

Belfast City Council

Report to: Parks and Leisure Committee

Subject: North Belfast Play Forum

Date: 13 June 2013

Reporting Officer: Rose Crozier, Assistant Director of Parks and Leisure

Contact Officer: Stephen Walker, Departmental Portfolio Programme

Manager

1. Relevant Background Information

The Committee is reminded that at its meetings in December 2011 and August 2012 it received a report on proposals by the North Belfast Play Forum to convert the existing polymeric surface in to a 3rd generation facility. This request came from the Forum who had indicated increased difficulties in attracting existing users to use the facility as users preferred the newer 3rd generation facility.

At its meeting in December 2011 the Committee had been informed that the Forum had made application to BIFFA for funding and were seeking a contribution from the Council as 3^{rd} party funder, up to £10,000. The Committee agreed to this. In August 2012 it was reported to the Committee that the Council had received notification from BIFFA that a contribution of £5,102.04 was required to meet the 10% required as a 3^{rd} Party Funding Body.

The Committee is asked to note that the cost of the works have increased since the initial application to BIFFA. The estimated cost is now £63,000. Therefore the Council is being asked to contribute the original £10,000 it had agreed to the project with the shortfall, approximately £3,000 being met by Belfast Regeneration Office.

The project has now progressed. The lease agreement has been completed and it is hoped that the works will be completed in the summer.

2. Key Issues

The Committee is asked to reaffirm its decision in December 2011 to contribute up to £10,000 to meet the cost of the replacement third generation carpet.

3. Resource Implications

Financial Implications

The cost can be met from existing budgets.

Human Resource Implications

There are no additional human resource implications other than Officer time.

Asset and Other implications

There are no other implications.

4. Equality Implications

There are no equality implications.

5. Recommendations

The Committee is asked to authorise the expenditure of up to £10,000 to meet the cost of the works.

6. Decision Tracking

A further report will be brought to Committee following completion of the works by the Departmental Portfolio and Programme Manager.

7. Key to Abbreviations

None

8. Documents Attached

Appendix A – Previous Reports from December 2011 and August 2012