



## Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Closures for Public Holidays and update on St Patrick's Day 2013
<b>Date:</b>	14 February 2013
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Rose Crozier, Assistant Director

<b>1</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
	<p>Each year a plan is presented to committee setting out the opening/closing arrangements for public holidays. At the January 2012 Committee, Members approved the closure arrangement in respect of public holidays for 2012/13 and advised that committee would be presented with an update in relation to St Patrick's Day 2013.</p>

<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
	<p>Members are asked to note the following information:</p> <p>At the time of submitting the report in January 2012 the public/bank and statutory holiday entitlements had not been confirmed. The recommendations of the January 2012 report were made on the basis that Sunday 17 March would be allocated as the St Patrick's day public holiday for shift workers. However the Council has since confirmed that Monday 18 March has been allocated as the designated St Patrick's day holiday for all staff including shift workers.</p> <p>As a result of this the following centres which were all due to be closed on Sunday 17 March 2013 will now close on Monday 18 March 2013 instead : Andersonstown, Whiterock, Ozone Tennis Centre, Loughside and Falls.</p> <p>As per the January 2012 report the majority of centres close on bank holidays however some centres remain open to facilitate the smaller customer throughput and these are chosen on a geographical basis and rotated each year and this practise will continue for 2013/14.</p>

	<p>Staff training has also proven difficult operationally for mandatory training or briefing sessions on operational issues. Members are asked during December to allow a training day to be allocated per centre. Any other short closures will be delegated to the director to facilitate operational reviews and improvements.</p> <p>Planned maintenance closures will also need to be facilitated and a further report will be submitted to committee in relation to these and the bank holiday arrangements for 2013/14 as soon as they are agreed.</p>
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<b>3</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
	<p><u>Financial</u></p> <p>The financial impact of implementation of this change has been reflected within the revenue estimates for the period 2012/13.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u></p> <p>Staff required to work on 18 March are entitled to normal pay for that day, plus plain time for the hours worked, plus time off with pay, at a later date.</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u></p> <p>None</p>

<b>4</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Considerations</b>
	None

<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
	It is recommended that members approve the change in date for St Patrick's day closure for 2013.

<b>6</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
	The Committee Decision will be implemented by the Assistant Director and appropriate notification will be provided to staff and customers.

<b>7</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
	None