



Subject:	Static Park Warden Pilot Update
Date:	Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> April 2024
Reporting Officer:	Stephen Leonard, Director of Resources, Fleet and OSS, CNS Jim Girvan, Director of Neighbourhood Services, CNS
Contact Officer:	Eiméar McCullough, Lead Officer - OSS, CNS

<b>Restricted Reports</b>	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues</b>
1.1	To update Members on the continuing Static Park Warden initiative and its ongoing consideration as part of a wider internal Park Warden review; and to ask Members to approve an extension into the new financial year when a revised working model will be presented for formal consideration.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	Members are asked to note the content of the report and approve a final extension to the pilot initiative until such a time that a revised working model is ready for consideration.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main report</b>
3.1	<b>Background</b> Members will be aware that at People and Communities Committee on 8 <sup>th</sup> October 2024 (Appendix One) they received an update from officers on the ongoing Static Park Warden Pilot in place to reduce levels of anti-social behaviour (ASB) at a number of sites now including Falls Park. At that time Committee agreed to extend the pilot to March 2025.

**Key Findings – Pilot Period to Date**

- 3.2 The Pilot has now been operational for a year and a half.  
ASB reporting statistics for the Pilot are now available for 19 consecutive months from September 2023 through to end of February 2024 for Dunville Park, Pairc Nui Chollann and Woodvale Park, and for a total of nine months for Falls Park.
- 3.3 The last committee report update (see **Appendix 1**) highlighted positive trends in relation to a reduction of incidences of reported ASB overall across the sites, albeit with a small increase at Woodvale Park.
- 3.4 Members should note that evening programming (midnight soccer and other diversionary activities) still continue to take place with likely positive impacts on ASB at these locations; and that the Pilot continues to be supported by the Safer Neighbourhood Officers and the PSNI - with good working relationships in place ensuring improved response to ASB incidents at the sites.
- 3.5 **ASB reporting levels over past 6 months**  
ASB reporting trend for all sites over the past 6 months of the Pilot period (September 2024 – February 2025) show a general continuation of lower reports of ASB when compared to pre-pilot figures. Trend across the sites show a 34% decrease of reported incidences overall when comparing figures over past 6 months (September 2024 – February 2025) to previous 6 month period (March- August 2024); however this is largely attributed to improvements at Falls Park on its inclusion into the pilot initiative last June. Details are as follows:
- 3.6 Falls Park - incidences of reported ASB at the site over the past 9 months (June 2024 – February 2025) have decreased by 48%, from 95 to 49 reports, when compared to previous 9-month period before its inclusion in the pilot (Sept 2023 – May 2024).
- 3.7 Dunville Park- incidences of reported ASB over past 6 months (September 2024 – February 2025) have increased marginally from 1 to 4 report when compared to previous 6-month Pilot period. (March- August 2024).
- 3.8 Pairc Nui Chollann – incidences of reported ASB over past 6 months (September 2024 – February 2025) have decreased from 43 to 38 reports when compared to previous 6-month Pilot period (March- August 2024).
- 3.9 Woodvale Park - incidences of reported ASB over past 6 months (September 2024 – February 2025) have increased from 34 to 38 reports when compared to previous 6-month Pilot period (March- August 2024).
- Ongoing Park Warden Review and development of service operating model**
- 3.10 As Member’s will recall from their previous update - with support from Continuous Improvement (CI), City and Neighbourhood Services Department are currently progressing a Park Warden review, with an initial focus on evaluating the Static Park Warden Pilot.
- 3.11 Over the coming months the findings from the Static Park Warden Pilot will feed into and inform this review. This work is likely to take several months to progress and accordingly members are asked to approve an extension to the static warden pilot until the end of October 2025. The outcome of this review and any future operating model will be presented to members for consideration.

3.12	<u>Financial &amp; Resource Implications</u> Should members agree to the extension it should be noted that the cost can be met from within existing CNS budgets.
3.13	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications /Rural Needs Assessments</u> There are no Equality or Good Relations Implications /Rural Needs Assessments associated with this report.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Appendices – Documents Attached</b>
	Appendix 1 - People & Communities Committee report, 8th October 2024 - Static Park Warden Pilot update