



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
Subject:	Connswater Community Greenway Update 2
Date:	18 September 2009
Reporting Officer:	Gerry Millar, Director of Improvement, Ext 6217
Contact Officer:	Celine Dunlop, Estates Surveyor, Core Improvement, Ext 3419

Relevant Background Information

Belfast City Council, as part of the City Investment Strategy, has agreed to coordinate the acquisition of lands to enable the Connswater Community Greenway Programme to proceed. The Council will secure rights over the land needed for the Greenway and shall be responsible for the management and maintenance of this land and any assets on the land. The Greenway must be accessible for 40 years to comply with the Big Lottery Fund letter of offer, although the intention is to secure rights for longer if possible.

Key Issues

The proposed route of the section of the Connswater Community Greenway from the Castlereagh Road to the Council owned Loop River open space is along the west bank of the Loop River and adjacent to private houses at Looiland Court.

Council officials have agreed with the landowners subject to Committee approval, to purchase nine small plots of land at Looiland Court for £750 each and negotiations are ongoing to acquire plots 5 and 6 on the same terms. A schedule of landowners, addresses and plot numbers is attached at Appendix 2.

Resource Implications

Financial

The proposal requires a maximum expenditure of £8250 plus legal fees to purchase the

land required. Land purchase costs are included within the Connswater Community Greenway budget including in the City Investment Fund and there will be no additional cost to the Council.

Human Resources

No additional human resources required

Asset and Other Implications

The additional land will form part of the Connswater Community Greenway which when complete will be managed and maintained by the Council.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee grant approval to the purchase of the plots of land outlined red on the plan attached at Appendix 2.

Decision Tracking

Action by Celine Dunlop to be completed by December 2009.

Key to Abbreviations

N/A.

Documents Attached

Plan at Appendix 1. Schedule at Appendix 2.