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Subject:	Request for the use of Parks for 2025 Events
Date:	6th May 2025
Reporting Officer:	David Sales, Strategic Director of City and Neighbourhood Services.
Contact Officer:	Stephen Leonard, Director of Resources, Fleet and OSS.

Restricted Reports

Is this report restricted?

Yes

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No

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Please indicate the description, as listed in Schedule 6, of the exempt information by virtue of which the council has deemed this report restricted.

Insert number

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1. Information relating to any individual.
2. Information likely to reveal the identity of an individual.
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the council holding that information)
4. Information in connection with any labour relations matter
5. Information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained.
6. Information showing that the council proposes to (a) to give a notice imposing restrictions on a person; or (b) to make an order or direction.
7. Information on any action in relation to the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime

If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?

After Committee Decision

After Council Decision

Sometime in the future

Never

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Call-in

Is the decision eligible for Call-in?

Yes

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No

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1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	<p>The Committee is asked to note that Council has received a number of requests to hold events across our parks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bullapalooza – CS Lewis Square • Live at C.S. Lewis Square – C.S. Lewis Square • Finaghy Cultural Festival – Wedderburn • North Belfast Lantern Festival – Alexandra Park
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to grant authority to the applicants for the proposed events on the dates noted; subject to the completion of the appropriate event management plans and satisfactory terms being agreed by the Director of City & Neighbourhood Services and on the condition that the Event Organisers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> resolve all operational issues to the Council's satisfaction; meet all statutory requirements including Public Liability Insurance cover, Health and Safety, and licensing responsibilities; and shall consult with adjoining public bodies and local communities as necessary.
2.2	<p>Please note that the above recommendations are taken as a pre-policy position in advance of the Council agreeing a more structured framework and policy for 'Events', which is currently being taken forward in conjunction with the Councils Commercial team.</p>
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>If agreed, the event organiser or promoters will be required in advance of the event to submit an event management plan for approval by the Council and all relevant statutory bodies. This will include an assessment of how the event will impact upon the surrounding area and measures to mitigate these impacts.</p>
3.2	<p><u>Bullapalooza – CS Lewis Square</u></p>
3.3	<p>Belfast City Council has received a request from Bullhouse Brew Co to host their Bullapalooza event at CS Lewis Square. The event will take place over the course of three days and is designed to promote local business, independent performers and small breweries and distilleries across Belfast & Northern Ireland.</p>
3.4	<p>The event marks the 3rd birthday of the opening of Bull House East.</p>
3.5	<p>On the Friday and Sunday there will be a selection of food vendors and Welfare facilities. There will also be free wellness activities such as yoga and relaxation sessions.</p>
3.6	<p>The Saturday of the event will be ticketed with a cost of £20 per adult & £5 per child. The activities on the Saturday will include a children's entertainer from 12pm to 2pm and this will then be followed by comedians and live music until 10pm in the evening.</p>
3.7	<p>10% of the money raised is being donated to Larder East who are community food hub who try to make food affordable for the local community.</p>

3.8	Bullhouse Brew Co have engaged Urban Events to carry out the completion of the event management plan and on-site risk assessments to ensure all health and safety guidelines are adhered to. Urban Events are regular health and safety consultants for the site supporting a lot of events delivered by East side Partnership.
3.9	<p>The Key Dates are as follows: Set Up – Friday 13 June 2025 from 9am – 3pm Live Event dates – Friday 13 June 2025 from 4pm – 10pm, Saturday 14 June 2025 from 12pm – 10pm & Sunday 15 June 2025 from 1pm – 8pm De Rig – Sunday 15 June 2025 from 8pm – 10pm</p>
3.10	<p><u>Live at C.S. Lewis Square – C.S. Lewis Square – Thursday 25 to Monday 29 July 2025</u></p> <p>Belfast City Council has received a request from Eastside Arts to host a three day music event followed by a free family funday at C.S. Lewis Square in July. The events are due to be part of this years upcoming East Side Arts Festival and will have a Live Band that will perform on the Friday & Sunday night. Saturday will play host to an Electronic music event. Each of these events will be ticketed. This is the 3rd year this event will take place at CS Lewis Square and has passed off previously without issue.</p>
3.11	The funday on the Sunday will be a free event aimed at families to attend throughout the day. It will include arts & crafts along with market stalls.
3.12	<p>The Key Dates are as follows: Set up – Friday 25 July 2025 – 8 am onwards. Van Morrison tribute band – Friday 25 July 2025 from 7pm to 11pm Electronic Music – Saturday 26 July 2025 from 3pm to 11pm Family Funday– Saturday 26 & Sunday 27 July 2025 – 12pm to 4pm Oasis Tribute band – Sunday 27 July 2025 – 7pm to 11pm De-Rig– Monday 28 July 2025 – 12pm</p>
3.13	<p><u>Finaghy Cultural Festival – Wedderburn – Friday 08 to Saturday 09 August 2025</u></p> <p>Belfast City Council has received a request from Finaghy Community Association to host their annual Finaghy Festival. It is organised by a small group of local people from the community who started out through the first lockdown back in March 2020. They started up a residents group volunteering and organizing events for the community.</p>
3.14	They will have a bar serving alcohol so a drinks license will be in place. The event will have a live singer and DJ on the Friday & Saturday evening and during the day on the Saturday there will be a family fun day which will include amusements and other entertainment. They have requested use of the grass at the side of the pavilion and pitch 2 at Wedderburn Playing Fields. Further to this they have also requested use of the Bowling Pavilion.
3.15	This will be the third time this event has taken place at the site. There have been previous noise issues that were rectified last year with Council officers working very closely with the group.
3.16	<p>The Key Dates are as follows: Set up – Thursday 7 August 2025 from 10am – 9pm Event time – Friday 8 August 2025 from 8pm to 10pm & Saturday 9 August from 12pm to 10pm De Rig – Sunday 10 August 2025 from 10am – 6.30pm</p>

3.17	<p><u>North Belfast Lantern Festival – Alexandra Park – Thursday 30 October 2025</u></p> <p>Belfast City Council has received a request from New Lodge Arts to host their Annual Lantern Parade. The event is designed to promote good relations in the shared space of Alexandra Park with a fee of £2 per person being charged for those wishing to attend.</p>
3.18	<p>This event has been held annually for a number of years without any issues arising during the course of the event.</p>
3.19	<p>The event will include art and crafts workshops, interactive music, dance and theatre shows, inflatables, walk about acts and an interactive bubble show.</p>
3.20	<p>The event will then finish with a live Firework display taking place in the park. New Lodge Arts will be responsible for providing all necessary documentation for the firework display prior to the event taking place.</p>
3.21	<p>In order to build the site safely and in a timely fashion, organisers have requested that the park might be closed to members of the public for a period of time on Wednesday 29th October and that only members of the public with tickets, can access the park on Thursday 30th from 12.00pm until the event ends.</p>
3.22	<p>The Key Dates are as follows. Set up – Wednesday 29 October 2025 from 8am onwards Events – Thursday 30 October 2025 from 12pm to 3pm & 5pm to 8.30pm De Rig – Friday 31 October 2025 from 8am - 3pm</p>
3.33	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u> There are no known implications.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u> There are no known implications.</p>
	<p>Appendices</p>
	<p>None</p>