



Subject:	Football for All - Request for The Use of Belfast Playing Fields (Mallusk)
Date:	14 January 2020
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Director of City & Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Brian McKinley, Events Officer

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	<p>The Committee is asked to note that the Council has received a request from:</p> <p>Irish Football Association (IFA) for the use of the City of the Belfast Playing Fields (Mallusk).</p> <p>The IFA intend to host a Football For All Festival from Tuesday 16 to Friday 19 June 2020.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The event will result in the closure of a substantial proportion of the facility.• The event will take place over more than 3 days.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to approve;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the IFA event at the City of Belfast Playing Fields (Mallusk), subject to the completion of the appropriate Event Management Plans and satisfactory terms being

	<p>agreed by the Director of City & Neighbourhood Services and on the condition that the Event Organiser:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • resolves all operational issues to the Council’s satisfaction; • meets all statutory requirements including Public Liability Insurance cover and Health and Safety; and • shall consult with adjoining public bodies and local communities as necessary. <p>The committee is also asked to approve :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the event organisers are given free use of the pitches and ancillary facilities. • That the event organisers are given free use of the pitches and ancillary facilities annually for their Football for All Festival for a further three years, subject to the completion of an event management plan and all other appropriate paperwork for each event.
3.0	Main report
	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>3.1 The event is funded through the FA Foundation and it is estimated that the event will attract approximately 4’500 participants. Day time events will include participation from primary, secondary and disability schools. Evening event will include participation from disability clubs, walking football groups and multi-cultural groups from the BME community. Age range from primary school age to over 55 years.</p> <p>3.2 The IFA hopes that this festival will build on the success of the Super Schools Festival, which has been delivered at Mallusk for six consecutive years. The purpose of the expansion is to enhance and promote ‘Football for All’ supporting inclusive participation across a wide age range, ability level supporting cross community and multi-cultural engagement. The sheer size of the location allows the efficient and effective running of the festival.</p> <p>3.3 The event organiser has requested in kind support which is in the form of a waiver of the hire charges.</p> <p>3.4 The teams will also need access to the changing and toilet facilities.</p> <p>3.5 The organiser has requested that 18 small sided pitches be marked out but this will have no impact on the users as the event is scheduled to take place during the closed season.</p>

3.6	<p>The Event Organisers will be required to submit an Event Management Plan and all the appropriate paperwork to the Council prior to their event, in a timely manner.</p> <p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>3.7 There are financial implications associated with the granting of free use of the pitches and ancillary facilities. It is estimated that the loss of income would be in the region of £663; however the pitches are not open for regular soccer bookings at this time so the loss of income is not pertinent.</p> <p><u>Human</u></p> <p>3.8 There will be man hours of approximately 32 hours (£480) and material costs of approximately £60 to mark out the required pitches. A total cost of £540, this can be covered in existing budgets.</p> <p>3.9 <u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u> No known implications. Programme promotes inclusiveness and engages with section 75 groups.</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 – Letter from Michael Boyd, IFA