

As an interim measure, pending the development and approval of a revised Council Policy on this land acquisition and disposal, it is proposed that the Council does not dispose of public open space land unless it has been declared surplus to requirements. It is proposed that this be implemented with immediate effect subject to the following exceptions.

The Committee is asked to note that there are three outstanding requests from private individuals seeking the disposal of open space land for domestic purposes. The requests relate to properties at: 702 Antrim Road; 67 Schomberg Avenue; and 35 Brookvale Avenue.

In each of the above cases the Council has been requested to dispose of small pieces of land adjacent to each of the properties. In each case the owner of the property wishes to enhance their garden for personal use.

Given that these requests are already in the system it is proposed that the Council permit these disposals to proceed subject to agreement on appropriate terms in line with the requirements of the Local Government (NI) Act 1972 and on condition that there be no development on the land without Council consent in line with similar disposals in the past.

Resource Implications

Financial

There are no significant financial implications at this time, although the Council will benefit from a small capital receipt in relation to each of the proposed disposals outlined above.

Human Resources

There are no additional human resource implications at this time.

Asset and Other Implications

This proposal will support the taking of a more strategic approach to the disposal of Council land.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee:

- 1. agree to dispose three small parcels of land adjacent to the properties outlined above;**
- 2. agree that the land be disposed on condition that it be retained for use as open space;**
- 3. agree that the disposal should be within the terms of the Local Government Act (NI) 1972; and**
- 4. agree that as an interim measure, until an agreed Council policy on land acquisition and disposal has been agreed, all such requests be rejected unless the land has been declared as surplus to operational requirements and/or a better use for the asset has been identified subject to its disposal enhancing the quality and/or quantity of open space elsewhere in the City, especially in areas of greater need and/or enhancing the increased use of open space.”**

The Committee adopted the recommendations, subject to notification of the disposal, in accordance with Standing Order 60, to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.