

**Democratic Services Section
Legal and Civic Services Department
Belfast City Council
City Hall
Belfast
BT1 5GS**



**Belfast
City Council**

5th November, 2019

MEETING OF PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

Dear Alderman/Councillor,

The above-named Committee will meet in the Lavery Room - City Hall on Tuesday, 5th November, 2019 at 5.15 pm, for the transaction of the business noted below.

You are requested to attend.

Yours faithfully,

SUZANNE WYLIE

Chief Executive

AGENDA:

1. Routine Matters

- (a) Apologies
- (b) Minutes
- (c) Declarations of Interest
- (d) Schedule of Meetings 2020 (Pages 1 - 2)

2. Restricted Items

- (a) Request for use of Botanic Gardens (Pages 3 - 6)

3. Matters referred back from Council/Motions

- (a) Playground Equipment for Children with Disabilities (Pages 7 - 22)
- (b) Motion – Parenting N.I.'s "Parenting in the Picture" Campaign (Pages 23 - 24)
- (c) Motion – Action on Avoidable Winter Deaths (Pages 25 - 26)

4. **Committee/Strategic Issues**

- (a) Update on Review of Open Spaces and Streetscene (Pages 27 - 30)
- (b) Next Steps to undertaking a Detailed Air Quality Assessment for Belfast City for nitrogen dioxide and fine particulate matter (PM2.5) (Pages 31 - 38)
- (c) Department for Infrastructure response to a Council proposal to designate Belfast as 'car free' 20-22 September 2020 (Pages 39 - 46)
- (d) Positive Animation of Parks - Open Spaces (Pages 47 - 54)
- (e) City Greenways Workshop (Pages 55 - 58)

5. **Finance, Procurement and Performance**

- (a) Parks Events Small Grants Scheme (Pages 59 - 64)
- (b) Update on Committee Financial Position (Pages 65 - 68)

6. **Operational Issues**

- (a) Proposal for naming new streets and the Continuation of an existing street (Pages 69 - 72)
- (b) Proposal For Dual Language Street Signs (Pages 73 - 76)
- (c) Reference Group on Older People (Pages 77 - 90)
- (d) Community and Play Centre: Seasonal Closure (Pages 91 - 94)



Subject:	Schedule of Meetings 2020
Date:	5 th November 2019
Reporting Officer:	Jim Hanna, Senior Democratic Services Officer. Ext. 6313
Contact Officer:	Jim Hanna, Senior Democratic Services Officer. Ext. 6313

Is this report restricted?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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
	To advise the Committee of the dates and times of the meetings of the People and Communities Committee between January and December, 2020.
2.0	Recommendations
	The Committee is requested to approve the schedule of meetings for the People and Communities Committee as outlined.
3.0	Main report
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.1	The monthly meeting of the People and Communities Committee is normally held at 5.15 p.m. on the 2 nd Tuesday of each month.
3.2	However, due to holiday periods and the timing of the monthly Council meetings and, in order to assist with the decision-making process, it has been necessary on occasions to move some of the meetings to later in the month.
3.3	In addition, quarterly special meetings of the People and Communities Committee are held, to which all Members of the Council are invited. These are attended by the Housing Executive's Regional Manager to enable the Members to raise local housing matters.

3.4	Accordingly, the following dates have been identified for meetings of the People and Communities Committee for the period from January to December, 2020.
3.5	<p> Tuesday, 14th January Tuesday, 4th February Tuesday, 18th February (Housing) Tuesday, 3rd March Tuesday, 7th April Tuesday, 5th May (Housing) Tuesday, 12th May Tuesday, 9th June Tuesday, 4th August (Housing) Tuesday, 11th August Tuesday, 8th September Tuesday, 6th October Tuesday, 3rd November (Housing) Tuesday, 10th November Tuesday, 8th December </p> <p>All meetings to commence at 5.15p.m.</p>
3.6	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
3.7	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
4.0	<p>Appendices – Documents Attached</p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6
of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.

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Subject:	Motion – Play Facilities for Children with Disabilities
Date:	5 November 2019
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director of City & Neighbourhood Services Ryan Black, Director of Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Alan McHaffie, Senior Woodland & Recreation Officer

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 Council, at its meeting on the 2 nd September 2019 considered a motion which had been moved by Alderman McCoubrey and seconded by Councillor Smyth:
1.2	<p><i>“This Council recognises the need to improve play facilities for those Children with disabilities, and undertakes to engage with those in the sector who can best advice on making play facilities more accessible.</i></p> <p><i>An audit should be undertaken of current facilities across the city and opportunities for disability improvements identified, work to be completed through the course of the current council term.”</i></p>

1.3	At the People and Communities Committee meeting on the 10 th September 2019 it was recommended that Committee consider the motion and take such action as may be determined.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note the work undertaken to date by the Council in providing playground equipment across our sites for children with disabilities as part of the Councils on-going Playground Improvement Programme. • Agree the Council undertake a consultation exercise with relevant organisations who work closely with parents of children and young people with disabilities to gauge their thoughts and views on current playground facilities and what other improvements they would like to see, making them more accessible for their children.
3.0	Main report
3.1	The purpose of this report is to update Members on the current provision with regards to playground facilities for children with disabilities and our recommendation to undertake a consultation exercise with organisations who work closely with parents of children and young people with disabilities, giving consideration to children with sensory disabilities such as ADHD. The consultation will assist the Council in identifying future improvements to playground facilities, making them even more accessible for all.
3.2	Back in January 2019 the Council undertook an audit which was conducted by an Independent Playground Inspector (Register of Play Inspector International) RPII of all our playground facilities as part of a review to changing the design of our playground signage which would more clearly identify playground equipment suitable for appropriate ages and abilities.
3.3	The RPII independent Inspector's report highlighted each individual piece of playground apparatus, manufacturer's recommended age range and whether or not the unit would be suitable for a child with a disability however it didn't include information regarding sensory requirements. (See Appendix 1 – example of individual playground/age range report) and (Appendix 2 – Example of the new playground signage).
3.4	The new playground signage is now in place along with the appropriate 'Age Range' stickers being attached to playground apparatus.





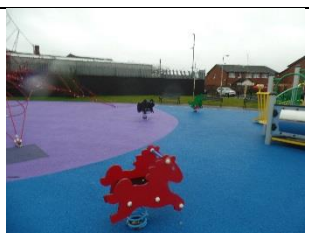




3.5	Over the past several years the Council has made significant strides to install more inclusive playground equipment as part of the Council's Playground Improvement Programme (See Appendix 3 – Example of recently installed playground which shows the variety of inclusive playground equipment). The Council continues to install inclusive equipment and for the first time the Council will be installing a specific wheelchair friendly swing seat as part of the refurbishment programme at Ormeau Park lower (See Appendix 4– Illustration of new disability friendly swing unit).
3.6	Several months ago the Council began a programme of retrofitting larger disability friendly swing seats within our playground sites (See Appendix 5 – Photograph of a recently retrofitted swing seat). The timeframe to install this type of swing seat in all of our playgrounds would have been two years due to the cost to purchase this type of swing seat as we have 101 playgrounds, however the Council recently applied for a grant from the Department for Communities under its 'Access and Inclusion fund' to assist the Council in its roll out of these Inclusive swing seats and if successful we should see one Inclusive swing seat installed in each of our playgrounds by 2020.
3.7	<u>Key Issues</u> Members are asked to note the Council's on-going commitment in providing inclusive playground equipment for children of all abilities.
3.8	To further improve playground facilities across the city, it is proposed that a consultation exercise be undertaken with relevant organisations who work closely with parents of children and young people with disabilities and implement improvements coming out of the consultations, subject to available funding etc.
3.9	<u>Financial & Resource Implications</u> There are no financial or resource implications attached to this report, however any improvements / recommendations arising from the consultation and engagement will need to be considered in terms of resource implications for the council.
3.10	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u> None.
4.0	Appendices - Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 – Example of individual playground/age range report Appendix 2 – Example of the new playground signage








	<p>Appendix 3 – Example of recently installed playground which shows the variety of inclusive playground equipment</p> <p>Appendix 4– Illustration of new disability friendly swing unit</p> <p>Appendix 5 – Photograph of a recently retro fitted swing seat</p>
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Skippers Play Area, Medway Street, BT4 1DH

Equipment Age Range

Equipment	Manufacturers Recommended Age		SP Age	Colour
 Cradle Swings	Hags/SMP	1 – 3		1 – 3
				
 Basket Swing	Hags/SMP	3+		3+
				
 Horse Rocker	Kompan	2 - 7		2 – 6
				
 Dino Rocker	Kompan	2 - 7		2 – 6
 Gorilla Rocker	Kompan	2 - 7		2 – 6
				

	Playdale	3 – 14		3+
Dish Roundabout				
	Tay Play	3+		3+
Rope Pyramid				
	Proludic	8+		8+
Giro Spiral				
	Sutcliffe	8+		8+
Senior Multi Unit				
	Proludic	3+		3+
Toddler Multi Unit				

Appendices No2 – Example of new Playground Signage














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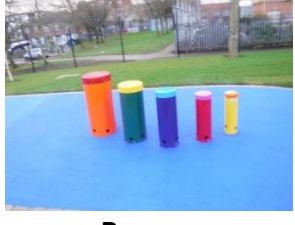





Hammer Play Area, Agnes Street, Belfast, BT12 1GG

Equipment Age Range

Equipment	Manufacturers Recommended Age		SP Age	Colour
 Flat and Inclusive Swings	Hags/SMP	All		All
				
 Basket Swing	Hags/SMP	All		All
				
 Cradle Swings	Hags/SMP	1 – 3		1 – 3
				
 Senior Multi Unit	Sutcliffe	8+		8+
 Inclusive Roundabout	Sutcliffe	4+		4+
				

 Giro Spiral	Sutcliffe	8+		8+
 Flower	Sutcliffe	2 – 6		2 – 6 
 Chimes Panel	Fahr	2 – 6		2 – 6 
 Swan Rocker	Kompan	1 – 3		1 – 3 
 Dino Rocker	Kompan	1 – 3		1 – 3 
 Play Panels x4	Sutcliffe	2 – 6		2 – 6 

 Dish Roundabout	Playdale	4+		<div>4+</div> <div></div>
 Rain Wheel	Fahr	2 – 6		<div>2 – 6</div> <div></div>
 Bongos	Fahr	2 – 6		<div>2 – 6</div> <div></div>
 Toddler Multi Unit	Sutcliffe	2 – 6		<div>2 – 6</div> <div></div>

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Appendices No4 – Illustration of new disability friendly swing unit proposed for Ormeau Park lower



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Appendices No5 – Example of retro fitted Inclusive swing seat



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Subject:	Motion – Parenting N.I’s “Parenting in the Picture” Campaign
Date:	5 th November, 2019
Reporting Officer:	Jim Hanna, Senior Democratic Services Officer
Contact Officer:	Jim Hanna, Senior Democratic Services Officer

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"/>
Sometime 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/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	To consider a motion on the Parenting N.I’s “Parenting in the Picture” Campaign, which will be referred to the Committee by the Council at its meeting on 4 th November.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	<p>The Committee is requested to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the motion and if the proposal is agreed a report on how this would be facilitated, resourced and managed will be brought back.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>At the Council meeting on 4th November, the following motion will be proposed by Councillor Mulholland:</p> <p><i>“Following on from the 20th year of Parenting Week last week, this Council recognises the vital importance of parents to society.</i></p>

	<p><i>Further, it notes with concern that 82% of parents indicated in the most recent “Big Parenting Survey”, that they felt that parents do not get enough support.</i></p> <p><i>In order to bring attention to this and to attempt to redress this, the Council formally supports Parenting NI’s “Parenting in the Picture” campaign. This Council pledges to work towards implementing the promises and commitments contained in this campaign.</i></p> <p><i>To do this, the Council commits to conduct an audit of existing initiatives it delivers to support parents with a view to working with the voluntary and community sector, as well as other partners, to explore if such initiatives may be improved as well as seek to bring forward new programmes to support our parents.”</i></p>
3.2	<p>In accordance with Standing Order 13(f), the motion will be referred without debate to the Committee.</p>
3.3	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None</p>
4.0	Appendices - Documents Attached
	None



Subject:	Motion – Action on Avoidable Winter Deaths
Date:	5 th November, 2019
Reporting Officer:	Jim Hanna, Senior Democratic Services Officer
Contact Officer:	Jim Hanna, Senior Democratic Services Officer

Restricted Reports

Is this report restricted?

Yes

☐

No

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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	To consider a motion on the Action on Avoidable Winter Deaths, which will be referred to the Committee by the Council at its meeting on 4 th November.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	<p>The Committee is requested to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the motion and if the proposal is agreed a report on how this would be facilitated, resourced and managed will be brought back.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>At the Council meeting on 4th November, the following motion will be proposed by Councillor McAteer:</p> <p><i>“In December last year, NISRA published Excess Winter Mortality figures for the period 2017/18 which revealed the second highest recorded number of excess winter deaths in the north of Ireland since data began in 1974/75. Further, these shocking statistics</i></p>

	<p><i>recorded that the number of excess winter deaths in the north had more than doubled since 2015.</i></p> <p><i>2017/18 statistics record that 1,500 people died, who were classed as Excess Winter Deaths and of these 22% or 320 people, were from the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust. These deaths are Avoidable Winter Deaths and even one is too many. Unfortunately, it is our citizens aged over 65 who are most affected, particularly those vulnerable elderly people aged 85+.</i></p> <p><i>The increase in winter deaths is widely understood to be down to the flu and spells of very cold weather - yet these deaths are avoidable. A combination of high energy prices, fuel poverty, ill health, low income and poor housing can make winter a dangerous time for many older people.</i></p> <p><i>As we await the NISRA figures for 2018/19 and approach the upcoming winter, this Council will do all in its power to effectively act on avoidable winter deaths. This Council welcomes the joined up multi-sectoral approach that will focus on preventing avoidable Winter Deaths through Belfast's Community Planning Process and will also convene and facilitate a meeting of Belfast's community, voluntary and social enterprise agencies who focus on protecting and supporting older vulnerable people, to identify, develop and support innovative programmes that can be deployed and co-ordinated to prevent avoidable deaths in our city over the upcoming winter."</i></p>
3.2	In accordance with Standing Order 13(f), the motion will be referred without debate to the Committee.
3.3	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
3.4	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None</p>
4.0	Appendices - Documents Attached
	None



Subject:	Update on Review of Open Spaces and Streetscene
Date:	5 November 2019
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director of City & Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Stephen Leonard, Neighbourhood Services 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	At its meeting on the 23rd August 2019, the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee noted an update report and progress achieved in relation to the City and Neighbourhood Service (CNS) Transition and Improvement Programme (T&IP), including the ongoing development a new Open Spaces and Streetscene Service.
1.2	The purpose of this report is to provide Members with a further update on the progress of the development of the Open Spaces and Streetscene, and to set out next steps.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is requested to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> note the contents of the report and the progress achieved in relation to the creation of the new Open Spaces and Streetscene service since August 2019. The Committee is also asked to the note the further work planned in this review.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members are also asked to note that this report will be presented to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee for noting.
3.0	Main report
	<u>Key issues</u>
3.1	The development of the new Open Spaces and Streetscene (OSS) service is a priority project in the CNS Transformation & Improvement Programme. The development of this new service directly supports the delivery of the outcomes, objectives and priorities within the Belfast Agenda, Corporate Plan and the Council's Improvement plan, reflected in the OSS vision to create:
3.2	<i>"A service where we see it, do it, or report it. We have pride in our work, maintain environmental standards, and work together to maintain the public realm with and for our city's residents and visitors."</i>
3.3	<p>Consultation at the Open Spaces and Streetscene Management and Trade Union Sub-group has been ongoing since February 2019, and has included detailed consultation on the draft job descriptions which were set out in a detailed proposal document.</p> <p>Comprehensive written information and feedback has been provided to staff and Trade Unions as part of this consultation process.</p>
3.4	<p>Other direct and extensive engagement has also taken place with staff at all levels in the legacy services of Parks and Street Cleansing, as well as affected staff in Resources and Fleet. This has included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - context briefings organised for approximately 100 managers and supervisors in August 2019; - 19 staff briefings which took place across the city during September and October 2019, reaching approximately 500 staff and; - five staff "surgeries" which took place across the city in late October 2019, to facilitate one to one, and small group sessions with affected staff; - a number of management and trade union representatives participated in a two day study visit to comparator councils in Nottingham and Wakefield in October 2019, supported by the Association for Public Services Excellence (APSE). <p>Staff engagement will continue over the coming months, with further staff briefings being planned for the new year.</p>

3.5	Consultation on the new staff OSS structure and job descriptions is now complete. Transfer mechanisms to be applied to move current posts and permanent post-holders from old to new structures, are those set out in existing Council policy. Approximately 70% of the staff currently employed in the OSS legacy services of Parks and Street Cleansing will benefit from an uplift in grade and salary following their transfer onto the new structure.
3.6	Implementation of the transfer of staff will get underway in November 2019, with the structure to be fully populated by the end of March 2020, following completion all relevant recruitment processes.
3.7	A key objective of the review has been to create permanent employee opportunities, ensuring that people can avail of good jobs that pay well and provide opportunity for advancement. The new staff structure includes 600 permanent posts, and will result in a significant number of new, permanent appointments at management, supervisory and front line levels. This, in turn, will see a significant reduction in the number of temporary contracts and agency assignments used across OSS. Current temporary staff and agency assignees have been facilitated with Job Application and Interview Skills training, in advance of the recruitment of these permanent roles. It is also expected that a number of the new, front line posts will be ring-fenced for recruitment as part of the council's inclusive growth strategy, and preparatory work is ongoing in this regard.
3.8	The new structure includes a wider career pathway in terms of public realm cleanliness and environmental upkeep (Open Spaces and Streetscene), and will be supported by a comprehensive learning and development framework. This framework will focus, initially, on induction of staff into the new ways of working, and which will evolve to support role enrichment, staff development and effective succession planning.
	<u>Financial & Resource Implications</u>
	<u>Financial</u>
3.9	The department has confirmed that implementation of the changes and realignment of budgets to create permanent posts has been achieved and are included within the service's revenue estimate for 2020/21
	<u>Human Resources</u>
3.10	There are no adverse human resources implications.

3.11	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u> There are no adverse equality or rural needs implications.
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	None



Subject:	Next Steps to undertaking a Detailed Air Quality Assessment for Belfast City for nitrogen dioxide and fine particulate matter (PM _{2.5})
Date:	5 November 2019
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director, City & Neighbourhood Services Department
Contact Officer:	Siobhan Toland, Director of City Services and Alastair Curran, Scientific 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"/>
Sometime 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	Members will recall that at the People and Communities Committee meeting of 8 th October 2019, a report was presented to the Committee summarising current ambient air quality conditions and challenges across the city. The report also provided background information on the introduction of low emission zones. At the conclusion of the Committee, and having considered the content of the report, Members agreed that a report would be brought back to a future meeting of the Committee on how the council might undertake a detailed air quality assessment for the city, including measuring for PM _{2.5} .

1.2	This report therefore provides an overview to Members of the various requirements and components of a detailed assessment for the city for fine particulate matter (PM _{2.5}) and nitrogen dioxide (NO ₂), based upon the requirements of the government's Local Air Quality Management Technical Guidance LAQM.TG(16) document and the various other technical guidance provided on the Defra Local Air Quality Management Support website.
1.3	This report also provides an estimate of the likely cost and duration of a detailed assessment for the city and suggests a number of elements to developing our approach to this in the recommendations.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is requested to note the contents of this report and agree to the following actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This committee writes to the Permanent secretary for DAERA with an invite to address committee on the strategic policy position of the emerging concerns around air quality and on the Departmental action on achieving the Program for Government target around improving air quality in light of emerging evidence on health impacts. • Recommend that BCC sets its own air quality ambitions in a new Air Quality Plan, that is due to be written in 2020 and to include the review of Air Quality Management Areas in light of evidence and emerging standards and agree that officers are tasked with looking at best practice and engage with other Local authorities who are progressing this agenda and seek some expert advice on the best and most effective way to achieve actions round improving air quality, so that we seek to inform solution based outcomes linked to the Belfast Agenda. As part of this process members would be invited to participate in a workshop with input from relevant knowledgeable / experienced speakers. • Members are requested to note the estimated costs of commissioning an appropriately experienced environmental consultancy to undertake a detailed assessment for nitrogen dioxide and fine particulate matter, to note that there are also staff resources required internally to support this, and the timescales to deliver and agree that officers are to consider all the above steps to inform how this could be managed within the revenue estimates. In light of the resource implications and

	cross cutting issues, this report will also be brought before the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.
3.0	Main report
3.1	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>Members will be aware that the council has a statutory requirement to complete review and assessments, updating and screening assessments and progress reports on an annual basis in order to assess ambient quality across the city and to monitor progress towards achieving ambient air quality objectives within our four Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA).</p>
3.2	<p>Updating and screening assessments and progress reports are undertaken in accordance with the government's policy timetable as outlined within the government's LAQM.PG(NI)09 and LAQM.TG(16) publications. These reports, covering the Belfast City Council district, provide ongoing evidence of progress towards the air quality objectives by the council and relevant authorities by comparing all new monitoring data against the various air quality objectives, evaluating the impact of road traffic and other transport sources, evaluating industrial emission sources, and assessing the impact of new commercial, domestic and fugitive sources.</p>
3.3	<p>Where these annual reports indicate that there is a risk of air quality objectives not being achieved (outside of existing Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs)), the council is then required to undertake a detailed assessment. The conclusions from recent council air quality reports, including the 2019 Progress Report, have however been that the council is not required to progress towards a detailed assessment for the city. These conclusions have been formally accepted by DAERA, Defra and the government's technical assessors.</p>
3.4	<p>Members will be aware that the council last completed a detailed assessment in 2010 for the purposes of (i) evaluating the effectiveness of structural revisions to the M1 Motorway / A12 Westlink on ambient air quality; (ii) evaluating whether the City centre needed to be declared as a new AQMA for exceedences of the nitrogen dioxide annual mean objective; (iii) evaluating whether the Ormeau Road AQMA could be revoked and; (iv) determining whether the Cromac Street and Albertbridge Road Air Quality Management Area needed to be extended at Short Strand. At the conclusion of this detailed assessment, it was determined that the air quality management provisions in place at that time were appropriate. This conclusion was formally accepted by DoENI, Defra and the government's independent technical assessors.</p>

3.5	<p>Members are advised that exceedences of the nitrogen dioxide annual mean objective within the council's existing AQMAs are being addressed principally via actions proposed by partner organisations such as DfI Roads, Translink, the Freight Transport Association and the Road Haulage Association, as detailed within the council's Air Quality Action 2015-2020.</p>
3.6	<p>It should be noted however, that under current LAQM legislative requirements, local authorities are not required to manage fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}), although Members will be aware that PM_{2.5} is monitored in Belfast City Centre in order to assess compliance with the standards for PM_{2.5} established via Directive 2008/50/EC of 21st May 2008 on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe. The 2018 monitored annual mean was 10 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$.</p>
3.7	<p>Members will be aware that Scotland has already adopted the World Health Organisation PM_{2.5} guideline value of 10 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$, monitored as an annual mean limit and to be achieved by 2020. This obligation was introduced via the Scottish government's 2015 <i>Cleaner Air for Scotland – the Road to a Healthier Future</i> Air Quality Strategy. Some of the early actions arising from the Strategy have therefore been to establish a PM_{2.5} monitoring network; to design, develop and implement a two-level modelling system for regional and local scales to provide evidence for appraising and identifying potential transport and planning solutions to local air quality issues and; to undertake detailed modelling of all four major cities in Scotland, covering areas associated with highest levels of poor air quality.</p>
3.8	<p>Members have now instructed officers to provide a report on how the council could undertake a detailed assessment for air quality for the city for current pollutants of concern; nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) and fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) to include monitoring for PM_{2.5}. The concentrations of all other pollutants included within the local air quality management regime, such as carbon monoxide, sulphur dioxide and particulate matter (PM₁₀), etc. have over recent years been determined to be consistently and significantly below all health based objectives and limit values to the extent that DAERA and Defra have confirmed that ambient monitoring for these pollutants in many city locations can be discontinued. For example, monitoring for sulphur dioxide (SO₂) was discontinued in the east of the city in September 2007 and particulate matter (PM₁₀) monitoring was similarly discontinued from March 2010. Moreover, the Belfast south hydrocarbon monitoring site was discontinued in 2000 and monitoring for polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon was terminated from January 2007.</p>

3.9	<p>Having regard the government's LAQM.TG(16) guidance, it is noted that for nitrogen dioxide, locations of concern include narrow congested streets with residential properties close to the kerb, roads with a high flow of buses and/or HGVs, new roads, roads with significantly changed traffic flows, junctions and bus and coach stations. These sources would need to be considered across the city as part of a detailed assessment. Other sources that would also need to be considered include airports, railways, industrial sources and domestic and / or other biomass burning. Accordingly, as part of any detailed assessment and to enable dispersion modelling to be completed for nitrogen dioxide for the city, detailed activity and emissions data would be required for all of the abovementioned sources. This data would normally be collected, validated and aggregated as part of the development of a detailed emissions inventory for the city. It is understood however, that DfI Roads does not presently have a sufficiently detailed transport model for the entire city and so traffic data for many roads across the city may have to be obtained from direct traffic counts. Typical criteria for screening road, industrial and domestic sources for nitrogen dioxide are provided in tables 7.1 and 7.3 of LAQM.TG(16). Once a detailed emissions inventory has been collated for the city, atmospheric dispersion modelling would need to be undertaken using this data in order to generate a nitrogen dioxide pollution map for the city. This map would facilitate identification of any locations of exceedances of the nitrogen dioxide objectives, together with the geographic extent of the exceedence. The modelled exceedances might however, have to be confirmed by additional monitoring, where no nearby ambient monitoring data exists.</p>
3.10	<p>As Northern Ireland councils are not yet required to manage PM_{2.5} via the LAQM regime, it is noted that LAQM.TG(16) contains only limited information on PM_{2.5} sources and interventions. LAQM.TG(16) highlights that as PM_{2.5} is extremely small, it can travel for long distances and so as much as 50% of local concentrations may arise from sources outside the local authority boundary. Nonetheless, direct sources of PM_{2.5} within Belfast are likely to include road vehicles, industrial emissions, biomass and domestic and commercial combustion. In addition to these direct emissions sources, PM_{2.5} is also formed in the atmosphere from chemical reactions involving gases such as sulphur dioxide, and nitrogen oxides. Measures to reduce the emissions of these precursor gases are therefore often also beneficial in reducing concentrations of PM_{2.5}.</p>
3.11	<p>It is likely therefore that to undertake a detailed assessment for PM_{2.5} for the city, an emissions inventory would need to be assembled for the above-mentioned PM_{2.5} sources so that dispersion modelling could be undertaken for the city. It is likely also that additional</p>

	<p>monitoring for PM_{2.5} would need to be undertaken at a number of residential and other locations across the city as part of any detailed assessment in order to assess monitored compliance with the annual mean targets for PM_{2.5} and to assist with the validation and verification of the dispersion modelling. As highlighted previously, dispersion modelling would enable the locations of any exceedances of PM_{2.5} targets, together with the geographic extent of the exceedance to be determined.</p>
3.12	<p>Members are reminded that the recent UK Environment Bill contains a clear commitment for government to set a legally binding target for PM_{2.5} and that DAERA will shortly commence consultation on a Clean Air Strategy for Northern Ireland. The Clean Air Strategy and the challenge of improving ambient air are both referenced and referred in the wider Environment Strategy for Northern Ireland Public Discussion Document.</p>
3.13	<p>Financial implications, timelines and options.</p> <p>As previously advised, any decision to undertake a detailed assessment of air quality for the city would require significant investment in both staff resources and funding. It is anticipated that a suitability competent consultancy or consultants would need to be appointed via a competitive tender process. A detailed specification would also need to be agreed to inform the tender. At this time, we have sought an initial guide to the indicative costs of engaging this piece of work and have been advised that it would costs in the region of £145,000- £215,000, depending on the extent and quality of the monitoring and modelling deployed.</p>
3.14	<p>These costs are reflective of the detailed analyses that we would have to undertake for the sources highlighted in preceding paragraphs, e.g. surveys to obtain appropriate source activity data over a representative sample period, supplemented by ambient monitoring for a period of at least 12 months in order to determine compliance with annual mean targets, with this data used to inform and calibrate detailed atmospheric dispersion modelling for the city. It is anticipated that the timeframe for this project would therefore be in the order of 18-24 months, depending on the duration of the tender process. Additionally, depending on the final works specification, and on UK Brexit progress, EU procurement thresholds may apply.</p>
3.15	<p>Members are reminded that this project has not been budgeted for in revenue estimates for the 2019/20 period or within growth estimates for 2020/21. Members are also reminded that there is no formal requirement currently from DAERA or within UK guidance for the</p>

	<p>Council to undertake this study or for DAERA to provide funding towards the study. Previous funding to support detailed and updating and screening assessments has been provided via the DAERA local air quality management or Environment Fund grant schemes.</p>
3.16	<p>We have advised this Committee, in last month's air quality report that DAERA have prepared a draft Clean Air Quality Strategy for NI, which we believe will be reflective of the direction of travel recently articulated by Members, in that it is likely to include consideration of the assessment of fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}), in line with World Health Organisation standards and the government's air quality commitments articulated within the Environment Bill. We are advised that this Strategy is likely to be released for consultation early in the new year and that it will therefore fall in line with the announcement of the Environment Bill.</p>
3.17	<p>It is likely that DAERA will need to consider how it might support councils in undertaking what are understood to be Annual Status Reports. The Council would lobby, in our consultation response, that DAERA must support Northern Ireland councils financially in any new undertakings around local air quality measurement and management. Members will need to consider however, whether the council should formally engage with DAERA in order to encourage the Department to accelerate the Strategy consultation and implementation process, given our interested position. The Council could also choose to lobby DAERA for specific funding to support our aspirations for a detailed assessment of ambient air quality for the city.</p>
3.18	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estimated costs for completion of the detailed assessments for nitrogen dioxide and fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) for the city have been obtained from an appropriately experienced environmental consultancy. The costs has been estimated to be in the range £145,000-£215,000, depending upon the final scope and complexity of the work undertaken. • Members are reminded that this project has not been budgeted for in revenue estimates for the 2019/20 period or within growth estimates for 2020/21. • The duration of this detailed assessment project for nitrogen dioxide and fine particulate matter is anticipated to be in the order of 18-24 months. • It is anticipated that in addition to the abovementioned financial resources, a significant staff contribution over the full duration of the study would be required from council, DfI

3.19	<p>Roads and DAERA staff. It is further anticipated that staff resource commitments and engagement would have to be formally obtained from these government Departments.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications / Rural Needs Assessments</u></p> <p>None.</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	None.



Subject:	Department for Infrastructure response to a Council proposal to designate Belfast as 'car free' 20-22 September 2020
Date:	5 th November 2019
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director of City and Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Siobhan Toland, Director of City Services

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"/>
Sometime 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	Members will recall that at the People and Communities Committee meeting of 6 th August 2019, a Member referred to the need to consider commuter travelling and car parking and its impact on Belfast's ambient air quality. The Committee therefore agreed that it would write to the Department for Infrastructure in support of Eco Belfast's Campaign requesting that the Department designate Belfast a 'car free' city from 20 th – 22 nd September 2019.
1.2	This decision of the People and Communities Committee was approved and adopted at the Council meeting of 2 nd September 2019 and a letter was subsequently sent to the Permanent Secretary of the Department for Infrastructure on 3 rd September 2019 requesting that the Department consider designating Belfast a 'car free' city over the period 20 th – 22 nd September 2019. These dates coincided with the 2019 Culture Night Belfast

1.3	<p>event that took place over the evening of Friday 20th and on Saturday 21st September 2019 and with the 2019 Belfast City Half Marathon that took place on Sunday 22nd September 2019.</p> <p>The Department for Infrastructure considered the Council's request and has responded to the Director of City Services in a letter dated 17th September 2019. This report therefore serves to provide an overview of the Department's letter of response to the Committee and likely considerations for a future Council led 'car free' event. A copy of the Department's written response has been attached as Appendix 1 to this report.</p>
2.0	Recommendations.
2.1	<p>The Committee is requested to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • note the contents of this report and of the Department for Infrastructure's response to the Council in respect of designating Belfast as 'car free' over the period of 20th – 22nd September 2019. • Members are requested to consider the anticipated financial and resource implications of the Council leading a project to designate Belfast as 'car free' on a future date.
3.0	Main report.
3.1	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>Members are advised that in terms of ambient air quality, Belfast City Council has designated four Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) across the city. These AQMAs have been designated along arterial routes for exceedances of the nitrogen dioxide annual mean air quality objective. The AQMAs have been designated in a ribbon manner for the Ormeau Road, the M1 Motorway / A12 Westlink corridor, Cromac Street to the junction with Short Strand and the Upper Newtownards Road. Source apportionment within these AQMAS has revealed that exceedances of the nitrogen dioxide annual mean objective are principally as a consequence of emissions from road vehicles.</p>
3.2	<p>As part of the Council's local air quality management statutory obligations, the Council is required to develop an Air Quality Action Plan, which draws upon actions that the Council, as well as relevant authority partners, can take within each AQMA in order to achieve the air quality objectives. It should be noted that within Northern Ireland, the Department for Infrastructure has responsibility for roads, road improvement schemes, public transport, transport initiatives and active travel and so the Department is a principal contributor to the</p>

	2015-2020 Belfast City Air Quality Action Plan, alongside Translink, the Freight Transport Association and the Road Haulage Association.
3.3	In its response to the Council, the Department has stated that in reflecting the focus on 'Improving Wellbeing for All' in the draft Programme for Government, the Department is committed to taking action to increase the proportion of journeys undertaken by sustainable modes. The Department has therefore advised that it is supportive of the Council's focus on reducing private car journeys to the city centre, noting that a reduction in car traffic can make a substantial positive contribution to local air quality and greenhouse gases reductions, in addition to making urban centres much more attractive places in which to work, visit invest and enjoy leisure time.
3.4	The Department has highlighted that it previously supported the Ciclovia event, which involved road closures along a designated route between Botanic Gardens and Belfast City Hall and that it has been at the heart of initiatives to encourage the use of Public Transport in place of private car for accessing Belfast City Centre at Christmas.
3.5	The Department has advised however, that a successful 'car free' day would involve a number of integrated elements including road closures, alternative traffic management measures, and supplementary public transport offers which would require significant planning and lead-in time, and significant Consultation with all the relevant stakeholders including industry and business who may be affected by traffic impacts around the City.
3.6	The Department has highlighted that the proposed road restrictions could have been undertaken by the Council under the Roads (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act (Northern Ireland) 2010, either as part of the Order that had been prepared to facilitate 'Culture Night' or as a separate 'special events' Order. The Department has advised however, that initial consideration of the proposal for 'car free' city days would suggest that more complex arrangements than simply closing roads to motor vehicles generally would be required.
3.7	Whilst the Department has advised that there was insufficient time to address these matters ahead of the 2019 Culture Night and Belfast Half Marathon on 20 th -22 nd September 2019, the Department has nonetheless advised that it would be keen to support the Council in designating Belfast City as 'car free' in future as part of a co-ordinated package of measures and events.

3.8	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is considered that if the Council were to lead a 'car free' initiative for the city, it would initially have to identify a range of potential future 'car free' dates and to then seek the support of relevant city organisations in supporting the development and implementation of a detailed 'car free' project plan. • Organisations that would most likely need to be involved in planning, and support the implementation of a 'car free' initiative, would at least include the Department for Infrastructure, the Department for Education, the Department for Health, the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, Translink, PSNI, Queens and Ulster University, Belfast City Centre Management, Belfast Chamber of Trade and Commerce, the Freight Transport Association, Road Haulage Association, taxi operators and the various emergency services. • It is anticipated that a specific marketing and media campaign would have to be developed and implemented, significantly in advance of any future 'car free' initiative. • It is anticipated that significant officer time would have to be devoted to the inception, coordination, implementation and management of a 'car free' campaign. • In relation to consultation and implementation, if BCC were to lead on specific road closures for traffic management arrangements and depending on the size and complexity of any proposal, these could range from £5k-50k which is not planned for in the revenue estimates.
3.9	<p>It is anticipated that a significant financial budget would have to be identified and assigned to support additional staff resources to manage the formal consultation and engagement, the marketing and media campaign aspects of a 'car free' project. No such allowance has been included within 2020-2021 revenue and budget estimates. It may be that the most appropriate approach would be to engage with DFI and enlist their leadership and support for taking on the coordination of this initiative going forward, within the context of their strategy for sustainable transport.</p>
3.10	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications /Rural Needs Assessments</u></p> <p>It is considered that designating Belfast as 'car free' may have implications for Section 75 categories age, disability and dependents. It is therefore anticipated that a full Equality, Good Relations Implications and Rural Needs assessments would have to be undertaken for any 'car free' proposal.</p>

4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached.
	Appendix 1 - Department for Infrastructure letter of response to the 'Proposal for Belfast Car Free Days from 20 th — 22 nd September 2019'.

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Department for
Infrastructure

An Roinn

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Siobhan Toland, Director of City Services
Belfast City Council
City & Neighbourhood Services Division
The Cecil Ward Building
4-10 Linenhall Street
Belfast BT2 8BP

Your reference:
Our reference: COR-0436-2019

17 September 2019

Dear Ms Toland

RE : Proposal for Belfast Car Free Days from 20th – 22nd September 2019

Thank you for your letter of 3 September 2019 to Katrina Godfrey seeking the support of the Department for Infrastructure for the designation of Belfast City Centre car free days. I have been asked to reply on behalf of the Department.

Reflecting the focus on *Improving Wellbeing for All* in the draft Programme for Government, the Department is committed to taking action to increase the proportion of journeys undertaken by sustainable modes. We are therefore very supportive of the Council's focus on reducing private car journeys to the city centre. A reduction in car traffic can make a substantial positive contribution to local air quality and greenhouse gases reductions, in addition to making our urban centres much more attractive places in which to work, visit invest and enjoy leisure time.

In the recent past, the Department has supported the Ciclovía event which has involved road closures along a route between Botanic Gardens and Belfast City Hall. The Department has also been at the heart of initiatives to encourage the use of Public Transport in place of private car in accessing the City Centre at Christmas time.

However, we would caution that, to be successful, a car-free day should involve a number of integrated elements including road closures, alternative traffic management measures, and supplementary public transport offers. Clearly these require significant planning and lead-in time.



INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE

The proposed restrictions for this purpose might be undertaken by Belfast City Council, as the relevant authority, under the Roads (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act (Northern Ireland) 2010 either as part of the Order prepared to facilitate "Culture Night" (or 'weekend') or as a separate 'special events' Order. However, initial consideration of the proposal for 'car free' days would suggest that more complex arrangements than closing roads to motor vehicles generally would be required.

This would particularly be the case if the part of its purpose is less to prevent motor cars accessing the city than to promote alternative means of achieving this purpose. Apart from the lengthy planning that is likely to be required any proposed Order would require consultation, advertising and a period for written representation to be made not being less than 21 days from the date of the notice. Unfortunately the Council has insufficient time to undertake this work before 20th – 22nd September.

Consequently, whilst the Department would be keen to support the City Council in designating Belfast City as car free in future as part of a co-ordinated package of measures and events, on this occasion there is insufficient time to plan and consult for a successful outcome. We would, however, be very keen to work with Council officers to make similar plans for a future weekend.

Yours sincerely



Robert Crawford

Head of Departmental Coordination Unit



Subject:	Positive Animation of Parks/Open Spaces
Date:	5 November 2019
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director City and Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Ryan Black, Director Neighbourhood Services

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	For Members information, previous People and Communities Committee requested regular updates on ongoing work to encourage positive animation of Council parks/open spaces as a way of deterring anti-social behaviour and vandalism.
1.2	This emerged as a result of ongoing concerns raised with Elected Members about the impact of anti-social behaviour and vandalism in parks/open spaces and the impact of this on the positive use and animation of these spaces in communities.
1.3	Ongoing review of reported anti-social behaviour and feedback from Elected Members identified a small number of parks, open spaces where it was agreed a co-ordinated focus with other statutory

1.4	<p>organisations, and communities would add value. These were Falls Park/City Cemetery, Orangefield Park/Avoniel Park, Marrowbone Park, Dunville Park and Ballysillan Park.</p> <p>Additionally, at full Council in March 2019, Elected Members requested regular updates to future People and Communities Committee on the ongoing work to positively animate these parks/open spaces and how Council managed ongoing vandalism.</p>
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • note the contents of this report and support the ongoing work to positively animate parks/open spaces
3.0	Main report
3.1	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>Ongoing review of local, regional and national best practice indicates that one of the most effective ways of addressing anti-social behaviour and vandalism is to positively animate parks/open spaces by creating a sense of ownership and empowerment amongst users. This includes young people, who often gather in parks/open spaces as a way to positively socialise. It is however, recognised that young people are often gathering in parks/open spaces at times when they are closed and particularly after dark which can create additional vulnerabilities for those young people.</p> <p>Ongoing review of reported anti-social behaviour, input from Elected Members and Council Officers has identified that the parks/open spaces, which are causing most concern in relation to serious anti-social behaviour at present, are Marrowbone Park, Falls Park/City Cemetery and Girdwood.</p> <p><u>General Animation</u></p> <p>Council Parks Outreach and Open Spaces and Active Living Teams work closely with local schools, youth and community groups throughout the year running positive events and activities in our parks/open spaces. This work helps create a positive relationship between participants and the parks/open spaces and increased respect and civic pride. Examples include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor Education Sessions • Biodiversity Sessions • Park Life Schools Programme • Park Life Saturday Club • Family Fun Days • Growing Workshops • Historical and Cultural Guided Walks

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Clean Ups <p>Council also works with a range of external organisations who support Councils' objective of positively animating our parks/open spaces. These include community and cultural events, Park Runs and music events.</p> <p><u>Targeted Animation at Current Priority Sites</u></p> <p><u>Marrowbone Park Millennium Park</u></p>
3.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City and Neighbourhood Services provides ongoing co-ordination to animate Marrowbone Park, with recent animation taking place over four consecutive weekends in late summer 2019. Combined efforts involved Ardoyne Youth Enterprises (AYE), Ulster Rugby, Sustrans, Council Parks Outreach, Ardoyne GAA, Council Community Development and Council Sports Development. The event was called the 'Bonehills Takeover' and was aimed at promoting positive use of the park and to encourage families and young people to enjoy the park in a safe way.
3.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AYE supplied Outreach Youth Workers to engage with young people in and around the park to promote positive use of the park and address some of the risk taking behaviours. There was a range of events and activities planned including sports coaching; inflatables and a bicycle maintenance stand supplied by Sustrans to promote bike safety. <p><u>Falls Park / City Cemetery</u></p>
3.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council continues to coordinate the ongoing multi-agency response to Anti-Social Behaviour issues in the Falls Park and City Cemetery. This involves ongoing liaison with Elected Members, outreach/detached youth workers, PSNI and Translink to plan high visibility operations aimed at deterring anti-social behaviour. Additionally, Council has supported two requests from youth organisations to access the 3G football pitch to animate the park and divert young people into more positive activity such as a soccer tournament. This culminated in a football match between BCC Officers, youth workers and PSNI Officers to highlight the ongoing partnership approach to addressing ASB in the Park and Cemetery. This work all takes place at the times anti-social behaviour is most likely to happen.
3.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A recent request for use of the pitches over the next 6 weeks has been supported resulting in usage of the pitch on Friday/ Saturday evening by local youth providers.

3.8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members will be aware of the ongoing damage caused to War Graves in the City Cemetery. Council officers have met with the Commonwealth War Graves Commission to discuss more proactive measures to deter such damage happening again. These measures have been discussed with senior PSNI Officers and will involve continued high visibility foot patrols (Council and PSNI) and maximising positive animation opportunities. Mobile CCTV has been deployed in the last two weeks and this will continue. Additional CCTV and lighting is also being considered but may not be feasible given the nature of the site. A site meeting with BCC's mobile CCTV contractor to scope out the work required will take place this week. Education Authority and community/voluntary youth workers have been briefed on the Councils' serious concerns about damage to the graves and are proactively working to ensure young people in the area do not become involved in this activity. <p><u>Girdwood Community Hub</u></p>
3.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Girdwood remains one of our priority areas of focus with Council Officers providing high visibility patrols, including with PSNI (along with other priority sites). The site remains complex, however Council Officers continue to work with our colleagues within the PSNI, DFC, EA and community partners to review and evaluate interventions being delivered in and around the site.
3.10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council also continues to provide a physical security presence with the purpose of deterring and dealing with ASB incidents inside the hub building. At present, this service is delivered 3 nights per week and we are currently engaging with the operator with a view of providing additional security across the Girdwood Site for additional visibility outside of the building and around the pitches.
3.11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A site visit has been facilitated with the Department for Communities & PSNI to explore opportunities to design out areas being use as a 'run through' by planting additional mature trees to close these key areas. A landscape plan is currently being developed and costed and we hope to be in a position to progress this as a matter of urgency.
3.12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional CCTV is currently being procured to provide additional coverage across the Girdwood site. The additional provision will be in the form of wireless CCTV and locations points have been identified in conjunction with the PSNI. The proposed solution will also allow for new CCTV cameras to be re-located should other areas around the site be identified as 'hot spot' or 'blind spots' areas.

Partnership Working

- 3.13 Promoting the positive use of parks/open spaces and reducing anti-social behaviour/vandalism is not something the Council can achieve in isolation and requires extremely high levels of partnership working. Partners involved include Council, PSNI, Education Authority, Youth Organisations, Community Organisations, Translink, local schools and other revenue programmes (e.g. Urban Villages, Fresh Start, and PEACE IV).
- 3.14 Officers continue to work with all partners to maximise effectiveness of interventions, reduce duplication, protect Council assets and improve the quality of life for park/open space users and communities in the wider vicinity. Some further examples of how that partnership working is being progressed are detailed below:
- 3.15
- Ongoing serious anti-social behaviour in the Springfield Park, Springfield Dam and Invest NI Site was causing serious concerns for residents in the area and presented a risk to the success of the PEACE IV Shared Spaces and Services capital investment in the area ('Springfield Necklace'). Officers from across the Council worked to develop a co-ordinated plan of operations and community support in the wider area which included:
- 3.16
- A pilot civic engagement project commissioned by PEACE IV and delivered by Clonard Youth Centre and Forthspring Inter-Community Group. Both groups are delivering on site outreach work to identify those involved with the anti-social behaviour and are engaging them in cross community programmes to reduce the risk those young people will become involved anti-social behaviour again. The pilot project will run until January 2020 and if evaluated as an effective model, is likely to be commissioned for a longer period.
- 3.17
- In partnership with the Education Authority and PSNI, Council has begun the process of putting systems in place in West Belfast to maximise communication and partnership working between organisations. In practice, this involves weekly joined up planning of resources around priority sites at an operational level to include what quantity of resources are available, what area those resources will operate in, what times they will operate and the sharing of contact details. This has been informed by a very successful model in East Belfast (East Belfast Youth Providers Forum). This model is currently being rolled out for North Belfast with an initial cross-sectoral workshop held on 22 October 2019, which will be followed up in November 2019 with a more detailed planning workshop.

	<p><u>Supporting Innovation</u></p>
3.18	Members will recall from Committee in June 2019, Council was in the process of completing an externally funded (Department for Economy) project working with the SME sector (including community/voluntary organisations) on opportunities to use innovation and technology in encouraging positive use and deter negative use of parks/open spaces.
3.19	£100,000 was secured for Phase 1 and after a short period of field testing in five parks/open spaces across the city in June 2019 (2 weeks). The field testing for each SME was generally positive and following a multi-agency review process, the Department for Economy has issued a Phase 2 letter of offer for £125K for 20/21 financial year, with further funding available (subject to satisfactory performance during 20/21) for 21/22 financial year.
3.20	<p>The overall aim of the project in Phase 2 has been slightly refocussed taking in to account the Phase 1 experience. It revised aim is:</p> <p>“To help Belfast City Council manage safe, accessible and enjoyable parks and open spaces, whilst continuing to respect the privacy of our users”</p>
3.21	As in Phase 1, all SME’s were subject to rigorous Data Protection and Privacy Impact Assessments and full legal compliance was in place throughout ensuring every individuals’ right to privacy was respected and only data directly related to the project aim was gathered. Learning from Phase 1 has resulted in a new work stream within Phase 2, which will involve parks/open spaces users and communities near our parks/open spaces to become more involved with Council and the SME’s at an early stage. The purpose of this early engagement is to better understand any concerns users and communities may have about the type of data, which is being, gathered, which will ultimately inform the Phase 2 Data Protection and Privacy Impact Assessments.
3.22	<p>Party Group Briefings will be offered in November/December 2019 if Elected Members would like further detail and a Phase 2 progress report will be provided to Committee at the earliest opportunity after Phase 2 project close down in March 2020.</p> <p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p>
3.23	<p><u>Staff Resources</u></p> <p>The above approach continues to support the values and principles of the City and Neighbourhood Services and wider Corporate Change Programme.</p>

3.24	<p><u>Financial Resources</u></p> <p>All of the above work continues to be accommodated from within existing Council and (D) PCSP revenue budgets. The work is intended to maximise existing resources, reduce duplication and facilitate joined up decision making and resource allocation in the identified parks/open spaces.</p>
3.25	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None have been identified at present, however, this will monitored on an ongoing basis.</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	None.

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Subject:	City Greenways Workshop
Date:	5 th November 2019
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director City and Neighbourhood Services Ryan Black, Director of Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Sabine Kalke, Project Sponsor

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	To propose to Committee that the motion in relation to Greenways is taken forward through an all Members' workshop that will explore Greenways city-wide across Belfast.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agree to hold an all Members' workshop to discuss Greenways on a city-wide basis on 16th January 2020 at 5pm subject to availability of proposed speakers.
3.0	Main report
3.1	Sustainable transport is a key element of the Belfast Agenda under the City Development priority with the goal to increase the use of sustainable transport by 15 per cent by 2021. A

	number of key infrastructure projects are currently in place to help achieve this target including the £150 million Belfast Transport Hub and the Belfast Rapid Transit.
3.2	As part of the sustainable transport plan for achieving our objectives in the Belfast Agenda, we have committed to supporting walking and cycling as sustainable modes of transport, improving the city's pedestrian routes and cycling infrastructure.
3.3	<p>It is on this basis that the notice of motion, added to at People & Communities Committee on 8th May 2018, states the following:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“That this council will support the further development of the Greenway strategy in Belfast, including assessing the benefits of a Sydenham Greenway, linking East Belfast and Holywood and the development of the Greenway in West Belfast and the Shankill linking Belfast and Lisburn. Council will engage with potential partners to assess how such a strategy would be implemented, with focus on improving connectivity and benefiting health and well-being in our community.”</p>
3.4	There were also discussions around the strategic importance of Greenways in the different AWG.
3.5	The Comber Greenway and Connswater Community Greenway, as well as the Lagan and Lough Cycle Way have proven very successful in providing safe cycling and pedestrian infrastructure that connects neighbourhoods to each other as well as to the city centre.
3.6	However, we are aware that more can be done to connect these existing Greenways and create further path connections in areas where there are none.
3.7	Different agencies have plans for different areas, however these need to be interrelated. Therefore it is suggested to organise a Members' workshop exploring existing and planned path connections/greenways as well as ideas and visions for the whole area of Belfast.
	<u>Financial & Resource Implications</u>
3.8	There are no additional financial or resource allocations contained within this report

	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u>
3.9	There are no equality, good relations or rural needs implications contained within this report.
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	None

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Subject:	Parks Events Small Grants Scheme – Recommendations for Funding
Date:	5 November 2019
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director of City & Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Agnes McNulty, Open Spaces & Active Living 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"/>

Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
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1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	The purpose of the report is to inform Members of the decision taken by the Director of City & Neighbourhood Services, under Delegated Authority regarding the applications received in Tranche 2 for events taking place in parks between 1 October 2019 and 31 March 2020.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> note the contents of the report.
3.0	Main report
	<u>Key Issues</u>

3.1	The Parks Events Grant is aimed at encouraging more people to get involved in parks throughout Belfast, to help create a sense of ownership and improve the quality of life for people living in the city. It also aims to encourage communities and organisations to organise their own events in the Council's parks and open spaces. It is fully funded by Belfast City Council and has been in place since 2007.
3.2	The second tranche for 2019/20 of the grant, for activities taking place from 1 October 2019 opened in May 2019. A total of 5 no. applications were received for the Grant which were assessed by the Open Spaces & Active Living (OS&AL) Unit and 3 no. applications met the criteria for an award to be made, as shown in Appendix 1.
3.3	An Independent Assessment Panel reviewed a sample (20%) of the applications, was satisfied with the scoring and application of the criteria for the grants and approved the recommendations for awards as shown in Appendix 1. The CGU will continue the administration of the Grant through notification to unsuccessful applicants, draft and distribution of Letters of Offer, holding workshops for grant awarded applicants, facilitation of payments and monitoring of all awards, including financial verification visits.
	<u>Financial & Resource Implications</u>
3.4	The total budget for 2019/20 is £100,000. Tranche 1 - £89,521.64 and Tranche 2 - £8,657. The scheme is managed by staff from the OS&AL Unit and the Community Park Managers/Outreach Officers are responsible for liaising with groups.
	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/</u>
3.5	There are no known equality and good relation implications.
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	Appendix 1: Parks Events Small Grant Successful Applications 2019/20 - T2. Appendix 2: Parks Events Small Grant Unsuccessful Applications 2019/20 - T2.

Appendix 1 - Parks Events Small Grants Successful Applications - 2019/20 T2

Project No.	Organisation	Project Name	Venue
16370	Feile an Phobail	Draiocht Children's Arts Festival	Falls Park
16457	Cumann Spoir an Phobail	Our Community Our Park	Springhill Millennium Park
16461	New Lodge Arts	North Belfast Lantern Festival	Alexandra Park

Date	Ward	Time	Amount Requested	Amount Awarded
30 October 2019	Blackmountain	10am - 9pm	£3,000.00	£2,657.00
27 October 2019	Blackmountain	12pm - 3pm	£3,000.00	£3,000.00
29 October 2019	Castle	12pm - 10pm	£3,000.00	£3,000.00

Appendix 2 - Parks Events Small Grants Unsuccessful Applications - 2019/20 T2										
Project No.	Organisation	Project Name	Venue	Date	Ward	Time	Amount Requested	Amount Awarded	Score	Comments
16228	First Steps Playgroup	Monster Mash	Lenadoon Millennium Park	31 October 2019	Blackmountain	10am - 2pm	£2,180.00	£0.00	42.50	Did not reach pass mark
15256	Greater Village Regeneration Trust	Step Into Spring	Blythefield Park	28 March 2019	Botanic	10.30 - 2.30pm	£3,000.00	£0.00	0	Awarded £3,000 in Tranche 1 - maximum award is £3,000

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Subject:	Update on Committee Financial Position
Date:	5 th November 2019
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Director of City and Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Jacqueline Wilson, Business Manager, 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"/>

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	In advance of the quarter 2 financial position for the People and Communities Committee; the department is highlighting for committee the financial pressures experienced in year and potential options to bring the department back to an acceptable expenditure position.	
2.0	Recommendations	
2.1	Members are asked to; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> note the updated current financial position and the corrective action to support an improvement 	

3.0	Main report
3.1	<p>Overall Council Financial Position</p> <p>A report to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee at its meeting on 23rd August 2019 set out the departmental and district rate forecasts. It was agreed that the committee maintained its position that no further reallocations or cash flow payments are considered until the Quarter 2 position is presented to the Committee in November 2019.</p>
3.2	<p>Committee Financial Position</p> <p>Members are advised that although the Quarter 2 position for People and Communities Committee is an under spend of -£271,492 or -0.7% of the budget, The Quarter 2 forecast year end for the People and Communities Committee is an over spend of £544k or 0.7%. Whilst this is within the acceptable financial variance limit of 3% the Committee has a cash limit for year end and therefore there is a need to undertake corrective action to bring this back to a more neutral position.</p>
3.3	<p>The main reasons for the quarter 2 Committee over spend forecast relates to a number of areas including the following :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • uncontrollable increased contract costs and waste tonnages; • increases in waste collection staff costs; • vehicle costs and fuel costs • reduction of income against budget for commercial waste. • Additional requests for resource allocation though committee on tackling ASB in parts of the city
3.4	<p>The department has explored a range of options that are now needed to address this forecast overspend position some of these include the following actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pulling back on any discretionary spend and on areas such as supplies and services • Reviewing any events/programmes that are not already committed to that may then need to be delayed • Delay any non-essential grounds maintenance activities to the new financial year • Challenge all overtime requests or temporary agency cover that's are not deemed essential

3.5	<p><u>Finance and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>The Quarter 2 forecast for People and Communities Committee is an over spend of £544k or 0.7% whilst this is within the acceptable variance limit of 3% we have a cash limit for committee therefore the department will continue to work to reduce this overspend position by the end of the financial year.</p>
3.6	<p><u>Equality and Good Relations/Rural Needs assessment</u></p> <p>There are no equality implications with this report.</p>
4.0	<p>Appendices – Documents Attached</p>
	<p>None</p>

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Subject:	Proposal for naming new streets and the Continuation of an existing street
Date:	5 th November, 2019
Reporting Officer:	Ian Harper, Building Control Manager
Contact Officer:	Roisin Adams, Business Coordinator

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	To consider applications for the naming of new streets and the continuation of an existing street in the City.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>Based on the information presented, the Committee is required to make a recommendation in respect of an application for naming a new street in the City and the continuation of an existing street in the City. The Committee may either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grant the applications, or Refuse the applications and request that the applicants submit other names for consideration.

3.0	Main report																														
3.1	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>The power for the Council to name streets is contained in Article 11 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (NI) Order 1995.</p>																														
3.2	<p>Members are asked to consider the following applications for naming new streets and the continuation of an existing street in the City. The application particulars are in order and the Royal Mail has no objections to the proposed names. The proposed new names are not contained in the Council's Streets Register and do not duplicate existing approved street names in the City.</p> <table><tr><th>Proposed Name</th><th>Location</th><th>Applicant</th></tr><tr><td>Blacks Gate Drive</td><td>Off Blacks Road, BT10</td><td>Radius Housing Assoc</td></tr><tr><td>Blacks Gate Park</td><td>Off Blacks Road, BT10</td><td>Radius Housing Assoc</td></tr><tr><td>Blacks Gate Road</td><td>Off Blacks Road, BT10</td><td>Radius Housing Assoc</td></tr><tr><td>Blacks Gate Green</td><td>Off Blacks Road, BT10</td><td>Radius Housing Assoc</td></tr><tr><td>Blacks Gate Mews</td><td>Off Blacks Road, BT10</td><td>Radius Housing Assoc</td></tr><tr><td>Blacks Gate Avenue</td><td>Off Blacks Road, BT10</td><td>Radius Housing Assoc</td></tr><tr><td>Blacks Gate Crescent</td><td>Off Blacks Road, BT10</td><td>Radius Housing Assoc</td></tr></table> <table><tr><th>Proposed Continuation of Existing Street</th><th>Location</th><th>Applicant</th></tr><tr><td>Castlehill Wood</td><td>Off Castlehill Manor, BT4</td><td>Lanyon Homes NI Ltd</td></tr></table>	Proposed Name	Location	Applicant	Blacks Gate Drive	Off Blacks Road, BT10	Radius Housing Assoc	Blacks Gate Park	Off Blacks Road, BT10	Radius Housing Assoc	Blacks Gate Road	Off Blacks Road, BT10	Radius Housing Assoc	Blacks Gate Green	Off Blacks Road, BT10	Radius Housing Assoc	Blacks Gate Mews	Off Blacks Road, BT10	Radius Housing Assoc	Blacks Gate Avenue	Off Blacks Road, BT10	Radius Housing Assoc	Blacks Gate Crescent	Off Blacks Road, BT10	Radius Housing Assoc	Proposed Continuation of Existing Street	Location	Applicant	Castlehill Wood	Off Castlehill Manor, BT4	Lanyon Homes NI Ltd
Proposed Name	Location	Applicant																													
Blacks Gate Drive	Off Blacks Road, BT10	Radius Housing Assoc																													
Blacks Gate Park	Off Blacks Road, BT10	Radius Housing Assoc																													
Blacks Gate Road	Off Blacks Road, BT10	Radius Housing Assoc																													
Blacks Gate Green	Off Blacks Road, BT10	Radius Housing Assoc																													
Blacks Gate Mews	Off Blacks Road, BT10	Radius Housing Assoc																													
Blacks Gate Avenue	Off Blacks Road, BT10	Radius Housing Assoc																													
Blacks Gate Crescent	Off Blacks Road, BT10	Radius Housing Assoc																													
Proposed Continuation of Existing Street	Location	Applicant																													
Castlehill Wood	Off Castlehill Manor, BT4	Lanyon Homes NI Ltd																													
3.3	<p>Radius Housing have advised that the proposed names Blacks Gate, reflect the location of the former Visteon site on the Blacks Road, which derives from the Blackstaff River which flows underneath the City of Belfast. The reference to “Gate” reflects the location of the former Visteon site at a key gateway location as you enter Belfast north bound. The words Blacks and Gate have been brought together to form the compound Blacks Gate</p>																														
3.4	<p>The second choice proposed by Radius Housing are Fairlane Drive, Fairlane Park, Fairlane Road, Fairlane Green, Fairlane Mews, Fairlane Avenue and Fairlane Crescent. Fairlane has been proposed as it connected to the history of the former Visteon/Ford factory site which was a major employer in Belfast up until the factory closed in 2009. Henry Ford was the founder of the Ford Motor Company and he was so proud of his ancestral home in co. Cork that he named his own home in Michigan ‘Fairlane’ after a place name in Cork. Fairlane was also used to name one of Ford’s most successful American cars.</p>																														

3.5	The third choice for the new development is Bridgeford Drive, Bridgeford Park, Bridgeford Road, Bridgeford Green, Bridgeford Mews, Bridgeford Avenue and Bridgeford Avenue. Radius Housing Association have proposed Bridgeford as the name reflects the presence of the Finaghy Road North underpass which is located in close proximity to the site and viewed by many local residents as a 'bridge'. The ford relates to the car manufacturing history associated with the site, which employed in excess of five thousand employees from across Belfast and produced components for the Ford Corporation.
3.6	Radius Housing Association have advised that they worked in collaboration with Malone College students on the "Visteon Design Challenge". One of the assignments associated with the Visteon Design Challenge was for year 10 students to work in groups to propose new street names for the former Visteon car factory that would relate to the history or geography of the site. The names, which are being proposed, are a direct result of the student's research and suggestions.
3.7	Lanyon Homes have proposed Castlehill Wood for the continuation of an existing street that has been extended by the developer with the construction of phase three, four and five to include a mix of two and three storey dwellings.
3.8	<u>Financial & Resource Implications</u> There are no Financial, Human Resources, Assets and other implications in this report.
3.9	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u> There are no direct Equality implications.
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	None

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Subject:	Proposal For Dual Language Street Signs
Date:	5 November, 2019
Reporting Officer:	Ian Harper, Building Control Manager
Contact Officer:	Roisin Adams, Business Coordinator

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	To consider an application for the erection of dual language street signs for an existing street within the City.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	As at least two thirds of the total numbers of persons surveyed in the streets are in favour of the proposal to erect a second street nameplate in Irish at Slemish Way and the Committee is recommended to approve the application.

3.0	Main report										
	<u>Key Issues</u>										
3.1	The power for the Council to consider applications to erect a second street nameplate in a language other than English is contained in Article 11 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (NI) Order 1995.										
3.2	Members are asked to consider the following application to erect a second street nameplate showing the name of the street expressed in a language other than English. The second language is Irish. <table><tr><th>English Name</th><th>Non- English Name</th><th>Location</th><th>Applicant</th><th>Persons surveyed</th></tr><tr><td>Slemish Way</td><td>Bealach Shliabh Mis</td><td>Off Andersonstown Road, BT11</td><td>Councillor Séanna Walsh</td><td>95</td></tr></table>	English Name	Non- English Name	Location	Applicant	Persons surveyed	Slemish Way	Bealach Shliabh Mis	Off Andersonstown Road, BT11	Councillor Séanna Walsh	95
English Name	Non- English Name	Location	Applicant	Persons surveyed							
Slemish Way	Bealach Shliabh Mis	Off Andersonstown Road, BT11	Councillor Séanna Walsh	95							
3.3	The translations were authenticated by Queens University, the approved translator for Belfast City Council.										
3.4	In accordance with the Council’s policy for the erection of dual language street signs surveys of all persons appearing on the Electoral Register for the above streets were carried out and the following responses were received. Slemish Way, BT11										
3.5	70 people (74%) are in favour of the erection of a second street nameplate 25 people (26%) did not respond to the survey										
3.6	The Council’s policy on the erection of a second street nameplate requires that at least two thirds (66.6%) of the people surveyed must be in favour of the proposal to erect a second street sign in a language other than English.										

3.7	<u>Financial & Resource Implications</u> <p>There is a cost of approximately £500 to cover the cost of the manufacturing and erection of the dual language street signs. The cost for these street signs has been allowed for in the current budget.</p>
3.8	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u> <p>There are no direct equality/rural needs implications.</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	None

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Subject:	Update on the Reference Group on Older People
Date:	5 November 2019
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director City & Neighbourhood Service Department
Contact Officer:	Damian Connolly, City Protection 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	The purpose of this report is to report to committee on the key issues discussed at the Reference Group on Older People Meeting held on 22 nd August 2019.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> approve the minutes and the recommendations from the Reference Group on Older People meeting held on 22nd August 2019.
3.0	Main report
3.1	<u>Key Issues</u> The Reference Group on Older People is a working group of the People and Communities Committee which consists of an elected member from each of the political parties.

3.2	The minutes from the Reference Group on Older People are brought before the Committee for approval.
3.3	<p>The key issues discussed at the 22nd August 2019 meeting were:</p> <p><u>Election of chairperson</u></p> <p>Following nomination by Councillor Groves, seconded by Councillor Heading, Alderman Copeland was appointed Chairperson</p> <p><u>Terms of Reference</u></p> <p>Members were provided the Terms of Reference and agreed the date of the annual joint meeting with the Greater Belfast Seniors Forum would be 5th November 2019.</p> <p><u>Update on Age-friendly Belfast</u></p> <p>Members were provided an update on progress with the Age-friendly Belfast Plan 2018-2021 and in particular delivery of the actions attributable to the Council. A PowerPoint presentation on the plan was delivered at the meeting.</p> <p>Our Vision remains that:</p> <p>Belfast will be a city where older people live life to the full</p> <p>Five new thematic areas of work have been identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnership • Infrastructure • Social inclusion • Health and wellbeing • Financial security. <p>These each take cognisance of two cross cutting themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • addressing inequalities • supporting dementia friendly communities. <p>For each theme commitment has been secured, from key stakeholders, to deliver specific actions detailed within the plan.</p>
3.4	
3.5	
3.6	
3.7	
3.8	
3.9	

3.10	<p>You can see the full plan:</p> <p>http://www.makinglifebettertogether.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/9598-Age-friendly-plan-2018-21-28SEPTWEB.pdf</p> <p><u>Presentation from Michele Smyth - AgeNI</u></p>
3.11	<p>Michelle Smyth reminded Members that every Councillor has committed to becoming an Age Friendly Champion, the Age Friendly Champions Action Guide is attached in Appendix 2</p> <p><u>Age-friendly Belfast Convention 2019</u></p>
3.12	<p>Members were informed of and invited to the annual Age-friendly Belfast Convention, held on International Older Persons Day, 1st October 2019 in the City Hall.</p> <p><u>Update on Age-Friendly Belfast Events</u></p>
3.13	<p>Age-friendly Belfast Positive Ageing Month takes place throughout October 2019. This year's events and activities include many of our arts and community groups, venues, organisations and projects to help celebrate Belfast as a city where older people can live life to the full. Information on this year's full programme can be found by clicking on</p> <p>http://www.belfastcity.gov.uk/community/Seniors/positive-ageing-month.aspx?E_EventGroup=positiveageing</p> <p><u>Date of future meetings</u></p>
3.14	<p>Dates of future meetings were agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5th November 2019 12.30pm • 24th February 2020 12.30pm • 18th May 2020 12.30pm • 17th August 2020 12.30pm • 16th November 2020 12.30pm <p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p>
3.15	<p>All events and activities are met within existing resources.</p>

3.16	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u> There are currently no equality or good relation implications in relation to this report.
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 – Copy of minutes of the Reference Group on Older People meeting on 22 nd August 2019 Appendix 2 - Age Friendly Champions Action Guide

Reference Group on Older People

Thursday, 22nd August, 2019

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE REFERENCE GROUP ON OLDER PEOPLE

Members present: Alderman Copeland; and
Councillors Groves and Heading.

In attendance: Mr. D. Connolly, Environmental Health Manager;
Mrs. G. McEvoy, Senior Environmental Health Officer;
Mrs. E. Greer, Healthy Ageing Coordinator; and
Mr. G. Graham, Democratic Services Assistant.

Election of Chairperson

Nominations were sought to fill the vacant position of Chairperson and it was:

Moved by Councillor Groves
Seconded by Councillor Heading and

Resolved – that Alderman Copeland be appointed to the position of
Chairperson for the period ended June 2020.

Alderman Copeland accepted the appointment and thanked the Members for their
nomination.

(Alderman Copeland in the Chair.)

Apologies

An apology for inability to attend was reported from Councillors Michael Collins
and T. Kelly.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 12th December, 2019 were taken as read and
signed as correct.

Declarations of Interest

No declarations of Interest were reported.

Terms of Reference

The Environmental Health Manager provided the Reference Group with an update
its Terms of Reference including, amongst other things, the provision of political direction
in respect of the city planning process for the improvement of health and wellbeing and
securing greater independence for older people. He referred to a further key role of the
Reference Group in the provision of political legitimacy to advocate, lobby and challenge
on policy issues which impacted directly on the quality of life for older people. The
Environmental Health Manager reported that it was proposed to hold the Annual Meeting

of the Greater Belfast Seniors' Forum following the November meeting of the Reference Group.

Age-friendly Belfast

The Senior Environmental Health Officer provided the Reference Group with an update on Age-friendly Belfast. She referred to the fact that, within the Belfast Agenda, it was recognised that 20% of citizens were over 60 years of age, a figure which was set to increase rapidly given the importance attached to the Councils commitment of ensuring an Age-friendly Belfast. She referred also to the fact that becoming Age-friendly was a World Health Organisation initiative. The Members were provided with an outline of the key elements of the Age-friendly approach and the fact that becoming Age-friendly was a continuous process, where structures and processes were adapted to support the health and wellbeing of older people.

The Reference Group was provided with an outline of the work of the Health Ageing Strategic Partnership (HASP) including the range of statutory and non-statutory organisations which comprised that body. The Senior Environmental Officer reported that life had improved for older people and provided the Members with a range of positive indicators, including the fact that 84% of older people felt that they could live life to the full in Belfast. She reported also that confidence had grown within that group in respect of their feelings of safety after dusk.

In terms of the contribution made by the Council in support of Age-friendly Belfast, it was reported that 485 home safety checks had been undertaken, including 140 repairs. It was reported that further partnership work had been carried out in that 3,635 dementia friends and 27 dementia champions had been created in Belfast. The Senior Environmental Health Officer stated that she was pleased to announce that 40 organisations and business enterprises had signed up to the Age-friendly Belfast charter. The Reference Group, despite the successes to date, was informed that there were many challenges still to be addressed and highlighted a range of physical infrastructure works which had been undertaken to assist older people, including improved street lighting, transport and the removal of pavement obstructions. She referred to further measures which had been undertaken to assist with financial security, including the improvement of health and wellbeing. She referred also to a range of additional measures implemented to increase social inclusion.

The Reference Group noted the information provided and acknowledged the efforts made to secure Belfast as a place where older people felt safe and were able to participate and play an active role within the city.

Age-friendly Belfast Plan 2018-2021

The Senior Environmental Health Manager provided the Members with an update on the Age-friendly Belfast Plan covering the period 2018-2021. She reported that a workshop had been held on 15th May, 2019 which had explored how the Council could support older people in the development and planning of services designed to meet their needs. At the Workshop it was reported that a number of specific themes had been identified including:

Physical Infrastructure;

Social Inclusion;

Health and wellbeing; and

Financial Security.

In keeping with the themes identified, it was reported that research had been undertaken to identify barriers hindering older people accessing the city centre including its range of facilities. The Reference Group was advised that a new toilet strategy was being developed for Belfast and that guidance by the Department for Infrastructure (DfI) in respect of pavement cafés was still to be produced. The Senior Environmental Health Officer reported that the Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE) had undertaken research into the housing needs of older people in the private sector which was due to be published in the near future. It was reported also that the draft Local Development Plan strategy would be published in August, 2019, prior to a consultation process being undertaken.

Noted.

Presentation by Michele Smyth – Age NI

(Michele Smyth, Age NI, attended in connection with this item and was welcomed by the Chairperson.)

Ms. Smyth provided the Reference Group with an outline of the work undertaken by Age N.I. to help make Belfast a city where older people could engage in city life and could lead healthy and productive lives. She highlighted the importance to that organisation of Belfast becoming Age-friendly and of the need to set up an Age-friendly network. She stated that, of all the local authorities within the province, Belfast was at a more advanced stage in the Age-friendly process and confirmed that the all Council members had pledged to become an Age-friendly champions. The Reference Group was reminded of the need to maintain the momentum in the development of Age-friendly initiatives. She requested that officers encourage the Members of Council to engage proactively in the forthcoming Age-friendly events and the importance of using social media as a means to promote Age-friendly status.

Ms Smyth provided the Reference Group with arrange of suggestions on ways to promote Age-friendly in each of the local Council areas, including the promotion of age-friendly communities. She provided information on the eight themes contained within the framework used to develop Age-friendly plans, including amongst other things:

Civic Participation and Employment;

Social Participation; and

Transportation.

She provided the Members with a range of practical ways in which they could engage with older people's groups and networks and referred to the key components of the pledge. Ms Smyth stated that the Council had signed up to the pledge which included the promotion and support of good Age- friendly practice and planning. She highlighted also a range of initiatives which had been undertaken to reduce loneliness and social isolation.

The Reference Group noted the information which had been provided and thanked Ms Smyth for her detailed and informative presentation.

Age-friendly Belfast Convention 2019

The Senior Environmental Health Officer provided the Members with information in respect of the forthcoming Age-friendly Belfast Convention which would take place on 1st October 2019. She stated that the purpose of the convention was to highlight the

progress which had been made in the development of the Age-friendly Belfast Plan 2018-2021 and to celebrate also the contribution made to the city by older people.

Noted.

Age-friendly Belfast Events

The Senior Environmental Health Officer provided the Reference Group with a range of Age-friendly events which would be held as part of Positive Ageing Month. She stated that the scheduled events had been designed to be interactive and that some new events had been added to the schedule.

The Reference Group noted the diverse range of events which had been organised as part of Positive Ageing Month and congratulated the officers in their work to develop Age-friendly initiatives.

Date of Future Meetings

The Reference Group agreed its schedule of meetings covering the period until December 2020.

Chairperson

Age Friendly Champions Action Guide

Practical ways to promote Age Friendly in your council area

Looking forward to a more Age Friendly future for Northern Ireland

In the 2019 local election, voters went to the polls to elect Councillors to take up the 462 seats across the 11 council areas in Northern Ireland. In the run up to the 2019 election, Age NI ran a campaign aimed at securing a commitment from candidates that, if elected, they would commit to be an Age Friendly Champion in their council role and work to promote and galvanise Age Friendly work within their councils.

What is Age Friendly?

Age Friendly¹ is a framework developed by the World Health Organisation (WHO) to support the development of Age Friendly communities. An Age Friendly world enables people of all ages to actively participate in community activities and treats everyone with respect, regardless of their age. It is a place that makes it easy for older people to stay connected to people and things which are important to them. It also helps people stay healthy and active even at the oldest ages and provides appropriate support to those who can no longer look after themselves.

The framework outlines eight themes to consider when developing Age friendly plans.

These are:

- Civic participation & employment
- Communication & information
- Social participation
- Outdoor space & buildings
- Transportation
- Respect & social inclusion
- Housing
- Community support & health services

In practical terms, Age Friendly environments are free from physical and social barriers and are supported by policies, systems and services that promote health and wellbeing across the life course and enable older people to continue to do the things they value.

¹ <http://www.who.int/ageing/age-friendly-world/en/>

We chose to focus the election campaign on this topic because it has been highlighted time and time again in our engagement with age sector networks. It really matters to older people at a local level and we want to support them to bring about the change they want in their communities.

What have Age Friendly Champions promised?

The pledge:

By signing the pledge to be an Age Friendly Champion, you have agreed to...

- ✓ Promote and support good Age Friendly practice and planning in their council.
- ✓ *Engage with older people's groups and networks. Listen to, understand and act on older people's views to improve their neighbourhood.*
- ✓ *Drive engagement and coproduction with older people at community level.*
- ✓ Encourage and adequately resource Age Friendly initiatives that improve older people's wellbeing and connections and reduce loneliness and social isolation.
- ✓ Support council staff in their work advancing Age Friendly planning practices and partnerships.
- ✓ Encourage Age Friendly partnerships to explore evidence based intergenerational approaches to creating great places to grow old for everyone.
- ✓ Value the contribution older people make in their communities.

Get involved: practical actions you can take

This next stage of the campaign aims to support the development of productive relationships between older people and their elected representatives.

As an Age Friendly Champion, we encourage you to;

Engage with older people's groups and networks

October is positive ageing month and provides an excellent opportunity to reach out and engage with older people in your community; and to promote your Age Friendly Champion status.

Suggested actions: Make contact with local older peoples and services in your area. Talk to them about the commitment you have made by pledging to be an Age Friendly Champion. Listen to older people's views on what they would like to see happening in their community to make it more age friendly. Think about how you can help drive engagement and coproduction with older people at community level.

Promote your Age Friendly Champion status

Familiarise yourself with the key messages below and promote your Age Friendly Champion status by taking some of the suggested actions.

a) What does Age Friendly mean?

In practical terms, age-friendly environments are free from physical and social barriers and are supported by policies, systems, services, products and technologies that:

- promote health and build and maintain physical and mental capacity across the life course and
- enable older people, to continue to do the things they value.

See the eight domains for the age friendliness baseline of the city outlined in the Age Friendly Belfast Plan 2018-2021.

b) Why does Northern Ireland need Age Friendly communities?

Living longer is a huge opportunity. We can all age well if we prepare and plan for our ageing population and take steps to ensure our neighbourhoods and communities are welcoming, accessible and inclusive places for us all to age well in. As we grow older, we may spend more time in our homes and neighbourhood, so our environment has a significant impact on our health, wellbeing and the quality of our lives.

There is a real need to work together to remove the barriers older people face to participating in the life of their local communities. Where we live and its immediate environment sets the tone for our daily life and, while many older people continue to play an active part in their community, lack of accessible local transport options, somewhere to sit down, or access to clean public toilets limits how far people are able to get around. Poor quality pavements, inadequate street lighting or fear of crime can stop people feeling confident enough to go out.

Age Friendly places are essential for us all as we age, as consumers, as volunteers, workers and as care givers. As our population ages, ensuring that those who are less mobile or not online are not left behind will be vital.

c) What role will Age Friendly champions have in delivering it?

In the Active Ageing Strategy² Government set out a framework to plan and prepare for our ageing population: ***‘Northern Ireland being an Age Friendly region in which people, as they get older, are valued and supported to live actively to their fullest potential; with their rights respected and their dignity protected’.***

Age NI believe that everybody should be able to live in an age-friendly world that enables people of all ages to participate in the life of their local community, connected to each other and to opportunities in their local area, valued for the contribution they can and do make to their local community. Councillors will have a key role to play in promoting Age Friendly and supporting their council in the development and implementation of Age Friendly plans and initiatives.

Suggested Actions:

Use social media to promote your Age Friendly Champion status:

- Highlight why you think Age Friendly is important in your social media posts.
- Show examples of how you help older people to “Be More Connected” in your community.
- Take a selfie with an older people’s group you have connected with or with older people you have met at an event.
- Make a video stating your commitment to promote age friendly initiatives in your community and post on social media.
- Use the following hashtags:
#positiveageingmonth
#lovelaterlife
#agefriendlychampion
- Look out for others using these hashtags and retweet
- Follow us on Twitter @agenipolicy and tag us in your posts.
- Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/agenicharity

Michele Smyth, Senior Campaigns & Communications Officer,
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Subject:	Community and Play Centres: Seasonal Closures
Date:	5 November 2019
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director City & Neighbourhood Service Department
Contact Officer:	Cate Taggart, Neighbourhood Services 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	The purpose of this report is to seek permission to extend the current seasonal closure arrangements for BCC Community and Play Centres for the Christmas 2019 and Easter 2020 periods.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Consider a request to extend the current seasonal arrangements for BCC Community and Play Centres to be closed to the public for a defined period at Christmas 2019 and Easter 2020, subject to staff taking annual leave for any days that are not statutory holidays.

	ii. Note that any staff wanting to work over these periods on the non-statutory holidays will be facilitated.																
3.0	Main report																
	<u>Key Issues</u>																
3.1	Community Services have 26 Directly Managed Community Centres, 24 of which open on Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm and then again from 6pm to 10pm. The remaining 2 centres (Cregagh and Tullycarnett) operate on a 7 day a week basis. We also deliver play programmes from a range of council and community owned facilities across the city.																
3.2	To open a BCC Community Centre, a Community Centre Supervisor must be present. While the staff teams show great dedication to their work and to enabling the Community Centres to open as required, there are times when closure of some or all of these centres are sought.																
3.3	Traditionally BCC community centres have been available to accept bookings over the wider Christmas and Easter periods not excluding statutory holidays, however, the majority of our user groups take a break from their programmes and meetings during this time. Also, officer delivered BCC community and play development programmes are delivered in the weeks before the traditional holidays and as such our usage during these seasonal periods is extremely low. As such many centre staff request to take annual leave for the period between the Christmas and New Year Bank Holidays which would usually result in up to three extra days closure of the community centre. At Easter there can be similar requests for annual leave for Easter week.																
3.4	Given the low centre footfall at these periods, and therefore limited impact on our community customers, Committee is asked to consider if it would be permissible to extend the current seasonal closure arrangements from the Christmas break to one week. Committee may also wish to adopt this approach for the Easter week.																
3.5	<p>The revised opening times for Christmas 2019 would be:</p> <table><tr><td>Christmas Eve</td><td>Tuesday 24th Dec 9-5pm 6-10pm</td><td>Open Closed</td><td>Annual Leave</td></tr><tr><td>Christmas Day</td><td>Wednesday 25th Dec</td><td>Closed</td><td>Statutory Holiday</td></tr><tr><td>Boxing Day</td><td>Thursday 26th Dec</td><td>Closed</td><td>Statutory Holiday</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>Friday 27th & Monday 30th Dec</td><td>Closed</td><td>Annual Leave (2)</td></tr></table>	Christmas Eve	Tuesday 24th Dec 9-5pm 6-10pm	Open Closed	Annual Leave	Christmas Day	Wednesday 25th Dec	Closed	Statutory Holiday	Boxing Day	Thursday 26 th Dec	Closed	Statutory Holiday		Friday 27 th & Monday 30th Dec	Closed	Annual Leave (2)
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	New Year's Eve	Tuesday 31 st Dec	Closed	Extra Statutory Holiday
	New Year's Day	Wednesday 1 st Jan	Closed	Statutory Holiday
3.6	This closure period is in line with other council areas and many public buildings and will allow council to accommodate officer requests for annual leave at a time when this will present least impact on our centre programmes.			
3.7	Staff who do not wish to take annual leave can be facilitated, however, the intention is that all BCC Community and Play Centres would be advertised as closed to the public at these times. Any pre-existing booking, or new request to book a centre during the noted period, will be accommodated.			
3.8	All centres would reopen as normal in the week following any Seasonal Closure.			
3.9	<u>Financial & Resource Implications</u> There are no financial or resource issues associated with this report.			
3.10	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u> There are no Good Relations or Rural Needs Assessment implications			
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached			
	None			

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