

Bonfire Procedures

Proposed by Councillor Beattie,

Seconded by Councillor McLaughlin

“After multiple incidents, including the tragic incident in Ballysillan on 11th July, this Council agrees to remove all bonfire materials from Belfast City Council assets, unless permission has been granted through an application process.

A bonfire application must include:

- permission being requested by a constituted organisation;
- a Risk assessment provided by the applicant and agreed with the PSNI, Fire Service and landowner (BCC);
- Public Liability Insurance;
- an Event Management Plan;
- a commitment to ensuring that there will be no burning of any toxic materials (e.g. tyres);
- an Entertainments Licence;
- the demonstration of sufficient consultation with local residents; and
- a site cleansing plan.

In addition:

- The display or burning of offensive materials such as flags, emblems, effigies, and posters will not be permitted and a commitment must be provided. Any breaches will impact upon future applications; and
- Bonfire Beacons will be preferred, unless an applicant can demonstrate the necessity and safety of a non-structured bonfire.

Any failure to follow an open, transparent, robust and successful application procedure for a bonfire will result in the Council requesting the support of the PSNI to provide protection to our contractors for the removal of materials.

Applications must be received three months before a planned event.”

(To be referred directly to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee)