



**Belfast City Council**

<b>Report to:</b>	Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Capital Programme Scheme</b>
<b>Date:</b>	9 December 2011
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Gerry Millar, Director of Property and Projects, Ext: 6217

<b>1</b>	<b>Background</b>
1.1	<p>The Parks &amp; Leisure staff have been working for some time in progressing three schemes under the Sport NI Community Capital Programme ie:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Mountain Bike Trail at Barnett Demesne/ Mary Peter's Track</li><li>- A 3G Soccer Pitch at Marrowbone Millennium Park</li><li>- A 3G Soccer Pitch at Hammer Open Space</li></ul>
1.2	<p>The Parks and Leisure Committee at its meeting on 10 November 2011 agreed to enter into management and land agreements in respect of the bodies involved in each project and to the satisfaction of Sports NI as the principal grant funder.</p> <p>A copy of the Parks and Leisure Department report is appended for information (<i>appendix 1</i>)</p>

<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	<p>The Parks &amp; Leisure Committee also agreed to recommend to SP&amp;R Committee that the minimum necessary financial capital contribution is made to each of the three projects. Up to a maximum overall funding allowance of £375k.</p>
2.2	<p>The Committee also agreed that the allocation of money to each particular project would include a degree of flexibility as necessary to assist each club to achieve its project output.</p>
2.3	<p>The Council's process will include a short gate review of the business case for each project which will assist in determining final costs and so assist in funding allocation.</p>
2.4	<p>The Director of Finance and Resources has indicated that there is sufficient finance available to allocate £375k for these asset enhancing schemes using revenue contributions.</p>

<b>3</b>	<b>Resources Implication</b>
3.1	<p><u>Financial</u></p> <p>In this context it is recommended that the Committee agree that the three schemes should be put forward for inclusion in the council's capital programme via the gates process. If approved, the council's funding element would then be financed on the basis of revenue contributions. This means that there would be no additional burden on the rate payer and the expenditure would lever external funding up to £735,000.</p> <p>Should the council make a contribution to the project costs it would be to a maximum of £375k.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u></p> <p>No additional human resources required or released. Existing resources in Parks &amp; Leisure, Legal Services and Property and Projects Department required in setting up the various legal arrangements.</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u></p> <p>The projects will have implications for the council's estate in that there will be associated deeds of dedication that tie the council in to a 10 year use of that land for the specified purpose. Should the council default on this there may be financial implications imposed through a claw back clause. However, the completion of the works will provide an enhanced facility and will make a positive contribution to health and well being of the city.</p>

<b>4</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
	It is recommended that the Committee approves these schemes for the Capital Programme and agrees to make funding available as detailed in the report.

<b>5</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
	None

<b>6</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
	None

<b>7</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
	Appendix 1 – Parks and Leisure Report of 10 November 2011.