



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
Subject:	Car Park at Clement Wilson Bridge
Date:	22 February 2013
Reporting Officer:	Gerry Millar, Director of Property and Projects, Ext: 6217
Contact Officer:	Cathy Reynolds, Estates Manager, Ext: 3493

1	Relevant Background Information
1.1	At its meeting on 23 November 2012 Committee authorised advancement of a project to replace the bridge across the River Lagan at Clement Wilson Park. The project forms part of the Capital Programme and Committee also authorised proceeding to invitations to tender and award of contract to the most economically advantageous tender.
1.2	At its meeting on 6 December 2012 the Parks and Leisure Committee was updated on the Committee's authorisations of 23 November 2012 and further informed that to facilitate the desired construction method the proposed works would require use of an adjoining car park for short periods. The adjoining car park is not in Council ownership.
1.3	Contact was subsequently made with the owner of the adjoining car park and discussions undertaken to agree use of the land, over three or more weekends, to facilitate the removal of the existing bridge and installation of the new structure.
1.4	Agreement has now been reached with the car park owner for the periods of use sought.

2	Key Issues
2.1	The land owner has agreed to enter into a Licence Agreement with the Council to provide use of the car park adjoining Clement Wilson Park over three or more weekends, subject to a Licence Fee of £500 per weekend and the Council being responsible for all insurances etc. during the relevant periods and carrying out reinstatement of any damage caused to the car park as a result of the works.

3	Resource Implications
	<p><u>Financial</u></p> <p>3.1 The Council will incur expenditure of £500 per weekend over at least three weekends. This will form part of the project costs. It should be noted however it is likely an alternative bridge design and construction method would have to be adopted if the car park area was not available. This would likely result in project delays.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u></p> <p>3.2 Resources in Parks and Leisure, Property and Projects Department and Legal Services required in drafting and agreeing the relevant terms for the proposed Licence Agreement.</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u></p> <p>3.3 Clement Wilson Park is bisected by the River Lagan and the bridge provides a vital link between the two parts for pedestrians, cyclists and the Council's service vehicles. As the bridge is currently closed for safety reasons, any delay in provision of a replacement structure is undesirable.</p>

4	Equality and Good Relations Considerations
4.1	There are no equality or good relations issues associated with this report.

5	Recommendations
5.1	Committee is recommended to authorise the Council entering into a Licence Agreement with the land owner in respect of the land shown outlined red on the attached map (Appendix 1) subject to detailed terms to be agreed by the Estates Manager and subject to the financial terms referred to in this report.

6	Decision Tracking
Director of Property and Projects to arrange for Licence Agreement to be in place prior to letting the contract for construction of the proposed replacement bridge.	

7	Key to Abbreviations
None.	

8	Documents Attached
Appendix 1 – Map showing the area of the car park (outlined red) required in connection with the proposed Licence Agreement. The surrounding land in Council ownership is shaded yellow. Rights of way, to provide the owner of the car park with access to it, are included in the Council's legal title to the adjoining lands.	

