

Appendix B – Proposal from residents re consultation in relation to the development of a 3G pitch at Falls Park

Proposals from Falls Park Residents Group for Consultation on Proposals to Develop a 3G Pitch in the Falls Park

Purpose of consultation: To seek the views of residents within the West Belfast Constituency area on the Council's proposal to locate a 3G pitch plus changing pavilion, with associated perimeter fencing, floodlighting and additional car parking facilities in the Falls Park as per Planning Application No Z/2013/1293/F

Arrangements for Consulting

Time frame

12 weeks (see 3.2.6 of BBC's Equality Scheme March 2013)

Methodologies

- a) Information and awareness raising regarding the consultation to take place 2-3 weeks in advance of any consultation
 - a. Notices in Council owned properties (Leisure Centres and Community Centres)
 - b. Notices in Andersonstown News and Irish News
 - c. Notices in Parish Bulletins
 - d. Flier drop to households

People can then 'self select' for a more targeted consultation as follows:

- b) Engagement
 - a. Public meetings x 2
 - b. A public Debate
 - c. Opportunity to comment in writing

Accessibility and inclusivity

As per paragraph 3.2.3 of the Council's Equality Scheme, specific consideration must be given as to how best to communicate with children and young people,¹ people with disabilities (in particular people with learning disabilities) and minority ethnic communities. The Council's own Equality Scheme should inform plans for consultation with these groups and guidance can be provided by the Council's Good Relations and Equality Unit.

¹ Equality Commission for Northern Ireland (June 2008), Let's Talk Lets Listen, Guidance for Public Authorities on Consulting and Involving Children and Young People.

The Council also needs to consider more generally how it will obtain the views of those individuals and representative groups of Section 75 categories in accordance with the Equality Commission's Guidance and its own Equality Scheme.

Consultation Information and Questions

In order for this to constitute **meaningful engagement** the Council needs to outline in detail what its proposal is, including information on precise location, scale, perimeter fencing, floodlighting and car parking, proposed charges for usage. It also needs to make clear the implications of all of this.

Questions asked should include:

- Do you support this? If so why? If not why not?
- Alternative locations for a 3G pitch, both within and outside of the Falls Park
- Would you envisage you/your family/school/sports club using this 3G pitch?
- What is your vision for the Falls Park longer term?

Skills required to carry out the consultation

In line with the Council's Equality Scheme (March 2013) paragraph 3.2.4 specific training should be provided to those facilitating consultations to ensure that they will have the necessary skills to communicate effectively with consultees.

Next steps post consultation

The Council needs to spell out how it intends to collate, analyse and feedback results of the consultation, in a timely fashion, to all those residents who engaged in the consultation as well as to the Parks and Leisure Committee. This feedback needs to make clear how the Council has considered the views received, what weight has been attached to them and how it intends to respond to them.