



## Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee.
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Proposal to erect boxing sculptures in our Parks</b>
<b>Date:</b>	8 August 2013
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Stephen Walker, Departmental Portfolio Programme Manager

<b>1</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
	<p>The Committee will be aware that it received a presentation from Belfast Boxing Ring at its meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2012 regarding its proposals that the Council recognise the contribution of the sport of boxing to the City through a series of commemorative sculptures. Members will be aware that the Council has recently launched an Amateur Boxing Strategy which seeks to promote and develop the sport.</p> <p>The Belfast Boxing Ring was established in 2010 with the aim of celebrating the rich and diverse history of boxing in the city. In addition, the project seeks to acknowledge the valuable contribution which the sport has made to the social fabric of Belfast. This will be achieved by the erection of three statues at the undernoted sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cathedral Gardens – statue to Rinty Monaghan</li><li>• Dunville Park – statue to John Caldwell</li><li>• Woodvale Park – statue to the boxing greats of the Shankill Road</li></ul> <p>Officers are mindful that there have been a great many successful boxers from the City and that they have come from all parts of the city. The Committee at the November 2012 meeting agreed in principle to support the proposals.</p>

<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
	<p>The proposal was considered by the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee at its meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2013 and agreed to add this project to the Capital Programme as a Stage 1 Emerging Project.</p>

	A Strategic Outline Case will now be prepared to enable the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee to consider progressing this project on to the next stage of the capital programme.
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<b>3</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
	<p><u>Financial</u></p> <p>The cost of the 3 sculptures is estimated to be in the region of £180,000 subject to tender.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u></p> <p>There are no additional human resource implications at this time.</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u></p> <p>There are no asset or other implications.</p>

<b>4</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Considerations</b>
4.1	There are no equality implications

<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
5.1	Members are asked to note the contents of this report.

<b>6</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
	None

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

<b>8</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
	None