

# Document Pack

**Democratic Services Section  
Chief Executive's Department  
Belfast City Council  
City Hall  
Belfast  
BT1 5GS**



6<sup>th</sup> August, 2010

## **MEETING OF PARKS AND LEISURE COMMITTEE**

Dear Councillor,

The above-named Committee will meet in the Lavery Room (Room G05), City Hall on Thursday, 12th August, 2010 at 4.30 pm, for the transaction of the business noted below.

You are requested to attend.

Yours faithfully

PETER McNANEY

Chief Executive

### **AGENDA:**

1. Routine Matters
  - (a) Apologies
  - (b) Minutes
2. Sickness Absence (Pages 1 - 4)
3. Parks and Leisure Department - Improvement Agenda Update (To Follow)
4. Beechmount Leisure Centre Closure - Supernumerary Staff (Pages 5 - 6)
5. Events Policy Update (Pages 7 - 8)
6. Safer Neighbourhoods - Anti-Social Behaviour Update (Pages 9 - 20)
7. Quarterly Vandalism Report (Pages 21 - 24)
8. External Funding Update (Pages 25 - 28)
9. Peace III Programme (Pages 29 - 32)

10. Floral Hall (Pages 33 - 34)
11. Green Flag Awards (Pages 35 - 38)
12. Belfast Zoological Gardens - Mountain Tea House (Pages 39 - 40)
13. Terms of Use for Containers (Pages 41 - 44)
14. Biodiversity Statutory Duty (Pages 45 - 52)
15. Skegoneil Health Centre and Grove Demolition Works (Pages 53 - 56)
16. Playground Improvement Programme (Pages 57 - 66)
17. Tender for Veterinary Services (Pages 67 - 68)
18. BIAZA Meeting (Pages 69 - 72)
19. ICCM Conference (Pages 73 - 74)
20. Respect Through Sport (Pages 75 - 76)
21. Boost Card - Means-Tested Benefit Criteria (Pages 77 - 80)
22. Media Report (Pages 81 - 82)
23. Support for Sport (Pages 83 - 98)



### Belfast City Council

**Report to:** Parks and Leisure Committee

**Subject:** Year-end Absence Rates 2009/10

**Date:** 12 August 2010

**Reporting Officer:** Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure

**Contact Officer:** Jacqui Wilson, Business Support Manager

#### Purpose

The purpose of this report is:

- to review sickness absence data for the Parks and Leisure Department for the financial year 2009/10;
- to provide a comparison of this 2009/10 performance to the same period as the previous year; and
- propose targets for the reduction in sickness absence for the financial years 2010/11 and 2011/12.

#### Relevant Background Information

- In May 2009, the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee agreed a new two year council target to reduce sickness absence to 10.85 days by March 2010 and 10.50 days by March 2011.
- These targets have been cascaded by Human Resources through departments and sections based on their performance at March 2009 and the target agreed for Parks and Leisure was to reduce to 12.76 days by March 2010.

#### Key Issues

##### Key Findings

- At the end of the financial year 2009/10 the average number of day's sickness absence per full time employee in Parks and Leisure was 15.84 days (this figure excludes swine flu; if swine flu is included the figure is 16.43 days).
- This means that the target to reduce sickness absence agreed for 2009/10 has not been met.

- There was an increase in the number of staff absent in the 2009/10 year compared to the same period in the previous year. (67.5% in 2009/10, 66.3% 2008/09) and a decrease in the number of staff with no absence in 2009/10 compared to 2008/9. (32.5% in 09/10, 33.6% in 2008/09)
- In the 2009/10 year 64.3% (6,840 days) of absence was classified as long term compared to 59.5% (5,207 days) in 2008/09.
- Clearly long term sickness has been identified as a reason for the increase in the absence figures.

#### Dealing with long term sickness

- During 2009/10, Parks and Leisure was identified as a 'hot spot' and an improvement plan was developed with the management team. Fortnightly meetings with corporate Human Resources identified that on occasions, management was slow to act on the advice given and used significant discretion in the management of long term cases. There were also a number of cases of serious illness which required external medical consultations before management could take a decision.
- The action implemented ensured regular meetings took place to consider compliance issues, rigorous follow ups on occupational health/medical consultant reports were put in place, and case reviews of difficult or long term absence assisted management in addressing specific issues arising.

#### Performance against target information

- The table below provides performance against target at a departmental and service level for the 2009/10 year and for the previous year (swine flu excluded)

	<b>Target for March 2010</b>	<b>Actual days absence per fte at March 2010</b>	<b>Variance</b>	<b>Days absence per fte same time last year March 2009</b>
<b>Parks and Leisure</b>	<b>12.76</b>	<b>15.84</b>	<b>-3.08</b>	<b>13.49</b>
Leisure	13.94	14.68	-0.74	14.94
Parks & Cemeteries	12	17.26	-5.26	12.50

#### Actions taken to improve absence rates:

- A new attendance policy was introduced in January 2010.
- Transfer arrangements to move employees from the old to the new policy were agreed with trade unions and Human Resources has undertaken monthly compliance checks in relation to the transfer of employees from the old to the new policy with the department.
- All relevant officers and trade unions were trained on the new policy.
- An extensive communication exercise was undertaken to ensure staff awareness of new policy.
- A system of fortnightly meetings between Human Resources and the department ensures compliance with the policy and provides an opportunity to gain advice on difficult cases.
- Case reviews are used to progress difficult cases appropriately.

- Action learning/discussion forums between Human Resources and the department ensure a corporate approach to difficult attendance management issues.
- Additional occupational health clinics have been put in place to assist with the increased referrals resulting from the implementation of the new attendance policy
- Monthly meetings with Occupational Health and Human Resources use departmental feedback to discuss Occupational health aspects of attendance management.

Target for reduction 2010/11

- In May 2010, the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee agreed a new two year target to reduce to 11.0 days per full time equivalent by March 2011 and 10.75 days by March 2012 per full-time equivalent.
- The target agreed for Parks and Leisure is to reduce sickness absence to 13.38 days per full time equivalent for the department (Parks and Cemeteries to reduce to 14.26 days and Leisure to reduce to 12.68 days)

**Recommendations**

Committee is asked to note the year end performance figures and agree the above approach to the target.

**Decision tracking**

N/A

**Key to abbreviations**

None.

**Documents attached**

None.

This page is intentionally left blank

**Belfast City Council**

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Supernumerary Staff
<b>Date:</b>	12 August 2010
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Jacqui Wilson, Business Manager

**Relevant Background Information**

Under the strategic review of Council indoor leisure facilities in 2004, the transfer of the site at Beechmount Leisure Centre to Colaiste Feirste and Fobairt Feirste was agreed.

Members will be aware that Beechmount Leisure Centre closed to the public on 31 December 2008.

At Parks and Leisure committee on 11 September 2008 leisure management set out the impact this would have on existing staff and how it was proposed to manage this situation. At the time the staff establishment at Beechmount included 6 permanent staff and the closure plan involved deploying the same principles and guidelines that it had done for previous redeployments within the service. This would involve carrying a number of staff over establishment until the situation normalised through staff turnover.

**Key Issues**

Over 15 months since the closure two members of staff have been identified as additional to establishment at the centres where they have been temporarily placed. As Beechmount was a centre without a swimming pool, these staff can't work at the poolside. There are no posts available within Leisure Services for 'dry' centre attendants and vacancies at 'dry' centres were rejected previously as being unsuitable. One individual is currently undertaking meaningful work in relation to the gym induction process, however, this is to be reviewed shortly and is unlikely to be sustainable.

We are therefore not in a position to offer sustainable long term positions within Leisure Services to these employees. Redeployment offers to other locations in the council have also been rejected by one of the individuals to date. Redeployment offers will be made to the other individual as the meaningful work they are currently undertaking is due to come to an end.

The options going forward in relation to these staff would be to continue to offer retraining and redeployment. However in line with Council policy agreed by SP&R Committee the individuals are now supernumerary and further offers of alternative employment within the organisation will be time bound for three months. At the end of this period the individuals would be made compulsorily redundant.

**Resource Implications**

Financial

There will also be some additional costs from carrying staff over establishment because of redeployment as a result of the closure of Beechmount. There would be the potential for redundancy costs.

**Recommendations**

Committee is asked to approve the identification of the remaining Beechmount staff as supernumerary and time-bound alternative offers of employment to a three month period. At that stage they would be made redundant.

**Decision tracking**

Officer responsible: Business Manager. Actions to be completed by December 2010.

**Key to abbreviations**

None.

**Documents attached**

None.

**Belfast City Council**

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Events policy on large scale concerts and music festivals in parks – additional parks
<b>Date:</b>	12 August 2010
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks & Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Caroline Wilson, Policy and Business Development Manager Claire Sullivan, Policy and Business Development Officer

**Purpose of the Report**

The purpose of this report is to outline for Members the additional parks that have been included as potential venues in the events policy on large scale concerts and music festivals in parks.

**Relevant Background Information**

Members will be aware that the Parks and Leisure Committee in May 2010 agreed the events policy on large scale concerts and music festivals in parks. Members were informed at this meeting that the Parks and Leisure Department was currently investigating the suitability, capacity and infrastructure of other parks throughout the city, with a view to having these included in the list of parks that could be considered for the holding of large-scale concerts and music festivals.

**Key Issues**

The following parks have been identified as being potentially suitable for the holding of large scale concerts and music festivals with more than 15,000 people at any one time:

- Orangefield Park/Dixon Playing Fields
- Ballysillan Playing Fields
- Glencairn Park
- City of Belfast Playing Fields
- Falls Park
- Mary Peters Athletics Track
- Sir Thomas and Lady Dixon Park
- Woodlands Playing Fields
- Cherryvale Playing Fields

In line with the agreed events policy, an application to hold an event in one of the above venues will be assessed based on the promoter's proposal and anticipated attendance figures. This will be carried out in conjunction with Building Control and Environmental Health.

This is in addition to the list that Committee has already agreed for the holding of large scale concerts and music festivals:

- Barnett Demesne
- Botanic Gardens
- Boucher Road
- Cavehill Country Park
- Clement Wilson Park
- Drumglass Park
- Grove Playing Fields
- Musgrave Park
- Ormeau Park
- Waterworks
- Woodvale Park.

Victoria Park cannot be considered for large scale events as it is considered a Public Safety Zone by the Civil Aviation Authority.

**Resource Implications**

Financial

No financial implications identified.

Human Resources

The implementation of this policy will be met through existing resources.

Asset and Other Implications

None.

**Recommendations**

Members are asked to approve the list of parks for inclusion in the events policy on large scale concerts and music festivals in parks.

**Decision Tracking**

Actions to be completed by 3 September 2010.

Officer responsible: Policy and Business Development Manager.

**Key to abbreviations**

None.

**Documents attached**

None.



### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Safer Neighbourhoods: Antisocial Behaviour Update and Programme Development
<b>Date:</b>	12 August 2010
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Peter Murray, Antisocial Behaviour Programme Co-ordinator

#### Purpose of the Report

The purpose of this report is to update the Committee on the recent work of the Antisocial Behaviour Coordinator in Parks and Leisure and the key areas of focus and expenditure.

#### Relevant Background Information

In June 2009 the Parks and Leisure Committee agreed the approach for the development of the Safer Neighbourhoods antisocial behaviour programme. It also endorsed an evidence-based approach for the development and roll-out of the programme across the Parks and Leisure facilities as part of the Council's integrated approach to delivering the Safer City Plan.

In March 2010 the Parks and Leisure committee agreed the methodology for the interventions that have been developed to reflect the thematic objectives.

In line with the departmental plan, the thematic objectives of the antisocial behaviour programme are:

- Enhancing the **environment** around Parks and Leisure facilities;
- Developing **education** initiatives involving creative or supportive interventions to model acceptable behaviour around Parks and Leisure facilities;
- Defining **enforcement** as a deterrent against infraction of bye-laws and legislation; and
- Developing sustainable interagency and inter-departmental networks and leading a **partnership** approach to reducing antisocial behaviour.

## Key Issues

Overall, the trend in evidence indicates that antisocial behaviour has decreased in parks, playgrounds and leisure centres situated throughout the city in the last quarter of this year when compared to the previous year. The evidence capture processes are currently being updated to facilitate an efficient prioritised response to antisocial behaviour and these developments will be communicated to committee in future reports.

Tables 1.1 and 1.2 illustrate the decline between the first quarter of the year 2010/2011 in comparison to the previous year. A series of successful interventions and the increased awareness of staff can be attributed to this decline in antisocial behaviour.

**Table 1.1 : ASB count by month for all of Belfast 2009/10**

April	May	June	Total
174	175	223	572

**Table 1.2 : ASB count by month for all of Belfast 2010/11**

April	May	June	Total
128	154	132	417

As requested by the Parks and Leisure committee in March 2010, the evidence of antisocial behaviour across district electoral areas has been collated and illustrates that Pottinger has currently the highest levels of antisocial behaviour followed by Oldpark, Upper Falls, Castle and Court areas (see Appendix 1).

A number of parks have been identified as “hotspot” areas using the evidence collated during 2009/2010 and are highlighted in Figure 2.0 (see Appendix 2). The significant levels of antisocial behaviour experienced across the Pottinger area can be attributed to the level of antisocial behaviour incidents in Ormeau Park. The breakdown of the statistics reveals that the majority of incidents in this area involve the consumption of alcohol. In response to this issue, a specific series of operations is planned in conjunction with the Rangers, the PSNI and the Community safety team to tackle the higher levels of alcohol consumption in the park. This issue will continue to be monitored during the next quarter.

On the basis of evidence, a number of interventions have been implemented across the hotspot areas between April and June 2010 under the themes of Education, Environment, Enforcement and Partnership. They are as follows:

### Education:

- People in Parks Initiative: a 12 month youth participation project which engages young people in the development of 8 parks within their community. The activities which the young people will participate during the programme will include personal development activities, problem solving activities and the development of projects to reduce antisocial behaviour within a park. There will be 8 groups working in 8 park locations (initially in Orangefield, Ormeau, Alexandra and Falls Park) and the successes and achievements of the young people will be publicised through the media. Further information is contained in

Appendix 3.

- Support for Family oriented events in Parks and Leisure centres: in order to “open up” parks to the community and create opportunities for the community to legitimately use the park; support was made available to organise large events which attracted up to 10,000 people to enjoy the Parks. The events included a Children’s festival in North Belfast; a week long pre-world cup football tournament in West Belfast; a schools football tournament in East Belfast; a basketball tournament in South Belfast for 100 young people attached to various youth club and community and schools across Belfast; a summer festival in North Belfast and East Belfast and the provision of a beacon in conjunction with the Bonfire management programme.
- Future events include: support for a series of community events such as a week long football tournament, a series of urban art projects and a high ropes activity through the tree tops in West Belfast during August; a football tournament for young people organised by FASA and the Loughside Football club in North Belfast and Schools environmental programme in East Belfast.

Environment:

- In West Belfast a number of areas were identified as locations where youths were causing annoyance or where drinkers gathered. The areas were re-planted or thinned out to discourage gathering and increase line of sight and visibility around these locations.
- In North Belfast a fence was erected along the boundary of Alexandra Park near an interface to limit access to the park after dusk and diffuse interface tensions.
- A series of kissing gates and bollards are being erected in North Belfast to limit access to Cavehill Country Park (Carrs Glen) by motorcycles and scramblers. This intervention has been implemented in conjunction with the Council, the PSNI and the N.I. Housing Executive.
- Future physical interventions will include erecting kissing gates and low level fencing in Falls Park and we are exploring the options for a substantial series of kissing gates and fences in Orangefield to limit access by scramblers and motorcycles.
- Future horticultural interventions are planned for locations in Northlink Park and Alexandra Park to deter groups gathering where they cause annoyance.

Enforcement:

- There has been a series of joint operations between the PSNI, the Community Safety Partnership and the Park Rangers to reduce instances of youths causing annoyance, setting fires, scrambler use and alcohol consumption. During the period April – June there were at least four joint operations in West Belfast supporting the daily operational work of the Park Rangers. In the North there were four joint operations focusing on groups gathering or consuming alcohol; in the East there was a series of low profile operations leading up to and following

the 12<sup>th</sup> July holidays aimed at reducing alcohol consumption and setting fires; in South Belfast there was a series of interventions led between the community, the council and PSNI to reduce the likelihood of youths fighting near a bonfire.

- Future plans include further joint operations and the development of enforcement protocols to assist in the recording of evidence and the process of litigation where it is deemed appropriate. This will be largely focused in the Pottinger area to tackle the issues that have been illustrated by evidence.
- Further to the ongoing planned operations, a specific, high visibility operation in North Belfast will be implemented to reduce scrambler use in Parks. This operation is being led by Council in partnership with the PSNI and N.I. Housing Executive.

Partnership:

- It is critical that the interventions listed above are carried out in partnership with communities, local politicians, PSNI, NIHE and other agencies. Internally, we will consult with and participate in Safer City and Safer Belfast initiatives to achieve an integrated and coordinated approach to creating a safer Belfast. For example, a series of education initiatives, physical interventions and enforcement operations have been considered as constituent parts of a West Belfast community action plan to reduce antisocial behaviour in parks. The developing model will be used as a template in areas across Belfast experiencing similar issues.
- In line with the Safer City Plan, the method of capturing evidence and reports of ASB from the public is currently in development and will offer communities the opportunity to report antisocial behaviour directly to the Parks and Leisure Department.

Future reporting mechanisms

In order to convey the detail in the antisocial behaviour statistics and the successes, challenges or developments in the antisocial behaviour programme which are reported on each quarter to Committee, it is proposed that a briefing fact sheet will be produced quarterly and delivered to members rooms. This mechanism will provide opportunities for Members to be briefed on possible developments prior to their implementation and enable a more thorough and consultative process in Councils response to antisocial behaviour.

**Resource Implications**

The programme will be facilitated through the agreed antisocial behaviour budget for the remainder of 2010 -11 period and throughout 2011-12.

**Recommendations**

Members are asked to note the contents of the update report.

**Decision Tracking**

Report to Committee on a quarterly basis – next report due October 2010.  
Officer responsible: Antisocial Behaviour Coordinator.

**Key to Abbreviations**

None.

**Documents Attached**

Appendix 1: Figure 1.0 ASB across District Electoral Areas April-June 2010

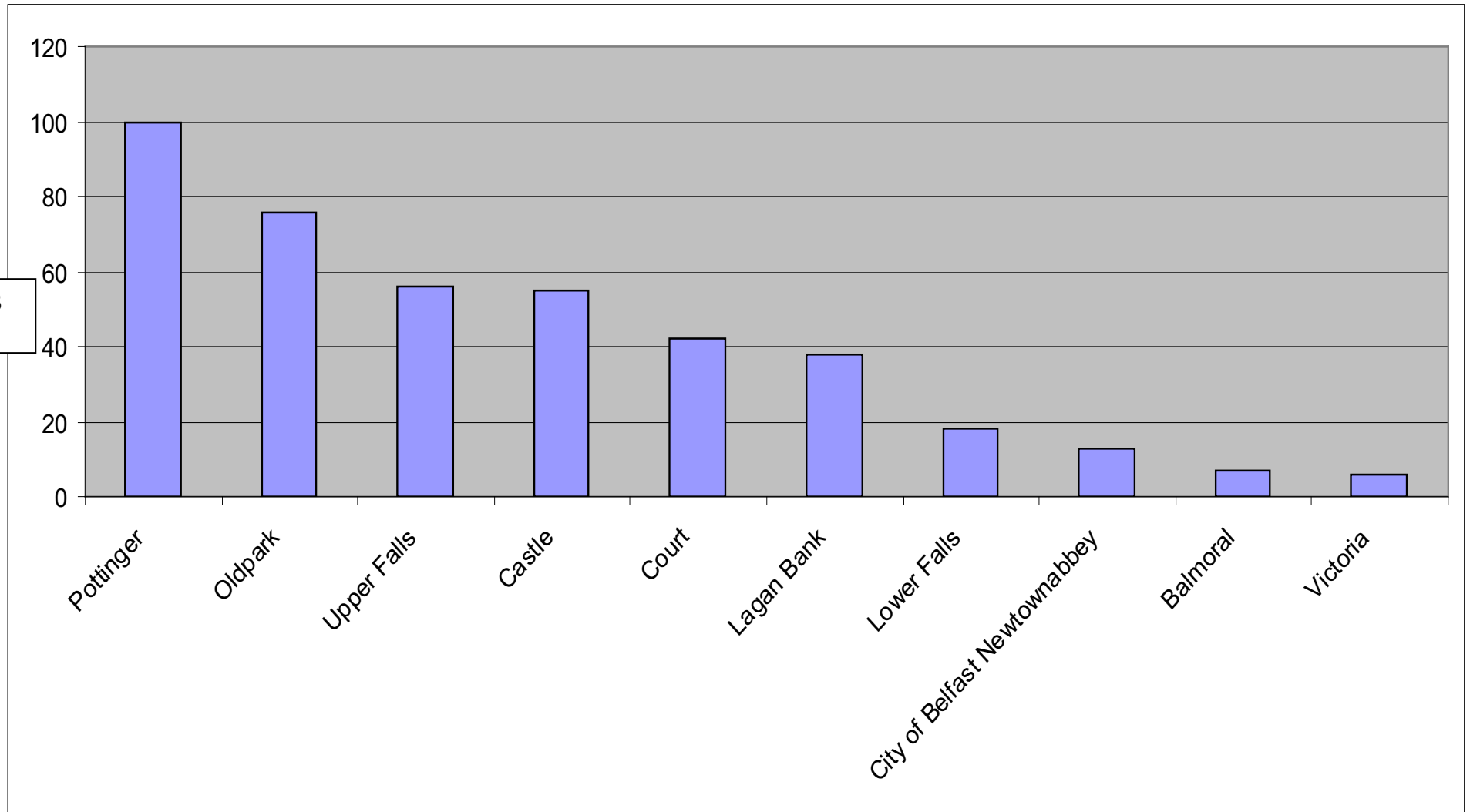
Appendix 2: Figure 2.0 ASB hotspots April-June 2010

Appendix 3: People in Parks initiative

This page is intentionally left blank

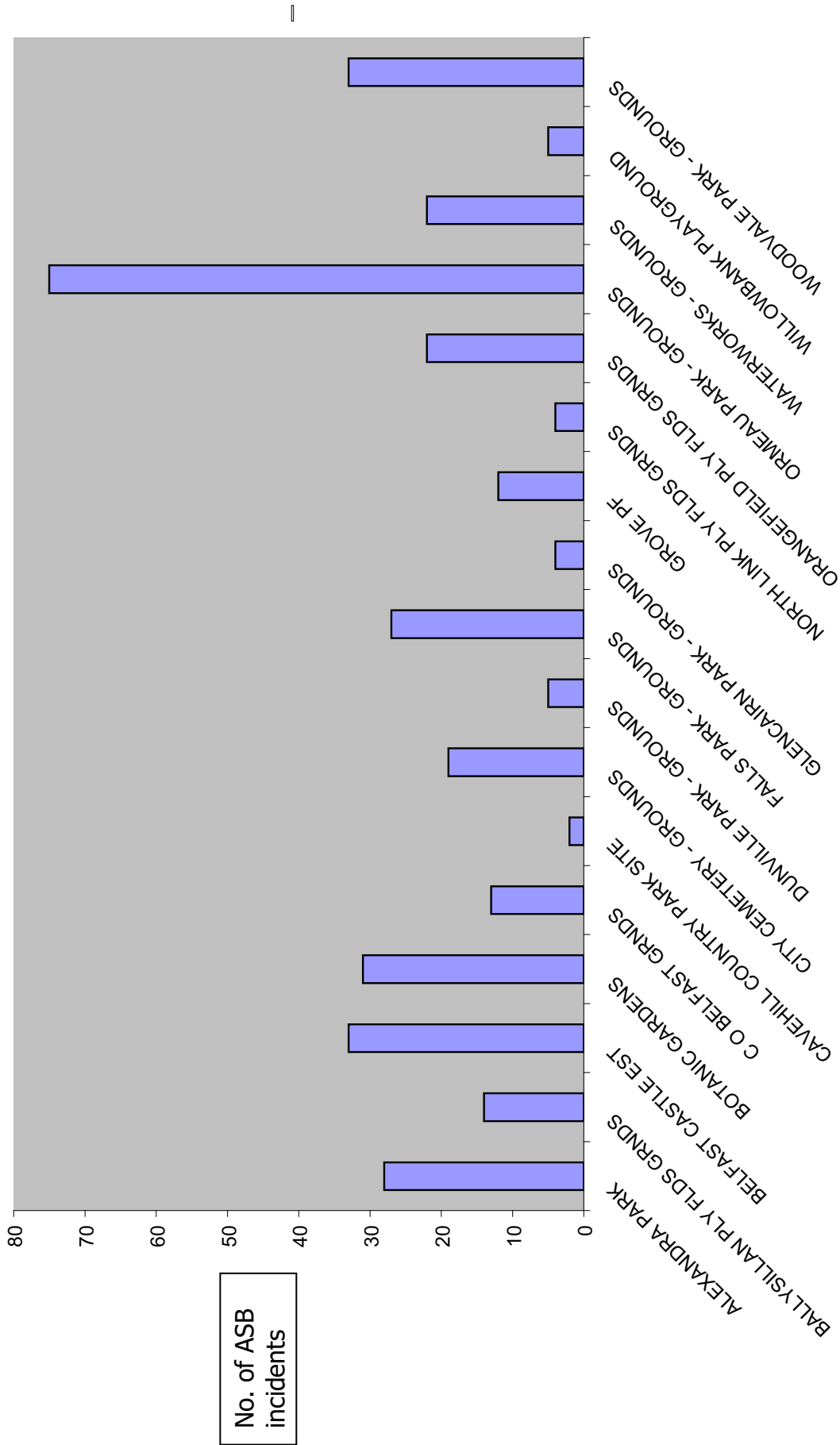
Appendix one

Figure 1.0 Antisocial behaviour across District Electoral Areas April - June 2010



This page is intentionally left blank

Appendix two  
Figure 2.0 Antisocial behaviour hotspots April - June 2010



This page is intentionally left blank

### **Appendix 3** **People in Parks Initiative**

The People in Parks initiative is a *youth inclusion project* which will run parallel or as an extension to the 'Belfast Outreach Project' which aims to link together existing street-based outreach and youth work, local communities and the Community Safety Partnership / Belfast City Council.

The project will target parks in areas identified as hotspots through the Safer Belfast Tasking Group. It will deliver a specific engagement projects which aims to reduce anti-social behaviour in parks. The four phases of the initiative are;

- Outreach
- Engagement
- Education
- Project

Existing outreach work which is ongoing in agreed hotspot areas will identify young people who use the park spaces and see it very much as 'their space'. Relationships will be built through engagement programmes which will utilise park spaces for outdoor activities. The Education phase will focus aspects such as history of the park, how the park is used and seen by the community, potential of the park within the community and the young people's role in the development of the park.

This stage will feed into the design and delivery of a project by the young people which will enhance the park, creates a sense of pride and ownership of the area and creates a positive image of young people and their contribution to the community.

The impact of the Positive Parks initiative will lead to the reduction of anti-social behaviour in the park areas, a feeling of greater safety and an example of positive action led by young people. The success of the project will be based on the concept of working with young people to find solutions and develop positive projects and safe spaces and parks in the community.

Projects that participate in the initiative will be eligible for a Community Safety award, where the project will be scrutinised by their peers, and although all efforts will be recognised, the winners will receive a bursary to further develop their project ideas.

Time frame: The first phase of the project will target four identified parks and begin immediately and work through to May 2011. It is anticipated that around 160 sessions of work will be delivered in line with the programme outlined above across the park areas identified. The first year of the project will conclude with an awards event which will recognise the efforts of the young people who have participated. The aim is to review the impact on incidents of Anti-social behaviour during this time within the identified parks with the view to rolling out the project across the city linking in with other initiatives where possible.

The project will link directly to existing outreach programmes across Belfast city. The focus is on working with and engaging young people, developing a sense of pride and achievement and rewarding positive action will provide value for money, a framework for further development and a reduction in anti-social behaviour.

This page is intentionally left blank



### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Vandalism update
<b>Date:</b>	12 August 2010
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Jacqui Wilson Business Support Manager

#### Relevant Background Information

Parks and Leisure Committee have requested to be informed quarterly of the costs associated with vandalism in parks.

#### Key Issues

To ensure that accurate and timely information is provided to Members a detailed review of the system of recording and costing of acts of vandalism on Parks and Cemeteries properties is currently underway.

At present information can be provided in relation to the number of incidents of vandalism occurring by location in Parks and Leisure and significant incidents of vandalism and their costs.

In the period April to June 2010; 205 incidents of vandalism (i.e. damage to property, graffiti, damage due to misuse of vehicles) were recorded in our Parks and Open Spaces. See Appendix 1 for analysis of vandalism by location.

The majority of the incidents of vandalism were in the estimated band range of £50 - £1000. Incidents of vandalism estimated to be between £1000 and £2000 approximately are:

- Alexandra Park – damage to the lower Glen approx £1000
- City of Belfast Golf Course - damage to Green 4 partly dug up approx £1000
- Clarendon Park playing fields – damage to pavilion guttering and pipes approx £1100
- Dunville Park – graffiti on play equipment approx £1080
- Loughside Park – damage by misuse of vehicles approx £1000

Incidents of vandalism estimated over £2000 approximately are:

- City Cemetery – fire damage at memorial £5000 approx.

The above information is dependant on the accurate and timely recording of the

information by parks staff.

### **Resource Implications**

#### Financial

The current property maintenance budget in Parks and Cemeteries is £2.3 million per annum. This budget is already under pressure due to under investment on existing assets and new projects being developed. In the first quarter of 2009/10 approximately 5% of the expenditure was due to incidents of vandalism. Further financial information is needed before it is possible to assess if this situation has increased year on year

#### Human Resources

Parks management and Business Support staff time is required to input the data and analysis the information from the separate recording and works ordering systems.

#### Asset and Other Implications

The information regarding vandalism will assist members to make decisions regarding the security of Parks and Cemeteries assets.

### **Recommendations**

Members are asked to note:

- the quarterly report relating to the number of incidents of vandalism by location for the period April to June 2010;
- that the current management information arrangements regarding numbers of incidents and costs of vandalism are currently being reviewed; and
- that the next quarterly report will be presented to committee in November 2010.

### **Decision Tracking**

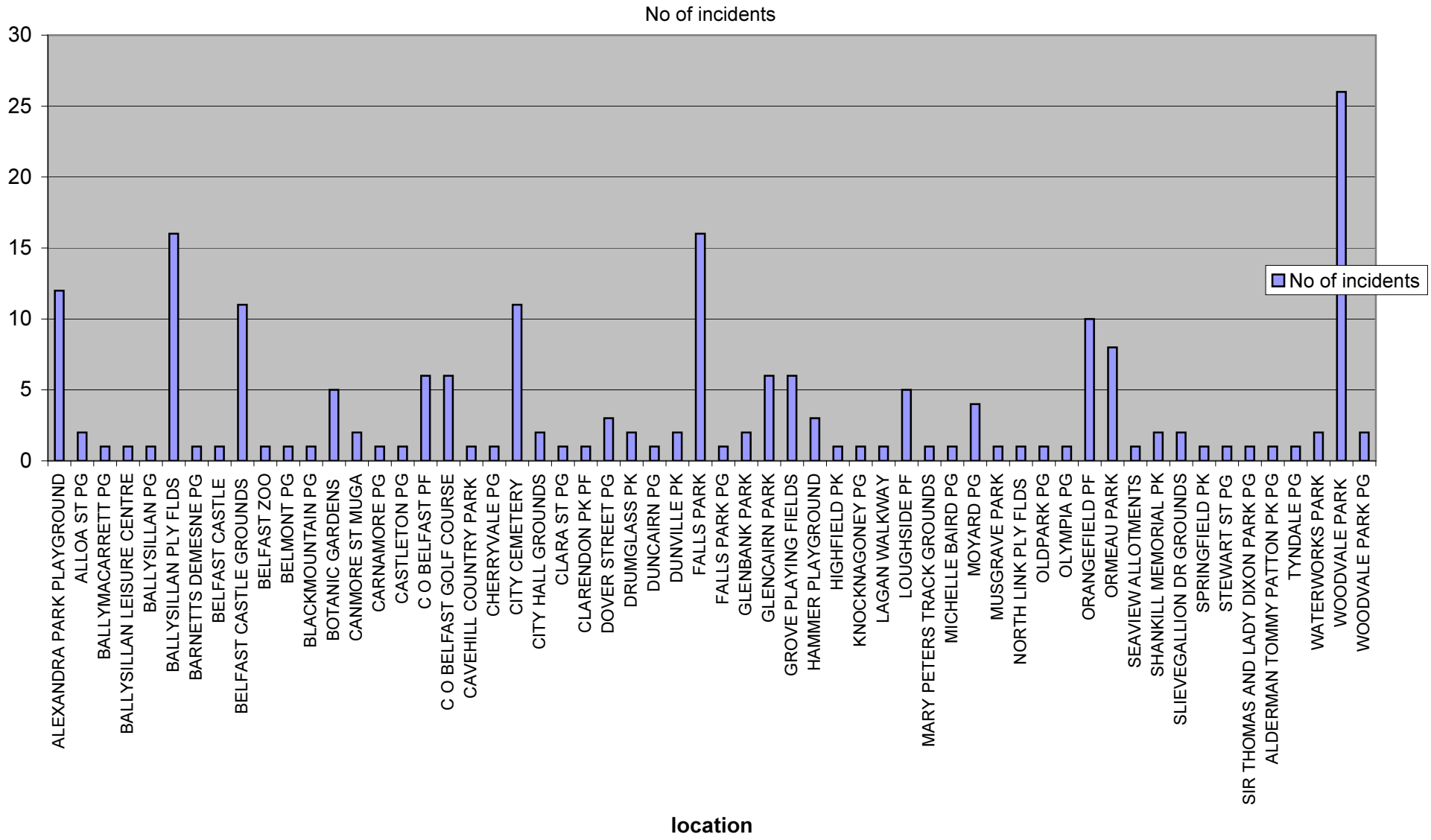
Number of incidents of vandalism to be reported to Committee in November 2010. Officer responsible – Business Support Manager

### **Key to Abbreviations**

None.

### **Documents Attached**

Appendix 1: Vandalism by location



This page is intentionally left blank



### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	External funding update
<b>Date:</b>	12 August 2010
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Ian Nuttall, Funding and Monitoring Officer

#### Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Members with a summary update on recent key funding activities

#### Relevant Background Information

In January 2010, Committee approved the Parks And Leisure Department strategy on *Accessing External Funds 2009-2012 – A Strategic Approach, Guidance and Protocols* (the 'funding strategy'), which includes principles and guidelines to be adhered to when seeking external funding.

#### Key Issues

The strategy sets out to instil rigour in ensuring that activities for which funding is sought clearly meet departmental aims and objectives, and discipline in applying a clear and appropriate process for securing internal approval of funding applications. This approach is vital, especially given the current economic situation, to making the best possible use of resources.

In this respect the funding strategy has been very successful, and managers now recognise its necessity and routinely apply its procedures through the Funding and Monitoring Officer.

The following summarises examples of significant activities since January 2010 in relation to seeking and securing external funding:

##### Peace Plan Phase 1

In May, the Good Relations Partnership approved an allocation of £60,000 through the Belfast Peace and Reconciliation Action Plan for delivery of the proposed Respect through Sport Programme at the Indoor Tennis Centre and Ozone Complex and Shankill Leisure Centre. The project is based on a structured programme of activities bringing together young people from socially disadvantaged and diverse communities across Belfast, using sport and

physical activity as a vehicle for developing awareness and understanding of community diversity and the consequences of anti-social behaviour relating to sectarianism and racism. The programme is planned for delivery between September 2010 and January 2011.

Potentially, these proposals will bring £1.57m Peace III funding to the Department. This will be subject to approval by the Good Relations Partnership and following economic appraisal by the Special European Union Programmes Body.

#### Strategic Need for Investment in Sport in Belfast and Derry

Work is underway to progress the strategic business case prepared earlier this year for submission to DCAL for funding to develop playing pitches in the Belfast and Derry Council areas. Further meetings were held with Derry City Council and Sport NI in June and July to agree next steps in collaborative efforts to secure the proposed funding.

#### Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF)

Preparation is underway for submission of the first round application to HLF for a Heritage Grant to allow restoration of the Tropical Ravine as part of a wider programme of community engagement in Botanic Gardens. A condition survey of the Ravine building is planned for completion by mid September, with the aim of submitting an application by 11 October.

#### NIEA Natural Heritage Grants

In June, a pre-application was submitted to the Northern Ireland Environment Agency Natural Heritage Grants Programme for £10,000 to deliver a biodiversity baseline survey project - *Identification and Evaluation of Open Mosaic Habitat on Previously Developed Land in Belfast*. At this stage the advice of NIEA is that a full application would be unlikely to be successful. Further clarification has been sought from NIEA in advance of any decision to proceed with preparation of a full application.

#### OFMDFM Play and Leisure Policy

In May, an expression of interest was made in response to a request for details of projects for possible future funding through OFMDFM's Play and Leisure Policy Implementation Plan. Should funding become available (notification is expected by August), the Musgrave Park Therapy Garden would be a potential project for application (it is proposed by OFMDFM that the emphasis would be on projects already in process, and which involve innovative play particularly in relation to facilitating children with disabilities).

#### Rural Development Programme

In April this year, Belfast City Council collaborated in an application to Lagan Rural Partnership made by the Countryside Access and Activities Network (CAAN) for £221,000 to develop a mountain bike trail in Barnett Demesne/Mary Peters Athletic Track grounds. This application is still under consideration. In July, an initial, draft application was made under Measure 3.3 of the Rural Development Programme – Encouragement of Tourism Activities, to fund a £70,000 project which would enhance the existing network of paths within Cave Hill and the wider Parks. Progression of this application will be subject to Council approval – sought through a separate report to Members.

**Next Steps**

Through the Funding and Monitoring Officer, the Department continues to actively seek further opportunities to secure external funding from a range of potential sources. This includes working with the European Unit to identify forthcoming EU funding streams.

Further development of the funding strategy is proposed which will, in particular, include guidance on the post-application management of external funding – again vital to maximising the effectiveness of resources secured. Key areas for consideration will include:

- project management arrangements;
- procurement requirements;
- funders' claim requirements;
- funders' reporting requirements;
- departmental accounting requirements; and
- central transaction unit requirements.

**Resource Implications****Financial**

None required. The financial implications of individual funding applications, including approval sought for expenditure on match requirements, are addressed through separate reports to Members.

**Human Resources**

None required.

**Asset and Other Implications**

None required. The asset-related implications of individual funding applications, including approval sought for capital developments, are addressed through separate reports to Members.

**Recommendations**

The Committee is asked to note the contents of this report.

**Decision Tracking**

n/a

**Key to abbreviations**

None.

**Documents attached**

None.

This page is intentionally left blank



## Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Peace III Programme – 2011 – 2013 Parks and Leisure bids</b>
<b>Date:</b>	12 August 2010
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks & Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Caroline Wilson, Policy and Business Unit Development Manager

### Purpose of the Report

The purpose of this report is to inform Committee of bids being proposed by the Parks and Leisure Department under the next round of the Peace III Programme.

### Relevant Background Information

Phase 1 of the Peace & Reconciliation Action Plan under Priority 1.1 – Building Positive relations at the Local level of the PEACE III Programme runs until June 2011. It is 100% funding. The Council received £6.2 million to deliver a series of activities in this phase.

The objective of the priority is: “to challenge attitudes towards sectarianism and racism and to support conflict resolution and mediation at the local community level.”

The Parks & Leisure departmental allocation in the current phase is approximately £450,000.

#### Phase II 2011-2013

Belfast City Council as Lead Partner has developed a plan for Phase II of the Programme, for submission to the SEUPB by 17 September 2010. The Good Relations Partnership has issued the draft plan for public consultation. There is no firm indication of the amount of resources available under Phase II but the guidelines state that the budget allocation under Phase I is used as a guide. This could mean a BCC allocation for Phase II of approximately £6-8 million.

### Key Issues

The Director has proposed 3 bids to be led by the Parks and Leisure Department, in the next phase of the Peace III Programme.

This is in order to secure resources in line with Committee's ongoing discussions and to deliver on the Improvement Programme and the emerging priorities for the Active Belfast and Open Strategy.

The 3 bids are:

### **1. Creating shared spaces on the playing field**

This is a capital enhancement and community programming programme in order to proactively support relationship-building and deliberately increase interaction between communities through outdoor team sports.

It is proposed that this will be achieved through:

- the development of a third generation (3G) 'hybrid' Gaelic games and soccer pitch and associated facilities on the site of existing soccer pitches; and
- provision of programmes incorporating use of the above facilities which will increase access and inclusion in sport – focusing on anti-sectarianism and anti-racism.

The location for the capital enhancement aspect will be prioritised in line with the forthcoming Pitches Strategy, and the objectives of the Peace Plan to build shared space.

Indicative budget £750,000

### **2. City of Neighbourhoods through integrated neighbourhood planning**

This inter-departmental proposal for a capital enhancement, programming and management proposal sets out a new vision for integrated neighbourhood planning in the city whereby people will be actively encouraged to access leisure opportunities across the city.

The aim for this project is to apply 'Total Place' principles and connect neighbourhoods through a series of linked shared space neighbourhood plans which facilitate and promote habitual interaction and relationship-building.

The objectives of the project are to:

- use integrated health and well-being planning at a neighbourhood level as a tool to promote reconciliation, community cohesion and health and well-being;
- transform four existing facilities to facilitate habitual contact and sustained dialogue for inter-community relationship building; and
- enable and empower local residents to actively participate, through planning and volunteering opportunities, in the life of the anchor shared spaces.

The programme would operate citywide with key anchor locations in north, south, east and west of the city, determined using SNAP data.

Indicative budget £450,000

### **3. City of Neighbourhoods through health and well-being**

This is a proposal for a series of inter-generational health and well-being programmes to promote community cohesion, addressing sectarianism and racism.

They will increase habitual interaction and neighbourhood attractiveness through horticultural and sports activity programmes. This project will develop a series of community gardens across four neighbourhoods in the city and promote them as connected shared spaces through programmes and management. The exact locations will be determined in consultation with elected representatives, partners and communities.

It will also engage younger people in a 'Respect through Sport' programme across a number of leisure centres in the city. This part of the project will seek to connect young people across the city through sport and workshops, looking at identity, sectarianism and heritage. From this initial engagement, the young people will be supported to connect with older people in their area through community gardening and wellbeing programmes. This sustained engagement will facilitate their ongoing involvement in positive relations in their local neighbourhood as well as across neighbourhoods in the city.

Indicative budget £370,000

#### **Next stages**

Following the close of the consultation period, the Good Relations Partnership will consider the plan at its meeting on 13 August, to make a recommendation to SP&R. The Council will then submit its bid to SEUPB, likely to be in the region of £8 million.

SEUPB will then undertake a full economic appraisal on the Peace Plan, to determine fit with programme objectives, value for money and deliverability. Any constituent parts which exceed £450, 000, such as the pitches proposal, will be subject to a separate appraisal.

Following this assessment, a letter of offer will be issued to the Council to allow implementation to begin in early 2011.

### **Resource Implications**

#### Financial

The Belfast Peace & Reconciliation Action Plan will be 100% funded under Priority 1.1 of the PEACE III Programme for NI and the Border Region by the European Regional Development Fund.

#### Human Resources and Other Implications

Allowance will be made in the forthcoming business planning round for the appropriate departmental human resources to deliver the projects.

### **Recommendations**

Members are asked to note this report.

<b>Decision Tracking</b>
--------------------------

Update on approved projects and implementation plans will be brought to Committee in January 2011, following receipt of the Letter of Offer from SEUPB.
---

<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
-----------------------------

SEUPB – Special European Union Programmes Body
--

**Belfast City Council**

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Refurbishment of Floral Hall
<b>Date:</b>	12 August 2010
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Stephen Walker, Principal Parks and Cemeteries Development Manager

**Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to update the Committee regarding revised proposals to refurbish and return the Floral Hall to use.

**Relevant Background Information**

The Committee is reminded that it has in the past received reports in 2002, 2004 and 2006 in respect of proposals to refurbish the Floral Hall and to reinstate it as a functional building.

The former Parks and Cemeteries Sub-committee received a presentation from the Belfast Building Preservation Trust in 2004 which outlined a business case to reinstate the building as a sustainable wedding and conference venue. Discussions have continued in the interim and in 2006 the Council agreed to make a financial contribution to the project as a lever to secure additional external funding. No further progress has been made in the intervening period in terms of securing funding.

However, following a meeting between BCC, the NI Tourist Board and the Belfast Building Preservation Trust, it was agreed to revisit the business case and seek to inject some energy into the project. This initiative has emerged from the growing relationship between the Tourist Board and the Zoo given the Zoo's continuing success as a regional centre for tourism. There is a view that from a business tourism perspective that there is a potential synergy between the Zoo offering and a refurbished Floral Hall.

To bring the project up to date Consarc was appointed to undertake a review of the original 2004 business case and to consider the feasibility of restoring the Floral Hall in a sustainable way. This initial piece of work is nearing completion and it is proposed that the Committee receive a presentation outlining its findings and be given an opportunity to ask questions and comment upon it.

Following on from the presentation a report will be brought to a future Committee meeting outlining recommendations as to future actions and next steps.

The Committee is reminded that a Special Meeting has been scheduled for 6 September to receive presentations in respect of proposals for the Shankill Greenway and on the work of the Ligoniel Development Association. Members are asked to consider whether they wish to include this item on the agenda for 6 September or to agree to hold a further special meeting to receive the presentation.

**Resource Implications**

Financial

There are no additional financial implications at this time.

Human Resources

There are no additional human resource implications at this time.

Asset and Other Implications

The refurbishment of the Floral Hall would add significantly to reputation of the Council and would reinstate and preserve an important element of our modern heritage.

**Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Committee agree to receive a presentation from Consarc in respect of proposals relating to the refurbishment of the Floral Hall.

**Decision Tracking**

The actions will be completed by the Principal Parks and Cemeteries Development Manager by the end of October 2010.

**Key to abbreviations**

None.

**Documents Attached**

None.

**Belfast City Council**

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Parks and Leisure Improvement Programme – Green Flag
<b>Date:</b>	12 August 2010
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Rose Crozier, Head of Parks and Leisure Karen Anderson, Policy and Business Development Officer

**Purpose of the Report**

The purpose of this report is to inform committee of the recent external Green Flag Award achievements and provide an update on ongoing work in this area.

**Relevant Background Information**

The Green Flag Award is the benchmark national standard that recognises and encourages stringent standards in the management and maintenance of parks and green spaces. It has similar status to the Blue Flag Award for beaches.

Belfast City Council now has two of the five parks who have received the prestigious Green Flag award in Northern Ireland. In order to achieve the Green Flag Award good practices must be in place with regards to the following stringent criteria:

- a welcoming place
- healthy, safe and secure
- well maintained and clean
- sustainable
- conservation and heritage
- community involvement
- marketing
- management.

As part of the departmental improvement programme, a Green Flag pilot group has been established.

## **Key Issues**

Over the last six months, the teams at Cavehill Country Park and Musgrave Park have been working towards applying for the Green Flag award. Both were assessed by Green Flag Award judges in May 2010 and it was with great satisfaction that on 28 July that the Council was awarded the two flags.

The very positive feedback provided by the judges on each site with regards to the Green Flag criteria is detailed below:

### Cavehill Country Park

Cavehill Country Park was judged to have met the stringent standards in the following criteria, in particular:

- it was well maintained and clean with evidence of high standards of horticultural maintenance practices;
- there was an important emphasis on sustainability encompassing a wide range of environmental issues;
- the park excelled in conservation and heritage with the rich tapestry of biodiversity throughout the site and the history of the castle and surrounding estate impressing the judges;
- there was evidence of a very strong ethos of community involvement; and
- the marketing and overall management of the park excelled in the standards set out by the Green Flag criteria – highlighting the hard work and dedication of both the park management and associated staff.

### Musgrave Park

Musgrave Park was judged to have met the stringent standards in the following criteria, in particular:

- it had good access for wheelchair users;
- it was well maintained and clean with evidence of high standards in grass areas and horticultural maintenance practices;
- there was evidence of adherence to the Council's environmental policy statement with environmental improvement actions and targets in place ;
- the park excelled at conserving natural, horticultural and built heritage;
- there was evidence of a very strong ethos of community involvement within the park; and
- the marketing and overall management of the park excelled in the standards set out by the Green Flag criteria – highlighting that the hard work, enthusiasm and dedication of the park manager and the team is critical to the future success of the park.

### Benefits of the Green Flag Award

The achievement of the Green Flag Award reaps vast benefits both for the city of Belfast and for the Council and is a prestigious award. It has strong resonance with the Council's objectives in terms of improving the quality of life for the people of Belfast, promoting a cleaner, greener and safer Belfast and boosting neighbourhood attractiveness.

The external validation benefits the Council by actively engaging local communities in the process, motivating and recognising staff and, finally, enhancing the profile of the Council in maintaining high quality open spaces.

Winning a Green Flag Award brings excellent media publicity but there is still a need to increase awareness that flying a Green Flag is external validation which acts as a guarantee to the public that the park or green space they are visiting provides high quality services.

#### Ongoing work

A Green Flag pilot group was set up in March 2010 as part of the Parks and Leisure improvement programme. The group have put ambitious plans in place to secure Green Flag status for more of the Council's 'high profile' parks and green spaces with submissions to be made in January 2011.

The next actions for the pilot group leading this programme of work, are:

- apply for the Green Flag Award in two parks (Falls Park and Ormeau Park) and Roselawn Cemetery in January 2011;
- develop a process for the department to use when applying for the Green Flag Award;
- develop a standard framework to embedding the Green Flag concept and criteria to all parks and green spaces.

The department acknowledges the kudos and benefits to be gained from achieving the Green Flag Award. However, it also recognises the importance of embedding the Green Flag concept and criteria across all our parks and green spaces no matter how big or small these spaces are and whether or not they are applying for the Green Flag Award. This highlights the department's commitment and ethos of striving for continuous improvement and service excellence in everything that it does.

#### **Resource Implications**

##### Financial

Allocation for future submissions has been allocated in revenue budget.

##### Human Resources and Other Implications

No implications identified

#### **Recommendations**

Members are asked to note:

- recent external Green Flag Award achievements within the Parks and Leisure Department;
- update of the Green Flag pilot project as part of the Parks and Leisure improvement programme.

<b>Decision Tracking</b>
--------------------------

Annual update report to be brought to Committee August 2011. Officer responsible: Policy and Business Development Officer.
--

<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
-----------------------------

None.
-------

<b>Documents attached</b>
---------------------------

None.
-------



### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Re-building of the Mountain Tea House
<b>Date:</b>	12 August 2010
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Stephen Walker, Principal Parks and Cemeteries Development Manager

#### Purpose

The purpose of this report is to update the Committee on the re-building of the Mountain Tea House at the Belfast Zoological Gardens.

#### Relevant Background Information

The Committee is reminded that the Mountain Tea House, located at the top of the Zoo, was destroyed in a malicious fire in June 2009.

An update report presented to Committee in May 2010 suggested that a feasibility study or economic appraisal be carried out in order to consider the option of an enhanced facility. It was intended that this be carried out in June or July 2010.

Following discussions with the Project Management Unit it was decided not to proceed with the study to consider an enhanced facility. This decision was taken for a number of reasons:

- The cost of the replacement building will be met through the Council's insurance cover and a figure of £246k has been agreed. At this time it is not known whether this will be sufficient to cover the total cost of replacement and this will not be known until more detailed design and costing has been undertaken;
- The insurance company is anxious to bring the matter to a conclusion and the study would further delay the process;
- Within the current economic and financial climate and with an over subscribed capital programme there is an element of risk associated with seeking to secure additional funding from the Council for an enhanced facility; and

**Key Issues**

The Project Management unit is currently preparing a specification for the appointment of consultants to design the building, this will form the planning and design element. This will be followed by a tender process which will aim to commence construction March 2011 with completion by end of November 2011, subject to receipt of the necessary approvals etc.

**Resource Implications**

Financial

By not undertaking the study there is a potential saving of £5-10k.

Human Resources

None.

Asset and Other Implications

At present the Zoo is providing a catering facility from a temporary structure, the construction of the new facility is required without further unnecessary delay

**Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Committee note the report and agree to proceed with the replacement of a like for like Mountain Tea House facility at the Zoo.

**Decision Tracking**

There are no actions to be completed.

**Key to abbreviations**

None.

**Documents Attached**

None.



### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Installation of Containers in Parks for Clubs and other Organisations
<b>Date:</b>	12 August 2010
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officers:</b>	Fiona Holdsworth, Principal Parks and Cemeteries Services Manager

#### Relevant Background Information

Over the last few years numerous containers have been installed in parks and playing fields to provide additional internal space, mainly for storage purposes. In the past the Council purchased such facilities for its own use and owned them all. However, in recent years, sporting bodies and some other organisations have installed containers on sites for their own storage requirements.

#### Key Issues

It has been noted that permission from council should be obtained before these containers are installed on site, and that this has only been complied with for a limited number of containers. There is a need now to address and regularise the existing situation by obtaining council permission for all the containers listed on the attached schedule (Appendix 1). These containers will then be added to existing facility management agreements or covered by separate licensing agreements. Approval of the list of containers on the schedule will enable agreements to cover such issues as:

- appearance
- maintenance
- access
- liability
- installation and removal
- use

The review of facilities management agreements will be completed as part of the pitches strategy. The installation and potential removal of these containers will be considered in the review.

**Resource Implications**

Financial

Legal agreements between the parties concerned will enable financial responsibilities to be established. Almost all the containers are owned by the organisations and it will be their responsibility to maintain them.

Human Resources

There will be resource implications in drawing up all the necessary agreements.

Asset and Other Implications

None.

**Recommendations**

It is recommended that Committee grant approval for all the containers listed in the attached schedule (Appendix 1) to remain in Parks properties on the condition that :

- (i) an appropriate legal agreement, to be prepared by the Director of Legal Services is completed; and
- (ii) all statutory requirements are met by the clubs and organisations regarding the containers

**Decision Tracking**

Actions to be completed by: January 2011  
Officer responsible: Fiona Holdsworth

**Key to Abbreviations**

None.

**Documents Attached**

Appendix 1: list of containers

<b>Appendix 1</b>		<b>Containers installed by Clubs and other Organisations</b>	
<b>Site</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>User</b>	<b>Use</b>
Ald Tommy Patton	East Belfast Juniors FC	East Belfast Juniors	Storage
Ald Tommy Patton	East Belfast Juniors FC	East Belfast Juniors	Storage
Boucher Road	The City of Belfast Archery Club	The City of Belfast Archery Club	Storage
City of Belfast Golf Course	City of Belfast Golf Club	City of Belfast Golf Club	Storage
Clarendon Playing Fields	Clarendon Development Association	Clarendon Development Association	Storage
Hammer	Lower Shankill FC	Lower Shankill FC	Storage
Loughside Playing Fields	Loughside FC	Loughside FC	Storage
City of Belfast Playing Fields	Cliftonville Cricket Club	Cliftonville	Storage
Orangefield Playing Fields	Bloomfield FC	Bloomfield FC	Storage
Orangefield Playing Fields	Cycling Ulster	Cycling Ulster	Bikes & kit
Ulidia Playing Fields	Rosario FC	Rosario FC	Storage
Waterworks	Friends of the Waterworks	Fishing Club	Storage
Willowbank	Willowbank Multisports Facility	Willowbank Multisports Facility	Equipment
Woodlands	The Gaelic Athletic Association	The Gaelic Athletic Association	Equipment
Woodlands	The Gaelic Athletic Association	The Gaelic Athletic Association	Equipment
Woodlands	The Gaelic Athletic Association	The Gaelic Athletic Association	Equipment

This page is intentionally left blank



### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Forthcoming Statutory Biodiversity Duty
<b>Date:</b>	12 August 2010
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Orla Maguire, Biodiversity Officer

#### Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Committee with an outline of the forthcoming statutory biodiversity duty and the main implications of the duty for the Council.

#### Background

In February 2008 the Department of the Environment issued a consultation paper on the review of the Wildlife (Northern Ireland) Order 1985. This review contained a proposal to place a statutory biodiversity duty on government departments and public bodies, including local councils, to further the conservation of biological diversity consistent with the exercise of their functions.

The consultation document was received on the 12 May 2009 with responses required by 6 June 2009. Owing to the short timescale an officer response was submitted and is attached for information as Appendix 1.

The Bill, known as the *Wildlife and Natural Environment Bill* will place a general statutory duty on all government departments and public bodies to further the conservation of biodiversity when carrying out their functions. It is unclear what the anticipated time scale for its enactment is but indications suggest that it could possibly be Autumn 2010.

There are European, national and regional targets set to halt the loss of biodiversity. The biodiversity duty is considered a key measure to contribute to these targets and demonstrates the Northern Ireland Executive's commitment to biodiversity conservation and reinforces that conserving biodiversity is everyone's responsibility.

## **Key Issues**

In essence the aim of the duty is to raise the profile and visibility of biodiversity and to make it an integral part of policy and decision making. In meeting this statutory duty the council will be required to:

- have regard to any strategy designated under section 2(1) of the Bill including the Northern Ireland Biodiversity Strategy
- take reasonably practicable steps to further the conservation of the species and habitats included in any list published under section 3.

As a public body, the Council will be required when undertaking its functions to take into account the following five areas:

- the protection of biodiversity;
- the maintenance of biodiversity;
- enhancing biodiversity;
- restoring biodiversity; and
- promoting the understanding of biodiversity both within and outside the organisation.

The Department of the Environment is responsible for taking forward this legislation. The Department has not yet decided on the compliance and monitoring processes but is currently investigating the possibility of the duty being monitored by the Northern Ireland Audit Office.

The full implications of the duty are not yet clear and while guidance notes are being drafted, work is continuing as the Department seeks to familiarise itself with the divergence of impact across all public bodies. It is anticipated that the guidelines will be general and not specific in terms of actions. Further discussion with Legal Services and other Departments is also required once the guidance notes are issued to assess the potential implications and to establish an action plan and delivery mechanism to satisfy the Council's compliance with the duty.

Members will be aware that the Belfast Local Biodiversity Action Plan is currently under review and will provide a useful vehicle to assist the Council in fulfilling its duties under the new legislation. In preparation for the duty it is necessary to undertake a baseline audit for biodiversity in the city. This will enable the Council to respond swiftly and with confidence to the new duty and guidance in due course.

## **Resource Implications**

### Financial Implications

Up to £20,000 has been made within the revenue estimates to commence the staged baseline audit.

### Human Resource Implications

It is proposed that the Local Biodiversity Officer take a lead role.

### Asset and Other Implications

The implications are yet to be fully considered.

<b>Recommendations</b>
------------------------

Members are asked to:

- note the contents of this report; and
- agree to the approach outlined above.

<b>Decision tracking</b>
--------------------------

A further report will be brought to Committee by the Biodiversity Officer following the issue of guidance from the Department of Environment, likely to be late Autumn 2010.

<b>Key to abbreviations</b>
-----------------------------

None.

<b>Documents Attached</b>
---------------------------

Appendix 1 – Response to the Wildlife Order Consultation  
Appendix 2 – Draft wording of the duty

This page is intentionally left blank

## **Appendix 1**

### **Review of the Wildlife (Northern Ireland) Order 1985**

#### **RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION PAPER, (Feb 2008)**

##### **Introduction:**

Belfast City Council (BCC) welcomes the proposals to Review of the Wildlife (Northern Ireland) Order. In particular we welcome proposed measures to embed biodiversity within the roles of public bodies including Local Authorities. We are however, concerned about the provisions relating to invasive non-native species and the level of penalties for wildlife offences.

Detailed comments are outline below and follow the numbering in the Consultation Paper.

##### **Proposal A: to place a statutory duty upon the Department of the Environment to review the Schedules to the Wildlife Order every 5 years.**

BCC supports this proposal however, this should apply to all Schedules. There should be provision for emergency additions/removals from the Schedules out of the 5 year cycles.

##### **Proposal B: amend the Schedules to the Wildlife Order as detailed in Annex 1.**

BCC supports the suggested amendments however, we have concerns at the inclusion of widespread and established species within Schedule 9. Consideration should be given to a tiered approach with each category subject to different measures.

##### **Proposal C: General biodiversity duty.**

BCC supports all four proposals in this section in particular the statutory duty upon government departments and public bodies to further the conservation of biological diversity consistent with the exercise of their functions. Guidance on the implications of this duty should be produced to allow Local Authorities fulfil this duty.

##### **Paragraph 86: Penalties.**

BCC has concerns that the level of penalties for wildlife offences are not sufficient to deter potential offenders. Consideration should be given to aligning penalties with the rest of the United Kingdom.

##### **Proposal L: Basking Sharks.**

BCC supports this proposal to make it an offence to intentionally or recklessly disturb or harass basking sharks, but consideration should also be given to seals, marine cetaceans and turtles. Codes of conduct should also be produced.

##### **Proposal M: Invasive non-native species.**

BCC supports the proposals in principle however, the issues associated with invasive non-native species are particularly problematic and we believe that the provisions within the consultation paper are not sufficient to address these. See previous comments in relation to Schedule 9. In addition

- The issue of the definitions of “into the wild” and “non-native species” has been raised in the consultation paper. We suggest rewording the entire text on invasive species as the current wording is neither clear or effective.

- Requirements for landowners to control invasive species should also be included. Although this is partly covered within paragraph 106 the clause “Such a power would only be used where considered absolutely necessary, to conserve biodiversity.” greatly restricts it’s application. There should be provision for inclusion of economic impacts of invasive species consequently BCC believe this clause should be removed.

**Paragraphs 134 – 136: Protection of nests on a year-round basis.**

BCC supports the proposals in these paragraphs. We suggest that barn owls and swift colonies be included within this proposal.

**Conclusion**

BCC welcomes this review and supports the majority of the proposals. A public awareness campaign should be developed and guidance produced for Local Authorities on the biodiversity duty. Guidance material should include and cross reference related Northern Ireland and European legislation.

## **Appendix 2**

### **Duty to conserve biodiversity**

1.-(1) It is the duty of every public body, in exercising any functions, to further the conservation of biodiversity so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions.

(2) In complying with subsection (1), a public body must in particular have regard to any strategy designated under section 2(1).

(3) Conserving biodiversity includes-

- (a) in relation to any species of flora or fauna, restoring or enhancing a population of that species;
- (b) in relation to any type of habitat, restoring or enhancing the habitat.

(4) The Department must issue guidance containing recommendations, advice and information for the assistance of public bodies in complying with the duty under subsection (1).

(5) In this section “public body” means-

- (a) a Northern Ireland department;
- (b) a department of the government of the United Kingdom;
- (c) a district council;
- (d) a statutory undertaker within the meaning of the Planning ( Northern Ireland) Order 1991 (NI 11);
- (e) any other body established or constituted under a statutory provision.

### **The biodiversity strategy**

2.-(1) The Department must designate one or more strategies for the conservation of biodiversity (whether prepared by the Department or by one or more other persons).

(2) The Department must publish any strategy so designated.

(3) A strategy so designated may include different provision for different cases or types of case .

(4) The Department must-

- (a) not later than 5 years after the coming into operation of subsection (1), and
  - (b) at least once in every period of 5 years thereafter,
- publish a report regarding the implementation of any strategy designated under that subsection.

### **Biodiversity lists**

3.-(1) The Department must publish a list of the species of flora and fauna and types of habitat which in the Department’s opinion are of principal importance for the purpose of conserving biodiversity.

(2) The Department must-

- (a) keep under review any list published under this section;
  - (b) make such revisions of any such list as appear to the Department appropriate;
- and
- (c) publish any list so revised as soon as reasonably practicable after revising it.

(3) Without prejudice to section 1(1) and (2), a public body must-

- (a) take such steps as appear to the body to be reasonably practicable to further the conservation of the species of flora and fauna and types of habitat included in any list published under this section; or
- (b) promote the taking by others of such steps.

(4) In this section "public body" has the same meaning as in section 1.



### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Declaration of former Skegoneill Health Centre as Surplus to Requirements
<b>Date:</b>	12 August 2010
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Stephen Walker, Principal Parks and Cemeteries Development Manager.

#### Purpose

The purpose of this report is to declare as surplus to operational requirements the site of the Skegoneill Health Centre.

#### Relevant Background Information

The Committee is asked to note that as part of the partnership arrangement with the North and West Trust in regards to the development of the New Grove Wellbeing Centre it was agreed that the site of the former Skegoneill Health Centre would revert to the Council upon completion of the scheme and relocation of the Health Centre within the new building.

The transfer of the land has now been completed and it currently sits under the management of Parks and Leisure.

The Committee will be aware that the former health centre is located at the rear of the Grove Well Being Centre and adjacent to the Grove Playing Fields. See appendix 1. There are no conditions attached to the transfer of the land, i.e. there is no requirement that it be retained as open space.

The former health centre has been demolished. An assessment has indicated that the capital cost of landscaping the area and integrating it within the existing Grove playing fields could be significant.

Within this context and given current affordability limits it is proposed that the land be declared surplus to the operational requirements of the Parks and Leisure Department and that it be transferred to the Council's corporate land bank wherein a planning assessment can be carried out to consider development options.

**Key Issues**

The key issues for the Committee to consider are:

- The former Skegoneill Health Centre Site has been acquired by Belfast City Council as part of the arrangement with the North and West Trust. The site has no conditions attached to its transfer.
- The Parks and Leisure Department have no operational need for the site and do not have the resources to develop it.
- It is therefore proposed that it be placed within the corporate land bank for consideration of options re future development potential.

**Resource Implications**

Financial

There are no financial implications at this time. Option 1 may present the Council with a future opportunity to generate income. Option 2 will result in an increase in both capital and revenue expenditure.

Human Resources

There are no additional human resource implications at this time.

Asset and Other Implications

The acquisition of the site increases the Council's land holding within the city.

**Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Committee agree to declare the site surplus to Parks and Leisure Departmental requirements and that a report be brought to Strategic Policy & Resources Committee in line with Standing Orders.

**Decision Tracking**

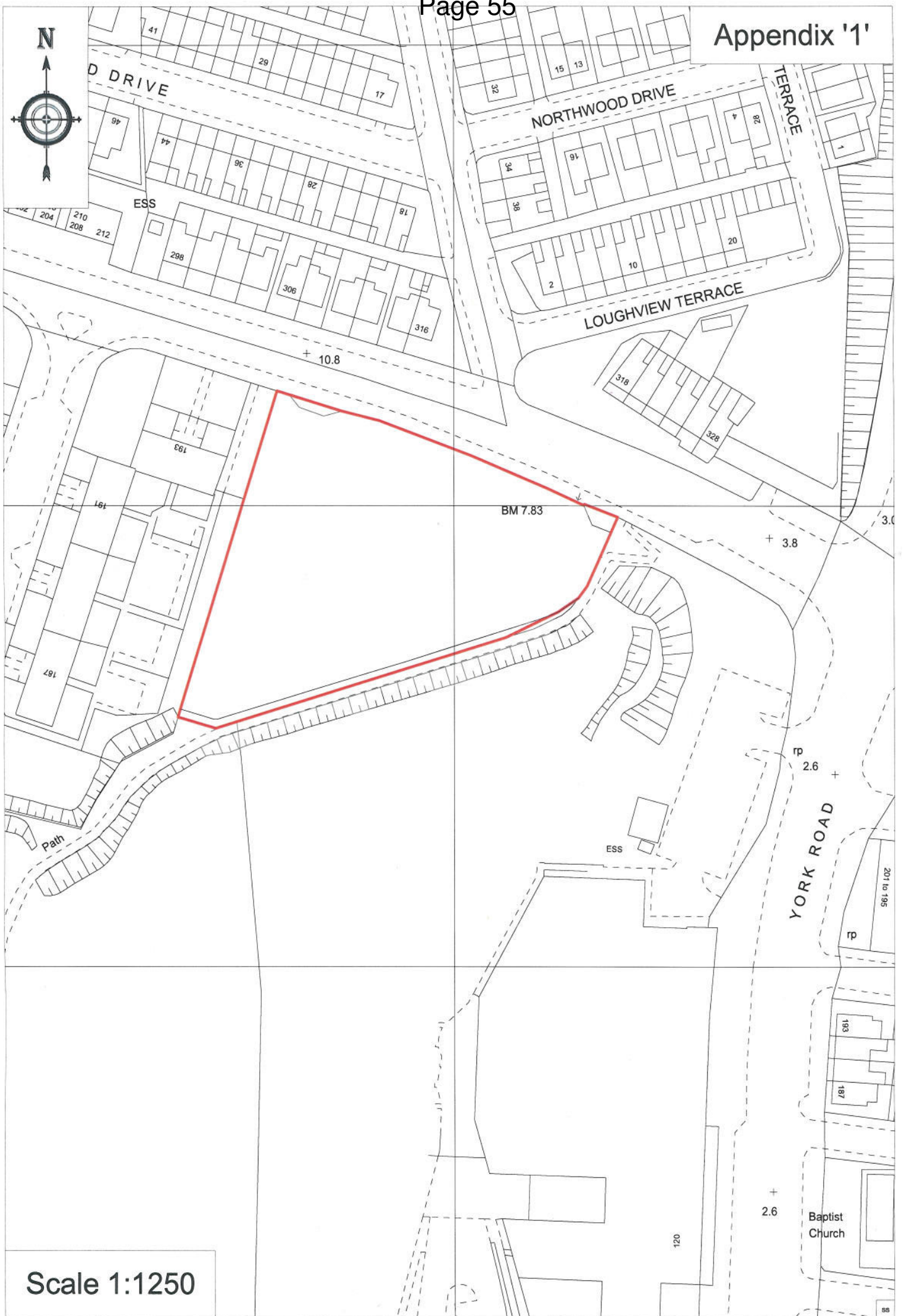
No further reports are required.

**Key to abbreviations**

None.

**Documents Attached**

Appendix 1:site map



This page is intentionally left blank



### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Playground Improvement Programme
<b>Date:</b>	12 August 2010
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Stephen Walker, Principal Parks and Cemeteries Development Manager

#### Purpose

The purpose of this report is to make further recommendations to the Committee regarding the playground improvement programme for 2010/11 and to make provisional recommendations in respect of a programme for 2011/12. This report will also consider the future of the Pitch and Mitch facility at Ardoyne which had received a rating of 10, i.e. the lowest rating possible.

The report also seeks authority for the Director of Parks and Leisure to issue, evaluate and award tenders in respect of the supply of appropriate equipment.

#### Relevant Background Information

##### Playground Improvement Programme

The Committee is reminded that at its meeting on 10 June 2010 it received a report on the Playground Improvement Programme. The Committee agreed that refurbishment be carried out in respect of playgrounds at:

- Alexandra Park (Lower)
- Alloa street
- Horn Drive
- Springhill Park and
- Willowbank

Work has commenced on the design element of the refurbishment. Representatives from the communities adjacent to the facilities have been contacted and it is intended that a small consultation process be completed during September 2010 to inform residents and to take on board any issues they may raise, within the context of budgetary, time and technical constraints. A tender process will be undertaken, in line with Council policy and procedures, and it is anticipated that work will commence towards the end of the year and will complete by March 2011.

The Committee also agreed at its June meeting that a further report be brought to Committee in August 2010 to make recommendations regarding the 15 playgrounds which had received a rating of 3 or 4. This was to enable further discussion with local managers.

The Committee should note that

- Playgrounds provide an important resource and facility within the local community;
- They provide a focus for activities at a young age which can support a healthier and more active life style;
- Our playgrounds can be a focus for anti social behaviour and vandalism;
- There are a number of playgrounds which are on the cusp of requiring attention and which will deteriorate further;
- Owing to budget allocations there is a need to programme improvements;

This report seeks to put in place a programme that ensure that our playgrounds are brought up to an appropriate standard given budgetary and time constraints

#### Pitch and Mitch

In addition, the Committee was made aware that the Pitch and Mitch facility at Ardoyne had received a rating of 10 which indicated a need to review the continuation of the facility. It was agreed that this would also be considered as part of this report. This playground was constructed using Lottery funding and has since its completion been systematically vandalised.

#### **Key Issues**

##### Playground improvement Programme

Appendix 1 to this report provides a summary analysis of each of the playgrounds reviewed. Following a preliminary assessment of the 15 playgrounds which had received a rating of 3 or 4 it is proposed that those listed below are excluded from consideration for refurbishment in 2010/11:

**Cavehill Adeventure Playground** which is a fee paying facility, has its own site budget and would require a different approach than community based facilities;

**Geeragh Place** playground which is managed by Community Services;

**Glassmullan Open Space** which is under consideration for playing pitch replacement and which could result in the relocation of the playground;

**Stewart street** which is under consideration as part of a wider development scheme around the Gasworks and the Markets area;

**Victoria Park** which is currently included in proposals for a road widening scheme which would require the relocation of the playground. As part of ongoing discussions a revised plan for the park is being worked up as a basis for discussion with Roads Service and potential compensation owing to the loss of open space and the need to relocate facilities on the site;

**Woodvale Park** playground which will be replaced as part of the bigger refurbishment project which is currently at design stage;

**Zoo** playground will be reviewed within the context of a proposal to establish a play area consistent with the Zoo, as a major visitor attraction and which would provide for a wider range of play activities to reflect the visitor numbers.

Clarification will be sought on each of the above and a revised position will be considered in respect of progress relating to existing proposals during 2010 / 11. This will form part of the report to Committee in 2011 regarding an agreed programme for 2011/12.

Of the 8 remaining sites, 6 have had some, albeit small improvements, such as resurfacing or additional equipment, over the past 2-5 years. All our sites experience varying levels of anti social behaviour and vandalism and all offer potential benefits to the wider community in terms of the play opportunities they present.

In two of the 8 sites there has been no investment in recent time. These are Carrick Hill and Tyndale. Both of these are in a poor condition and require investment. Each is subjected to anti social behaviour; however, in each case they represent the main provision for children and young people in the area. Therefore, they offer the potential to make a significant contribution to the quality of life in the local area.

Based on a review of each of the playgrounds which received a rating of 3 or 4 the following

#### Refurbishment in 2010/11

On the basis that Tyndale and Carrick Hill have virtually no play provision at all it is proposed that these facilities be upgraded as part of the programme for 2010/11.

#### Refurbishment in 2011/12

It is proposed that, subject to funding, the following playgrounds are refurbished in 2011/12

Alderman Tommy Patten  
Alexandra Park (Upper)  
Glencairn

Owing to particular issues around location or anti social behaviour it further proposed that Officers explore the future provision of playground facilities with the local community in respect of the following sites with a view to refurbishment in 2011/12:

Finley Park  
Highfield; and  
Ligoniel

#### Pitch and Mitch

It is proposed that discussions be held at local level in respect of the above facility and that a series of options be considered in respect of the site. These options might include:

- Reconstruction of a playground;
- Construction of an alternative facility such as a MUGA;
- Construction of a green space;
- Disposal of the site;
- Alternative use.

This assessment would form part of the wider report regarding playground improvement which will be presented to Committee in January 2011.

### **Resource Implications**

#### Financial

The estimated cost of the work to refurbish Carrick Hill and Tyndale will be the region of £180,000. Provision has been made within existing revenue budgets. The community at Carrick has made application to the Alpha Fund for a contribution of £45,000 towards the cost of refurbishment and we have been informed that the application was successful. The actual cost to BCC would be around £90k in respect of Carrick Hill with a further £90k estimated in respect of Tyndale.

#### Human Resources

There are no additional human resource implications, the programme will be delivered within existing staffing levels.

#### Asset and Other Implications

This work will support the sustainability of the facilities.

### **Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Committee agree to the proposal outlined above and agree to the refurbishment of the play areas at Carrick Hill and Tyndale within the current 2010/11 year.

It is further recommended that the Committee agree to delegate authority to the Director of Parks and Leisure to issue, evaluate and awards tenders in respect of the procurement of equipment to deliver the playground improvement programme for 2010/11. The evaluation criteria will be based on both cost and quality and the contract will be awarded to the most economically advantageous tender.

### **Decision Tracking**

The actions will be completed by the Principal Parks and Cemeteries Development Manager by the end of March 2011.

### **Key to abbreviations**

None.

### **Documents Attached**

Appendix 1 – summary of review of each playground.

Playground	Area	Rating	Comment
Alderman Tommy Patton	East	3	<p>This playground was constructed with the aid of lottery funding and is a significant facility. The playground is in a fairly good condition but is clearly starting to show signs of wear and tear.</p> <p>There has been some significant expenditure in recent years.</p> <p>There is no significant vandalism on the site.</p> <p>This is a well used site and one which does bring benefit to the community. In order to secure the site and sustain the benefits refurbishment is required. However, owing to the scale of the facility it is proposed that consideration be given to a refurbishment in 2011/12.</p>
Alexandra Park (Upper)	North	3	<p>There has been some investment on the site in recent years.</p> <p>Although there is some evidence of anti social behaviour the playground itself is not heavily vandalised.</p> <p>There is limited use but this is possibly owing to the lack of equipment. There are a number of other playgrounds in the area, although owing to arterial routes and interface issues this facility meets a local need.</p> <p>It is proposed that this be refurbished in 2011/12.</p>

Cavehill Adventure Playground	North	3	<p>This is a major play area and which is subject to a user charge. The facility has an annual budget allocated to the site. Small scale improvements can therefore be made through the site budget. Major improvements are perhaps best addressed outside of the playground improvement budget.</p> <p>The facility is well used and doesn't suffer from significant anti social behaviour.</p>
Carrick Hill	North	3	<p>There has been no recent expenditure on this site. The original playground was replaced with a bitmac surfaced MUGA with low level fencing and no lighting.</p> <p>The site is contained within the curtilage of the community centre. Given the lack of equipment on site vandalism has been low.</p> <p>The area would benefit significantly from the upgrading of the facility, there are no other facilities within the area.</p> <p>It is proposed that the facility be refurbished at a cost £135k, the community has sought grant support through the Alpha Programme, a total of £45k has been applied for, the outcome is not yet known. It is proposed that the shortfall, £90k is met from the Playground Improvement Budget.</p>

Finlay Park	North	3	<p>There playground has been some limited investment in this site.</p> <p>It is subject to constant anti social behaviour and is currently closed owing to the ongoing problems in the area.</p> <p>As the playground represents the main publicly accessible play provision in the area it has the potential to bring benefit to the local community. However, the ongoing vandalism needs to be addressed.</p> <p>It is proposed that a redesign of the facility be undertaken in 2011/12 together with measures to combat the vandalism.</p>
Geeragh		3	<p>This playground is managed by community services and is excluded from the playground improvement programme.</p>
Glassmullan	West	3	<p>There are proposals under consideration to develop a pitch and MUGA at this site; should these plans be realised it may involve the relocation of the playground. It is therefore proposed that this be deferred until 2011/12 and further required.</p>
Glencairn	North	3	<p>This playground is located close to several large housing developments. There has been some small levels of investment recently, the playground is not overly vandalised and would require refurbishment. However, it is proposed that this be deferred until 2011/12.</p>

Highfield	North	3	<p>There is a desire within the community to relocate the playground within the grounds surrounding the community centre.</p> <p>Within that context it proposed that this be deferred until 2011/12 to allow discussions to be held and options to be explored.</p>
Ligoniel	North	3	<p>This facility is currently closed owing to anti social behaviour and vandalism. It is proposed that improvement work be deferred pending discussions at a community level to address the problem.</p>
Stewart Street	South	3	<p>There is a proposal to lease this land to a local community association; in addition, there are ongoing discussions regarding this and the surrounding area for future development. It is proposed that this deferred until 2011/12.</p>
Tyndale	North	3	<p>This playground has had virtually no investment in recent years and indeed the facility comprises only a small number of items.</p> <p>There is a growing population in the area, many of whom are young children and it is proposed that a refurbished scheme reflecting the needs of the population be undertaken in the current year.</p>
Victoria Park	East	3	<p>There are proposals to widen the Sydnham By Way which will result in the need to relocate current facilities, this will include the playground. The time scale for this work is unclear but it is proposed that improvements be deferred until 2011/12 to permit clarification as to time scales for the proposed road widening scheme.</p>

Woodvale Park	North	4	The playground will be replaced as part of the proposed refurbishment project.
Zoo	North	4	<p>The Zoo is a major tourist and visitor attraction and should provide a play area consistent with its status as a major attraction.</p> <p>It is therefore proposed that a major redesign of the Zoo play area be undertaken and that it be put forward for inclusion in the capital programme.</p>

This page is intentionally left blank



### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Intention to seek tenders for the provision of a comprehensive veterinary service at Belfast Zoological Gardens
<b>Date:</b>	12 August 2010
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Mark Challis, Zoo Manager

#### Relevant Background Information

The Committee will be aware that the provision of a comprehensive veterinary service for the care of animals held in the zoological gardens is a key service required by the zoo. The current provision of a veterinary service is awarded in line with the Council's procurement process and has been awarded following a tender process. The current 3 year tender expired at the end of July 2010. It is therefore necessary to tender for the service for the period 2010 – 2013.

It is noted that the existing tender has expired. The Committee will recall that delegated authority is requested from time to time in respect of tenders which are nearing the end of their term.

It is acknowledged that this situation cannot be permitted to continue and discussions will be held with the procurement unit to establish a means for highlighting tenders which are within 6 months of lapsing to ensure that systems are revised to prevent a recurrence of this.

#### Key Issues

It is intended to invite tenders for the provision of a comprehensive veterinary service at the Zoo for a period of three years.

The Committee is asked to note that the provision of high quality veterinary care to the zoo's valuable collection of animals is a vital service needed by the zoo.

The contracted veterinary surgeons not only provide for medical intervention in the case of ill health, both on and off site where required, as they also undertake a variety of related roles. These include record maintenance, representation of the zoo and the Council at relevant meetings, training, post mortem examinations, vaccinations, animal diet formation and reviews, liaison with vets

at other zoos, particularly when importing or exporting animals, responding to research and other questionnaires.

The veterinary surgeons attend the zoo daily Monday to Friday, and are available for short notice call outs at other times.

The current tender expired at the end of July 2010. A short extension to the current tender has been agreed with the currently contracted veterinary surgeons, pending the completion of the new process.

The Committee is also asked to note that the evaluation criteria will be based on both cost and quality. The tender will be awarded to the most economically advantageous tender.

### **Resource Implications**

#### Financial

The cost of this service to the zoo each year is in the region of £60,000 and adequate budgetary provision is made annually in zoo expenditure budgets.

#### Human Resources

There are no additional human resource implications.

#### Asset and Other Implications

The animal collection at the zoo is one of the key assets of the facility, a high standard veterinary service is vital to ensure the provision of the highest quality animal welfare and care for the zoo's animals.

### **Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Committee:

1. note the contents of the report;
2. approve the extension to the current tender arrangements;
3. authorise the Director under the scheme of delegation to undertake a tender process, that the evaluation criteria will be based on both cost and quality and that the contract will be awarded to the most economically advantageous tender.

### **Decision Tracking**

Action regarding the tender for veterinary services will be completed by the Zoo Manager by December 2010.

Action regarding the establishing of a mechanism for tracking tenders will be completed by the Principal Parks and Cemeteries Development Manager by the end of October 2010.

### **Key to Abbreviations**

None.

### **Documents Attached**

None.



### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	BIAZA Mammal Keepers Group Meeting at the Zoological Gardens October 2010
<b>Date:</b>	12 August 2010
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Rose Crozier, Head of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Mark Challis, Manager, Belfast Zoo

#### Purpose

The purpose of this report is to update the Committee regarding the BIAZA Annual Conference held in Belfast in June 2010, and to provide information regarding a proposed BIAZA mammal keepers meeting in October 2010, to be held in Belfast.

#### Relevant Background Information

The Committee is reminded that at its meeting in August 2009, it gave permission for the Zoo to host the June 2010 BIAZA Annual Conference and AGM.

The conference proved to be a huge success. For many of the delegates this was their first visit the Belfast and based on anecdotal conversations and feedback they left with a positive image of the city in terms of the range of venues visited and the hospitality offered by the Council and the city itself. A large number of very positive unsolicited messages have been received, all of which praised the conference, the Zoological Gardens and the staff.

Subsequently, we have now been asked to host, at short notice, the October 2010 mammal keepers meeting. This is an annual event, and it is scheduled for 12 – 14 October 2010. It is estimated that up to 100 zoo keepers from around the BIAZA region will attend the conference on each day.

It is proposed to use Zoo facilities for the majority of the meeting. It is also planned that an evening event will take place in the Belfast Castle; the other evening events will take place in the Zoo. Most delegates will stay in hotels and bed and breakfasts in North Belfast in close proximity to the Zoo.

**Key Issues**

The Council, as represented by Belfast Zoo, has been asked to host the October 2010 BIAZA mammal keepers annual meeting.

This is a good opportunity to bring a diverse range of delegates in Belfast from across the UK and Ireland, representing a different cross section of people in the visitor attraction and tourism industry from those that attended the BIAZA AGM and conference in June this year. It can further showcase the city and reinforce the positive messages from the BIAZA Conference in June.

Traditionally, the hosting zoo invites delegates to a special evening which we are planning to hold in the Belfast Castle. This will include a meal and some post meal entertainment for delegates. The host zoo is requested to meet the majority of the cost of the event.

**Resource Implications**

Financial

The cost of the conference will be met by BIAZA and covered by delegate fees. The Council is asked to cover some of the costs of the evening event in Belfast Castle, estimated at £1000.

Human Resources

Staff from the BIAZA office will undertake the majority of the conference organisation. However, there is likely to be the need for some Belfast Zoo staff input into elements of the planning and implementation of the Conference.

Asset and Other Implications

Staff at the zoo have shown great enthusiasm for the proposal to host this conference. It will be a great opportunity to showcase the zoo and city and it will also be another opportunity to showcase Belfast as an ideal conference venue, particularly for delegates in the zoo industry.

**Recommendations**

The Committee is asked to:

- note the contents of this report;
- agree to the holding of the October 2010 BIAZA mammal keepers group meeting;
- agree that the Council provides appropriate civic hospitality including meeting some of the costs for the evening in the Belfast Castle.

**Decision tracking**

Actions to be completed by: 31 October 2010.  
Officer responsible: Zoo Manager.

<b>Key to abbreviations</b>
-----------------------------

BIAZA: British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquariums AGM: Annual General Meeting
---

<b>Documents Attached</b>
---------------------------

None.
-------

This page is intentionally left blank



### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Attendance at the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management Annual Conference
<b>Date:</b>	12 August 2010
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officers:</b>	Fiona Holdsworth, Principal Parks and Cemeteries Manager

#### Relevant Background Information

The annual conference of the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management will take place from 27 - 29 September 2010 at the Chesford Grange Hotel, Kenilworth, Warwickshire. Attendance at the conference allows Councillors and officers to keep up to date with developments in the industry and make contacts with other authorities and service providers learning from their knowledge and experience.

#### Key Issues

As the providers of the only cremation service in Northern Ireland it is important to keep up to date with developments in the industry and changes in legislation. This conference enables the Council to do this and to also make contacts with other local authorities to ensure that appropriate standards and working practices are being applied in Belfast. A copy of the conference programme is attached at Appendix 1.

#### Resource Implications

##### Financial

ICCM conference fee including three night's accommodation is £570.00 per delegate. The flights and transport to the venue will be approximately £150 per delegate.

##### Human Resources

A member of staff will be away from site for 3 days however they will be bringing back updated information and knowledge to provide appropriate briefings.

<b>Recommendations</b>
------------------------

It is recommended that the Chairman and Deputy Chair of Parks & Leisure committee or their nominees and the Director of Parks & Leisure or his nominee attend the ICCM conference from 27 - 29 September 2010.
--

<b>Decision Tracking</b>
--------------------------

Actions to be completed by the Bereavement Services Manager by the end of September 2010.
---

<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
-----------------------------

ICCM: Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management
--

<b>Documents Attached</b>
---------------------------

Appendix 1 – Conference Programme.
------------------------------------

**Belfast City Council**

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Respect Through Sport Programme
<b>Date:</b>	12 August 2010
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Katrina Morgan, Leisure Operations Manager

**Relevant Background Information**

This report provides a brief summary of a project aimed at developing community understanding of, and attitudes to sectarianism and racism. The project sets out to promote anti-sectarianism and anti-racism, particularly targeting young people, through cross-community sports activities.

**Key Issues**

It was identified that a level of uncommitted funding was available within the current phase of the Belfast Peace and Reconciliation Plan, under Action 3.3 Cultural Diversity in Sport.

Officers from Leisure Services and Good Relations Unit had developed a proposal in relation to the 'Respect Through Sport Programme' which brings together young people from socially disadvantaged and diverse communities across the city.

The programme is designed to use sport and physical activity as a mechanism for developing awareness and understanding of community diversity and also of the consequences of antisocial behaviour that leads to sectarianism and racism. A pilot project, which was funded by the Good Relations Partnership, had been delivered successfully in 2009/10 at the Ozone Centre. The 2010/11 proposal builds upon this work but incorporates delivery of two simultaneous, complementary programmes based at the Ozone Centre and at the Shankill Leisure Centre in order to provide engagement with a wide cross-section of communities. The total costs associated with the project are £60,593, provision for which had been identified within the current uncommitted allocation under the theme of Shared

Cultural Space and, specifically, the allocation for Action 3.3 Cultural Diversity in Sport.

The Strategic Policy and Resources Committee on Friday, 21 May 2010 approved the minutes of the meeting of the Good Relations Sub Committee of 14 May and adopted the recommendation in relation to funding the 2010/11 Respect Through Sport Programme.

The programme is due to commence in early September 2010.

### **Resource Implications**

#### Financial

The total costs associated with the project are £60,593, all of which are funded by PEACE III.

#### Human Resources

Coaching costs of £14,800 are included in the Total costs.

#### Asset and Other Implications

None.

### **Recommendations**

Members are asked to note the content of the report.

### **Decision tracking**

Actions to be completed by end August 2010.  
Officer responsible: Leisure Services Manager

### **Key to Abbreviations**

None.

### **Documents Attached**

None.



### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Boost Card: Means Tested Benefits
<b>Date:</b>	12 August 2010
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Katrina Morgan, Leisure Operations Manager

#### Relevant Background Information

Since the implementation of the Boost leisure discount scheme in April 2006, Belfast residents in receipt of Means Tested Benefit (MTB) and their dependant children have availed of a flat rate discounted charge for accessing leisure services. Currently over 26,000 customers are taking advantage of the £1.25 charge in the MTB scheme.

The Council agreed in 3 March 2008 to extend the scheme beyond the Belfast boundary. The Council were required under the Recreation and Youth Service Order 1986 (NI) to seek permission from the Department of Culture Arts and Leisure (DCAL) and the Department of the Environment (DOE) before implementing this revised scheme. Approval to extend the scheme was provided by DOE on 21 March 2008 and DCAL on 6 January 2009.

#### Key Issues

In addition to the benefits already created by the scheme the Council has been requested to consider providing wider access to the MTB discount scheme to include:

##### Participants in the Training For Success programme:

Training for Success is designed for young people aged 16 - 18 (up to 24 years for those requiring additional support) and provides training to give them the tools and skills they need to get a job.

This training provides young people with relevant qualifications as well as the required personal and behavioural skills to progress into work. From September 2008 participants in this scheme receive a non means tested Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) of £40 per week.

In order that this additional element to the scheme may operate successfully, the young person could be required to obtain a letter from the Training Organisation confirming participation on the programme. This should include commencement date and anticipated completion date.

Asylum seekers

A National Asylum Support (NAS) cash support payment is issued through the Home Office to individuals who are in the process of seeking asylum in the UK.

Individuals are issued with a letter confirming that they are eligible for cash support payments as they wait for their asylum case to be heard. The agency in Northern Ireland that distributes this under contract from Home Office is Bryson One Stop Shop. They also issue a letter (with the individual's photograph attached) to confirm that the individual is in receipt of NAS support. The Home Office also issue an asylum registration card (ARC card) which could also confirm an individual's identity.

In order that this additional element to the scheme may operate successfully, an individual would need either:

- The Home Office letter confirming receipt of the NAS payment and the ARC photographic card; or
- The Bryson One Stop Shop letter which has a photograph printed on the letter (it is more likely that this will be the most frequent letter presented).

Equality Issues

No equality implications in the extension of the scheme. However, as a matter of best practice an equality screening was carried out on the scheme and indicated no adverse impact on any of the Section 75 groups and therefore this can be screened out.

**Resource Implications**

Financial

There will be an increase in revenue but unquantifiable at present. However, MTB memberships is a KPI and will be included in performance reports.

We have not been able to establish the current number of asylum seekers in Northern Ireland

Human Resources

The amount of officer time required to validate additional applications could be managed within existing structures

**Recommendations**

It is recommended that Members approve the extension to the MTB criteria so that the scheme can now be accessed by:

- 1) Participants on the Training for Success Programme, and
- 2) Asylum Seekers in receipt of payments from the Home Office National Asylum Support scheme.

**Decision Tracking**

Officer Responsible – Leisure Operations Manager.  
Actions to be completed by end of September 2010.

<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
-----------------------------

MTB: Means Tested Benefit DCAL: Department of Culture Arts and Leisure DOE: Department of the Environment NAS: National Asylum Support ARC: Asylum registration card
--

<b>Documents Attached</b>
---------------------------

None.
-------

This page is intentionally left blank



### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Media Report
<b>Date:</b>	12 August 2010
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Anne Donegan, Media Relations Officer

#### Relevant Background Information

It was agreed by committee that a report on media coverage should come before them on a quarterly basis.

#### Key Issues

##### Media report April-July

During this four month period Corporate Communications issued 16 releases directly related to the work of the department and three others which reflected the work of the department but were issued on behalf of good relations and the older people's working group.

We also dealt with 61 enquiries directly related to the work of the department, the vast majority of which related to parks.

The take up of releases by media was 87per cent with all but two releases receiving coverage in the media. The majority of releases which received coverage related to activities in Parks, such as the Spring fair and Rose Week, although the European Day of Sport and Health organised by Leisure was also very well received by the media.

The work of the Leisure section was also highlighted in the release relating to the Senior's Convention which was widely covered and in the Wildcats release issued on behalf of Good Relations.

##### Belfast Zoo

The zoo generated significant media interest during the period, including print, radio, TV and via growing on-line coverage.

Popular stories about the latest zoo babies, including monkeys, zebra and a bongo antelope calf received good coverage. New arrivals into the zoo, including titi monkeys, otters and toucans also received media attention, and the new pair of critically endangered warty pigs were featured on UTV Live, which

included an interview with zoo staff. The departure of the silverback gorilla to England, a new mud bath for the elephants and the escape of a coati were also covered during the period.

Zoo events, including the BIAZA (British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquariums) zoo conference held here in June, and the important Dreamnight event for local hospice children and their families, were widely covered as well, as was the special visit of the winner of our 'name the pygmy goats' competition.

The disruption to air travel during the Icelandic ash cloud, which meant disruption and delays to zoo staff's travel arrangements returning from a conference, and the postponement of the arrival of new lizards from a zoo in The Netherlands, received wide coverage.

Other coverage

Coverage not generated by Corporate Communications included Falls Park allotments, Tir na Og park, training of park apprentices, Dunville Park fountain and Support for Sport.

Enquiries

Of the 61 enquiries received about departmental issues 58 related to the work of parks, three related to leisure and included questions on opening times over the Twelfth, plans to celebrate St Galls all Ireland club championship win and how Olympia Leisure Centre might be affected by the redevelopment of Windsor Park.

Six interviews were arranged, eight statements were issued and in 31 cases information was provided, five were granted permission to use our facilities for news filming, the others were either referred to our website for information or to the appropriate agency.

**Resource Implications**

None.

**Recommendations**

Members are asked to note the contents of this report.

**Key to Abbreviations**

None.

**Documents Attached**

None.



### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Support for Sport Development Grants
<b>Date:</b>	12 August 2010
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Claire Moraghan, Sports Development Officer

#### Purpose

The purpose of this report is to:

- inform Members of the decision taken by the Director of Parks and Leisure under delegated authority regarding Support for Sport small development and hospitality applications received during June and July 2010.
- seek approval to award grants for large development grant applications scoring 50% or over.

#### Relevant Background Information

Members will be aware that delegated authority was given to the Director of Parks and Leisure for Hospitality and Development applications requesting up to £3,000 and £1,250 respectively – including a one off equipment grant of £250.

#### Current context

The Director and relevant officer met to discuss small development grants, hospitality and large grant applications received.

The small development applications (delegated authority, June and July) are listed in Appendix 1, the hospitality grants (delegated authority, June and July) are listed in Appendix 2 and the large development grants (£5,000) are listed in Appendix 3.

The assessment of the large development grants is a comprehensive process against a range of criteria which take into account,

- the club's development plan;
- how the club's plan links to the sports governing body's plan;
- the sustainability of the initiative; and
- how it contributes to creating a healthy city, promoting good relations and improving services to children and young people.

Detailed applications are held in the Parks and Leisure Department and can be forwarded to Members on request.

A copy of each application will be available at Committee.

### Resource Implications

#### Financial

The table below indicates the amounts allocated from the 2010/2011 budget.

Area	Total available	Allocated to date	Proposed allocation for July/August	Remaining after allocation
Small Development	£120,000	£35,871	£16,702	£67,427
Hospitality	£31,000	£16,285	£8,000	£6,715
Large Development	£60,000	£0	£60,000	£0

#### Human Resources

N/A

#### Asset and Other Implications

N/A

### Recommendations

That Members note the content of this report with regard to support for sport development and hospitality applications and approve the award of large development grants.

### Decision Tracking

Sports Development Officer to arrange the award of all Support for Sport grants by 30 September 2010.

### Key to Abbreviations

None.

### Documents Attached

#### Table of Recommendations

Appendix 1: Small Development Applications July/August 2010

Appendix 2: Hospitality Applications July/August 2010.

Appendix 3: Large Development Applications August 2010

Appendix 1 Support for Sport Development Grants July/August 2010

ID	Club/ Organisation	Activity details	Amount Requested	Recommendation and reason	Breakdown
D-507-11	Sirocco Youth	Cross Community Festival for 9-12 years at Dixon Park Coach Education: IFA Level 1 for 3 coaches	£ 1,000.00	To support up to a maximum of £900, not representing more than 75% of the total running costs.	Coach Education: £600 Medals/Trophies: £600 Total: £1200-75%=£900 Equipment not eligible
D-508-11	Extreme TaeKwonDo Club	Free TaeKwonDo classes to recruit young people into club targeting 7-18 years at Holy Child Youth Centre	£ 1,000.00	To support up to a maximum of £900, not representing more than 75% of the total running costs.	Facility Hire: £1,200 Total: £1,200-75%= £900
D-509-11	Corrymeela Football Club	Soccer Tournament at Victoria Park on 21 August for 16-45 years promoting cross community work in East Belfast.	£ 678.00	To support up to a maximum of £678, not representing more than 75% of the total running costs.	Facility Hire: £64 Trophy/medals: £600 Referees: £240 Total: £904-75%=£678
D-510-10	Newington Football Club	Newington FC- School of Excellence 10 week programme beginning August at Waterworks facility. For boys & girls aged 5-9 years.	£ 1,000.00	To support up to a maximum of £1000, not representing more than 75% of the total running costs.	Coaching Costs: £783 Facility Hire: £200 marketing Materials: £250 Medals/Certs:£100 Total: £1333-75%= £1,000

Appendix 1 Support for Sport Development Grants July/August 2010

ID	Club/ Organisation	Activity details	Amount Requested	Recommendation and reason	Breakdown
D-511-11	Cavehill Colts F.C.	Coach education for new club established June 2010. Skilling up coaches to train Under 11's & 12's. Equipment grant.	£1000 + £250 Equipment Grant.	To support up to a maximum of £1000, not representing more than 75% of the total running costs + £250 Equipment Grant.	Coach Education: £1333 Total:£1333-75%= £1,000 +£250 Equipment grant
D-512-11	Cliftonville Cricket Club	Summer Cricket Coaching Programme 6 weeks during July & August at City of Belfast Playing Fields. Targeting boys & girls 9-11 years.	£353.25 + £250 Equipment Grant	To support up to a maximum of £353, not representing more than 75% of the total running costs + £250 equipment grant.	Coaching Costs: £240 Facility Hire: £231 Total: £471-75%=£353 + £250 Equipment grant
D-513-11	Filipino Sports Association	Coach Education to put 10 coaches through level 1 basketball and Sports festivals: 5 joint events with the Roden Street Development Group (August 2010) including development of a multi-cultural Youth Basketball league & health awareness workshops.	£1000 + £250 Equipment Grant.	To support up to a maximum of £1000, not representing more than 75% of the total running costs +£250 Equipment grant.	Coaching Costs: £600 Coach Education:£733 Total: £1333-75%=£1000 + £250 Equipment
D-514-11	Carrick Hill Football Club	Summer Coaching Programme for 6 weeks at St. Malachy's School and Waterworks starting 19 July. Targeting boys 14-18 years. Club aim to recruit new junior members for next season.	£1000 + £250 Equipment Grant.	To support up to a maximum of £1000, not representing more than 75% of the total running costs + £250 Equipment Grant.	Coaching Costs: £933 Marketing materials: £250 Medals/Certs:£150 Total: £1333-75%=£1000 +£250 equipment grant

Appendix 1 Support for Sport Development Grants July/August 2010

ID	Club/ Organisation	Activity details	Amount Requested	Recommendation and reason	Breakdown
D-515-11	Inner East Youth Project	Coach Education - Skills for Sport course for 20 coaches Multi Skills Club targeting Primary 3 & 4 children in local east Belfast schools.	£750 + £250 Equipment Grant	To support up to a maximum of £750, not representing more than 75% of the total running costs.	Coach Education: £340 Marketing materials:£210 Medals: £450 Total:£1000-75%= £750 + £250 equipment grant
D-516-11	Alexandra Table Tennis Club	Summer Training Scheme: the club have brought over 2 Polish coaches to take the scheme and they will be supported by Ulster Branch coaches. Taking place at Alexandra TT Club for boys & girls 8-16 years.	£ 1,000.00	To support up to a maximum of £1,000, not representing more than 75% of the total running costs.	Coaching Costs: £1333 Total: £1333-75%=£1000
D-517-11	Ligoniel Working Men's Football Club	New club established April 2010 training up coaches -Coach Education: Level 1 soccer (4 coaches) + equipment grant	£ 975.00	To support up to a maximum of £975, not representing more than 75% of the total running costs + £250 Equipment Grant.	Coach Education: £1200 Marketing Materials: £100 Total: £1300-75%=£975 +£250 equipment
D-518-11	Ligoniel Boxing Club	Cross Community Amateur Boxing Tournament Venue: Parochial Hall Age group 10-25 Participants: 26 males & 4 female boxers.	£ 750.00	To support up to a maximum of £750, not representing more than 75% of the total running costs.	Facility Hire: £140 Marketing Materials: £110 Trophies: £400 Ring Hire/MC/Referees:£350 Total:£1000-75%=£750

Appendix 1 Support for Sport Development Grants July/August 2010

ID	Club/ Organisation	Activity details	Amount Requested	Recommendation and reason	Breakdown
D-519-11	Queens Basketball Club	Summer Camp at various venues; Queens PEC, Rosario & Stranmillis. For Ages 7-17boys & girls expected No. of participants: 200 (male & female)	£ 1,000.00	To support up to a maximum of £1000, not representing more than 75% of the total running costs.	Coaching Costs:£500 Facility Hire: £533 Medals/Certs: £300 Total: £1333-75%= £1000
D-520-11	Ligoniel Improvement Association	Physical Activity Sessions in 5-a- side, mini-olympics, cross country, poc fada & hurling. - 5 weeks: July/August 2010 - Age: 6-25 - 350 children (male & female)	£731 +£250 Equipment Grant	To support up to a maximum of £731, not representing more than 75% of the total running costs.	Coaching Costs:£500 Medals/Certs:£475 Total: £975- 75%=£731+£250 Equipment grant
D-521-11	Harlequins Rugby Football Club	Coach Education for women's team to cover level 2 assistant coach, first aid and taping.	£400 + £250 Equipment Grant	To support up to a maximum of £300, not representing more than 75% of the total running costs.	Coach Education: £400 Total: £400-75%= £300 +£250 Equipment Grant
D-522-11	Corpus Christi ABC	Novice Boxing Tournament at Corpus Christi College for male boxers aged 10-16 who have less than 5 contests to build confidence and experience.	£ 960.00	To support up to a maximum of £413, not representing more than 75% of the total running costs.	Boxing Ring Hire:£300 Medals:£100 MC Hire:£120 Total:£520-75%=£390
ID	Club/ Organisation	Activity details	Amount Requested	Recommendation and reason	Breakdown

Appendix 1 Support for Sport Development Grants July/August 2010

D-523-11	Ballysillan Taekwon-Do Club	Hosting Belfast Jr. Taekwon-Do Championships at Ballysillan Leisure Centre on 12 September Targeting 5-17 years Male and Female participants	£1,000	To support up to a maximum of £1000, not representing more than 75% of the total running costs.	Facility Hire: £580 Marketing materials: £200 Medals/trophies: £453 First Aid:£100 Total: £1333-75%=£1000
D-448-10	Saint John's Juvenile Club	Application was not recommended in March. On appeal it was reconsidered and judged to be a separate application and was not duplicated by the hurling section. Under the current guidelines hurling & Gaelic football can apply independently so long as they have separate bank accounts.	£1,000	To support up to a maximum of £1000, not representing more than 75% of the total running costs.	Coaching Costs: £800 Facility Hire:£500 Total:£1300-75%=£975
<b>Amount allocated to date</b> £35,871		<b>Amount allocated this month July/August</b> £16,702		<b>Overall total</b> £52,573	

This page is intentionally left blank

Appendix 2 Support for Sport Hospitality Applications July/August 2010

ID	Club/Organisation	Title of event	Date of event	Tourism Appeal	Guest Information	Recommendation
H-59-11	Glentoran Football Club	Glentoran v Dundee United	27/07/10	-Approx 400 supporters from Scotlands - At least 2 nights stay in Belfast	100 guests. Including: officials, players & sponsors.	£800.00
H-60-11	Glentoran Football Club	Glentoran v Glasgow Rangers (Tues 10th August)	10/08/10	- 2500 supporters from all parts of the UK - Booked into 5 hotels and 3 guest houses - Length of stay: 3 nights	150 guests. Including officials, players and sponsors of glasgow rangers F.C. and Glentoran F.C.	£1,000.00
H-61-11	Forthriver Bowling & Tennis Club	Bi-Annual Bowling Event	18/09/10	- 50 members of Garsherrie Bowling Club. - Coatbridge Scotland - Length of Stay: 3 days	- 50 members of Garsherrie Bowling Club.	£250.00
H-62-11	Belfast Tropics Basketball Club	Belfast Tropics Invitational Basketball Tournament	02/10/10	24 players/coaches: America: 4 nights stay 18 players/coaches: London: 3 nights stay 8 players/coaches: Cyprus: 3 nights stay 10players/coaches: Dublin: 3 nights stay 10 players/coaches: Galway: 3 nights 24 players/coached: Armagh, Dungannon:2 nights	24 players/coaches: America 18 players/coaches: London 8 players/coaches: Cyprus 10players/coaches: Dublin	£1,000.00
H-63-11	Ligoniel Amateur Boxing Club	Ligoniel Amateur Boxing Tournament	11/07/10	9 Boxers: Dundalk: 1 night stay 20 Spectators: Dundalk: 1 night stay 4 Coaches: Dundalk: 1 night stay	- 30 participants - 200 spectators	£0.00
H-64-11	Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service (Sports Association)	The Ultimate Firefighter	02/10/10	This event will be part of the World Police and Fire games in 2013. It will attract 100 competitors from UK, ROI and Europe. It is the first of it's kind held in UK and it is anticipated to attract large media attention.	Dame Mary Peters, DCAL reps. 200 anticipated guests from UK, ROI & Europe.	£2,400.00

Appendix 2 Support for Sport Hospitality Applications July/August 2010

ID	Club/Organisation	Title of event	Date of event	Tourism Appeal	Guest Information	Recommendation
H-65-11	RUC Athletic Association	Indoor Rowing Competition	12/11/10	This event will be part of the World Police and Fire games in 2013. It is anticipated to attract 150 competitors from UK, ROI and Europe.	Dame Mary Peters, DCAL reps. 200 anticipated guests from UK, ROI & Europe.	£1,800.00
H-66-11	Belfast Giants Community Foundation	Giants Heros 2010 Ice Hockey Camp	13/08/10	The programme works with "at risk" young people (11-14 years) in Belfast and Finglas and have attracted volunteers and mentors from Canada, United States & UK staying in Belfast for 8 nights.	50 from Dublin & 20 from Canada, USA & UK.	£750.00
Amount allocated to date £16,285			Amount allocated July/August 2010 £8,000		Total Amount allocated £24,285	

**LARGE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS SCORING 2010/11**

<b>CLUB NAME</b>	<b>REF #</b>	<b>SCORE</b>	<b>RANK</b>	<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
<b>St. Agnes GAC</b>	DL-21-11	78%	1	Support	£5,000	Into schools initiative in partnership with St.Anne's Primary & Rathmore Grammar focusing on the promotion of Gaelic sports in the Andersonstown area especially targeting girls and proving a pathway to join the club or another local GAC. Programme will include after schools sessions, blitz tournaments and coach education to train up coaches.
<b>Friends of Grosvenor Fencing Club</b>	DL-12-11	77%	2	Support	£5,000	Specialist coaching support, Outreach & development of new sabre section. Currently the club has 6 international fencers with no Governing Body support in the form of a high performance coach. They will bring a coach in from England every 6-8 weeks for intensive coaching weekends. Outreach with 5 local schools to get more people involved in fencing specially U12 boys & girls and secondary level girls. Development of new Sabre section - this is not traditionally played in Belfast and is an opportunity to be trained in a new weapon.
<b>Holy Trinity ABC</b>	DL-43-11	76%	3	Support	£5,000	Crime Diversion and Outreach Programme in Upper Springfield area by providing the young people with alternatives to crime and anti-social behaviour. The initiative will be developed in partnership with The Upper Springfield Development Trust, Intervention Project, Safer Neighbourhood Community Safety Teams and Whiterock Leisure Centre. It will be similar to the midnight soccer initiative targeting 10-18 year olds and involving physical activity, drug/alcohol workshops, personal development and mental health workshops. The initiative will run for 32 weeks every Friday night and will have additional taster sessions and afterschools programmes.
<b>Sean McDermotts GAC</b>	DL-31-11	70%	4	Support	£5,000	Specialist coaching support for juveniles specifically 4-14 year old boys and girls and developing partnerships with St. Joseph's Primary and St. Dominic's Grammar. Through their club community officer they will offer taster sessions to the local Filipino community. They will also skill up their coaches and parents in football and hurling courses as well as first aid.

Appendix 3 - Large Development Grants (£5,000) July 2010

<b>Donegal Celtic Ladies FC</b>	DL-07-11	69%	5	Support	£5,000	Development of a youth section within girls football by putting in place a structure for young girls to work their way through a player development pathway. In year one of their plan they will establish an U10 & U14 side and in year 2 an U12 & U16 section building up to an U18/reserve team. They will work closely with IFA through First Kicks and Teen Kicks and provide health awareness sessions.
<b>Grosvenor Youth FC</b>	DL-40-11	68%	6	Support	£5,000	Grosvenor Youth Soccer Development Initiative - the club will help players develop personal and social skills through mentoring and social activities. They also will establish a girls section by targeting local girls and encouraging them to come along to try it out. They will also train up their coaches in order to cope with the new intake of players.
<b>Falls Bowling Club</b>	DL-09-11	63%	7	Support	£5,000	The deveopment of Falls Bowling Club Academy targeting year 7 pupils in Holy Child Primary and years 8&9 in La Salle College. They will hold taster sessions with the schools in Shortmat and continue with those interested through the season onto the outdoor greens. The training will include coaching and motivational talks from current Irish Internationals.
<b>Immaculata FC</b>	DL-27-11	63%	7	Support	£5,000	This initative will aim to maximise the engagement of a disadvantaged community in sport and physical activity from football to sports coaching, tournaments and social interaction. The project will specifically target young unemployed men, young ex-offenders, fathers & sons and members of minority ethnic communities. They also aim to establish an inclusive female football team in partnership with local womens groups and promote cross community relations between the Falls and Shankill areas.
<b>St. Oliver Plunkett FC</b>	DL-47-11	59%	9	Support	£5,000	The club wish to establish a number of girls teams and currently field 18 male teams so they require additional coaching staff to cope with the numbers. Their skills development programme has identified the need for this and the club is growing rapidly. They will upskill their existing coaches and recruit new coaches/parents and put them through their badges.

Appendix 3 - Large Development Grants (£5,000) July 2010

<b>Belfast Star Basketball Club</b>	DL-01-11	56%	10	Support	£5,000	The initiative is "Hot Shots" and will create a Belfast Centre of Excellence for Basketball and aims to raise the standard of young basketball talent in the city and provide a framework to progress to national level. The club wants to develop their senior players into coaches who can then mentor the younger players coming up through the club. They have recruited a high level Canadian coach for next season.
<b>City of Belfast Swimming Club</b>	DL-34-11	55%	11	Support subject to financial assessment.	£5,000	Improvement in continued professional development and working in partnership Swim Ulster and other swimming clubs in NI. The club will encourage senior swimmers and parents to gain training courses and will be able to do this in house following tutor training.
<b>Iveagh United FC</b>	DL-35-11	52%	12	Support	£5,000	The development of a youth section within the club and to provide physical activity and social development opportunities for children and young people. They will build the coach and volunteer base to cope with the new section and will include nutritional workshops, goal keeping clinic and SAQ sessions.
<b>Templemore ASC</b>	DL-39-11	50%	13	Do Not Support		Only 12 grants available - Club was ranked 13.
<b>St. Teresa Youth FC</b>	DL-20-11	48%	14	Do Not Support		Club did not make the scoring threshold.
<b>Eastside ABC</b>	DL-32-11	47%	15	Do Not Support		Club did not make the scoring threshold.
<b>Belfast Giants</b>	DL-44-11	45%	16	Do Not Support		Club did not make the scoring threshold.
<b>Cregah Wanders FC</b>	DL-37-11	43%	17	Do Not Support		Club did not make the scoring threshold.
<b>Sport &amp; Leisure Swifts</b>	DL-17-11	43%	17	Do Not Support		Club did not make the scoring threshold.
<b>Belfast Rowing Club</b>	DL-03-11	43%	17	Do Not Support		Club did not make the scoring threshold.
<b>Cairn Lodge ABC</b>	DL-04-11	43%	17	Do Not Support		Club did not make the scoring threshold.

Appendix 3 - Large Development Grants (£5,000) July 2010

<b>Shankill United FC</b>	DL-42-11	39%	21	Do Not Support	Club did not make the scoring threshold.
<b>Shaftesbury Bowling Club</b>	DL-38-11	38%	22	Do Not Support	Club did not make the scoring threshold.
<b>Linfield FC</b>	DL-13-11	31%	23	Do Not Support	Club did not make the scoring threshold.
<b>Crusaders Youth FC</b>	DL-33-11	30%	24	Do Not Support	Club did not make the scoring threshold.
<b>Ligoniel ABC</b>	DL-43-11	DNS		Do Not Support	Incomplete application
<b>Dockers ABC</b>	DL-05-11	DNS		Do Not Support	Application for capital costs - ineligible.
<b>Ballysillan Gymnastics Club</b>	DL-02-11	DNS		Do Not Support	Did not return full application
<b>Donegal Celtic Football &amp; Sports</b>	DL-06-11	DNS		Do Not Support	Did not return full application
<b>East Belfast Bulldogs RLFC</b>	DL-08-11	DNS		Do Not Support	Did not return full application
<b>Glentoran FC</b>	DL-10-11	DNS		Do Not Support	Did not return full application
<b>O'Donovan Rossa Camogie Club</b>	DL-15-11	DNS		Do Not Support	Did not return full application
<b>Orangegrove Athletics Club</b>	DL-16-11	DNS		Do Not Support	Did not return full application
<b>Solway Stars Football Club</b>	DL-18-11	DNS		Do Not Support	Did not return full application
<b>Sirocco Youth F.C.</b>	DL-19-11	DNS		Do Not Support	Did not return full application
<b>St.Galls G.A.C.</b>	DL-22-11	DNS		Do Not Support	Did not return full application
<b>Immaculata Amateur Boxing Club</b>	DL-25-11	DNS		Do Not Support	Did not return full application
<b>East Belfast Juniors F.C.</b>	DL-28-11	DNS		Do Not Support	Did not return full application
<b>CBG Ju-Jitsu School</b>	DL-30-11	DNS		Do Not Support	Did not return full application

Appendix 3 - Large Development Grants (£5,000) July 2010

<b>Oliver Plunkett ABC</b>	DL-41-11	DNS		Do Not Support	Did not return full application
<b>Team Stables Basketball</b>	DL-23-11	DNS		Do Not Support	Not eligible for second stage application
<b>Willowbank Football Club</b>	DL-24-11	DNS		Do Not Support	Not eligible for second stage application
<b>St. Teresa's Ladies GAA</b>	DL-29-11	DNS		Do Not Support	Not eligible for second stage application
<b>Belfast Sliders Softball Club</b>	DL-36-11	DNS		Do Not Support	Not eligible for second stage application

