



Subject:	Proposed relocation of playground and MUGA at Braniel estate
Date:	11 October 2016
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Director City & Neighbourhood Services Department
Contact Officer:	Rose Crozier, Assistant Director, City & Neighbourhood Services Department Stephen Walker, Portfolio and Programme Manager

Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to present to Members proposals emerging from discussions with elected representatives from the area and a local residents group. In short it is proposed that the existing playground and Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) be relocated to another location within the estate.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to; <ul style="list-style-type: none">Note the report and agree to Officers undertaking a wider engagement within the community to establish support for the proposal, identify any concerns and other alternative proposals to enable options to be identified.
3.0	Main report
3.1	Members are being asked to consider a proposal which has come forward from a residents group in the Braniel Estate to relocate the existing playground and MUGA. Members will be aware that the Braniel estate is located in outer East Belfast and came within the Belfast boundary under Local Government Reform.

3.2	The transfer from Castlereagh included within the Braniel estate a playground and MUGA; a bowling green; community centre and an area of open space. These assets are now managed through the City and Neighbourhood Services Department.
3.3	Appendix 1 shows the location of the existing playground and MUGA which is located in an elevated position within the Estate. Members will appreciate that there is no surveillance and access is difficult, particularly for those with a disability or parents and carers with young children.
3.4	Appendices 2, 3 and 4 are photographs of the existing units. The equipment is generally viewed to be functional and in good condition. Members will note some damage to the surface and indeed Officers would be of the view that the surface would benefit from being replaced which would generally brighten it up.
3.5	The residents group has asked that we consider relocating the facility further into the Estate in an area adjacent to the existing community centre.
3.6	Appendix 5 shows the existing bowling green, which is now used as a small football area. It is proposed that the MUGA be relocated to this location. Appendix 6 shows a relatively level area of open space adjacent to the community centre and it is proposed that the playground be relocated to this location.
3.7	As stated previously there is little natural surveillance and access can be difficult. In addition, and some residents have expressed safety concerns around letting children travel to the playground/MUGA unaccompanied, although there have been no reports of incidents.
3.8	Members will be aware that the newly formed City and Neighbourhood Services Department comprises elements from a number of former departments including Parks and Community Services. The relocation of the playground and MUGA closer to the community centre would enable a more integrated programme of community activity to be put in place. Officers are of the view that a relocation of these facilities would be beneficial to the community and would encourage and promote greater use of the assets.
3.9	While Officers would concur that the existing facility is not ideally located it is proposed that an information session be set up to discuss proposals with the wider community and

	<p>establish support for it or otherwise; it will also provide an opportunity to identify other proposals which Officers believe are under consideration within the community, such as a full size football pitch.</p> <p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>3.10 There are no financial implications at this time.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>3.11 There are no Equality Implications</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
4.1	<p>Appendix 1: Photograph of existing facility located on height</p> <p>Appendices 2-4 : Photo of existing playground and MUGA</p> <p>Appendix 5 – Existing bowling Green – site of proposed relocation of MUGA</p> <p>Appendix 6 – Existing open space – site of proposed relocation of playground</p>