



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Knocknagoney Linear Park Arts Project
Date:	13 March 2014
Reporting Officer:	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Lynne McCreery Community Parks Outreach Manager Cailín Lynn, Community Parks Project Coordinator

1. **Relevant Background Information**

This community arts project is supported by the Arts Council of Northern Ireland to develop community cohesion and the development of the physical environment. The Arts Council have awarded Knocknagoney Area Forum (KAF) £5000 for a two phase arts project to take place in Knocknagoney Linear Park.

This project will focus on the continued development and community engagement within Knocknagoney Linear Park. Some of the successful work carried out in the past six to eight months has included:

- Creation of a new community garden
- New kick about area
- New children's play and bicycle training area
- Tree planting, woodland thinning and outdoor classroom area
- Creation of bird feeding stations and bird and bat boxes.

This project will specifically target the parks lookout towers which have suffered from ASB in recent years (see appendices 1 and 2). Creative consultation will be carried out with the local community focused on identity, wildlife, nature and the environment in their local park.

This project aims to create ownership, understanding and wider community awareness of this local park, by engaging local community

	<p>groups and young people who may be involved in ASB in this area.</p> <p>Following a procurement process, a public artist will be appointed to follow the progress of stage one and develop an art piece that encompasses the work of the local participants to be installed at stage two, on the lookout towers.</p> <p>This project will compliment the significant work that has been undertaken in the park in recent years to transform the space, to tackle anti social behaviour and ensuring the park has become a central part of the community which is owned and used by the whole community;</p>
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2.	Key Issues
	<p>As stated above, this art project will take place in two phases.</p> <p>Phase one will be a process of creative consultation. Artists working in mosaics, printmaking and graffiti will be engaged to work with a range of different target groups over a series of workshops. Workshop participants will be drawn from the older people's group in local BCC community centre, Knocknagoney Primary School children and parents group and Knocknagoney Youth Club.</p> <p>Through shadowing the artists across the workshop programme, the commissioned public artist will identify experiences and images held by the groups.</p> <p>It is up to the commissioned public artist to then bring some coherence to a multiplicity of ideas and images generated through the workshops, while also representing individual ideas of those who took part in the workshops, to inform a proposal for a final commissioned piece.</p> <p>The second phase of this project is the development and installation of the public art piece proposed by the commissioned public artist. This piece of work will be installed on the lookout towers within the park.</p>

3.	Resource Implications
	<p><u>Financial</u> The costs and budget for this project will be established by the commissioned artist at the close of stage one, which will be 31 March 2014. ASB and outreach budgets may be required to further develop this community lead arts project.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u> There are no human resource implications attached to this report.</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u> The life span of the final art piece will be dependent on the materials</p>

	selected by the main artist and the effects of outside elements over the years.
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4.	Equality Implications
	There are no equality implications at this stage, this project will be carried out in an inclusive manner.

5.	Recommendations
	<p>It is recommended that Committee grant authority for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knocknagoney Area Forum and the Council to seek further funding for this permanent art piece to be installed in Knocknagoney Linear Park. • The final public art piece to be installed on the Knocknagoney Linear Park Lookout Towers.

6.	Decision Tracking
	All actions to be carried out by Community Parks outreach team, Lynne McCreery and Cailín Lynn.

7.	Key to Abbreviations
	<p>KAF - Knocknagoney Area Forum ASB – Anti Social Behaviour</p>

8.	Documents Attached
	<p>Appendix 1 – Look out Tower 1 Appendix 2 - :Look Out Tower 2</p>