



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Development Plan for Falls Park and City Cemetery
Date:	12 April 2012
Reporting Officer:	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Rose Crozier, Assistant Director of Parks and Leisure

1	Relevant Background Information
	<p>The Friends of Falls Park is a group of people dedicated to continuously improving Falls Park and the surrounding area for the benefit of the local community. Their consistent help and assistance towards organising and running community events within the Park has been invaluable to the Community Park Manager and staff.</p> <p>At a recent meeting it was suggested that their aims and objectives should include the Park, the surrounding area and, in particular, the City Cemetery, which is located adjacent to Falls Park.</p> <p>The City Cemetery has the potential to increase tourism within the area due to the unique heritage and history concerning the city of Belfast. Tours of the cemetery have been organised on a regular basis for many years, outlining the history of Belfast.</p>

2	Key Issues
	<p>The Friends of Falls Park and a number of other interested organisations, including elected Councillors, have invited officers from the council to a number of meetings to explore different options to provide a Development Plan for Falls Park, City Cemetery and the immediate surrounding area.</p> <p>It is envisaged the Development Plan which is included as part of the management plan required under Green Flag, will provide a cohesive approach for the local community and assist in bringing investment to the area.</p> <p>The Development Plan is intended to provide an agreed approach to prioritising the needs of the local community and to provide a strategic</p>

	<p>approach towards increasing the potential tourism aspects contained within the City Cemetery.</p> <p>The Development Plan will highlight a number of recommendations over a 1– 5 year period. The meetings are at a preliminary stage and as yet no actions or recommendations have been agreed.</p>
--	---

3	Resource Implications
	There are no Human or Financial Resource implications contained within the report other than officer time

4	Equality and Good Relations Implications
	There are no equality issues.

5	Recommendations
	Committee is asked to note the work being undertaken with Friends of Falls Park to establish a development plan for Falls Park, City Cemetery and the surrounding area.

6	Decision Tracking
	N/A

7	Abbreviations
	None.

8	Documents Attached