



Subject:	Request to place a memorial bench in Shankill Cemetery
Date:	11 August 2020
Reporting Officer:	Siobhan Toland, Director of City & Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Valerie Brown, City Services Manager

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"/>
Sometime 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	To seek approval to install a memorial bench in Shankill Cemetery as a focal point for individuals and families who have experienced pregnancy and baby loss.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to <ul style="list-style-type: none">approve the installation of the bench during Baby Loss Awareness Week in October.
3.0	Main report
3.1	<u>Key Issues</u> Mr Alfie McCrory, a Trustee of the Greater Shankill Community Council, has approached Belfast City Council seeking approval for the installation of a memorial bench in Shankill Cemetery during Baby Loss Awareness Week in October.

3.2	Baby Loss Awareness Week is held annually from 9 th -15 th October. A collaboration between more than 60 charities across the UK, Baby Loss Awareness Week aims to raise awareness about the key issues affecting those who have experienced pregnancy or baby loss.
3.3	Now in its 16th year, Baby Loss Awareness Week calls for tangible improvements in research, care and policy around bereavement support and highlights bereavement support and services available for anyone affected by the death of a baby at any stage.
3.4	The bench will be designed, fabricated and installed in a fitting location in the cemetery, to be agreed by the Open Space and Streetscene Manager for the area. The dimensions of the bench will be in line with our normal park benches and similar in construction to the benches in Woodvale Park and at the Memorial Garden in Shankill Cemetery. It will be a bespoke design representing parents holding a baby.
3.5	The total cost of the bench, fitting and installation will be paid for by members of the 1 st Shankill Golf Society and will be manufactured and fitted by Belfast Metalworks.
3.6	There are existing memorials for babies in both City and Roselawn Cemeteries.
	<u>Financial & Resource Implications</u>
3.7	No financial or resource implications for BCC other than use of the space.
	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u>
3.8	There are no equality or good relations implications. There is no requirement for a rural needs assessment.
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	None.