

Document Pack

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



7 March 2014

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, 13th March, 2014 at 4.30 pm, for the transaction of the business noted below.

You are requested to attend.

Yours faithfully

PETER McNANEY

Chief Executive

AGENDA:

1. **Routine Matters**
 - (a) Apologies
 - (b) Minutes
 - (c) Declarations of Interest
2. **Reservoir Bill (Pages 3 - 16)**
3. **Departmental Plan 2014 - 2015 (Pages 17 - 36)**
4. **Anti-Social Behaviour - Quarterly Report (Pages 37 - 48)**
5. **Events in Parks (Pages 49 - 54)**
6. **Cyclists Touring Club Review (Pages 55 - 58)**

7. **Development of Land at Slievegallion Drive (Pages 59 - 62)**
8. **Acquisition of land at Blacks Road (Pages 63 - 72)**
9. **Flooding at Properties Adjacent to Cherryvale Playing Fields (Pages 73 - 76)**
10. **Northern Ireland Commonwealth Games Council (Pages 77 - 80)**
11. **World War I Commonwealth War Graves Centenary Event (Pages 81 - 84)**
12. **Improvement works to the War Graves in the City Cemetery by the War Graves Commission (Pages 85 - 88)**
13. **World War I Commemorative Events (Pages 89 - 92)**
14. **Request for the use of the Ormeau Park by Holi One (Pages 93 - 96)**
15. **Proposed Change of Use - Ballysillan Bowling Green (Pages 97 - 98)**
16. **Ormeau Park and Falls Park - Welcome Art Signs (Pages 99 - 106)**
17. **Knocknagoney Linear Park - Art Project (Pages 107 - 114)**
18. **Friends of Belmont Park - CS Lewis Art Proposal (Pages 115 - 118)**
19. **The Reverend Robert Bradford Memorial Park - Community Boards (Pages 119 - 134)**
20. **Request for the use of the City of Belfast Playing Fields, Mallusk for a Youth Soccer Tournament (Pages 135 - 136)**
21. **Request for the use of the City of Belfast Playing Fields, Mallusk - Irish Football Association (Pages 137 - 138)**



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Reservoir Supervision and Maintenance
Date:	13 March 2014
Reporting Officer:	Rose Crozier, Assistant Director of Parks and Leisure Department
Contact Officer:	Ian Bowden, Senior Civil Engineering Officer, Parks and Leisure Department. Ext 4784

1.0	Relevant Background Information
	<p>At the Committee meeting on 16th January 2014 Members gave authority to the Director of Parks and Leisure to proceed with works and associated expenditure to implement the various recommendations in the Reservoir Reports that were commissioned in line with best practice, as indicated in the Reservoirs Act 1975. Members were also informed that Northern Ireland is currently in the process of developing a Reservoirs Bill.</p> <p>That Bill was introduced to the Northern Ireland Assembly on 20th January 2014, had its second reading on 14th February 2014 and has now been passed to the Committee for Agriculture and Rural Development for scrutiny. As part of this 'Committee Stage' the Committee asked for interested parties to provide their views on the Bill and following an invitation to officers, dated 24th January 2014 (Appendix 1), the Director of Parks & Leisure informed the Committee Chairman that the Assistant Director of Parks and Leisure and the Senior Civil Engineering Officer would be attending the Committee for Agriculture and Rural Development on 25th February 2014. Belfast City Council's submission of the presentation to the Committee for Agriculture and Rural Development provided details on reservoirs owned by the Council, the associated costs and the approach to emergency planning. A summary of the presentation can be found at Appendix 2.</p>

2.0	Key Issues
	<p>Following the presentation those giving the evidence were questioned by MLA's and while some questions were answered by the officers at the time, the following questions could not be answered and required follow up:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "What, if any, insurance Belfast City Council holds in respect to the failure of a reservoir under its ownership?"

	<p>2. "What opinion, if any, does the council have regarding the various appeals and dispute mechanisms in the Bill?"</p> <p>The Councils Insurance and Risk Officer has provided the answer to Q1 as follows:-</p> <p>Belfast City Council presently purchases commercial insurance protection for public liability risks arising from the ownership and use of all reservoirs that are located on council land or in council parks.</p> <p>This insurance covers the cost of claims arising from the failure of, or defects in reservoirs which causes loss, or injury to members of the public and/or damage to their property.</p> <p>The insurance only applies in so far as the council can be held legally responsible for the loss, damage or injury so caused.</p> <p>The insurance protection is for £50M.</p> <p>In response to question 2, Reservoirs are designated as High, Medium or Low risk by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development and within the proposed Bill, Clauses 17 to 21 (See Appendix 3) allow Reservoir owners to appeal against that designation.</p> <p>Council officers have considered the risk designation of Reservoirs owned by the Council and would categorise them all as high given the proximity to residential areas. Action plans are currently being developed in line with this designation. It is the view of officers that whilst the appeal mechanism is necessary this will not be relevant to Belfast City Council and will more likely be used by private owners.</p>
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3.0	Resource Implications
	None

4.0	Equality Implications
	None

5.0	Recommendations
	Members are asked to give authority to the Director of Parks and Leisure to reply as requested to the Committee for Agriculture and Rural Development in accordance with the above.

6.0	Decision Tracking
	Committee decision to be implemented by the Director of Parks and Leisure

7.0	Key to Abbreviations
	None

8.0	Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 Invitation to attend Committee Appendix 2 Briefing Paper Appendix 3 Excerpt from Reservoirs Bill



Northern Ireland
Assembly

Committee for Agriculture and Rural Development

Mr Ian Bowden
Belfast City Council
Adelaide Exchange
24 - 26 Adelaide Street
Belfast
BT2 8GD

24 January 2014

Dear Mr Bowden,

The Reservoirs Bill

I write, on behalf of the Committee, to invite Belfast City Council to make an oral presentation along with Newry & Mourne District Council and Craigavon Borough Council; respectively regarding the Reservoirs Bill. The Bill has been developed by the Rivers Agency after public consultation;

<http://www.dardni.gov.uk/index/rivers/reservoirs-bill-ni/reservoirs-safety-policy-proposals.htm>

The Bill was formally introduced to the Northern Ireland Assembly on 20 January 2014 and is expecting to receive its Second Reading on 4 February 2014. The Bill is then expected to be referred to the Committee for Agriculture and Rural Development which will have responsibility for the Committee Stage of the Bill.

The Committee would like to invite your organisation to attend the Committee meeting of Tuesday **25 February 2014**. The meeting will be held in Room 30, Parliament Buildings at 1.30pm. Your briefing is scheduled for **1.40pm**.

For security purposes you should only bring one other person with you and you will need to provide the name of that person attending in advance. When you arrive, you are requested to present yourself to Committee Staff. You should also note that as Tuesday is a sitting day of the Assembly car parking can be limited and you may wish to allow time on arrival for parking.

You should be prepared to make a short presentation or opening statement, which should not exceed ten minutes, after which the Members will be given the opportunity to ask you any questions they might have (for around 30 / 35 minutes). I would ask that you prepare a short, bullet pointed summary of the main points you wish to make in advance of the meeting. It would be most helpful if you could structure your response to the specific clauses of the Bill, and, if appropriate, could you suggest alternative or additional wording to clauses, which may assist the Committee's consideration of the need for any amendments to the Bill.

You can find information on the Committee, its role, remit and Membership at the following link;

<http://www.niassembly.gov.uk/Assembly-Business/Committees/Agriculture-and-Rural-Development/>

Any advance briefing papers and the names and titles of those attending should be forwarded by email to committee.agriculture@niassembly.gov.uk by Wednesday **19 February 2014**. Please be aware that your evidence session will be considered in an open, public Committee meeting and is likely to form part of any Report that the Committee may make to the NI Assembly.

If you do not have access to the internet or e-mail facilities or you have any other enquiries, please contact the Committee Office on **028 9052 1541**.

Information regarding the Bill can be obtained from the Assembly's website –

<http://www.niassembly.gov.uk/Assembly-Business/Legislation/Primary-Legislation-Current-Bills/Reservoirs-Bill/>

You can also find minutes of evidence that the Committee has taken on the Reservoir Bill at the website links below;

<http://www.niassembly.gov.uk/Assembly-Business/Official-Report/Committee-Minutes-of-Evidence/Session-2013-2014/November-2013/Reservoirs-Bill-DARD-Pre-introductory-Briefing/>

<http://www.niassembly.gov.uk/Assembly-Business/Official-Report/Committee-Minutes-of-Evidence/Session-2012-2013/April-2013/Reservoir-Community-Asset-Survey--Rivers-Agency-Briefing/>

<http://www.niassembly.gov.uk/Assembly-Business/Official-Report/Committee-Minutes-of-Evidence/Session-2012-2013/September-2012/Reservoirs-Bill-Consultation-Outcome/>

<http://www.niassembly.gov.uk/Assembly-Business/Official-Report/Committee-Minutes-of-Evidence/Session-2011-2012/February-2012/Reservoirs-Bill-Policy-Proposals/>

A Research Paper on the Bill is also likely to be on the website in the near future.

You may also find it useful to check what other organisations have said about the Bill and the Minutes of Evidence will be placed at the following web site link as soon as they are available.

<http://www.niassembly.gov.uk/Assembly-Business/Committees/Agriculture-and-Rural-Development/Minutes-of-Evidence-Hansard/>

Yours sincerely

Stella McArdle

Stella McArdle
Clerk, Committee for Agriculture and Rural Development

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Briefing paper from Belfast City Council re The Reservoirs Bill

Presentation to the Committee for Agriculture and Rural Development on 25 February 2014

Mrs Rose Crozier – Assistant Director Parks and Leisure

Mr Ian Bowden – Senior Civil Engineering Officer, Parks and Leisure Department

A detailed oral statement will be made to the Committee; the following is a summary of key points in relation to the Bill.

Current position

- Belfast City Council currently own and manage 5 reservoirs across the city. These are Waterworks Upper and Lower, Alexandra Park Pond, Boodles Dam in Ligoniel and Half Moon Lake.
- In November 2011 the Council agreed to the establishment of an inspection process in line with current best practice for all appropriate water retaining structures.

Associated Costs

- To date the Council has spent in the region of £57,000 on the preparation for and inspections of our reservoirs.
- Based on the recommendations made within the inspection reports we anticipate that there will be initial works costing in the region of £24,000 and annual maintenance costs of approximately £10,000 across all 5 sites.
- Inspections will also be required every 10 years which will require expenditure in the region of £20,000.

Size of reservoirs that should be included

- Belfast City Council has 2 reservoirs that are less than 10,000 cubic metres but we have taken the position due to their location within an urban area and the potential impact if there was to be a breach to include them within our inspection process.

Maintenance of reservoirs in other ownership

- The Council believe that the other 5 reservoirs within our Council boundary, not in our ownership, should be maintained to a high standard to ensure that the risk to all our residents is minimised. However there is a need to balance risk minimisation with a process that is not overly bureaucratic and it is our opinion that a grant scheme should be developed to assist reservoir owners meet any legal obligations which are placed on them.

Emergency Planning

- The Council is a key member of the Belfast Resilience Forum, the multi-agency emergency planning forum for the City of Belfast and in light of the new reservoirs bill the intention of Belfast City Council's Emergency Planning team is to request the forum's steering group to allocate a further task to the Flood working group for the development of multi-agency reservoir flood plans.

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APPENDIX 3

Risk designation

Giving a risk designation

17.- (1) The Department must, as soon as is reasonably practicable after registering a controlled reservoir in the controlled reservoirs register, give the reservoir a risk designation.

(2) A risk designation is a designation of the controlled reservoir by the Department as one of the following categories

- (a) a high-risk reservoir,
- (b) a medium-risk reservoir,
- (c) a low-risk reservoir.

(3) In giving a risk designation, the Department must, in so far as it is reasonably practicable to do so, take into account the matters mentioned in section

(4) The Department gives a controlled reservoir a risk designation by notice served on the reservoir manager of the reservoir

- (a) specifying the risk designation it has given the reservoir,
- (b) specifying the reasons for its decision,
- (c) specifying the date on which the designation takes effect,
- (d) giving information about the right under section 20 to apply for a review by the Department of its decision, the procedure for making such an application and the period within which an application may be made,
- (e) specifying that the risk designation which is the subject of an application continues to have effect pending a decision being made in the review.

Periodic re-assessment of risk designations

18. (1) The Department must carry out periodic re-assessments of risk designations in accordance with this section.

(2) In carrying out a periodic re-assessment of a risk designation in accordance with this section the Department must, having taken into account the matters mentioned in section 22 in so far as it is reasonably practicable to do so, either

- (a) confirm the designation, or

(b) give the controlled reservoir a risk designation as one of the other categories referred to in paragraphs (a) to (c) of section 17(2) (for the purposes of this Act “a different designation”).

(3) A periodic re-assessment of the risk designation of a controlled reservoir must be carried out at the following times□

(a) at any time the Department considers the designation may have ceased to be appropriate,

(b) in any event, not later than 10 years from whichever is the latest of the following□

(i) the date on which notice of the designation was served under section 17(4),

(ii) the date on which notice of the decision in a periodic re-assessment of the designation was served under subsection (4),

(iii) the date on which notice of the decision in a review in respect of the designation was served under section 20(6),

(iv) the date on which notice of the decision in an appeal in respect of the designation was given under section 21.

(4) The Department confirms the designation, or gives the controlled reservoir a different designation, by notice served on the reservoir manager of the reservoir□

(a) specifying whether it confirms the designation or gives the reservoir a different designation,

(b) where it gives the reservoir a different designation, specifying the different designation and the date on which it takes effect,

(c) specifying the reasons for its decision,

(d) giving information about the right under section 20 to apply for a review by the Department of its decision, the procedure for making such an application and the period within which an application may be made,

(e) specifying that the risk designation which is the subject of an application continues to have effect pending a decision being made in the review.

Date on which risk designation given under section 17 or given as different designation under section 18 takes effect

19.□(1) A risk designation□

(a) given under section 17,

(b) given as a different designation on a periodic re-assessment under section 18,

subject to subsections (2) and (3), takes effect on the day after the date on which notice of the designation is served by the Department on the reservoir manager under the section concerned.

(2) Where a risk designation is given under section 17 in relation to a controlled reservoir which is being constructed or restored to use (within the meaning of Part 3), the designation takes effect on the day after the date of the final certificate in respect of those works. (Section 46 makes provision about final certificates.)

(3) Where a risk designation is given (as a different designation) under section 18 in relation to a controlled reservoir which is subject to alteration for the purpose of increasing or decreasing the capacity of the reservoir, the different designation takes effect on the day after the date of the final certificate in respect of those works.

Review by Department of its decision under section 17 or 18

20. (1) A reservoir manager of a controlled reservoir on whom notice is served under section 17(4) or 18(4) may apply to the Department for a review by it of its decision under section 17 or 18.

(2) An application must be made in writing before the end of the period of 90 days beginning with the date on which the notice was served.

(3) In considering an application under this section, the Department (a) may commission to make recommendations to it about the risk designation either (or both)

(i) an engineer who is a member of a panel of reservoir engineers established under section 97 who may (by virtue of an order under that section) be commissioned under this section in relation to the reservoir,

(ii) such other person as the Department considers appropriate,

(b) must take into account

(i) a recommendation by an engineer or other person commissioned by it under paragraph (a),

(ii) in so far as it is reasonably practicable to do so, the matters mentioned in section 22,

(iii) any representations made to it by or on behalf of the reservoir manager in relation to the application.

(4) A risk designation in respect of which an application is made under this section continues to have effect pending a decision being made in the review.

(5) Where as a result of the review the Department gives the controlled reservoir a different designation, the designation which is the subject of the review ceases to have effect from the date on which the Department gives its decision; and the different designation takes effect on the day after the date on

which notice is served under subsection (6).

(6) The Department must notify the reservoir manager of its decision in the review by serving on the reservoir manager notice

(a) specifying whether it confirms the designation or gives the reservoir a different designation,

(b) where it gives the reservoir a different designation, specifying the different designation and the date on which it takes effect,

(c) specifying the reasons for its decision,

(d) giving information about the right of appeal under section 21 against its decision, the procedure for making an appeal and the period within which an appeal may be made,

(e) specifying that the designation which is the subject of an appeal continues to have effect pending a decision being made in the appeal.

(7) The Department may by regulations make further provision in relation to applications and reviews under this section.

Appeal against Department's decision in a review under section 20

21. (1) A reservoir manager of a controlled reservoir on whom notice of the Department's decision in a review under section 20 is served may appeal to the Water Appeals Commission for Northern Ireland against the decision on one or more of the grounds mentioned in subsection (3).

(2) Any such appeal must be made in writing before the end of the period of 60 days beginning with the date on which the notice under section 20(6) was served.

(3) The grounds referred to in subsection (1) are that

(a) the decision was based on an error of fact,

(b) the decision was wrong in law,

(c) the decision was unreasonable.

(4) The Commission may confirm the risk designation or give the reservoir a different designation.

(5) A decision in an appeal under this section must take into account

(a) in so far as it is reasonably practicable to do so, the matters mentioned in section 22,

(b) any representations made in relation to the appeal by or on behalf of

(i) the reservoir manager,

(ii) the Department.

(6) A risk designation in respect of which an appeal is made under this section continues to have effect pending a decision being made in the appeal.

(7) Where the decision in the appeal is that the controlled reservoir is given a different designation, the designation which is the subject of the appeal ceases to have effect from the date on which the appeal is determined; and the different designation takes effect on the day after the date on which notice is given under subsection (8).

(8) Notice by the Commission to the reservoir manager and the Department of the Commission's decision in the appeal must specify

(a) whether the Commission confirms the risk designation or gives the reservoir a different designation,

(b) where the Commission gives the reservoir a different designation, the different designation and the date on which it takes effect,

(c) the reasons for the decision.

(9) The Department may by regulations make provision as to the following in relation to appeals under this section

(a) the determining by or under the regulations of a fee, and the charging of any fee so determined, in connection with an appeal,

(b) the awarding of costs of the parties to an appeal (including provision in relation to the amount of costs).

Matters to be taken into account under sections 17(3), 18(2), 20(3)(b)(ii) and 21(5)(a)

22. (1) The matters required by sections 17(3), 18(2), 20(3)(b)(ii) and 21(5)(a) to be taken into account in so far as it is reasonably practicable to do so, are

(a) the potential adverse consequences of an uncontrolled release of water from the controlled reservoir,

(b) the probability of such a release.

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1)(a), potential adverse consequences include

(a) potential damage to any of the following

(i) human life or human health (as the Department considers appropriate in the circumstances),

(ii) the environment,

(iii) economic activity,

(iv) cultural heritage,

(b) such other potential damage as the Department considers relevant.

(3) The matters which may be taken into account in assessing under subsection

(1)(b) the probability of an uncontrolled release of water from a controlled reservoir include any of the following

(a) the purpose for which the reservoir is (or is to be) used,

(b) the materials used to construct the reservoir,

(c) the way in which the reservoir was or is being constructed,

(d) the age and condition of the reservoir and how it has been maintained,

(e) such other matters as the Department may by regulations specify.

(4) The Department may, after consulting the Institution of Civil Engineers and such other organisations or persons as it considers appropriate, by regulations make further provision about the matters that are to be taken into account under sections 17(3), 18(2), 20(3)(b)(ii) and 21(5)(a).



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Departmental Plan for Parks and Leisure 2014/15
Date:	13 March 2014
Reporting Officer:	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Caroline Wilson, Neighbourhood and Development Manager Karen Anderson-Gillespie, Policy and Business Development Officer

1	Relevant Background Information
	<p>Members will be aware that departmental estimates were considered on 24 January 2014 by the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee, alongside key actions for 2014/15. These estimates were subsequently agreed by Council at its meeting in February 2014.</p> <p>Since then, Chief Officers have been finalising their departmental plans based on the approved estimates and actions. This report presents in the attached appendix the draft Parks and Leisure departmental plan for 2014/15.</p> <p>The plan, once approved by Committee, will provide each Chief Officer with the delegated authority to deliver the key actions and will be the basis against which progress will be monitored and reported to members.</p>
2	Key Issues
	<p>The Parks and Leisure draft plan sets out the strategic direction for the department during the period 2014/ 15 with the aim of ensuring focused and effective leadership and management of the department by the Committees and senior managers. It also provides explicit links between core departmental activity and corporate strategy. The appended plan sets out for 2014/15:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The key actions and projects (including those which will contribute to the Leisure Transformation Programme, Local Government Reform (LGR) and the Investment Programme); • Financial information relating to the departmental estimates for 2014/15; and • Key performance indicators (KPIs) and annual targets. <p>The plan provides a mechanism to enable committee and senior managers to project and performance manage the key work of the department in line with the Corporate Plan and Investment Programme. It should also assist managers and officers in the department to make decisions and allocate resources in line with the agreed objectives and activities.</p>

	<p>Members should note that, whilst performance targets have been included for some performance indicators, it is not possible to set meaningful targets for all indicators until the current year's performance targets have been recorded. Please note that any updates on performance targets will be brought to Committee for approval in due course.</p> <p>Under the council's Scheme of Delegation, the Director of Parks and Leisure has been given the delegated authority to undertake the activities as described in Section 2 of the plan as well as any additional related activities. The action plan within Section 2 makes reference to whether the action contributes to LGR or the Corporate Investment Programme of work.</p> <p>The next twelve months will be a challenging time for the department as it undertakes significant programmes of work in preparation for LGR and the Leisure Transformation, while at the same continuing to provide a wide range of high quality public facing services to the residents of the city. The Department will also be working to ensure that the large number of customer facing services that it is responsible for, are delivered to the new areas coming into the expanded Belfast boundary while at the same time ensuring that existing customers continue to receive high quality services.</p>
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3	Resource Implications
	<p><u>Financial</u> Section 4.0 (Page 8) outlines the Department's budgeted net expenditure for 2014/15.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u> Delivery of most of the programmes and projects planned for the year ahead will require dedicated officer time which will be recorded and reflected within annual service plans, area plans and separate unit/centre level plans.</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u> Many of the projects and activities listed in the draft plan refer to the physical regeneration of the department's assets and physical improvements to our facilities.</p>

4	Equality and Good Relations Implications
	There are no equality or good relations implications at this stage. However all activities and programmes contained within the plan will be subject to equality screening in line with the Council's process.

5	Recommendations
	Members are asked to note and agree the draft departmental plan 2014/15 attached at appendix 1.

6	Decision Tracking
	Updates on the progress of the departmental plan will be brought to Committee twice yearly.

7	Key to Abbreviations
	None
8	Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 – Draft Departmental Plan 2013/14



Departmental Plan 2014/15
**Parks and Leisure
Department**



Internal document

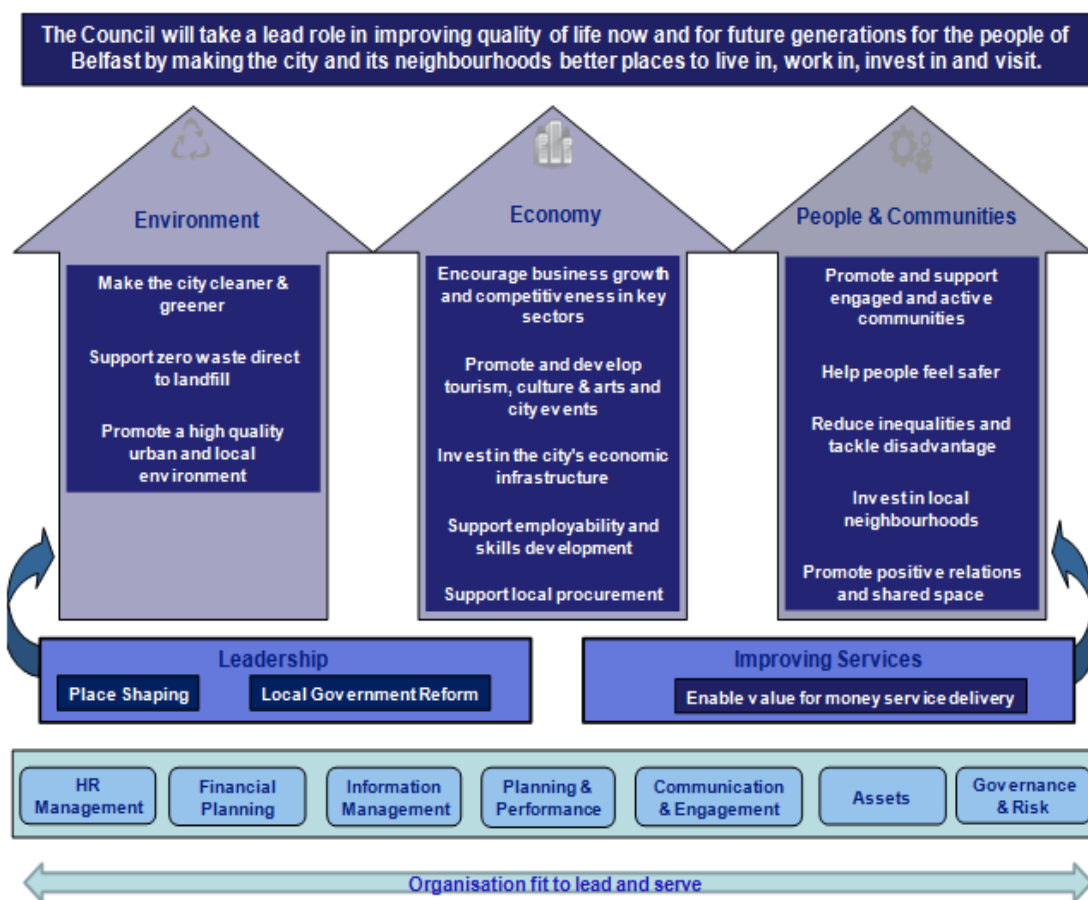


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1.0 Background

- 1.1 The Corporate Plan embodies what the Council intends to achieve from 2012-15. It is ambitious yet realistic and demonstrates how Members are committed to improving quality of life for everyone who lives in, works in and visits Belfast. It is based upon an assessment of need in the city, the views of residents on what the Council’s priorities should be and a commitment to strong political and executive leadership at both a city wide and a neighbourhood level.
- 1.2 While the Corporate Plan focuses on issues which cut across Council departments, it also reflects the importance of the quality of the vital services that we provide on a daily basis.
- 1.3 A single image, representing how our Corporate Plan is managed within the organisation, through our Value Creating Mapping (VCM) process, is set out in figure 1 below. The overall purpose of Belfast City Council, to improve quality of life, is achieved through delivery of our corporate priorities within the Environment, Economy and People and Community themes. Our core competencies of good leadership and quality service delivery demonstrate the things we need to be good at to deliver on those priorities. Finally the internal support mechanisms that underpin how effectively we work as an organisation provide the scaffolding to all that we do. Each department in the Council, through its own planning process is able to demonstrate the themes to which it contributes.



(INSERT DEPARTMENT NAME HERE) **Fig 1: Corporate Value Creation Map**

- 1.4 This departmental plan therefore demonstrates how the priorities, actions and performance targets of the Parks & Leisure Department complement the 2014/15 Corporate Plan. It sets the strategic direction of the department over the next year in terms of what we hope to achieve. This will enable focused and effective management by both the Departmental Management Team (DMT) and the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee. By aligning our activities and targets to the themes and objectives of our corporate plan we will be able to assess the extent to which we are contributing to its achievement.
- 1.5 To ensure alignment to the Corporate Value Creation Map the Parks & Leisure Department has created a departmental purpose, which is 'To work with people across Belfast and its neighbourhoods to create an active, healthy and vibrant city'.

The Parks & Leisure departmental vision is that:

The **people** in Belfast will be active and healthy and everyone will use leisure, parks and open space facilities across the city. They will participate in local events and play an active part in community life.

We will have pride in our work and be passionate about our purpose. The city and its neighbourhoods will be attractive and vibrant **places** to live in, work in and visit. We will continue to engage with local people and partners to make sure that people are offered the best possible facilities and services in a safe environment.

We will protect the natural environment of Belfast and educate people on the importance of a green city. With our partners, we will work hard to connect the city and integrate our services. The range and quality of our facilities and services will be accessible and valued by citizens and visitors alike. Those who use our services and participate in programmes and events will be very satisfied with their experience.

We will be flexible and efficient. We will prioritise community involvement, customer focus and value for money. We will strive to understand the city and identify innovative **possibilities** and creative solutions to deliver excellent services.

We are about people, places and possibilities.

- 1.6 Since the introduction of the Local Government Bill in September the Council's Local Government Reform programme has continued to gain pace with all departments contributing to the overall programme. This is only likely to increase in the year ahead as we prepare for the many changes facing the Council. The key actions to be driven by this Department working with Members are described in greater detail in Section 5.
- 1.7 Under the Council's Scheme of Delegation, the Director of Parks & Leisure has delegated authority to undertake the activities as outlined in section 5. Progress reports will be submitted to the Parks & Leisure Committee twice yearly.

2.0 Corporate Values

Our corporate values are integral to the way in which the Council works. These values underpin everything that our councillors and employees do and the way the Council will deliver our objectives.

- **Focus on the needs of customers, foster a ‘can-do’ attitude and be problem solvers** - providing first class services which are responsive to citizens needs and continuing to ensure that the council is a place where things happen
- **Provide value for money and improve services** - delivering high quality, value for money services at all times and continually improving our services
- **Work together** - working with our partners across Belfast to ensure that our combined efforts contribute to the continued success of our city
- **Respect each other, be fair, promote equality and good relations** - improving access to our services; valuing diversity, ensuring that everyone shares in the city’s success and tackling discrimination in all its forms by treating all communities and people equally
- **Act sustainably** - using our resources effectively and efficiently and promoting the principle of sustainability in all our activities
- **Ensure the highest standards of health and safety** - maintaining the highest possible standards of health and safety at all times to ensure the Council protect our employees and all those who use our services
- **Value our employees** - continuing to support our employees to help them fulfill their potential

2.1 The Parks & Leisure Department adheres to the council’s values above and in particular the Parks and Leisure Department have developed the values below, which underpin everything we do:

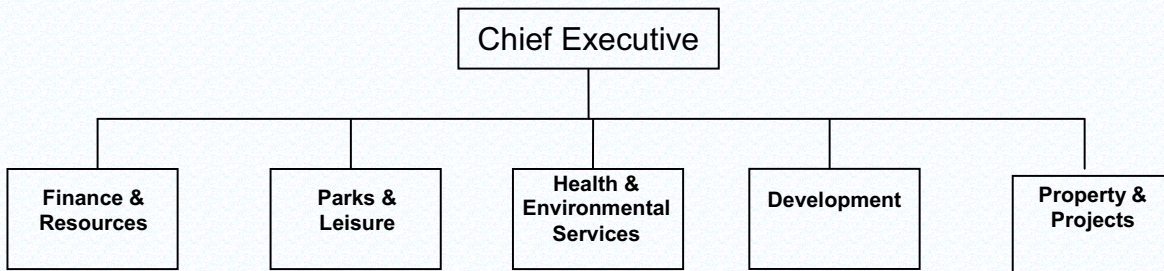
We are proud, passionate and professional:

Values	What we mean
Proud	Having pride in our work, the city and our environment. Being open and transparent and developing trust by doing what we promise. Having a ‘can do’ attitude and being empowered to deliver.
Passionate	Being positive, active and helpful in working things out. Celebrating success and promoting our achievements. Treating each other with respect and dignity.
Professional	Learning and developing as employees. Being willing to accept responsibility for our work and performance. Communicating openly about expectations and decisions taken.

3.0 Departmental structure

3.1 The Parks and Leisure Department is one of 6 departments which make up the officer structure of the council. The various departments are shown in Figure 3 below and Figure 4 sets out the Department's service structure.

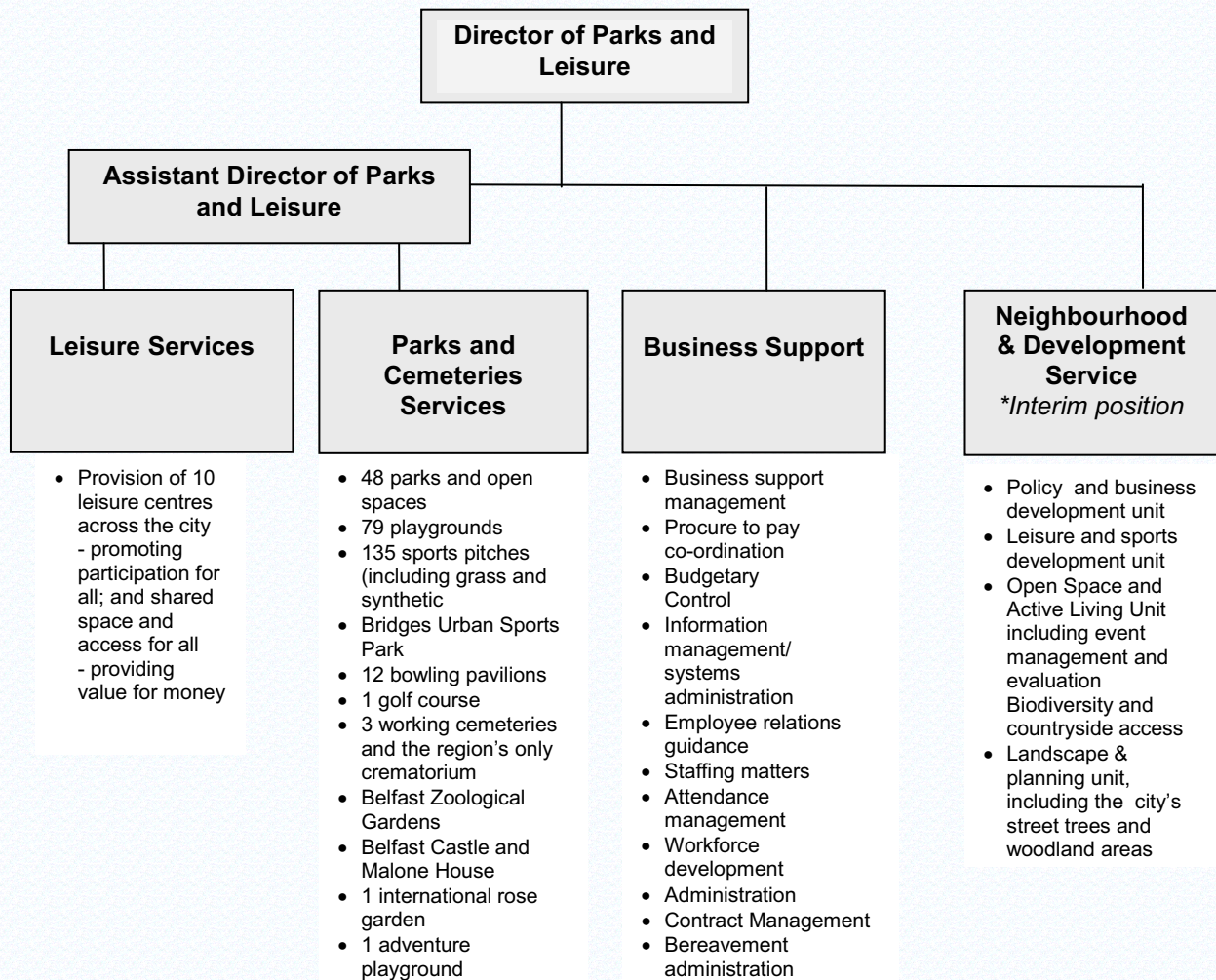
Fig 3: Council Departments



3.2 The Parks and Leisure department is responsible for approximately 20% of the council's annual expenditure. The department is responsible for parks and leisure centre provision, leisure and sports development, conservation, landscaping, Malone House and Belfast Castle, crematorium and cemetery services, Belfast Zoological Gardens, events and extensive partnership working.

The department employs 750 staff, or 652.71 FTEs (full time equivalents, as many staff are part-time or casual employees). The organisation chart on Figure 4 is the high level outline of the structure operating within the department:

Fig 4: Parks and Leisure Department



****Parks and Leisure Department structure is currently under review.***

- 3.3 Our departmental assets are spread across the city and the majority of our staff are based in outlying areas either in our leisure centres, parks, pavilions, depots, and open spaces i.e. Malone House, Belfast Castle, crematorium and cemetery services and Belfast Zoological Gardens. As part of the Council's Local Government Reform programme assets will be transferred as part of the boundary extension and the transfer of functions.

4.0 Departmental Budget

The Strategic Policy & Resources Committee has now agreed the following estimates for the department and all the actions committed to in this plan have been planned and resourced based on this estimate. 2013/14 figures are included for comparison.

	£ Net Expenditure 2013/14	£ Net Expenditure 2014/15
<u>Leisure</u>		
Leisure Centres	7,884,475	7,723,051
<u>Neighbourhood Development</u>		
Leisure Development	644,984	553,518
Landscape Planning and Development	2,138,565	2,043,640
Open Spaces & Active Living	660,954	788,002
P&C Development	139,533	128,043
<u>Parks and Cemeteries</u>		
Zoo	856,055	858,260
Estates Mgt inc Belfast Castle/Malone House	342,052	398,928
P&C Services	1,301,692	1,111,259
Area East (Including Roselawn/Crem)	1,889,381	1,945,760
Area South West (including City Cem)	2,966,253	3,080,298
Area North	2,299,520	2,404,873
<u>Directorate</u>		
Anti Social Behaviour	254,356	251,730
PBDU	705,346	673,031
Business Support including bereavement admin	2,013,966	2,010,722
TOTAL	24,097,132	23,971,115

5.0 Key actions for 2014/ 15

The Department's actions and performance indicators outlined in the following two sections demonstrate what the Department will do to implement its VCM and therefore how it will contribute to the Council's VCM. Updates on project milestones and on performance indicators (Section 6) are reported to DMT and Senior Management Team (SMT) on a quarterly basis and are used to inform Committee reports throughout the year.

	2014-15 Action	LGR or Investment Programme
1	City Leadership	
1.1	<p>Lead the planning and implementation of the Leisure Transformation Programme (LTP), including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementing the recommendations from the review of the current operating model and realising targeted efficiencies; • Undertaking effective engagement with elected members and other stakeholder; • Providing strong client input into the planned capital investment programme; and • Supporting effective governance and performance management. 	IP/ LGR
1.2	<p>Work in partnership with Property and Projects to deliver the capital projects outlined below and provide the strong client input required in relation to the development of strategic capital enhancement and programming as part of our delivery of the Investment Programme 2012 - 2015, including:</p> <p>Connswater Community Greenway:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management and maintenance programme • Marketing and communications programme <p>Girdwood Hub</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement the community engagement strategy and operational plan for the Girdwood Community Hub <p>Tropical Ravine</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver the tropical ravine restoration plan including the appointment of project officer and programme delivery <p>Year 4 of the Playing Pitches Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sports/ business development programme • Partnership and facilities management programme • Policy programme • Capital investment of 10 sites and the £750k school programme 	IP

	2014-15 Action	LGR or Investment Programme
1.3	<p>Together with Property and Projects, provide strong client support to progress and implement the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and progress actions within the Falls Park/ City Cemetery Masterplan and Whiterock Community Corridor project and examine options for funding • Progress work at the Half Moon Lake and Drumglass Park • Support the operational delivery of the Active Learning Centre at Belfast Zoo, which is part funded by the NITB • Convert Marrowbone to a 3G pitch and introduce a new pavilion at Suffolk playing fields • Commission and install 3 boxing statues/ sculptures across the city • Development of a MUGA programme and subsequent operational plans • Continue site development at Section Z at Roselawn • Future provision of cemeteries and crematorium facilities 	IP
1.4	Continue to maintain our community growing facilities i.e. allotments and community gardens and facilitate community growing workshops across the city	IP
1.5	Establish a management advisory committee and deliver a programme of activities and events for Dunville Park	IP
1.6	Establish a management advisory committee and delivery a programme of activities and events for Woodvale Park	IP
1.7	Deliver the annual playground refurbishment programme .	IP
2	Environment	
2.1	Deliver dog control improvements in adherence with the Cleaner Neighbourhood and Environment Act	
2.2	Achieve the Green Flag Award in Knocknagoney Linear Park and Dunville Park and retain existing accreditations	
2.3	Continue to implement the high hedges legislation	
3	Economy	
3.1	Develop a sponsorship policy and action plan to enhance partnership opportunities for relevant projects, assets and initiatives	

	2014-15 Action	LGR or Investment Programme
3.2	Develop with partners an annual programme of parks and leisure focused citywide events across the city	
3.3	Identify the roles and work plan for GAP placement opportunities in conjunction with Corporate HR	IP
4	People & Communities	
4.1	Deliver and monitor activities outlined within the Growing Communities Strategy (2012 – 2022)	IP
4.2	Deliver Year 2 actions of the Amateur Boxing Strategy	
4.3	Implement the clubmark scheme	
4.4	Deliver coach education across the city	
4.5	Deliver sport specific regional development squads	
4.6	Manage the support for sport fund	
4.7	Deliver strategic sports development initiatives including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active Communities • Sports Development Conference • Belfast Sports Award and Forum • Legacy programme – Giro d'Italia 	IP
4.8	Deliver a range of health and wellbeing programmes , including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent and toddler swim classes • Make a splash swim programme • Children's holiday schemes • Teenage Kicks • School and club cross country competition • Cycle events and training • Community rowing programme • School sports 'try it' programmes 	IP
4.9	Support the development of new friends groups and encourage volunteering opportunities	
4.10	Work in partnership to develop and deliver the Parks and Leisure Antisocial Behaviour programme	

	2014-15 Action	LGR or Investment Programme
4.11	Develop and deliver the Health Inequalities programme	IP
4.12	Deliver the Active Belfast vision, strategy and plan of work , including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An active travel action plan for the city • Work with communities to co-design and co-deliver a series of community led health and wellbeing programmes 	IP
4.13	Manage and maintain current leisure provision across the city	
4.14	Provide parks and open spaces and maintaining over 1,100 hectares	
4.15	Provide and maintain quality standards for the community at 135 sports pitches, 74 playgrounds, 12 bowling pavilions, 3 cemeteries and a crematorium, a golf course and an adventure playground	
4.16	Invest in our neighbourhoods by developing a range of programmes and events to be delivered locally	
4.17	Source and apply for internal and external funding to support our project/ programme and activity portfolio i.e. BIF, SIF, DCAL, OFDFM, ACNI, PHA, ERDF, SportNI and HLF	
5	Improving our Services	
5.1	Local Government Reform (LGR) – Service Convergence plan Parks and Cemeteries Service and Leisure Service: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and deliver a budget and transition plan for assets, resources and services merging from Lisburn City Council and Castlereagh Borough Council. Neighbourhood and Development Service: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design and deliver a budget and transition plan for services, resources and functional areas merging. 	LGR
5.2	Local Government Reform – Service Transition plan Parks and Cemeteries Service and Leisure Service: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the completion of the practical arrangements and decisions required to maintain and deliver the agreed transfer of functions, central government assets and services. Neighbourhood and Development Service: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the impact, complete the practical arrangements to maintain and deliver the agreed transfer of services, resources, and functional areas. 	LGR

	2014-15 Action	LGR or Investment Programme
5.3	Develop and deliver a Departmental Improvement programme , to improve the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate of recovery • Participation levels • Customer/ commercial development 	
5.4	Implement the departmental efficiency programme	
6	HR Management	
6.1	Play a key role in the LTP and LGR , i.e. providing information and assistance to implement agreed approach	IP/ LGR
6.2	Ensure any recommendations from the Organisation Development Strategy are implemented	
6.3	Manage and review employee absence including stress, overtime and agency	
6.4	Implement the findings of operational reviews including developing training, roll out PDP process and participate in the liP process	
6.5	Implement recommendations stemming from reviews of Corporate policies & procedures , i.e. Attendance Policy, Discipline Procedure, Leave Arrangements paper etc. and co-ordinate or deliver relevant training, if necessary	
7	Financial Planning	
7.1	Play a key role in the LTP and LGR , i.e. providing information and assistance to implement agreed approach	IP/ LGR
7.2	Deliver the 14/15 revenue estimates on time, taking consideration of service needs, the wider efficiency agenda and changing customer expectations	LGR
7.3	As part of LGR prepare the departmental revenue estimates for 15/16 in relation to the transfer of assets, resources, services and functions merging from Lisburn City Council, Castlereagh Borough Council and central government	LGR
7.4	Implement further improvements in the departments financial monitoring and control process	
7.5	Undertake research into potential alternative methods of service or programme delivery to generate income or provide service efficiencies.	

	2014-15 Action	LGR or Investment Programme
8	Information Management	
8.1	Play a key role in the LTP and LGR , i.e. providing information and assistance to implement agreed approach	IP/ LGR
8.2	Deliver the IT Improvement Programme	
8.3	Develop enhancements to the functionality of existing departmental IT systems	
8.4	Contribute to the corporate IT programme and the roll out of any new systems	
8.5	Undertake a departmental information audit, with the view to producing an Information Strategy	
9	Policy, Planning & Performance	
9.1	Play a key role in the delivery of LTP and LGR , i.e. providing information and assistance to implement agreed approach	IP/ LGR
9.2	Support the Corporate Investment Programme to ensure projects are delivered on target in terms of time, cost and budget	IP
9.3	Implement the Departmental outcomes framework in line with the LTP	IP
9.4	Hold quarterly SMT and DMT performance/ project review meetings	
9.5	Review and refine departmental KPIs in line with departmental and corporate direction and objectives	
10	Communications	
10.1	Play a key role in the LTP and LGR , i.e. providing information and assistance to implement agreed approach	IP/ LGR
10.2	Encourage compliance with the council's communications policies by partner organisations and develop further marketing opportunities with external organisations	
10.3	Continue to rationalise printed publications and generate cost savings	
10.4	Ensure that the department's digital marketing is developed in line with SOCITM guidance and corporate direction	
10.5	Continue to review and modernise departmental signage	
10.6	Continue to plan and deliver marketing campaigns to inform the public and increase access to our departmental services and activities	
10.7	Support the department's consultation, communication and engagement activities with relevant stakeholder groups	

	2014-15 Action	LGR or Investment Programme
10.8	Ensure that the department's physical investments and LTP are effectively promoted across a range of communication channels	IP
10.9	Improve internal communications throughout the department	
1010	Review and deliver the overarching marketing strategy for the Department	

6.0 Key performance indicators for 2014/15**6.1 Environment**

Performance Indicator	Annual Target 2013/ 14	Annual Target 2014/ 15
% Volume of Duplex Print - Dept Total	40%	TBA
% Volume of Colour Print - Dept Total	30%	TBA
% of residents that live within 1,000m of green flags rated parks maintained/attained	66%	TBA
% Parks with Green Flag accreditation	43%	TBA
Estimated amount of carbon stored through Council trees	N/A	TBA

6.2 Economy

Performance Indicator	Annual Target 2013/ 14	Annual Target 2014/ 15
Number of visitors to the Zoo	280,000	TBA

6.3 People & Communities

Performance Indicator	Annual Target 2013/ 14	Annual Target 2014/ 15
Number of people who visit BCC leisure facilities – indoor and outdoor	1.9m	TBA
Number of reported incidents of ASB at parks and leisure venues – Dept Total	945	TBA

6.4 Improving Our Services

Performance Indicator	Annual Target 2013/ 14	Annual Target 2014/ 15
% Malone House utilised	40%	TBA
% Belfast Castle utilised	40%	TBA
% Uptake of Leisure Centre classes (utilisation of all spaces)	52.5%	TBA
Number of Complaints – Dept total	N/A	TBA
% Complaints that have met response – Dept Total	100%	100%

6.5 Organisation fit to lead and serve

Human Resource Management	Annual Target 2013/ 14	Annual Target 2014/ 15
Performance Indicator		
Average number of working days lost due to absence – Dept Total	11.75 days	TBA
% Staff across the Department with an up to date PDP – Part 1 Process	90%	TBA
Financial Planning	Annual Target 2013/ 14	Annual Target 2014/ 15
Performance Indicator		
Subsidy per visit (Belfast Zoo)	£10.54	TBA
Subsidy per user (Outdoor Leisure)	£5.23	TBA
Subsidy per user (Indoor Leisure)	£4.50	TBA
Overtime as a % of total direct payroll costs – Dept Total	5.9%	TBA
Rate of Recovery: Income/ Expenditure – Dept Total	29.3%	TBA
% Compliance of purchase orders raised on time	90%	90%
% compliance of GRN against the supplier invoice	75%	75%
% variance between actual net expenditure and budgeted net revenue (in year)	+1 / -2	+1 / -2
% variation between forecast net revenue expenditure and actual net revenue expenditure (in year)	+0.5 / -2%	+0.5 / -2%
Planning & Performance	Annual Target 2013/ 14	Annual Target 2014/ 15
Performance Indicator		
% PIs Updated – Dept Total	85%	85%
% PIs on Target – Dept Total	70%	70%
Corporate Governance and Risk	Annual Target 2013/ 14	Annual Target 2014/ 15
Performance Indicator		
% H & S recommendations fully implemented corporately – Dept Total	80%	80%

7.0 Committee Membership

Strategic Policy and Resources Committee

Chair:

Councillor Gareth McKee

Deputy Chair:

Councillor Caoimhín Mac Giolla Mhín

Committee Members:

Councillor Gerard McCabe

Alderman Jim Rodgers

Councillor Steven Corr

Councillor Tom Haire

Councillor Máire Hendron

Councillor John Kyle

Councillor Nichola Mallon

Councillor Laura McNamee

Councillor Kate Mullan

Councillor Niall Ó Donnghaile

Councillor Naomi Thompson

Councillor Patrick Convery

Councillor Tierna Cunningham

Councillor Claire Hanna

Councillor John Hussey

Alderman Gavin Robinson

Councillor Nicola Verner

Councillor Ciaran Beattie



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Antisocial Behaviour Programme Update Report
Date:	13 March 2014
Reporting Officer:	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Pete Murray, Antisocial Behaviour Programme Coordinator

1.	Relevant Background Information
	<p>The purpose of this report is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide an overview of antisocial behaviour (ASB) incidents across parks and leisure facilities and electoral area; and • Update committee on the activities, interventions and future developments of the ASB programme. <p>Members are reminded that the objectives of the ASB programme are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enhance the environment around Parks and Leisure facilities; • develop education initiatives involving creative or supportive interventions to model acceptable behaviour around Parks and Leisure facilities; • define enforcement as a deterrent against infraction of bye-laws or legislation; and • develop sustainable interagency and inter-departmental networks and leading a partnership approach to reducing antisocial behaviour.

2.	Key Issues
	<p>Trends in the available ASB incident data</p> <p>The ASB Coordinator prioritises action and expenditure by collating evidence gathered through ASB incident reports.</p> <p>The comparative data outlined in Table 1 below shows an increase in the number of incident reports of ASB in parks between August to December 2012 and August to December 2013 within the 4 electoral areas of Court, Laganbank, Pottinger and Upper Falls.</p>

The data highlights a downward trend in the number of reports of ASB in parks within Balmoral, Castle, Lower Falls and Oldpark electoral areas. This trend can be attributed to a decrease in visitor numbers due to seasonal variance - less people visit parks in autumn and winter.

The data also showed the following trends:

- Increase in reports of groups of youths gathering; and
- Increase in reports of fire setting and drinking.

Table 1: Comparison of the number of ASB incidents in Parks and Leisure Facilities across electoral areas between August to December 2012 and August to December 2013

August to December 2012		August to December 2013	
Electoral Area	Total ASB	Electoral Area	Total ASB
Balmoral	63	Balmoral	7
Castle	64	Castle	24
Court	33	Court	79
Laganbank	67	Laganbank	117
Lower Falls	20	Lower Falls	12
Oldpark	158	Oldpark	139
Pottinger	49	Pottinger	80
Upper Falls	27	Upper Falls	142
Victoria	19	Victoria	22
Total	500	Total	622

ASB in park and leisure facilities

The data presented in Appendix 1 illustrates a snapshot of ASB in parks between August and December 2013. The data details the three parks with the most incidents of ASB in each electoral area, the hotspot categories of ASB and where there were more than 20 incidents (these locations appear in bold type).

Citywide responses and interventions

Citywide responses and interventions are implemented proportionately across all of the city's parks. This approach is used to tackle low level, re-occurring ASB incidents (parks with less than 20 incidents) and is delivered using existing and available resources. Appendix 2 details the citywide responses and interventions that are implemented across all parks.

Planned Interventions

Planned intensive interventions are designed and introduced for parks that have more than 20 ASB incidents (see Table 2). The planned interventions span across all 4 objectives of the ASB programme: education, enforcement, environment and partnership. Interventions will resource and schedule enforcement operations in partnership with existing council services or PSNI and interventions also involve the environmental and physical development of a site.

Table 2 outlines the parks that have had more than 20 incidents during

August to December 2013 and the specific interventions planned for the coming months.

Table 2: Specific interventions planned to tackle ASB in Parks with more than 20 ASB incidents

Court	
Woodvale	The Park manager will ensure that damage is repaired and motorcycle use is reported to the PSNI.
Laganbank	
Botanic	A series of enforcement operations are planned for the spring to address reports of rowdy behaviour and drinking.
Oldpark	
Ballysillan PF	Temporary signage will be sited in the playground to inform drinkers of consequences and playground inspectors will report damage to be repaired.
Waterworks	Park Wardens will work with Community Safety officers and PSNI to tackle drinking. Individuals reported for drinking will face prosecution and if under 18 will be reported to the ASB forum
Pottinger	
Ormeau	Park Wardens will issue fixed penalty notices for dog control and dog fouling offences. They will work with Community Safety officers and PSNI to tackle drinking. Individuals reported for drinking will face prosecution and if under 18 will be reported to the ASB forum.
Avoniel PG	Playground inspectors will report damage to be repaired. Park Wardens will issue fixed penalty notices for dog control and dog fouling offences.
Upper Falls	
Falls Park	The Park manager will ensure damage is repaired and Park Wardens will work with Community Safety officers and PSNI to tackle drinking. Individuals reported for drinking will face prosecution and if under 18 will be reported to the ASB forum.
City Cemetery	A decorative arts project has been initiated to address graffiti in the cemetery. Park Wardens will work with Community Safety officers and PSNI to tackle drinking. Individuals reported for drinking will face prosecution and if under 18 will be reported to the ASB forum.

Citywide ASB programme development

Alongside the intensive and citywide interventions planned to tackle reported incidents of ASB, a number of citywide ASB programme developments will be implemented during the coming months:

- Park Wardens will be deployed during St. Patrick's Day in support of the Councils safer city operations
- Park Wardens are currently deployed in parks as part of an ongoing enforcement programme. They will issue fixed penalties in relation to litter and dog fouling offences.

There also several steps that are being undertaken in the next stage of the development of the ASB programme which are outlined below. Detail on these will be brought to the Committee in the new Council term for

	<p>consideration.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refinements to ASB data collection and reporting methodologies will ensure that there is a consistent service delivered across the city. • The department is developing processes to formally communicate with the District Policing and Community Safety Partnership (DPCSP) structure. • It is intended that the ASB programme will establish sustainable synergies and interfaces with local area working groups that will develop more appropriate responses to ASB.
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3.	Resource Implications
	The development of the programme will be facilitated through the agreed ASB budget 2013-14 which is approximately £250,000.

4.	Equality Implications
	Much of the ASB programme work spans activities related to reducing interface tensions and bringing young people together to take part in positive programmes and activities. All of the programme work is delivered in line with the council's equality and good relations policies and procedures.

5.	Recommendations
	Members are asked to note the contents of this update report.

6.	Decision Tracking
	Updates on the Safer Neighbourhoods antisocial behaviour programme will be brought by the ASB Coordinator to the Committee three times a year in February, June and October.

7.	Key to Abbreviations
	<p>ASB: Antisocial behaviour BCC: Belfast City Council PCSP: Policing and Community Safety Partnership DPCSP: District Policing and Community Safety Partnership PACE: Police and Criminal Evidence PSNI: Police Service for Northern Ireland</p>

8.	Documents Attached
	<p>Appendix 1: ASB in Parks throughout Electoral areas (Aug-Dec 2013) Appendix 2: Citywide responses and interventions (Aug-Dec 2013)</p>

Appendix 1: ASB in Parks throughout Electoral areas (Aug-Dec 2013)

ASB Category	Balmoral					
	Grovelands		Musgrave Park		Wedderburn Park	
	Reported Incidents	%	Reported Incidents	%	Reported Incidents	%
Rowdy and Nuisance Behaviour	3	75	1	50	1	100
<i>Street Drinking</i>						
<i>Criminal Damage & Vandalism</i>						
<i>Littering</i>						
Inappropriate Vehicle Use	1	25				
<i>Trespass</i>						
<i>Unsecured Premises</i>						
Animal Problems			1	50		
<i>Substance Misuse</i>						
All other ASB Incidents						
Total	4	100	2	100	1	100

ASB Category	Castle					
	Grove Playing Fields		Belfast Castle Estate		Finlay Park	
	Reported Incidents	%	Reported Incidents	%	Reported Incidents	%
Rowdy and Nuisance Behaviour			3	100	2	50
Criminal Damage & Vandalism	4	36.4			1	25
Littering	1	9.1				
Inappropriate Vehicle Use	2	18.2				
Unsecured Premises	2	18.2			1	25
Animal Problems	2	18.2				
All other ASB Incidents						
Total	11	100	3	100	4	100

Appendix 1: ASB in Parks throughout Electoral areas (Aug-Dec 2013) continued

ASB Category	Court					
	Woodvale Park		Alloa Street Playground		Shankill Memorial Park	
	Reported Incidents	%	Reported Incidents	%	Reported Incidents	%
Rowdy and Nuisance Behaviour			5	50	1	16.7
Street Drinking					1	16.7
Criminal Damage & Vandalism	16	28.1			2	33.3
Littering					2	33.3
Inappropriate Vehicle Use	15	26.3				
Trespass			1	10		
Unsecured Premises	7	12.3	3	30		
All other ASB Incidents	19	33.3	1	10		
Total	57	100	10	100	6	100

ASB Category	Laganbank					
	Botanic		Cherryvale Playing Fields		McClure Street	
	Reported Incidents	%	Reported Incidents	%	Reported Incidents	%
Rowdy and Nuisance Behaviour	39	36.4				
Street Drinking	36	33.6	2	33.3		
Criminal Damage & Vandalism	7	6.5	1	16.7	1	100
Trespass			2	33.3		
Animal Problems	7	6.5	1	16.7		
All other ASB Incidents	18	16.8				
Total	107	100	6	100	1	100

Appendix one continued

ASB Category	Lower Falls					
	Springfield Park		Willowbank Playground		Dunville Park	
	Reported Incidents	%	Reported Incidents	%	Reported Incidents	%
Rowdy and Nuisance Behaviour	2	50	3	75		
Street Drinking			1	25		
Trespass					2	100
Unsecured Premises	1	25				
Substance Misuse	1	25				
All other ASB Incidents						
Total	4	100	4	100	2	100

ASB Category	Oldpark					
	Ballysillan Playing Fields		Waterworks		Marrowbone Millennium Park	
	Reported Incidents	%	Reported Incidents	%	Reported Incidents	%
Rowdy and Nuisance Behaviour	18	31.6	8	26.7	8	44.4
Street Drinking			10	33.3		
Criminal Damage & Vandalism	13	22.8	5	16.7	5	27.8
Littering	11	19.3				
Unsecured Premises					4	22.2
All other ASB Incidents	15	26.3	7	23.3	1	5.6
Total	57	100	30	100	18	100

Appendix one continued

ASB Category	Pottinger					
	Ormeau Park		Avoniel Playground		Avoniel Leisure Centre	
	<i>Reported Incidents</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Reported Incidents</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Reported Incidents</i>	<i>%</i>
Rowdy and Nuisance Behaviour	4	14.8			6	46.1
Street Drinking	8	29.6			6	46.1
Criminal Damage & Vandalism			13	50	1	7.7
Littering			2	7.7		
Inappropriate Vehicle Use			2	7.7		
Animal Problems	5	18.5	3	11.5		
Substance Misuse			2	7.7		
All other ASB Incidents	10	37	4	15.4		
Total	27	100	26	100	13	100

ASB Category	Upper Falls					
	Falls Park		City Cemetery		Northlink Playing Fields	
	<i>Reported Incidents</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Reported Incidents</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Reported Incidents</i>	<i>%</i>
Rowdy and Nuisance Behaviour	15	20.5	3	5.5	4	44.4
Street Drinking	12	16.4	3	5.5		
Criminal Damage & Vandalism	19	26	35	63.6		
Inappropriate Vehicle Use	13	17.8				
Trespass			6	10.9		
All other ASB Incidents	14	19.2	8	14.5	5	55.6
Total	73	100	55	100	9	100

Appendix one continued

ASB Category	Victoria					
	<i>Belmont Park</i>		<i>Knocknagoney Linear Park</i>		<i>Alderman Thomas Patton Memorial Park</i>	
	<i>Reported Incidents</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Reported Incidents</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Reported Incidents</i>	<i>%</i>
Rowdy and Nuisance Behaviour					1	33.3
Criminal Damage & Vandalism	3	23.1	1	20	1	33.3
Littering	4	30.8	1	20		
Animal Problems	3	23.1	2	40		
Substance Misuse			1	20		
All other ASB Incidents	3	23.1			1	33.3
Total	13	100	5	100	3	100

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Appendix 2: Citywide responses and interventions

Citywide responses and interventions are implemented proportionately across all of the city's parks. This approach is used to tackle low level, re-occurring ASB incidents (parks with less than 20 incidents) and is delivered using existing and available resources.

- **Reports of "Drinking"**: the Park Wardens will visit the park to establish the extent of the issue and remove drinkers if present during park operational hours (dawn to dusk). Requests will be sought from the PSNI to monitor the site out of hours;
- **Reports of "Groups and gangs gathering"**: Park Wardens will define whether the groups and gangs are of serious concern or simply gathering in the park. If there are serious concerns then Park Wardens will assess if the groups can be engaged and safely dispersed using available resources. If not, then they will refer the issue to the PSNI and monitor the site until it is closed;
- **Reports of "Litter" and "Animal problems"**: Park Wardens will be scheduled to issue fixed penalty notices through enforcement operations during park operational hours of dawn to dusk when resources permit;
- **Reports of "Damage"**: Park Managers and supervisors will record and repair any damage. If the damage persists then specific operations will be developed to tackle the issue with the PSNI;
- **Reports of "Motorcycles"**: All reports of motorcycles in parks are shared with PSNI and if the problem persists then operations will be developed to tackle the issue with the PSNI; and
- **Reports of "Youths causing annoyance"**: Park Managers, Park Wardens and Outreach Managers will work with the community to identify the causes of these reports and find appropriate activities to engage the young people in.

Each individual park has its own unique visitor demographics, unique attributes and unique operational routines, all interventions and responses will be planned and designed accordingly.

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Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Events in Belfast's Parks
Date:	13 March 2014
Reporting Officer:	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Caroline Wilson, Neighbourhood and Development Manager Maria McAleer, Policy and Business Development Officer

1.	Relevant Background Information
1.1	At its meeting in August 2013, the Committee was provided with information on the number and location of events which had been held in Council park over the past five years.
1.2	Members noted that large-scale commercial operators tended to favour a small number of locations, namely Boucher Road Playing Fields and Botanic Gardens.
1.3	At that meeting, Committee agreed that a proposal be developed to establish a number of strategic arts partnerships, in order to build a commercial market for alternative locations across the city.

2.	Key Issues
2.1	<p>Following analysis, there are a number of perceived barriers deterring commercial operators from holding events in parks and open spaces:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity is a primary determinant in deciding where a promoter will stage an event. For example, events such as Tenants Vital require capacity in excess of 45,000 – only available at the Boucher Road Playing Fields. Capacity operates on multiple levels; audience capacity; car parking for audience and participants; accessible /egress capacity; • Neighbourhood: the prospect of having to deal with potential complaints about noise or event disruption issues can be off putting for

	<p>commercial operators;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilities: These can be within the park itself in terms of toilet provision but this can be addressed with additional temporary facilities being provided. Car parking can be more difficult to address at times; • Security: This in relation to perceived safety of audience members arriving/leaving events and potential vandalism to property such as cars; • Financial cost coupled with misconceptions about public accountability i.e. 'bureaucracy' can deter commercial operators from using a council facility. <p>2.3 It is acknowledged that the issues listed above also relate to hosting city centre-based events and that working with the community, the relevant parks/outreach managers have delivered many successful events in neighbourhoods across the city.</p> <p>2.4 Examining best practice from other local authorities (Appendix One), the issues are not insurmountable and the promotion of commercial events in parks across the city may could be supported by the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The development and targeted distribution of a commercial prospectus for distribution to a range of event promoters and organisers positively promoting the use of Belfast Parks for events e.g. corporate prospectus containing details on capacity of all parks and support available. • Delivering large-scale (5,000+) demonstration arts/cultural events as high-quality, family–orientated cultural events across the city (N, S, E and W), showcasing the range of opens spaces to attract commercial operators. • Engagement with Translink to encouraging sustainable modes of transport such as the provision of park and ride facilities • Incentivisation/promotion of particular parks outside of city centre e.g. reduced hire rates or grant-aid to commercial operators. Potential for joint promotion with the City Events Unit of the availability/suitability of parks and open spaces for events that move between major cities. • Develop the criteria for the park grants funds to enable events to be sustainable year on year and more evenly spread across the city e.g. a
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	higher score for working with partners; using under-used parks.
2.5	In line with the commitments outlined within the Investment Programme 2012-2015, it is proposed that further discussions are undertaken with the City Events Unit, Development Department to develop a corporate prospectus to bring forward some of these proposals.
2.6	In advance of this, it is suggested that Committee considers the potential to financially support a number of strategic arts demonstration events for the delivery of high-quality, large-scale (5,000+), family-orientated cultural events across the city. The purpose of this would be to build capacity across a diverse range of sites for these large-scale events, as well as demonstrate to commercial operators the viability of these locations.
2.7	The Council established successful arrangements with the Belfast Festival at Queen's and Mela in 2013. These operate at minimal cost to the public. Both events were well-received by audiences and significantly add to the attractiveness of the Council's parks and open spaces.
2.8	To enable Members' ambition to spread large-scale events across the city, and as a condition of financial support, it is proposed that Mela 2014 is requested to develop a programme of outreach events whereby they deliver 'taster' events in 3 other parts of the city. Transport would be made available to these parts of the city to allow people to travel to Botanic Gardens for the main event in August at no cost. Similarly, it is proposed that officers engage with the Belfast Festival at Queen's to encourage them to consider using an alternative venue to Botanic Gardens.
2.9	As part of an agreement with the two groups, a series of targets for participation, outreach and sponsorship would be set. The evaluation of these events will be used to inform the development of a corporate prospectus for commercial operators. It is anticipated that both of these initiatives will contribute to build a commercial market for alternative locations across the city.

3.	Resource Implications
	<p><u>Financial</u> A fund of £40,000 has been provided for large-scale cultural events within revenue budgets for 2014/15</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u> There may be overtime required by staff to assist with the management of the proposed events which would be met by the Council.</p>

	<p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u></p> <p>The Legal Agreement will include a Bond Of Reinstatement (£1000) to ensure minimal impact on Council property, provided by the partner organisations</p>
4.	Equality Implications
	The Parks Events policy was previously screened and no differential equality impacts were identified.
5.	Recommendations
	<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authorise officers to initiate discussions with Mela 2014 (Artsekta) and the Belfast Festival at Queen's to agree the conditions of financial support for 2014, as outlined above • Agree to support Mela 2014 (Artsekta) and the Belfast Festival at Queen's up to £20,000 each, subject to conditions agreed • Agree to receive a future report on a 'corporate prospectus' for parks and opens spaces.
6.	Decision Tracking
	None
7.	Key to Abbreviations
	None
8.	Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 – Research summary

Appendix 1

Local Authority Parks Events Policy and Practice – Research Summary Table

Local authority	Parks events policy – key points
Hackney Council	<p>Hackney Council based acknowledges the value and benefit which a diverse and well-designed events programme in Parks and Green Spaces can bring to the Hackney community. This policy is provided to assist the decision making process behind building a sustainable and varied programme of events for Hackney residents.</p> <p>The policy aims to guide the number, size and nature of events which happen in each green space in the council area. It also takes into consideration the Council aiming to balance the interest of residents and businesses and allow it to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that a number of events are sustainable and feature as annual events, thus contributing to the post- Olympic Games legacy. • Develop events that support strategic priorities and minimise disruption to residents through best practice events management. • Encourage a diverse range of community and commercial events which have wide appeal for the community as well as tourists and visitors.
Dublin City Council	<p>Dublin City Council want events to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animate the city. • Bring economic benefits to the city. • Grow tourist and local visitor numbers. <p>They have a dedicated events and tourism promotion unit responsible for granting approval for events and/or activities taking place in the public realm. They also facilitate and partner events, provide an advisory role and liaison service for events and initiate events. This unit deal with events that except an audience of less than 5,000 people.</p>
Haringey Council	<p>Haringey council have a proposed a new policy for 2014 on the use of Finsbury Park, London that policy include consideration of limited use of that park for commercial concerts/events. It highlights that in a large park it may be possible to ensure all other usage of the park when an event is taking place.</p> <p>Furthermore, it recommends that income from events can fund investment in the borough's parks. Supporting the principles of encouragement of community led events alongside the approval of commercial /concert events in local parks.</p>

Westminster Council	<p>Westminster Council have special events team who provide detailed information and advisory search for those interested in holding events in a range of their parks. They also provide a significant amount of information on line which supports and informs those commercial operators who want to hold events including;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Events planning and management information.• Local parking and transport arrangements.• A detailed map of each park and the locality.• An events location meeting with a council officer who helps those considering events and management.• Regulatory information including information on planning and health and safety.• Support and advice with regards to the capacity at each park.
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Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	CTC Partnership – review
Date:	13 March 2014
Reporting Officer:	Andrew Hassard, Director Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Caroline Wilson, Neighbourhood and Development Manager Cormac McCann, Leisure Development Manager

1.	Relevant Background Information
	<p>As the UK's national cycling charity, CTC (Cyclists Touring Club Charitable Trust) works to protect and promote cycling to create a healthier, cleaner world.</p> <p>In March 2010, the Parks and Leisure Committee approved the provision of office space for a Cycling Development Officer, funded by CTC and agreed to provide in-kind support for a Cycling Development Officer. The purpose of the partnership was to introduce people to leisure and utility cycling for the associated health, wellbeing and environmental benefits and use cycling to engage disadvantaged, hard to reach and under-represented groups.</p> <p>Since then, the partnership has delivered the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 4,000 young people engaged in Belfast through Bike Club, a community focused project called Bike Club (target beneficiary range 10 – 20 years) in partnership with the ASDA Foundation and the youth charity organizations UK Youth and ContinYou. • Worked with over 30 groups, including West Belfast Area Youth Project; Glencairn Youth Initiative; Challenge for Youth Bike Club; and Park School and Education Resource Centre • Demonstration of a delivery model proven to encourage more people to cycle within deprived areas and hard to reach groups across the city which has been adopted by other Councils in the region • Operated a small grants scheme £52,000 within Belfast City Council

area which funded 26 Bike Clubs to buy bicycles and train staff.

- 60 Bike Club Leaders and Volunteers trained to run the 26 clubs. The Bike Club Development Officer (BCDO) facilitated capacity building and cycle leader network.
- Created employment opportunities resulting in the first CTC National Standard and Mountain Biking trainers in N.Ireland
- Direct and advisory support for a range of initiatives including annual Belfast Bike Week, programming support on Barnett's Mountain Bike Trails, development of Active Communities cycling work programmes, delivery and legacy programmes for Giro d'Italia, specialist advice on the Belfast Cycle Hire scheme, development support for club and community cycle groups.
- Development and delivery of Active Belfast active travel strategy and action plans.
- 400 young people engaged in the first 4 months of delivery by the Shankill Area Project and Glencairn Youth Initiative Bike Clubs, providing up to 15 hrs of mountain bike activities per week.

The impact of these Bike Club initiatives include:

- Increased learning opportunities for young people beyond school day
- Increased levels of physical activity
- Identification and creation of instructor/trainers to deliver road and mountain bike training to instructors locally
- New partnerships created with training providers: Belfast Activity Centre and Tricycle
- Bike Club and Leader network established
- Promotion of cycling to school

As one small example, one beneficiary reported that her son, who was in foster care, had Asperger's syndrome. She was anxious about him cycling around the city. However, once she knew he was training to do Bikeability, she was happy for him to continue. This led to him being confident enough to cycle independently from his foster home to regularly visit his mother.

The Active Belfast project work delivered on 2 core themes: Active Travel and Active Workplaces. The outputs from this work include:

- 178 staff trained at 3 large public sector employers to cycle on city roads using the national standards for cycle training, tackling real or perceived fears of cycling on city roads
- 249 staff from 23 employers completed an online cycle challenge to encouraged to cycle for more journeys more often.
- 72 employees received bike maintenance training to help them deal with

basic repairs whilst commuting.

2.	Key Issues
	<p>Given the impact and success of the project to date, CTC would like to continue the existing partnership with Belfast City Council until the end of March 2015.</p> <p>It is a key time to focus on the progression of cycling development in Belfast and a continued partnership would allow the Council to maximise the impact of a number of major cycling developments, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Belfast's annual bike week • Giro D'Italia Big Start 2014 • Public Bike Hire scheme • Barnett's and Mary Peter's Mountain Bike Trails. <p>Future developments</p> <p>There is potential to develop Community Cycle Clubs, which use cycling to tackle health, social and economic inequalities. The community cycle clubs, improve access to bikes for those without, skills training, leader capacity building and pathways to employment.</p> <p>In addition, the following objectives will be integrated into future work programmes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance existing Bike Clubs through continued development and wider community engagement. • Develop Bike Clubs as a community wide resource in Council Parks • Target the creation of Community Bike Clubs at Interface areas in Belfast • Develop pathways to employment for trained volunteers and leaders • Develop an inclusive cycling resource in Belfast Parks, serving people with limited mobility. • Provide access to bikes coaching and led rides for the public at Barnett's and Mary Peter's Mountain Biking Trails. <p>Potential funding</p> <p>The funding for the Cycling Development Officer ends in May 2014.</p> <p>It is anticipated that funding will be available under the Active Belfast Partnership and potentially Sport NI. Similarly, the Giro D'Italia legacy programme is being developed by DCAL. It is likely that this will include community engagement activities around the Belfast Cycle Hire scheme, e.g. on road cycle training to encourage active travel within the city centre.</p>

	<p>DRD has recently launched a Cycling Unit and there are plans to partner on active travel and active workplace revenue-based initiatives.</p> <p>Officers are actively pursuing a number of funding bids to continue the partnership arrangement and are currently engaged with Sport NI, OFMDFM and other agencies to secure funding for the next period.</p>
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3.	Resource Implications
	<p><u>Financial</u> Core costs for the Cycling Development Officer are £34,000, to be secured from external funding. In-kind support from the Council will include: office space; access to computer and office equipment; and use of communications and promotional channels to disseminate information.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u> The Cycling Development Officer will be located within the Leisure Development Unit.</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u> None.</p>

4.	Equality Implications
	No equality or good relations impacts have been identified.

5.	Recommendations
	Committee is asked to agree to the continuation of the partnership arrangements with CTC, subject to external funding being secured.

6.	Decision Tracking
	April 2015 – Leisure Development Manager to provide annual review report

7.	Key to Abbreviations
	<p>CTC – Cyclist Touring Club DCAL – Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure DRD – Department of Regional Development NITB – Northern Ireland Tourist Board</p>

8.	Documents Attached
	None



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Development of Land at Slievegallion Drive
Date:	13 March 2014
Reporting Officer:	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Rose Crozier, Assistant Director of Parks and Leisure

1.	Relevant Background Information
	<p>In June 2013 Committee considered a request from De La Salle School for the development of land at Slievegallion Drive.</p> <p>The school approached the Council with a proposal for the redevelopment of the Council's land at Slievegallion Drive to provide a school/community facility potentially comprising a full size GAA pitch, a smaller training pitch and a pavilion/small stand for use by the school and its three feeder primary schools during school hours and by the local community out of school hours.</p> <p>The school indicated that they were seeking a long lease (25-50 years) for the land at Slievegallion Drive from the Council in order to secure the funding required for their proposals.</p> <p>Committee agreed to officers progressing discussions with De La Salle school with a view to exploring the most appropriate arrangement (including leasing options) for the redevelopment of the informal open space at Slievegallion Drive, with a further report to be brought to Committee. Discussions were to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details of the schools business model in terms of costs and income producing capacity • Public access arrangements • Partnership or leasing arrangements to ensure ongoing wider community use

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sources of funding to redevelop the site. <p>The site does not form part of the Pitches Strategy and there is currently no identified funding in the Capital Programme for the development of this land.</p>
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2.	Key Issues
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Officers have engaged with De La Salle School to discuss their proposal and arrangements for use of the land. This has not progressed to the point where officers can report on the business model, access arrangements, leasing arrangements and sources of funding. ▪ De La Salle School undertook the community consultation and engagement for the project. ▪ Following the initial engagement with residents, proposals were changed by the school and further consultation was then undertaken by them. ▪ Local residents have approached the Council with concerns about the proposed development and the level of consultation to date. ▪ Residents were concerned that a Planning application has been submitted for the development of the site. ▪ Residents raised particular concerns about why the Council, as land owner, has not consulted the local community about the use of the land. ▪ Concerns were raised about the nature and extent of the consultation with a view that it was not inclusive of all residents and that feedback on issues raised has not been provided by the school. ▪ Residents were concerned about the loss of amenity as this is the only open space available to them in a densely built up area. ▪ Residents have formed a Residents Group in October 2013 around the issue. ▪ Residents were seeking assurance from Council that formal consultation would take place with the local community about the use of the land.

3.	Resource Implications
	<p><u>Financial</u> No financial implications at this stage.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u> None</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u></p>

	None at this stage.
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4.	Equality Implications
	None

5.	Recommendations
	Members are asked to consider the request by residents representing the Slievegallion/Glassmullan area that Council undertakes a consultation with the local community about the use of the land at Slievegallion Park.

6.	Decision Tracking
	Assistant Director of Parks and Leisure

7.	Key to Abbreviations
	GAA – Gaelic Athletic Association

8.	Documents Attached
	None

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Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee.
Subject:	Acquisition of land at Black's Road
Date:	13 March 2014
Reporting Officer:	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure, 3400
Contact Officer:	Paul Barr, Landscape & Planning Development Manager, 3780 Ruth McClean, Estates Surveyor, 3495

1	Relevant Background Information
1.1	Council agreed at its meeting in July 2013 to acquire land at Blacks Road for the purposes of developing a park in accordance with the terms set out in the Parks & Leisure report of 13 June 2013. The Parks & Leisure report is attached at appendix 1.
1.2	The site at Blacks Road is shown on the map appended to the Parks & Leisure report. It extends to approximately 4.49 acres and comprises derelict land which has been identified as an area of anti-social behaviour. There is a proposal by Groundwork NI to transform the site into a park for the use of the local community. The park is currently within the boundary of Lisburn City Council but will fall into Belfast City Council revised boundary post local government reform in 2015.
1.3	Members will recall that the site is owned in part by DoE NIEA and in part by DRD Roads service. The DoE NIEA site was to be transferred at nil cost, and DRD Roads site to be transferred at market value, to be determined by LPS.
1.4	Prior to acquiring, a number of planning and title issues were to be resolved and terms were to be agreed with LPS and reported back to committee for approval.
1.5	As it relates to an acquisition of land, the terms will also require to be reported to Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.

2	Key Issues
2.1	It was previously intended to acquire the sites in two separate lots however it is

	<p>now considered that it is more straightforward for DRD Roads to transfer their site to DoE NIEA. The Council will acquire the assembled site in a single lot from NIEA. NIEA has ministerial approval the whole site to the Council at nil value.</p>
2.2	<p>The deadline for construction of the park within the timeframe for 'Sharing our Space' Peace III funding has been extended to December 2014. Our investigations in advance of acquisition are largely complete however there is a complex title, which Legal Services is investigating.</p>
2.3	<p>Planning permission was granted in February 2014. Groundwork NI requires to begin construction as soon as possible, in order to meet the funding deadline of December 2014.</p>
2.4	<p>It is proposed that NIEA grants a temporary licence to Groundwork NI to undertake the construction once the transfer of the DRD Roads site to NIEA completes. Following the construction works, the Council will acquire the assembled site from NIEA, estimated to be January 2015 (just a few months in advance of falling within the Council boundary). This approach allows Groundwork NI to undertake the works within the timeframe while our title investigations proceed.</p>
2.5	<p>In order to draw down the funding, Groundwork NI is required to enter a Partnership Agreement with NIEA. As part of this, NIEA requires to confirm that maintenance arrangements are in place for the park. In view of this it is proposed that Heads of Terms for the acquisition be entered now with NIEA, which will include an assurance on maintenance. NIEA are prepared to accept Heads of Terms on a 'subject to satisfactory title' basis.</p>

3	Resource Implications
3.1	<p><u>Financial</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No acquisition cost would be payable to DoE NIEA for the acquisition of the assembled site. • The maintenance and operational cost of the park is estimated to be in the region of £31,000 per annum. This amount is not currently budgeted for Area South West and would need to be taken into account in the next budgeting round. • NIEA has agreed to fund or treat Japanese knotweed, however this is not substantial, estimated to be in the region of £100 per annum.
3.2	<p><u>Human Resources</u></p> <p>Continued resource from Estates and Legal Services is required to complete the acquisition. Thereafter Parks and Leisure staff resource will be required for ongoing management.</p>
3.3	<p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u></p> <p>A 4.49 acre site will be added to the Council's assets. The site will be held by Parks and Leisure.</p>

Recommendations	
4.1	<p>Committee is recommended to approve the acquisition as outlined above on the basis that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DRD Roads Service transfers its site to DoE NIEA who then permit Groundwork NI access to the site by a temporary licence for carrying out the works; • The Council and DoE NIEA enter Heads of Terms to: agree to the acquisition on completion of the works; give assurance on maintenance; and on other such terms as agreed by the Estates Manager and Head of Legal Services. • On completion of the works, the Council acquire the site (estimated to be January 2015) at nil cost, subject to satisfactory title.

5	Key to Abbreviations
<p>NIEA – Northern Ireland Environment Agency DoE – Department of the Environment DRD – Department of Regional Development LPS – Land and Property Services</p>	

6	Documents Attached
<p>Appendix 1 – Parks & Leisure report of 13 June 2013</p>	

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Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee.
Subject:	Acquisition of land at Blacks Road
Date:	13 June 2013
Reporting Officer:	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure, 3400
Contact Officer:	Stephen Walker, Principal Parks and Cemeteries Development Manager, 3510 Cathy Reynolds, Estates Manager, 3493

1	Relevant Background Information
1.1	DOE NIEA and DRD Roads Service own adjoining sites at Blacks Road which together extend to approximately 4.49 acres (shown on the attached map at Appendix 1). The site comprises derelict land and has been identified as an area of anti-social behaviour. The majority of the site is owned by NIEA, with Roads Service owning a smaller portion which includes the frontage onto Blacks Road.
1.2	At present, the area is within Lisburn City Council area however it is adjacent to Belfast City Council's boundary, and will fall into Belfast City Council revised boundary post local government reform in 2015.
1.3	Lisburn City Council agreed at a public meeting in 2008 to take the lead in appointing a suitably qualified consultant to undertake landscape proposals for the redevelopment of the site, through consultation with the local community and other key stakeholders. Groundwork NI was commissioned who undertook community engagement and has drawn up proposals to turn this disused site into a park for the use of the local community (shown on the plan attached at Appendix 2). Proposals include new secure fencing around the site, visitor parking, wildflower meadow, paved seating area, grassed recreation area and way finding signage.
1.4	It is considered that neither NIEA nor Roads Service would be the suitable organisation to operate and maintain the proposed park and it is believed that it would be better to be Council operated. Belfast City Council has been approached to acquire and manage the site, given that it will shortly fall into its administrative area.

2	Key Issues
2.1	Groundwork NI has been successful in securing 'Sharing our Space' Peace III funding, comprising £315,000 within part of a wider £3.1 million package for various sites. Time constraints attached to the funding require the works to be undertaken by March 2014. It is proposed that after this date, the Council become responsible for ongoing maintenance.
2.2	Following discussions with Roads Service, we understand that transfer of their parcel could not occur in sufficient time to allow the proposal to be undertaken within the funding deadline, due to their requirements to undertake a trawl of the land amongst all public sector bodies in line with their land disposal requirements. Roads Service advises that they could grant a licence for works in order to facilitate works within the funding timescale. This would be on condition that the Council undertakes to acquire the site on completion of works, so that Roads Service is not left with a new park to manage and maintain.
2.3	Roads Service has indicated that they would transfer their site to the Council at market value, to be determined by LPS. Acquisition of the site would be conditional on agreeing satisfactory terms with LPS. It should further be subject to any necessary planning consent being in place and satisfactory title being held.
2.4	NIEA is seeking DFP approval to offer to transfer their parcel at nil cost to the Council. They advise that a transfer can be expedited through provisions in the Nature Conservation & Amenity Lands (NI) Order 1985. An existing access right to Colin Glen Golf Club would be reserved.
2.5	To allow Groundwork NI to proceed as soon as possible and work within the funding timeline, either Groundwork or their contractor would enter a temporary licence with NIEA, with the Council agreeing to acquire the site after completion of works. Acquisition by the Council should be subject to any necessary planning consent being in place and satisfactory title being held and subject to agreeing terms with LPS for the acquisition of the adjoining Roads Service site.
2.6	Members should note that the site contains Japanese knotweed, which there is a legal duty for landowners to manage. Groundwork NI proposes to treat Japanese knotweed this Summer but as their involvement in the site would come to an end in March 2014, further treatment would become the responsibility of the Council.
3	Resource Implications
3.1	<p data-bbox="290 1680 418 1711"><u>Financial</u></p> <ul data-bbox="347 1747 1362 2107" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="347 1747 999 1778">• No acquisition cost would be payable to NIEA. <li data-bbox="347 1818 1362 1953">• Roads Service has indicated that there would be a cost for licence and transfer of their land, with the value to be determined with LPS. The cost is not yet known however the area of land concerned is relatively small and its current use is open space. <li data-bbox="347 1993 1362 2107">• The maintenance and operational cost of the park is estimated to be in the region of £31,000. This amount is not currently budgeted for Area South West and would need to be taken into account in the next budgeting round.

3.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Treatment of Japanese knotweed is estimated to be in the region of £100 per annum. Approximately half of the Japanese knotweed identified lies within the Roads Service site. It may be possible to offset the cost of treatment on this part of the site by seeking a reduction in the land price, which is common practice for abnormal costs. <p><u>Human Resources</u></p> <p>Resource from Estates and Legal Services is required to complete the acquisition. Thereafter Parks and Leisure staff resource will be required for ongoing management.</p>
3.3	<p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u></p> <p>A 4.49 acre site will be added to the Council's assets. The site will be held by Parks and Leisure.</p>
4	Equality and Good Relations Considerations
4.1	Equality implications will be considered if the proposal progresses.
5	Recommendations
5.1	<p>Committee is recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To approve in principle the acquisition of the Roads Service land after completion of works, subject to satisfactory outcome of investigations and subject to agreeing terms with LPS. Proposed terms will be reported back to Committee for approval at a later date. To approve in principle the acquisition of the NIEA land at nil cost, after completion of works and subject to satisfactory outcome of investigations and subject to agreeing terms for the acquisition of the adjoining Roads Service site.
6	Key to Abbreviations
	<p>NIEA – Northern Ireland Environment Agency DOE – Department of the Environment DRD – Department of Regional Development DFP – Department of Finance and Personnel LPS – Land and Property Services</p>
7	Documents Attached
	<p>Appendix 1 – Map to show Blacks Road site Appendix 2 – Plan to show Groundwork NI's Park proposal</p>



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Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee.
Subject:	Flooding at Properties Adjacent to Cherryvale Playing Fields
Date:	13 March 2014
Reporting Officer:	Rose Crozier, Assistant Director of Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Stephen Walker, Departmental Portfolio Programme Manager

1	Relevant Background Information
	<p>The purpose of this report is to bring to the attention of the Committee a recent incident at properties in Knockeden Park adjacent to Cherryvale Playing Fields which involved an urgent request for sandbags.</p> <p>It was noted that the request by a resident had indicated that the flooding has been caused as a result of the runoff from Cherryvale Playing Fields. This could potentially impact on properties numbered 30 – 100 which is a distance of approximately 320m.</p> <p>At this time it is not clear as to the exact cause, surveys are currently underway and a further report will be brought back to Committee in due course with recommendations on any necessary actions to remedy the situation.</p>

2	Key Issues
	<p>The Committee is asked to note the following points:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is a differential level between the playing fields and the private gardens at Knockeden Park; 2. There is an outlet pipe, which, as far as we can establish, is working; 3. There is a possibility that the water from the pitches is not being fed into the outlet pipe; 4. Further investigation is needed to establish whether there is a need for additional drainage to be installed to ensure that the rainwater is fed into the outlet pipe; 5. The installation of additional drainage for a length of approximately 320m, if necessary, would be costly.

3	Resource Implications
	Financial Implications

	<p>There are no additional costs at this time.</p> <p>Human Resources Implications</p> <p>There are no additional human resource implications at this time.</p>
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4	Equality and Good Relations Considerations
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4.1	There are no equality implications
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5	Recommendations
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5.1	The Committee is asked to note the report.
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6	Decision Tracking
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An update report will be brought to Committee at a future date.	
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7	Key to Abbreviations
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8	Documents Attached
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Appendix A – Photograph of flooding at Knockeden Park	
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Appendix A – Photographs of flooding







Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Northern Ireland Commonwealth Games Council
Date:	13 March 2014
Reporting Officer:	Andrew Hassard, Director Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Cormac McCann, Leisure Development Manager

1.	Relevant Background Information
	<p>Council has received a request from the Northern Ireland Commonwealth Games Council (NICGC) for financial support for the 20th Commonwealth Games which are due to take place in Glasgow, Scotland from 23rd July to 3rd August 2014.</p> <p>Over seventy nations, with 6,500 athletes and officials, are participating in 17 sports with an integrated programme for a range of para-athletes. This makes the event second only to the Olympic Games in importance.</p> <p>Northern Ireland has taken part in every occurrence of the Commonwealth Games except 1950 and Northern Ireland's success is well known, finishing 14th in the medal table in India 2010. Four of the medallists were from Belfast.</p> <p>The Commonwealth Games provides the only opportunity for Northern Ireland athletes to compete at the international level in a multi-sport event.</p> <p>Previously the Client Services committees, of December 2001 and March 2005, provided £20,000 to the Manchester 2002 team and £25,000 to the Melbourne 2006 team.</p> <p>The Parks and Leisure committee of March 2010 approved £25,000 to the Delhi 2010 team. This was a significant contribution to the overall cost of £173,000 and contributed to the effective preparation and delivery of the largest medal haul in 20 years.</p>

2.	Key Issues
	<p>The Commonwealth Games Council is a voluntary organisation and the Council's financial contribution would help ensure that all Northern Ireland athletes have the opportunity to compete at the highest level.</p> <p>Should the committee be minded to make a contribution to the Commonwealth Games Council, it would be made under Section 37 of the Local Government Finance Act (Northern Ireland) 2011. This permits the Council to make any payment for any purpose which in its opinion is in the interest of and will bring direct benefit to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the council; b) the district or any part of the district; or c) the inhabitants of its district or any part of its district. <p>Supporting the NICGC would contribute to the Council's Key Theme of 'People, Communities and Neighbourhoods' and 'Economy'. The Commonwealth Games are a high profile event and allow the Parks and Leisure Department to further develop and strengthen its role in promoting physical activity and support health and wellbeing objectives.</p> <p>Given the reduction in the Departments budget as part of the rates setting process over the 2014/15 year, it is proposed to make a contribution of £5,000 which is a reduction from previous years.</p>

3.	Resource Implications
	<p><u>Financial</u> The proposed £5,000 can be accommodated within the 2013/14 Section 115 budget.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u> There are no human resource implications.</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u> None.</p>

4.	Equality Implications
	There are no equality implications arising from this report.

5.	Recommendations
	The Committee is asked to agree to make a contribution of £5,000 to the Commonwealth Games Council and resolve that the expenditure be

	approved under Section 37 of the Local Government Finance Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 it being the opinion of the Committee that the expenditure would bring direct benefits to the council and the inhabitants of the district and that the direct benefits would be commensurate with the payments made.
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6.	Decision Tracking
	Responsible Officer: Leisure Development Manager. Actions to be completed by April 2014

7.	Key to Abbreviations
	NICGC – Northern Ireland Commonwealth Games Council.

8.	Documents Attached
	None.

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Belfast City Council

Report to: Parks and Leisure Committee

Subject: **World War I Commonwealth War Graves Centenary Event and Lagan Village Somme Society Heritage Lottery Award**

Date: 13 March 2014

Reporting Officer: Rose Crozier, Assistant Director, Parks and Leisure

Contact Officer: Fiona Holdsworth, Principle Parks and Cemeteries Service Manager

1. Relevant Background Information

Lagan Village Somme Society (LVSS) has been awarded £7,800 from Heritage Lottery, First World War: the Then and Now programme which provides grants of between £3,000 and £10,000 to help groups and communities explore their First World War heritage. LVSS is one of five projects to shared £42,000. LVSS will research the lives and stories of the 77 war dead buried in Dundonald Cemetery (Forgotten Men Of Dundonald Cemetery) and share their stories with the wider community through the production of a booklet and exhibition. LVSS over the next few months will tend and maintain the First World War graves with a team of volunteers, followed by the laying of wreaths event.

LVSS was formed in 2010, the aims of the Society are to preserve and protect the history and culture, focusing on the sacrifices made by the 36th Ulster Division during the Great War. LVSS will also remember the sacrifices made by service men and woman from across the British Empire that have fought in the Great War and elsewhere.

Dundonald Cemetery opened in 1905 and covers 45 acres which contains war graves from both wars. There are 165 identified casualties buried in Dundonald Cemetery with 77 Commonwealth burials of the 1914 to 1918 War and 88 of the 1939 to 1945 War. The First World War burials are scattered throughout the cemetery. After the war a Cross of Sacrifice was erected on the crest of the hill facing the entrance, in honour of the men

	<p>buried there. The Second World War graves are also in various parts of the cemetery. Some are marked by permanent private memorials but most of them have headstones of the traditional Commission design.</p> <p>During the First World War Belfast was a port of embarkation and auxiliary patrol base also housed within the sanctuary of Belfast was a war hospital that had the capacity of coping with 500 casualties. The Second World War saw Belfast as a naval base of the western approaches command, fighter headquarters for the defence of the naval anchorages in Northern Ireland and again a hospital centre. There was a Royal Air Force station at the airport, Victoria Barracks and Belfast was the headquarters of the Northern Ireland district prisoner of war camp located at Holywood and a prisoner of war military hospital at Orangefield.</p>
2.	Key Issues
	<p>The Chairman of LVSS has successfully received funding from Heritage Lottery to refurbish World War I Graves, 77 in Dundonald Cemetery and 2 in Knock Cemetery. Commonwealth War Graves Commission has given their permission to restore the graves and it is anticipated that the work will be completed by July 2014.</p> <p>To celebrate this achievement in receiving funding and the refurbishment of 79 war graves LVSS have requested a launch event in Dundonald Cemetery. Date and time for this event is still to be confirmed but it is anticipated that a small delegation of 12 representatives and local politicians will attend this event.</p> <p>To commemorate the start of World War I, LVSS have requested the use of Dundonald Cemetery to conduct a Drum Head Remembrance Service (on the battlefield a drum would have been used as an altar) on Sunday 3 August 2014 between 14.30pm and 15.30pm. It is anticipated that 200 participants will attend this service including politicians, Somme Societies, British Legions along with relatives of the war dead.</p> <p>LVSS and their various contractors will be reminded that Dundonald is still a working cemetery and that their work scheduled will have to take into consideration ongoing burials. Similarly the launch event will also need to be planned so as not to infringe on any funerals and to be held in a respectful manner.</p> <p>The event organisers will be required to ensure that all health and safety requirements are met to the council's satisfaction and subject to further conditions:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That there are no displays of paramilitary emblems or regalia. • That the council's events policy is fully complied with. • Appropriate working methods are applied on the historical war graves. • Agree appropriate grave restoration and events schedule.

3.	Resource Implications
	<p><u>Financial</u> There are no financial contributions requested at this stage.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u> Council officers will liaise with the organisers in relation to the proposed works and events.</p> <p><u>Assets</u> The restoration work should enhance the First World War graves.</p>
4.	Equality Implications
	This event would have positive implications in terms of the promotion of equality and good relations, if undertaken in an inclusive manner.
5.	Recommendations
	<p>Members are asked to accede to the request for the proposed works and the events subject to the Society satisfying the terms to be agreed by the Director of Parks & Leisure and on condition that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The event and works organisers resolve all operational and other issues to the Council's satisfaction 2. Any appropriate legal agreements are authorised by the Town Solicitor 3. The Society meets all the statutory requirements including Health and Safety and licensing. 4. Sensitivities and respect for burials and graves are observed.
6.	Decision Tracking
	Sharon Mc Cloy, Cemeteries & Crematorium Manager and Lynne McCreery, Community Parks Outreach Manager will meet the Society in March 2014.
7.	Key to Abbreviations
	LVSS - Lagan Village Somme Society
8.	Documents Attached
	None

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Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject	Improvement works to the War Graves in City Cemetery by the War Graves Commission
Date:	13 March 2014
Reporting Officer:	Rose Crozier, Assistant Director of Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Ricky Rice, City Parks Manager.

1.	Relevant Background Information
	<p>Belfast City Council City Cemetery currently maintains 2 World War grave areas as part of their routine maintenance of the 100 acre City Cemetery. The maintenance involves regular grass cutting, strimming and/or weed spraying.</p> <p>The war graves were removed from the cemetery in the 1970s due to vandalism. During the 1990s, after full consultation with local representatives, the war graves were returned to the City Cemetery by the War Graves Commission and it is pleasing to note that no damage has since been caused to the graves.</p> <p>Parks and Leisure Officers have been approached by representatives of the War Graves Commission who have requested permission to introduce small colourful horticultural plants to be planted along the edge of the war graves of the one of the plots. See appendix 1 for a photograph of existing war graves area.</p> <p>Typical plants that will be used will include Roses, Lavender shrubs and small growing herbaceous plants. The plants will be aesthetically pleasing, colourful and similar to other war graves which the War Graves Commission maintains.</p>

2.	Key Issues
	<p>It is anticipated this introduction of attractive plants will increase overall interest and improve tourism of the Cemetery and indeed improve the aesthetic look of the Cemetery. The concept links in with the overall City Cemetery and Falls Park Master plan which aims to improve both sites with a view to increase tourism to the area.</p> <p>It has been proposed the War Graves Commission directly finance and maintain</p>

	the War Graves area subject to an appropriate legal agreement between Belfast City Council and the War Graves Commission NI. The War Graves Commission has requested that if the first pilot of colourful planting is favourably received they would be granted permission to extend the pilot to include the other war graves plot in approximately 1 year.
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3.	Resource Implications
	<p><u>Financial</u> The War Graves Commission will finance and be responsible for the landscape and maintenance works under the direction of the Parks Operational Manager. There are no financial implications for Belfast City Council.</p> <p><u>Human Resources Issues</u> There are no Human Resources issues other than Officer time.</p>

4.	Equality Implications
	There are no equality issues.

5.	Recommendations
	It is recommended Committee approve the proposal of the War Graves Commission to landscape and maintain the war graves plot within the City Cemetery, subject to an appropriate legal agreement, and if the pilot is successfully received then permission be granted to landscape and maintain the second war graves plot in a similar manner with the legal agreement amended as appropriate..

6.	Decision Tracking
	Ricky Rice, City Parks Manager.

7.	Key to Abbreviations
	None

8.	Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 Photograph of War Graves in City Cemetery.



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Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	World War I Commemorative Events
Date:	13 March 2014
Reporting Officer:	Andrew Hassard, Director Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Caroline Wilson, Neighbourhood and Development Manager

1.	Relevant Background Information
	<p>At its meeting on 17th October 2011, the Historic Centenaries Working Group agreed that a set of principles should be used in key historic events to be marked during the period 2012-2022. These are attached as an appendix.</p> <p>These principles were agreed by the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee at its meeting on 21st October 2011 and adopted by the Council on 1st November 2011.</p>

2.	Key Issues
	<p>When the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee agreed these principles, they noted that the terms “provide and/or support” include the provision of direct funding, or the use of facilities, premises or public spaces owned or run by the Council, so similarly, applied across the Council.</p> <p>Community Parks Outreach Managers have indicated that a number of local groups are seeking to hold WW1 commemorative events in local Council parks. These events are in the early stages of development.</p> <p>The current Events policy, agreed by P&L Committee in January 2010, states that the following types of event application would be brought to Committee for consideration and approval:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – those that will last for more that 3 days (does not include set up or take down periods); – those that will require the closure of all or a substantial proportion of the facility;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – those that will have alcohol on sale at the event; and – those that could be deemed to be controversial. <p>It is proposed that, subject to the events fulfilling the principles agreed by Council, that the Director is able to approve the use of Council facilities for the purposes of commemorative events.</p> <p>Parks outreach and operational staff will work with community groups to ensure that the events fulfil the principles as set out.</p>
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3.	Resource Implications
	<p><u>Financial</u> To be covered by existing outreach expenditure within revenue budgets.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u> None</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u> Normal booking requirements in relation to the use of Council parks and open spaces will apply.</p>

4.	Equality Implications
	None – both the Decade of Centenaries programme (including the principles) and the Events policy have been screened out.

5.	Recommendations
	Committee is asked to agree that the Director is granted delegated authority to facilitate the organisation of local, community events to be held in Council facilities to commemorate World War One.

6.	Decision Tracking
	Responsible Officer: Neighbourhood and Development Manager Actions to be completed by December 2014

7.	Key to Abbreviations
	WW1 – World War One

8.	Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 - Principles for the Decade of Centenaries

Appendix 1

Principles to be used in selection of events to be marked in the Decade of Centenaries 2012-2022

(Approved by the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee 21 October, 2011; adopted by Council on 1 November, 2011)

The decade in question marks a number of particularly significant dates that have shaped the history of Northern Ireland and Ireland and therefore our own identities and cultures – see list previously circulated.

The marking of these events provides the Council with an excellent opportunity to broaden our understanding of the past and our respect for the complexity of our shared history.

As a shared city in the twenty-first century, we should be able to deal with difference in a positive and constructive manner, demonstrating openness on the basis of shared civic values within a democracy and a mature respect for cultural diversity within our heritage.

These principles are suggested in draft only, for initial discussion, based on reports previously submitted and comments made by the Working Group:

- Events supported by the Council should provide opportunities to include a range of different perspectives and ideologies, rather than a single viewpoint, aiming to increase understanding and appreciation of other perspectives and identities
- They should be based on historic accuracy and robust academic expertise – engagement with universities, museums, libraries, PRONI etc is essential to ensure this evidence base
- The interpretation of events should be in a broad historical context and understanding of the national and European setting of the time
- The Council should develop strong links with other institutions – i.e. museums, libraries, PRONI and other relevant organisations, to ensure that there is no duplication and that events and programmes are complementary
- We will provide/support a range of different types of events – from lectures, discussions, debates to films, drama, activities that attract schools and children/families etc – so that events can not only be educational but participative, creative and enjoyable
- We will provide/support events and activities that are not exclusive^[1] but are welcoming to all sections of our increasingly diverse community in Belfast.

This set of principles, if agreed, should be applied corporately to any key anniversaries being marked by the Council.

^[1] The Council, committed both to the promotion of equality of opportunity and good relations in the City, will not support events or activities that could be deemed to be triumphalist, to deepen or harden existing divisions, or belittle or demonise other groups. (Adapted from the Irish School of Ecumenics, *Moving Beyond Sectarianism* research)

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Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Holi One Event – Big Cat Group.
Date:	13 March 2014
Reporting Officer:	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Brian McKinley, Events Officer.

1.	Relevant Background Information
	<p>The Director has been approached by a commercial company, Big Cat Group, to request the use of one of our parks to stage a “Holi One” event, as part of a proposed 17 city tour of the UK and Ireland in 2014.</p> <p>Following consultation between the events organiser, City Park Managers and Officers from Building Control, Ormeau Park was identified as a possible location to stage this proposed event.</p> <p>The proposed Holi One is a one day festival of colour and dancing. It is an over 18’s only event with a site capacity of 5,000. The event is inspired by the Hindu Holi festival and involves the throwing of non-toxic, environmentally friendly powder paint in the air to celebrate diversity and equality. The admission fee is based on a scale of charges from £24.99 - £42.99.</p> <p>The festival has previously run successfully in Europe, Israel, South Africa and has previously been held at Battersea Power Station August 2013 and Manchester Heaton Park, August 2013.</p>
2.	Key Issues
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The festival is proposed to take place on Saturday 16 August 2014 at Ormeau Park. Gates will open at 10.00am with music starting and bars opening at midday. Bars will close at 22.00, music will

	<p>turn off at 22.00 with the site closed and cleared of guests by 22.30.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The site build for the event would begin 14 & 15 August, and the take down would be on 17 August. ▪ In addition to DJ's, the event would include food and drink sales, performance art, visual stimulation, a stage and a large area for dancing and for throwing the powder paint. ▪ A section of the park would be used to house the festival village, this would comprise of a stage, marquee structures and back of house production area and toilet facilities. ▪ The event would be ticketed with adequate numbers of security staff present to ensure all persons present have purchased a ticket. ▪ The event organiser would provide a full Event Safety Management Plan to Belfast City Council prior to the event. ▪ Following the conclusion of the festival, the event organiser will instigate a thorough cleaning of the park to remove the coloured powder.
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3.	Resource Implications
	<p><u>Financial</u> Big Cat Group would pay Belfast City Council for the hire of the hard surface at Ormeau Park at a cost of £1,175. In addition a fee of £5,000 will be charged for the event, based on the expected number of attendees.</p> <p>A Bond of Intent of £1,000 will be required to confirm the booking on approval of the event.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u> It would be proposed to have a duty Community Park Manager present on site on the day of the actual event from 10.00 a.m. until midnight – at a cost of £330. The cost of this will be added to the total fee.</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u></p> <p>A Reinstatement Bond of £5000 will be required to be put in place to cover the need to repair pitches.</p>

4.	Equality Implications
	None

5.	Recommendations
	<p>Members are asked to consider</p> <p>(i) If they agree to the staging of the proposed event as outlined in Ormeau Park.</p> <p>(ii) If permission is granted for the event it will be subject to the Development of an Event Management Plan and satisfactory terms being agreed by the Director of Parks and Leisure and on condition that :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The event organiser resolves all operational issues to the Council's satisfaction • An appropriate legal agreement is prepared by the Assistant Chief Executive and Town Solicitor • The event organiser meets all statutory requirements including Health and Safety and licensing. • The timely payment of the agreed charges and fee as required in the legal agreement.

6.	Decision Tracking
	Brian McKinley, Events Officer and Stephen Stockman City Park Manager East.

7.	Key to Abbreviations
	None

8.	Documents Attached
	None

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Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Ballysillan Bowling Green – change of use.
Date:	13 March 2014
Reporting Officer:	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Paula Irvine, Community Parks Outreach Manager

1.	Relevant Background Information
1.1	Belfast City Council has a total of 17 bowling greens located across 12 sites within the city. Usage and income generated from the bowling greens has steadily declined over the years despite ongoing efforts to encourage participation and promote programming.
1.2	The purpose of this report is to seek approval to pilot the use of Ballysillan bowling green as a golf putting green for 6 months (April – September). In recent years unauthorised golf has become an issue within parks. The pilot will help alleviate problems of unauthorised golf while also encouraging an interest in the sport. The Community Parks Outreach Manager is currently exploring programming opportunities i.e. “try it” golf sessions in parks in partnership with the City of Belfast golf club.

2.	Key Issues
2.1	A bowling facility costs the council approximately £25,000 per annum to manage and maintain, including the costs of turf maintenance, staff, heating and electricity.
2.2	The combined income generated from the 12 bowling greens has decreased from £9,570 in 2011 to £7,722 in 2013. In 2013 the bowling green at Ballysillan generated an income of £28.40, more than a 50% decrease from the previous year £62.50.
2.3	The recent achievements of Northern Ireland’s major winners Rory McIlroy, Graeme McDowell and Darren Clarke could also encourage and increase participation in golf and attract new users to the Ballysillan site. The Community Parks Outreach Manager will work closely with the

2.4	departmental communication team to market and promote the proposed diversification of the facility.
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3.	Resource Implications
3.1	<u>Financial</u> The cost of converting the bowling green to a putting green at Ballysillan will be roughly £730.00. Following comparative research with similar local authority facilities in Northern Ireland and UK we are suggesting a fee of £2.00 p/hr. Initially no deposit will be retained for security of golf equipment however this will be reviewed regularly.
3.2	<u>Human</u> The bowling facility will be staffed and maintained as normal by the mobile facilities attendants and the bowling green keeper.
3.3	<u>Asset and other implications</u> Pilot the use of Ballysillan bowling green to a golf putting green.

4.	Equality Implications
	There are no equality or good relations implications anticipated.

5.	Recommendations
	It is recommended that the committee agree to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pilot the use of Ballysillan bowling green to a golf putting green for a period of 6 months (April – September 2014). • A fee of £2.00 p/hr to play on the golf putting green.

6.	Decision Tracking
	All actions will be completed by the Community Parks Manager and the Community Parks Outreach Manager and an update report will be brought to committee following completion of the pilot.

7.	Key to Abbreviations
	None

8.	Documents Attached
	None



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Ormeau Park and Falls Park – Welcome Art Signs
Date:	13 March 2014
Reporting Officer:	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Lynne McCreery Community Parks Outreach Manager Cailín Lynn, Community Parks Project Coordinator

1.	Relevant Background Information
	<p>Council Officers have been approached by Eleanor Wheeler, former Artist in Residence with Belfast City Council to install two pieces of art work one for Ormeau Park and one for Falls Park. The Pieces are ‘welcome’ signs for each of the parks; (see appendices 1 and 2).</p> <p>Wheeler has been working with two Educational Resource Centres in Belfast; Park School, Ravenhill Road, and St Gerard’s School Upper Springfield Road, since September 2012.</p> <p>Pupils from both schools worked together in four joint workshops and completed a site visit to both parks. Both Schools completed the remainder of the project working separately within their own park and schools.</p> <p>The project ended in June 2013 with a celebration and presentation involving all years from both schools.</p> <p>This project was funded by the Shared Education Programme and took place over the period of one school year.</p>

2.	Key Issues
	The focus of these workshops was to encourage the pupils of Park School

	<p>and St Gerard's to consider shared space and their local area. The project included practical sessions introducing the children to drawing, design and ceramic tile making.</p> <p>Park School backs directly onto Ormeau Park and utilises the Park for lessons and school activities, they are also very involved in an annual cross country run and work closely with the Park Manager and outreach team.</p> <p>We propose that this art signage is installed in the Ormeau 2000 Playground. This is an area used extensively by families and children, including those who attend Park School. The wall separating the playground from the adjacent recycling yard would be a perfect location for local art and could be developed in the future to host more community art projects.</p> <p>The suggested location in Falls Park would be on the Wall of the Falls Park Bowling Pavilion facing the car park.</p> <p>Galvanised steel frames have been made by the artist for both pieces of art. The pieces are approximately 8ft x 4ft each and made of high fired glazed ceramic to ensure the pieces are weather proof.</p> <p>The steel frames will be attached to the wall. The frames aid the hanging of the art pieces, limiting damage and unnecessary drilling into walls. Each tile that makes up the art work is installed on the frames after it has been hung, therefore should the panels need to be removed in the future, each tile can be detached individually and relocated.</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p>Resource Implications</p>
	<p><u>Financial</u> Property and Projects Department will install the works at a cost of approximately £400.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u> There are no assets or other implications attached to this report.</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u> There are no assets or other implications attached to this report.</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Equality Implications</p>
	<p>There are no equality implications.</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Recommendations</p>
	<p>It is recommended that Committee grant authority for these art pieces to be installed in Ormeau park and Falls Park.</p>

6.	Decision Tracking
	All actions to be carried out by Community Parks outreach team, Lynne McCreery and Cailín Lynn.

7.	Key to Abbreviations
	None

8.	Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 Photograph of art piece, Ormeau Park Appendix 2 Photograph of art piece Falls Park

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Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Knocknagoney Linear Park Arts Project
Date:	13 March 2014
Reporting Officer:	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Lynne McCreery Community Parks Outreach Manager Cailín Lynn, Community Parks Project Coordinator

1.	Relevant Background Information
	<p>This community arts project is supported by the Arts Council of Northern Ireland to develop community cohesion and the development of the physical environment. The Arts Council have awarded Knocknagoney Area Forum (KAF) £5000 for a two phase arts project to take place in Knocknagoney Linear Park.</p> <p>This project will focus on the continued development and community engagement within Knocknagoney Linear Park. Some of the successful work carried out in the past six to eight months has included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of a new community garden • New kick about area • New children's play and bicycle training area • Tree planting, woodland thinning and outdoor classroom area • Creation of bird feeding stations and bird and bat boxes. <p>This project will specifically target the parks lookout towers which have suffered from ASB in recent years (see appendices 1 and 2). Creative consultation will be carried out with the local community focused on identity, wildlife, nature and the environment in their local park.</p> <p>This project aims to create ownership, understanding and wider community awareness of this local park, by engaging local community</p>

	<p>groups and young people who may be involved in ASB in this area.</p> <p>Following a procurement process, a public artist will be appointed to follow the progress of stage one and develop an art piece that encompasses the work of the local participants to be installed at stage two, on the lookout towers.</p> <p>This project will compliment the significant work that has been undertaken in the park in recent years to transform the space, to tackle anti social behaviour and ensuring the park has become a central part of the community which is owned and used by the whole community;</p>
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2.	Key Issues
	<p>As stated above, this art project will take place in two phases.</p> <p>Phase one will be a process of creative consultation. Artists working in mosaics, printmaking and graffiti will be engaged to work with a range of different target groups over a series of workshops. Workshop participants will be drawn from the older people's group in local BCC community centre, Knocknagoney Primary School children and parents group and Knocknagoney Youth Club.</p> <p>Through shadowing the artists across the workshop programme, the commissioned public artist will identify experiences and images held by the groups.</p> <p>It is up to the commissioned public artist to then bring some coherence to a multiplicity of ideas and images generated through the workshops, while also representing individual ideas of those who took part in the workshops, to inform a proposal for a final commissioned piece.</p> <p>The second phase of this project is the development and installation of the public art piece proposed by the commissioned public artist. This piece of work will be installed on the lookout towers within the park.</p>

3.	Resource Implications
	<p><u>Financial</u> The costs and budget for this project will be established by the commissioned artist at the close of stage one, which will be 31 March 2014. ASB and outreach budgets may be required to further develop this community lead arts project.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u> There are no human resource implications attached to this report.</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u> The life span of the final art piece will be dependent on the materials</p>

	selected by the main artist and the effects of outside elements over the years.
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4.	Equality Implications
	There are no equality implications at this stage, this project will be carried out in an inclusive manner.

5.	Recommendations
	<p>It is recommended that Committee grant authority for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knocknagoney Area Forum and the Council to seek further funding for this permanent art piece to be installed in Knocknagoney Linear Park. • The final public art piece to be installed on the Knocknagoney Linear Park Lookout Towers.

6.	Decision Tracking
	All actions to be carried out by Community Parks outreach team, Lynne McCreery and Cailín Lynn.

7.	Key to Abbreviations
	<p>KAF - Knocknagoney Area Forum ASB – Anti Social Behaviour</p>

8.	Documents Attached
	<p>Appendix 1 – Look out Tower 1 Appendix 2 - :Look Out Tower 2</p>

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Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Friends of Belmont Park – CS Lewis Art Proposal
Date:	13 March 2014
Reporting Officer:	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Lynne McCreery Community Parks Outreach Manager Cailín Lynn, Community Parks Project Coordinator

1.	Relevant Background Information
	<p>2013 was the 50th anniversary of CS Lewis, his anniversary was celebrated very extensively with festivals, art projects, and community projects and involved a wide range of community and statutory bodies, in particular East Belfast Partnership Board.</p> <p>The Friends of Belmont Park are very eager to acknowledge Belmont Park's importance in Lewis' life by creating a permanent art installation which would be based on the Chronicles of Narnia. Lewis' family home was in close proximity to Belmont park, Belmont Park is the area where we imagine he would have played and taken inspiration for his wonderful and fantastical stories.</p> <p>The Friends of Belmont Park was formed by passionate individuals who reside locally and who see the further potential for enjoyment, inclusion and interaction within their park. Parks staff have worked extensively with Friends of Belmont Park over the past number of years and developed the park significantly with their help and guidance.</p> <p>The purpose of this report is to outline the proposed programme of art installations and to seek Committee support to explore funding opportunities.</p>

2.	Key Issues
	<p>The Friends of Belmont Park along with council officers' aim to celebrate the heritage of the past through the link between CS Lewis' well known literary works and the locality, to create a unique experience in the present that has longevity through the legacy it will leave for future park users.</p> <p>This proposed programme will consist of a number of large art installations, to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>• Public art piece at Belmont Playground Friends of Belmont and council officers hope to generate discussion, interest and ownership of this large art project. Their aim is to develop a project within the playground that will engage with park users and children, allowing the local community to input ideas with a visual artist to create a mural.</p> <p><i>Estimates Costs</i> - Project £3000 - £5000</p> <p>• Carved wooden sleigh and wicker reindeer The sleigh first appeared in <i>The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe</i> when Edmund found his way through the back of the wardrobe and stumbled upon a sleigh being drawn by two reindeer, driven by a small dwarf, whose passenger was Queen Jadis.</p> <p><i>Estimates Costs</i> - Carved Wooden Sleigh - £3500 - Wicker Reindeer - £2000</p> <p>• Vintage solar powered Lantern, bronze umbrella and parcels The lantern first appeared in <i>The Magician's Nephew</i> when it grew from an iron bar from a London lamppost. The fully grown lamppost was a feature in <i>The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe</i> when Lucy met the Faun, Mr Tumnus for the first time as he pitter pattered through the snow carrying his umbrella and parcels.</p> <p><i>Estimates Costs</i> - Vintage Lantern - £1000 - Bronze umbrella, small and large parcels - £5700 -</p> <p>• Small sculpture art trail The development of 8-10 small scale sculptures to culminate in the creation of an arts historical trail within Belmont park. These small sculptures can take the form of many significant aspects of the</p>

	<p>chronicles, for example; Mr and Mrs Beaver (<i>The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe</i>); Atlantean box containing uncle Andrew's rings (<i>The Magician's Nephew</i>) ; Aslan shaped as the small cat that saved and accompanied Shasta (<i>The Horse and his boy</i>).</p> <p><i>Estimates Costs</i> - £300 - £3000 per sculpture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stone cast lion The Lion will symbolise Aslan, who with a song created Narnia. When the grass had rolled over the hills like a wave, arms of the trees rose from the earth like spikes and animals appeared from swollen humps in the ground Aslan exclaimed "Narnia, Narnia Narnia, awake. Love. Think. Speak. Be walking trees. Be talking beats. Be divine waters." <p><i>Estimates Costs</i> - Stone lion £3000 - £10000</p> <p>This programme will involve the local community, schools and park users to create art pieces that enhance the natural environment and are of benefit to park users, promoting and developing a visitor experience that is unique to our local parks.</p>
3.	Resource Implications
	<p><u>Financial</u> The estimated cost for this project is £45,000. The project costs will be finalised when funding is applied for.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u> There are no human resource implications attached to this report.</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u> The life span of the final art pieces will vary and be dependent on the materials used and the effects of outside elements over the years.</p>
4.	Equality Implications
	<p>There are no equality implications at this stage, this project will be carried out in an inclusive manner.</p>
5.	Recommendations
	<p>Committee is asked to in principle support the proposed programme of art installations in Belmont Park subject to funding being secured for the programme.</p>

6.	Decision Tracking
	All actions to be carried out by Community Parks outreach team, Lynne McCreery and Cailín Lynn and Lisa Mackle, Funding and Monitoring Officer.

7.	Key to Abbreviations
	None

8.	Documents Attached
	None



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Reverend Robert Bradford Memorial Park Community Boards
Date:	13 March 2014
Reporting Officer:	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Lynne McCreery, Community Parks Outreach Manager Cailín Lynn, Community Parks project Coordinator

1.	Relevant Background Information
	<p>In November 2010, South Belfast Alternatives (SBA) were approached by the PSNI to work with a group of twelve young people in the Donegall Pass area who were engaging in ASB and risk taking behaviours.</p> <p>All twelve young people were disengaged from statutory/community youth provision, they felt disconnected from their community and had little respect for others and the impact of their behaviours.</p> <p>In January 2011 the group made a commitment to stop certain behaviours/incidents of ASB and a ten week programme was developed to reconnect the group with their local community through history and art.</p> <p>A local resident facilitated four sessions on the history of the Donegall Pass area. Blaze FX facilitated workshops in which the group gained skills in modern graffiti art, at first as sketched images which were viewed by their parents, other residents, community representatives, PSNI and SBA management committee.</p> <p>The group of young people not only learned about their area, but also gained new creative skills. The result of the engagement was the development of four timeline community boards (see appendices 1, 2, 3 and 4);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ormeau Baths

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gasworks and Rose Cottage • The Somme • A modern representation of what part they play in community life today (Donegall Pass Young Men) <p>Council officers have been approached by SBA to request that the four community boards created by local young people to be installed permanently in the MUGA area of Robert Reverend Bradford Memorial Park (RRBMP).</p> <p>From 2012 parks management or council officers have been working with SBA and BELB Youth Club to improve facilities at RRBMP (see appendices 5 and 6; parks improvements) which included;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resurfacing of MUGA - £12,000 • New multi-sports goal posts - £8,000 • Line marking - £250 • Newly installed panelled fencing - £2,500 • Night time engagement programme - £1460 (members are asked to refer back to a committee paper submitted to December 2012 committee named <i>Pilot Night Activity Programme – Donegall Pass</i>)
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2.	Key Issues
	<p>Council officers have been working with SBA regarding the installation of four community boards in the MUGA area of RRBMP.</p> <p>Having reviewed the content of the boards, there were concerns raised over symbols that appear on one of the Boards (Donegall Pass Young Men) and following consultation with the local community and the young people and it was decided that board, containing the symbols be hung elsewhere in the community (wall on entrance to Pine Street) and that the request to the Council be for the remaining three boards to be hung in the MUGA with the addition of a newly created 'Welcome' sign produced by children from the local youth club.</p>

3.	Resource Implications
	<p><u>Financial</u> Property and Projects Department will provide in-kind installation of this art work at a value of approximately £400.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u> If necessary Property and Projects Department will acquire approval for installation of art work on boundary walls.</p>

	<p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u></p> <p>It is anticipated that these community art boards will have a limited life span due to the materials used and the effects of outside elements over the years.</p>
4.	Equality Implications
	There are no equality implications.
5.	Recommendations
	<p>It is recommended that committee grant authority for;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The three remaining boards and 'Welcome' sign to be installed in RRBMP in collaboration with Property and Projects and South Belfast Alternatives.
6.	Decision Tracking
	All actions to be carried out by Community Parks outreach team, Lynne McCreery and Cailín Lynn.
7.	Key to Abbreviations
	<p>SBA – South Belfast Alternatives</p> <p>RRBMP – Reverend Robert Bradford Memorial Park</p> <p>MUGA – Multi Use Games Area</p> <p>PSNI – Police Service of Northern Ireland</p> <p>ASB – Anti Social Behaviour</p>
8.	Documents Attached
	<p>Appendix 1 Ormeau Baths Community Board</p> <p>Appendix 2 Gasworks and Rose Cottage Community Board</p> <p>Appendix 3 The Somme Community Board</p> <p>Appendix 4 Welcome Community Board</p> <p>Appendix 5 Before Improvement Works</p> <p>Appendix 6 After Improvement Works</p>

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Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Request for use of Mallusk Playing Fields for Youth Soccer Tournaments NI
Date:	13 March 2014
Reporting Officer:	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Rose Crozier, Assistant Director Parks and Leisure
1.	Relevant Background Information
	<p>The department has received a request from Youth Soccer Tournaments NI (YSTNI) seeking free use of Mallusk Playing Fields including changing facilities from 15 to 17 August 2014.</p> <p>YSTNI have been organising youth soccer tournaments in Belfast for a number of years including the Belfast International Cup and the Christopher Shaw Festival which has accommodated teams from outside the United Kingdom.</p> <p>YSTNI is a voluntary organisation consisting of male and female members.</p>
2.	Key Issues
	<p>It is proposed that this year one tournament will be held which will include the Belfast International Cup, aimed at teams from under 12 up to under 19 and the Christopher Shaw Festival aimed at under 9 up to under 11.</p> <p>Basing the tournament in Belfast will increase access for local teams and will have less financial impact on local participating clubs.</p> <p>YSTNI has requested use of 12 pitches and changing facilities free of charge.</p> <p>The dates in August are pre season and will mean pitches will not have been rested for the full period and this could have a detrimental impact on the quality of the pitches for the season. Members should be aware that Committee has already given permission for the Northern Ireland Boys Football Association soccer tournament to take place on Saturday 23rd and Saturday 30th August 2014.</p>
3.	Resource Implications
	<p><u>Financial</u> Free use of the facilities would represent a loss of income of £3,571.20 and approximate staffing overtime costs of £750.00.</p>

	<u>Human Resources</u> No implications <u>Asset and Other Implications</u> Potential damage to pitches in advance of the full playing season.
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4.	Equality and good relations implications
	This is a cross community event.

5.	Recommendations
	Committee is asked to consider the request for use of Mallusk Playing Fields and changing facilities free of charge for the dates requested and decide if they wish to grant authority for the tournament.

6.	Decision Tracking
	Fintan Grant, City Park Manager North

7.	Key to Abbreviations
	YSTNI – Youth Soccer Tournaments Northern Ireland

8.	Documents Attached
	None



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Proposed use of City Of Belfast Playing Fields, Mallusk
Date:	13 March 2014
Reporting Officer:	Rose Crozier, Assistant Director of Parks & Leisure
Contact Officer:	Paddy McGrattan, Sports Development Officer

1.	Relevant Background Information
	<p>The Director of Parks and Leisure has received a request from the Irish Football Association for the use of Council facilities at The City Of Belfast Playing Fields, Mallusk.</p> <p>The Irish Football Association wishes to organise the inaugural Schoolgirls Soccer Festival Day on Wednesday 11 June 2014.</p> <p>The event will run from 10:00am until 3:30pm</p> <p>This event will build on the existing successful partnership between Belfast City Council and the IFA with regards to developing Soccer for Women and girls through the Futsal programme</p>

2.	Key Issues
	<p>The event will involve 80 teams from year 8/9 and 80 teams from year 9/10.</p> <p>In total around 1600 girls are expected to participate.</p> <p>The event will include teams from 22 Belfast schools.</p> <p>The area will require to be marked into 32 small sided pitches.</p> <p>Teams will also need access to changing rooms.</p> <p>The request is for in kind support which is in the form of a waiver of the hire charges.</p>

3.	Resource Implications
	<p><u>Financial</u> There will be a cost associated with the granting of free use of the pitches and changing facilities. It is estimated that lost income would be in the region of £1,152.00 which is the hire of 16 full size pitches for 6 hours.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u> There will be no requirement to bring in extra staff both to mark out the pitches and to cover the use of the facility</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u> Not Applicable.</p>
4.	Equality Implications
	There are no equality or good relations implications at this stage. Equality and good relations implications will continue to be monitored in a centralised approach and regular updates will be sent to the Equality and Diversity Officer.
5.	Recommendations
	Members are asked to accede to the request for the free use of The City of Belfast Playing Fields for this event.
6.	Decision Tracking
	None
7.	Key to Abbreviations
	IFA – Irish Football Association.
8.	Documents Attached
	None