

Belfast City Council

Report to: Parks and Leisure Committee

Subject: Compensation at Carr's Glen

Date: 11 August 2011

Reporting Officer: Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure

Contact Officer: Cathy Reynolds, Estates Manager, Property and Projects

Department

1 Relevant Background Information

1.1 In June 2008 Northern Ireland Water undertook the installation of a storm drain on council owned land at Carr's Glen. The works involved the installation of a 525 mm diameter drain over a distance of approximately 65 metres of council owned land. Much of the land under which the drain flows was subsequently sold to the Belfast Education and Library Board, leaving only some 12 metres of pipe under land retained by the council. The average depth of the pipe underground is 3 metres and its presence had little impact upon use of the land as amenity open space when the pipe was laid in 2008. Neither did the presence of the pipe substantially impact upon the subsequent use of the land by the BELB and no adjustment for its presence was included in the arrangements for sale of the land to BELB.

2 Key Issues

2.1 Compensation for installation of the sewer has now been agreed with the District Valuer's office, Land and Property Services, acting for NI Water, at £3000 (three thousand pounds). The agreed compensation takes account of the use of the land as informal open space/amenity land at the time of the installation. The installation date (2008) is also the relevant date at which compensation is assessed in this case.

3.1 Financial Small financial income of £3000 payable by NI Water to the council is considered reasonable in relation to the impact of the installed drain on the value of the council's land at this location.

3.2 | Human Resources

No additional human resources required in relation to this matter.

3.3 | Asset and Other Implications

The agreed compensation takes account of the location and nature of use of the land at the time of the works. Much of the affected land has now been sold and there is thus little longer term impact on the council's asset.

4 Equality and Good Relations Considerations

4.1 No known equality or good relations issues associated with this matter.

5 Recommendations

5.1 Committee is recommended to note and approve the agreed compensation of £3,000 in respect of the 65 metres of storm sewer laid at Carr's Glen.

6 Decision Tracking

Director of Parks and Leisure to ensure the Estates Manager appropriately communicates agreement of compensation to Northern Ireland Water.

7 Key to Abbreviations

NI Water – Northern Ireland Water BELB – Belfast Education and library Board

8 Documents Attached

None.