



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Titanic Floral Display
Date:	15 March 2012
Reporting Officer:	Rose Crozier, Assistant Director of Parks and Leisure
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Relevant Background Information

In recognition of the significance of 2012 as the centenary of the Titanic, Parks and Leisure Department Landscape architects have designed a permanent Titanic Garden in the grounds of City Hall.

As part of the centenary celebrations it is proposed to provide a second 'show garden' of a temporary nature that can be transported and set up throughout the City where required, for example, Spring Flower show, Rose Week, Autumn Flower show, Titanic building, etc.

The proposed floral display will contribute to a City wide programme of events commemorating this famous 'Belfast built' ship and will showcase the work of the Parks and Leisure department.

Key Issues

Parks and Leisure Landscape Planning and Development Unit have designed a Titanic floral display which is attached at Appendix 1. The theme of the design is 'And the music played on' and will include a display of flowers and plants designed to commemorate the lives of those who died on the Titanic 100 years ago.

It is proposed that a quartet of musicians dressed in appropriate evening wear will play a variety of songs originally played by the quartet of musicians on board the Titanic on that fateful night.

A seating area will be provided within the marquee at each event allowing people to relax and enjoy the garden. Information boards will be located within the marquee providing facts and relevant information about the Titanic, the design of the garden and the use of plants.

The Council's Property Maintenance section have agreed to build the structure and Parks and Leisure gardening staff will provide the horticultural expertise required to design and install the plants and flowers and maintain the display. The garden is designed so that it can be erected and dismantled quickly and stored ready for the next event.

Over 65% of the plants will be 'recycled' and used repeatedly over different display dates.

Resource Implications

Financial

Initial costs are estimated at £8,100 which includes

- construction of structure,
- Initial purchase of plants.

The refresh of plants for 3 additional displays would cost in the region of £1,200. The costs have been provided for in revenue budgets.

Human Resources

It is not anticipated at this time that there will be additional Human Resource implications for the Council other than officer time and some staff costs relating to building and maintaining the display garden.

Recommendations

Committee is asked to support this initiative to provide up to 4 displays of the commemorative garden throughout the City.

Key to Abbreviations

None.

Documents Attached

Appendix 1. Plan of Titanic Flower display.