



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Request from Transplant Sport NI
Date:	15 September 2011
Reporting Officer:	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Emer Boyle, Policy and Business Development Manager

1	Relevant Background Information
1.1	On 23 August 2011 the Director received a letter from the Transplant Games Team Manager providing an update on the tremendous performance of athletes from Northern Ireland at the recent Westfield Health British Transplant Games Belfast 2011.
1.2	The team representing the Belfast Regional Transplant Unit fielded a total of 67 athletes from all over Northern Ireland- 52 adults and 15 children and all of these competitors had received life saving organ transplants including kidney, liver, bone marrow, lungs and heart.
1.3	The letter also outlines that this is the largest team ever fielded in British Transplant Games history. A copy of the letter is attached at Appendix 1.

2	Key Issues
2.1	The council has granted free Boost membership and use of its leisure facilities to Transplant Sport NI athletes in the past.
2.2	The Transplant Games Team Manager outlines that the recent success is undoubtedly related to this leisure centre access and outlines that based on the successful performance at the Games this year at least 22 of the NI athletes will be selected to represent the UK at the World Transplant Games in Durban in 2013.
2.3	The letter further requests that the council consider allowing this membership to continue <i>“on an annual basis between February and August each year in order to allow our athletes the best preparation for future games”</i>

3	Resource Implications
3.1	<u>Financial</u> The cost associated with granting 58 adult and 15 under-16 free Boost memberships for a 7 month period annually is £14,869 in potential lost income.
3.2	<u>Human Resources</u> There are no implications associated with this report.
3.3	<u>Asset and Other Implications</u> There are no implications associated with this report.

4	Equality and Good Relations Implications
4.1	There are no equality or good relations implications associated with this report.

5	Recommendations
5.1	Committee is asked to approve the request for free leisure centre use for Northern Ireland Transplant Athletes for the period February to August each year, renewable on an annual basis.

6	Decision Tracking
Decision of the Committee to be communicated to the Transplant Games Team Manager by the Director of Parks and Leisure.	

7	Key to Abbreviations
None.	

8	Documents Attached
Appendix 1: Letter from Transplant Games Team Manager, Transplant Sport NI.	