

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



**Belfast
City Council**

8th September, 2022

MEETING OF THE PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

Dear Alderman/Councillor,

The above-named Committee will be a Hybrid Meeting - Council Chamber on Thursday, 22nd September, 2022 at 5.15 pm, for the transaction of the business noted below.

You are requested to attend.

Yours faithfully,

John Walsh

Chief Executive

AGENDA:

1. **Routine Matters**

- (a) Apologies
- (b) Minutes
- (c) Declarations of Interest

2. **Restricted**

- (a) Financial Reporting - Quarter 1 2022/23 (Pages 1 - 8)
- (b) Pitch Partner Agreement - Alderman Tommy Patton Memorial Park (Pages 9 - 12)
- (c) Community Provision Funding Update (Pages 13 - 16)
- (d) Carew Family Centre: Bridging Support (Pages 17 - 30)
- (e) Pedestrian Access to Alexandra Park HWRC (Pages 31 - 56)

- (f) Enforcement of Litter and Dog Offences - Potential Supplementary external pilot project (Pages 57 - 62)
- (g) Resources and Fleet Waste Update (Pages 63 - 76)
- 3. **Matters referred back from the Council/Motions**
 - (a) Commonwealth Games success and female sporting needs in the City (Pages 77 - 78)
 - (b) Herbicide reduction policy (Pages 79 - 80)
- 4. **Committee/Strategic Issues**
 - (a) Belfast Boxing Strategy Quarterly Update and 2022/2023 Action Plan (Pages 81 - 86)
 - (b) Stadia Community Benefits Initiative (Pages 87 - 94)
 - (c) Cemeteries and Crematorium Working Group update (Pages 95 - 108)
 - (d) Reference Group on Older People Update (Pages 109 - 118)
 - (e) Belfast City Youth Council Update (Pages 119 - 120)
- 5. **Physical Programme and Asset Management**
 - (a) Cherryvale Gate Anti-Social Behaviour Measures Consultation (Pages 121 - 132)
 - (b) Naming of Request for renaming of Moltke Street Playground (Pages 133 - 144)
 - (c) Public Right of Way at Orby Green (Pages 145 - 150)
- 6. **Operational Issues**
 - (a) Proposal for naming new streets (Pages 151 - 152)
 - (b) Consultation response to Food Standards Agency on the Draft Food Hygiene Rating (Online Display) Regulations (NI) 2023 (Pages 153 - 160)
 - (c) Regulation of Cosmetic Treatments in Northern Ireland (Pages 161 - 166)
- 7. **Issues Raised in Advance by Members**
 - (a) Council Allotments - Councillor Flynn

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of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.

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Subject:	Notice of Motion: Commonwealth Games Success and female sporting needs in the City
Date:	22nd September, 2022
Reporting Officer:	Sara Steele, Democratic Services Officer
Contact Officer:	Sara Steele, Democratic Services Officer

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	To consider a motion in relation to Commonwealth Games Success and female sporting needs in the City, which was referred to the Committee by the Standards and Business Committee at its meeting on 23rd August.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Members of the Committee are asked to consider the motion and, if the proposal is agreed, to agree that a report on how this would be facilitated, resourced and managed will be brought back.

3.0	Main report
3.1	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>At the meeting of the Standards and Business Committee held on 23rd August, the following motion, which was proposed by Councillor Maskey and seconded by Councillor McCabe, was referred to the Committee for consideration:</p>
3.2	<p>“This Council also notes with concern a lack of capacity for female sports across the City and resolves to work in partnership with the Department of Communities, Sport NI, the Irish Football Association and any other relevant body to do an immediate and focussed audit of female sporting needs across the City in an attempt to have as early data as possible in terms of what is required to meet capacity for female sports across all sporting disciplines.”</p>
3.3	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None.</p>
3.4	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>This Notice of Motion, if agreed, may have potential equality, good relations and rural needs implications and should be subject to our normal screening process as appropriate.</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	None.



Subject:	Notice of Motion: Herbicide Reduction Policy
Date:	22nd September, 2022
Reporting Officer:	Sara Steele, Democratic Services Officer
Contact Officer:	Sara Steele, Democratic Services Officer

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	To consider a motion in relation to Herbicide Reduction Policy, which was referred to the Committee by the Standards and Business Committee at its meeting on 23rd August.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Members of the Committee are asked to consider the motion and, if the proposal is agreed, to agree that a report on how this would be facilitated, resourced and managed will be brought back.

3.0	Main report
3.1	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>At the meeting of the Standards and Business Committee held on 23rd August, the following motion, which was proposed by Councillor Flynn and seconded by Councillor Smyth, was referred to the Committee for consideration:</p>
3.2	<p>“This Council notes that Northern Ireland ranks 12th worst in the world for biodiversity loss, with significant threats to our natural and native wildlife and habitats due to human intervention.</p> <p>It further notes that a scientific study published in June stated that chemical pollution has passed the safe limit for humanity.</p> <p>This Council commits to the principle of herbicide reduction and will develop a herbicide reduction policy for use across the council estate, in line with best practice regarding weed control and land management.”</p>
3.3	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None.</p>
3.4	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>This Notice of Motion, if agreed, may have potential equality, good relations and rural needs implications and should be subject to our normal screening process as appropriate.</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	None.



Subject:	Belfast Boxing Strategy Quarterly Update & 2022/2023 Action Plan
Date:	22nd September 2022
Reporting Officer:	David Sales, Director of Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Catherine Taggart, Neighbourhood Services Manager

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	This report is to provide an update on progress on implementation of Belfast Boxing Strategy for April to June 2022 (Quarter 1).
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note Quarter 1 progress report against agreed KPIs
3.0	Main report
	<u>Background</u>
3.1	Council agreed, through the January 2018 Strategic Policy and Resources Committee, to provide £200,000 to the Irish Athletic Boxing Association Ulster Branch (IABA) for delivery of an agreed annual action plan supporting the Belfast Boxing Strategy.

3.2	The IABA provided SP&R with a detailed breakdown of programmes to be delivered under six main areas. Salary – Development Officer and Coaches, Pathways, Events, Coach Education, Club Support, Governance.
3.3	Following this decision the Belfast Boxing Strategy Steering Group has met quarterly, with the most recent meetings held online due to Covid-19 and associated regulations. This Steering Group is chaired by the Director of Neighbourhood Services with Council Officers, IABA Officers and Officials and Co. Antrim Board Officials attending. Small variations to the budget across the six areas have been agreed to assist prioritisation in line with the agreed annual action plan.
	<u>Monitoring</u>
3.4	The Leisure Development Unit works directly with IABA officials to verify reporting on performance and finance and provides detailed reports for discussion at the Steering Group.
	<u>Performance</u>
3.5	Council agreed a total of 37 Indicators with IABA to monitor delivery of the programmes. IABA have complied with reporting requirements and their performance report for 22/23 Quarter 1 is attached at Appendix 1. IABA have provided narrative against each of the KPIs to describe progress against each indicator and have advised that they anticipate that all KPIs will be achieved by the end of 22/23
3.6	Much of the focus in terms of method of delivery has changed and a large number of participants have been able to avail of online training and workshops for both committee members and coaches, as well as delivering online workout sessions, supporting clubs with accreditation or reaccreditation, as well as with funding applications and providing ongoing advice and support.
	<u>22/23 Action Plan</u>
3.7	In line with normal process the IABA have developed their programme action plan relating to 22/23. This plan was approved by Committee on 8 March 2022
	<u>Financial & Resource Implications</u>
3.8	A total of £200,000 is available within the current financial year to support the Action Plan. It is likely that the full budget will be expended.

3.9	<p><u>Equality Impact/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>The strategy was equality screened in line with the Council’s equality process. The screening showed that there were potential adverse impacts on a number of groups including females and people with a disability and mitigating actions were added to the strategy. Members agreed that an equality screening be undertaken prior to a decision being made in relation to funding for 19/20. Officers have finalised this screening and the initial findings show that progress has been made in increasing the participation of underrepresented groups and this has been reported separately through the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee. The IABA continue to target underrepresented groups in its delivery of the 22/23 programme with particular focus on the events, club based sessions and the non-contact boxing programme.</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	Appendix 1: IABA 2022-2023 Quarter 1 Performance Report

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Boxing Strategy KPI Report 22-23 Overall

To have an effective efficient Pathway to engage and nurture talent within Belfast

KPI	Description	Female	Male	Total	Office Use Only	Commentary
1.1	Run 3 talent squads in Belfast (2 Male 1 Female)	0	0	0		This will run when the new season starts in September
1.2	To Run competitive opportunities for Belfast talent squads (2/3)	0	0	0		This will run when the new season starts in September
1.3	Number of boxers getting Elite Gym Membership	0	0	0		We will discuss with GLL when the next roll out of their scheme is
1.4	Number of boxers obtaining support for sport funding or outside funding	2	5	7		Some of the Belfast CWG Athletes have received funding from Sport NI's Athlete support programme.
2.1	To run 1 volunteer education event with 32 clubs represented and 40 participants	0	0	0		this will run towards the end of Q3
2.2	To run 1 Volunteer recognition event with a minimum of 30 participants from clubs present	0	0	0		this will run towards the end of Q3
3.1	To run 1 Scoring/Event Official Course per year with 10 newly trained officials	0	0	0		This will run when the new season starts in September
3.2	To run 1 Referee and Judging Course per year with 20 newly trained officials	0	0	0		This will run when the new season starts in September
3.3	Delivery of a minimum of 2 Committee training courses throughout the year to improve club governance	4	13	17		Safeguarding Course Delivered in Belfast to (Sacred Heart BC, Ligoneil BC, Star BC)

To recruit, train and sustain active coaches within Belfast

4.1	5 coaches receive talent coach training and mentoring	0	4	4		2 talents coaches have been selected to travel with a Youth and Junior team to Italy & 2 talented coached will attend the CWG with Team NI
4.2	20 new grassroots coaches trained	0	0	0		Sport Ireland hope to start the roll out of the new improved coach education programme in the coming months.
4.3	50 new people accessing online resources	0	0	0		Ongoing
4.4	Increase the number of female coaches	0		0		Sport Ireland hope to start the roll out of the new improved coach education programme in the coming months.
4.5	To work with mental health training providers to design a toolkit for every club and to deliver training and webinars. To encourage clubs to appoint a Mental Health and Wellbeing Champion. 10 Clubs to be involved					Webinars planned in Q2/3
4.6	5 clubs trained on inclusive boxing module			0		This will hopefully roll out in Q2/3 when we reengage with DSNI

To grow and sustain club membership within Belfast

5.1	160 participants at come and try it event	0	0	0		Come try boxing event planned for world boxing day on 28th August 2022
5.2	1600 pupils taking part in non contact boxing sessions	230	360	590		Try boxing days and non contact boxing delivered at the following schools across the city (All Saints College, Hazelwood College, Holy Evangelist PS, Belfast Regional College, St Gerards, St Josephe's College)
5.3	160 participants at Belfast Day of Boxing	0	0	0		Come try boxing event planned for world boxing day on 28th August 2022
5.2	2 new clubs established and availing of seeding grant			0		This will roll out later in the year
5.4	4 clubs obtaining equipment grants			0		This will roll out later in the year
5.27	27 clubs obtaining membership development grants			0		This will roll out later in the year
#####	50 new members in Belfast clubs					This will be calculated when the boxing medical days take place
5.6	15 clubs receiving for support for sport grants			0		Will discuss when this scheme has opened
5.7	180 participants in holiday camps	0	0	0		Planned for school Halloween Break

To promote and sustain good governance standards within Belfast clubs

6.2	clubs to attain clubmark accreditation			0		On going work with new clubs
6	clubs to attain reaccreditation					On going work with existing clubs
6.2	180 participants in good relations programme	0	0	0		

Funding to support competitive local and international events in Belfast

7.1	Deliver 8 local events			3		County Antrim B/G 123s, County Antrim Seniors, County Antrim v Derry/Dongal
7.2	Deliver 2 international events			0		Halloween Box Cup planned and international round robin.
7.3	150 male competitors		130	130		County Antrim B/G 123s, County Antrim Seniors, County Antrim v Derry/Dongal
7.4	50 female competitors		40	40		County Antrim B/G 123s, County Antrim Seniors, County Antrim v Derry/Dongal
7.5	50 visiting competitors		80	80		County Antrim B/G 123s, County Antrim Seniors, County Antrim v Derry/Dongal
7.6	150 Belfast competitors		97	97		County Antrim B/G 123s, County Antrim Seniors, County Antrim v Derry/Dongal

						County Antrim B/G 123s, County Antrim Seniors, County Antrim v Derry/Dongeal
7.7	5 visiting officials		7	7		
7.8	15 Belfast officials		16	16		County Antrim B/G 123s, County Antrim Seniors, County Antrim v Derry/Dongeal
		236	752	988		



Subject:	Stadia Community Benefits Initiative
Date:	22nd September 2022
Reporting Officer:	David Sales, Director of Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Catherine Taggart, Neighbourhood Services Manager, (Community Services & Community Programmes)

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>


Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	To advise Committee of progress with the Stadia Community Benefits Initiative (SCBI) for 2022/2023 and provide an update on the action plan.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note progress to date.
3.0	Main report
3.1	The Council has been undertaking the Leisure Transformation Programme to renew its Leisure facilities across the City. This Programme has been influenced by the Partnership opportunities presented by the NI Executive Stadia Programme.

3.2	The Council, Department for Communities (DfC) and the Irish Football Association (IFA) have recognised the opportunities presented by the Stadia Programme, have committed to work together to maximise these benefits, and have agreed to establish a Stadium Community Benefits Initiative as part of the Belfast Community Benefits Initiative ('the Project') to implement and deliver agreed objectives including promoting equality, tackling poverty, and tackling social exclusion within the Belfast area.
3.3	In March 2016 the Council, DfC and IFA signed an agreement which sets out their respective commitments to the project. As other major stadia are developed in Belfast it is anticipated that other sports governing bodies shall become parties to the agreement. At its April 2018 meeting, People and Communities committee agreed that Council would work with the Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) within the Stadia Community Benefits Initiative and recognised their significant planned investment in Gaelic Games in the city to support their Gaelfast strategy. GAA activities became fully incorporated into the action plan at the start of financial year 2019-2020, with Gaelfast staff imbedded into the governance structure at Communications Board, Delivery Board, Policy and Performance Board.
3.4	The agreement is for a period of ten years with financial commitment from Council and IFA in place to the end of March 2026. Delivery is managed through monthly meetings of the Delivery Board, which reports quarterly to the Policy and Performance Board. Financial and performance reports will be presented to Council and other partners' Boards as necessary.
3.5	<p>The Policy & Performance Group is responsible for agreeing the Benefits Realisation Plan and associated annual targets. Work was undertaken to ensure the end benefits/outcomes are aligned to partners' strategies. To measure the progress of this the Council and the IFA have developed a range of indicators/intermediate benefits which are monitored through programme delivery:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Number of coaching sessions provided b. Number of coaches engaged in delivering coaching c. Number of sessions improving club governance d. Number of volunteering opportunities e. Participation opportunities for under 16s f. Female participation rates g. Number of people completing skills development programme i. Number of sessions for under-represented groups j. Number of sessions for school and youth groups k. Community group usage of stadia

	<p>l. Number of clubs attaining club-mark</p> <p>m. Educational opportunities</p> <p>o. Number of programmes targeting ASB</p> <p>q. Improved collaborative working</p> <p>r. Number of disabled participants</p> <p>s. Number of older people participating</p>
3.6	<p>Following the completion of a baseline assessment in early 2017, annual workplans are developed each year. The Action Plan for 2022-2023 has been produced by the partners and includes a mixture of sports specific programmes (e.g. National Governing Body specific coach education) and some joint collaborative initiatives delivered by both sporting codes such as information webinars which proved highly successful within the previous Covid environment which restricted in-person workshops</p> <p><u>Performance</u></p>
3.7	<p>As we continue to emerge from Covid Restrictions, programme delivery to date in Q1 of year 6 (financial year 2022/2023) has begun strongly and details of the IFA and GAA specific activities are included at appendix 1 and appendix 2.</p> <p>Joint initiatives are planned for Q3 and Q4 and include sports nutrition courses, club funding, female coaching, club ethos, mental health first aid, collaborative delivery in schools.</p> <p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p>
3.6	<p>In accordance with the Council's obligations under its DfC Funding Agreement for the Olympia Regeneration Project, the Council has committed a sum of £100,000 per annum for a minimum of ten years, so that a minimum of £1,000,000 is contributed in total to the Project. In relation to 2022/23 Q1 spend, partners have reported a normal level of spend in line with programmes delivered. Partners have projected full utilisation of the budget across both joint and individual work programmes and it is assumed that additional budget will be sought to cover activities planned and the expansion of projects to be delivered.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p>
3.7	<p>There are no additional impacts related to this report.</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	<p>Appendix 1: IFA Performance Report Quarter 1 2022/2023</p> <p>Appendix 2: GAA Performance Report Quarter 1 2022/2023</p>

Intermediate Benefits	TOTAL
a. Number of coaching sessions provided	120
b. Number of coaches engaged in delivering coaching	67
c. Number of sessions improving club governance	8
d. Number of volunteering opportunities	135
e. Participation opportunities for under 16s	523
f. Female participation rates	501
g. Number of people completing skills development programme	111
i. Number of sessions for under-represented groups	115
j. Number of sessions for school and youth groups	7
k. Community group usage of stadia	4
l. Number of clubs attaining club-mark	0
m. Educational opportunities	30
o. Number of programmes targeting ASB	70
q. Improved collaborative working	66
r. Number of disabled participants	16
s. Number of older people participating	16

	
Highlights (key contributors)	
<p>Busy summer and planning is underway for the Autumn and winter</p>	
<p>Rolling out further coaching courses to upskill coaches</p>	
<p>numbers will increase with success over the summer</p>	
<p>NCC Amateur finally underway and will be rolled out this year</p>	
<p>6 currently undertaking it</p>	

Intermediate Benefits	TOTAL
a. Number of coaching sessions provided	248
b. Number of coaches engaged in delivering coaching	73
c. Number of sessions improving club governance	
d. Number of volunteering opportunities	60
e. Participation opportunities for under 16s	816
f. Female participation rates	514
g. Number of people completing skills development programme	22
i. Number of sessions for under-represented groups	113
j. Number of sessions for school and youth groups	52
k. Community group usage of stadia	
l. Number of clubs attaining club-mark	
m. Educational opportunities	
o. Number of programmes targeting ASB	
q. Improved collaborative working	13
r. Number of disabled participants	48
s. Number of older people participating	

1	STADIUM COMMUNITY BENEFITS INITIATIVE
Highlights (key contributors)	
Go Games, Foundation, Inclusion sessions	
Go Games	
Go Games, inclusion	
Go Games	
Go Games, Foundation, Inclusion sessions	
GoGames - Young whistlers Foundation	
Go games, Foundation, Inclusion	
Go Games	
Go Games, Foundation Lgfa, Camogie, GAA	
Go Games, Inclusion	



Subject:	Update from the Strategic Cemeteries and Crematorium Working Group
Date:	22nd September 2022
Reporting Officer:	Siobhan Toland, Director of City Services Sinead Grimes Director, of Physical Programmes
Contact Officer:	Sabine Kalke, Project Sponsor Seamus McBride, City Protection Manager

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to seek Committee approval on key recommendations made at the Strategic Cemeteries and Crematorium Development Working Group held on 24 th August 2022
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Approve the minutes from the Strategic Cemeteries and Crematorium Development Working Group meeting held on 24th August 2022

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Approve the recommendation from Strategic Cemeteries and Crematorium Development Working Group to write to Department of Finance, encouraging a workable solution to be found allowing the electronic transfer of documentation relating to burials and cremations to continue on a permanent basis. The Coronavirus Act Provisions which currently enables electronic transfer are due to expire on 24th September.
3.0	Main report
	<u>Update on the new Crematorium Development</u>
3.1	<p>Members of the Working Group received an update on the new crematorium development. As reported previously the Planning Application for the new crematorium has been submitted to Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council in June 2022 and validated. The application included the very extensive Environmental Statement which contains 22 chapters. A hard copy can be accessed by the public at Roselawn Cemetery's Public Office. Visuals of the latest design of the new crematorium building were presented to Members of the Working Group. A timeline setting out the extensive work which has been undertaken to date and the next steps that need to be undertaken with a project of this size and nature was also reviewed by Working Group Members.</p>
	<u>Update on City Cemetery Heritage Project</u>
3.2	<p>The Working Group received an update on the City Cemetery Heritage project. Members were advised that all capital works are almost complete and work is ongoing following the Strategic Policy and Resource committee decision in June regarding dual language signage and content.</p>
	<u>Update on Bereavement Services Operations</u>
3.3	<p>The Working Group received an update on Bereavement Services operations. Members were advised that the Reflections Café reopened at the City of Belfast Crematorium on 4th July. Members may recall that the Coronavirus Act 2020 contained provisions which have allowed the electronic transfer of statutory documentation relating to burials and cremations. These provisions are due to expire on 24th September which, if not extended will impact on Bereavement Services Administration and on Funeral Directors as the relevant statutory forms will be required to be completed and lodged in hard copy. Working Group Members have recommended writing to the Department of Finance encouraging a workable solution to be found allowing the electronic transfer of such documentation to continue on a permanent basis.</p>

	<u>Financial & Resource Implications</u>
3.4	Update on the new Crematorium Development. The project is on the Capital Programme at Stage 3 Committed.
3.5	City Cemetery Heritage Project Heritage Lottery Fund contribution £1.687m with Council contribution up to £620,000 Service Yard move – Council contribution of up to £421,000 DfC contribution £75,000
3.6	Update on Bereavement Services Operations Being delivered within existing budgets.
	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u>
3.7	Update on new Crematorium Development An Equality Screening has been carried out and concluded that no EQIA is necessary; a Rural Needs Assessment has been carried out.
3.8	City Cemetery Heritage Project None required
3.9	Update on Bereavement Services Operations None required
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 - Minutes of the Strategic Cemeteries and Crematorium Development Working Group on 24 th August 2022

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**STRATEGIC CEMETERIES AND CREMATORIUM
DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP**

Minutes of Meeting of 24th August, 2022

Members Present: Aldermen Rodgers and Sandford; and
Councillors Bower, Matthew Collins, Corr and Flynn.

In Attendance: Mr. S. McBride, City Protection Manager;
Mr. M. Patterson, Bereavement Services Manager;
Mr. D. Bone, City Services Manager;
Mr. D. Logan, Project Manager;
Ms. K. Kennedy, Project Manager;
Mr. N. Brennan, Assistant Project Manager;
Ms. S. Kalke, Project Sponsor; and
Mr. G. Graham, Democratic Services Assistant.

Election of Chairperson

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

Moved by Alderman Rodgers,
Seconded by Councillor Corr, and

Resolved – That Alderman Sandford be appointed to the position of
Chairperson for the period to end on the date of the Local Government
Elections in May, 2023.

Alderman Sandford accepted the appointment and thanked the Members for his
nomination.

(Alderman Sandford in the Chair.)

Message of Gratitude

The Chairperson, on behalf of the Working Group, thanked the outgoing
Chairperson, Councillor Corr, for his work during the previous year and the valuable
contribution he had made to the Working Group during his period of office.

Apologies

An apology was reported on behalf of Councillor Hutchinson.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 26th May, 2022 were taken as read and signed as
correct.

Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were reported.

Update on New Crematorium

The Project Sponsor submitted the undernoted update report in regard to the new Crematorium development project.

“1.0 Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Members of the Strategic Cemeteries and Crematorium Development Working Group with an update on the Roselawn Crematorium Development Project.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 It is recommended that the Working Group notes the update.

3.0 Main report

3.1 Crematorium Development

As reported previously the Planning Application for the new crematorium has been submitted to LCCC in June 2022 and validated. The application included the very extensive Environmental Statement that contains of 22 chapters; a hard copy (four lever arch files and a spiral bound Non-Technical Summary) can be accessed by the public at Roselawn Cemetery's Public Office.

RIBA Stage 4 Technical designs are being developed currently.

Visuals of the latest design of the new building was presented at the meeting.

The revised programme reflects the later planning submission date but keeps the dates for ITT for contractor appointment as the same as the previous version. This will be reviewed once feedback from the planners have been received.

To show the extensive work that is required with a project of this size and nature, Members are asked to take note of the key dates below showing the main work steps been undertaken so far as well as next steps:

March 2017	Economic Appraisal – identification of preferred option
	Consideration of alternative uses for existing crematorium building
September 2017	Financial review of commercial options/financial modelling
December 2017	Elected Members' Workshop

January 2018	Project moved to Stage 3 – committed; allocation of budget of up to £18million
Spring 2019	Appointment of Project Manager
August 2019	Planning Case for Overriding Need report
June 2020	Following a tender process, the Integrated Design Team was appointed
July 2020	Request for additional equality assessment in relation to location
September 2020	PAD (Pre Application Discussion) meeting with LCCC Planners and consultees: Rivers Agency, Environmental Health, Historic Environment Division, DfI Roads, Water Management Unit, Natural Environment Division Land and Ground Water Team.
October 2020	GPR (Ground Penetration Radar) survey carried out
February 2021	BREEAM (Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Methodology) assessment
April 2021	EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) Screening Determination Report submitted to LCCC Planning
June 2021	RIBA Stage 2 Concept Design and Cost Plan commenced
July 2021	LCCC Planning determined proposal as an EIA development
August – Oct. 2021	Pre-application community consultation for LCCC Planning
September 2021	Equality Impact Assessment and Rural Needs Impact Assessment carried out
October 2021	Presentation to LCCC Environment Committee
May 2022	RIBA Stage 3 Developed Design and Cost Plan
May 2022	Environmental Impact Assessment carried out and Environmental Statement completed (22 chapters)
June 2022	Planning application submitted
July 2022	Appointment of crematorium specialist to explore alternative uses for existing building and pricing structure for new crematorium
July 2022	RIBA Stage 4 Technical Design and Cost Plan commenced
Next steps	

April 2023	Anticipated Planning Approval
May – July 2023	New road entrance construction
Feb – July 2023	PQQ and ITT procurement of Main Contractor
August 2023	Appointment of Main Contractor
September 2023	Start construction
December 2024	Completion New Build
2025	Completion Refurbishment Existing Building

3.3 Equality or Good Relations Implications/ Rural Needs Assessment

An Equality Screening has been carried out and concluded that no EQIA is necessary; a Rural Needs Assessment has been carried out.

3.4 Financial or resource implications

The project is on the Capital Programme at Stage 3 Committed.”

A Member raised a question in regard to the estimated completion cost of the development proposal, given the inflationary pressures which the economy was experiencing currently and suggested that some of the additional costs might be attributed to the delays in progressing the development proposal. The Member enquired also that, should any additional costs exceed the original estimate, where the additional funds might be sourced to deal with the potential shortfall in funding.

In response, the Project Sponsor confirmed that the project costs were monitored, over the whole lifetime of the project and that the development proposal was within the estimated budget currently. Mr. D. Logan, Project Manager, reminded the Members that the cost issues associated with the new Crematorium was not solely relevant to that specific capital project and that many of the Council's capital investment projects faced similar financial pressures. The Project Manager reported that the issues of rising costs, associated with the Council's capital investment programme, had been raised at previous meetings of the Finance Oversight Group and was an issue also for some of the Council's externally funded projects, including Urban Villages.

The Members were informed that it would be necessary to work through the next stage of the cost-plan to ascertain the level of additional costs which might be required and, in so doing, develop a comprehensive cost profile to manage those costs. The Project Manager stated that the markets were extremely volatile presently and that prices under current circumstances could change between the pre-tender estimate stage and receipt of the formal tender submission.

In terms of the issues raised by the Member in regard to the time factor associated with the development proposal, the Project Manager stated that the development would not have been completed, in a more-timely fashion, by a private contractor, given that the major contributory factor, on the development time-line, was the protracted planning

process. He reported that, the new Crematorium development proposal was a major planning application, requiring an extensive environmental statement, and had necessitated a detailed and complex assessment.

The Project Manager informed the Working Group that Council officers had been working closely with Quantity Surveyors, the Finance Working Group and the Finance Oversight Board, to ensure that the Council had the sufficient financial capacity to deliver the project within available resources. In response to a further question from a Member, in regard to how often the Project Development team had met with the Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council planning authority, the Project Sponsor stated that meetings had taken place, on a regular basis, and that a case officer had been appointed, within that City Council, which had proved beneficial in strengthening the communication links between both authorities.

The Project Sponsor provided the Members with a detailed presentation, which included design proposals for the new crematorium, with some amendments which had been made to improve the appearance and aesthetic value of the site. She referred specifically to the new car parking arrangements which provided car parking, at both the front and rear of the building, and which would facilitate improved throughput for mourners and visitors. She stated that, as part of amendments to new development project, it had been possible to undertake some landscaping work which had been made possible by the fact that a retaining wall was no longer required.

The Members were informed that the new roads entrance to the Crematorium would serve the new Crematorium alone and would not permit direct access to the cemetery grounds. She reported that separation of circulation between the new Crematorium and the rest of the cemetery was required. The Project Sponsor explained that Council officers were required to complete a visual impact statement, within the environmental statement, specifically in regard to traffic management on the Ballygowan road. The Project Sponsor confirmed that specific signage would be required, within the confines of the site, to ensure that mourners were directed to the relevant car parks servicing the two ceremony rooms.

The Project Sponsor reported that the building and its positioning had been undertaken to allow mourners to visit and leave the facility in such a way that there would be no crossover between mourners arriving for individual cremation services. A part of the planning consultation, at which, concerns had been raised in regard to the new Crematorium building, she confirmed that the height of the new building, sitting in the surrounding landscape, was lower than the present structure.

A Member raised a question in regard to the installation of solar panels in a part of the new building to provide renewable green energy. In response, the Project Sponsor reported that consideration was being given to the provision of a green roof, in part of the building, and that she would be happy to consider, also, the use of solar panels.

The Working Group noted the update report in regard to the new Crematorium development project and thanked the Project Sponsor for her detailed and informative presentation.

Update on City Cemetery Visitor Centre

Mr. D. Logan, Project Manager, provided the Working Group with an update on the capital work involved with the new visitor centre, situated at the City Cemetery. He stated that all capital works were nearing completion and that some restoration work was

ongoing, including repairs to the Victorian Fountain. He stated that it was anticipated that the capital works would be completed within the next four weeks and referred to additional ongoing dual language signage which was required, following a decision of the Strategic Policy and Resource Committee, in June. He stated that once the capital and restoration work, including the erection of the dual language signage was completed, there would be an official launch.

The City Protection Manager confirmed that local community engagement was ongoing, including engagement linkages to the Strategic Policy and Resource decision, in June, regarding dual language signage and work on a tour offering package.

The Working Group noted the information provided on the capital and restoration work being undertaken at the City Cemetery, including the new visitor centre.

Update on Bereavement Services - Operational

The City Protection Manager submitted the undernoted report in regard to the operation of Bereavement Services:

“1.0 Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Members with an operational update on Bereavement Services.**

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 Members are asked to:

- **Note the updates in the main body of the report.**
- **This update will be summarised in a report to the next People and Communities meeting in September.**

3.0 Main report

3.1 City of Belfast Crematorium Update

The Reflections Café reopened at the City of Belfast Crematorium on 4th July. Bereavement Services are continuing to liaise with the café franchisee on numbers using the café since reopening.

On 26th July the Federation of Burial and Crematorium Authority conducted an inspection at the City of Belfast Crematorium. This inspection is completed once every 5 years and focused on 6 separate key areas of service delivery including:

- 1. Cremation Administration**
- 2. Ceremony Facilities**
- 3. Cremation Facilities**
- 4. Premises and Facilities**
- 5. Grounds and Memorialisation**
- 6. Service and Staff**

These areas were scrutinised and reviewed more than 80 points of interest. The inspection found an excellent level of service provision and did not feel it necessary to make any recommendations. The report is split into two sections with a score of 98.7% awarded for the Compliance section and 91% for the Environmental Awareness Score.

A charity presentation to a local bereavement related charity, Lighthouse is being arranged in October. This presentation is in recognition of a metal recycling scheme which the City of Belfast Crematorium is involved in through the Institute of Cemeteries and Crematorium Management. A total of £12,000 has been raised which will be presented to Lighthouse.

Scheduled servicing of the cremators is due to take place by the contractor from 16th – 21st September 2022.

3.2 Roselawn Green Flag Status

Roselawn cemetery was successfully awarded Green Flag status once again this year following an inspection by the judges in June 2022. The awards were announced recently by environmental charity, Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful, and are an internationally recognised certification for environmental quality management for parks and open spaces.

3.3 Coronavirus Act Provisions

Members may recall that the Coronavirus Act 2020 contained provisions which have allowed the following workarounds for the transfer of statutory documents relating to burials and cremations.

1. Certifying Doctors could email Medical Certificates of Cause of Death (MCCD) directly to the General Registry Office (GRO)
2. The GRO could conduct an interview with next of kin by phone
3. The GRO could then email the MCCD to the Bereavement Services Office
4. The Doctor who completed cremation Form B did not have to have seen the deceased within 28 days
5. The requirement was suspended for a second doctor to complete cremation Form C.

Council has received communication from the General Registry Office advising that these provisions may cease on 24th September due to the relevant legislation expiring. Should this be the case it will impact on Bereavement Services Administration and on Funeral Directors as the relevant statutory forms will be required to be completed and lodged in hard copy. Bereavement Services are continuing to

communicate with the Funeral Directors forum on this potential change from electronic submission back to hard copy documentation. The issue has been escalated to the Cross Departmental Covid Recovery Group including central government Departments to find a workable solution.

Bereavement Services continues to plan for these provisions ceasing on 24th September and are exploring options including an appointment-based system for Funeral Directors which is used by other services within Council including Registration Services.

3.4 Bereavement Services Review Update

The Bereavement Services review is ongoing based on the principles of service design and is focusing on service delivery, the customer experience and resources as well as future service needs such as the new Crematorium. As part of the Bereavement Services review various workshops have been facilitated with all teams across the service as well as Funeral Directors and central government Departments. A further workshop will be arranged with the Strategic Crematorium & Cemeteries Working Group Members in September.

4.0 Financial and Resource Implications

4.1 No financial implications. All items within this report being delivered within existing budgets.

4.2 Equality or Good Relations Implications

None.”

In response to a question from a Member in relation to the termination of the Coronavirus Act Provisions and the impact for Bereavement Services, the City Protection Manager confirmed that the electronic process put in place had been well received, by both staff and Funeral Directors, and was due to end on 24th September 2022. In terms of the benefits associated with the regulations, the Working Group requested that a letter be forwarded the Department of Finance, requesting that it provide a workable solution, allowing the current arrangements, for Bereavement Services, to continue, on a permanent basis, under a new statutory framework, subject to the approval of the People and Communities Committee

Ms. K. Kennedy, Project Manager, provided the Working Group with an update on the work being undertaken, currently, in regard to Bereavement Services and its service provision. She referred to the need to examine how the Council delivers the service in the most efficient way to meet the needs of its service users. The Members were informed that the improvement programme formed part of the “City Services Transition Improvement Programme” within City and Neighbourhood Services and that stage one, examining functional and Management levels within City Services, had been completed in the previous year. She stated that stage two, exploring improvements within each section of City Services, was ongoing. To that end, she reported that Continuous Improvement was undertaking a service design approach, which would focus on how the

Council could meet the needs and expectations of bereaved families and Funeral Directors.

The Project Manager highlighted the need to examine processes, procedures and technologies in the future delivery of Bereavement Services. She stated that Corporate Improvement would be adopting a user-centered approach and would examine the relationship between Bereavement Services and relevant stakeholders, including the Department of Health and the Department of Finance. The Members were informed that the review of Bereavement Services was at the discovery stage and that a future workshop was planned with Members to ascertain their needs within the delivery of Bereavement Services.

The Project Manager explained that it was essential to determine the cost baseline associated with delivery of the service, including the clarification of rules and responsibilities between Bereavement Services and its stakeholders. In terms of current and emerging technologies, the Project Manager reported that it was important to develop a digital strategy, including an extended use of the "Plot-Box" system and that a review of Bereavement Services charges would also require further analysis.

The Working Group noted the update on the operational proposals in regard to the delivery of Bereavement Services, thanked the Project Manager for her informative presentation and offered its congratulations to both the management and staff of Bereavement Services on the findings of the recent inspection by the Federation of Cremation and Burial Authority, in addition to Roselawn successfully retaining Green Flag status.

Date of Next Meeting

The Working Group agreed that its next meeting would be held on Wednesday, 5th October at 5.15 p.m.

Chairperson

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Subject:	Update on the Reference Group on Older People
Date:	22nd September 2022
Reporting Officer:	David Sales, Director of City and Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Kelly Gilliland, Neighbourhood Manager Margaret Higgins, Lead Officer, Community Provision

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to report to committee on the key issues discussed at the Reference Group on Older People Meeting held on 22 nd August 2022.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the report and approve the minutes from the Reference Group on Older People meeting held on 22nd August 2022

3.0	Main report
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.1	<p>The Reference Group on Older People is a working group of the People and Communities Committee which consists of an elected member from each of the political parties.</p> <p>The minutes from the Reference Group on Older People are brought before the Committee for approval.</p>
3.2	<p>The key issues discussed at the 22nd August meeting were:</p> <p><u>Election of Chairperson</u></p>
3.3	<p>Alderman Copeland was appointed Chairperson for the period ending June 2023.</p> <p><u>Update on Age-Friendly Belfast Plan 2022-2026</u></p>
3.4	<p>The draft Age Friendly Belfast 2022 -2026 has been presented to all the Departmental Management Teams and will now be presented to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee for agreement to go to public consultation.</p>
3.5	<p>The Age Friendly Plan focuses on the 4 themes of; infrastructure, social connections, health and wellbeing and financial security. Members agreed they were content to proceed with the actions under each theme.</p>
3.6	<p>The Members were informed that an Age Friendly Officer would be appointed later this year</p>
3.7	<p>Concerns in regard to the pending energy crisis, in response, it was stated that advice and guidance on the benefits system would be available at the 4 “Be Prepared” events which would be taking place across the city.</p> <p><u>Update on Extreme Weather and Winter Planning with Older People</u></p>
3.8	<p>The Reference Group were provided with an update on the work of the Age Friendly winter planning group</p>

3.9	The Chairperson requested information on the Warm and Well project (which was left in members room) and agreed also that external advice on pension credit, by way of a presentation, be provided to all Members.
3.10	These Pension credit sessions have been arranged and will be delivered by Advice NI via zoom at 5.15pm 12th September and 5.15pm on 6th October 2022 . Members should already have details of these.
3.11	Elected members requested if it might be possible for the Council to waiver its fee for Building Control Inspections for insulation. It was agreed that officers would bring this request to colleagues in the relevant department and bring a further update back to the reference group members.
	<u>Update on Age-Friendly Events</u>
3.12	Members where informed of the extensive range of Age-Friendly events planned for 2022.
	<u>Financial & Resource Implications</u>
3.13	All events and activities are met within existing resources.
	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications / Rural Needs Assessment</u>
3.14	There are currently no equality or good relation implications in relation to this report.
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 - Minutes of Reference Group on Older People Meeting held on 22 nd August 2022

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Reference Group on Older People

Monday, 22nd August, 2022

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE REFERENCE GROUP ON OLDER PEOPLE

Members present: Alderman S. Copeland; and
Councillors R. McMullan and B. Smyth.

In attendance: Mrs. G. McEvoy, Senior Environmental Health Officer;
Mrs. E. Greer, Senior Project Development Officer;
Mrs J. Derby, Project Support Officer;
Ms. C. Young, Marketing and Communications
Coordinator; and
Mr. G. Graham, Democratic Services Assistant.

Election of Chairperson

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

Moved by Councillor Smyth
Seconded by Councillor McMullan and

Resolved – That Alderman Copeland be appointed to the position of
Chairperson for the period to end on the date of the Local Government
Elections in May, 2023.

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

(Alderman Copeland in the Chair.)

Apologies

Apologies for inability to attend were reported from Councillors Hutchinson and
McCabe.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 30th May, 2022 were taken as read and signed as
correct.

Declarations of Interest

No declarations of Interest were reported.

Update on Age-Friendly Belfast Plan 2022-2026

The Senior Project Development Officer reported that, following presentation of the draft Age-Friendly Plan to the Chief Officers' Management Team, it was felt that it would be beneficial for the draft plan to be presented to the various Departmental Management Teams as a means to ensure that all relevant Belfast City Council activity was included in the draft plan. She stated that, after completion of that process, the draft plan would be presented to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee for approval.

The Reference Group was informed that, following input from the various Departmental Management Teams, additional actions had been included and that some of those actions would require a detailed implementation plan which would be confirmed following a public consultation. It was reported that the Age Friendly Plan would focus on the 4 themes of infrastructure, social connections, health and wellbeing and financial security. In terms of infrastructure, the Senior Project Development Officer reported that it was important that new developments in the City centre involved an input from older people. She stated that both the Greater Belfast Seniors' Forum and local forums were keen to be involved with the support of the Inclusive Mobility and Transport Advisory Committee (IMTAC) who had offered to provide support for older people to enable them to develop the skills necessary to contribute to this work.

The Senior Project Development Officer emphasised the importance of the development of a set of Age Friendly design principles and of the need to involve older people in both the design and development of projects and their inclusion as a key element of the consultation process. She highlighted the need to review and improve toilet facilities within the city and acknowledged that any work would have to take into account other considerations such as deterring anti-social behaviour. She highlighted the action to carry out an audit of current public toilet usage, including any barriers restricting that usage. The Reference Group was informed of the need to explore the "take a seat" pilots and of the need to provide Age Friendly input into the development of parklets.

The Members were informed of the need to promote and develop social connections for older people and, in particular, the need to recover some of the older people programmes which had been operational pre the Covid-19 pandemic. She highlighted some of the work undertaken by the Council currently in building and supporting social connections and referred to the aim to develop local connection hubs, including a city centre hub, to provide a central communication and information distribution point. In this regard, she stated that 2 Royal Avenue had been a considerable success story and was now used regularly by older people, from across the city and beyond.

The Senior Project Development Officer stated the Greater Belfast Seniors' Forum had agreed to provide assistance in the operation of the hubs and that further work was required to agree where local hubs should be located and on how they could be supported. In terms of dementia-friendly, the Members were informed that the Age Friendly Plan would support dementia-friendly neighbourhoods and encourage the development of carer's cafes throughout the city. She stated that there was a need also to recruit and support volunteers through working in partnership with Volunteer Now.

The Senior Environmental Health Officer referred to two further main themes identified with the Age-Friendly Plan, namely, health and well-being and financial security. In terms of the former, she stated that the Greater Belfast Seniors' Forum had established links with GP representatives, including the establishment of regular meetings with Dr. Alan Stout. The Reference Group was informed of the importance attached to improving mobility for older

people, which was linked to the Belfast Agenda and to ensure that the problems of connectivity for older people and social isolation were addressed.

In terms of falls, which it was reported had a major impact for older people, the Senior Environmental Health Officer stated that a number of falls road shows were being planned across the city, as a means to address the problem and stated that it was intended to publish a regional calendar, in conjunction with Age NI and the Age Friendly Network NI.

The Members were informed that financial security was a major priority affecting older people and that there was a pressing need to ensure that older people were provided with access to the benefits system, including pension credit. To that end, the Senior Environmental Health Officer reported that the Council was running four “Be Prepared” events across the city, at which advice services would be available to assist older people to obtain the benefits which they are entitled to. She stated that debt control advice was a further service which was necessary, particularly for older people, and that advice and guidance in that area was essential, given the current economic climate.

The Reference Group was advised of additional areas which were of particular concern to older people, including fuel and food poverty and the provision of support for food banks. Obtaining employment for older people was highlighted as a key priority for those older people who wished to return to the employment market and, to that end, the Council had sought engagement with employment academies to enable older people to access the labour market.

The Members were informed that an Age Friendly Officer would be appointed, in the Autumn, to support the work of the Reference Group and that the Senior Environmental Health Officer would be returning to her role, as an Environmental Health Officer, after a lengthy secondment, supporting the Reference Group.

The Chairperson complimented the dementia friendly work undertaken throughout the city and the vital role played in the provision of social connections and the efforts made to reduce social isolation and loneliness. She praised the work of Dr. Alan Stout in engaging with older people, through a number of programmes, including the Take Five well-being initiative.

The Members praised the work undertaken by the Senior Environmental Health Officer in supporting the Reference Group and enquired if the review of toilet facilities in the City was a fresh review and enquired also if older people were still reluctant to travel into the city centre, following the Covid-19 pandemic. In response, the Senior Project Development Officer stated that the review of toilet provision was an emerging piece of work being undertaken by council and that a consultant would be recruited to undertake a comprehensive review of toilet facilities throughout the city, which included parks and open spaces. She stated that confidence building measures were required to be put in place, in order to provide older people with the confidence to venture out again, post the Covid-19 pandemic. She highlighted the work being undertaken by Volunteer Now, including their befriending initiative, was part of that objective.

A Member raised concerns in regard to the pending energy crisis, with future increasing costs forecast over the winter period. He requested what measures could be put in place to encourage the take-up of benefits, by older people, including pension credit and how an extensive information programme might be undertaken to communicate to older people the potential benefits available. He stated that it might be beneficial if some of the information sessions, across the city, might be programmed to take place, in both the day and evenings, to maximise communication of the potential benefits available.

In response, the Senior Environmental Health Officer stated that advice and guidance on the benefits system would be available at the "Be Prepared" events which would be taking place across the city. She acknowledged that a broader means of communication might be employed to communicate with older people, utilising a range of media communication methods including City Matters, billboards and community centres. She stated that some community centres were operating currently an advice service, for older people, and that it was hoped that this would be extended. She stated also that she would take on board the Member's suggestion, that advice services be extended to include evening sessions in an endeavour to facilitate those individuals who were employed during the daytime.

After discussion the Reference Group noted the information contained within the draft Age Friendly Belfast Plan and approved the draft plan. They noted that the draft Age Friendly Belfast Plan would be discussed at the next meeting of the Chief Officers Management Team, prior to being presented to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.

Update on Extreme Weather and Winter Planning with Older People

The Senior Project Development Officer provided the Reference Group with an update on the work of the Age Friendly winter planning group, which formed part of the Healthy Ageing Strategic Partnership (HASP). She reported that the group met on a twice yearly basis and provided the Council with an update on proposals and measures to mitigate against the worst impacts of winter, in all its forms, including flooding and winter emergency planning measures. She stated that demand for the winter warmth packs, provided by the Public Health Agency, would be high this winter, including advice and guidance on draught proofing measures. She stated that winter warmth packs would be made available also, through the Council, as part of its Belfast Safer Homes scheme.

The Members were provided with an update on the operation of the fuel stamps scheme provided by the Council and which was included in the Council's City Matters publication. The Senior Project Development Manager stated that four "Be Prepared" events would be hosted in the Autumn to facilitate advice and provide guidance to individuals on matters relevant to coping with the pressure and challenges of Winter. She reported that the Northern Ireland Assembly All-Party Group on Older People would be meeting on 7th September 2022 and that the cost of living crisis was on the agenda for that meeting. The Members were informed that information from that group would be communicated to the Reference Group and the Greater Belfast Seniors' Forum

At the request of the Chairperson, the Senior Project Development Manager agreed to furnish the Reference Group with information on the Warm and Well project and agreed also that external advice on pension credit, by way of a presentation, be provided to all Members.

A Member requested if it might be possible for the Council to waive its fee, over the Winter months, in terms of its inspection fees for insulation. The Senior Environmental Health Officer stated that she would note the Member's suggestion and refer it to the relevant department and that a further update would be provided to Members.

The Reference Group noted the information which had been provided, including the action points, subject to the relevant approval being granted.

Update on Age-Friendly Events

The Senior Environmental Health Officer provided the Reference Group with the undernoted report in regard to the extensive range of Age-Friendly events planned for 2022.

“1.0 Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues

To update members of recent and upcoming Age-friendly Belfast activities and events.

2.0 Recommendations

Members take note and promote events and activities.

3.0 Main report

Key Issues

The Greater Belfast Seniors Forum

The G6 have been begun to meet face to face and hope to be back in the City Hall in September.

The G6 meeting generally meet the second Thursday of the month at 1pm should any members wish to attend.

Age-friendly Belfast Tea Dances - 2 Royal Avenue

We have had 8 hugely successful Tea Dances at 2 Royal Avenue, the venue is great for older people. The next event is 23rd August at 2pm – 4pm and 27th September at 2pm - 4pm.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Tea Dances

These were very well attended and a huge success, great feedback.

Age Friendly Belfast Walks

We have pulled together a walking programme over the summer including a mini bus tour of City Cemetery.

Positive Ageing Month

Preparations are well under way for the programme for event for PAM, including local tea dances, Silver Sunday, Health days, the 4 Be Prepared events, fall prevention roadshows, a zoon tea dance, a zoom quiz, bingo, walks, talks, info sessions and the first post covid Slipped Disco!

Age Friendly Belfast Convention

This will take place on Tuesday 4th October in the City Hall.

Older Volunteer of the year Awards

This will take place Monday 12th December, Tim McGarry is Guest Speaker.

Belfast Stories equity steering group

Ivan Baxter from the G6 has been selected to represent older people on this group.

4.0 Financial and Resource Implications

All work will be carried out within existing budgets of Age-friendly Belfast and the partners involved.

5.0 Equality or Good Relations Implications/ Rural Needs Assessment

This work is part of The Age-friendly Belfast Plan which has been equality and rural needs screened in line with the Council's agreed process."

The Reference Group noted the events which had been planned for the remainder of 2022, given that the Covid-19 restrictions had eased significantly.

Date of Next Meeting

The Reference Group agreed that its next meeting be held on Monday, 19th December, 2022 at 12.30 p.m.

Chairperson



Subject:	Belfast City Youth Council Update
Date:	22nd September 2022
Reporting Officer:	David Sales, Director of Neighbourhood Services, CNS
Contact Officer:	Kelly Gilliland, Neighbourhood Services Manager, CNS Margaret Higgins, Lead Officer – Community Provision, CNS

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to provide members with an update on the Belfast City Youth Council (BCYC) and seek approval for upcoming engagement with elected members.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Note the update on the Belfast City Youth Council. ii. Approve the recommended approach to engagement with elected members and the youth council in coming months including postponing the next special meeting of committee with the BCYC until December 2022 and arranging an initial meeting with BCYC and nominated elected member Youth Champions.
3.0	Main report
3.1	Special meetings of the People and Communities Committee and the Belfast City Youth Council (BCYC) are held on a regular basis to provide an update on the work of the Youth Council which is supported by the council's Children & Young People's Co-ordinator.

3.2	<p>In recent months there has been a decrease in activity due to the following factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • turnover in council staff who provide support for the work of the BCYC; • the summer period is traditionally a time of reduced activity as BCYC members are on summer holidays; • Covid restrictions/concerns have impacted opportunities for the newly formed BCYC to meet and thus the majority of meetings held to date have primarily been online.
3.3	<p>The next special committee meeting with BCYC is scheduled for 4th October 2022. Given the issues outlined above officers are seeking approval to postpone the next meeting until December 2022. A new Children & Young People's Co-ordinator has just been appointed and they will need time to be inducted, to form and build on relationships internally and externally and particularly BCYC members focusing on reviewing previous plans and progress and on supporting them to develop new idea, priorities and projects.</p>
3.4	<p>Members will recall that at the June 2021 meeting between P&C and BCYC, it was agreed that there was potential to improve communication and co-operation between Councillors, Officers and Belfast City Youth Council and that this could be done via the nomination of one representative from each political party to take a leadership role in working and engaging with the BCYC on issues and/or motions which relate to young people.</p>
3.5	<p>Given the recommendation that the Special committee meeting is postponed until December, officers further recommend that a meeting of the nominated party Youth Champions and the BCYC is organised in October/November to allow for introductions and initial discussions to be had on the proposed/planned priorities of the BCYC for the coming term.</p>
3.6	<p>Financial & Resource Implications</p> <p>There are no financial or resource implications.</p>
3.7	<p>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</p> <p>There are no equality, good relations or rural needs implications of this report.</p>
4.0	<p>Appendices – Documents Attached</p>
	<p>None</p>



Subject:	Cherryvale Gate Anti-Social Behaviour Measures Consultation
Date:	22nd September 2022
Reporting Officer:	David Sales, Director of Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Stephen Leonard Neighbourhood Services Manager

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	<p>The purpose of the report is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update members on the findings of the Cherryvale gate anti-social behaviour measures survey Present options as to next steps for members to consider
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the results of the ASB measure survey residents' survey. Note that this matter was considered by the East Area Working Group on the 31st May 2022 and the feedback from EAWG in paragraph 3.7,3.8 & 3.10. Consider options in paragraph 3.14 and agree next steps.

3.0	Main report								
3.1	Following a request at People and Communities Committee on 3rd March 2020, the Committee agreed to commence a consultation process with immediate neighbours and other stakeholders regarding the potential re-opening of an entrance gate into Cherryvale Playing Fields from Knockbreda Park.								
3.2	At the People and Communities Committee meeting on 11 August 2020, officers were asked to arrange a site meeting to allow Elected Members the opportunity to meet with various user groups to discuss any relevant issues regarding the Playing Fields. A site meeting was held on the 3rd September 2020 and involved Elected Members, representatives from Friends of Cherryvale and various sports users of the facility. Belfast City Council Officers provided an update on works that were taking place within the Playing Fields. Officers also provided an update that 100 households within the immediate vicinity of the gate had been sent a questionnaire asking for their views concerning the potential re-opening of the gate.								
3.3	At a further People and Communities Committee meeting, on 8th September 2020, officers were asked to widen the survey to incorporate additional residents. Following discussion, it was subsequently decided to extend the survey scope to a 400 metre radius (i.e. approximately within a 5 minute walk) from the gate.								
3.4	The Committee, in reviewing the findings, asked that in an attempt to address the anti-social behaviour concerns, that an assessment be carried out in consultation with adjacent residents who might be affected on the possible options to prevent anti-social behaviour including new lighting options, anti-graffiti paint and anti-climb paint.								
3.5	<p>To complete this survey, Belfast City Council officers determined that 61 properties would need to be consulted in which residents who may be affected by any such anti-social behaviour issues would live. The residents identified live in the following properties;</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Address</th><th>Property numbers</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Knock Eden Pk</td><td>1 to 17 odd and even side</td></tr> <tr> <td>Rosetta Pk</td><td>16-36 odd and even side.</td></tr> <tr> <td>Knockbreda Rd</td><td>24 - 55 odd and even side.</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Address	Property numbers	Knock Eden Pk	1 to 17 odd and even side	Rosetta Pk	16-36 odd and even side.	Knockbreda Rd	24 - 55 odd and even side.
Address	Property numbers								
Knock Eden Pk	1 to 17 odd and even side								
Rosetta Pk	16-36 odd and even side.								
Knockbreda Rd	24 - 55 odd and even side.								

3.6	<p>Belfast City Council received a total of 18 responses from residents who received letters requesting they be engaged with in person to discuss the potential reopening of the gate and to detail any concerns they may have. The respondents who had requested interviews which were scheduled for Wednesday 26th May failed to respond to any further correspondence or communication with the Open Spaces and Street Scene Manager. Interviews with the remaining 15 respondents were conducted over three scheduled days via face to face engagement or via Microsoft Teams. The respondents were asked to complete a semi structured interview with set questions and an opportunity to elaborate and detail further concerns they have during and after the questionnaire was completed. The results of the fixed questions are as attached in Appendix 1. A timeline of all decisions and stakeholder engagement is included as appendix 2.</p>
3.7	<p>Key findings include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 60% of residents surveyed are not in favour of opening the gate. 40% are in favour of reopening. (Note that overall, 89% of respondents to the wider consultation were in favour of reopening). • 67% of those surveyed either agreed or strongly agreed that the opening of the gate will increase the instances of anti-social behaviour in the area. • Of the three measures proposed to prevent ASB higher fencing was the most popular, although the majority of those interviewed either disagreed or strongly disagreed that the proposed measures would have any effect on reducing the likelihood of ASB.
3.8	<p>During the course of the interviews, a number of measures were requested if a decision to open the gate was made. The measures detailed are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The gate to be 12 foot in height in order to prevent youths entering the park during such times the park is closed. • Meaningful control measures to prevent dogs running freely and fouling within the park indiscriminately. • The erection of extensive two-meter security fencing at the rear of the properties in Rosetta Park to protect their private property from intrusion from people and dogs as well as potential crime. • Installation of surveillance cameras (CCTV) in order to closely monitor and deter anti-social behaviour and potential crime.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The erection of higher fencing around the substation to prevent youths congregating within the substation. • The reduction of foliage and tree coverings within the area inside the gate in order to increase light and to discourage anti-social behaviour. • Potential installation of a lighting system to provide light within the area of access the reopening of the gate will allow as a means of security and prevention of anti-social behaviour. • Increase dog fouling bins if the gate is reopened to facilitate the increase in dog walkers within the area and access to the park via Knockbreda Road.
3.9	<p>If such measures detailed above were implemented in order to manage anti-social behaviour concerns, the costs would be as follows –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional Litter bins - £800 • Erection of fencing around substation and rear of houses of Rosetta Park - £8,000 - £10,000 • CCTV –based on similar CCTV being erected at Girdwood, costs would be approximately £25k. • Resurfacing of the small unadopted land situated outside the gate between 36 Rosetta Park and 36 Knockbreda Road - £4,000 • Installation of security lights within the proximately of the gate - £51,800
3.10	<p>During the course of the resident interviews, a number of items of note were discussed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The funeral parlour at the junction of Knockbreda Road and Knock Eden Park was, according to the residents, refused permission by Belfast City Council to hold funeral services within the premises. This was due to concerns around congestion and parked cars, which according to the residents would constitute the same issues as opening the Knockbreda Road entrance into Cherryvale Park and residents have questioned should the P&C committee not have a consistent approach to the Planning committee. • If parking restrictions are implemented within the area, this will de value properties within and change the areas character. • The residents interviewed have requested a consultation meeting with either the elected members of Lisnasharragh DEA or members of the P&C committee.

3.11	<p>This matter was considered by the East Area Working Group (EAWG) at their meeting dated 31st May 2022 and they</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • noted the update provided • noted that a triangle of land exists between the gate and the footpath which officers had not yet been able to identify ownership of and the issue had been referred to Legal Services • agreed that after the funding options have been explored further and the matter considered by this committee that Members representing the Lisnasharragh District Electoral Area would seek to have a meeting with any concerned residents. • requested a more comprehensive ASB profile for the park would be provided to the People and Communities Committee in August. Colleagues in Community safety team have confirmed that they have had no reports of ASB in this area with the exception of 2 incidents reported in relation to the Kingspan stadium. The PSNI have also been contacted and officers are awaiting information from them. • requested that should committee agree with option 2 that the proposed safeguarding measures such as the installation of higher fencing around the electricity substation and to the rear of the houses in Rosetta Park which abutted the Park should be completed before the gate was opened. • requested that officers would engage with NI Electricity to request that they would consider permitting the Council to connect to the substation within the park in order to reduce the proposed cost of £51,800 for the security lighting.
3.12	<p>Officers have met on numerous occasions with Department for Infrastructure officials to discuss any implications on traffic, parking and crossings in regard to the gate. The road service has stated that no additional lighting is required. Parking restrictions lines would not be added prior to the gate opening; however, this would be monitored and if lines are required there would be no cost to the council.</p>
3.13	<p>The Department for Infrastructure have identified their preferred option for a traffic light system on Knockbreda Road. Funding has been assigned to the project by The Department for Infrastructure and we are awaiting confirmation from the department on timescales.</p>
3.14	<p>The committee is asked to agree upon one of the following options and consider next steps:</p>

	<p>1. The gate remains closed: the overall consultation results support the re-opening of the gate. However, concerns have been expressed by both those in favour and those against, of opening the additional pedestrian access.</p> <p>2. The gate is opened taking into account the matters raised by the EAWG. This decision would be subject to the completion of an equality and rural needs assessment and funding being found to fund the costs listed in 3.9 above. The majority of initial wider consultation returns (89% of those indicating a preference) would support this option.</p>
	Financial & Resource Implications
3.15	Operational arrangements can be accommodated within existing budgets. The funding for the proposed measures listed at 3.9 within the report are not within existing budgets. Should members agree to proceed with option 2 this will be subject to funding being identified to complete the work.
	Equality or Good Relations Implications / Rural Needs Assessment
3.16	An Equality & Rural Needs impact assessment of the proposal has been completed and no implications have been identified.
	Legal Implications
3.17	A triangle of land exists between the gate and the footpath which officers had not yet been able to identify ownership of. The issue had been referred to Legal Services and is subject to further investigation in relation to title.
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 – Survey Questions and Responses Appendix 2 – Timeline of decisions and engagements

Appendix 1

Questions

1. **Do you regularly use the park?**

Yes - 12 No - 3

2. **Are you in favour of the gate reopening?**

Yes - 6 No - 9 Don't mind – 0

3. **To what extent do you agree or disagree that the reopening of the gate will increase the instances of anti-social behaviour in the area?**

Strongly agree - 8

Agree - 2

Neither/nor - 1

Disagree - 3

Strongly disagree - 1

4. **Please explain why you have answered in this way.**

A number of reasons were detailed as to why some residents believe opening of the gate would increase anti-social behaviour and these are detailed as follows:

- Reopening of the gate could result in a meeting place for young people to congregate, drink alcohol and take drugs.
- Concerns over excessive noise, loud music and intrusion into adjoining properties, especially during summer months and school holidays
- Increased risk of crime and intruders with the gate providing an access point to escape. One resident who has already been burgled twice expressed this as a major concern.
- Cherryvale is a playing fields sports facility which should provide a safe environment for users. There is concerns that the playing fields are already not a safe environment due to the high amount of dog walkers who let their animals foul or run loose off the lead. The opening of the gate would increase the volume of dog walkers within the park.
- Increased traffic caused by park users parking at the gate and surrounding areas for the purposes of dog walking and during such times sports clubs are using the facilities. This would increase congestion, the risk of car accidents and potentially cause parked cars to block residents' driveways and entrances.

5. **To what extent do you agree or disagree with the use of the following options in the prevention of anti-social behaviour?**

	Higher Fencing	Anti-climb paint	Anti-graffiti paint
Strongly agree	4	0	0
Agree	0	0	0
Neither/nor	1	0	0
Disagree	4	5	5
Strongly disagree	6	10	10

6. Are there any other measures you would suggest helping in the prevention of anti-social behaviour?

During the course of the interviews, a number of measures were requested if a decision to open the gate was requested. The measures detailed are as follows:

- The gate to be 12 foot in height in order to prevent youths entering the park during such times the park is closed.
- Meaningful control measures to prevent dogs running freely and fouling within the park indiscriminately.
- The erection of extensive two-meter security fencing at the rear of the properties in Rosetta Park to protect their private property from intrusion from people and dogs as well as potential crime.
- Installation of surveillance cameras (CCTV) in order to closely monitor and deter anti-social behaviour and potential crime.
- The erection of higher fencing around the substation to prevent youths congregating within the substation.
- The reduction of foliage and tree coverings within the area inside the gate in order to increase light and to discourage anti-social behaviour.
- Potentially installation of a lightening system to provide light within the area of access the reopening of the gate will allow as a means of security and prevention of anti-social behaviour.
- Increase dog waste bins if the gate is reopened to facilitate the increase in dog walkers within the area who access the park via Knockbreda Road.
- Kissing Gate to be installed if the decision is made to reopen the gate, this would prevent fast and speedy exit from the park from both an anti-social behaviour perspective and a child safety perspective.

7. Are there any other comments you would like to make?

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Appendix 2 – Timeline of Committee decisions and engagement

P&C Committee	3rd March 2020	P&C agreement to commence consultation for opening of gate with immediate neighbours
P&C Committee	11th August 2020	Members agree to conduct a site visit at request of Councillor De Faoite to meet with various user groups to discuss any relevant issues regarding the playing fields.
Site Visit	3rd September 2020	Members were advised at the site visit that a survey had been sent to 100 neighbours within the immediate vicinity requesting their views
P&C Committee	8th September 2020	Councillor Kelly requested the survey be widened to incorporate additional residents. Following discussion, it was subsequently decided to extend the survey scope to a 400 metre radius (i.e. approximately within a 5 minute walk) from the gate.
P&C Committee	9th March 2021	<p>Results of the survey presented to members. Members agree in principle to gate reopening, subject to Dfl road crossing being installed.</p> <p>The Committee, in reviewing the findings, asked that in an attempt to address the anti-social behaviour concerns, that an assessment be carried out in consultation with adjacent residents who might be affected on the possible options to prevent anti-social behaviour including new lighting options, anti-graffiti paint and anti-climb paint and additional fencing.</p>
ASB face to face Survey	May 2021	61 were offered opportunity to engage in consultation. (18 responded and three dropped out). Subsequently face to face surveys took place with 15 residents. The results of this survey were included in the draft report December 2021 – this has not been re-submitted to P&C Committee.
Most recent Dfl engagement	November 2021	The Department for Infrastructure had identified three potential options for a traffic light system on Knockbreda Road, and in a discussion between council officers and DFI officers in mid-November, DFI notified Council that final plans relating to the second option.

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Subject:	Request for renaming of Moltke Street Playground
Date:	22nd September 2022
Reporting Officer:	David Sales, Director City & Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Stephen Leonard, Neighbourhood Services Manager

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	To seek approval to begin the process of renaming this facility Ruby Murray Park in line with a community request.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve this request.
3.0	Background
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.1	A housing association development in 2014 in the Village area of the city created an area of open space at the junction of Nubia Street and Moltke Street. Aspirations of the local community to use the space as a “village green” and local play park were realised when SP+R approved the land transfer from Radius housing association to council ownership. It was the last transfer agreed before council took a decision to accept land only from statutory partners and only with an accompanying financial contribution towards future maintenance. The transfer was completed in 2019 after numerous AWG and committee discussions and a very protracted legal process.
3.2	At the beginning of the development the community through Blackstaff Community Development Association requested the asset be named after the late Ruby Murray who was a local resident. The complexities of completing the land transfer were such that the naming was not treated as a priority at the time and for council the asset is referred to as Nubia St playground. There have been a number of requests from the community (Appendix 1) over the intervening years and most recently contact has been made by Mr

	Burgess the husband of the Late Ruby Murray in support of the initiative. The Chair of the local Neighbourhood Partnership has also been consulted and has indicated that he has no issues with the name being proposed.
3.3	<p>Whilst there is no current policy on the naming of parks the framework attached at appendix 3 (2008) forms the basis of current practice with the public consultation element carried out through the councils “Your Say” platform. Officers are proposing that as there is only one name coming forward for consideration and given the strong support within local community, committee might consider that the normal process of wide scale public consultation is not followed on this occasion and that members agree to the renaming of the asset as Ruby Murray Park.</p> <p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p>
3.4	<p>None.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p>
3.5	<p>None</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	<p>Appendix 1 - Letter from Blackstaff CDA 2014</p> <p>Appendix 2 - Email from Mr Burgess.</p> <p>Appendix 3 - Committee report Naming Framework 2008</p>



**BLACKSTAFF COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION**

Established 1978

2nd December 2014

**Mr. Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure,
Belfast City Council,
Adelaide Exchange,
24-26 Adelaide Street,
Belfast BT2 8GD**

Dear Andrew

PROPOSAL TO NAME NEW PARK: 'THE RUBY MURRAY PARK'.

Blackstaff Community Development Association received a copy of a letter from Bernie Burgess, husband of the late Ruby Murray suggesting that the new park in the Village Redevelopment Area be named after Ruby. Blackstaff CDA would support fully this proposal. The image of Ruby Murray already appears in art form throughout the area in at least three places and on information boards. Another image is due to appear on the front of the road at Monarch and will be seen by motorists coming from and to the Broadway roundabout. These images have been asked for by local residents and clearly demonstrate the high esteem in which Ruby is still held by the local people.

Ruby's fame goes beyond the local people and she is seen as belonging to Belfast. Within the City centre there is a Blue Plaque to her at the Ulster Hall. Ruby's image can also be seen alongside famous musicians, actors, comedians, sports people on a well executed mural in the passageway facing the Duke of York Bar, Commercial Court.

The local Windsor Women's Centre in Broadway have already run a very successful tribute concert to Ruby and are seriously considering a Musical based on her life. The Women's Centre also had a competition and voted for a local street to be named after Ruby but locals did not wish any of their existing street names to disappear so therefore this proposal could not progress any further. Moltke Street in which Ruby was born will border the new park and is now seen as an ideal solution to name the park after Ruby instead of renaming a street.

We believe naming the new park after Ruby would get great local support, which would benefit the area and Belfast generally. Many tourists know about Ruby but don't know where she was born and if the park is named after Ruby, they can be directed to Moltke Street and the park which is near to where her home was. A Ruby Murray sign and perhaps also an art work would be a tourist attraction. We hope this would be supported by the Northern Ireland Tourist Board and promoted in the same way as other famous people are promoted in other parts of Belfast.

Finally, there is also a general discussion going on about the possibility of planning a Ruby Murray Festival Week and there is no doubt that Ruby Murray is the greatest singing talent to come from the Donegall Road area, a fact that the Belfast people should be proud of.

Yours sincerely,

William Dickson

Chair

I am only too pleased to give permission for naming of the park to go ahead and to for Mr D Sales and the Committee to act on my behalf.

The Blackstaff Residents Association may wish to support this application. Billy Dickson was The Chairman and may still be so I have sent a copy of this to him to enable this to be actioned on. Permission is also granted to the Blackstaff Residents Association to act on my behalf. I have attached a copy of the letter sent from Mr Dickson for your perusal.

If I can be of further assistance, please let me know.

My very best wishes

Bernie Burgess

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Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	A Draft Policy Framework for (Re)naming Parks and Leisure Facilities
Date:	14 August 2008
Reporting Officer:	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Emer Boyle, Policy and Business Development Manager

Purpose of the Report

The purpose of this report is to:

- (i) outline the background to the development of a policy for how to manage requests from the public and community groups for the re-naming of Parks and Leisure facilities; and
- (ii) present a draft policy framework for managing future requests for discussion and agreement by Members.

Relevant Background Information

Members will be aware of a recent request to the Parks and Leisure Committee through the Director from the Linfield Supporters' Club and Blackstaff Community Development Association suggesting that, as a suitable memorial to commemorate the former Northern Ireland and Linfield football player, the late Tommy Dickson, the Blythefield Open Space be re-named the Tommy Dickson Park.

At the meeting of the Parks and Leisure Committee on Thursday 13 March 2008, the Committee agreed that a report on proposals for re-naming open space be submitted for consideration.

This report has been developed taking onboard extensive research and best practice examples and consultation with Members across the Party Groups.

Purpose of the Policy

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance to those that have an interest in the (re)naming of Belfast's Parks and Leisure facilities. It is proposed on the basis that it would apply to all Council owned Parks and Leisure facilities but not those facilities which the Council has taken on management responsibility for under a formal lease or agreement with an external organisation or group.

The intention behind the development of the policy is to provide a management framework within which requests from organisations and groups can be managed and to provide direction on how to apply for approval to (re)name Parks and Leisure facilities.

Up until this time, many parks have been named subject to no specific criteria. Currently 87% of Parks and Leisure facilities have the name of the geographic location in which they are located although the Council has reacted in the past to (re)name some of its facilities (playgrounds, playing fields and parks).

There are three main types of naming situations this policy intends to address:

- (i) The opening or reopening of parks and leisure facilities;
- (ii) Providing recognition of major financial contributions;
- (iii) Requests for “Memorialisation” or honouring individuals in recognition of “significant” contributions to the area or particular location.

Background Policy Context (External and Internal)

The (re)naming of Parks and Leisure facilities (or any Council location) is complex and potentially emotionally evocative because assigning a name can be a powerful and permanent identity for a public place or facility. The (re)naming of parks and leisure facilities must also be considered in light of less obvious factors such as staff and financial resources and wider external factors such as changing names on signs, maps, and other literature. In addition, the Council should also be mindful that excessive and constant name changing could be the source of confusion to the public.

External Policy Context

There are a number of relevant policy frameworks in place in Northern Ireland which relate and inform the issue of (re)naming of Parks and Leisure Facilities to a greater or lesser extent, namely:

- A Shared Future: Policy and Strategic Framework for Good Relations in Northern Ireland (2005). The shared future policy sets out challenging aims for building a shared society, with a key priority being to reclaim shared space.
- Draft Programme for Government (2007). This programme highlights that it is imperative that we all embrace the opportunity to create a shared and better future, based on tolerance and respect for cultural diversity.
- Racial Equality Strategy (2005). The aims of the Racial Equality Strategy complement those of A Shared Future.

(Further details on each of these are attached at Appendix 1.)

Internal Policy Context

Within the Council there are three relevant policy strands currently in place which could be interpreted as relating to or informing the issue of (re)naming of Parks and Leisure Facilities to a greater or lesser extent, namely:

- 1) The Street Naming Policy;
- 2) The Equality Scheme;
- 3) The Good Relations Plan

(Further details on each of these are also attached at Appendix 1.)

In developing this draft framework and report, cognisance has also been taken of ongoing research work across the Council such as that commissioned by the Good relations Unit (Conflict Transformation Project) into the promotion and maintenance of shared space across the City.

Current Position

A review of current Parks and Leisure facilities outlines that only 13% of Parks and Leisure facilities have been (re)named with a name which is not reflective of their geographical location. In summary:

- 6 facilities have been named in memory of a person (“Memorialisation”) including 1 facility which was purchased by the Council with the proviso that the park should be named after a member of the family;
- 2 facilities have been named after people (based on “significant contributions” – e.g. the exemplary performance of Mary Peters);
- 3 facilities have non-geographical names, related to Royalty, dating back to Victorian times (King George V, Queen Mary’s, Alexandra and Victoria Parks);
- 5 facilities have been named after the relevant benefactor.

Key Issues

Research and best practice gives some assistance to the development of a policy on this subject although it must be acknowledged that the type of criteria used in other cities and countries are not directly transferable to the Belfast context. Some general examples of criteria are outlined below:

- parks and facilities which have been officially named shall retain their existing names; the renaming of Parks and Leisure facilities is strongly discouraged.
- new parks or existing parks which have not been officially named shall be named after the geographic location, neighbourhood or public street where the park, facility or amenity is located;
- facilities named after persons, organisations, foundations or families contributing towards the acquisition, development or conveyance of land or building;
- names will not be considered that are discriminatory or derogatory considering race, gender, creed, religious or political affiliation, or other similar factors.

General Principles

In considering proposals for the (re)naming of a park or leisure facility, best practice would suggest that there are general principles which should be taken into account either collectively or individually, such as that the proposed name should:-

- engender a strong positive image;
- be appropriate having regard to the parks or leisure facility location;
- have historical, cultural or social significance for future generations;
- commemorate places, people or events that are of continued importance to the City or region;
- have broad public support as evidenced through consultation; and
- be inoffensive and non-party political

Cost

One of the main issues for consideration when deciding to implement a policy on this issue will be the financial implications for the Department. Currently the Parks and Leisure Department requires a substantial increase in finance to enable it to complete essential maintenance at a number of facilities as well as a number of the development activities outlined in the departmental plan. A policy which requires both staff time and departmental finances (which the department cannot foresee, plan for and allocate financial spend to) could potentially have the effect of diverting resources which should be dedicated to essential activities already in the workplan.

Consultation

Some discussion has taken place with the Party Groups with regard to how community consultation could be undertaken and what a suitable and valid approach would be – for example, should the “community” be interpreted as being the users of the park or facility or the home owners living within a certain distance? In order for this to be a valid approach consultation must take into account the Council’s statutory requirements.

It is also important that any proposed name change coming before the Council has the required level of community support forthcoming at the consultation stage. This is to ensure that no embarrassment is caused to any individual or organisation who might not receive the necessary support for the (re)naming proposal.

At present the Council has in its plan of work the development of a consultation and engagement strategy. In the absence of a Council approach to conducting consultation to guide the development of a process which would support this policy, a draft “proposed application process” is attached at Appendix II, with detail on the (re)naming request guidelines attached as Appendix III and the guidelines for the consultation outlined and attached at Appendix IV.

Policy Options

OPTION 1 – (Continue as we have been) To adopt an ad-hoc approach dealing with individual requests received.

OPTION 2 – To agree a policy which “draws a line in the sand” from this point, and establishes that Parks and Leisure facilities are named after their geographical location (or shall retain their existing names) and that the renaming of Parks and Leisure facilities is strongly discouraged.

OPTION 3 – To treat it as a policy issue for the Department and develop a rigorous policy framework to deal with all (re)naming requests received by the Parks and Leisure Department.

This approach has much broader implications for Parks and Leisure in terms of consultation, staff resources and the associated costs.

Recommendation and Proposed Criteria

Based on all of the research and the need to strike a balance between defining a strict policy and placing undue limits on the democratic process, Option 3 is recommended. It is further recommended that the policy apply only to local parks

and leisure facilities and that the Council would not wish to have its City, District and Country Parks re-named (a list of the City, District and Country Parks is attached at Appendix 5).

The criteria have been designed to ensure that only sincere and non-vexatious proposals will be considered by the Council.

It is recommended that this should be supported by a detailed set of criteria and management framework as follows:

1.0 Proposed Criteria

1.1 Where the request made is to memorialise a person

- The person must be deceased for a minimum of five years.
- If the nominee is deceased then appropriate relatives or friends will be contacted asking if they approve of the request. If the relatives or friends do not approve, the naming process will not be pursued.
- The person must have made a “significant contribution” to the life of the area/City/made a significant positive contribution to parks and leisure objectives within the community where the facility is located.
- The person must have lived within the locality / district electoral area (DEA) of the park or leisure facility for a significant or formative period;

1.2 It is recommended that a park not be named for a living person, except in the event that the person / family have made a significant financial contribution to improvement / development of the park or facility.

1.3 Where the name requested relates to a specific unique location:

- The name should provide a sense of place, reflecting the geographic location, community, neighbourhood or street where the park, facility or amenity is located;
- The name should reflect the historical significance of the area or reflects unique characteristics of the site (unique flora / fauna).

1.4 In ALL (re)naming cases:

- The applicant will bear the cost of the (re)naming in terms of consultation, signs, plaques etc;
- The name, once bestowed, is permanent;

1.5 Names should not be considered which:

- Cause confusion due to duplication or names sounding similar to existing named facilities / locations within the City;
- Unlawfully discriminate within the meaning and scope of the provisions of the Council’s equality and good relations policies and the Shared Future agenda;
- Are party-political in intention or use.

1.6 Existing names will not be changed without consideration of the historical significance of the existing name, the cost and impact of changing existing signs, rebuilding community recognition and updating records (i.e. letterhead, databases, and promotional materials).

- 1.7 Each application will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- 1.8 All signs that indicate the name of a park and/or recreational facility shall comply with Belfast City Council's Parks and Leisure design standards. Specialised naming signage should not be permitted.

Resource Implications

Financial

The recommended option will place the financial implications of carrying out consultation on the proposed (re)name change and any subsequent changes to signage on the applicant.

There will be financial implications for the Council in terms of updating literature/Council documents.

Human Resources

The implementation and management of the proposed framework will require officer time which is difficult to predict at this stage and which would require re-examination after a suggested 12 month period. There will be resource implications in terms of officer time required to verify the consultation process.

Recommendations

Members are asked to:

- (i) review the report presented, research and options;
- (ii) agree the recommendation – Option 3 and the approach which has been proposed in terms of procedure and consultation; subject to
- (iii) the preferred policy position then being fully considered in line with the Council's statutory Equality obligations.

Documents Attached

Appendix 1: additional information (internal and external policy context).

Appendix 2: (Re)naming Parks and Leisure Facilities Process.

Appendix 3: Stage 1: (Re)naming request guidelines.

Appendix 4: Stage 2: Consultation guidelines.

Appendix 5: List of Parks and Leisure Department City, District and Country Parks.



Subject:	Public Right of Way at Orby Green
Date:	22nd September 2022
Reporting Officer:	David Sales, Director of Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Duane Fitzsimons, Outdoor Recreation and Education Officer

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

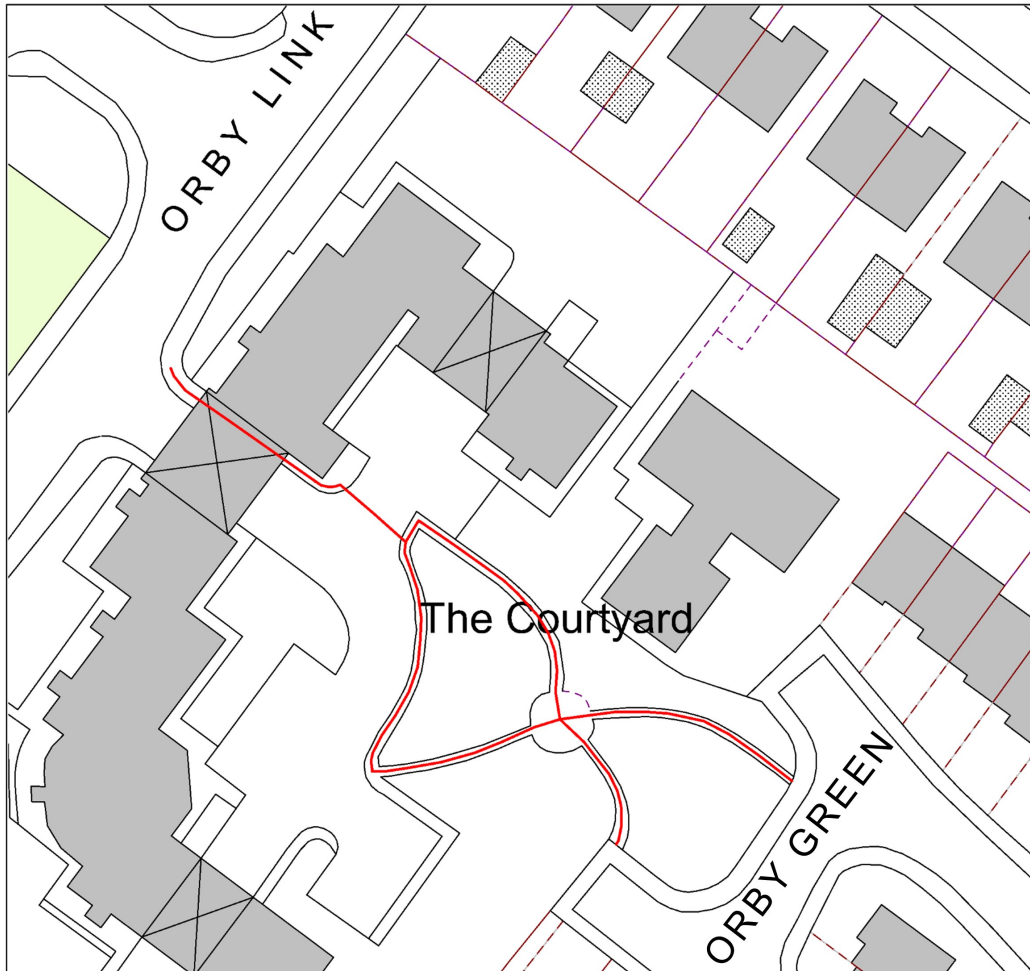
Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	Under the Article 3 of the Access to the Countryside Order (NI) 1983 all Local Councils have a duty to <i>...assert, protect and keep open and free from obstruction or encroachment any Public Right of Way.</i>
1.2	A fence with a gate was erected in 2014 across a path between Orby Green and Orby Link. In 2020 this gate was welded shut and members of the public alleged that this had blocked a public right of way. A questionnaire and map were sent out to residents. The evidence returned showed that people did use the routes as of right and that the developer at the

	time of construction had intended to create public access through. The evidence also revealed that this route has been used regularly for a prolonged time by members of the public.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assert the Public Right of Way on foot from Orby Green to Orby Link.
3.0	Main report
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.1	The Access to the Countryside (Northern Ireland) Order 1983 places a duty on District Councils to 'assert, protect and keep open and free from obstruction or encroachment any public right of way'.
3.2	In 2021 when the gate was welded shut once again, having been reopened, the Council were compelled under the above duty to investigate. The Council wrote to the landowner asking for the gate to be reopened to restore the public right of way. The landowner stated that they held no evidence of a public right of way. The Council investigated the matter by means of a community survey. 100% of the total returns (25 respondents) provided evidence that a public right of way had come into existence by presumed dedication.
3.3	Legal Services have been consulted and have confirmed that the path appears to meet the common law tests for establishment of a public right of way, so have recommended that the Council assert this Public Right of Way as required by its duty under the Access to the Countryside Order.
3.4	<p>For a Public Right of Way to exist at Common Law there are two essential elements,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Dedication by the owner of the soil b) Acceptance of the Right of Way by the public
3.5	Dedication by the Landowner can be either express or presumed. The vast majority of cases will turn on presumed dedication by the Landowner, as only very rarely will a Landowner expressly dedicate his lands as a Public Right of Way.
3.6	The following evidence shows presumed dedication by the landowner;

	<p>a) The path was constructed through the amenity space by the developer providing a pedestrian link between Orby Green and Orby Link. It is constructed of a sealed tarmac surface.</p> <p>b) The route in question has been used 'as of right' by the general public.</p> <p>c) The public's use of the path was open until 2014. At this point a fence with a gate was erected but the use continued until the gate was welded shut in 2020. The gate was reopened in 2020 but reclosed in 2021. Prior to this the public's use of the path was open so that the landowner knew or should have known about it, did nothing to stop it. The construction of a fence with gate indicates an intention to retain access through.</p> <p>d) the use continued for a sufficient period to imply the owner intended to dedicate a Public Right of Way.</p> <p>e) The route connects two public places or places to which the public regularly resort</p> <p>f) That use has followed a more or less consistent line.</p>
3.7	Given the above assessment, members are asked to assert the route from Orby Green to as a Public Right of Way on foot.
3.8	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>There are no Financial or Resource implications.</p>
3.9	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>There are no Equality or Good Relations Implications.</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	Appendix 1: Map of the route

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Orby Link to Orby Green

Scale 1:500

Public right of way ———

N.B. Footpaths and roadway in Orby Green are adopted by the Department for Infrastructure. Footpaths and roadway in Orby Link are adopted by the Department for Infrastructure. Connswater Community Greenway runs along Orby Link.

Based on the Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland map with the permission of the Director & Chief Executive.

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Belfast
City Council

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Subject:	Proposal for naming new streets
Date:	22nd September, 2022
Reporting Officer:	Ian Harper, Building Control Manager
Contact Officer:	Roisin Adams, Business Coordinator

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	To consider an application for the naming of a new street in the City.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	Based on the information presented, the Committee is required to make a recommendation in respect of an application for naming a new street in the City. The Committee may either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grant the application, or Refuse the application and request that the applicants submit other names for consideration.
3.0	Main report
3.1	<u>Key Issues</u> The power for the Council to name streets is contained in Article 11 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (NI) Order 1995.

3.2	<p>Members are asked to consider the following application for naming a new street in the City. The application particulars are in order and the Royal Mail has no objections to the proposed names. The proposed new names are not contained in the Council's Streets Register and do not duplicate existing approved street names in the City.</p> <table><tr><th>Proposed Name</th><th>Location</th><th>Applicant</th></tr><tr><td>Gilchrist View</td><td>Off Linen Mill Grove, Edenderry, BT8</td><td>KMBC Properties, Ltd</td></tr></table>	Proposed Name	Location	Applicant	Gilchrist View	Off Linen Mill Grove, Edenderry, BT8	KMBC Properties, Ltd
Proposed Name	Location	Applicant					
Gilchrist View	Off Linen Mill Grove, Edenderry, BT8	KMBC Properties, Ltd					
3.3	<p>KMBC Properties have proposed Gilchrist View, as their first choice as the new street is located near the Gilchrist foot bridge which connects Edenderry village to the towpath. The foot bridge is of special importance to the Regional Park as it was built to honour John Gilchrist who was instrumental in founding the Regional Park in 1967. The new street is being developed to include 7 residential dwellings. The applicant has proposed Linen Mill Manor and Linen Mill Meadows as the second and third choice as the new street is adjacent to the existing Linen Mill Grove.</p> <p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p>						
3.4	<p>There are no Financial, Human Resources, Assets and other implications in this report.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p>						
3.5	<p>There are no direct Equality implications.</p>						
4.0	<p>Appendices – Documents Attached</p>						
	<p>None</p>						



Belfast
City Council

PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

Subject:	Consultation response to Food Standards Agency on the Draft Food Hygiene Rating (Online Display) Regulations (NI) 2023
Date:	22nd September 2022
Reporting Officer:	Siobhan Toland, Director of City Services
Contact Officer:	David Cuthbert, City Protection Manager

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	Over recent years, there has been significant growth in the online sale of food, including from cafes, fast food and restaurant outlets, via online apps (including online aggregator outlets/apps such as 'Just Eat, Deliveroo, Uber Eats'), websites and via social media channels.
1.2	Food businesses that offer food for sale at a physical premises are legally required to display a food hygiene rating sticker. Currently online food sales are not required to display a food hygiene rating at point of sale.

1.3	The Food Standards Agency (FSA) is now seeking views and comments of stakeholders on draft Food Hygiene Rating (Online Display) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2023 and the potential impact on food businesses and district councils. The consultation focuses on the introduction of secondary legislation needed to implement the online display provision within the statutory food hygiene rating scheme established by the Food Hygiene Rating Act (Northern Ireland) 2016.
1.4	The Council's Food Safety team have reviewed the FSA consultation questionnaire and have prepared a draft response for committee approval. The draft response indicates general support for the implementation of the regulation, however makes comment on a number of technical points and queries in relation to implementation.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to approve and endorse the draft consultation response, subject to ratification at the October meeting of Council.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The Food Hygiene Rating Act (Northern Ireland) 2016 introduced a statutory food hygiene rating scheme in Northern Ireland. The legislation includes provisions which make it mandatory for food businesses to display food hygiene rating stickers at their premises and, if consumers can order online, to display their rating online in a specified manner.
3.2	Secondary legislation has been implemented to require the display at physical establishments however a separate piece of legislation is required to implement the requirement for display on an online ordering platform. Without this legislation there exists an asymmetry of information available relating to a business' food hygiene compliance, therefore increasing consumers' risk of illness attributed to foodborne disease. This absence of accountability to consumers also limits compliance incentives for businesses, exacerbating regulatory burdens. Secondary legislation mandating online display of food hygiene ratings (FHRs) will seek to correct these shortcomings and ensure the scheme delivers its intended benefits in all settings.
3.3	While it should be anticipated that this secondary legislation will ensure consistency of Food Hygiene Rating display across all platforms and provide authorised officers with the appropriate tools for enforcement, and the consultation response indicates support in this respect, Food Safety Officers within Belfast City Council have also raised a number of

	<p>reservations with regard to implementation of the legislation and future enforcement. These concerns have been reflected in the consultation response to assist FSA in taking forward the proposed legislation and to seek further clarification on specific points.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The requirement for a sitting NI Executive/NI Assembly to introduce new legislation may affect the suggested commencement date. - There may be an increase in complaints from consumers with regard to display of Food Hygiene rating information on sales via Social media. We anticipate there may be difficulties in finding sufficient information to locate these businesses to enable appropriate investigation and follow up. FSA will need to undertake further engagement with social media platforms to address these difficulties.
3.4	<p><u>Finance and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None</p>
3.5	<p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u></p> <p>None</p>
3.6	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/ Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None.</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 – Draft consultation response

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APPENDIX 1

Consultation on the Food Standards Agency's Food Hygiene Rating (Online Display) Regulations (NI) 2023

Response from: Belfast City Council

Response prepared by: Belfast City Council Food Safety Unit

Document: [The Food Hygiene Rating \(Online Display\) Regulations \(Northern Ireland\) 2023 | Food Standards Agency](#)

Response submission: executive.support@food.gov.uk

Closing Date: 9th September 2022

Introduction

Belfast City Council welcomes the opportunity to provide the comments below on The Food Hygiene Rating (Online Display) Regulation (NI) 2023.

While we welcome the aims of the legislation and in particular the opportunity to ensure consistency of Food Hygiene Rating display across all platforms and to provide authorised officers with the appropriate tools for enforcement, Belfast City Council has some reservations in respect of its implementation and ability to enforce the legislation. These are reflected in our responses and comments below:

Question 1:

Do you agree with the proposed commencement date which will be immediately following the legislative process (est. April 2023)? If you consider an alternative date appropriate, please specify this and provide a rationale.

Belfast City Council's Food Safety unit are currently working to deliver the objectives of the FSA (post Covid Pandemic) recovery plan and are addressing the backlog of inspections that resulted from the pandemic. We would point out the Council's focus during the last quarter of the 22/23 year will be on delivery of the FSA recovery milestone of 31st March 2023. We would highlight that promotion of the FHRS online display regulations is not identified as a priority in the current FSA recovery plan and it may therefore be unlikely that the Food Safety unit would have the on the ground Environmental Health Officer resource available to provide dedicated technical/advisory/training support for a FSA PR campaign at that time.

Belfast City Council is also aware that should the NI Assembly not be sitting then it is likely that the suggested commencement date above may have to be extended.

Belfast City Council would point out that the impact assessment refers to additional funding given to all District Council's for the 22/23 year for use towards the costs of implementing these regulations. Consideration needs to be given to the possibility that not all work in this regard will be undertaken in the 22/23 financial year. Belfast City Council would welcome further updates in regard to changes to the proposed commencement date and expectations on the Council during the lead in period.

Question 2:

Do you have any comments regarding the definition of an “online facility” which will bring certain businesses within scope of this requirement? If you think this definition has included or excluded certain business in the scheme that should or should not be, please provide details and a rationale of why they should be included or excluded.

Belfast City Council do not have any comments regarding the definition of an “online facility”.

Question 3:

Do you agree with the proposed specified relevant period of 7 days (beginning on the day the rating is published on www.food.gov.uk/ratings) for online display? If not, please state why and provide a rationale for an alternative period.

Belfast City Council are in agreement with the proposed specified relevant period of 7 days for online display as all businesses will have been through the appropriate notification and appeal period prior to publishing.

Question 4:

Do you have any comments regarding the definition of the “relevant point” which defines the location of where the food hygiene rating icon must be displayed?

Belfast City Council have no comments in relation to the definition of the “relevant point” as it is clearly explained in the interpretation section of the draft regulations.

Question 5:

Do you have any comments regarding the definition of a “social media service?”

Belfast City Council do not have any comments regarding the definition of a “social media service”.

Question 6:

a) Does the wording in regulation 3 (2)(a) make it clear who the regulations apply to?

Belfast City Council interprets the wording in regulation 3 (2)(a) to apply to those food business operators who use their own online facility from which food can be purchased and to online facilities that are used by one or more food business operators to sell their foods.

b) Do you have any comments regarding regulation 3 (2)(a)?

Belfast City Council have no further comments regarding regulation 3(2)(a)

Question 7:

a) Does the wording in regulation 3 (2)(b) make it clear who the regulations apply to?

Please see comments in b)

b) Do you have any comments regarding regulation 3 (2)(b)?

Belfast City Council is aware of the Food Standards Agency’s recent work with online aggregators and welcomes the opportunity for the Food Safety Officers to participate in such workstreams. The willingness of online aggregators to display prescribed and valid food hygiene ratings is an important factor in the implementation of the online display regulations. Belfast City Council would seek clarification on whether a failure to display a prescribed and valid FHR on an aggregator site constitutes an offence that can be enforced by a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN), in that failure to display an icon at the relevant point is an offence by the FBO. As there does not appear to be any legal requirement in the draft regulations for aggregators to display ratings, Belfast City Council are concerned that there may be some reluctance from aggregators to do so. FBO’s could be committing offences through no fault of their own.

Clarification is being sought on the offence of failure to display a prescribed valid online food hygiene rating. The wording of the fixed penalty notice in Schedule 2 of the Food Hygiene Rating Regulations (NI) 2016 refers to the offence as failure to display an 'online link' contrary to section 10 (1) of the Food Hygiene Rating Act (NI) 2016. The draft online display regulations reference an 'icon'. It is the understanding of EHNI that a link is only to be used by food business operators that have a chain of establishments as detailed in section 3(3) of the draft regulations.

In Schedule 2 Part A of the Food Hygiene Rating Act should the FPN reference section 7(3) in the alleged offence for online display, in a manner similar to the reference of 7(1) in the alleged offence of failure to display a sticker?

Belfast City Council would welcome further engagement by the FSA with social media platform providers in order to address ongoing difficulties the Council are experiencing with food traders using such platforms. It is envisaged that there may be an increase in complaints from consumers with regard to the display of a FHR by businesses selling via social media. Businesses may not provide all the necessary information on these platforms to enable the Council to identify where the business is operating from, leaving them unable to register the business or take appropriate enforcement actions.

Question 8:

Do you have any comments regarding regulation 3 (3)?

Belfast City Council would bring to the attention of the FSA that as per Regulation 3, a facility that operates in respect of an operator's chain who is permitted to provide a hyperlink to the required information should be encouraged to do so in a way that does not provide an overwhelming amount of information to the consumer on establishments that it would not be possible for them to order from. For example a UK wide chain listing the FHR of all its establishments including those in England, Scotland and Wales.

Question 9:

a) Do you foresee issues with any of the proposed prescribed key branding parameters in Regulation 4? In particular, do you have any issues with the specification of the colour Green Pantone 376?

b) Do you foresee any issues with the rating being within the rating scale (0 to 5), to provide some context to consumers, as shown in the FHR images in Figure 2 and Figure 4?

c) Do you have any other comments on Regulation 4?

Belfast City Council do not have any comments to question 9 or foresee any issues with the questions asked in parts a) and b).

Additional comments

Belfast City Council would welcome guidance and/or training for their Food Safety Officers in evidence gathering for FHR offences committed online, particularly to ensure compliance with RIPA. Currently RIPA investigations require the agreement and sign off by a magistrate.

Belfast City Council would welcome further guidance on the use of fixed penalty notices to ensure consistency of enforcement among District Councils. Currently Belfast City Council follow a Council wide procedure for FPN enforcement and this differs from other District Councils who operate different time scales for the enforcement of FHRS FPN's.

Belfast City Council are largely in agreement with the assessment of the potential impact and costs of implementation on food businesses and District Councils. Belfast City Council acknowledge the additional funding given to District Councils for the 22/23 financial year is to accommodate the estimated costs. Belfast City Council agree that the scoping estimate of 26% of businesses in NI that use an online ordering facility is low and would suggest a much greater percentage of food businesses will be required to display an online FHR. Belfast City Council note this is acknowledged by the FSA in the impact assessment in that the most up to date data is pre-pandemic and may not reflect the changes to consumer behaviour which resulted from the pandemic.

Belfast City Council also agree with the FSA suggestion that in order to minimise the impacts on the Council in the monitoring and enforcement of the online display regulations, the Council should adopt a risk based and proportionate approach and target resources to focus on businesses that are non-broadly compliant.



Subject:	Regulation of Cosmetic Treatments in Northern Ireland
Date:	22nd September 2022
Reporting Officer:	Siobhan Toland, Director of City Services
Contact Officer:	David Cuthbert, City Protection Manager Carol Ann Mulgrew, Senior Environmental Health Officer

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?
Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	The popularity of aesthetic cosmetic treatments has grown rapidly in recent years, with new non-surgical procedures continually emerging on the market.
1.2	New legislation to improve regulation of this sector has recently been introduced in England, along with a proposed licensing scheme for non-surgical cosmetic procedures. Powers available to Environmental Health Officers in Northern Ireland to regulate this sector to protect health and safety remains significantly more limited. The NI Local

1.3	<p>Authority Health and Safety Liaison Group (on which BCC is represented) is seeking support of all Councils to advocate for an appropriate regulatory regime for this sector.</p> <p>This report seeks the committee's support and approval for Belfast City Council to write to the Minister for Health to seek improved regulation of cosmetic treatments in Northern Ireland, along with the introduction of a licensing scheme for non-surgical cosmetic procedures.</p>
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write to the Minister for Health to seek improved regulation of cosmetic treatments in Northern Ireland, along with the introduction of a licensing scheme for non-surgical cosmetic procedures.
3.0	Main report
3.1	In October 2021 the Botulinum Toxin and Cosmetic Fillers (Children) Act 2021 came into force in England making it illegal to administer Botox or a filler by way of injection for a cosmetic purpose to a person under 18 years of age. No such law exists in Northern Ireland.
3.2	The UK Government recently confirmed its intention to introduce a licensing regime for non-surgical cosmetic procedures to better regulate the cosmetic industry in England through an amendment to the Health and Care Bill.
3.3	The licensing scheme in England will introduce consistent standards that individuals carrying out non-surgical cosmetic procedures such as lip fillers, botox etc. must meet, as well as hygiene and safety standards for premises. It will focus on those cosmetic procedures which, if not properly performed, have the potential to cause harm.
3.4	In recent years there has been a significant rise in the number and type of non-surgical aesthetic procedures available, with many practitioners performing treatments without being able to evidence appropriate training and the required standards of oversight and supervision.
3.5	The existing legislation available to Environmental Health Officers to regulate this sector in Northern Ireland is considered no longer fit for purpose and no licensing scheme (similar to that being introduced in England) currently exists in Northern Ireland.

3.6	<p>The Local Authority Health and Safety Liaison Group (HSLG) is a subgroup of Environmental Health Northern Ireland (EHNI). HSLG is seeking the support of all Councils by requesting that each Council write to the Health Minister to ask for better regulation of cosmetic treatments in Northern Ireland, along with the introduction of a licensing scheme for non-surgical cosmetic procedures.</p> <p><u>Finance and Resource Implications</u></p>
3.7	<p>None</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u></p>
3.8	<p>None</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/ Rural Needs Assessment</u></p>
3.9	<p>None.</p>
4.0	Appendices
	<p>Appendix 1 - Letter from Chair of HSLG requesting support of Belfast City Council for better regulation of cosmetic treatments in Northern Ireland</p>

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By email

11th July 2022

Vivienne Donnelly
City Protection Manager
Belfast City Council
City Hall
Belfast
BT1 5GS

Dear Ms Donnelly,

RE: REGULATION OF COSMETIC TREATMENTS IN NORTHERN IRELAND

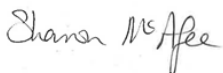
The popularity of aesthetic non-surgical cosmetic treatments has grown rapidly in recent years, with new non-surgical cosmetic procedures continually emerging on the market. The existing legislation available to Environmental Health Officers in Northern Ireland to regulate this sector is considered no longer fit for purpose.

The introduction of a national licensing scheme to govern the oversight of advanced aesthetic non-surgical cosmetic treatments was one of seventeen recommendations made by the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Beauty, Aesthetics and Wellbeing following their Inquiry into advanced aesthetic non-surgical cosmetic treatments.

The UK Government have recently agreed to amend the Health and Care Bill in England to introduce a licensing scheme for non-surgical cosmetic procedures to better regulate the cosmetic industry in England.

The Local Authority Health and Safety Liaison Group (HSLG) is seeking the support of Belfast City Council on this issue and is requesting consideration be given to writing to the Health Minister to request better regulation of cosmetic treatments in Northern Ireland, along with the introduction of a licensing scheme for non-surgical cosmetic procedures.

Yours sincerely



Sharon McAfee

Chair of Local Authority Health and Safety Liaison Group (HSLG)

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