



## Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee.
<b>Subject:</b>	Mary Peters Track - Monthly Progress Report
<b>Date:</b>	9 February 2012
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Stephen Walker, Departmental Portfolio Programme Manager Dermot Black, Project Manager, Property and Projects Department

<b>1</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
1.1	The Committee is reminded that at its meeting in September 2011 it asked that a monthly progress report be submitted to committee on the refurbishment of the Mary Peters Track.

<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	<p>The current position is as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Detailed design work has been completed and the specification has been issued, at risk, for tender.</li><li>2. Completed tenders have now been received and are currently being evaluated, it is anticipated that the evaluation process will be completed by the end of February 2012.</li><li>3. As previously reported a number of issues emerged from the statutory planning process. The first relates to the provision of additional car parking to cater for proposed events at the track, work is progressing to respond to the Roads Service comments. The second relates to comments which have now been received from the Northern Ireland Environment Agency and which relate to the potential environmental impact of the works; the third issue was raised by the Lagan Valley Regional Park Partnership Board and highlighted the need to construct buildings in a manner sensitive to the surrounding environment and ensure that additional lighting did not spill over on to adjacent residential properties. Further work has been completed on the emergent issues and a response has been issued to the Planning Service.</li><li>4. The committee is asked to note that senior managers from the council have met with planning officials to ensure that the planning application is progressed in a timely manner.</li></ol>

	<p>In addition:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Arrangements are in place to permit Northern Ireland Athletics Federation to remain en situ during the construction works;</li> <li>2. NIAF have plans in place to close the facility as necessary prior to the commencement of the works;</li> <li>3. Signs and information boards will be erected in the run up to the commencement of the works;</li> <li>4. Members will recall that it has been previously reported that it will be necessary to remove approximately 70 trees to facilitate the works; a replacement plan is in place and this work will commence on or around 6 February 2012 to avoid the nesting season; again the Lagan Valley Partnership has been advised of this and signs will be in place;</li> <li>5. A process for the removal of the Japanese Knotweed has been prepared and issued to the NIEA</li> </ol> <p>The committee will recall that it was previously agreed to seek tenders in respect of elements of the management of the facility once completed. The procurement process is underway, a specification is being prepared and will be advertised in the local press later in the year with a view to making an appointment around June 2012. In preparation for this the committee is asked for delegated authority to be given to the Director of Parks and Leisure to undertake this tender process.</p>
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<b>3</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
3.1	<u>Financial</u> There are no additional financial implications.
3.2	<u>Human Resources</u> There are no additional human resource implications, work is being progressed within existing resources.
3.3	<u>Asset and Other Implications</u> The refurbishment of the track will safeguard the future of facility and provide improved facilities for users of the track and spectators.

<b>4</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Considerations</b>
4.1	Equality considerations will be taken account of in the design of the facility which will be DDA compliant.
4.2	When completed it is proposed to have a delivery plan in place which will seek to ensure wide access to the facility.

<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
5.1	The committee is asked to note the report. The committee is also asked to grant authority to Director of Parks and Leisure to undertake a tender process to seek, receive, evaluate in line with predetermined criteria, and then award the tender to the most economically advantageous tender.

<b>6.</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
	A further report will be presented to committee in March 2012
<b>7.</b>	<b>Key to abbreviations</b>
	DDA: Disability Discrimination Act
<b>8.</b>	<b>Documents attached</b>
	None.