



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Autumn Flower Show: annual donation to societies
Date:	14 October 2010
Reporting Officer:	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Alice Blennerhassett, Marketing Officer, Parks and Cemeteries Services Section

Purpose of Report
The purpose of this report is to seek approval from the Committee to make a contribution to a number of voluntary groups involved with the organisation and delivery of the Autumn Flower Show.

Relevant Background Information
<p>The Committee will be aware that the Taste Northern Ireland Garden Party, formerly known as Garden Gourmet, took place in Botanic Gardens on Saturday 18 and Sunday 19 September 2010. This joint event incorporated the annual City of Belfast autumn flower show with a mix of local food produce, children's entertainment, displays, demonstrations and music.</p> <p>The Parks and Cemeteries Service is responsible for organising the City of Belfast autumn flower show whilst the Events Unit in Development Department, which is responsible for the food and drink element, worked closely with Tesco who supported the event this year.</p> <p>Over 1,380 horticultural exhibits were on display in the flower show, and almost 50 food stalls were in the food and drink marquees. 12,500 visitors attended the event over the weekend.</p> <p>In previous years the Committee has authorised the making of £100 donation to each of the horticultural Societies involved in the organisation of the autumn flower show, in recognition of their assistance throughout the year.</p>

Key Issues
The success of these events owes much to the private individuals, societies and groups who work with and support the Council in delivering the event. In relation to the

planning of the autumn flower show, officers from the Council meet with representatives from eleven horticultural societies. The autumn flower show committee itself meets four times a year to discuss and plan for the event. Without this partnership the event would be less successful. It is suggested that, as in the past, the council makes a good will contribution to those societies involved within the event.

This would acknowledge in a tangible way the contribution of the groups and preserve the partnership.

Resource Implications

Financial Implications

The total cost of this would be £1,100. Provision has been made in the revenue estimates.

Human Resource Implications

There are no additional human resource implications.

Asset and Other Implications

None.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee approves the making of a donation of £100 to each of the undernoted societies in recognition of the continued support and assistance for the City of Belfast autumn flower show.

- Belfast and District Beekeepers' Association
- Belfast Winemakers' Circle
- British Cactus and Succulent Society
- Federation of Women's Institutes of Northern Ireland
- Irish Fuchsia and Pelargonium Society
- North of Ireland Dahlia Society
- Northern Ireland Bonsai Society
- Northern Ireland Group of Flower Arrangement Societies
- Northern Ireland Orchid Society
- Northern Ireland Vegetable Association
- Rose Society of Northern Ireland.

Decision Tracking

The actions will be completed by the Marketing Officer by December 2010.

Key to Abbreviations

None.

Documents Attached

None.