

## **Belfast City Council**

**Report to:** Strategic Policy & Resources Committee

**Subject:** Rent Review, Land at Tamar Street, Ballymacarrett

**Date:** 23 April 2010

Reporting Officer: Gerry Millar, Director of Property & Projects, Ext. 6217

**Contact Officer:** Adrian Ferguson, Estates Surveyor, Ext. 3503

## **Relevant Background Information**

Approximately 0.125 acres of land at Tamar Street, Ballymacarrett, held by Development Committee is currently leased to the Scout Association (Appendix 1 – Location Map)

The Scout Association hold the site under a 25 year Lease from 1<sup>st</sup> October 1994. The Lease was originally granted to the Save the Children Fund who erected a portacabin on the site. At its meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> August 2000, the former Community & Recreation (Community & Leisure Services) Sub-Committee approved an assignment of the Lease to the Scout Association on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2001.

Under the terms of the Lease the rent for the site is reviewable every 5 years. A rent of £680 per annum is currently payable by the Scout Association with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2004 until 30<sup>th</sup> September 2009, with a review due from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2009.

## **Key Issues**

- At its meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2004 the Development Committee it was agreed that the Estates Management Unit of the Development Department would proactively manage certain property assets belonging to the former Community & Recreation Department. This decision was notified to the Client Services Committee on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2004.
- The Lease of the Tamar Street site is one such asset now managed by the Estates Management Unit.
- Article 10 of the Recreation & Youth Services (NI) Order 1986 gives the Council
  power to assist, by financial contributions or otherwise, any person to establish,
  maintain and manage facilities for recreational, social, physical or cultural
  activities.
- The Director of Legal Services has confirmed that the Scout Association aims and activities fall within the Recreation & Youth Services (NI) Order 1986.

- Following negotiations between the District Valuer (Land & Property Services acting on behalf of the Council) and the Scout Association, a revised rent of £900 per annum for the next 5 years from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2009, has been provisionally agreed, subject to Committee approval.
- Under Standing Orders all property related matters are to be reported to Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.

## **Resource Implications**

#### Financial

Revised rental of £900 per annum represents an additional rental income of £220 per annum over the existing rental ie a total rent of £4,500 for the next 5 years.

**Human Resources** 

None

Asset and Other Implications

Completion of this rent review represents effective asset management.

#### Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee agree to a revised rent of £900 per annum for the 5 year period from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2009 until 30<sup>th</sup> September 2014.

# **Decision Tracking**

Director of Property & Projects to ensure revised rent payable, together with any arrears from date of review, is correctly invoiced; Director of finance & Resources to ensure rent subsequently collected in timely manner.

## **Key to Abbreviations**

LPS - Land & Property Services

### **Documents Attached**

Appendix 1 – Location Map