

Report on	Castledawson Play Park
Date of Meeting	6 December 2018
Reporting Officer	Head of Parks
Contact Officer	Nigel Hill

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	x

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	Council approval to accept the valuation of £1,000 and progress transfer of land and equipment from Northern Ireland Housing Executive.
2.0	Background
2.1	<p>The Housing Executive renovated four unused flats to develop a community resource at Park View, Castledawson. River Park House, which was the community Association's base was officially opened on the 30th August 2008. The play area formed part of the community project and was established on NIHE land adjacent to the community house.</p> <p>The International Fund For Ireland funded a project worker for this group for a three year period - the contract for this worker ended, approximately 2.5 years ago. The Community Association ran into difficulties thereafter and have since dissolved no longer using the building at Park View. Northern Ireland Housing Executive plan to return the properties back to dwelling accommodation.</p> <p>Since the demise of Castledawson Community Association in January 2016 concerns about the future of the play park have been raised to the council in May 2016 Development Report.</p>
3.0	Main Report
3.1	In November 2016, Council approved sealing transfer of land and play equipment from the Northern Ireland Housing Executive.
3.2	Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE) have provided a freehold valuation of £1,000 for the purchase of the lands as identified as the existing play park facilities.

4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<p><u>Financial & Human Resources Implications</u></p> <p>Financial: Expenditure of £1,000 and associated legal costs subject to available funding.</p> <p>Council will have to adopt the facility and continue to insure, inspect and maintain the play facility.</p> <p>Human: Existing staff resources sufficient to coordinate project support. No additional staffing resource required. The site will be included in weekly inspections schedules resourced by the Parks Service.</p>
4.2	<p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>There is a need to provide the local community in Castledawson with safe access to children's play facilities. The existing location and current provision of play equipment at Park View satisfies both these criteria. Consideration to relocate this resource would not improve play value.</p>
4.3	<p><u>Risk Management Implications</u></p> <p>As per MUDC policy and procedures</p>
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	<p>Council approval is sought to accept the valuation of £1,000 and agree to the transfer of land and play equipment from Northern Ireland Housing Executive to Council ownership subject to agreement.</p>
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	N/A