

Belfast City Council

Report to: Strategic Policy and Resources Committee

Subject: Connswater Community Greenway Update

Date: 21 May 2010

Reporting Officer: Gerry Millar, Director of Property and Projects.

Contact Officer: Celine Dunlop, Estates Surveyor, Property and Projects.

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 area of land at Park Avenue outlined red on the attached plan at Appendix '1' consisting of 0.020 acres has been identified as being required for the Connswater Community Greenway. Council officials have agreed, subject to Committee approval, to purchase this area of land from the Northern Ireland Transport Holding Company (NITHCO).

Resource Implications

<u>Financial</u>

These proposals require expenditure of £400 plus legal fees to purchase the land required. The purchase costs for all of the land required for the Connswater Community Greenway are included in the Connswater Community Greenway budget of the City Investment Fund and there will be no additional cost to 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 lands outlined red on the plans attached at Appendix '1'.

Key to Abbreviations

N/A.

Decision Tracking

Action by Celine Dunlop to be completed by September 2010.

Documents Attached

Plans at Appendix '1'.