STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE



		Asset Management
Subject	ot:	i) Grant of Cable Easement and Right of Way to NIE Networks Ltd.
Subjec		ii) 2 Royal Avenue – Licence for Hoarding
		iii) Hit the North Arts Festival 2022
Date:		25th March 2022
Reporting Officer:		Sinead Grimes, Director of Physical Programmes
Contact Officer:		Pamela Davison, Estates Manager
Restricted Reports		
Is this report restricted?		Yes No X
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?		
After Committee Decision		
After Committee Decision		
Sometime in the future		
Never		
Call-in		
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?		Call-in? Yes X No
1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues	
1.1	The purpose of this report is to seek approval from the Committee on asset related disposal,	
	acquisition and estates matters.	
2.0	Recommendations	
2.1	The Committee is a	sked to:
	i) Grant of Cable Easement and Right of Way to NIE Networks Ltd.	
	- approve the sur	render of two cable easements and the grant of a new cable easement
	and right of way	to NIE Networks Ltd.
1	1	

ii) 2 Royal Avenue – Licence for Hoarding

 approve a Licence to Bennett (Construction) Ltd to formalise the arrangement for hoarding around Primark which encroaches onto Council land at 2 Royal Avenue

iii) Hit the North Arts Festival 2022

- note the inclusion of Site 10 as part of the Hit the North Festival on 1 May 2022.

3.0 Main Report

3.1 i) Grant of Cable Easement and Right of Way to NIE Networks Ltd.

Key Issues

In 1999, the Council granted two cable easements to NIE Networks Ltd to facilitate the laying of underground and overhead cables in the Suffolk Playing Fields. The subsequent construction of a new pavilion by the Council necessitated a re-routing of these cables and revised easements. Please refer to Appendix 1. Legal Services has agreed that the 1999 easements should be surrendered and replaced by a single 5.0-metre-wide cable easement incorporating a 4.0 metre wide Right of Way to provide access. The relocation of the cables has had no detrimental effect on the playing fields and no loss of usage during the re-routing process. The easement shall be for a term of 999-years and subject to a nominal consideration.

Financial and Resources Implications

Legal Services and Estates will complete the Grant of Easement, if approved.

Equality and Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment

None associated with this report.

3.2 ii) 2 Royal Avenue – Licence for hoarding

Key Issues

Bennett (Construction) Ltd. is undertaking the rebuild of the Primark building. To secure its site, it has constructed hoarding around the premises, which encroaches onto Council land at 2 Royal Avenue. The previous owner had not entered into any agreement with the contractor in relation to the hoarding. A Licence Agreement is required to formalise the arrangement for the remainder of the duration of works. The term will be 9 months then month to month thereafter until completion of the works. The Licence will set out terms & conditions for use / reinstatement of the lands and indemnify Council from liabilities. A fee of £445+VAT per month will be payable by the contractor.

Financial and Resource Implications

The Licence Agreement will be prepared and completed if approved by Legal Services and Estates with a monthly fee of £445+VAT to be received.

Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment

None associated with this report.

3.3 iii) Hit the North Arts Festival 2022

Hit the North Arts Festival is a street art festival that seeks to improve vacant spaces in the North Street area and has been running since 2013. The 2022 event culminates in a one-day event to be held on Sunday 1st May featuring both local and international artists. The Council has been approached by Seedhead Arts, the organising body for Hit the North Arts Festival, to request use of an area of land at 'Site 10': Please refer to Appendix 3. Members will be aware Site 10 is the area of land acquired by the Council in the city centre to deliver the landmark Belfast Stories development, Belfast's flagship tourism regeneration project with the Belfast Region City Deal. This request offers an opportunity that could provide additional vibrancy to this site. Specifically, the request is to grant permission to:

- Use a small section of the waste ground within the boundary of Site 10 and animate it with performance, food trucks, seating and live art on May 1st.
- Paint some non-listed surfaces on the site (e.g. boundary hoarding, non-listed walls
 to be agreed with Officers).

Financial and Resources Implications

There are no financial implications or liabilities for the Council. Members are asked to note the request. Officers will take steps to put in place the necessary short term Access Agreement with Seedhead Arts under the delegated authority of the Director of Physical Programmes. The agreement will include that artwork designs would not include images of an offensive or contentious nature.

Equality and Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment

None associated with this report.

4.0 Documents Attached

Appendix 1 – Map showing the proposed cable easement route and right of way.

Appendix 2 – Map showing lands at 2 Royal Avenue effected by hoarding.

Appendix 3 – Map showing proposed Hit the North Arts Festival 2022 Site.