



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Charity Abseiling Event at Belfast Castle
Date:	15 January 2015
Reporting Officer:	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Fiona Holdsworth, Principal Parks and Cemeteries Services Manager

1.	Relevant Background Information
1.1	A charity event is proposed to be held at Belfast Castle to raise funds for the Meningitis Research Foundation. Belfast Castle has been chosen for its unique location and marketing potential, especially for its beautiful gardens and panoramic views over the City.
1.2	The Meningitis Research Foundation want to make this event special by promoting it as their first ever abseil at Belfast Castle, and therefore further raising the profile of the occasion. Previous abseils have been held at Belfast Castle by the Northern Ireland Hospice and the Girl Guides which were very successful.
1.3	The event is scheduled to take place in September 2015.
1.4	Consideration has and will be given to the health and safety implications and environmental issues involved with this event.
2.	Key Issues
2.1	The abseil will be organised and carried out by Bryson Lagansports who have been running charity abseil events for over 10 years. They use the highest standard of equipment and highly qualified instructors. They will provide all the necessary risk assessments, documentation and have 10 million pounds public and employee insurance policy applicable to this type of event.
2.2	Bryson Lagansports will be required to undertake a risk assessment and to ensure that all health and safety and insurance requirements are met to

	the satisfaction of Belfast City Council.
--	-------------------------------------------

3.	Resource Implications
3.1	<u>Financial</u> There are no financial costs to Belfast City Council.
3.2	<u>Human Resources</u> There are no human resource implications to Belfast City Council.
3.3	<u>Assets</u> Use of Belfast Castle for the event.

4.	Equality Implications
4.1	There are no equality implications.

5.	Recommendations
5.1	It is recommended that the committee grant authority for the charity abseiling event at Belfast Castle subject to the satisfactory terms being agreed with the Director of Parks and Leisure and on the condition that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The event organisers meet the operational and health and safety issues to the council's satisfaction. 2. Meningitis Research Foundation enters into an appropriate legal agreement as drafted by Legal Services. 3. The event organisers ensure that all health and safety requirements are met and to the Council's satisfaction including risk assessments, safe systems of work, equipment, appropriate insurance and site inspection information.

6.	Decision Tracking
	All actions will be completed by Parks Estates Manager by May 2015.

7.	Key to Abbreviations
	None.

8.	Documents Attached
	Appendix 1: Letter of request from Meningitis Research Foundation.