



Belfast City Council

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| Report to: | Parks and Leisure Committee |
| Subject: | Licence Agreement – Bike Docks at Lagan Valley Regional Park |
| Date: | 11 December 2014 |
| Reporting Officer: | Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure, Ext. 3400. |
| Contact Officer: | Stephen Walker, Departmental Portfolio and Programme Manager, Ext. 3510. |

| 1 | Relevant Background Information |
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| 1.1 | At its meeting on 20 August 2013 the Development Committee agreed to contribute a sum of £9,475, as Belfast City Council’s contribution towards the installation of a series of interpretative panels and bicycle stands within the Belfast City Council portion of Lagan Valley Regional Park (LVRP). Some of the bicycle stands were to be installed on land owned by BCC. |
| 1.2 | In mid-October 2014 Parks and Leisure Department received a request from Castlereagh Borough Council (acting on behalf of LVRP) to install bicycle stands on a series of Council owned sites within the LVRP. |
| 1.3 | Proposed bicycle stand locations at Mary Paters Track, Sir Thomas and Lady Dixon Park and Clement Wilson Park have been agreed between officers and LVRP and are shown (marked red) on the attached maps (Appendix 1). |
| 1.4 | In order to regulate the installation of the proposed bicycle stands it is proposed a Licence Agreement be entered into between LVRP and the Council to document the responsibilities of the parties and to ensure there is a mechanism to allow the Council to approve the nature and position of the relevant stands. |
| 1.5 | Lagan Valley Regional Park is a partnership which includes Belfast City Council, Castlereagh Borough Council, Lisburn City Council, Department of Culture Arts and Leisure, the Northern Ireland Environment Agency, the National Trust, the Council for Nature Conservation and the Countryside, and Outdoor Recreation NI. |

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| 2 | Key Issues |
| 2.1 | Installation of the proposed bicycle stands at Council locations will be subject to their compliance with Council standards, the requirements of the Council's title to the sites and any other statutory or regulatory requirements. Ownership and responsibility for the bicycle stands will pass to Belfast City Council following their successful installation. While there is no contractual obligation upon the Council to maintain the stands, it is likely that some level of maintenance will be undertaken to ensure that the stands remain functional and to an acceptable standard to comply with the Health and Safety Requirements |
| 2.2 | The design and specification of the proposed bicycle stands will be agreed by officers within Parks and Leisure Department and will be incorporated within the proposed Licence Agreement. |

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| 3 | Resource Implications |
| 3.1 | <u>Finance</u> The bicycle stands are part of a larger raft of works across the LVRP which are being funded through the Northern Ireland Regional Development Programme. The Council's contribution per Development Committee (not to exceed) £9475 was towards the provision of interpretative panels and bicycle stands throughout those parts the LVRP within the (new) Belfast City Council boundary. No other Council capital costs are associated with the bicycle stand installations. As the bicycle stands are designed to benefit Council facilities no Licence Fee is appropriate in this case. |
| 3.2 | <u>Human Resources</u> Officers from Parks and Leisure Department involved in agreeing locations and specifications, officers from Parks and Leisure, Estates Management Unit and Legal Services involved in drawing up and agreeing the terms of the proposed Licence Agreement. |
| 3.3 | <u>Asset and Other Implications</u> The introduction of these new installations is designed to enhance the attractiveness of the parks (and LVRP) to cycle users. |

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| 4 | Equality and Good Relations Considerations |
| 4.1 | There are no equality or good relations issues associated with this report. |

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| 5 | Recommendations |
| 5.1 | Committee is recommended to authorise the grant of a Licence Agreement to allow Lagan Valley Regional Park's contractors access to the Council sites listed in this report, for the installation of approved bicycle stands and for ownership of those stands to transfer to the Council upon their successful installation, subject to the approval of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee in accordance with Standing Orders. |

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| 6 | Decision Tracking |
| Director of Parks and Leisure to ensure Licence Agreement is implemented prior to installation of any of the proposed bicycle stands. | |

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| 7 | Key to Abbreviations |
| BCC – Belfast City Council LVRP – Lagan Valley Regional Park | |

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| 8 | Documents Attached |
| Appendix 1 – Maps showing locations of proposed bike dock at Sir Thomas and Lady Dixon Park and Clement Wilson Park marked in red with surrounding Council land shaded yellow. | |