



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Ballysillan Masterplan – Implications for Ballysillan Playing Fields
Date:	September 2014
Reporting Officer:	Rose Crozier, Assistant Director of Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Stephen Walker, Departmental Portfolio and Programme Manager

1.	Relevant Background Information
	<p>The Committee may be aware that work is on going in the preparation of master plan the aim of which is to regenerate the Balysillan area in North Belfast. A copy of a previous report to Strategic policy & Resources is attached as Appendix A. Whilst work on this is continuing and no funding has been secured. Officers have been approached by elected representatives from the area to request that the Council, within the context of the master plan, undertake some preliminary work with the local community to explore options which would help regenerate the existing playing fields and bowling pavilion and bring it into wider use within the area.</p> <p>At this stage it is being proposed that a small steering group be established which involved officers from the Council, elected representatives from the area and representatives of existing community and sports groups in the area with a view to working up a series of options which could in turn inform a wider discussion within the area as part of the master planning process.</p>
2.	Key Issues
	There are a number of issues for members to consider:

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Members will be aware that the master plan has no funding attached to it at present; 2. As with exercises of this nature there is the risk that local expectations will be raised in the absence of agreed schemes and indeed resources; 3. Nevertheless the existence of such a proposal, agreed and costed would enable the Council to positively impact on any future agreed scheme for the area.
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3.	Resource Implications
	<p><u>Financial Implications</u></p> <p>There are no financial implications at this time.</p> <p><u>Human Resource Implications</u></p> <p>There are no additional human resource implications</p>

4.	Equality Implications
	There are no equality implications.

5.	Recommendations
	<p>The Committee is asked to consider the report and to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Agree that a steering group be established, with agreed terms of reference with the aim of producing concept options for the potential reconfiguration of Ballysillan Playing Fields; 2. Bring back to committee a report on the options and next steps; 3. Agree to the works on the understanding that this does not commit the Council to any expenditure.

6.	Decision Tracking
	A further report will be brought to the Committee at a later date.

7.	Key to Abbreviations
	None

8.	Documents Attached
	<p>Appendix A- Report to Strategic Policy & Resources</p> <p>Appendix B Draft Ballysillan Master Plan</p>