



<b>Subject:</b>	The Green Flag Award – an inclusive award for all
<b>Date:</b>	11 October 2016
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Nigel Grimshaw, Director City & Neighbourhood Services Department
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Rose Crozier, Assistant Director City and Neighbourhood Services Department John Macfarlane, Parks Quality Manager

Is this report restricted?

Yes

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No

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Is the decision eligible for Call-in?

Yes

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No

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<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues</b>
1.1	At a previous Committee, concern was raised about Green Flag's inclusivity and how it applied to all communities in Belfast. This report sets out the context of the Green Flag Award.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	The Committee is asked to; <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Note the report.</li></ul>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main report</b>
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.1	The Green Flag Award is a universal award and is currently in place in Australia, Channel Islands, England, Germany, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Northern Ireland, Republic Of Ireland, Scotland, United Arab Emirates, and Wales.
3.2	In Northern Ireland Green Flag is administered by Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful and there are fifty one sites that hold the award. In the Republic of Ireland it is administrated by An

	Taisce and there are twenty two sites that hold the award. Whilst the bodies that administer the award in each jurisdiction differ, the Green Flag award and its application remain the same.
3.3	Keep NI Beautiful is an environmental charity dedicated to making NI a cleaner and more pleasant place in which to live. They are responsible for a number of programmes which include Green Flag. Similarly An Taisce is a charity that works to preserve and protect Ireland's natural and built heritage.
3.4	The Green Flag Award is judged on eight criteria: A Welcoming Place, Healthy Safe & Secure, Well Maintained & Clean, Sustainability, Conservation & Heritage, Community Involvement, Marketing, and Management.
3.5	The key thing the judges are looking for is a well maintained park/cemetery that is relevant to the community that uses it. This is demonstrated in the management plan for the site and judging involves representatives of the community groups meeting the judges and confirming their participation in achieving the quality space their community wants.
3.6	The Green Flag award holds community at the heart of its values.
	<u>Financial &amp; Resource Implications</u>
3.7	No implications.
	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u>
3.8	The Green Flag award is applied equally to sites across the city and the 15 Green Flags held are spread North, South, East and West.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Appendices – Documents Attached</b>
4.1	None.