



Subject:	Connswater Community Greenway progress update
Date:	8 November 2016
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Director City & Neighbourhood Services Department
Contact Officer:	Rose Crozier, Assistant Director City & Neighbourhood Services Department Elaine Black, Policy and Business Development Officer

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 update Members on the plans to ensure the sustainable animation of the Connswater Community Greenway (the Greenway) as a 'living landmark', in partnership with Connswater Community Greenway Trust (CCGT).
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to; <ul style="list-style-type: none">Grant authority for officers to develop proposals to review the existing joint partnership arrangement and to collaboratively develop with CCGT the ongoing management and animation arrangements for the Greenway, post-construction.
3.0	Main report
3.1	As a result of a successful bid for Big Lottery funding led by Eastside Partnership in 2007, Council has a legal agreement with East Belfast Partnership Board (now known as Eastside Partnership) and this includes a 40 year commitment to maintain and manage the Greenway.
3.2	The Council, Big Lottery and Rivers Agency along with CCGT (a subsidiary company of Eastside Partnership) are the key partners on the strategic oversight group and operational project delivery board during and post construction of the Greenway.

3.3	Both Council and CCGT acknowledge the advantages of working in partnership and the benefits each organisation brings to developing the Greenway as a living landmark. The CCGT has played and continues to fulfil an important 'champion' role, ensuring that the local community and further afield, form and sustain connections to the Greenway. In turn, this has positive regeneration outcomes in relation to health, volunteering and reducing anti-social behaviour.
3.4	Now, with a year until completion, the Delivery Board chaired by the Council, has considered it timely to review achievements to date and ongoing animation needs post-construction.
3.5	It is therefore proposed that the Council engages with CCGT to develop and design future partnership arrangements, for consideration at a future Committee.
3.6	The new partnership arrangements will seek to build on existing practice and integrate 'best in class' collaborative practice. The primary objective will be to protect and sustain this living landmark, delivering maximum regeneration benefit and delivering good value for money. This will align with the City and Neighbourhood Services Departmental change programme. The Town Solicitor will provide any necessary legal advice as part of the review and development process.
3.7	As part of this development process, an animation plan for 2017 will be brought to Committee for its consideration. Funding to support the project is available up to end 2017 and project performance reporting is carried out on a quarterly basis.
	<u>Financial & Resource Implications</u>
3.8	There are no financial implications at this stage.
	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u>
3.9	Any amendments to the existing arrangements will be equality screened, prior to presentation to Committee.
4.0	Appendices – documents attached
4.1	None