

Additional Information on decisions taken under Delegated Authority

1. Filipino Event – Lower Botanic Gardens

- Sunday 7 August – with set up / taken down on the Sat and Mon
- Family event
- Stalls – food and drink
- Entertainments Licence – via existing
- Cultural music, dance and traditional family activities
- Featuring products and cuisine from the Philippines
- PSNI already informed

24 point Event plan already drafted in conjunction with Park Manager

2. Fitness classes in at least 5 Parks

Request received from 'Park Fit' who wish to hold Bootcamp type classes in at least five of our parks.

We're currently aware of classes on Kettlebells, Nordic Walking and Bootcamp taking place in Ormeau Park, Belmont Park, Sir Thomas & Lady Dixon Park, Falls Park and Botanic Gardens. It has been noted that individuals partaking in these classes are being charged £5 - £7 per class.

Although, with these outdoor classes, there is no direct impact or cost, there is a need to regulate the classes as well as covering the associated administration cost. We have benchmarked with Lisburn, Newtownabbey and North Down Councils and the only Council charging a fee is Lisburn which is £8/session.

It is therefore proposed that:

- we apply a £16 charge per session (which is the same charge applied to requests for wedding photography in Botanic Gardens and Sir Thomas & Lady Dixon Park) in addition to a £50 registration fee which is also payable in advance on an annual basis.
- The Instructor will be required to adhere to the following key requirements:
- complete an Application for Private Coaching and enter into a legal agreement with the Council (similar to the practice for Coaches in Leisure).
- must be Level 2 Fitness instructors (this can be verified through Register for Exercise Professionals (REPS) or equivalent). First Aid is also a requirement and part of the Level 2 qualification.
- must be Level 2 qualified (must be qualified to lead a class) in their individual discipline i.e. Kettlebell, Park fit, Nordic walking etc.
- must provide evidence i.e. certificates that they have Fitness Instruction insurance through REPS or equivalent
- provide evidence of current Public Liability Insurance.
- provide evidence of POCVA check (paid for by Instructor).
- provide evidence that they have attended Child Protection training

- provide a copy of their Child Protection Policy or that of their National Governing Body or confirm to abide by the Council's Policy and Procedures for the Protection of Children & Vulnerable Adults including the Photographic policy.

3. Polo in the City – Venue still to be confirmed

- The event will take place on the **27 August from 2pm-11pm**. Aiming to sell 1000 tickets for the event. Set-up and take-down would be required either side of this date.
- There will be approx 20 horses at the event, accompanied by the teams (this will require a small holding area)
- Sponsorship from Value Cabs who will look after the transport - they can also provide a shuttle service from carparking areas.
- The event will attract approx 15 sponsors - the sponsors, as part of their package, will have 2 banners each on the track of the polo course.
- Food and alcohol licences to be in place
- Tickets will cost £55 for general admission (full hospitality) and £85 for VIP (to include a Champagne reception and access to city centre venue for post event party)
- The polo grounds will required to be marked with a standard marking spray (as used for football pitches and we will ensure it is fully removed post event)

They plan for this to be an annual event and from the success of this years event there will be a business plan put in place to ensure the development of polo in Belfast and to ensure we attract more visitors year on year.

4. Removal of £5 charge for Boost Reward card

The card had initially been allocated without charge to all pay as you go customers wishing to avail of discounted rates. A decision was taken to introduce (effective 1st April 2011) a £5 charge for all new customers and renewal customers wishing to avail of the Boost reward card.

Whilst the concept of a loyalty card is well established within both public and private sector we were subject to an unusually high level of customer complaints, particularly from families. Due to the imminent review of the Boost product and market conditions it was felt that the removal of this charge pending assessment at a later review would be the most appropriate option.

5. Authorisation to proceed with a reduced price Marketing Campaign

Authority to launch a marketing campaign during August in order to attract new members. This involves a charge of £15 for 30 days membership. Membership would normally be charged at £15 on the month of joining and the regular rate would commence during the following month. The current campaign is intended to showcase this initial rate and subsequently follow up on any new members with a joining offer that will result in the second month also being charged at £15.