



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Parks Events Small Grants Scheme
Date:	14 February 2013
Reporting Officer:	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Brian McKinley, Events Co-ordinator

1.	Relevant Background Information
-----------	--

Members are reminded that at its meeting on 15 November 2012, approval was given to support the grant scheme for groups wishing to stage events in parks during the summer of 2013. It was agreed by Committee to increase the maximum grant per group from £2,250 to £3,000 and in May 2012 the Committee granted delegated authority to the Director to approve funding applications to the scheme in 2013/14 if required.

Information on the scheme was advertised accordingly and the closing date for applications was set at 8 January 2013. The criteria used for assessing applications to the scheme is attached in Appendix 1.

2.	Key Issues
-----------	-------------------

- The applications were assessed according to the criteria agreed by Committee. Of the 22 applications, 21 met the criteria for an award to be made. Full details of the applications received and the recommendations for grant awards are presented in Appendix 2.
- A Community Parks Outreach Manager will contact the group that was not successful in receiving an award to help them identify other options for their proposed event.
- Due to the lower number of applications received, further applications will be invited and the conditions of the existing scheme will apply.

	<p>Information on the Scheme will also be advertised and the Parks Outreach Officers will work to ensure that communities across the city are aware of this funding opportunity and are encouraged to apply.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Officers will continue to review the scheme and any revisions will be brought back to the October Committee for consideration and approval.
--	--

3.	Resource Implications
	<p><u>Financial</u> £100,000 was allocated in the revenue estimates to cover this scheme.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u> The management of the scheme mainly involves staff from the Open Spaces & Active Living Unit and Business Support. The Community Park Managers and Outreach Officers are responsible for liaising with groups.</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u> The running of community events increases use of the parks and creates a sense of ownership.</p>

4.	Equality Implications
	<p>There are no known equality and good relation implications.</p>

5.	Recommendations
	<p>It is recommended that the Committee note:-:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ that the groups listed in Appendix 2 have been awarded grants under the Director's delegated authority.

6.	Decision Tracking
	<p>All actions will be completed by the Open Spaces & Active Living Manager by October 2013</p>

7.	Key to Abbreviations
	<p>None</p>

8.	Documents Attached
	Appendix 1: Current criteria for the parks events small grants scheme Appendix 2: List of applications and proposed grants.