

Summary of Priority Actions for the Parks and Leisure Department for 2012/13

The department is currently developing the full detail of its Departmental Plan for 2012/13 which will be presented to Parks and Leisure Committee in March.

Highlighted below are some of the key actions

- Agree the new Active Belfast and Open Spaces (ABOS) strategy and deliver year two actions
- 8 new outdoor / “green” gyms to be installed in “community activity hubs” across the city
- Develop and Deliver 4 community gardens across the city as Part of the Growing Communities Strategy
- Carry out essential work on the Orangefield Cycle Track
- Deliver year two actions in the pitches strategy including the pitches improvement programme
- Develop programmes to increase participation in connection with 2012 Olympics to maximise the Olympic legacy
- Deliver Active Belfast consortium work programme to include: Active Communities
- Implement Replacement programme for Leisure Centre Cardiovascular equipment
- Develop a robust plan for the development of new crematorium facilities in Belfast and continue to manage the ongoing cemeteries development project.
- Improve the customer experience at Parks and Leisure venues through our New Customer Charter and implement our customer service standards
- Continue to roll out customer care training for all staff
- Implementing other service improvement pilots
- Complete a Green Flag standard site assessment across the department’s parks and green spaces: retain Green Flag in the 7 parks that currently hold it; and apply for Green Flag in three additional parks and open spaces – Sir Thomas and Lady Dixon, Waterworks and Victoria
- Make arrangements for the management and maintenance of phase 1 of the Connswater community Greenway
- Conclude works on the Dunville and Woodvale park development programme
- Develop with partners an annual programme of parks and leisure focused citywide events across the city
- Facilitate the delivery of community programmes and activities
- Work in partnership to develop and deliver the Safer Neighbourhood Antisocial Behaviour Programme
- Deliver and evaluate the Presence in Parks initiative
- Deliver phase two of the People in Parks (youth) initiative with Challenge Youth
- Deliver improvements in Dog control in our parks
- Develop and deliver year two actions in an ‘Active Belfast Plan’ together with the Belfast Health Development Unit and other partners
- Deliver sports development activities at the Urban Sports Park
- Deliver a range of health and well-being programmes and activities
- Agree and implement the revised business/ commercial model for the Zoo

- Develop a city wide participation plan, including a review of the departmental grants schemes
- Through operational reviews identify and deliver improvements and efficiencies in our services