



Belfast City Council

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Report to: | Strategic Policy and Resources Committee |
| Subject: | Water Main Laying & Refurbishment -East Belfast area |
| Date: | 24 September 2010 |
| Reporting Officer: | Mr Gerry Millar, Director of Property & Projects (ext. 6217) |
| Contact Officer: | Ms Cathy Reynolds, Estates Manager, Property & Projects (ext. 3493) |

Purpose

To advise Members of proposals received from N.I. Water to upgrade the water main infrastructure in East Belfast.

Relevant Background Information

NI Water, via their contractors Farrans (Construction) Ltd, have recently advised the Council that they will soon be commencing work in the East Belfast area as part of a £100m programme to upgrade the water main infrastructure throughout Northern Ireland.

The latest package of work, which also crosses into the Castlereagh & North Down Borough Council areas, will involve replacing approximately 25km of water mains and represents an investment in the region of £3.5m.

A location map and scheme list (as provided by Farrans) is enclosed at Appendices 1 & 2 respectively. Farrans have indicated that they would be happy to meet with officers or Members to provide more details of the project, or if Members feel that a presentation to the Committee would be useful, they would be happy to do so.

Throughout the works, Farrans advise that they will be liaising with Road Service to ensure that any disruptions are kept to an absolute minimum and they also advise that they will be keeping local residents and businesses fully informed of their works.

The proposed route is primarily on the roadway and doesn't, according to the plans submitted, affect Council lands. In terms of the Connswater Greenway proposals, the interfaces are limited between the NI Water Services and CCG/Rivers Agency. There are possible interfaces at Ladas Drive, Hollywood Arches, Parkgate Avenue and Brandon Parade. However, the CCG team is aware of the proposals and preliminary discussions have already taken place with NI Water on this. There will be further liaison between the CCG team and NI Water to ensure any impact on CCG proposals is avoided or minimised, and timing of any works are co-ordinated.

The exact programme of works has not yet been finalised but it is anticipated to start towards the end of October and possibly finished in March /April 2011.

Key Issues

- Replacement of approximately 25km of water mains in East Belfast to be carried out by Farrans (Construction) Ltd on behalf of NI Water. Investment of £3.5m.
- Plans submitted indicate no direct impact on BCC lands, and limited interface with CCG proposals. Ongoing Liaison with NI Water/Farrans to ensure any impact on CCG project is minimised and timing of works co-ordinated.

Resource Implications

Financial: No direct implications for the Council. Works represents a £3.5m investment in this area of the city.

Human Resources: Some impact on CCG staff resource in terms of co-ordinating of works.

Asset & Other Implications: No direct impact at this time.

Recommendations

Members are asked to note the contents of this response and to advise if they feel a presentation is required from the NI Water.

Key to Abbreviations

CCG: Connswater Community Greenway

Appendices

Appendix 1: Location Map of proposed scheme

Appendix 2: Scheme list