



## Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Summer Intervention Programme – Concessionary Access to Leisure Centres
<b>Date:</b>	14 April 2011
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure

### 1. Relevant Background Information

Since 2005 the council has approved free access to leisure centres by participants of the Summer Intervention Programme during the period 1 July – 30 September. This access was subject to availability and the programme being responsible for any additional staff costs incurred by the council. Permission was also granted to requests received from other bona fide interface groups in the city for similar use of facilities.

### 2. Key Issues

The evaluation process in respect of the Summer Intervention Programme 2010 confirmed positive feedback from participant community groups regarding free access to leisure centres in terms of enhancement of their capacity to deliver the programme.

Verbal confirmation has been given by OFMDFM that funding for a Summer Intervention Programme 2011 will be provided however the exact amount of funding is to be confirmed. The Good Relations partnership board has given approval to proceed with the programme subject to receipt of the official letter of offer.

### 3. Resource Implications

#### Financial

It is estimated that last year, offering the free access cost the council in the region of £200. It is not expected that potential take up in 2011 will be significantly greater than that of 2010.

#### Human Resource

Any additional staff costs to be covered by programme funding.

#### Asset and other implications

None.

<b>4.</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Implications</b>
	This programme will assist in easing tensions at key dates over the summer period and will have a positive effect on good relations in the city.
<b>5.</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
	<p>It is recommended that Members agree that, as in previous years:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The programme is granted free use of council leisure centres during the period 1 July – 30 September 2011, subject to availability and receipt of the letter of offer from OFMDFM.</li> <li>b. Requests received from other bona fide interface groups in the city are granted similar use of facilities.</li> </ul>
<b>6.</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
	Officer responsible: Acting Leisure Services Manager. Actions to be completed by June 2011.
<b>7.</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
	None.
<b>8.</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
	None.