



## Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Connswater Community Greenway Update 1
<b>Date:</b>	18 September 2009.
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Gerry Millar, Director of Improvement, Ext 6217
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Celine Dunlop, Estates Surveyor, Core Improvement, Ext 3419

### Relevant Background Information

Belfast City Council, as part of the City Investment Strategy, has agreed to coordinate the acquisition of lands to enable the Connswater Community Greenway Programme to proceed. The Council will secure rights over the land needed for the Greenway and shall be responsible for the management and maintenance of this land and any assets on the land. The Greenway must be accessible for 40 years to comply with the Big Lottery Fund letter of offer, although the intention is to secure rights for longer if possible.

### Key Issues

1.227 acres of land stretching from the Beersbridge Rd through Elmgrove Hollow including the Conn O'Neill bridge, along the Knock River to Dunraven Ave and along the Loop River adjacent to Linen Gardens has been identified as being required to provide the Connswater Community Greenway route and associated landscaping. Council officials have agreed, subject to Committee approval, to purchase this area of land for £45900.

### Resource Implications

#### Financial

The proposal requires an expenditure of £45900 plus legal and agents fees to purchase the land required. Land purchase costs are included within the Connswater Community Greenway budget included in the City Invest Fund and there will be no additional cost to Council.

Human Resources

No additional human resources required

Asset and Other Implications

The additional land will form part of the Connswater Community Greenway which when complete will be managed and maintained by the Council.

**Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Committee grant approval to the purchase of the lands outlined red on the plans attached at Appendix 1.

**Decision Tracking**

Action by Celine Dunlop to be completed by December 2009.

**Key to Abbreviations**

N/A

**Documents Attached**

Plan at Appendix 1