



<b>Subject:</b>	Request for the use of Parks for 2026 Events
<b>Date:</b>	March 4 <sup>th</sup> 2026
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	David Sales, Strategic Director of City and Neighbourhood Services.
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Stephen Leonard, Director of Open Spaces, Resources, Fleet and Transport.

<b>Restricted Reports</b>	
<b>Is this report restricted?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Please indicate the description, as listed in Schedule 6, of the exempt information by virtue of which the council has deemed this report restricted.</b>	
Insert number <input type="checkbox"/>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Information relating to any individual.</li><li>2. Information likely to reveal the identity of an individual.</li><li>3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the council holding that information)</li><li>4. Information in connection with any labour relations matter</li><li>5. Information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained.</li><li>6. Information showing that the council proposes to (a) to give a notice imposing restrictions on a person; or (b) to make an order or direction.</li><li>7. Information on any action in relation to the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime</li></ol>	
<b>If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?</b>	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sometime in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues</b>
1.1	<p>The Committee is asked to note that Council has received a number of requests to hold events across Belfast Parks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• March for Jesus – Ormeau Park</li> <li>• Mary’s Meals: Step by Step Sponsored Walk – Falls Park</li> <li>• Fundamania – Boucher Playing Fields</li> <li>• Belfast Memory Walk – Ormeau Park</li> </ul>
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to grant authority to each of the applicants for the proposed events on the dates noted and to delegate authority to the Director of Neighbourhood Services to ensure the following:</p>
2.2	<p>Where appropriate negotiate a fee which recognises the costs to Council, minimises negative impact on the immediate area and takes account of the potential wider benefit to the city economy, in conjunction with the Councils Commercial Manager.</p>
2.3	<p>Negotiate satisfactory terms and conditions of use via an appropriate legal agreement prepared by the City Solicitor, including managing final booking confirmation dates and flexibility around ‘set up’ &amp; take down’ periods, and booking amendments, ensuring the organisers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. resolve all operational issues to the Council’s satisfaction.</li> <li>II. meets all statutory requirements including Public Liability Insurance cover, Health and Safety, and licensing responsibilities; and</li> <li>III. shall consult with adjoining public bodies and local communities as necessary.</li> </ol>
2.4	<p>Please note that the above recommendations are taken as a pre-policy position in advance of the Council agreeing a more structured framework and policy for ‘Events’, which is currently being taken forward in conjunction with the Councils Commercial team.</p>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	<p><b><u>Key Issues</u></b></p> <p>If agreed, the event organiser will be required in advance of the event to submit an event management plan for approval by the Council and all relevant statutory bodies. This will include an assessment of how the event will impact upon the surrounding area and measures to mitigate these impacts.</p>
3.2	<p><b><u>All Nation Church – March for Jesus Ormeau Park Saturday 16 May 2026</u></b></p>
3.3	<p>Council have received a request from All Nation Church for their Rally on Saturday 16 May 2026 to commence from Ormeau Park on to the Ormeau embankment and progressing down the Ravenhill Road to City Hall, where the rally will conclude. Returning to Ormeau Embankment to access parked coaches.</p>

3.4	<p><b>The proposed route for the event is as follows:</b></p> <p>The rally departs Ormeau Park 2:00 PM, and proceed peacefully via Ormeau Embankment, down Ravenhill Road to City Hall, where the event will conclude. City Hall have been notified of the rally by the All Nation Church. Some participants of the rally will be making their return journey back to Ormeau Embankment to access buses.</p>
3.5	<p>There will be a family-friendly crowd of approximately 5,000 participants. Final numbers will be determined by All Nation Church, through outreach and engagement with churches across Ireland. All Nation Church hosted the event in Belfast in 2025 which attracted 3,000 attendees.</p>
3.6	<p>All Nation Church have contracted Wor. Bro. Paul R McMichael, County Grand Secretary of the Orange Order to assist with the logistics of the Rally from Ormeau Park to City Hall. The PSNI have been informed along with an 11/1 parade notification being submitted.</p>
3.7	<p>The event organiser will meet with the PSNI to ascertain the need for the closure of Ormeau embankment and to facilitate the parking of coaches of the attendees of the rally. Event Organisers will liaise with neighbouring Asian Supermarket and Ozone Complex, in order to allow full access to both sites, if the embankment is required to be closed.</p>
3.8	<p><b>The Key dates for the request are:</b></p> <p>Set Up - 11.00am, Saturday 16 May 2026  <b>Main Event - 12noon - Gathering at Ormeau Park, Grass area and hardstanding surface beside Ozone complex, Saturday 16 May 2026</b>  <b>Rally commences – 2.00pm, Saturday 16 May 2026</b>  De Rig – 5.00pm, Saturday 16 May 2026 (time to be confirmed by event organiser)</p>
3.9	<p><b><u>Mary’s Meals Step by Step Sponsored Walk – Falls Park</u></b></p>
3.10	<p>Belfast City Council have received a request from Mary’s Meals to host a sponsored walk at Falls Park. Mary’s Meals is a charity set up to deal with world hunger. They provide 2.6 million children in 16 of the world’s poorest countries with a daily meal in school.</p>
3.11	<p>They have requested permission to collect money on site for people to make donations through collection buckets and to set a gazebo up on site to provide additional information to those attending. 100% of all money raised will be donated to the charity. Their registered Charity Number is: SC022140</p>
3.12	<p><b>The Key dates for the request are:</b></p> <p>Set up – 12pm on Saturday 13 June 2026  <b>Main Event – 12.30pm to 1.45pm on Saturday 13 June 2026</b>  De-Rig – 2pm on Saturday 13 June 2026</p>
3.13	<p><b><u>Fundamania Boucher Playing Fields</u></b></p>
3.14	<p>The Panoramic Wheel Company is a family run business who own and operate family and children’s amusement rides, attractions, bouncy castles, inflatable games and games stalls throughout Northern Ireland.</p>

3.15	They are based in Belfast and have been trading for over 13 years, including at many Council events.
3.16	They have successfully hosted the Panoramic Wheel in Botanic Gardens for several years and successfully hosted Fundamania at Boucher for 5 years.
3.17	It is proposed that Fundamania will be open to the public between 5pm - 10pm, Monday to Friday and 1pm – 10pm Saturday and Sunday. Access to the site will be required from Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> September for set up and 2 days following the event closure for dismantle.
3.18	It is estimated that there will approximately 1000 attendee's each day
3.19	There will be an option to purchase a one-off inclusive price for unlimited use of the attractions but there will also be pay as you go options available.
3.20	Attractions will include ferris wheel, kiddies rides, dodgems and carousels. A hot food outlet will be located at the event. Alcohol will not be sold and will not be permitted to be brought onto the Site.
3.21	The event will require the closure of a substantial area of the site. The funfair rides will be erected on the hard standing area within the site.
3.22	The Event Organiser will be required to submit an Event Management Plan to the Council prior to their event, in a timely manner and undertake the appropriate notifications, as necessary.
3.23	<p><b>The Key dates for the request are:</b></p> <p>Set up – Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2026  <b>Main Event – Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2026 – Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2026</b>  De Rig – Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October – Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2026</p>
3.24	<p><b><u>Belfast Memory Walk 2026 – Ormeau Park</u></b></p> <p>The Alzheimer's Society has requested the use of Ormeau Park for their Belfast Memory Walk charity event. Belfast Memory Walk is a family friendly fundraising walk, which will raise money to provide help and hope to everyone affected by dementia. Everyone is welcome to take part, and registration is free. Walkers can sign up on our website and will receive a fundraising pack and t-shirt in the post.</p>
3.25	<p><b>The Key Dates for the request are:</b></p> <p>Set up – 7am to 10am, Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2026  <b>Main Event – 10am to 3pm, Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2026</b>  De-Rig 4.30pm, Saturday 26 September 2026</p>
3.26	On the day there will be an event site, where there will be food and drink vendors, an information stand, a merchandise stand, a Memory Tree and a stage with a Zumba warm up.

3.27	There will be a long and short route around the park, meaning there will be something to suit everyone.
3.28	They have requested permission to collect donations in buckets across the stands. Their charity number is 296645.
3.29	<p data-bbox="272 427 788 461"><b><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></b></p> <p data-bbox="272 506 1485 730">The Strategic Director of City &amp; Neighbourhood will negotiate an appropriate fee for the Fundamania event, which recognises the costs to Council, minimises negative impact on the immediate area and takes account of the potential wider benefit to the city economy, in conjunction with the Councils Commercial Manager. The Strategic Director of City &amp; Neighbourhood Services will also authorise the relevant level of the necessary bond of intent and reinstatement bond.</p>
3.30	<p data-bbox="272 1003 1198 1037"><b><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></b></p> <p data-bbox="272 853 699 887">There are no known implications</p>
4.0	<b>Appendices</b>
	None