



Belfast City Council

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Report to: | Parks and Leisure Committee |
| Subject: | Family Festival at Falls Park |
| Date: | 15 September 2011 |
| Reporting Officer: | Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure |
| Contact Officers: | Ricky Rice, City Park Manager South and West Belfast |

1.0 Relevant Background Information

The Inclusive Neighbourhood Project was started in March 2009 following funding approval from the PEACE III Programme managed for the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB) by the Community Relations Council/Pobal Consortium. The partnership between Corrymeela and the Northern Ireland Community of Refugees and Asylum Seekers (NICRAS) was developed to foster the integration process between the host community and growing refugee community in Northern Ireland by creating opportunities for the development of positive relationships and good relations.

The overall aim of the project is to bring about a real change in attitude and create understanding within both the host and refugee community of the issues and fears associated with living in a post conflict society whether as someone who has lived through the conflict or someone recently arrived. In facilitating this attitudinal change the project intends to create a firm platform upon which a shared neighbourhood can be built, imbedded with the principles of Equity, Diversity and Interdependence.

The Inclusive Neighbourhood Project has submitted a proposal to Park's Officers to use Falls Park as a location to provide an opportunity for refugee community groups to engage with local community groups to provide a better understanding of each other's cultures.

The event is scheduled to take place on 25 September 2011 in Falls Park as detailed in the attached event schedules.

| | |
|------------|--|
| 2.0 | Key Issues |
| | <p>The events and activities will be suitable for the targeted audience and they include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International food demonstrations • Irish Dancers • Ugandan drums workshop • Refugee awareness workshops • NICRAS youth dance show • Hair braiding and henna tattooing • International music demonstrations • Bouncy castle • Ulster Wildlife Trust demonstrations • Ni Fire Service demonstrations • Forum theatre and discussion • Family fitness boot camp • Bike proficiency demonstration <p>The event is scheduled to begin at 12 noon and finish at 5pm. Information stands will be available in the bowling pavilion and will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Belfast Sure Start • NICEM • NICRAS • Refugee community groups • Falls women's centre • Lonad Uibh Eachach • Whiterock Family Centre • Clonard Community Development • Friends of Falls Park, and other appropriate groups. <p>Entry to the festival will be free of charge as will all the activities. The event organisers will be required to resolve all operational, statutory and reinstatement issues to the Council's satisfaction.</p> <p>The Council and the festival organisers will enter into an appropriate legal agreement based on advice from the Director of Legal Services.</p> |

| | |
|------------|--|
| 3.0 | Resource Implications |
| | <p><u>Financial</u> The organisers have received funding for the festival and it is anticipated that all costs will be met through this funding. Council are asked to provide the venue for free.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u> There will be no additional Human Resource implications for the Council other than officer time.</p> |

| | |
|------------|---|
| 4.0 | Equality and Good Relations Implications |
| | The event supports the development of attitudinal change and as part of the project aims to create a firm platform upon which a shared neighbourhood can be built, imbedded with the principles of Equity, Diversity and Interdependence. |

| | |
|------------|--|
| 5.0 | Recommendations |
| | <p>It is recommended that the Committee grants authority for this event on condition that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The event organisers resolve all operational issues to the Council's satisfaction; • An appropriate legal agreement to be prepared by the Town Solicitor and Assistant Chief Executive is completed; • The event organisers meet all statutory requirements including entertainment licensing; • The event organisers ensure that all health and safety requirements are met to the Council satisfaction including risk assessments. |

| | |
|------------|--|
| 6.0 | Decision Tracking |
| | Officer responsible: City Park Manager, South and West Belfast |

| | |
|------------|-----------------------------|
| 7.0 | Key to Abbreviations |
| | None |

| | |
|------------|---------------------------|
| 8.0 | Documents Attached |
| | None |