



Belfast City Council

Report to: Parks and Leisure Committee

Subject: **Siting of Memorial in Botanic Gardens**

Date: 15th October, 2009

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

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

Purpose of Report

To advise the Committee of a proposal to place a park bench and commemorative plaque in Botanic Gardens in memory of Mr Ashley Cunningham.

Relevant Background Information

As some Members may be aware, a tragic accident occurred on 4 September 2006 at the former Dargan Road Landfill Site which resulted in the death of Mr Ashley Cunningham. Mr Cunningham was an employee of a firm that was a customer of the council at the site. During discussions with the Cunningham family, they indicated their desire to have some memorial to Ashley placed at Botanic Gardens, a park which he would have visited. The family would like a plaque on a bench dedicated to Ashley. Their request was considered by the Health and Environmental Services Committee at its meeting on 7 October when it was agreed to recommend to the Parks and Leisure Committee a park bench with a commemorative plaque be placed in Botanic Gardens. The Legal Services Department has indicated that, if approved by the council, this would be included as a term of settlement in respect of legal proceedings.

Resource Implications

Financial

The estimated cost of an appropriate bench with plaque is £893.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Committee accede to the request of the Health and Environmental Services Committee that a park bench with a commemorative plaque be placed in Botanic Gardens as a memorial to Ashley Cunningham.

Decision Tracking

Officer responsible – Director of Parks and Leisure. Timetable for completion to be determined by the Legal Services Department.

Key to Abbreviations

None.

Documents Attached

None.
