



Subject:	Marrowbone Millennium Park Playground Location
Date:	4 April 2017
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Director City & Neighbourhood Services Department
Contact Officer:	Rose Crozier, Assistant Director, City & Neighbourhood Services Department

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	The purpose of this report is to seek authority from Committee to explore options for the location of the playground currently situated within Marrowbone Millennium Park.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Authorise Officers to explore options regarding the most suitable location for a playground to serve the community around Marrowbone Millennium Park.
3.0	Main report
3.1	Members will be aware of proposals as part of the Urban Villages Programme to refurbish Marrowbone Millennium Park which is located on the Oldpark Road in North Belfast. This park was refurbished back in the 1990s as part of the Millennium funding available at the

	<p>time. While the park has however been subject to ongoing vandalism and anti-social behaviour, it remains the only open space available to the surrounding Ardoyne and Oldpark area.</p>
3.2	<p>Discussions are at a preliminary stage with the Urban Villages Unit, a design team has been appointed and concept plans have been prepared as a basis for community consultation.</p>
3.3	<p>The park currently consists of an artificial turf pitch, a temporary changing pavilion, a playground and a network of paths located within a landscaped area. The playground has been subject to vandalism over the years and is currently used as a gathering point. During discussions with locally elected members and the PSNI consideration was given to the potential to relocate the playground to a more suitable location which could provide more natural surveillance and have greater community ownership. It has been suggested that this would provide a more attractive and safer environment for children to go and play. However, the option remains to locate the playground within the Park.</p>
3.4	<p>The Committee is asked to authorise Officers to explore potential locations in the area for a potential playground location which has natural surveillance and other community facilities in close proximity.</p>
3.5	<p>Any such relocation would be dependent upon:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Finding and securing a suitable location; ▪ Securing community support and agreement; ▪ Securing the necessary statutory approvals; and ▪ Affordability.
3.6	<p>Findings from the consultation will be reported through the North Area Working Group.</p>
	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p>
3.7	<p>At this time there are no financial implications.</p>
	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p>
3.8	<p>There are no Equality implications.</p>
4.0	<p>Appendices – Documents Attached</p>
	<p>None</p>