



Belfast City Council

Report to: Parks and Leisure Committee

Subject: **Ligoniel Environment and Heritage Project**

Date: 6th September, 2010

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

Contact Officers: Stephen Walker, Principal Parks and Cemeteries
Development Manager, ext 3510

Purpose of report

The purpose of the report is to introduce the presentation by the Ligoniel Development Association regarding the work of the Association; its proposals for environmental improvement in the area and the relationship with the Council.

Relevant Background Information

The Committee is reminded that, at its meeting on 10th June, it agreed to act as a third party partner and to provide funding of £5,122.57 to support Phase II of the Ligoniel Environment and Heritage Project. The focus of Phase II of the project is the creation of a community asset which will provide natural access to the hills. The total cost of the project is £51,225.67 and the Association has made an application to Biffaward for funding. The Committee also agreed to receive a presentation from the Association regarding its work, its plans and its relationship with Belfast City Council.

The Association wishes to open up the area to the general public as a major community recreational resource and been involved in a series of projects over the years, working with the Council and others to:

1. raise environmental awareness;
2. build stronger community cohesion;
3. increase the potential for social economy enterprise (e.g. eco tourism);
and
4. increase individual capacity (volunteering).

Resource Implications

<u>Financial</u>

There are no additional implications at this time.
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<u>Human Resources</u>

There are no additional human resource implications.
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<u>Asset and Other Implications</u>
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This project will help to protect and enhance the natural environment in the area and provide an important resource to the wider community.

Recommendation

The Committee is asked to note the contents of the report. It is further recommended that the Committee receive a report at its October meeting regarding the implications for the Council.

Decision Tracking

Further report to be submitted to October Committee by the Principal Parks and Cemeteries Development Manager.
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Key to Abbreviations

None

Documents Attached

None
