



Subject:	Consultation Re: design of new play facility at Navarra Place
Date:	4 April 2017
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Director City & Neighbourhood Services Department
Contact Officer:	Nicola Lane; Good Relations Manager Stephen Walker; Portfolio & Programme Manager

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
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	This paper is to inform Members of a proposed consultation on the design of a new play facility for Navarra Place.
1.2	Council Officers, in conjunction with the Department of Justice, have arranged two consultation dates to provide the opportunity for local residents to have their say in the design of the new facility. The consultation will focus on the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Lay-out of the park▪ Equipment and facilities for the park, including a potential MUGA▪ The potential 'designing-out' of the interface fence.

1.3	<p>The dates proposed for the consultation event are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Wednesday 5th April in Hazelwood Primary School: 3-7p.m. ▪ Thursday 6th April in White City Community Centre: 4-8p.m.
1.4	<p>The consultation will also be available on the Council’s consultation portal for feedback between the dates of 28th March – 16th April. Residents and stakeholders will be identified and invited to attend with the assistance of the IFI Peacewalls Programme-funded Greater Whitewell Community Surgery group.</p>
1.5	<p>The consultation is to ascertain views from residents and stakeholders regarding the future design of the park, including the potential to ‘transform/remove’ the DoJ-owned security fence on the site which is located along the Serpentine Road in north Belfast. A paper will be taken back to the North Area Working Group following the consultation.</p>
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>Members are asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Note the above dates for the consultation events regarding the redevelopment of the playground at Navarra Place/White City.
3.0	Main report
3.1	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>The issue of redeveloping the park at Navarra Place has been under consideration for some time. The following points were included in a report to Council’s then Parks and Leisure Committee in a paper in August 2014:</p>
3.2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The existing playground is limited and there is scope to enhance the facility; 2. There is no evidence of vandalism or antisocial behaviour around the existing playground and it remains a respected asset by the residents; 3. NIHE has indicated a willingness to transfer the land to the Council for the purpose of providing a play area; 4. The cost is not yet known as no design work has been undertaken and this will be taken forward by Parks & Leisure and Property & Projects staff; 5. Preliminary site investigations are currently ongoing to determine any issues with the land that would present a risk to the Council should it wish to proceed with development – such as the presence of utilities underground.

3.3	There has been progress in relation to several of the issues above including the development of initial designs, initial costings and scoping land issues that may arise.
3.4	Members are also asked to note that there is the potential to transform/remove a DoJ-owned interface fence along Serpentine Road as part of the overall design of the Park. There is ongoing work with the Department of Justice and Council to develop work that will create the conditions to support the T:BUC headline action; 'removal of interface barriers by 2023'.
3.5	The commitment to the transformation of interface barriers is also included in the draft Belfast Agenda which includes the following stretch goal in the Living Here section: 'make progress towards reducing the number of interface barriers'.
3.6	The two consultation events will provide an opportunity for residents to express their views in relation to the site. Council officers will provide support to local community organisations to maximise the number of views that are heard through this exercise. Members are also requested to promote the event amongst any constituents in the immediate area of the park.
	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p>
3.7	There is potential for the costs of design/delivery of the new facility at Navarra Place/White City to be included in a Council bid for funding (2017/18) under the auspices of T:BUC (Fresh Start monies managed by DoJ): the costs could be split on a 50/50 basis with DoJ.
	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p>
3.8	There are no current equality or good relations implications to the hosting of the two consultation events. Any decision to proceed with the design of the Park will be subject to Council's Equality Screening process to ensure accessibility issues are addressed.
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	None