



Subject:	RAPID Bin – Ormeau Park
Date:	Tuesday 9 th June 2026
Reporting Officer:	Jim Girvan – Operational Director, City and Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Pól Hamilton – Lead Officer, Community Safety Katharine McCrum – Safer City Coordinator

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Please indicate the description, as listed in Schedule 6, of the exempt information by virtue of which the council has deemed this report restricted.	
Insert number <input type="checkbox"/>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Information relating to any individual2. Information likely to reveal the identity of an individual3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the council holding that information)4. Information in connection with any labour relations matter5. Information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained6. Information showing that the council proposes to (a) to give a notice imposing restrictions on a person; or (b) to make an order or direction7. Information on any action in relation to the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime	
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	The purpose of the following report is to explore the possibility of the placement of the RAPID drugs disposal bin on Belfast City Council land, in the vicinity of Ormeau Park.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	Members to note contents of the report and approve the placement of a RAPID bin in the vicinity of Ormeau Park.
3.0	Main Report
	<u>Background and Context</u>
3.1	The RAPID initiative (Remove All Prescription and Illegal Drugs) has been in place since 2010 to help remove illegal and prescription drugs from our streets by providing drug disposal bins within communities.
3.2	RAPID has three aims: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removal of prescription, illegal and new psychoactive substances (often referred to as 'legal highs' and now illegal following the introduction of the Psychoactive Substances Act in May 2016) from communities. • Provision of information and support to individuals, families, local businesses and community organisations to raise awareness of the effects and risks of using/misusing illegal and/or prescription drugs. • Bringing together community and statutory agencies, local businesses and the general public under the RAPID initiative to work towards making their local community a safer place to live
3.3	The Public Health Agency, PSNI, local Drug and Alcohol Coordination Teams (DACTs) Connections Teams and PCSPs are responsible for identifying areas that might be suitable for RAPID bins.
3.4	Officers within the Community Safety unit have been working with the Belfast Drug and Alcohol Coordination Team (BDACT) on several initiatives including the RAPID scheme.
3.5	BDACT Connections have indicated that there currently exists a gap in relation to a RAPID bin in the Ormeau area and were keen to explore options alongside Belfast City Council for a suitable location within the vicinity of Ormeau Park.
3.6	The current provision of RAPID bins within Belfast are all placed indoors, typically with a shopping centre, GP surgery or community facility. The success of a RAPID bin i.e. those with the greatest disposals recorded, are locations where there is heavy footfall, where members of the public can pass through and dispose of any drugs within a matter of seconds.
3.7	PSNI and BDACT staff empty the bins regularly and record the types and quantities of drugs found before they are destroyed. Whilst most drugs disposed of are prescription medication, illicit substances are also itemised and disposed of, and this scheme limits the opportunities for the misuse of both illicit and prescription medication through safe disposal.
3.8	No personal details are collected but substances may be tested for identification or toxicity. At the moment, Belfast has some very successful bins within the Kennedy Centre and Tesco stores at Ballygomartin, City Side and Knocknagoney.

3.9	Although Belfast does not have any outdoor bins currently, several locations outside of Belfast have utilised bins in outdoor locations with great success, one of the most successful outdoor bins is situated with a car park in Newry, with no issues reported.
3.10	Initial engagement with BDACT Connections colleagues suggests that the preferred location, deemed most likely to be successful would be in the vicinity of the entrance to Ormeau Park (Ormeau Road) facing the Ormeau Library. Other potential locations to be considered would include the alternative entrance on Ormeau Road (opposite Candahar Street) or Ormeau Recycling Centre (off Park Road)
3.11	Officers will carry out further engagements with BDACT, Police, Elected members within the DEA and community groups within the locality prior to the installation of the RAPID bin.
3.12	<u>Financial & Resource Implications</u> No costs to Council, all costs will be covered by PHA and BDACT.
3.13	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications /Rural Needs Assessments</u> There are no good relations or rural needs impacts associated with this report.
4.0	Appendices - Documents Attached
4.1	None