



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Head of Parks and Leisure - Job Title
Date:	16 September 2010
Reporting Officer:	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
Contact Officers:	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure

Relevant Background Information

The Council approved the creation of a Head of Service post for the Parks and Leisure Department in March 2010 as part of the restructuring and rightsizing exercise which had been approved by the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.

When considering the recruitment of the post at the May meeting of the Parks and Leisure Committee the recommendation was made that the post should be given the designation of Assistant Director given that it was to cover both the Parks and Cemeteries and Leisure Services and was to provide a focus for the integration and delivery of services across the Department and to ensure the delivery of the Improvement Programme.

Following discussion, the Committee decided that the post should be designated as Head of Parks and Leisure.

At the meeting of the Parks and Leisure Committee in August 2010 it was suggested by a Member that the job title was leading to some confusion regarding who was managing the Department in that there is a considerable degree of similarity between the job designations of Director of Parks and Leisure and Head of Parks and Leisure and a report on the issue was requested to a future meeting of the Committee.

Key Issues

Similarity between the job titles of the two most senior posts in the Department, i.e. Director of Parks and Leisure and Head of Parks and Leisure, is becoming increasingly apparent, particularly to outside organisations.

Consideration has been given to possible alternative job designations for the

Head of Service Post however it would appear that there are currently only two viable options, these being the current designation of Head of Parks and Leisure or the previous suggestion of Assistant Director of Parks and Leisure, i.e. assistant to the Director.

Any change to the designation of the post would be to the name only and would result in no change to the job description or remuneration.

Resource Implications

None.

Recommendations

Members are recommended to give consideration the most appropriate designation for the Head of Service post in the Parks and Leisure Department.

Decision Tracking

Officer responsible: Director of Parks and Leisure
Actions to be completed by: end of October 2010

Key to Abbreviations

None.

Documents Attached

None.