



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Request for use of Pitch and Belfast City Council name for Charity Football Match
Date:	14 March 2013
Reporting Officer:	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure

1.	Relevant Background Information
	<p>A staff member in the Parks and Leisure Department has submitted a request for the free use of the stadium at Blanchflower Playing Fields and the use of Belfast City Council's name. The individual wishes to host a charity association football match to raise funds for an orphanage in Ukraine.</p> <p>The staff member is proposing that a Belfast City Council team play a team from Dublin City Council. The date and timing of the match have not been agreed and no approach has yet been made to Dublin City Council to take part. The proposal is that the Belfast City Council team is open to all employees and that as many people as possible are involved. The team members would be asked to take a sponsorship form and the funds would be raised through this method.</p> <p>The individual has not yet sourced any form of sponsorship or funding for a kit so it is not clear at this point if the Council logo will be on the team's jerseys.</p>
2.	Key Issues
	<p>In considering the request it is recommended that Members asked to note the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In the past the Council has provided ad hoc support to staff and member sports teams or activities but there is currently no corporate policy in relation to this. In absence of an agreed policy Members are being asked to judge this request on its merits. This

	<p>will be done on the basis that it will not set a precedent for future requests.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • While the match is for charity it is not one of the Lord Mayor's chosen charities and is for a charity that operates outside of the Council's boundary. • The proposal is to invite a team from outside Northern Ireland to participate in the match. • At this point there is no detail on any potential sponsorship and any sponsorship deal that would include the use of the Council's name and logo would require the approval of Corporate Communications. • The request is for in kind support which is in the form of a waiver of the hire charges.
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3.	Resource Implications
	<p><u>Financial</u> There will be a cost associated with the granting free use of the pitch. From 1st April 2013 this would range from £70.40 for match hire during the day to £182.80 for evening hire.</p> <p><u>Human Resource</u> There may be a requirement to bring in additional staff to cover the use of the facility.</p> <p><u>Asset and other Implications</u> There are no expected additional resource implications.</p>

4.	Equality and good relations implications
	There are no equality and good implications with this request as the invitation to join the team is open to all Council employees.

5.	Recommendations
	Members are asked to consider the request for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the free use of the stadium at Blanchflower; and (ii) the use of Belfast City Council's name for this charity match and give direction on whether they should be granted.

6.	Decision Tracking
	The Director of Parks and Leisure will implement the Committee's decision.

7.	Key to Abbreviations
	None

8.	Documents Attached
	None