



Subject:	Green Flag Award
Date:	8 August 2017
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Director City & Neighbourhood Services Department
Contact Officer:	Rose Crozier, Assistant Director City & Neighbourhood Services Department

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to report to Members the successful achievement of seventeen Green Flag awards and to seek permission to put forward three additional sites, along with the existing seventeen Green Flag sites for accreditation in 2018.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The committee is asked to; <ul style="list-style-type: none">• note the achievement of the Green Flag awards by the department and seek authority to put twenty sites forward for accreditation in the 2018 assessment round.

3.0	Main Report
3.1	Green Flag is a standard for quality management and in particular community engagement, with significant emphasis placed on the stakeholders experience and involvement in site development and improvements.
3.2	Established in 1996, the Green Flag awards were managed by Keep Britain Tidy. In Northern Ireland they are now managed by Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful.
3.3	In 2009, the department achieved its first Green Flag Award for Cave Hill Country Park and subsequently gained the award for Musgrave Park in 2010 and Barnett Demesne, Botanic Gardens, Falls Park, Ormeau Park, and Roselawn Cemetery in 2011, Belmont Park, Sir Thomas and Lady Dixon Park, and Waterworks Park in 2012, Grove Playing Fields and Lagan Meadows in 2013 Woodvale Park, and Dunville Park in 2014, Knocknagoney Linear Park in 2015. All fifteen sites retained their Green Flag status for 2017.
3.4	The significance of the 2017 submissions was for the first time the inclusion of two sites transferred to Council through Local Government Reform – Tullycarnett Park and Dunmurry Village. Both sites achieved the standard.
3.5	It is proposed to put forward three new sites, Connswater Community Greenway and City Cemetery for Green Flag and the Tropical Ravine, Botanic Gardens for the Green Flag Heritage Award.
3.6	Considerable sustained effort, as well as ongoing developmental activities with local communities, will be required to ensure achievement of the award for the new sites identified, as well as ensuring ongoing retention of the seventeen awards now held.
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.7	<p>The Green Flag award is a national award recognising the standard of the park set against specific criteria. The criteria are;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Welcoming Place • Healthy Safe & Secure • Well Maintained & Clean • Sustainability

<p>3.8</p> <p>3.9</p> <p>3.10</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation & Heritage • Community Involvement • Marketing • Management <p>Heritage Award has the additional criteria of;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good Conservation Standards • Historic Features Given Prominence • Restoration/Recreation of Landscape Features • Historic Features Intact and in use • Information Available and Evidence that Historic Features are Enjoyed by the Public • Relevance of Historic Landscape Design Integrity Understood and Interpreted • Horticultural Displays Contribute to Historic Character • Recognition and Appropriateness of Historic Tree and Plant Collections • New and Replacement Features Conserve or Enhance the Historic Character and Appearance. • The site must have already achieved Green Flag Status. <p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>The estimated cost for submitting twenty Green Flag applications in the 2018 assessment round is in the region of £10,000, which is included in departmental budgets. In addition, provision is made in the department's improvement budget for necessary improvement works. There will be no additional human resources required at this stage.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>There are no implications at this stage.</p>
<p>4.0</p>	<p>Appendices – Documents Attached</p>
	<p>None</p>