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| <b>Subject:</b>           | <b>Asset Management:</b><br>i) <b>Belfast Bike Scheme</b><br>ii) <b>River Terrace – Surrender of Licence</b> |
| <b>Date:</b>              | 17 February 2017   |
| <b>Reporting Officer:</b> | Gerry Millar, Director of Property & Projects Department   |
| <b>Contact Officer:</b>   | Cathy Reynolds, Estates Manager, Property & Projects Department  |

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

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| <b>1.0</b> | <b>Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues</b>   |
| 1.1        | The purpose of this report is to seek approval from Members to asset related disposal, acquisition and lease matters.  |
| <b>2.0</b> | <b>Recommendations</b>   |
| 2.1        | <b>(i) Belfast Bike Scheme</b><br>Committee is recommended to grant approval for the Council to enter into the appropriate land access, licences or similar legal arrangements in respect of the bike docking stations previously agreed by the Council and any future docking stations subject to any reports as required, being brought to Committee in respect of the funding arrangements. |
| 2.2        | <b>(ii) River Terrace – Surrender of Licence</b><br>Committee is recommended to approve a decision by the People and Communities Committee at its meeting on 13 <sup>th</sup> September 2016 to surrender a plot of land at River Terrace to the Department of Communities (DFC) by way of a 3 month written notice.   |
| <b>3.0</b> | <b>Main report</b>   |
| 3.1        | <b>(i) Belfast Bike Scheme</b>   |

Key Issues

Members will be aware that approval has previously been given for installation of a number of externally funded bike docking stations across the City. These are now operational and the scheme is to be extended with the availability of external funding from the Building Successful Communities (BSC) and Urban Villages programmes.

3.2 Members will be aware that reports were brought to Committee on 22 January 2016 and 19 August 2016 in relation to the bike docking stations funded under BSC and Urban Villages Programme.

3.3 The Council is now in a position to enter into land access and licence / legal arrangements with landowners in respect of the agreed sites. Further sites are to be identified for expansion as part of the Urban Villages Programme and other funding streams and Committee is therefore recommended to grant approval for the Council to enter into the appropriate land access and licence/legal agreements for and future docking stations subject to any reports as required being brought in Committee in respect of the funding arrangements.

3.4 Finance and Resource Implications

A Council approved funding package is in place with the Dept for Communities under the BSC Programme and there is provisional agreement with OFMDFM for funding under the Urban Villages Programme.

3.5 **(ii) River Terrace – Surrender of Licence**

Key Issues

Members are reminded of a decision taken by the SP&R Committee at its meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> August 2015 to grant approval for the Council to enter into a Licence Agreement with the Department for Communities (formerly the Department for Social Development) on a 0.46 acre plot of land to the rear of River Terrace. The land was required for the development of a local community led garden and the licence took effect on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2015.

3.6 A capital fund of £20,000 was made available to the South Belfast Working Group to contribute towards the cost of providing the community garden. Following concerns regarding possible contamination of the site a subsequent consultant's report highlighted pockets of contamination and remedial measures were costed between £160,000 and £440,000.

At its meeting on 13 September 2016, the People & Communities Committee accepted the

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| 3.7        | <p>conclusion of Officers that the site was unsuitable for a community garden. The Committee agreed that, subject to satisfactory engagement with local stakeholder groups and the South Area Working Group and with the approval of the Strategic Policy &amp; Resources Committee, the licence should be surrendered to the Department for Communities.</p> <p>At its meeting on 23 January 2017, the South Belfast Area Working Group agreed to surrender the licence and the £20,000 which had been allocated for a community garden be used for a similar project at a new location beside River Terrace.</p> |
| 3.8        |  |
| 3.9        | <p><u>Financial &amp; Resource Implications</u></p> <p>The surrender of the Licence will result in a saving of a £440 per annum licence fee.</p>   |
| <b>4.0</b> | <b>Appendices – Documents Attached</b>   |
|            | Appendix 1 – Extract from the South Belfast Area Working Group meeting dated 23 <sup>rd</sup> January 2017.  |
|            | <b>Abbreviations</b>   |
|            | <p>BSC – Building Successful Communities</p> <p>DFC – Department for Communities</p>   |