



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Sports Matters – The Northern Ireland Strategy for Sport & Physical Recreation 2009-2019
Date:	15 March 2012
Reporting Officer:	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
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1.	Relevant Background Information
1.1	The purpose of this report is to provide an update to Committee on how the Council is contributing to the achievement of DCAL's Sports Matters Strategy. "Sports Matters" is the Northern Ireland Strategy for Sport & Physical Recreation 2009-2019 and states that its vision is 'a culture of lifelong enjoyment and success in sport'. It proposes a strategy which will provide a lasting and sustainable legacy for future generations.
1.2	The strategy identifies 26 high level targets which are structured to reflect the current and anticipated needs of sport and physical recreation as expressed through consultation. These relate to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participation• Performance• Places.

2.	Key Issues
2.1	A detailed breakdown of how the Council is contributing to the achievement of the 26 targets is attached as appendix 1. In summary we contribute to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 8 of the 11 participation targets• 7 of the 9 performance targets• 6 of the 6 places targets
2.2	The Council's contribution to the achievement of the participation targets

	<p>is through our delivery of a wide range of activities and programmes many of which are targeted to increase participation from under represented groups including females, people with a disability and older people. These programmes include Active Communities, health and well being programmes such as Healthwise, try it schemes and activities such as summer schemes. We also contribute to the participation targets through the provision of a wide range of facilities across the city including leisure centres, parks, outdoor pitches and specialist facilities such as the Mary Peters Track and Bridges Urban Sports Park.</p>
2.3	<p>The Council's contribution to the achievement of the performance targets is through our delivery of the Coachmark and Clubmark schemes and our support of elite athletes. We also contribute to the achievement of these targets by our investment in high quality facilities such as the five new 3G pitches, the upgrade of the Mary Peters Track and the development of the Bridges Urban Sports Park.</p>
2.4	<p>The provision of high quality facilities and the capital investments referred to previously also help us to contribute to the achievement of the places targets.</p>

3.	Resource Implications
	<p><u>Financial</u> The delivery of actions relating to the implementation of this strategy are included within the department's development budget.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u> The delivery of actions relating to the implementation of this strategy are included within council officers' and staffs' normal duties.</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u> None .</p>

4.	Equality and good relations implications
	<p>There are no equality or good relation implications in relation to this report.</p>

5.	Recommendations
	<p>Members are asked to note the contents of this report.</p>

6.	Decision Tracking
	No further action is required.

7.	Key to Abbreviations
	DCAL – Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure

8	Documents attached
	Appendix 1: Detailed breakdown of how Belfast City Council is contributing to the achievement of the strategy