



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
Subject:	Flood Alleviation at Orangefield Park: Contractor's licence
Date:	21 September 2012
Reporting Officer:	Gerry Millar, Director of Property & Projects, ext 3526
Contact Officer:	Celine Dunlop, Property & Projects, ext 3526

1	Relevant Background Information
1.1	Members will be aware that the delivery of the Connswater Community Greenway (CCG) and Flood Alleviation Scheme (FAS) is a key project within the Investment Programme. The CCG/FAS involves the creation of a 16km walkway along the Knock, Loop and Connswater Rivers and incorporates extensive flood alleviation works. Funding of the scheme is provided by the Big Lottery, Belfast City Council, DSD and the Rivers Agency.
1.2	Residents of Orangefield Park, a street which runs adjacent to the Park at Orangefield, have been badly affected by flooding on a number of occasions over the past five to six years and were once again badly affected during the heavy rain of Wednesday 27 th June 2012.
1.3	The flood alleviation works planned for the Knock River at Orangefield Park as part of the CCG/FAS scheme will greatly reduce the risk of flooding to the houses in the vicinity of the Park. Members will be aware that the previous contract for the delivery of the CCG/ FAS project was mutually terminated earlier this year and that new contracts will be let for completion of the scheme in due course.
1.4	In advance of the main scheme and in recognition of the ongoing risk of flooding in the vicinity, Rivers Agency and the Council have agreed to carry out urgent interim flood alleviation work at Orangefield Park and adjoining land recently purchased by the Council for the CCG/FAS from BELB.
1.5	Rivers Agency have appointed White Mountain Quarries Ltd to:

1.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construct a new culvert at Orangefield Lane to supplement the capacity of the existing culvert • Construct a flood storage area at the upstream extent of Orangefield Park on lands previously owned by BELB and recently acquired by the Council for the CCG. <p>White Mountain Quarries Ltd are required to enter into a licence agreement with the Council to regulate their occupation of the Council owned land shown shaded yellow on the plan attached at Appendix '1'. The licence will, among other things, ensure appropriate reinstatement, site security, protection of adjoining council land and deal with insurance issues.</p>
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2	Key Issues
2.1	White Mountain Quarries Limited require a licence to use Council land at Orangefield Park and adjoining ex-BELB land to carry out flood alleviation works as agreed by the Council and Rivers Agency.
2.2	The licence will be for a three week period and week to week thereafter until the work is complete.
2.3	The Parks and Leisure Committee at its meeting on the 9 th August authorised the Director of Parks and Leisure to undertake in conjunction with the Rivers Agency, interim flood alleviation works within Orangefield Park.

3	Resource Implications
3.1	Financial No outgoings by Council.
3.2	Human Resources Resource from Property & Projects and Legal Services is required to draw up an appropriate licence agreement and monitor compliance.
3.3	Asset and Other Implications Temporary use only to be governed by a legal agreement to ensure no lasting detriment to the asset.

4	Equality and Good Relations Implications
4.1	None

5	Recommendations
5.1	Committee is recommended to approve the granting of a licence agreement at a fee of 5p if demanded to White Mountain Quarries Limited for the land shown shaded yellow on the plan attached at Appendix '1'.

6	Decision Tracking
6.1	To be completed by Celine Dunlop and Colin Campbell by 30 September 2012.

7	Key to Abbreviations
7.1	CCG: Connswater Community Greenway FAS: Flood Alleviation Scheme BELB: Belfast Education and Library Board

8	Documents Attached
8.1	Plan at Appendix '1'.