



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Request to dedicate an area of Shankill Memorial Garden
Date:	11 December 2014
Reporting Officer:	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Rose Crozier, Assistant Director of Parks and Leisure

1.	Relevant Background Information
	<p>The department has received a request from the Shankill Suicide Awareness/Prevention Group to dedicate an area in the corner of Shankill Memorial Garden in memory of loved ones who have committed suicide. This is to raise awareness of suicide and to acknowledge the impact it has on families and communities. It is proposed that the area would be marked by the placing of a plaque on a park bench.</p> <p>The organisation has also requested use of the garden to hold an annual memorial event on World Suicide Day which is 10 September. This event took place successfully in 2014 and was widely supported across the community.</p>
2.	Key Issues
	<p>Council officers will work with the organisation to agree the wording on the plaque.</p> <p>The annual event will be subject to an agreed event plan and will be required to meet all health and safety and legal requirements.</p>
3.	Resource Implications
	<p>The organisation has requested that Council funds the erection of the memorial plaque. The cost is estimated to be approximately £200 and can be accommodated within the area revenue budget.</p>
4.	Equality Implications
	<p>A number of events take place in other parts of the city e.g. Survivors of Suicide – CCG, PIPS in Waterworks and Falls Family Voices. This event would meet the needs of the community in this area.</p>

5.	Recommendations
	<p>Members are asked to agree :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to the erection of a memorial plaque dedicated to suicide awareness in Shankill Memorial Garden subject to agreement on wording and • to an annual memorial event taking place subject to satisfying the Councils terms and conditions.
6.	Decision Tracking
	Assistant Director Parks and Leisure.
7.	Key to Abbreviations
	CCG – Connswater Community Greenway
8.	Documents Attached
	NONE