



Subject:	Request re Boucher Road Playing Fields - CinePark Limited to host a drive thru cinema during December 2026
Date:	11 th August 2026
Reporting Officer:	David Sales, Strategic Director of City and Neighbourhood Services.
Contact Officer:	Stephen Leonard, Director of Resources, Fleet and Open Spaces & Streetscene

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes ☐ No ☒
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 ☐	
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	☐

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes ☒ No ☐

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	The Committee is asked to note that Council has received a request from CinePark Limited to host a series of outdoor drive thru cinema experiences at Boucher Road Playing Fields during the month of December 2026.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is asked to grant authority to the applicant for the proposed event on the dates noted and to delegate authority to the Director of Neighbourhood Services to ensure the following:
2.2	Where appropriate negotiate a fee which recognises the costs to Council, minimises negative impact on the immediate area and takes account of the potential wider benefit to the city economy, in conjunction with the Councils Commercial Manager;
2.3	Negotiate satisfactory terms and conditions of use via an appropriate legal agreement prepared by the City Solicitor, including managing final booking confirmation dates and flexibility around 'set up' & take down' periods, and booking amendments, ensuring the organiser: I. resolve all operational issues to the Council's satisfaction; II. meets all statutory requirements including Public Liability Insurance cover, Health and Safety, and licensing responsibilities; and III. shall consult with adjoining public bodies and local communities as necessary.
2.4	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.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<u>Key Issues</u> If agreed, the event organiser 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.
3.2	Details of event
3.3	The event organiser expects between 150-250 cars to attend the event per day split across different showings at different times of the day.
3.4	The event organiser has scheduled a variety of movies to accommodate for a wide audience demographic ranging from families with young children and teenagers, young couples through to a maturer audience. It's likely to be themed very much around Christmas and the festive time of year and will give families something very different to do.
3.5	CinePark Limited will be solely responsible for acquiring and maintaining all appropriate movie licences, rights, etc. for all the titles that will be shown.

3.6	The event organiser will be using a 7X4m LED screen that comes on a trailer platform with a hydraulic system to raise the screen. The platform ensures quick installation and removal as no structure has to be built. A FM radio transmitter will be used to broadcast the audio for the movies directly to each car radio.
3.7	Tickets CinePark Limited will run a ticketing system where one car will need to buy only one ticket regardless of the number of people in the car. Standard tickets will cost £20 and premium tickets will cost £25. All tickets will be sold and managed online via the CinePark website; however they will also take payment on site if required for any drive-ins.
3.8	Vendors The event organisers aim to create a full cinema experience by inviting food vendors and stalls to operate during the event, selling a range of foods including popcorn, confectionary, drinks and slushies.
3.9	Event Management Plans
3.10	The event organiser has submitted initial plans to Belfast City Council outlining consideration for toilet provision, waste management, site security, first aid provision and traffic management.
3.11	This proposed event will be the first time that CinePark Limited has held an event with Belfast City Council so Council officers will carry out additional due-diligence when planning and regulating this event.
3.12	Officers have already carried out checks with Companies House and early meetings and site visits with the organisers have been very constructive.
3.13	Members are aware of the SP&R decision to return Boucher Road Playing Fields to full playing pitch provision. Whilst the work to develop the site is ongoing all decisions around current use of the playing fields will be taken on a case-by-case basis.
3.14	<u>Event Times</u> Monday – Friday: 2pm - midnight Saturdays: 11am - midnight Sundays: 11am – midnight
3.15	<u>Key Dates for set up and de-rig are:</u> Thursday 10 December 2026 Arrival on site at 8am. Thursday 31 December 2026 Dismantle and De-rig by 12pm
3.16	<u>Financial and Resource Implications</u> Council will collect a fee for the hire of Boucher Road Playing fields. The promotor shall further pay to the Council a Social Contribution Fee which shall equate to 10% of the overall site fee received. The Council will use this Social Contribution Fee by way of investment back into the local community.

3.17	A reinstatement bond will be required to be paid to the council before the event to cover any reinstatement of grounds after the event. <u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u> There are no known implications.
4.0	Appendices
	None