



<b>Subject:</b>	Requests for use of the City Hall Grounds
<b>Date:</b>	15th April, 2022
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	John Walsh, Chief Executive
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Aisling Milliken, Functions and Exhibition Manager

<b>Restricted Reports</b>	
<b>Is this report restricted?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?</b>	
<b>After Committee Decision</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>After Council Decision</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Sometime in the future</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Never</b>	<input 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	To consider two requests for the use of the City Hall grounds during the month of July.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	The Committee is requested to:  1. approve the use of the City Hall grounds on the dates outlined below; and 2. authorise the events to take place on the basis of submission of an event management plan and risk assessment to ensure delivery of a safe public events.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	<u>Background Information</u>
3.1.1	Members will be aware that requests for the use of City Hall are normally dealt with under the authority delegated by the Committee to the Director of Legal and Civic Services using

criteria agreed for this purpose. Occasionally however, it is necessary to place such requests directly before the Committee, and the requests set out below falls into this category.

#### Key Issues

- 3.2 Several requests have been received for events over the summer period and this report seeks to update Members on the recovery of functions using the grounds, increasing demand for this venue space. Also due to the larger scale of activities involved it is deemed necessary to seek Committee approval.

#### The Proposed Events

- 3.3 The two proposed events would take place on the front lawns only. Areas such as the Titanic Garden and Cenotaph will remain open to the public and access to the City Hall itself will not be affected.

- 3.3.1 Each event would be free to enter. In each case, the organisers would be providing all stewarding/marshalling staff and first aiders and would of course have to comply with the usual conditions including indemnities for damage and submission of a formal event-management plan.

#### **22nd July, 2022 - Belfast Pride Family Fun Day**

- 3.4 This event would take place on the front lawns would include a radio roadshow, various performers on a stage, food stalls and children's attractions. The event would last from 12 noon to 5.00 pm, although access would be required earlier and later in the day for set ups and strip downs. The event would be free and the organisers estimate that up to 5,000 people would be in attendance.

#### **30th July, 2022 Féile Rock's Pride Concert**

- 3.5 A request has been received from Feile and Phobail to use the front lawns for the 'City Hall Rocks Back' event, featuring local young and emerging bands from all sections of the community and the type of music played includes Rock, Blues, Heavy Metal, Rap Ska and Reggae. The organisers require use of the grounds between 8 am and 7.30 pm for stage and sound set ups and strip downs. The event itself takes place between 1 pm and 5 pm.

3.6	<p>Depending on the weather the event could attract up 2,000 people. The profile of those attending includes family and followers of the bands, plus local and overseas visitors in the city for the day. plan etc. Previous events have taken place in the grounds without incident.</p> <p><b><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></b></p> <p>There would be no costs for the Council as the various organisers would bear any/all stewarding and equipment costs etc themselves. The utilities costs on the day are of a very minor nature and the normal event support in the form of electrical and water provision in the grounds will be provided.</p> <p>There are no concerns from an asset management point of view, although the organisers would be required to provide the usual insurances, indemnities and obligations.</p> <p><b><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></b></p> <p>3.7 There are no direct good relations, equality or rural needs implications arising from this report.</p>
4.0	<b>Documents Attached</b>
	None