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

13th April 2026

MEETING OF STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Dear Alderman/Councillor,

In addition to those matters previously notified to you, the following item(s) will also be considered at the meeting to be held at 5.15 pm on Tuesday, 14th April, 2026.

Yours faithfully,

John Walsh

Chief Executive

AGENDA: 5

- (f) Requests for the Use of Parks (Pages 1 - 6)

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Subject:	Request for the use of Parks for 2026 Events
Date:	Tuesday 14 th April 2026
Reporting Officer:	David Sales, Strategic Director of City and Neighbourhood Services.
Contact Officer:	Stephen Leonard, Director of Resources, Fleet and OSS.

Restricted Reports

Is this report restricted? Yes No

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

Insert number

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

If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?

After Committee Decision	<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 No

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	<p>The Committee is asked to note that Council has received requests from the following event organisers to host their events at a Belfast City Council Park during 2026.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kibosh • All Nations Church Belfast - March for Jesus Belfast • County Grand Orange Lodge of Belfast – 12th July Demonstration • EastSide Arts • Bullhouse Brew Co / Bullhouse East • Alzheimer’s Society
1.2	<p>The report seeks multiple year approval for the All Nations Church Belfast - March for Jesus event. The organisers have asked for 3-year permissions to cover 2026 – 2028.</p>
1.3	<p>The report also seeks multiple year approval for County Grand Orange Lodge of Belfast - Annual 12th July Demonstration at Barnett Demesne. The organisers have asked for 5 year permissions to cover 2026 – 2023.</p>
1.4	<p>Events that have sought multiple year approval will be subject to annual review. The Director of Neighbourhood Services is seeking authority under the scheme of delegation; approval to remove the permission for subsequent years based on officer recommendation.</p>
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to grant authority to the applicants for the proposed events on the dates noted; subject to the completion of the appropriate event management plans and satisfactory terms being agreed by the Director of City & Neighbourhood Services and on the condition that the Event Organisers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. resolves all operational issues to the Council’s satisfaction; II. meets all statutory requirements including Public Liability Insurance cover, Health and Safety, and licensing responsibilities; and III. shall consult with adjoining public bodies and local communities as necessary. <p>Please note that the above recommendations are taken as a pre-policy position in advance of the Council agreeing a more structured framework and policy for ‘Events’, which is currently being taken forward in conjunction with the Councils Commercial team.</p>
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>If agreed, the event organiser or promoters will be required in advance of the event to submit an event management plan for approval by the Council and all relevant statutory bodies. This will include an assessment of how the event will impact upon the surrounding area and measures to mitigate these impacts.</p>
3.2	<p><u>Kabosh – Mary Ann, The Forgotten Sister at Clifton Street Cemetery – Theatrical Walking Tours between 1 & 17 May 2026.</u></p>

Belfast City Council has received a request from Kabosh to hold their Theatrical walking tours in Clifton Street Cemetery. Kabosh are a professional theatre company (funded by Belfast City Council) with substantial experience in delivering cultural events and theatrical walking tours, this event is supported by Belfast Charitable Society, in collaboration with the team at Clifton House. The event request comes late to the department as the opportunity to fund the event has only come to fruition over the past number of weeks.

Pre-registration will take place online and all proceeds from the event will be reinvested back into Kabosh. Kabosh is a registered charity. Their registered charity number is 100917 .

This event was successfully delivered by Kabosh in 2024. Access to the cemetery during each event will be for approximately 30 minutes. Audience numbers are capped at 22 per event and there will be a maximum of 30 people in the cemetery at any one time.

3.3 The Key Dates for the event are:

May 1st , 2nd, 3rd, 9th, 10th, 16th and 17 May at 11am and 2.30pm

May 7th, 8th, 14th, and 15 May at 6pm.

3.4 The organisers may need prior access to the cemetery for pre-event planning and rehearsals. Please note if approved the first of the tours will take place before the decision can be ratified at full Council in May.

3.5 **All Nations Church Belfast & March for Jesus Belfast- Ormeau Park, 16th May 2026.**

Belfast City Council has received a request from All Nations Church Belfast and March for Jesus Belfast to stage their March for Jesus event at Ormeau Park on the 16th May 2026.

3.6 March for Jesus is a non-political, family-friendly celebration of the Christian faith. It seeks to bring together churches from across the island to publicly worship, pray for peace, and proclaim hope. Event was successfully delivered in 2025.

3.7 The event first came to Ormeau Park last year and passed off successfully.

3.8 Organisers are expecting between 5,000 to 10,000 participants to assemble at Ormeau Park, before their procession to City Hall, where the event will conclude. The procession will exit the park at the Ormeau Embankment next to the Ozone Complex.

3.9 Key timings for the event are:

The organisers internal event team and stewards will arrive at 9am to prepare the site and go over final logistics. Participants will begin gathering from 11am to 2pm, and at 2:15pm, the march will depart the park.

3.10 **County Grand Orange Lodge of Belfast - Annual 12th July Demonstration 2026 - Barnett's Demesne - Grassed areas, Hard Standing Areas & Malone House - Monday 13th July 2026.**

Belfast City Council has received a request from County Grand Orange Lodge of Belfast to stage their Annual 12 July Demonstration at Barnett Demesne and Malone House on Monday 13 July 2026.

Organisers anticipate between 500 and 1,000 participants.

	<p>The purpose of this event is to facilitate a greater understanding of orange cultural traditions and the promotion of Orangefest events as inclusive and family friendly.</p> <p>The organiser wishes to use the event to promote Belfast in a positive light and encourage visitors to experience Orange culture throughout the year and to help improve community relations.</p> <p>The organiser hopes the event will maximise the economic benefits of 12th July public holiday, both in the City Centre and its arterial routes.</p> <p>Key Dates for the event are:</p> <p>12th July 6pm to 10pm for set-up 13th July all day for event 14th July 8am to 12 noon – event dismantle.</p>
3.11	<p><u>EastSide Arts, CS Lewis Square, 24th and 25th July 2026.</u></p> <p>Belfast City Council has received a request from EastSide Arts to hold their annual Eastside Arts Festival at CS Lewis Square on 24th and 25th July 2026.</p> <p>This event will be the EastSide Arts Festival opening weekend which has taken place annually at CS Lewis Square since 2017. EastSide Arts, a subsidiary company of EastSide Partnership is the event organiser, bringing significant experience of event management at this location.</p> <p>In 2026 events will take place on the evening of Friday 24th July, and daytime and evening of Saturday 25th July.</p> <p>Draft programme with costs as follows:</p> <p>24th July: Live Bands TBC, Doors 6pm, curfew 11pm - £25 online tickets (18+) 25th July: Free family friendly daytime event aligned to Fleadh Cheoil – 1pm – 4pm 25th July: EastSide Electronics. DJ performances from 6-11pm - £28 online tickets (18+)</p>
3.12	<p>Key Dates for the event are:</p> <p>Build and set-up 24th July from 8am. Event dismantle by 26th July by 5pm.</p>
3.13	<p><u>Bullhouse Brew Co / Bullhouse East - Bullapalooza – CS Lewis Square, 31st July and 1st August 2026.</u></p> <p>Belfast City Council has received a request from Bullhouse Brew Co to host their Bullapalooza event at CS Lewis Square. The event will take place over the course of two days and is designed to promote local business, independent performers and small breweries and distilleries across Belfast & Northern Ireland. This year’s event marks the 10th Anniversary Celebration.</p>
3.14	<p>Organisers expect between 1,000 and 5,000 attendees from across Europe to celebrate their 10th Anniversary with educational seminars, live music and 19 guest breweries from around the world converging in East Belfast.</p>
3.15	<p>The Saturday portion of the event will be ticketed with a cost of £20 for adult tickets & £5 for children. Organisers have informed Belfast City Council that there will be a 10% charitable donation to their charity partner.</p>

3.17	Bullhouse Brew Co have engaged Urban Events to carry out the completion of the event management plan and on-site risk assessment to assure all guidelines are adhered to.
3.18	The Key Dates are as follows.
	Set Up – 9am – 3pm on Thursday 30 th August 2026
	Event – Friday 31 st July 2026, 4pm to 11pm and Saturday 1 st August 2026 12pm – 11pm
	De Rig - Sunday 2 nd August 2026 by 5pm
3.19	<u>Alzheimer’s Society - Belfast Memory Walk – Ormeau Park, 26 September 2026.</u>
	The Alzheimer’s Society has requested the use of Ormeau Park for their Belfast Memory Walk charity event. Belfast Memory Walk is a family friendly fundraising walk, which will raise money to provide help and hope to everyone affected by dementia. Everyone is welcome to take part, and registration is free. Walkers can sign up on our website and will receive a fundraising pack and t-shirt in the post.
3.20	On the day there will be an event site, where there will be food and drink vendors, an information stand, a merchandise stand, a Memory Tree and a stage with a Zumba warm up. There will be a long and short route around the park, meaning there will be something to suit everyone.
3.21	Event organisers anticipate between 1,000 and 5,000 participants.
3.22	They have requested permission to collect donations in buckets across the stands. Their charity number is 296645.
3.23	The Key Dates for the request are:
	Set up – Saturday 26 th September 2026 from 7am to 10am,
	Main Event - Saturday 26 th September 2026 from 10am to 3pm.
	De-Rig – Saturday 26 th September 2026, by 4.30pm.
3.24	<u>Financial and Resource Implications</u>
	There are no known financial or resource implications
3.25	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u>
	There are no known implications.
4.0	Appendices
	None

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