



Subject:	Notice of Motion – Belfast City Council Inclusive Play Parks
Date:	24th May, 2022
Reporting Officer:	John Walsh, Chief Executive
Contact Officer:	Jim Hanna, Senior Democratic Services Officer

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

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

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	To consider the Notice of Motion received for the meeting of the Council on 1st June in relation to Belfast City Council Inclusive Play Parks.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is asked to note that the motion should be referred, in the first instance, to the People and Communities Committee.

3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p data-bbox="272 259 432 293"><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p data-bbox="272 327 1452 394">The Committee will be aware Standing Orders 13 (m) to (r) as agreed by the Council at its meeting on 4th October is as follows:</p> <p data-bbox="165 461 1481 1368">3.2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="325 461 1481 629">(m) <i>The Standards and Business Committee will have delegated authority to adopt or reject Notices of Motion. The Lord Mayor will indicate at the Council meeting those Notices of Motion that have been considered by the Standards and Business Committee and whether such Notices of Motion were rejected or adopted. In either case, the proposer only may speak on the issue at Council.</i> <li data-bbox="325 663 1481 831">(n) <i>The Standards and Business Committee will refer all Notices of Motion directly to a standing committee when the matter to which the Notice of Motion refers falls within the remit of that committee. At Council, the Lord Mayor will indicate that the Notice of Motion was received and referred. There will be no speakers on such Notices of Motion at Council.</i> <li data-bbox="349 864 1481 965">(o) <i>The Standards and Business Committee will refer Notices of Motion for consideration by full Council when the Notice of Motion relates to a strategic or constitutional matter.</i> <li data-bbox="349 999 1481 1066">(p) <i>The Standards and Business Committee will not have the power to amend the wording of any Notice of Motion that is being referred to the full Council for debate.</i> <li data-bbox="349 1099 1481 1200">(q) <i>Any amendments to Notice of Motions to be proposed at the Council are to be furnished at least one day in advance of going to the full Council and will be circulated to Party Group Leaders in advance of the Council meeting.</i> <li data-bbox="349 1234 1481 1368">(r) <i>In referring any matter to the full Council, the Standards and Business Committee may determine to restrict contributions to the debate in relation to any Notice of Motion to one per political party. At the Council meeting, the Lord Mayor will clearly indicate if the restriction applies.</i> <p data-bbox="165 1424 804 1458">3.3 The following motion has been received:</p> <p data-bbox="272 1491 847 1525"><u>Belfast City Council Inclusive Play Parks</u></p> <p data-bbox="272 1559 1481 1626">“This council believes every child has the right to play but recognises not every child in Belfast has realised this right.</p> <p data-bbox="272 1659 1481 1827">It notes the findings and recommendations of the ‘Let Me Play: Inclusive play park study 2022’ report undertaken by Play Board NI and the Mae Murray Foundation and the recent statement (and Appendix) from UK Play Safety Forum and Children’s Play Policy Forum – which has the endorsed the ‘Let Me Play’ report and published definitions for ‘accessible’ and ‘inclusive’.</p> <p data-bbox="272 1861 1481 1995">The report found compelling evidence that children and families are facing exclusion from play park environments in Northern Ireland from experience across the following areas: Wider infrastructure surrounding play parks; Play Park site facilities; Access; Participation; Communication; and Attitudes.</p>

	<p>The UK Play Safety Forum and Children’s Play Policy Forum statement defines accessible and inclusive play spaces as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Accessible Play Space is a space which is barrier-free, allows users access to move around the space and offers participation opportunities for a range of differing abilities. Not every child of every ability will be able to actively use everything within an accessible play space. • An Inclusive Play Space provides a barrier-free environment, with supporting infrastructure, which meets the wide and varying play needs of every child. Disabled children and non-disabled children will enjoy high levels of participation opportunities, equally rich in play value. <p>This council will adopt the full findings from both the ‘Let Me Play’ report and the UK Play Safety Forum and Children’s Play Policy Forum statement into its park and play park planning processes.</p> <p>In doing so it will also conduct a review of our full estate and make strategic decisions on where to plan to specifically build or upgrade to ‘inclusive’ status to deliver accessible and inclusive play parks within reasonable distances in each quarter (North/South/East/West) for all children to play together.</p> <p>As the delivery of ‘accessible and inclusive’ play parks will also require linkage with surrounding infrastructure and public transport services, we will also work with the Department for Infrastructure, Translink and other stakeholders.”</p> <p>Proposer: Councillor McMullan</p> <p>Seconder: Councillor McKeown</p>
3.4	<p>The responsibility for Parks falls within the remit of the People and Communities Committee and the motion should be referred, in the first instance, to that Committee for consideration.</p>
	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p>
3.5	<p>None associated with this report.</p>
	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p>
3.6	<p>None.</p>
4.0	Documents Attached
	<p>None.</p>