 40 applicants can be accommodated in the neighbouring Loughside or Shankill summer schemes. The enrolment for these schemes and other centres schemes will open on 18 May 2013.</p>
<b>3</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
	<p><u>Financial</u> An allowance of £71,900 is allocated within revenue budgets to support holiday schemes in leisure centres with an anticipated £32,000 projected to be received in income from summer scheme participants.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u> Subject to the nature of the programme offered at each site, summer schemes are organised using Belfast City Council officers supported by the short term use of agency staff.</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u> None</p>
<b>4</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Considerations</b>
	<p>The relevant equality and good relations implications have been taken into consideration and a completed screening form has been forwarded to the Equality and Diversity Officer.</p>

<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
	<p>It is recommended that Members agree that, as in previous years:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Free swimming was provided during July and August for community group schemes in receipt of summer scheme funding from the Community Services Section, and concessionary entrance fees to the Zoo.</li> <li>2. Free entrance to the Zoo in July and August for children participating in Belfast City Council Leisure Centre summer schemes, and</li> <li>3. Free entrance to the adventurous playground in July and August for children participating in Belfast City Council Leisure Centre summer schemes.</li> <li>4. Free entrance before noon for community group schemes which are in receipt of Summer Scheme funding from the Community Services Section, subject to availability.</li> </ol> <p>It is also recommended that Members note the update on the Grove Wellbeing Centre Summer Scheme.</p>

<b>6</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
	Leisure Improvement Manager will update the Committee with an evaluation of all summer schemes in September 2013.

<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>	<b>Leisure Centre Public Holiday Closure Dates</b>
<b>Date:</b>	9th May, 2013
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard – Director, Parks and Leisure, ext 3400
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Adrian Walker – Acting Leisure Operations Manager

<b>1.</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
	<p>Agreed public holiday closures for 2013/2014 came into effect from April 1<sup>st</sup>.</p> <p>The initial public holiday closure report presented to committee on 14th March 2013 noted that the Council had not yet allocated the final approved public holiday days/dates and as a result, officers advised that some minor adjustments may be required once the holiday allocations were confirmed.</p>

<b>2.</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
	<p>The second public holiday during July was subsequently confirmed as being Saturday, 13th July for employees whose rota includes weekend working and Monday, 15th July for workers covering a pattern on Monday – Friday work only.</p> <p>Within Leisure Centres, there are between 6 - 8 staff members who cover only Monday –Friday shifts whilst the remaining team members, (approximately 20-40 personnel) are deployed across a shift pattern covering Monday – Sunday.</p> <p>Therefore it is requested that the second public closure during July be changed from Monday 15th to Saturday 13th. This will affect seven centres that are currently scheduled to open on Saturday 13th and close on Monday 15th.</p> <p>If approved, this decision will also reduce an expected overtime cost within the affected facilities of between 80-100 hours per site in what has traditionally been a period of reduced usage within the affected units.</p> <p>Falls, Andersonstown and Whiterock Leisure Centres will remain unaffected by this proposal.</p>

3.	<p><b>Resource Implications</b></p> <p><u>Financial</u></p> <p>Expected public holiday overtime saving of between 80-100 hours per affected centre.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u></p> <p>All appropriate staff will be informed of these adjustments if approved.</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u></p> <p>N/A</p>
4.	<p><b>Equality Implications</b></p> <p>There are no equality or good relations implications.</p>
5.	<p><b>Recommendation</b></p> <p>It is recommended that the Committee approve this request.</p>
6.	<p><b>Decision Tracking</b></p> <p>The Acting Leisure Operations Manager will monitor usage during the public holiday period.</p>
7.	<p><b>Key to Abbreviations</b></p> <p>None</p>
8.	<p><b>Documents Attached</b></p> <p>None</p>



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### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Belfast BMX Trails Jam Event at Mary Peters Jumps Park</b>
<b>Date:</b>	9th May, 2013
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Stephen Walker, ext 3510
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Anne Reid, ext 6653

<b>1.</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
	<p>The Committee is reminded that the Barnett Demesne Mountain Bike Trail and Jumps Park was officially opened on Friday 26 April 2013, following approximately £475,000.00 investment as part of the Council's Investment Programme.</p> <p>Members are asked to note that Officers have received a request from a group of jump bikers who have been involved in the sport for several years and who have been involved in the development of the jumps park. The group, whilst not formally constituted would like to hold an event at the jumps area on 28<sup>th</sup> and 29th June 2013.</p> <p>The proposal is for a sponsored pro-am event which will attract approximately 50 professional riders to the Jumps Park plus a number of other amateur participants, this could potentially attract up to 300 people.</p> <p>There will be no entry fee for this event.</p>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
	<p>The Committee is asked to note the following key points:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. This event will help to further promote this new facility in the city;</li> <li>2. The event demonstrates that the users of the facility are anxious to work with the council;</li> <li>3. As with all such events, the organisers will work with Council Officers to complete the 24 point event management plan to ensure that all elements regarding the event have been adequately considered to the satisfaction of the Council;</li> </ol>

	<p>4. Any ruts or damage caused to the flow of the trails as a result of the event will be reinstated by the organisers.</p> <p>5. The jumps parks will not be available for casual use during the event however the use of the remainder of the trail will not be affected.</p>
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<b>3.</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
	<p><b><u>Financial</u></b></p> <p>There are no financial costs to Belfast City Council.</p> <p><b><u>Human Resource</u></b></p> <p>There are no additional human resources implications other than Officer time.</p> <p><b><u>Asset and other implications</u></b></p> <p>This will promote the jumps park and the wider trail.</p>

<b>4.</b>	<b>Equality Implications</b>
	There are no equality or good relations implications anticipated.

<b>5.</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
	<p>It is recommended that the committee grant approval for the BMX Jam event to take place at Mary Peters Jumps Park on the condition that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The event organiser ensures that all health &amp; safety requirements are met to the council's satisfaction, including event management plan and risk assessment.</li> </ul>

<b>6.</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
	All actions will be completed by Stephen Quinn, Community Parks Manager and Anne Reid, Countryside Officer.

<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>	<b>Key holding arrangements for Strangford Avenue Playing Pitches</b>
<b>Date:</b>	9 May 2013
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks & Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Claire Moraghan, Sports Development Officer Patrick Smyth, Community Park Manager

<b>1.</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
	<p>The department has received a request from Linfield Ladies Football Club to become key holders of the old pavilion at Strangford Playing pitches.</p> <p>Linfield Ladies wish to use Strangford Avenue as their home venue for match fixtures and training. They have been working closely with Sports Development to implement a pathway for the girls to progress to premier league football.</p> <p>Currently the site is bookable through the Outdoor Leisure Unit however all four pitches available at Strangford Ave are rarely used simultaneously due to both pavilions having to be staffed at the same time to accommodate teams.</p> <p>From 1 November 2012 to date the fourth pitch at Strangford Avenue has only been used on seven occasions. Therefore it is in good order and would be able to sustain the additional summer usage with the option to “flip” it for permanent summer play. Currently this area does not have any summer pitches.</p> <p>The club plan to run soccer fun and development week’s specifically targeting girls during the summer period.</p> <p>This request would enable Linfield Ladies to train at the site without the department having to staff the site and incur overtime costs with the added value of increasing female participation in the area.</p>

<b>2.</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	All usage, matches and training sessions must still be booked through the Outdoor Leisure unit and a cost without changing facilities will apply. This will ensure that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. There are no fixture clashes</li> <li>2. The income that the site generates from usage is protected.</li> <li>3. The Park Manager has usage figures to assist with the appropriate management and maintenance of the site and the grass pitch.</li> <li>4. The Outdoor Leisure Unit can effectively manage all requests</li> </ol>
2.2	The agreement would increase usage on the pitches without incurring any additional cost to the department.
2.3	An appropriate legal agreement will be prepared by the Director of Legal services similar to that of the arrangement of key holding at Cliftonville playing fields. This legal document will outline the terms and conditions of the key holding arrangements and will protect the Council in relation to all operational and health and safety implications.
2.4	Training will be required in relation to all health and safety issues as regards to the use of the changing facilities and opening and closing of the site.
2.5	All usage will still take place within the parks opening and closing times in keeping with all other sports pitch usage across the city.

<b>3.</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
3.1	<u>Financial</u> There are no financial implications anticipated at this time. This request will result in a saving to the department for staffing costs associated with opening and manning the changing facilities.
3.2	<u>Human</u> All appropriate training will be delivered by the Community Park Manager for the site.
3.3	<u>Asset or other implications</u> None



<b>4.</b>	<b>Equality and good relations implications</b>
	There are no equality or good relations implications anticipated

<b>5.</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
5.1	It is recommended that the committee grant authority for: Linfield Ladies to have key handling responsibilities for access to the pavilion changing facilities subject to satisfactory terms being agreed by the Director of Parks and Leisure and on the condition that:
5.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Both clubs manage all operational and health and safety issues to the council's satisfaction</li> </ul>
5.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An appropriate agreement, to be prepared by the Director of Legal Services, is completed.</li> </ul>
5.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All bookings are arranged with the Outdoor Leisure Unit prior to actual usage.</li> </ul>

<b>6.</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
	All actions will be completed by Patrick Smyth, City Parks Manager and Claire Moraghan, Sports Development Officer.

<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>	<b>Request for the Use of Dixon Playing Fields - Bloomfield Gospel Hall Outreach Initiative</b>
<b>Date:</b>	9th May 2013
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure, ext 3400
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Lynne McCreery, Community Parks Outreach Manager

<b>1.</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
1.1	A request has been received from Bloomfield Gospel Hall to hold their 6 <sup>th</sup> biennial outreach programme at Dixon Playing Fields.
1.2	Bloomfield Gospel Hall has been working with the community for over 60 years situated in Woodcot Ave off the Bloomfield Road. Approximately 9 years ago the church piloted their first outreach mission striving to encourage non-church goers into a neutral venue giving participants a more relaxed atmosphere. Bloomfield Gospel Hall has a membership of 50+ members and relies heavily on volunteers to support this free outreach initiative.
1.3	Previous events have been well attended attracting between 40 to 90 Christians each evening. Bloomfield Gospel Hall has requested the use of the site from Saturday 14 September 2013 for a period of five weeks with an option to extend by one or two weeks depending on community desire and sufficient volunteers.

<b>2.</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	This event will bring together the congregation of Bloomfield Gospel Hall, friends and family also the local community for the purpose of worship and will attract 1,200+ participants.
2.2	The services will take place from Saturday 14 September 2013 until Friday 18 October 2013 Monday to Friday, the service will run between 8pm to 9.30pm with the Sunday service being extended one hour between 7 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.

2.3	A wooden mobile gospel hall will be situated in Dixon Playing Fields car park area with Heras / mess fencing installed for protection. Setup will take place on Saturday 14 September 2013 with the de rig completed and the site vacated on Saturday 19 October 2013 provided the event has not been extended.
2.4	Volunteers will supervise the car parking area and complete a nightly litter pick to ensure grounds are kept clean throughout their event.
2.5	A small event management plan and any associated risk assessment will be completed and forwarded to BCC before Monday 2 September 2013.
2.6	This event is in line with Parks and Leisure departmental objectives in terms of animating the city's parks and increasing community activities and access to the parks.

<b>3.</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
3.1	<b><u>Financial</u></b> This request is for free use of the site as the event is for worship as outlined above in section 2.1.
3.2	<b><u>Human Resources</u></b> No additional human resources are required to facilitate this request.
3.3	<b><u>Asset and Other Implications</u></b> None.

<b>4.</b>	<b>Equality Implications</b>
4.1	There is no known equality or good relations implications.

<b>5.</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
5.1	It is recommended that the Committee grant approval for the free use of Dixon Playing Fields for Bloomfield Gospel Hall Outreach Initiative on condition that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the event organisers complete an event management plan and risk assessment and resolve all operational issues to the council's satisfaction.</li> </ul>

<b>6.</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
6.1	All actions will be completed by the Community Parks Outreach Manager and Project Coordinator.

<b>7.</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
7.1	None.



## Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Request for use of Botanic Lower: Polo in the City</b>
<b>Date:</b>	9 May 2013
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Cailín Lynn, Community Parks Project Coordinator

<b>1.</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
1.1	Following on from the success of Polo In The City in 2011 and 2012 this report is seeking to seek Committee approval for the free use of Botanic Lower for a charity fundraiser “Polo in the City” event in August 2013.
1.2	Polo In The City is a one day social and sporting event run by Mencap in Northern Ireland. The event has the overall aim of raising awareness and funds for the learning disability charity. 2013 will see the event enter its third year at Botanic Lower playing fields.
1.3	Building on the success of the past events, Mencap are confident that they will sell 700 tickets at £65 each and secure 8 VIP pod sales at £2200 each. Gross income is estimated at £70,000. All money raised by the charity will be spent supporting both children and adults with a learning disability living here in Northern Ireland.
1.4	The event this year has secured a high level of brand sponsorship and involvement from Veuve Clicquot, AirCore, House of Fraser and CityBeat Radio. The 2012 event generated media coverage in excess of £250,000 spanning across radio, web and print media. It is envisaged media coverage for 2013 event will be as substantial with 100% positive coverage.
<b>2.</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	This event brings together sporting enthusiasts, Mencap supporters and groups of friends from all across the country providing a platform for Polo to be enjoyed in the heart of Belfast City.

2.2	The event will take place on Saturday 31 <sup>st</sup> August from 2pm-12 midnight, subject to entertainment licence and alcohol licence. The organisers hope to attract a larger audience this year of 850 people and tickets will be on sale from Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2013.
2.3	The build for the event is scheduled to begin on Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> August with the deconstruction being complete on Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2013
2.4	There will be approximately 20 horses at the event, accompanied by the teams and a veterinary physician.
2.5	<p>Mencap have confirmed that they will undertake to do the following in order to make the event as safe and successful as possible;-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employ a security firm to safeguard participants, equipment and the marquees.</li> <li>• Employ a waste management company to ensure grounds are kept clean throughout the event and that clear up is complete by Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2013.</li> <li>• Ensure local residents are informed about the event one month prior to the event; ensure that there is no inconvenience or nuisance caused to residents on the day of event.</li> </ul>
2.6	In addition Mencap wish to sell alcohol from 2pm at the event and are committed that the bar supplier Drinksology, will ensure the enforcement of a strict bar policy ensuring that the amount of alcohol to patrons is limited and served in plastic bottles / glasses.
2.7	Mencap propose that the event will run from 2pm – 12midnight, subject to the requisite approval being obtained for both entertainments and alcohol licensing.
2.8	Based on past events, some damage to the grass areas will occur during the event from the marquees and the polo matches. A legal agreement and a bond of £5,200 between Mencap and BCC will guarantee that the site is suitably reinstated at Mencap's expense if damage occurs. Mencap would ensure that the cost of the ground repair is paid in full to BCC prior to the event so it can be reinstated on Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2013.
2.9	An event management plan will be completed and forwarded to the Council 14 days in advance with the final risk assessments being completed 24hrs before the event begins.
2.10	This event is in line with both the Council's objectives around economic development and Parks and Leisure departmental objectives in terms of animating the city's parks and increasing community activities and access to the parks.

<b>3.</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
3.1	<p><u>Financial</u> This request is for free use of the site as the event is fundraising for charity and</p>

	the organisers have agreed to carry a cost of reinstatement of the grounds as outlined above in section 2.8.
3.2	<u>Human Resources</u> Human resources will be required to facilitate these requests – all managed within the current resources.
3.3	<u>Asset and Other Implications</u> As outlined above in section 2.8.

<b>4.</b>	<b>Equality Implications</b>
4.1	There are no known equality or good relations implications in relation to this request.

<b>5.</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
5.1	<p>It is recommended that the Committee grant approval for the free use of Lower Botanic Gardens for the Polo in the City event on condition that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The event organisers liaise with the Council's Health and Environmental Services Department and ensure that all health and safety requirements are met to Council's satisfaction including an event management plan and risk assessments.</li> <li>• Resolve all operational issues to the Council's satisfaction.</li> <li>• Pay the stipulated bond.</li> <li>• Complete an appropriate legal agreement and meet all statutory requirements including entertainment licensing.</li> </ul> <p>It is recommended that Members authorise the Director, under the Scheme of Delegation for future Polo in the City events to take place in Lower Botanic Playing Fields.</p>

<b>6.</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
6.1	All actions will be completed by the Community Parks Outreach Manager and Project Coordinator.

<b>7.</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
7.1	BCC – Belfast City Council

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

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### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks & Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Royal Life Saving Society Annual Awards</b>
<b>Date:</b>	9 May 2013
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard Director of Parks & Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Adrian Walker – Acting Leisure Operations Manager Mark McCashin – Area Leisure Manager – Participation

1	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
	<p>During an incident in Olympia Leisure centre in May 2012, seven members of staff were involved in the rescue and recovery of an unconscious swimmer.</p> <p>All Lifeguarding personnel within the council are professionally trained and qualified to Royal Lifesaving Society standards.</p> <p>Upon becoming aware of the incident two members of staff on pool duty raised the alarm and the facility emergency action plan was immediately implemented.</p> <p>One member of staff entered the pool and recovered the unconscious swimmer whilst colleagues assessed the situation and subsequently commenced Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). The Automated external Defibrillator (AED) was in position although ultimately not required.</p> <p>Two local cardiac doctors, who were within the facility for unrelated reasons, attended the scene and assisted staff in the casualty treatment and management. The swimmer recovered consciousness prior to the arrival of cardiac ambulance personnel a short time later. He remained in hospital for 12 days but has since made a full recovery.</p> <p>The two cardiac doctors and the ambulance crew commended the staff for their swift and professional response and advised that their immediate action almost certainly prevented a much more serious situation from developing.</p>

<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
	<p>The staff members involved in the rescue have been nominated by management for the Pool Lifeguard of the Year Awards, run by the Royal Life Saving Society.</p> <p>The staff members have now been successfully shortlisted by a panel from the RLSS for a Pool Lifeguard of the year award and invited to the award ceremony on 14 June 2013.</p> <p>The awards ceremony takes place in Cheshire, England as part of the RLSS annual conference. Committee are asked to approve the attendance of the Chairman and Director or their nominees together with two members of the staffing team involved in the incident last May.</p>

<b>3</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
	<p><u>Financial</u></p> <p>Subject to approval the cost of flights and transfers to the conference venue in Cheshire, England on the 14 June 2013 at approximately £250.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u></p> <p>N/A</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u></p> <p>N/A</p>

<b>4</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Considerations</b>
	N/A

<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
	<p>Committee are asked to note the professional response from staff members of Olympia Leisure Centre in the rescue of the swimmer and the effective implementation of the established emergency action plan at that time.</p> <p>Committee are asked to approve that the Chair of the Parks &amp; Leisure Committee and his nominee plus an attendant and duty manager from Olympia Leisure Centre attend the conference on the 14 June 2013 in Cheshire England to represent the council at the awards ceremony.</p>

<b>6</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
	A further update to follow on the outcome of the award

<b>7</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
	RLSS – Royal Life Saving Society CPR – Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation AED – Automated External Defibrillator
<b>8</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
	None

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