



<b>Subject:</b>	Installation of Drinking Water Fountain – Ormeau Park
<b>Date:</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> September 2017
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Nigel Grimshaw, Director City & Neighbourhood Services Department
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<b>Restricted Reports</b>	
<b>Is this report restricted?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?</b>	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues</b>
1.1	BCC parks management have received requests from park users of Ormeau Park to install an additional water drinking fountain (to include low drinker to facilitate dogs). There is currently one functioning water drinking fountain located near the Ravenhill road end of the Ormeau park; however no drinking fountains are available near the Ormeau road end of the park. It could be argued that in a large 'city park' an additional drinking fountain would be desirable and would better facilitate the large numbers of the public who visit the park each day including a well supported weekly Parkrun event.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	The Committee is asked to agree: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>To permit the installation of an additional drinking fountain in Ormeau park which is a Green flag site.</li></ul>

3.0	<b>Main report</b>
	<p data-bbox="272 210 421 239"><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p data-bbox="165 309 1442 389">3.1 In 2012, Council agreed to install water fountains within a number of parks throughout the city as part of a pilot scheme. (Appendix 1).</p> <p data-bbox="165 459 1442 589">3.2 The location of the proposed drinking fountain is near existing park buildings and service yard using an existing water mains route which will reduce potential costs and timescales of fountain installation.</p> <p data-bbox="165 658 1442 739">3.3 The design of the proposed drinking fountain is extremely robust and vandal resistant and would benefit all park customers and dog owners for many years to come. (Appendix 2)</p> <p data-bbox="165 808 1458 1093">3.4 The Green Flag standard encourages the provision of drinking fountains near sports facilities and playgrounds. In a wider context, there is a current trend for the promotion and provision of external drinking fountains to reduce plastic water bottle consumption. The benefits of free potable water include improved user health and wellbeing. Water fountains may also lead to improved park user satisfaction and further improve the public perception of public parks.</p> <p data-bbox="165 1162 1426 1292">3.5 Under the Planning (General Development) Order (Northern Ireland) 1993, Schedule 12 Development by District Councils; public drinking fountains are deemed to be permitted development and would not require planning approval.</p> <p data-bbox="165 1361 523 1391">3.6 <b>Site requirements</b></p> <ul data-bbox="325 1464 1458 1749" style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Easily accessible, hard surface access path and hard standing area for user</li> <li>• Unit design appropriate to context, e.g. does not create an adverse visual impact in a park</li> <li>• Site with natural surveillance, to deter vandalism</li> </ul> <p data-bbox="165 1861 1442 1942">3.7 <b>General considerations</b> - In addition to the general issues of aesthetics and function, the unit design should consider;</p> <ul data-bbox="325 2011 1410 2040" style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintenance issues – easily maintained, vandal resistant, corrosion proof, easy</li> </ul>

access to plumbing

- Hygiene - easily cleaned, consider covered spout (to prevent mouth touching it), and design to deter contamination.
- Water quality improvement - inbuilt water filter
- Ability to turn off water supply in winter
- Speed of water flow/fill rate
- Accessibility - consider accessibility for all potential users, e.g. children, wheelchair users
- Other/extra functional options, e.g. outdoor bottle stations, pet level water supply
- Sustainable design and impact on the environment (unit life cycle analysis)
- Robust/vandal resistant
- Site specific design issues, should the unit match other 'furniture' in the park, become a feature/customised design or have a single 'branded' design to be used citywide.

3.8

The success of the drinking fountain will be determined by the correct installation of the appropriate units, in the correct location, maintained to a high standard, combined with good user uptake.

#### Financial & Resource Implications

3.9

The estimated cost of a drinking fountain and installation, including connection to mains water supply is £7250

3.10

The estimated annual cost of maintenance of a drinking fountain is £1000.

3.11

It is estimated that each fountain would require one inspection visit, every two days which would be undertaken by council parks staff located at Ormeau park. Repair work, testing and sampling may also be required.

It is anticipated that all costs would be covered from the existing Ormeau park revenue

3.12	<p>budget.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>None</p>
3.13	<p><u>Asset and other implications</u></p> <p>It is anticipated that the addition of this feature would enhance the experience of Ormeau</p>
3.14	<p>Park for a wide group of users. Whilst there are additional overheads re inspection and maintenance of the facility, these can be addressed within existing resources whilst the benefits to users are significant.</p>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Appendices – Documents Attached</b>
	<p>Appendix 1 - Parks and Leisure Committee report 'Drinking Fountains in Belfast Parks' 11th October 2012 &amp; Appendix 1a – Feasibility Report</p> <p>Appendix 2 - Proposed design of additional water drinking fountain.</p>