



Belfast City Council

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| Report to: | Parks and Leisure Committee. |
| Subject: | Update Report – Refurbishment of Dunville and Woodvale Parks |
| Date: | 12 April 2012 |
| Reporting Officer: | Rose Crozier, Assistant Director of Parks and Leisure |
| Contact Officer: | Stephen Walker, Departmental Portfolio Programme Manager |

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| 1. | Relevant Background Information |
| | <p>The Committee will recall that the refurbishment of these two parks was identified as an action within the Parks Improvement Agenda. The schemes were advanced to the 'committed' section of the Council's Capital Programme in March 2010 and are also included in the Council's draft Investment Programme. The Department for Social Development (Belfast Regeneration Office) approved matched funding for the schemes in March 2011. In April 2011 the Parks and Leisure approved the preferred options as identified through the Economic Appraisal Process.</p> |

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| 2. | Key Issues |
| | <p>The Committee is asked to note that the current position is as follows:</p> <p><u>Construction works</u></p> <p>Woodvale Park</p> <p>Tenders have been received and the evaluation process is nearing completion with final checks being made. Owing to the holiday period an appointment of a contractor is not expected until 20th April. Following the appointment a series of meetings will be held with the successful contractor to manage mobilisation and put in place a programme of works.</p> <p>Dunville Park</p> <p>The tender process has been delayed for several weeks owing to a technical problem with the sourcing of cladding for the proposed changing</p> |

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| | <p>pavilion. The matter has been resolved and tenders are due to be received on 24th April. An evaluation process will follow; the estimated start date will be early May 2012.</p> <p>In both cases, it is still intended that the work will be completed by March 2013.</p> <p><u>Community engagement</u> Councils Officers continue to meet with representatives of community organisations and groups on a number of issues associated with the construction phase of the project and also with possible management arrangements post completion.</p> <p>In relation to the works phase. Discussions are ongoing to put in place a range of programmes and activities during the year to compensate locally for the loss of the open space. These programmes will target the local community and will be developed in partnership with the local community and delivered locally. Up to £20,000 will be available to support the programme.</p> <p><u>Communication</u> A communication plan has been developed. It is intended that quarterly updates be provided to inform the public. The Council web site will also be used to update progress on a more frequent, monthly, basis.</p> |
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| 3. | <p>Resource Implications</p> <p><u>Financial Implications</u> The two projects have been included on the capital programme.</p> <p>At this time no additional revenue implications have been identified. Resources to support community programmes have already been included within existing revenue budget.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u> Whilst it is not anticipated that there will be additional human resource implications, it is anticipated that Officers will be required to focus on these projects in the run up to the completion of the works and in the months immediately post completion. This will need to be accommodated within existing work schedules.</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u> The refurbishment of the two parks provides the opportunity to make a positive contribution to improving the quality of life of people living in the neighbourhoods in which they are located.</p> |
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| 4. | Equality and Good Relations Considerations |
| | There are no equality implications |

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| 5. | Recommendations |
| | It is recommended that the Committee note the report. |

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| 6. | Decision Tracking |
| | A further update report will be brought to Committee in June 2012 to update on progress |

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| 7. | Key to Abbreviations |
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| 8. | Documents Attached |
| | None |