

Document Pack

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



6th March, 2015

MEETING OF PARKS AND LEISURE COMMITTEE

Dear Alderman/Councillor,

The above-named Committee will meet in the Lavery Room (Room G05), City Hall on Thursday, 12th March, 2015 at 4.30 pm, for the transaction of the business noted below.

You are requested to attend.

Yours faithfully,

**SUZANNE WYLIE
Chief Executive**

AGENDA:

1. **Routine Matters**
 - (a) Apologies
 - (b) Minutes
 - (c) Declarations of Interest
2. **Deputation - Pod at Jubilee Gardens**
3. **Rapid Transit - potential impact on City Cemetery** (Pages 3 - 24)
4. **Approval to sub let to Sure Start at Stewart Street** (Pages 25 - 28)
5. **Newtownards Road Easement / Wayleave** (Pages 29 - 32)
6. **Urban Skate Park Request** (Pages 33 - 36)
7. **Feile an Phobail Request** (Pages 37 - 38)
8. **Belfast Zoological Gardens - Friends of the Zoo Run** (Pages 39 - 42)
9. **Belfast Zoological Gardens - Zoo Film** (Pages 43 - 46)

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Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject	Rapid Transit – potential impact on City Cemetery
Date:	12 March 2014
Reporting Officer:	Rose Crozier, Assistant Director of Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Stephen Walker, Departmental Portfolio and Programme Manager

1.	Relevant Background Information
	<p>Members will be aware of the proposals regarding a rapid transit transportation system for the City. This is being delivered through the Department for Regional Developments Transport Project Division. One of the proposed routes is to link the Colin Town Centre in West Belfast with Belfast City Centre; the route will incorporate the Falls Road. As part of the process DRD has undertaken a feasibility study to look at a number of options regarding access and egress arrangements at Belfast City Cemetery. Members will be aware that the cemetery remains operational, although there are no new burial plots available. The current main gate access is only adequate to accommodate a single vehicle at a time and this is the only vehicle access point.</p> <p>The Department has considered 4 options which are set out in the report attached as Appendix A.</p> <p>Members are asked to note that there are currently three potential access points:</p> <p>Access 1 is the the current main entrance at the roundabout at the junction of Falls Road / Whiterock Road;</p> <p>Access 2 is further along the Falls Road, as indicated in figure 2.1 (page 3) of the appended report</p> <p>Access 3 is further up the Whiterock Road, as indicated in Figure 2.1 of</p>

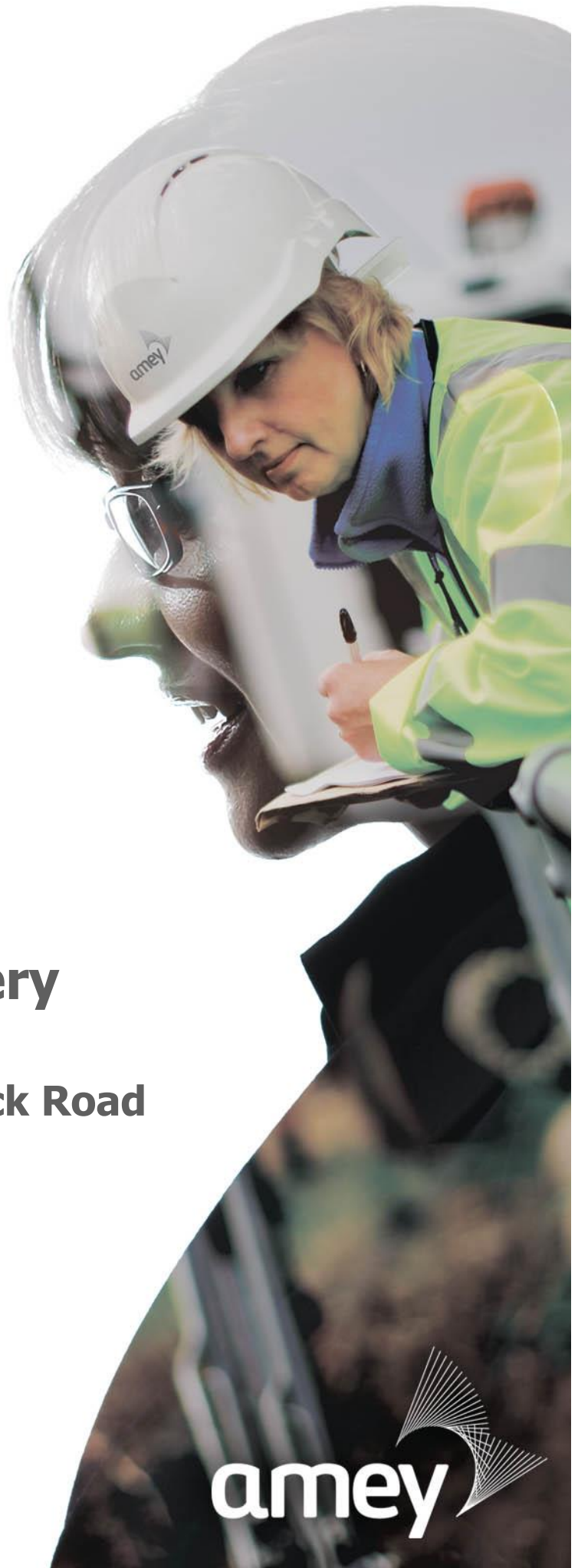
	<p>the attached report</p> <p>The Department considered 4 options within the context of the current potential access points.</p> <p>Option 1 – Signalisation of the current access point at the main entrance (Access 1);</p> <p>Option 2 – Provide separate access and egress arrangements which would require retaining the existing entrance as ‘in only’ and creating a new ‘out only’ egress in to the Whiterock road, adjacent to Foxes Lodge (Access 3);</p> <p>Option 3 – Opening of the Falls Road gateway, (Access 2 in Figure 2.1)</p> <p>Option 4 – Opening of the Whiterock gateway (Access 3 in figure 2.1)</p> <p>The report outlines a series of benefits and dis-benefits associated with each of the options together with indicative costs.</p> <p>The Department has concluded that Option 2 is the preferred option 2 on the basis of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That this represents a least cost option; 2. There is minimal disruption and associated construction works; 3. The administration of the cemetery can continue as at present with no alteration to its location; and 4. The signalisation of the junction at Whioterock Road / Falls Road can be implemented with again minimal disruption <p>Council Officers have revised the proposals and agree in principle, subject to further discussion with DRD, that Option 2 is the preferred option.</p>
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2.	Key Issues
	<p>Members are asked to note that discussions need to continue to establish the precise nature of the alterations required to accommodate a one way in one way out vehicle management system and to agree costs.</p> <p>In addition, as noted in the report it will be necessary to control access to the gateway and these discussions will need to take place. The attached report, Page 12, refers to these issues.</p> <p>It is anticipated that consultation with local residents will be required as part of this process.</p>

3.	Resource Implications
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	<p>Financial.</p> <p>There are no financial implications for Belfast City Council at this time..</p> <p>Human Resources</p> <p>There are no Human Resource implications other than officer time.</p>
4.	Equality Implications
	There are no equality implications.
5.	<p>Recommendations</p> <p>It is recommended that the Committee note the report and support in principle option 2 and authorise Officers to continue discussions with DRD to reach an appropriate agreement with.</p>
6	Decision Tracking.
	A further report will be brought to Committee at a later date upon conclusion of discussions with DRD.
7.	Key to Abbreviations
	DRD – Department for Regional Development
8.	Documents Attached
	Appendix A – Options Report

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Belfast City Cemetery Options Report BRT Falls Road (Whiterock Road to Finaghy Road North)


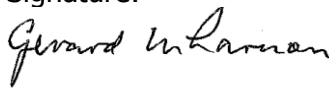


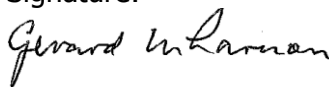


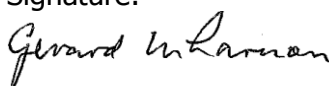

CO401184/04 Revision 04

January 2015



Document Control Sheet

Project Name:	BRT Falls Road between Whiterock Road and Finaghy Road North
Project Number:	CO401184
Report Title:	Options Report – Belfast City Cemetery
Report Number:	CO401184/04/ Rev 03

Issue Status/Amend ment	Prepared	Reviewed	Approved
Issue 1 (Draft)	Name: James Redmond Signature: Date:	Name: Gerard McLarnon Signature: Date:	Name: Signature: Date:
Issue 2 (Revision 1)	Name: James Redmond Signature: Date: 17 th November 2014	Name: Gerard McLarnon Signature: Date: 18 th November 2014	Name: Stephen Bagnall Signature: Date: 27 th November 2014
Issue 3 (Revision 2)	Name: James Redmond Signature:  Date: 09/01/2015	Name: Gerard McLarnon Signature:  Date: 09/01/2015	Name: Stephen Bagnall Signature:  Date: 09/01/2015
Issue 4 (Revision 3 – new job number and revised as of TNI suggestions)	Name: James Redmond Signature:  Date: 14/01/2015	Name: Gerard McLarnon Signature:  Date: 14/01/2015	Name: Stephen Bagnall Signature:  Date: 14/01/2015
Issue 5 (Revision 4 – new job number and revised as of TNI suggestions)	Name: James Redmond Signature:  Date: 15/01/2015	Name: Gerard McLarnon Signature:  Date: 15/01/2015	Name: Stephen Bagnall Signature:  Date: 15/01/2015

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APPENDIX A: NIEA Letter

APPENDIX B: Junction Layout - 401172-SK-019

1 Introduction

1.1 Background

The Department for Regional Development, Transport Projects Division, has commissioned Transport NI (Design and Consultancy) and its partner Amey to undertake a feasibility assessment of the access and egress arrangements at the Belfast City Cemetery, Falls Road, Belfast.

This feasibility assessment will review a number of potential access / egress arrangements for the cemetery and will consider the benefits and/or dis-benefits of each, together with high level costings for comparison purposes.

The following potential access/egress arrangements to the cemetery are being considered in this report;

- Replacement of the existing roundabout with a traffic signal controlled junction, incorporating the current cemetery access (Access 1) into the junction design.
- Conversion of the existing cemetery gateway on the Falls Road (Access 1) to an 'in only' and using the Whiterock Road gateway as an 'egress only'.
- Opening of the Falls Road gateway (Access 2) to accommodate all cemetery traffic movements.
- Opening of the Whiterock Road (Access 3) gateway to accommodate two way cemetery movements.

Amey Consultants met with Belfast City Council (BCC) officials to gain an understanding of cemetery operations, site requirements and cemetery management (see Chapter 2).

2 Existing Conditions

2.1 Site Description

The Belfast City Cemetery lies within the townland of Ballymurphy in West Belfast and is bounded by the Falls Road and the Whiterock Road.

Figure 2.1 below shows the location of the Belfast City Cemetery and its current gateways.

Figure 2.1: Belfast City Cemetery Location



The Belfast City Cemetery site is enclosed by stone walls and railings and has three High Victorian Gothic gateways.

NIEA have confirmed to BCC (see App A) that the gateways (Accesses 1 and 3), ornate railings and boundary walls fronting the Falls Road are of listed status; the walls and gateway (Access 2) fronting the Whiterock Road are not listed.

2.2 Site Entrances / Exits

- **Access 1** is the principal entrance/exit to the cemetery and is currently the only open gateway for vehicles and pedestrians. Figure 2.2 below shows this gateway off the Falls Road/ Whiterock Road roundabout. The vehicular gateway is only wide enough (3.45m wide) for one vehicle and priority is generally given to vehicles entering the cemetery.
- **Access 2** is a priority junction arrangement, set back from the carriageway in a recessed lay-by off the Falls Road. This gateway is currently closed and not accessible to the public. No separate pedestrian access/egress is available at this gateway. Figure 2.3 shows this gateway on the Falls Road.
- **Access 3** is a priority junction arrangement, set back from the carriageway in a recessed lay-by on the Whiterock Road, opposite Brittons Parade. This vehicular gateway is currently closed and bollards have been erected across the lay-by frontage. No separate pedestrian access/egress is available in this location. Figure 2.4 shows this gateway on the Whiterock Road.

Figure 2.2: Access 1 (Principal entrance/exit at the Falls Road / Whiterock Road Roundabout)



Figure 2.3: Access 2 on the Falls Road



Figure 2.4: Access 3 on the Whiterock Road



2.3 Site Operations

A summary of discussions with BCC regarding site operations for the Belfast City Cemetery, are as follows.

- The cemetery is generally open to the public every day from 08:00 to 18:00. However, during certain months of the year the opening hours are extended.
- The cemetery is a designated closed cemetery as there are no new grave plots available. Any burials that currently take place are associated with existing graves.
- The majority of burials take place between 10:00 and 14:30, outside the recognised commuter peak hours.

- The cemetery is currently served via a gateway off the Falls Road/Whiterock Road roundabout and this has been the arrangement for many years.
- All vehicles and pedestrians access/egress the cemetery through the three gated entrance located off the Falls Road/Whiterock Road roundabout. This entrance comprises a vehicular gateway and two pedestrian gateways, one on either side. The vehicular gateway is only wide enough for one vehicle (circa 3.45m) therefore access/egress relies on driver courtesy (to give way to approaching vehicles). BCC has stated that priority is usually given to vehicles entering the cemetery; vehicles exiting the cemetery will usually wait until the gateway is cleared.
- BCC has stated that funerals generally take place in the early afternoon (outside of peak rush hour traffic) which often coincides with local school traffic on weekdays. In these circumstances the Falls Road and the Falls Road/Whiterock Road roundabout junction can be extremely congested.
- All three gated entrances to the cemetery (Accesses 1 to 3) are connected by a network of internal routes for both vehicular and pedestrian traffic.
- Located at the main entrance to the cemetery (Access 1) is the Gate Lodge site office which accommodates a reception area, Manager's office and toilet. The overall floor size for the site office, etc. is circa 7m x 4m. The entire building is larger because it also provides on-site accommodation for a member of the Park's Department staff.
- This Gate Lodge is the administration building for the cemetery. It provides for the management of the cemetery, including funeral corteges and servicing of the site, which require a book in/book out system. In addition, stone masons must be managed and are required to book in, pay a fee and book out.

2.4 Belfast City Council Requirements

BCC has indicated that it is willing to consider the use of all gateways for access and egress to the cemetery. BCC also indicated the following points need to be considered in the evaluation of the proposals;

- Any new administration facilities must be located close to a cemetery entrance. The building must be secure, of robust construction and accommodate the same facilities as the current administration building (i.e. reception area, Manager's office and toilet).
- Management of the cemetery is of paramount importance and therefore it is key that vehicles and pedestrians can be monitored entering and exiting the cemetery.
- Safe pedestrian access must be considered at every entrance to the cemetery. No separate pedestrian entrance is available at the existing (closed) accesses on the Falls Road and Whiterock Road. If these accesses are to be reopened provision should be made for pedestrian access. This would require partial demolition of the existing wall to provide pedestrian entrances.
- Any significant change to the access arrangements and monitoring of the cemetery must consider residents of the surrounding areas. Any proposed changes must therefore involve consultation with local residents.

3 Option Proposals

3.1 Overview

As part of the BRT – WWAY scheme it is proposed that the Falls Road / Whiterock Road-roundabout will be upgraded to a signalised junction.

This signalisation proposal will impact on the current access arrangements to the cemetery as all movements through the junction will now be subject to signal control. Therefore the cemetery access/egress must be incorporated into the junction design.

The feasibility study has considered the implications of the following access and egress options;

- 1.** Incorporate the current cemetery access into the new signalised junction design and maintain the current access and egress arrangements for vehicular traffic.
- 2.** As for option 1, but changing the existing access (Access 1) to in only, consideration of a one-way route through the cemetery and using the Whiterock Road gateway (Access 3) as 'egress only'.
- 3.** Opening of the Falls Road gateway (Access 2) to accommodate all traffic movements. For this two-way option, consideration to be given to closing the existing Falls Road / Whiterock Road roundabout gateway (Access 1).
- 4.** Opening of the Whiterock Road gateway (Access 3) to accommodate all traffic movements. For this two-way option, consideration to be given to closing the existing Falls Road / Whiterock Road roundabout gateway (Access 1).

For each option, consideration has been given to the design impact on the cemetery and preliminary costings have been provided for comparison.

3.2 Option 1: Signalisation of Current Cemetery Access (Access 1)

This option considers the incorporation of the current cemetery access (Access 1) into the proposed new signalised junction design at the Whiterock Road/ Falls Road Junction.

This proposed signalised arrangement might require two-way flow at the current gateway as both access and egress may need to be incorporated into the traffic signal stage arrangement of the junction. The existing gates, pillars and entrance wall may need to be reconfigured to provide intervisibility to the whole junction. Whilst the current crossing facilities at the gateway are uncontrolled the successful operation of this arrangement relies on driver courtesy.

Benefits:

- Current operations to and from the cemetery will remain the same. Vehicular and pedestrian traffic will access and egress the cemetery as they currently do, but controlled by traffic signals.
- There would be no need to relocate the administration building and therefore there would only be minimal disruption to the operation and management of the cemetery.

Dis-benefits

- The signalisation of the cemetery access/egress may require the existing gateway to be widened to facilitate two-way traffic. Whilst maintaining visibility through the junction for all road users, traffic needs to be able to enter the cemetery at the same time as exiting traffic is stopped at the exit stop-line.
- To facilitate signal control at the cemetery access, traffic signal equipment may need to be brought inside the grounds of the cemetery.
- Due to the listed status of the gateway arches and walls (fronting onto Falls Road) NIEA consent will be required before any construction or alteration to the gateway can be undertaken.

- Introducing the cemetery access (in/out) in the signalised junction arrangement at the Whiterock Road / Falls Road junction reduces the operational capacity of the junction compared to the signalised junction arrangement that doesn't control the cemetery access. The signalised junction arrangement was modelled using traffic junction modelling software and concluded that the additional signal control at the cemetery access would force the junction over capacity during the AM peak.

Cost: £50K, which includes the following works:

- Develop new vehicular entrance and pedestrian facilities.
- Works associated with listed building consent for any amendment to the gateway and walls.
- Junction signalisation at the gateway.

3.3 Option 2: Separate access and egress arrangements

This option considers retaining the current access (Access 1) as "in only" and opening the Whiterock Road as a gateway (Access 3) "out only" for vehicular traffic. Pedestrian access and egress would be provided at both gateways.

BCC has acknowledged potential benefits of this option. However, they have indicated that for the option to work, measures would need to be implemented to control traffic movements at the Whiterock Road gateway to restrict movements to exit only. Control measures proposed include a CCTV camera at the Whiterock Road gateway, operated from the existing administration building and either an up and over barrier control or surface mounted spring controlled traffic flaps across the gateway.

Benefits:

- Minor disruption and construction costs associated with the works to the two gateways. However a new pedestrian access will have to be constructed at the Whiterock access.
- Current operations and management of the cemetery can be retained. No changes are required to cemetery administration or the location of the administration building.

- Signalisation of the Whiterock Road/ Falls Road junction can be implemented with minimal disruption to the cemetery access. Vehicular traffic would access the cemetery from this junction via traffic signal controlled movements. Existing pedestrian movements and access/egress would also be retained. The preliminary layout (Drg No- 401172-SK-019) at Appendix B shows the Whiterock Road / Falls Road junction modified to a signal controlled junction and indicates the vehicle swept path of two different vehicle types entering the cemetery gateway: vehicle one is a refuse vehicle which would be required to utilise lane 2 to safely make the left turn manoeuvre and vehicle two is a hearse turning right from Whiterock Road into the cemetery.

Dis-benefits:

- Consultation will be required with local residents and groups in relocating cemetery traffic to the Whiterock Road. Please note that the consultation with residents is not the dis-benefit, it will be the additional tasks involved in preparing for a consultation and its potential impact on time, cost and programme.

Cost: £29K, which includes the following works:

- Implementation of CCTV at the Whiterock Road gateway (Access 3) operated from the existing administration building.
- Barrier control across gateway.
- Surface mounted spring controlled traffic flaps across the gateway.
- Construction of a new pedestrian gateway in the existing wall at Access 3.

3.4 Option 3: Opening of the Falls Road Gateway (Access 2)

This option considers closing the current cemetery access (Access 1) at the roundabout junction and that all vehicular traffic and pedestrians access and egress the cemetery via the Falls Road gateway (Access 2).

This option has not been pursued any further on safety grounds. BCC and Amey agree that, due to limited sight visibility at the gateway the reopening of this gateway to all traffic movements is not a practical solution. In addition, for operational reasons, a new administration building would have to be constructed with only limited building area available close to the gateway.

3.5 Option 4: Opening of the Whiterock Road Gateway (Access 3)

This option considered closing the current cemetery access (Access 1) at the Falls Road / Whiterock Road roundabout junction and that all vehicular traffic and pedestrians access and egress the cemetery via the Whiterock Road gateway (Access 3).

The administration building could be relocated and accommodated by;

1. The restoration of the burnt out gate lodge building, or by,
2. Constructing a separate, stand-alone administration building.

We are aware that BCC had previously reviewed the possibility of refurbishing the gate lodge building for their cemetery, but to date our understanding is that these discussions had not been progressed to any stage that we could include or reference plans in this report.

Benefits:

- Existing sight lines are adequate to allow Cemetery traffic to access and egress from the Whiterock Road.
- The cemetery walls and railings on the Whiterock Road frontage do not have the same listed status as those on the Falls Road frontage. Therefore, it should be easier to undertake the required modifications to the gateway at Access 3.
- The opening of this side of the cemetery may help regenerate this area of the cemetery. Over the years discussions have been ongoing with the local community about redeveloping the gate lodge site.

Dis-benefits:

- Design and Construction costs associated with rebuilding the gate lodge to provide a new administration building may be prohibitive.
- The need to widen the gateway to facilitate two-way traffic flows and also provide safe pedestrian access.
- Consultation will be required with local residents and groups in relocating cemetery traffic and its operations to the Whiterock Road. Again as stated previously, the consultation with residents is not a dis-benefit, it will be the additional tasks involved in preparing for a consultation and its potential impact on time, cost and programme.

Cost:

£80k (New Building)

£120k (Refurbished building)

Both these costs include the following works:

- New modified vehicular entrance for two way traffic.
- New gated pedestrian access.
- Administration building design and construction.

4 Conclusion

4.1 Summary

On behalf of the Department for Regional Development, Transport Projects Division, Amey undertook an assessment of the options for access and egress arrangements at Belfast City Cemetery on the Falls Road.

This options report considered assessment of the four options for access/egress to Belfast City Cemetery. To help inform the most appropriate options, Amey met with Belfast City Council officials to gain an understanding of the day to day operations and key requirements of the cemetery.

It is concluded that Option 2 is the preferred access/ egress option; this option considers retaining the current access as (Access 1) “in only” and opening the Whiterock Road gateway (Access 3) as “out only” for vehicular traffic. Pedestrians, access and egress would be provided at both gateways.

The key benefits of this option are;

- The option is assessed as cost effective, with estimated construction costs of £29k.
- Minimal disruption and construction associated with the works to the two gateways.
- All operations and management of the cemetery can be retained. No changes are required to the cemetery administration or the location of the administration building.
- Signalisation of the Whiterock Road/ Falls Road junction can be implemented with minimal disruption to the cemetery access.

APPENDIX A: NIEA Letter

APPENDIX B: Junction Layout - 401172-SK-019



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Land at Stewart St. Proposed sub letting to SURE START
Date:	12 March 2015
Reporting Officer:	Rose Crozier, Assistant Director of Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Celine Dunlop—Estates Surveyor EXT:3419

1	Relevant Background Information
1.1	The Council hold the land shaded blue and yellow on the plan attached at Appendix '1' from the NIHE and NIE by way of 25 year leases which commenced on the 31 st March 2000. The land is used as a playground and open space; the playground is currently being refurbished as part of the rolling improvement programme.
1.2	At its meeting on the 22 nd Feb 2013 the SP&R Committee approved Local Investment Fund support of £150,000 for Sure Start to construct a modular building on the Council's leased land at Stewart St.
1.3	South Belfast Sure Start have a long history in this area of Inner City South Belfast starting in 2002 with an informal arrangement in the Markets Community Centre, since then the group have had a number of short term and informal arrangements which are proving inadequate to meet the growing demand for their services in the Markets area.

2	Key Issues
2.1	Sure Start have received approval in principle for £ 150,000 of Local Investment Fund support as outlined at paragraph 1.2 above together with a further £35,000 from Sure Start, £10,000 from NIHE, £10,000 from Helm Housing and a possible £50,000 from the Alpha fund to construct a modular building on the Council's leased land at Stewart St.
2.2	The Committee is asked to note that Sure Start have requested a sub lease from the Council for the area of land outlined in green on the plan attached at Appendix '1'. This proposal is in line with the SP&R Committee's clarification of LIF guidance to Members at its meeting on the 22 nd June 2012 that a LIF proposal in respect of a Council asset could be eligible if it was subject to a lease of reasonable duration from the Council.

3	Resource Implications
	<u>Finance</u>

3.1	<p>The SP&R Committee at its meeting on the 22nd Feb 2013 endorsed the South AWG'S recommendation to provide £150,000 of Local Investment Fund support to Sure Start and further funding as outlined above at paragraph 2.1.</p> <p>Terms for the proposed sub lease including rent will be brought to the SP&R Committee for approval in accordance with standing orders.</p>
3.2	<p><u>Assets</u></p> <p>The siting of the proposed modular building for Sure Start on part of the Stewart St open space has been agreed with the Landscape & Design Unit and does not adversely impact on the refurbished playground and open space.</p>
3.3	<p><u>Human Resources</u></p> <p>Officers from Estates and Legal Services will, subject to Members approval, agree detailed terms and draw up the appropriate form of sub lease.</p>

4	Equality and Good Relations Considerations
4.1	An EQIA was carried out at the outset of the Investment Programme. As part of the due diligence process, offices will equality screen all the LIF projects, both individuality and as a whole programme. Where any adverse equality impact is identified, either at individual project level, or at a programme or area level, mitigating actions will be devised for inclusion in the letter of offer, and/or for the consideration of the AWGs.

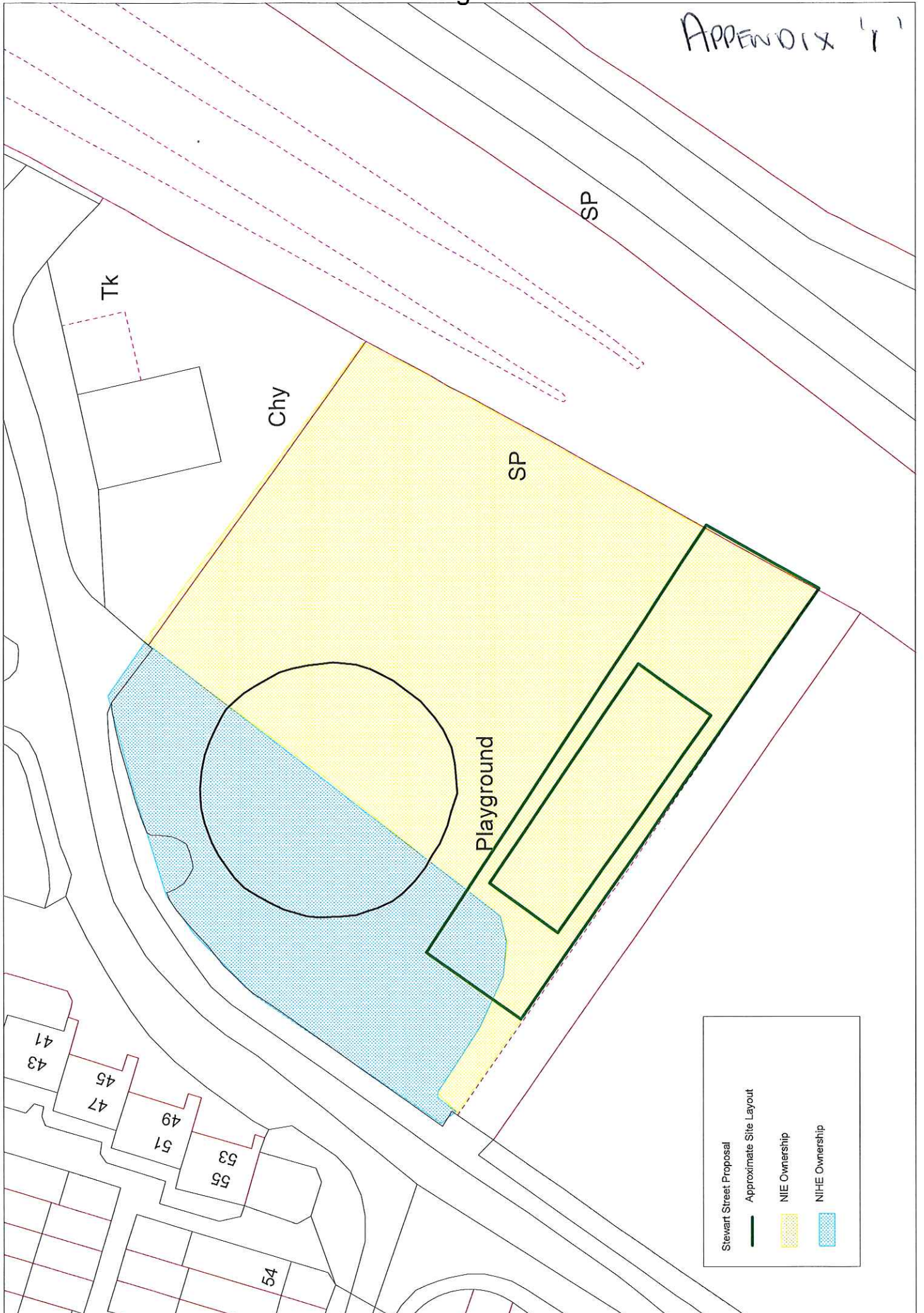
5	Recommendations
5.1	It is recommended that the Committee agree to grant a sub lease to Sure Start for the lands outlined green on the plan attached at Appendix'1' for the term remaining in the leases held by the Council from the NIHE and NIE, less three days at a rent and detailed terms to be agreed and approved by SP&R Committee in accordance with Standing Orders.

6	Decision Tracking
Director of Property and Projects to ensure completion of the sub Lease if approved by Members	

7	Key to Abbreviations
7.1	NIHE Northern Ireland Housing Executive
7.2	NIE Northern Ireland Electricity

8	Documents Attached
8.1	Plan at Appendix'1'

Appendix 'I'



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Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	402 Newtownards Rd Easement/Wayleave
Date:	12 th March 2015
Reporting Officer:	Rose Crozier, Assistant Director of Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Celine Dunlop–Estates Surveyor EXT: 3419

1	Relevant Background Information
1.1	Landmark East are building the East Belfast visitor centre at the vacant site at 402 Newtownards Rd. The building is funded by £250,000 of support from the Council's Local Investment Fund, £336,700 from the NITB and the remaining £278,000 investment is from Landmark East.
1.2	The building footprint takes up the full area of the site and Landmark East have approached the Council seeking approval to take the services to the site through Council land shown shaded green on the attached plan. The services include an NIE cable, water supply and gas supply and Landmark East will require an easement from the Council to construct a 1000mm diameter trench along the length of the new visitors centre to take the services to the rear of the new building.
1.3	NIE will require a Wayleave Agreement from the Council to provide the electricity supply to the building.

2	Key Issues
2.1	Landmark East require an easement over 27 metres x 1 metre of Council land as shown shaded yellow on the plan attached at Appendix'1' in order to bring services to the new visitors centre at 402 Newtownards Road.
2.2	The NIE will require the Council to complete a standard Wayleave Agreement to facilitate the cable supplying power to the visitors centre at 402 Newtownards Road.

3	Resource Implications
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3.1	<p><u>Finance</u></p> <p>A premium of £350 has been agreed with Landmark East for the grant of the easement for the trench.</p>
3.2	<p><u>Assets</u></p> <p>The Easement and Wayleave are to be in land immediately adjacent to the culverted Connswater River and as such there is no prospect of the Council seeking to redevelop the land for anything other than amenity and access to the new C S Lewis Civic square which is being constructed as part of the Connswater Community Greenway project. Under the terms of the proposed easement, Landmark East will replace the ornamental trees at this location and fully reinstate the land to Parks officer's satisfaction. The proposal will therefore have minimum impact on the asset.</p>
3.3	<p><u>Human Resources</u></p> <p>Officers from Estates and Legal Services will subject to Members approval complete the easement to Landmark East and the Wayleave to NIE.</p>

4	Equality and Good Relations Considerations
4.1	No equality or good relations issues associated with this proposal.

5	Recommendations
5.1	<p>Members are asked to approve:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The grant of an Easement to Landmark East over the lands shown shaded yellow on the attached plan at a premium of £350. 2. The completion of a Wayleave Agreement with NIE to provide an underground cable to supply electricity to the C S Lewis building at 402 Newtownards Rd.

6	Decision Tracking
<p>Director of Property and Projects to ensure completion of the Easement and Wayleave Agreement if approved by the Parks and Leisure Committee and the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.</p>	

7	Key to Abbreviations
7.1	NITB Northern Ireland Tourist Board
7.2	NIE – Northern Ireland Electricity Limited

8	Documents Attached
<p>Appendix 1 Plan.</p>	



CONNSWATER STREET

2.1

Posts

406
404

410
to
414

418

Connswater
Bridge

2.7

BM 382
Sinks

Weir

Scale 1:500

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Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Request for use of Bridges Urban Skate Park
Date:	12 March 2015
Reporting Officer:	Rose Crozier, Assistant Director of Parks & Leisure
Contact Officer:	Paula Irvine, Community Parks Outreach Manager

1.	Relevant Background Information
1.1	The department has received a request from Prime Cut Productions to host a theatrical based outreach programme and schedule of performances in Bridges Urban Skate Park. They will be on site from 30 April to 9 May 2015 and the three performances will take place on 6, 7, 8 May 2015.
1.2	Based in Belfast Prime Cut Productions is a theatre company in residence at The MAC, and is one of Ireland's leading independent theatre producers. Established in 1992, the company has produced some of the island's most memorable and thought-provoking theatre. They are committed to providing audiences with challenging and outstanding theatre which reflects and interrogates some of the most pressing issues of our time.
1.3	<p>The project is entitled "the stories of us" and is funded by Belfast City Council, Children in Need and the Lloyds TSB foundation.</p> <p>"The stories of Us" is a youth based project working with young people from the greater Belfast area and will engage over 200 people from 10 different organisations. Groups participating in the project have been identified as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glen parent and youth centre • Rathbone • Voice of Young People in Care • Rathcoole Community centre • Mountcollyer Youth Club • Let Youth Lead • Inner East Youth • Monkstown Youth Club

1.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Footsteps Womens centre. <p>The event organiser has also identified current day to day users of the space as another group to include in the project. Early consultation indicates that these users are keen to get involved.</p>
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2.	Key Issues
2.1	The project is funded by the Good Relations unit and the organisers have chosen Bridges as a neutral space that promotes changing attitudes and shared space. This project will compliment and reinforce the hard work that the Parks and Leisure department has delivered to date at the park through the Peace III Urban Bridges project.
2.2	The event organiser has requested free use of the site for the period of the outreach programme and finale performances.
2.3	The event organiser intends to ask for a nominal donation of up to £5.00 from members of the public who attend the theatrical performances. Prime Cut Productions has placed significant importance on this financial donation as it will highlight to the young people involved the importance and value of their hard work.
2.4	The team that will use the space are highly experienced in managing performances in public spaces and will ensure that all health and safety aspects are met to the satisfaction of Council officers.
2.5	An event management plan will be completed along with risk assessments and a copy of employers and public liability insurances will be submitted to the Council in advance of the project commencing.

3.	Resource Implications
	<p><u>Financial</u> There are no known financial implications associated with this request at this time.</p> <p><u>Human</u> There are no human resource implications associated with this request.</p> <p><u>Asset and other implications</u> Positive and diverse use of Bridges Urban Sports Park following the completion of the departmental Peace III funded project.</p>

4.	Equality Implications
	<p>There are no known equality implications associated with this request.</p> <p>Shared identity workshops will give young people the opportunity to work in different parts of the city as well as Bridges and encourage young people to understand and appreciate different religious, ethnic and cultural</p>

	backgrounds.
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5.	Recommendations
	<p>It is recommended that Committee note the request for the use of Bridges Urban Sports park and approve the request for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Free use of the space for the theatrical based outreach programme with 3 finale productions; and 2. The nominal fee of up to £5.00 to members of the public who attend the performances.

6.	Decision Tracking
	All decision tracking and actions will be carried out by Paula Irvine, Community Parks Outreach Manager.

7.	Key to Abbreviations
	None

8.	Documents Attached
	None

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Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Feile an Phobail – request for use of Council facilities
Date:	12 March 2015
Reporting Officer:	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Ricky Rice, City Park Manager

1	Background Information
	<p>Since August 2006, Feile an Phobail has organised a number of West Belfast Festival events at Belfast City Council venues.</p> <p>Feile an Phobail has requested the use of the facilities in Falls Park during the West Belfast Festival which is due to take place from 2 August -11 August 2015, with set up beginning 29 July 2015 and take down on the 15 August 2014.</p>

2	Key Issues
	<p>The West Belfast Festival has requested permission to organise a number of events in Falls Park. They may require the use of other Council facilities as the final list of events have not yet been finalised. In previous years this has included Andersonstown Leisure Centre and the City Cemetery.</p> <p>The events would be similar to previous years which included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carnival parade through Falls Park • Teddy Bears picnic in Falls Park • Feile family entertainment day in the park, music events and family entertainment. • An occasional licence will be applied for by the organisers for the sale of alcohol and an entertainment licence for the period of the event. • Guided historical tours in the City Cemetery which would be charged for appropriately by the tour provider. <p>This application will be supported by an event plan and will be subject to the organisers liaising with Council officers and meeting all statutory and legal requirements. Organisers will also be required to reinstate all Council property to its original condition after use.</p>

3	Resource Implications
	<p><u>Financial</u> Charges for use of any Council facilities will be applied in line with the council's pricing policy and will include any additional staffing costs incurred. A bond of intent will be required to be paid to the council before the event to cover any reinstatement of grounds after the event.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u> Staff may be required to work additional hours to cover the events outside normal hours and this will be charged to the hirer, in line with the process adopted in previous years.</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u> Council officers will liaise with organisers in relation to the potential environmental impact of this event.</p>

4	Equality Implications
	None.

5	Recommendations
	<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve the Feile an Phobail application for the use and hire of the facilities at Falls Park and other possible Council facilities, and approve the use of the City Cemetery for guided tours with an appropriate charge. This will be subject to:- <p>(i) The event organisers resolving all operational issues to the Council's satisfaction.</p> <p>(ii) An appropriate legal agreement being completed, a bond of intent will be required to be paid to the council before the event to cover any reinstatement of grounds after the event, to be prepared by the Assistant Chief Executive and Town Solicitor;</p> <p>(iii) The event organisers providing and meeting all statutory requirements including entertainments licensing.</p>

6	Decision Tracking
	Officers Responsible: Liam McKinley, City Park Manager (West). Project to be completed by the end of August 2015.

7	Key to abbreviations
	None.

8	Documents Attached
	None



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Belfast Zoological Gardens – Friends of the Zoo Run
Date:	12 March 2015
Reporting Officer:	Rose Crozier, Acting Director of Parks
Contact Officer:	Mark Challis, Zoo Manager

1.	Relevant Background Information
1.1	The Friends of the Zoo are an enthusiastic and dynamic community group that provide support to the Zoo in a variety of ways, including fund raising for Zoo projects.
1.2	One of the activities the Friends are currently investigating is to hold a run in the Zoo towards the end of May 2015.
1.3	It is envisaged that a run could prove extremely popular, given the uniqueness and topography of the site, and the event itself, in that such an event has not been held in the Zoo grounds before.
1.4	Representatives from the Friends and local running clubs have met, and envisage that up to 700 runners might be expected to attend. They are planning for a 5km run through the Zoo, and are also considering a walking route, and a shorter, less challenging route for junior runners.
1.5	The event provides a significant opportunity for fund raising, via both a fee for individual runners and sponsorship opportunities. Representatives from the Friends have met with the NI Hospice, with whom there are good relationships, principally driven by Zoo's annual Dreamnight event. Fundraising officers from the NI Hospice are available to give support to the Friends group, as they have considerable expertise in this area.
1.6	The Friends are also meeting with local businesses to try to obtain sponsorship for elements of the event where a cost is involved, such as competitor's medals, water and first aid.

1.7	It is currently envisaged that the run might take place on a Sunday morning before the normal Zoo opening time, towards the end of May 2015. This will minimise the potential for interruptions to normal Zoo early morning operations, but also provide a hub of fun activity for visitors as they arrive after 10am.
1.8	Consideration has and will be given to any health and safety implications.

2.	Key Issues
2.1	The Friends of the Zoo have undertaken considerable work to assess the viability of a running event in the Zoo towards the end of May 2015.
2.2	This unique event will allow considerable opportunities for fundraising.
2.3	It is planned that the event will be a joint fundraising opportunity between the Friends of the Zoo and the NI Hospice.
2.4	It is currently envisaged that up to 700 club runners might be attracted to the event, and they are also considering other courses for junior runners and walkers.
2.5	The Friends are investigating the opportunities to defray costs via sponsorship from local business. Zoo management is also undertaking a process to formalise the relationship with Friends of the Zoo in relation to donations.

3.	Resource Implications
	<p><u>Financial</u></p> <p>There are no immediate financial cost implications to the Zoo. The event promises to be a significant driver as a fundraiser for the Friends, which is donated to the Zoo for projects.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u></p> <p>There are no immediate Human Resource implications, Zoo staff are committed to the Friends group and willing to support this event.</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u></p> <p>The event has an ability to provide for significant marketing opportunity for the Zoo. The use of the Zoo grounds for the run, without significantly interrupting normal Zoo operations or Zoo visitors.</p>

4.	Equality Implications
4.1	It is considered that there are no equality or good relations implications.

5.	Recommendations
5.1	The Committee is asked to note the above report and to approve the use of the Zoo grounds for a fundraising run for the Friends of the Zoo and the NI Hospice.

6.	Decision Tracking
6.1	None required.

7.	Key to Abbreviations
	None

8.	Documents Attached
	None

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Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Belfast Zoological Gardens – when Hollywood met Hazelwood
Date:	12 March 2015
Reporting Officer:	Rose Crozier, Acting Director of Parks
Contact Officer:	Mark Challis, Zoo Manager

1.	Relevant Background Information
1.1	The Zoo has been approached by the Northern Ireland producers of a new film called 'Zoo'.
1.2	The film is based on the true story of Denise Austin, the zoo's famous 'elephant angel', who cared for Sheila the elephant during the second world war. Denise secretly walked Sheila from the zoo each evening to the backyard of her terraced home on the Whitewell Road, where she cared for and comforted the young elephant during the Belfast Blitz.
1.3	The film has a target audience of 7 to 13 year olds. It is a family film, and is intended for a market that is traditionally strong but under represented in the market place. Many top grossing films are, like the 'Zoo', family films.
1.4	Filming is taking in Belfast, and in Hamilton, Ontario. Hamilton has been chosen as it still retains red bricked terraced housing similar to that of 1940's Belfast, and due to its proximity to a 4 year old elephant living in African Lion Safari in Toronto. This elephant has been used before in films and commercials, and will play the role of 'Buster'.
1.5	Filming will also take place in Belfast, including some scenes to be shot in the new zoo area, incorporating views of the Cave Hill, and the old zoo area, where some of the existing 1930's cages, which are currently in poor condition, will be dressed and renovated to resemble the animal enclosures of the period.

1.6	Careful use of filming techniques and CGI will recreate 1940's Belfast, and will include such iconic Belfast landmarks as the Cave Hill and the dockyards.
1.7	The producers have significant industry support, including the British Film Institute, NI Screen and the Irish Film Board. Principal filming is likely to start in August 2015, and they are likely to be on the zoo site in October 2015. The film has a budget of £4M.
1.8	Casting is ongoing, the producers envisage an adult cast of well known and recognisable actors, to support the child actors. Art Parkinson (Game of Thrones) is already signed up.
1.9	The producers are considering the possibilities of European and Canadian launches and release of the film in 2016.

2.	Key Issues
2.1	The producers of a new film, scheduled for filming in 2015 and release in 2016, have made contact with the Zoo regarding a film called 'Zoo', based on the story of the Zoo's famous elephant angel.
2.2	The film is set in 1940's Belfast, and is targeted towards the family market.
2.3	Some filming will take place in the zoo, though minimal disruption to zoo operations and visitors is expected.
2.4	A successful film, of this genre, has the potential to be very positive for Belfast and the Zoo, and provide significant global marketing opportunities.

3.	Resource Implications
	<p><u>Financial</u></p> <p>There are no immediate financial cost implications to the Zoo.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u></p> <p>There are no immediate resource HR implications.</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u></p> <p>The film has an ability to provide for significant marketing opportunity for the Zoo. During filming, there will be some filming in the zoo grounds, both old and new zoo, but impacts to normal operations and visitors, especially given the time of year, are expected to be minimal.</p>

4.	Equality Implications
4.1	It is considered that there are no equality or good relations implications.

5.	Recommendations
5.1	The Committee is asked to note the above report and to approve the use of the Zoo grounds for filming.

6.	Decision Tracking
6.1	None required.

7.	Key to Abbreviations
7.1	None

8.	Documents Attached
8.1	None

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