



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Vandalism update
Date:	15 April 2010
Reporting Officer:	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Jacqui Wilson, Business Manager

Relevant Background Information

At present acts of vandalism in relation to property are captured through the Council's works ordering system which puts work requests through to the property maintenance service to respond to. These then are given an estimated cost in the Archibus System. The work is carried out by property maintenance or its contractors and at a later stage payment will be made through the system by Parks and Cemeteries. To capture this maintenance as relating to vandalism the manager requesting the work must indicate in the system that the issue is vandalism related

Key Issues

To ensure that accurate and timely information is provided to members a detailed review of the system of recording and costing acts of vandalism on Parks and Cemeteries properties is currently underway.

At present information can be provided in relation to the number of incidents of vandalism occurring by location in Parks and Cemeteries and significant incidents of vandalism and their costs.

In the period January to March 2010 126 incidents of vandalism were recorded in our Parks and Open Spaces. See appendix 1 for analysis of vandalism by location.

The majority of the incidents of vandalism were in the estimated band range of £50 - £1000. Incidents of vandalism estimated to be between £1000 and £2000 are:

Cavehill Country Park – Damage to property due to scramblers on site £2000 approx

Highfield Playground - Damage to multiplay rope systems £1500 approx

Knocknagoney Park – Removal of Household rubbish dumped on the site £1500 approx.

The above information is reliant on the accurate and timely recording of the information by parks staff.

An annual breakdown of the cost of vandalism will be provided once of the end of year accounts are finalised.

Resource Implications

Financial

The current property maintenance budget in Parks and Cemeteries is £2.15 million per annum. This budget is already under pressure due to under investment on existing assets and new projects being developed. In the first quarter of 2009/10 approximately 5% of the expenditure to date was due to incidents of vandalism.

Human Resources

Parks management and Business Support staff time is required to input the data and analysis the information from the separate recording and works ordering systems.

Asset and Other Implications

The information regarding vandalism will assist members to make decisions regarding the security of Parks and Cemeteries assets.

Recommendations

Members are asked to note the quarterly report relating to the number of incidents of vandalism by location for the period January to March 2010.

The next quarterly report will be presented to committee in August 2010.

Decision Tracking

No of incidents of vandalism to be reported to Committee in August 2010
Officer responsible – Business Manager

Documents Attached

Appendix 1: Incidents of vandalism by location, January to March 2010.