



<b>Subject:</b>	Request to use the City Hall Grounds for Orangefest
<b>Date:</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2019
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	John Walsh, Director of Legal & Civic Services Department
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Peter McKay, Facilities Manager

<b>Restricted Reports</b>	
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"/>

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	Members will be aware that requests for the use of the City Hall grounds are normally dealt with under the authority delegated by the Committee to the Director of Legal & Civic Services, using criteria agreed for this purpose. Occasionally however, it is necessary to place such requests directly before the Committee, and the request set out below falls into this category.
1.2	Members will recall that in 2015 approval was given to the Grand Orange Lodge to have an Orangefest event in the City Hall Grounds on the 12 <sup>th</sup> July for a 3 year period up to 2018.

1.3	A request has now been received for a similar event to take place on <b>Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2019</b> from 11am to 7pm. The proposed event would be similar to previous years and involves “a mini-market, catering demonstrations in marquees, and a small open-air children’s entertainments programme”. The organisers’ estimate of attendance is 3,000 to 5,000 people. The event would take place on the front lawns only and consequently areas such as the Titanic garden and Cenotaph would remain open to the public.
1.4	To save bringing another report back to Committee, Members are also asked to give consideration to allowing this event to take place in 2020 and 2021.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• approve this event in 2019, 2020 and 2021</li> </ul>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main report</b>
3.1	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>The organisers would be providing all stewarding/marshalling staff and would of course have to comply with the usual conditions including indemnities for damage and submission of a formal event-management plan etc. The organisers have requested that they have access to electricity and water supplies as has been granted in previous years.</p>
3.2	As with the previous event the organisers’ stated intentions are both to widen the appeal of the traditional Twelfth celebrations by attracting a more family-oriented and diverse audience and, secondly, to maximise the commercial opportunities for the city-centre presented by the presence of thousands of onlookers in the area.
3.3	The City Hall exhibition will be open as normal between 9.30am and 5.30pm and public tours will be available at 10am, 11am, 2pm, 3pm and 4pm on the 12 <sup>th</sup> July.
3.4	The Orange Order has indicated that it may also seek to launch ‘Orangefest 2019’ at the City Hall a few weeks prior to the event, using either the office of one of the civic dignitaries or one of the prestige function rooms if available.

3.5	<p>Members will also be aware that for many years the Orange Order has been facilitated in using the Cenotaph for a short commemorative ceremony on the morning of the main parade, following which participants re-join the main parade, and this would be the case again in 2019. In previous years a small PA system has also been made available for the service.</p>
3.6	<p>In most respects this 'Orangefest' event is very similar in scale, scope, purpose and layout to the previous events.</p>
3.7	<p>The key issues in respect of this report are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• whether the Committee is minded to approve this request again in 2019. Previous events were characterised by the organisers as a “huge success” and from the council’s perspective it passed off without any logistical or other difficulties or damage.</li> <li>• whether the Committee also wishes to approve for 2019 and 2020</li> <li>• whether it wishes to allow use of one of the City Hall function rooms for the Press Launch of the event</li> </ul>
3.8	<p><u>Financial &amp; Resource Implications</u></p> <p>There are some limited cost implications with providing a small in-house PA system for the commemoration event at the Cenotaph and the electricity supply for some of the activities taking place in the grounds. These can be met from existing departmental budgets.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p>
3.9	<p>The relevant equality and good relations implications have been taken into consideration, as a screening form was previously forwarded to the Equality and Diversity Officer and the event was screened out in June 2013.</p>
4.0	<p><b>Appendices – Documents Attached</b></p>
	<p>None</p>