



## Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Report on use of Delegated Authority over summer period
<b>Date:</b>	11 August 2011
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Emer Boyle, Policy and Business Development Manager

<b>1</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
	<p>The purpose of this report is to report to committee the use of the delegated authority for decisions taken over the summer recess period.</p> <p>The council's scheme of delegation is one of the key governance documents in place and aims to improve the operation of the council as a whole and ensure that the responsibility and accountability for making and implementing various levels of decision is properly allocated between Members and officers.</p> <p>The current scheme of delegation is in three parts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>i Preamble and Interpretation</li><li>ii General Delegated Functions</li><li>iii Specifically Delegated Functions</li></ul>

<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
	<p>Since the committee's last meeting in June the following decisions were taken in the interests of efficient ongoing running of the business under Section 3 of the scheme and in conjunction with the Chairman of the Committee where appropriate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. a request for the use of Botanic for an event for the Filipino community;</li><li>2. a request to hold fitness/dance classes in at least five of our parks;</li><li>3. agreement in principle to use one of our parks/pitches to hold a charity "Polo in the City" event subject to a number of pre-conditions being met;</li><li>4. the removal of the £5 administrative fee associated with the Boost loyalty card; and</li><li>5. authority to proceed with a reduced price promotional campaign to try to increase numbers attending our leisure centres</li></ul>

	Additional information on each of these requests is attached in Appendix 1 for members' information.
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<b>3</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
	<p><u>Financial</u> Only one of the decisions taken has clear financial implications (no. 4) however this was a new charge implemented only a couple of months previously and both customer and staff feedback was that it was not welcomed by either group.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u> Some additional human resources were required to facilitate these requests – all managed within the current workload.</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u> None.</p>

<b>4</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Implications</b>
	The Equality and Good Relations implications of each request made were considered. Only request 1 had clear good relations implications, all of which were positive and the request was approved on this basis.

<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
	Committee is asked to note the use of delegated decision making authority in the five areas listed in the report.

<b>6</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
	N/A

<b>7</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
	None.

<b>8</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
	Appendix 1: additional information on each of the five requests.