Document Pack

Democratic Services Section
Chief Executive's Department
Belfast City Council
City Hall
Belfast
BT1 5GS

14th February, 2013

<u>**MEETING OF DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**</u>

Dear Alderman / Councillor,

The above-named Committee will meet in the Lavery Room (Room G05), City Hall on **Tuesday, 19th February, 2013 at 5.15 pm**, for the transaction of the business noted below.

You are requested to attend.

Yours faithfully

PETER McNANEY

Chief Executive

AGENDA:

1. <u>**Routine Matters**</u>

    (a) Apologies
    (b) Declarations of Interest

2. <u>**Notice of Motion - Social Deprivation in Belfast**</u> (Pages 1 - 2)

3. <u>**Belfast Advice Group - Presentation**</u>

4. <u>**Departmental Matters**</u>

    (a) Quarterly Financial Report – Quarter 3 2012-13 (Pages 3 - 14)

    (b) Outstanding Accounts (Pages 15 - 18)

    (c) Scale of Charges 2013-14 (Pages 19 - 28)

    (d) Belfast Waterfront and Ulster Hall Performance Report (Pages 29 - 34)

5. <u>**Belfast's Economy / Tourism**</u>

    (a) Crumlin Road Gaol - Consultation (Pages 35 - 56)

Belfast City Council

Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	**Notice of Motion – Social Deprivation in Belfast**
Date:	19th February, 2013
Reporting Officer:	Mr. Barry Flynn, Democratic Services Officer, ext. 6312
Contact Officer:	As above.

1.0	**Relevant Background Information**
1.1	At the Council meeting on 4th February, the undernoted Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Corr and seconded by Councillor McVeigh: *"One of the most significant challenges facing our city is the issue of social deprivation. Across Belfast there are concentrated areas of poverty, health inequalities and long-term unemployment. We must address these scourges as urgently as we would other pressing issues.* *Accordingly, the Council agrees to establish and lead both an anti-poverty task force and an anti-poverty forum. The task force should have representation from all political parties on the Council and relevant statutory and voluntary organisations and would work to identify measures that will at last begin to tackle these problems. The forum, working in parallel with the task force, would bring together community representatives from the most deprived communities, anti-poverty organisations, trade union representatives and business leaders etc. to discuss a strategy to tackle poverty and deprivation.* *The time has come for Belfast City Councillors to give leadership on these issues and to do everything that we can to address these fundamental inequalities."* **In accordance with Standing Order 11(e), the Lord Mayor pointed out that the matter would be referred to the Development Committee without debate.**

2.0	**Recommendation**
2.1	The Committee is requested to consider the Notion of Motion and take such action thereon as may be determined.

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Agenda Item 4a

Belfast City Council

Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	**Quarterly Financial Report – Quarter 3 2012/13**
Date:	19 February 2013
Reporting Officer:	John McGrillen, Director of Development, ext 3470
Contact Officers:	David Orr, Business Support Manager, ext 3502

1	**Relevant Background Information**
1.1	The Strategic Policy and Resources Committee agreed on 18 June 2010 that: − the Council would produce financial reporting packs for the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee and each Standing Committee on a quarterly basis − the Budget and Transformation Panel would also receive monthly financial updates if there were any significant issues to report.
1.2	The reporting pack (Appendix 1) contains a summary of the financial indicators and an executive summary explaining the financial performance of the Development Department in the context of the financial performance of the overall Council. It also provides a more detailed explanation of each of the relevant indicators covering the year- to-date and forecast financial position at the year-end.
1.3	The style and layout reflect much of the discussion and feedback arising from the Members' financial training session which was held at the end of September 2010. As we previously advised the Committee, we will continue to develop the style and content of the reports in liaison with Elected Members.
1.4	Central Finance and our departmental management team have also worked together to develop the information within this financial reporting pack.

2	**Key Issues**
2.1	*Current and forecast financial position 2012/13* The Development Department is under spent by £136,754, or 0.9%, of its net budgeted expenditure of just over £15.7 million at the end of Quarter Three. Three of the services are under spent in the third quarter with Community

	Services being under budget by £52k (1.1%), Directorate by £73k (3.0%), City Events and Venues under spent by £12k (0.4%), while Economic Initiatives is on budget for the period.
2.2	There are two areas which give rise to the current overall £137k (0.9%) under spend within the Department at the end of Quarter Three: 1. An under spend in employee costs of £118k at the end of Quarter Three accounts for 86% of the total departmental under spend of £137k . This variance is in relation to a number of vacant posts throughout the department, as well as to the reduced usage of casual staff at the Belfast Waterfront Hall. With the structural review approved and recruitment ongoing, this level of under spend will not re-occur in 2013/14. 2. An under spend in transport costs of £19k within Community Services over the nine-month review period accounts for 14% of the total departmental under spend of £137k. This relates to the reduced use/hire of buses and is already reflected in the 2013/14 Revenue Estimates.
2.3	It is currently forecast that the Development Department will be under spent by approximately £175k (0.9%) at the year-end. – Community Services is forecast to be £69,000 (1.3%) under budget at year end. – Economic Initiatives is forecast to be on budget at the year-end. – Directorate is forecast to be £90,000 (2.5%) under budget at year end. – Finally, the City Events and Venues Section are forecast to be £16,000 (0.4%) under budget at the year-end.
2.4	The Department will continue to monitor the variance between actual and budgeted expenditure during Quarter Four.
2.5	The financial reporting pack contains more detail on both the overall Council position and the financial performance in each of the Services within the Development Department.

3	**Resource Implications**
3.1	There is a year-to-date under spend of £137k and it is forecast is that the Department will be under budget by £175k at the year-end.

4	**Equality and Good Relations Considerations**
4.1	There are no Equality and Good Relations Considerations attached to this report.

5	**Recommendations**
5.1	Members are asked to note the contents of the above report and associated

	financial reporting pack.

6	**Decision Tracking**
There is no decision tracking attached to this report.	

7	**Documents Attached**
Appendix 1 - Financial Reporting Pack	

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Performance

Appendix 1

Development Committee

Quarterly Finance Report

Report Period: Quarter 3, 2012/13

Dashboard

Revenue Section

Service	YTD	YTD Var £000s	Var %	Forecast	Forecast Var £000s	Var %	Page
Development Directorate	⚠️	(73)	(2.8)%	⚠️	(90)	(2.4)%	3&5
Community Services	✅	(52)	(1.1)%	✅	(69)	(1.2)%	
Waterfront / Events	✅	(12)	(0.3)%	✅	(16)	(0.4)%	
Economic Initiatives	✅	(0)	(0.0)%	✅	0	0.0%	
Committee Total	✅	**(137)**	**(0.9)%**	✅	**(175)**	**(0.9)%**	

Key Performance Indicators (KPI)

KPI	Actual	Target		Page
Compliant Purchases	81.2%	85.0%	❌	6
Timeliness Of Goods On System	52.4%	65.0%	❌	7

Committee Net Revenue Expenditure: Year to Date Position
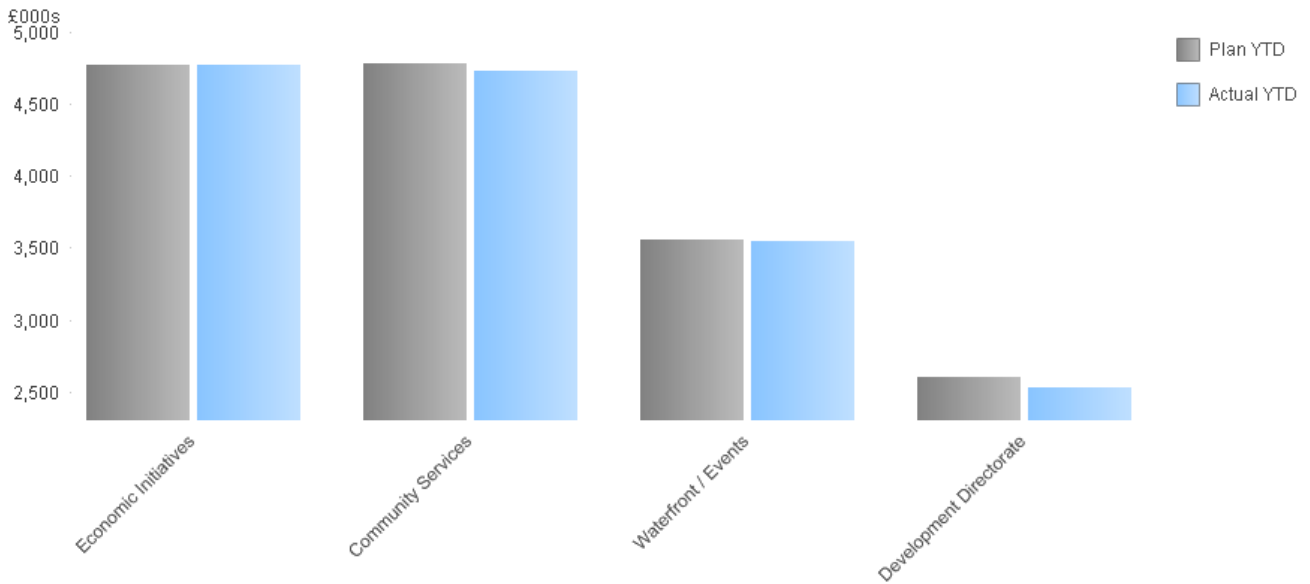
Commentary and action required:

Community Services are under spent by £52k at the end of Quarter Three.

The primary reasons for this under spend are in relation to employee costs (£33k), which is due to delays in filling vacant posts and transport costs (£19k), which relates to the reduced hire of buses during the period.

City Events and Venues are under spent by £12k at the end of Quarter Three.

Within City Venues, there is a total under spend of £12k in salary and wages costs which is mainly in relation to the reduced use of casual staff at events in the Waterfront and Ulster Halls.

Economic Initiatives are on budget at the end of Quarter Three.

Directorate are under spent by £73k at the end of Quarter Three.

This under spend can mainly be attributed to reduced employee costs in a number of business units as a result of vacant posts.

Committee Net Revenue Expenditure: Forecast for Year End (YE)
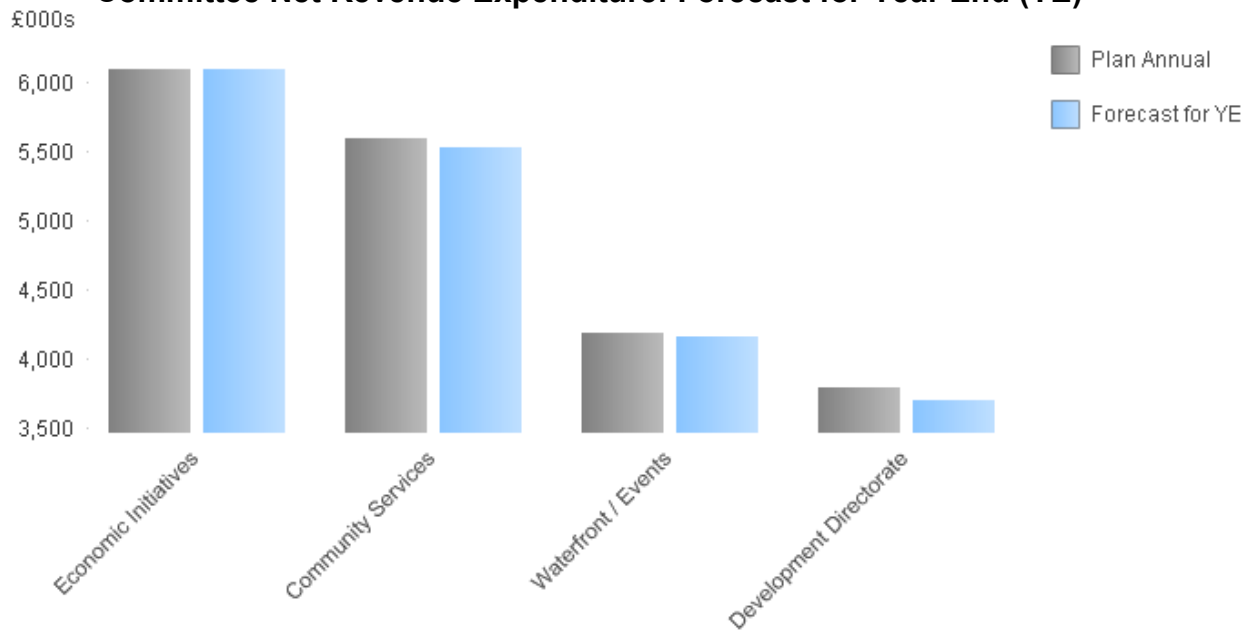
Commentary and action required:

It is currently forecast that the Development Department will be under spent by £175k (0.9%) at the year-end.

- Community Services is forecast to be £69k (1.3%) under budget at year end, mainly as a result of vacant posts within the service (£49k), and reduced transport costs (£20k) within Community Services.
- Economic Initiatives are forecast to be more or less on budget at the year-end.
- Directorate is forecast to be £90k (2.5%) under budget as a result of vacant posts within Policy and SNAP units.
- City Events and Venues are forecast to be £16k (0.4%) under spent at the year-end.

Forecast for Reserves

Renewing the Routes and SNAP: £645k

The programme is in the process of being developed as part of the Investment Programme and work is currently under way. Contracts are in place and the next phase of expenditure is expected to take place in the near future. This will be subject to Property & Projects being able to facilitate the delivery of these projects. It is anticipated that this money will be utilised from the start of the 2013/2014 financial year.

Events 2013-14: £601k

The reserve is scheduled to be released in the financial year of 2013-14, and will be utilised for planned events such as World Police and Fire Games, the All Ireland Dancing Championships and contractual payments in respect of the Tall Ships event in 2015. A further £64k will be allocated to meet the full requirements of these events.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs): Procurement Compliance

Procurement Compliance refers to the purchases that are made in compliance with the standard procure to pay process in BCC. These processes help ensure that our creditors are paid in a timely fashion and our accounts are accurate and up to date. The following indicators are intended to give a flavour of how well we are doing at adhering to the processes.

Indicator 1: Compliant Purchases (Purchase order created on system before ordering goods)
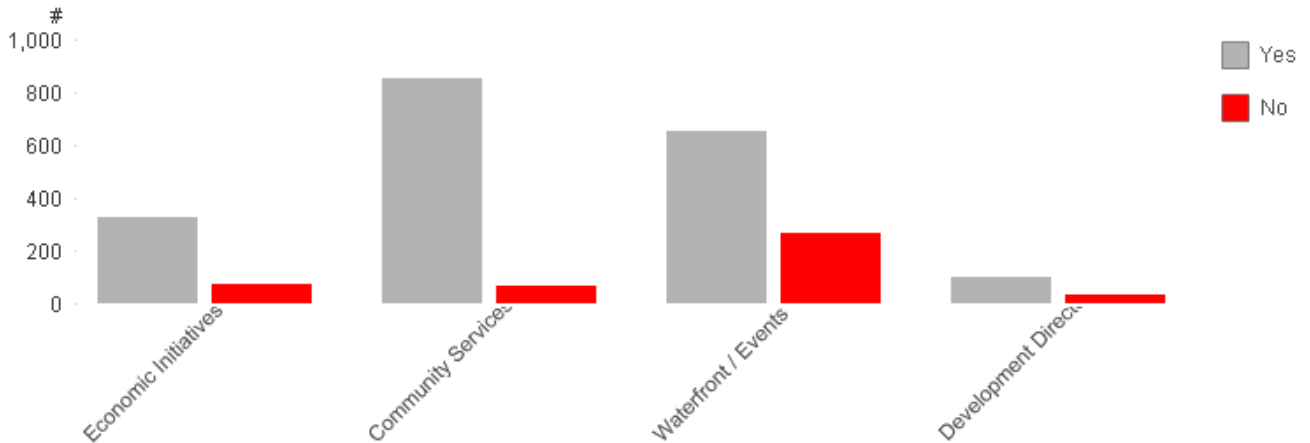
The impact of ordering goods without a purchase order being created on the system are that a) the authorisation for purchasing goods has not gone through the proper channels, b) incomplete records are available and decisions are being made based on information that is not correct and c) suppliers whose invoices do not have purchase orders take longer to pay and this contravenes an objective of the investment programme, negatively affecting supplier relationships with BCC.

Commentary and action required:

	Yes	No	Total	% Compliant
	1,931	**447**	**2378**	**81.2%**
Economic Initiatives	325	76	401	81.0%
Community Services	856	66	922	92.8%
Waterfront / Events	653	270	923	70.7%
Development Directorate	98	35	133	73.7%

Belfast City Council is currently 83% compliant in terms of the Purchase Order being raised before the supplier invoice date. The Development Department is slightly below the Council average, and is 81.2% compliant. This shows improvement with a 1.0% increase in compliance from the same nine-month period in 2011/12.

Departmental compliance is affected by the continuous reliance on manual requisitions and processes, collections and delivery of manual requisitions from remote locations, increased processing time as a result of "sourcing", which elongates the approval process, and the recent implementation of the SRM system to specific services.

The Department is currently working to implement and roll out the SRM system to all services within the department, is fully participative in systems improvement via the SAP Improvement Group, the identification of 'hot spots' and the provision of training and re-training of staff, where appropriate.

Procurement compliance is kept under constant review and is reported on a monthly basis to the Development Department Management Team.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs): Procurement Compliance

Indicator 2: Timeliness of Goods on System (Goods received and marked received on system within 5 days)
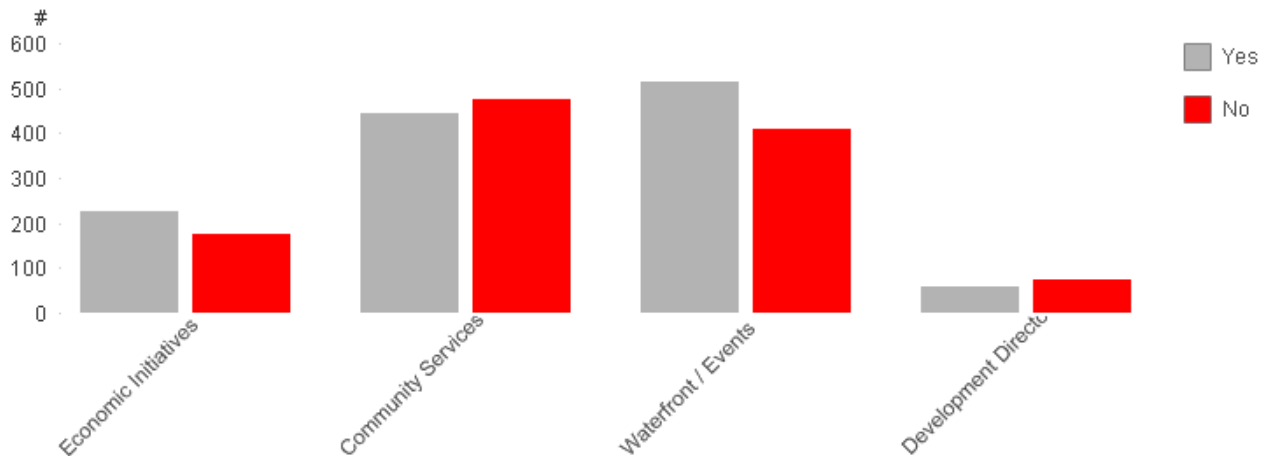
The impact of not marking goods as received onto the system is that a) BCC records of goods on site are not up to date and b) there is a risk that a department might overspend its budget as goods have been received but are not showing against the budget and c) it can take longer to pay the suppliers invoices and this contravenes an objective of the investment programme, negatively affecting supplier relationships with BCC.

Commentary and action required:

CostProfit_C... ∨	Yes	No	Total	% Compliant
	1,245	**1,133**	**2378**	**52.4%**
Economic Initiati...	226	175	401	56.4%
Community Servi...	445	477	922	48.3%
Waterfront / Ev...	516	407	923	55.9%
Development Dir...	59	74	133	44.4%

Belfast City Council is currently 56% compliant in terms of the goods received note (GRN) being created before the supplier raises the invoice. Again, the Development Department is slightly below the Council average at 52.4% compliance. This shows improvement from the departmental compliance level for 2011/12 which was 46.8% for the year.

Departmental compliance is affected by the continued reliance on manual processes and paperwork, collections and delivery of manual goods received notes from remote locations and the recent implementation of the SRM system to specific services.

The Department is currently working to implement and roll out the SRM system to all services within the department, is fully participative in systems improvement via the SAP Improvement Group, the identification of 'hot spots' and the provision of training and re-training of staff, where appropriate.

Procurement compliance is kept under constant review and is reported on a monthly basis to the Development Department Management Team.

Development Committee

Service	Section	Plan YTD £000s	Actuals YTD £000s	Variance YTD £000s	% Variance	Annual Plan 2012/2013 £000s	Forecast for Y/E at P9 £000s	Forecast Variance £000s	% Variance
Total		**15,716**	**15,580**	**(137)**	**(0.9)%**	**19,660**	**19,485**	**(175)**	**(0.9)%**
Development Directorate	**Total**	**2,598**	**2,525**	**(73)**	**(2.8)%**	**3,791**	**3,701**	**(90)**	**(2.4)%**
Development Directorate	City Development	529	495	(35)	(6.6)%	877			
Development Directorate	Development Business Support	1,359	1,365	6	0.4%	1,811			
Development Directorate	European Unit	184	189	5	2.9%	236			
Development Directorate	Policy & Research	297	272	(25)	(8.6)%	510			
Development Directorate	SNAP	228	204	(24)	(10.5)%	358			
Community Services	**Total**	**4,786**	**4,734**	**(52)**	**(1.1)%**	**5,598**	**5,529**	**(69)**	**(1.2)%**
Community Services	Community Services	4,786	4,734	(52)	(1.1)%	5,598			
Waterfront / Events	**Total**	**3,559**	**3,547**	**(12)**	**(0.3)%**	**4,182**	**4,166**	**(16)**	**(0.4)%**
Waterfront / Events	Events	1,461	1,431	(31)	(2.1)%	1,703			
Waterfront / Events	Waterfront Hall	2,097	2,117	19	0.9%	2,478			
Economic Initiatives	**Total**	**4,774**	**4,774**	**(0)**	**(0.0)%**	**6,089**	**6,089**	**0**	**0.0%**
Economic Initiatives	Economic Development Unit	652	763	111	17.0%	1,173			
Economic Initiatives	Planning & Development	45	(31)	(76)	(169.9)%	(22)			
Economic Initiatives	Planning & Transport	609	509	(100)	(16.4)%	875			
Economic Initiatives	Tourism Unit	3,468	3,534	65	1.9%	4,062			

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Agenda Item 4c

Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	Scale of Charges 2013/14
Date:	19 February 2013
Reporting Officer:	John McGrillen, Director of Development, ext 3470
Contact Officers:	David Orr, Business Support Manager, ext 3502

1	**Relevant Background Information**
1.1	The purpose of this report is to consider the annual review of prices for hire/rental charges at the Belfast Waterfront, Ulster Hall and Community Centres and to agree an implementation with effect from 1 April 2013. The pricing policy details the hire charges relating to all areas of Belfast Waterfront and the Ulster Hall, including the Main Auditorium, Studio, meeting rooms, exhibition areas including Concourse, Gallery Levels 1 and 2, Bar Levels 1 and 2, the Ulster Hall Grand Hall, Group Space and small meeting rooms.

2	**Key Issues**
2.1	Belfast Waterfront/Ulster Hall The current pricing schedule, applicable from 1 April 2012–31 March 2013, was agreed by the Development Committee in February 2012. The proposed price changes for 2013/2014 take account of the difficult trading environment we are currently operating in as well as the planned development at the Waterfront. The adjustments listed in the pricing policy recommendations for the incoming financial year should keep BW/UH's prices competitive with comparable venues throughout the UK.
2.2	Members should note that there was no increase in room hire fees in 2012/2013 and that prices have remained static since 2010. Our key recommendations are set out below:
2.3	Conference and Business Sales (CBS) Belfast Waterfront Pricing It is recommended that charges for all spaces except front of house areas in the venue remain the same and therefore attracted a zero increase for 2013/2014. The charges for the Bar and Gallery areas and Arc should however be adjusted as listed in appendix 1 in order to ensure that these spaces remain competitive against city hotels and other local venues. The price adjustments detailed also

	take account of the potential loss of the Studio space as a result of the construction and build works required for the new extension.
2.4	<u>Belfast Waterfront Entertainment and Miscellaneous Events Pricing</u> It is recommended that room hire for the Auditorium, Studio and Mezzanine dressing rooms remain the same as 2012/2013 rates. However, it is recommended that the charges for the Bar, Gallery and Arc spaces are adjusted, in line with business hire pricing.
2.5	<u>Ulster Hall Pricing</u> Client feedback would suggest that the Grand Hall is an expensive option for commercial promoters therefore it is proposed that the entertainment hire rate for the Grand Hall be held at the 2012/2013 rates. It is also recommended that the Grand Hall rates across all remaining pricing categories (B-D) also receive a zero increase. See appendix 2 for Ulster Hall pricing.
2.6	It is however recommended that the Group and meeting room hire fees are increased in order to recoup a greater share of the operational costs associated in facilitating events in these areas.
2.7	Members will see that the seating removal and return fee is also held at the 2012/2013 rate.
2.8	All the new charges recommended for 2013/2014 are attached as Appendices 1-2.
2.9	<u>Community Centres</u> Prices have remained the same from 2010/2011. It is recommended that this policy continues for another year and that no price increases should be applied for 2013/2014.

3	**Resource Implications**
3.1	<u>Financial</u> The recommendations above have all been factored into the Departmental Revenue Estimates for 2013/14, as approved by Committee in January 2013.
3.2	<u>Human Resources</u> There are no additional human resource requirements in relation to implementation of the proposed Pricing Policy.

4	**Equality and Good Relations Considerations**
4.1	There are no equality implications in agreeing the 2013/2014 Departmental Scale of Charges.

5	**Recommendations**

5.1	It is recommended that Members note the contents of the report and approve:
	    1) The new Pricing Policy at the Belfast Waterfront and Ulster Hall for 1 April 2013 – 31 March 2014;
	    2) No increase in Community Centre fees;
	    3) An effective date of 1 April 2013 for all areas.

6	**Decision Tracking**
There is no decision tracking attached to this report.	

7	**Documents Attached**
Appendix 1 - Entertainment and Miscellaneous Events Venue Hire Appendix 2 - Ulster Hall Venue Pricing	

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BELFAST WATERFRONT
2013/2014 PRICING POLICY
Appendix 1

ENTERTAINMENT AND MISCELLANEOUS EVENTS

(ALL RATES ARE SUBJECT TO VAT)

Auditorium

	Daily Rate - seated - full day (9:00-23:00)		Daily Rate - seated - part day (9:0018.00 or 13.00-23:00)		Daily Rate - standing - full day (9:00-23:00)		Weekly Rates
	Monday-Thursday	Friday - Sunday	Monday-Thursday	Friday - Sunday	Monday-Thursday	Friday - Sunday	Monday - Saturday
Commercial / Standard Events	£8,558	£9,415	£6,834	£7,548	£9,180	£10,506	£42,789
Registered Charity	£6,834	£7,548	£5,467	£6,038	£7,344	£8,405	£34,170
Multi Event (5) Commercial Promoters	£6,834	£6,834	£6,834	£6,834	£7,344	£7,344	£34,170

Studio

	Daily Rate - seated - full day (9:00-23:00)		Daily Rate - seated - part day (9:0018.00 or 13.00-23:00)		Daily Rate - standing - full day (9:00-23:00)		Weekly Rates	Community Rate
	Monday-Thursday	Friday - Sunday	Monday-Thursday	Friday - Sunday	Monday-Thursday	Friday - Sunday	Monday - Saturday	Daily Rate
Commercial / Standard Events	£1,010	£1,193	£918	£1,122	£1,173	£1,428	£5,049	£650
Registered Charity	£806	£959	£734	£898	£969	£1,071	£4,029	£650
Multi Event (5) Commercial Promoters	£806	£914	£806	£914	£1,020	£1,020	£3,938	£650

███ hold at 2012/2013 rate

Registered Charities

Registered Charities are defined as being legally registered and promoting 'not for profit' events

Commercial Promoter Package - based on Arena & Middle Tier usage only

Commercial Promoters are defined as promoting 'Concert for Profits', and hire the venue for a minimum 5 times per year (see hire rates in attached Tables).

Alternatively, a minimum hire charge of £5,100 + 10% receipts, against 40% box Office receipts, whichever is the lesser, may be applied.

Box Office Commission

(Multi concert benefit (not to be used in conjunction with the Commercial Promoter package as above)

Up to 5 events	10%	Box Office Commission
From 6 to 10	7.5%	
From 11 to 19	6%	
20 events and over	5%	

Room Hire

Where available, individual rooms may be hired for meetings, rehearsals, conferences, talks presentations, exhibitions, etc.

Room Name	Full Day 9.00-23.00	Part Day 8hrs 09.00-18.00 OR 13.00-23.00	1/2 day rate 4hrs 9-13.00/ 14-18.00	Breakout rate 09.00-18.00
Auditorium	£8,725	£6,980		
Studio	£1,399	£1,222		
Concourse	£1,330	£1,157		
Gallery Level 1	£1,025	£795		£565
Gallery Level 2	£1,025	£795		£565
Bar Level 1	£1,025	£795		£565
Bar level 2	£1,025	£795		£565
ARC	£1,025	£795		£565
Conductor	£221	£165	£125	
Soloist	£221	£165	£125	
Harland	£221	£165	£125	
Pirrie	£331	£276	£185	
Andrews	£221	£165	£125	

Room Name	Full Day 9.00-23.00	Part Day 8hrs 9.00-18.00 OR 13.00-23.00	1/2 day rate 4hrs 9-13.00/ 14-18.00
Ritchie	£221	£165	£125
Boardroom	£413	£329	£240
Lagan	£473	£420	£260
Blackstaff	£221	£165	£125
Farset	£221	£165	£125
Olympic	£221	£165	£125
Titanic	£331	£289	£190
Canberra	£383	£306	£153
Britannic	£286	£226	
Green Room	£525	£443	
VIP Suite	£515	£434	£290

Exhibition Rate	
Concourse Box	£450
Bar 1 or Gallery 1 exhibition rate	£600
Bar 2 or Gallery 2 exhibition rate	£600

███ hold at 2012/2013 rate
███ price realignment 2013/2014
███ new pricing category 2013/2014
███ catering rate for the Canberra when hiring the Green room

Miscellaneous Charges

1 First 1.5 hours of get out included in basic rate of hire.   Rehearsals or Get-in hire Charge are at 50% of standard daily rates.

2 Additional usage surcharge each full or part hour   - Main Auditorium   £388
                                                      - Studio   £163

3 P.R.S. - up to 4.8% of Net Box Office, dependent upon music content

4 Ticket Printing - £0.21 per ticket

5 Hirers are generally limited to taking away for private sale / allocation a maximum of 20% of tickets including any complimentary / press / artiste ticket allocations

6 Only one means of discount may apply to each booking made

7 Studio pit seating can be provided at a cost of £130

8 An administration fee for marketing activity booked and paid for by Belfast Waterfront is calculated as follows:
   (i) Auditorium events - the greater of 15% of net marketing costs or £250
   (ii) Studio Events - the greater of 15 % of net marketing costs or £100

9 Merchandising and/or programmes sold by Belfast Waterfront Merchandising staff are subject to a commission charge of 25% + VAT

10 Merchandising may be sold by or on behalf of artistes at Belfast Waterfront Hall subject to payment of a facility fee. The fee is charged according to the size of the audience.

Up to 499	£100	+ VAT
500-999	£200	+ VAT
1,000 to 1,499	£250	+ VAT
1,500 +	£300	+ VAT

Note: larger events that carry an extensive range of merchandise are subject to a higher facility fee of £450 + VAT

Both Main Auditorium / Studio

a Late Booking Discount - Based on Main Auditorium or Studio Usage Only

If an event is placed at the hall within an eight week period of the event taking place, the hirer will be entitled to a 30% reduction in hire charge.   As a condition of entitlement to this discount, the booking must have been made on the basis of a new date enquiry, and not an existing reservation, nor extension thereof.

b Seasonal Off-peak Discount Period

Applicable periods - July/August
Should an event be placed at the waterfront during one of the stated off peak periods, then the Hirer shall be entitled to a 25% discount in hire charge.

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ULSTER HALL

PRICING POLICY DRAFT
1 April 2013 - 31 MARCH 2014

ULSTER HALL PRICING POLICY 1 April 2013 - 31 MARCH 2014
ALL CHARGES ARE EXCLUSIVE OF VAT (UNDER REVIEW)

MAIN HALL	Mon-Thurs 2 Session	Mon-Thurs 3 Session	Fri-Sun 2 Sessions	Fri-Sun 3 Sessions
Category A				
Entertainment Commercial Events (see note 11)	£ 1,800	£ 2,250	£ 2,000	£ 2,500
			2 Sessions	3 Sessions
Commercial Events, Business Hires, (100%)			£2,040	£2,550
Category B				
Charity and frequent use by commercial promoter (A-20%)	£1,450	£1,800	£1,600	£2,000
Business Hire Association and Charity discount rate			£1,632	£2,040
Category C				
Education / community(B-30%)	£1,300	£1,600	£1,400	£1,750
Category D				
Rig/rehearse rate all users (A-50%)	£1,000	£1,250	£1,000	£1,250
Business Hire set-up rate			£ 1,020	£ 1,275
Gala Dinner Package (note 11)				£3,650

MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES

1. Extra Charge for Standing Concert
(All Categories)   **£600**

ROOM HIRE
Where available, individual rooms may be hired for rehearsals, conferences, talks, presentations, exhibitions, etc.

Name of Room	Meeting Rooms 1-3	
	Per Full day (12 hours)	**£250**
	Per part day (8 hours)	**£200**
	Per half day (4 hours)	**£120**

The Group		
	Hire of Group:	
	Per day (8 hours)	**£550**
	Per half day (4 hours)	**£300**

EQUIPMENT HIRE
(Per Concert)

NOTES:

Note 1

Sessions are 09:00 to 13:00; 14:00 to 18:00; 19:00 to 23:00.

Note 2

First 1.5 hours of get out are included in the basic rate of hire.

Note 3

Events are not permitted to continue after 23:00 without
written permission from the Manager.

Note 4

Additional usage surcharge for each full or part hour: £300

Note 5

Main Hall hire charges include the use of Dressing Rooms as
available.

Note 6

Standard Box Office Commission charged on ticket sales at 10%.
Multi-concert rates are as follows:
Up to 5 events - 10%
From 6 to 10 - 7.5%
From 11 to 19 - 6%
20 events and over - 5%

Note 7

Ticket Printing - 21p per ticket.

Note 8

Performing Rights Society charges - at the appropriate rate
will be applied to box office receipts.

Note 9

Merchandise and/or programmes sold by Ulster Hall staff
are subject to a 25% plus VAT commission charge.

Note 10

Merchandise may be sold by or on behalf of artistes at the
Ulster Hall subject to payment of a facility fee. The fee is charged
according to the size of audience, as follows:

Up to 500	£100 plus VAT
Over 500	£200 plus VAT

Note 11

Gala Dinner Rate includes seat removal and return, tables, chairs, linen.
Basic provision sound (1 mic, 1 lectern) and lights (colour wash stage).
Use of Group as private reception area. Use of 3 dressing rooms.

Note 12

Grand Hall business hire fee includes lectern, PA system and 3 mics,
white overhead and front of stage lighting and 1 technician for set-up and operation.

Note 13

Gala Dinner rate includes seat removal and return, tables, chairs. Two lecterns,
PA system with use of 4 wired mics, white overhead and front stage lighting
and 1 technician for set-up and operation. Use of Group as private reception area.
Use of 3 dressing rooms.

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Agenda Item 5a

Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	Draft Development Plan for Crumlin Road Gaol (pre-consultation views)
Date:	Tuesday 19 February 2013
Reporting Officer:	John McGrillen, Director of Development, ext 3470

1	**Relevant Background Information**
1.1	Council have received a request from OFM-DFM to provide initial pre-consultation views on an early draft strategy for the development of the Crumlin Road Gaol. The vision for the strategy is "to rehabilitate Crumlin Road Gaol as a public asset which helps transform North Belfast's physical appearance, and contributes to that part of the City and wider Northern Ireland in terms of economic prosperity, improved social conditions and community confidence and cohesion; while balancing the historical and architectural importance of the site with current and future society needs."
1.2	The purpose of the draft strategy is to guide future developments at the Gaol, including high level development objectives which will form the criteria against which future potential developments will be considered. A strategy for developing the Gaol is designed to ensure that any new works have an appropriate focus and direction.
1.3	Various stakeholder organisations have been listed as key stakeholders to consult. These include: Sites Oversight Board; Belfast City Council; DSD; Crumlin Road Gaol Community Engagement Group; Belfast Distillery Company; Belfast Tours Ltd; St Malachy's College; Belfast Health and Social Care Trust; and other interested parties.
1.4	The consultation request was received on the 24th January, with a deadline of 8th February 2013. Council have stated that given the significance of this development and its potential to contribute to the development of the North Belfast Cultural Corridor that a response will be provided to OFM-DFM in early March.

2	**Key Issues**
2.1	The Visitor Attraction and Conference Centre at the Gaol opened to the public on 19 November 2012 and a preferred developer has been announced to transform A wing into a boutique distillery. A number of uses are currently being investigated for the unrestored areas of the Gaol including a digital/creative industries hub, museum and a boutique hotel. Work is also ongoing to take forward a feasibility study and pilot research project on the history of the Gaol.

	A feasibility study into traffic management and parking arrangements is also planned to address issues arising from the increasing number of visitors to the site.
2.2	The draft strategy will provide a basis for co-ordinating future developments. It has five main elements: **1) Clarifying how the Gaol redevelopment links to the wider development in the area** and the Programme for Government. The development of the Gaol was an integral part of the Draft Crumlin Road Gaol and Girdwood Barracks Masterplan (July 2007) which focussed on tourism and hospitality as the preferred theme within the regeneration of Girdwood. The Master Plan however did not enjoy community or political consensus; as a result, it was agreed that development of the Gaol site should be progressed despite the Girdwood hiatus. The draft Masterplan has now been superseded by a DSD review of its implementation and a subsequent Ministerial announcement which did not include the Crumlin Road Gaol. **2) Recognition of earlier research and plans** such as the Buro Hoppold Study of 2005 and their suggestion that the full potential of the Gaol could not be realised without access to additional land. **3) An overview of the work already happening.** The physical restoration of the Gaol buildings and any new buildings will be taken forward through a planned programme of new development projects and maintenance. A programme for this work, as well as associated research studies and land acquisition, is currently under consideration with an expectation that business cases will be subsequently developed for projects. A strategy for developing the Gaol will ensure that any new works have an appropriate focus and direction. **4) Details of the development routes available** - There are two routes through which development ideas for the Gaol can be progressed: - where a prospective developer approaches OFMDFM or a developer is approached by the CRGRT; or - where a competition is run to attract interest in developing a specific section/s of the Site through lease, partnership and other arrangements. The buildings and grounds of the Crumlin Road Gaol will remain in public ownership. Other than repair or restoration works it is not anticipated that any development of the Gaol estate will result in a cost to the Northern Ireland Executive. Any potential developer will need to show evidence that they have the necessary finance to complete any proposed development and subsequently sustain their business over the longer term (e.g. 25 years plus). **5) A summary of the proposed objectives** - that will be used to evaluate development proposals: - Contribute to meeting the regeneration needs of North Belfast in terms of employment, physical improvement and community reconciliation. - Support the commitments in the Programme for Government including employment, tourism and integrating social clauses into procurement and leases. - Recognise and protect the unique nature of the Gaol and contributing to the development of a 'Historic Quarter' for Belfast. - Encourage community cohesion and raising neighbourhoods esteem. - Complement current and planned development in the area. - Demonstrate a long term commitment to the regeneration of the Gaol. - Contribute to the establishment of the Gaol as a public asset of regional significance. - Remain sustainable in terms of financial stability, local environments, health and well-being, ecology, waste management, transport and mobility and security and

	crime prevention. - Ensure that development costs including any appropriate site preparation or fit-out costs are borne by the prospective developer.
2.3	It should be noted that that OFM-DFM are seeking 'pre-consultation' views from Council, there are no specific questions and limited detail presented in the document (attached as Appendix 1). Therefore it is not possible to provide a detailed response at this stage. OFM-DFM have indicated that the draft Development Strategy will be shared with a wide range of stakeholders in February 2013, including local community representatives and organisations bordering the site.

3	Resource Implications
3.1	None, at this stage.

4	Equality and Good Relations Considerations
4.1	The OFMDFM Policy screening states "The policy will have a beneficial effect for all Section 75 categories. The Policy Framework is designed to produce positive outcomes for the North Belfast population and Northern Ireland as a whole and for groups experiencing social and economic inequalities."

5	Recommendations
5.1	Members are asked to agree that the Council's initial response: - welcomes the redevelopment of the Gaol and supports the regeneration of the area and arterial route - recommends that the strategy needs to take cognisance of other planned developments to ensure the sustainable regeneration of the site and surrounding area - emphasises the need for consultation with all key stakeholders to maximise the benefits and value of investment in the area - states that the Council should be consulted on any future planned developments in the Gaol

6	Decision Tracking
Timeframe: April 2013 Reporting Officer: John McGrillen	

	Key to Abbreviations
OFMDFM – Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister CRGRT – Crumlin Road Gaol Regeneration Team	

	Documents Attached
Appendix 1 – Draft Development Strategy for Crumlin Road Gaol	

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GRASS AREA

CLIFTONPARK AVE

HOUSING

SUMMER STREET

HOUSING

GRASS AREA

GIRDWOOD

HMP WORKING OUT UNIT

Security

MATER HOSPITAL CAR PARK

VACANT SITE

MATER HOSPITAL CAR PARK

Cottages

"A" Wing

Office

Hospital

Security

St. MALACHY'S COLLEGE

FORMER COURTHOUSE

CRUMLIN ROAD

Gatehouse

"B" Wing

Admin. Building

"C" Wing

Recption Building

"D" Wing

St. MALACHY'S COLLEGE

To City Centre →

MATER HOSPITAL

Client: NBCAU
Job: CRUMLIN ROAD GAOL
Drawing: EXISTING SITE LAYOUT
Scale: 1:500
Principal CA / PM
CA / PM Project Manager
Drawn by: DW
Verified by
Date: April 2010
Drawing No. /

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Martin McDermott

January 2013

1. Previous and planned investment as well as current development plans for exploiting the Crumlin Road Gaol are at a pivotal stage when a clear strategy and criteria for guiding the future uses of this important public asset is required. This Strategy builds on the previous and current analysis of the restoration and development potential of the Crumlin Road Gaol and sets it in an updated context. It does not preclude either a single development purpose for the Gaol or having a number of diverse functions on the Site.

2. All future development plans for the Gaol estate will include detailed analysis of how they comply with the Programme for Government and support the development objectives in this Strategy.

3. While it will be important to exploit the regenerative potential of the Gaol through lease, partnership and other arrangements, the buildings and grounds of the Crumlin Road Gaol will remain in public ownership subject to any future decision by the Northern Ireland Executive,

Rationale

4. The legislative authority for restoring and developing the Gaol comes from "The Strategic Investment and Regeneration of Sites (Northern Ireland) Order 2003 which allows through 'the reinvestment and reform initiative' for "the development or redevelopment of land including conversion or demolition of existing buildings " .

5. The development of the Crumlin Road Gaol had been an integral part of the Draft Crumlin Road Gaol and Girdwood Barracks Master Plan (July 2007) which while leaving options open for any potential development on the gaol site; focussed on tourism and hospitality as the preferred development theme within the wider regeneration plan for Girdwood. The draft Master Plan however did not enjoy community or political consensus; as a result of which it was agreed at both a

local political and community level that development of the Gaol site should be progressed despite the Girdwood hiatus. The Crumlin Road Gaol and Girdwood Barracks draft Master plan has been superseded by a DSD review of its implementation and a subsequent Ministerial announcement which did not include the Crumlin Road Gaol.

6. The Buro Hoppold Study of 2005 on the of the Crumlin Road Gaol, a predecessor to the Crumlin Road Gaol and Girdwood Barracks Master Plan, made some analysis of the development potential of the Gaol site without recommending any specific use. It did however recognise that the full potential of the Gaol needed further analysis but could not be realised without access to additional land.

7. Programme for Government 2011 – 2015 has a number of commitments which will be potentially supported by the development of the Gaol for new uses; they include contributing to rising levels of employment, including social clauses in public procurement contracts, increasing visitor numbers and tourist revenue, and supporting projects through the Creative Industries Fund.

8. The physical restoration of the Gaol buildings and any new buildings will be taken forward through a planned programme of new development projects and maintenance. A programme for this work as well as associated research studies and land

acquisition is currently under consideration with an expectation that Business Cases will be subsequently developed for

projects. A strategy for developing the Gaol will ensure that any new works have an appropriate focus and direction.

Background

9. The Crumlin Road Gaol is located at a central position on the lower Crumlin Road approximately 2 miles from the City

    Centre. Since 2006 capital investments of around £7m have re-established this iconic building as a highly significant public

    asset for Belfast and Northern Ireland. Layout drawings are attached at Annex1.

10. While more investment will be needed to continue the rehabilitation of this Grade A listed building, plans are already

    underway to exploit its potential as a regenerative tool in North Belfast. The Belfast Distillery Company has been chosen as

    the preferred developer for A Wing and Belfast City Tours have succeeded in the competition for an operator for the visitor

    attraction and conference centre ('C' Wing).

11. These initiatives are a first phase in creating new uses for the Gaol. It is anticipated that there will be job opportunities

    created both through new businesses being established and visitors coming to the area.

12. The rehabilitation of the Gaol building has positively affected the aesthetic look of the lower Crumlin Road and will generally

    improve the esteem of the area as well as helping to unlock and support the potential of other regeneration assets in the

    vicinity. OFMDFM are working with DSD on how the Crumlin Road Gaol can support a strategic approach to regeneration of

the neighbourhoods in the Gaol proximity. Discussions are ongoing on a number of issues including the Court House, a planned DSD environmental scheme for the Crumlin Rd and the exploitation of the Girdwood site.

Vision

13. The vision for the Crumlin Road Gaol which has been derived from the commitments in the Programme for Government is:

"To rehabilitate Crumlin Road Gaol as a public asset which helps transform North Belfast's physical appearance, and contributes to that part of the City and wider Northern Ireland in terms of economic prosperity , improved social conditions and community confidence and cohesion; while balancing the historical and architectural importance of the site with current and future society needs.

Development Objectives

14. The development objectives for the Crumlin Road Gaol will form the criteria against which potential developments will be considered. Development of the Gaol will seek to fully or significantly:

I. Contribute to meeting the regeneration needs of North Belfast in terms of employment, prosperity, physical improvement and community reconciliation.

II. Support the commitments in the Programme for Government including contributing to a rise in employment, increasing tourism numbers and integrating social clauses into procurement contracts and lease agreements.

III. Recognise the unique nature of the Gaol and build on the historical and built heritage potential of the Lower Crumlin Road area and contribute to the development of a 'Historic Quarter' for Belfast.

IV. Encourage community cohesion and help to raise the esteem in the neighbourhoods in proximity to the Gaol.

V. Complement current and planned development within the Gaol and its environs and comply with infrastructure and utility arrangements for the Gaol.

VI. Demonstrate a long term commitment to the regeneration of the Gaol; e.g. through investment in development and accepting longer term leases where this appropriate.

VII. Protect the architectural and historic integrity of the Gaol.

VIII. Contribute to the establishment of the Gaol as a public asset of regional significance.

IX. Act as catalyst for regeneration projects in the Lower Crumlin Road area.

X. Have the support of other public sector bodies with regeneration remits.

XI. Be consistent with all planning and environmental policies as well as any other relevant legal requirements including equality legislation.

XII.   Remain sustainable in terms of financial stability, local environments, health and well-being, ecology, waste management, transport and mobility and security and crime prevention.

XIII.   Ensure that development costs including any appropriate site preparation or fit-out costs are borne by the prospective developer.

XIV.   Build on the previous restoration and maintenance investment at the Gaol.

Processes and Governance

15. There are two routes through which development ideas for the Gaol can be progressed: (i) where a prospective developer approaches OFMDFM or a developer is approached by the CRGRT (Annex 2) or (ii) where a competition is run to attract interest in developing a specific section/s of the Site (Annex 3).

16. The process for assessing development proposals is set within the OFMDFM Governance structure for managing the strategic investment and regeneration of sites and consistent with DFP policies on procurement and evidenced decision making.

17. Any consideration of development of the Gaol or its grounds will be subject to the appropriate OFMDFM and NICS internal approval processes and attainment of the necessary legal and other permissions / approvals.

18. Any prospective developer will have to validate their proposal with evidence that clearly demonstrates how they address the Development Objectives above.

Restoration, Repair and Maintenance

19. The ongoing programme of restoration, repair and maintenance will safeguard the Gaol building in line with the Department's statutory duties to maintain the fabric of the historic, Grade A listed buildings, protect previous investment and facilitate future development opportunities.

20. All work at the Gaol will seek to be in line with NIEA guidance and complementary to current and planned developments.

Costs

21. Other than repair or restoration works it is not anticipated that any development of the Gaol estate will result in a cost to the Northern Ireland Executive. Any potential developer will need to show evidence that they have the necessary finance to complete any proposed development and subsequently sustain their business over the longer term (e.g. 25 years plus).

Infrastructure

22. While OFMDFM will be responsible for the infrastructure and utilities of the Gaol Estate any potential developer will be expected to pay an appropriate proportion of this cost and comply with any arrangement in terms of service delivery or charging.

Consultation

23. The development strategy has been equality screened and found to have no detrimental impacts on the categories in section 75

24. This Strategy has been shared with stakeholders including the Crumlin Road Gaol Community Engagement Group [DN due to occur February] which provides a forum for the exchange of information on plans to exploit the Gaol as a public asset and other regeneration agencies. A list of stakeholder organisations is included at Annex 4.

DEVELOPMENT IDEA INITIATED BY PROSPECTIVE DEVELOPER OR OFMDFM

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┌──────────────────┐     ┌──────────────────┐     ┌──────────────────────────┐     ┌──────────────────┐
│ Exploratory      │     │ Development      │     │ CRGT assessment with     │     │ Crumlin Road Gaol│
│ Discussions      │────▶│ proposal         │────▶│ support from finance,    │────▶│ Development       │
│ on               │     │ received         │     │ legal, economist,        │     │ Steering Group   │
│ Development      │     │                  │     │ environment,             │     │ Approval         │
│ Proposal         │     │                  │     │ construction and other   │     │                  │
└──────────────────┘     └──────────────────┘     │ Professional advisors    │     └──────────────────┘
         │                                         └──────────────────────────┘              │
         ▼                                                                                    ▼
┌──────────────────┐                                                              ┌──────────────────┐
│ No               │◀─────────────────────────────────────────────────────       │ Sites Oversight  │
│ progression      │                                                              │ Board            │
│                  │                                                              │ Endorsement      │
│                  │                                                              └──────────────────┘
│                  │                                                                        │
│                  │                                                                        ▼
└──────────────────┘                                                              ┌──────────────────┐
                                                                                  │ OFM dFM          │
                                                                                  │ Approval         │
                                                                                  │                  │
                                                                                  │                  │
                                                                                  └──────────────────┘
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11

Annex 3

DEVELOPER COMPETITION

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┌──────────────┐     ┌──────────────────────┐                    ┌──────────────┐     ┌──────────────┐
│ CPD          │     │ Evaluation Panel     │                    │ Sites        │     │ OFM dFM      │
│ tendering    │────▶│                      │    Successful      │ Oversight    │────▶│ Approval     │
│ process      │     │ (Key stakeholders &  │──▶    bid       ──▶│ Board        │     │              │
│              │     │ professional advice) │                    │ Endorsement  │     │              │
└──────────────┘     └──────────────────────┘                    └──────────────┘     └──────────────┘
       │                      │                                                               │
       ▼                      │                                                               ▼
┌──────────────┐              │                                                        ┌──────────────┐
│ No suitable  │◀─────────────┘                                                        │ CPD          │
│ bids         │                                                                       │ Approval     │
│              │                                                                       │ process      │
└──────────────┘                                                                       └──────────────┘
```

Annex 4

Stakeholder Organisations

i.	**Sites Oversight Board**
ii.	**Belfast City Council**
iii.	**SIB**
iv.	**DSD (BCCRD & BRO)**
v.	**DOJ**
vi.	**Northern Ireland Prison Service**
vii.	**NIEA**
viii.	**CPD**
ix.	**Crumlin Road Gaol Community Engagement Group**
x.	**Belfast Distillery Company**
xi.	**Belfast Tours Ltd**
xii.	**St Malachy's College**
xiii.	**Belfast Health and Social Care Trust**
xiv.	**DRD Roads Service**
xv.	**Other interested parties**

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Martin McDermott
Programme Manager, Crumlin Road Gaol Regeneration Team
Room E5.07 Castle Buildings
Stormont Estate
BELFAST
BT4 3SR

Dear Martin

Thank you for your letter seeking our initial views on the draft Development Strategy for the Crumlin Road Gaol setting out the rationale, vision and development objectives for the site.

North Belfast has experienced significant levels of deprivation and the Crumlin Road Gaol is a key physical and historical site along the arterial route leading into the city centre. The Council has recognised the potential importance of the Crumlin Road Gaol as a tourist and economic driver for regeneration in the area. It has the potential to be a unique experience for visitors to Belfast as acknowledged in the Belfast Integrated Tourism Framework. It also forms a key site for the development of the North Belfast Cultural Corridor which stretches from the Gaol and Crumlin Road Courthouse to the Cathedral Quarter, linking a series of stepping stones that provide access to a diverse cultural experience such as Clifton Street Orange Hall, Indian Community Centre and Carlisle Memorial Methodist Church.

As you have referred to, a strategic approach to the development of Gaol is essential in order to maximise the potential of the development of the Gaol in terms of its sustainability, regenerative impact on neighbouring communities and the city. In addition to the environmental improvement of the area and the assets referred to in the draft Strategy, such as Girdwood and the physical and historical link between the Gaol and the Courthouse, the Council also has a number of capital enhancement projects in the vicinity of the Gaol that would need to be taken account of in order to support such a strategic approach to regeneration of the neighbourhoods in the Gaol's proximity. The potential impact of the development of the Gaol for the city, also needs to be considered in the context of other proposed developments towards the north of the city centre such as the University of Ulster's campus relocation and Royal Exchange.

To maximise the long term benefits and the success of the development of the Gaol, consultation with local communities and businesses will be critical. Engagement with the Council's political process will form an essential aspect of this to enhance the benefits and ensure a strategic approach to the development of the site for the city, particularly with the impending Local Government Reform. In addition to the plans for consultation with a wide range of stakeholders, we would emphasise the importance of engaging in the political process to enhance support for any strategy and its resultant implementation.

While we realise you have asked for early views on the draft strategy, this would be a landmark development for the area with the potential to connect to the existing assets, planned developments and programmes in the area. The Council will need to give the strategy detailed consideration that takes account of the political process; which there has not been enough time for with this initial pre-consultation request.

We look forward to receiving the draft strategy for consultation and welcome the opportunity to provide a considered Council response. Equally, we would like to be consulted on any future specific projects within the overall strategy.

Yours sincerely,
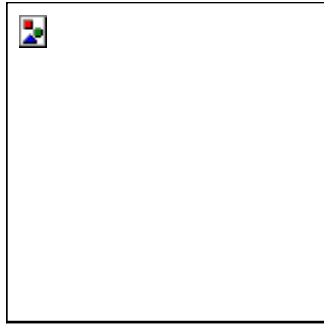
Belfast City Council

Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	Belfast Charter Anniversary
Date:	19 February 2013
Reporting Officer:	John McGrillen, Director of Development, ext 3470
Contact Officer:	Kerrie Sweeney, Tourism, Culture & Arts Manager, ext 3586

1	**Relevant Background Information**
1.1	The charter establishing the ancestor of the current council is dated 27 April 1613. A report was to Committee and agreed in November 2012.
1.2	Officers have been progressing Committee's decisions and this report updates members on this work. The Events Unit is delivering a themed programme at Easter based in City Hall and it, and other Council units have working in collaboration with the Tourism, Culture and Arts Unit. An outline of the Events programme is Appendix 2. This includes an exhibition which looks at Belfast's developing landscape from early prehistory up to the City Charter and boundary extension of 1892, which has the potential to tour.
1.3	On 24 January the Lord Mayor and Vice-Chancellor of Queen's University launched the 'Belfast 400: People, Place and History'. Both launch and book have proved very successful.
1.4	It is also the case that engagement with the anniversary extends beyond Council and a number of major cultural institutions, as well as some smaller, are branding activity this year as 'Belfast 400'. These include the Lyric Theatre, Linen Hall Library and Kabosh theatre company. A special section of the Council website provides the opportunity to publicise related events. A number of the Community Festivals and Project funding applications currently being assessed also relate.
1.5	The Belfast Harbour Commissioners have accepted the 1613 date as marking the formal establishment of the port and have developed a programme and expressed a desire to work closely with Council. They are developing an outdoor exhibition along with landscaping in the currently derelict site just downstream from the Obel Tower, are opening the Harbour Office, running free

	boat tours and engaging with communities.
1.6	A further part of the Council process has been the development internally of a visual identity which might be used in connection with our own events, by partners and in the City Dressing programme. This draws on the imagery of the 1638 Le Squire seal, which is the earliest visualisation of the corporation arms, and to a lesser extent on a series of seventeenth century merchants' tokens, including one issued by the corporation. These connect very strongly with the theme of maritime heritage and provide a useful link to previous Easter Titanic events programmes. Sample images are in Appendix 3
1.7	An important part of this activity is a recognition that the commemoration relates as much to the City's future as to the past. There has been engagement with the Youth Forum which has set up a sub-group to look at the charter anniversary. With a new Youth Forum only meeting for the first time in December, time so far has been limited, but the sub-group is excited about the idea of delivering a citizenship project to schools in the Council Chamber through living history. It is hoped that financial support may be forthcoming from the Heritage Lottery's Young Roots fund.
1.8	A further key partnership is with the Ulster Society for Irish Studies, which is the main body representing professional historians in Northern Ireland. It is running an event on 16 March in the Waterfront Hall, presented as a 'history forum'. There is a distinguished group of speakers who will contextualise the events leading up to 1613 and after. The event is free to the public and it is hoped that it will stimulate frank discussion of the issues.
1.9	The proposed programme so far, with costs, is provided as Appendix 1.

2	**Key Issues**
2.1	A decision has yet to be made on how the actual date might be marked. Options are currently being considered for a celebratory event at the City Hall on 27 April 2013 and potentially linking with the proposed spring conference to launch the Masterplan.
2.2	Belfast is one of 40 towns across Ireland which got charters in the 1613 period and there is also the option of formally engaging with the current civic entities which represent these places. It does not now appear that the Ministerial Advisory Group for Ulster-Scots is proposing to play any co-ordinating role in relation to this.
2.3	It has also been suggested that some tangible souvenir beyond the Belfast 400 book be produced. One option might be a pewter reproduction of an impression of the first civic seal, the need for which is specifically mentioned in the charter.
2.4	Members will also be aware that a report was taken to committee on 20 November looking at the possibility of making relevant collections from National Museums Northern Ireland more widely available. Officers are continuing to scope opportunities to progress this exciting idea as part of the Belfast 400 programme.
2.5	The possibility of a devising a special display exhibiting the actual charter itself, along with the original mace, seal (to be borrowed from National Museums) and portrait of Sir Arthur Chichester (to be borrowed from Belfast Harbour Commissioners) is being investigated. The cost of this would be in the order of

	£25,000, include a specialist case and lighting with environmental control. The casing would have to meet the detailed specification of National Museums, but would be available subsequent to the anniversary year.

3	**Resource Implications**
3.1	The elements of the programme to be delivered within the current financial year by the Tourism, Culture and Arts Unit will be delivered within current budgets and staffing.

4	**Equality and Good Relations Considerations**
4.1	The programme has been compiled with the need to be inclusive and examine shared histories in mind.

5	**Recommendations**
	Members are asked to consider this report and; 1. Agree the programme as set out so far 2. Agree the visuals and their use in a City Dressing Campaign 3. Agree the budget, as set out in Appendix 1

6	**Decision Tracking**
There is no decision tracking attached to this report.	

7	**Documents Attached**
Appendix 1 – Proposed Programme Appendix 2 – Events Programme Appendix 3 – Sample images	

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PROGRAMME					
				2012/13	2013/14
17th December	**Design Identity** Designed internally and signed off Marketing Materials	VENUE		£15,000	
24th January 2013	**Belfast 400 Book** Launch of ' Belfast 400' book.	City Hall	TCA Unit	£800	
16TH March	**History Forum** organised with Ulster Society for Irish Historical Studies. 5 distinguished speakers agreed PRONI another partner	Waterfront Hall	TCA Unit And partners	£2100	
late Feb 2013	**Belfast Places** Launch community competition for best ideas on how to discover and communicate place-related history. Best 5 across city quarters are facilitated to deliver their ideas. Titanic Belfast interested in showcasing and supporting. Displaying Belfast History.	On Line / in press	TCA Unit	£500	£7,500 £10,000
Easter Event 'Belfast 400' will take place from 30 March-2 April 2013, 11am-5pm each day and will be	**Easter Events programme** As part of the 4 day Easter event, the doors of City Hall will open to the public. Within the building, there will be an assortment of activities, from exhibitions, tours, films, talks and lectures, drama, puppetry and workshops. There are also plans to make use of the lawns and the live screen over the Festival period to further encourage citizens and visitors to come into City Hall to be part of the celebrations. The City Events Unit will be working alongside our colleagues in Tourism, Culture and Arts, Facilities Management and	City Hall	Events Unit	Events budget	

free to attend	Corporate Communications as well as external partners, Titanic Belfast and the Belfast Harbour Commissioners, with the key aim to develop coordinated activity to celebrate the anniversary of the charter and Belfast being granted town status.				
TBC No recent contact with MAGUS	**40 Towns** A programme for all 40 towns in Ireland which received charters	City Hall and across the City			
				Events budget	
From April 2013, all year	**Charter Exhibition** Centres on the charter itself, with mace; loans of Le Squire seal, Chichester portrait			£25,000	
May – June Work started with Youth Forum	**Civic Governance Programme** A major citizenship project centred on the council chamber. It would use a living history approach – one facilitator playing roles, the other managing the learning. Currently looking at three scenarios – starting with Chichester and 1613. There would be an opportunity for Members to link with their local schools and perhaps say something about their work now. Costs are based on 8 weeks = 24 days. The number of young people with whom engagement might happen is c. 1800 This involves the Youth Forum and there is a potential opportunity for a Heritage Lottery Fund 'Young Roots' grant of c. £29,000. This programme may have the capacity to become a regular, annual event, linking to the citizenship curriculum up to key stage 4.	City Hall	TCA Unit; Community; Record Manager	Civic Governance and Citizenship Income Heritage Lottery Fund £29,000 total budget (including contingency) £48,000; Council cash £6,000; rest in-kind	£6,000

February forward	**Events and programming by funded organisations** A number of funding clients, from the Lyric and Linen Hall Library to community organisations, are theming events round the 400. As well the funding relationship, we will publicise these through the dedicated section of the website and make urge the use of supplied identity – banners and pop-ups	Various	TCA / Comms / external	£2000	
March – July?	**City Dressing** Use the 400 imagery for city dressing banners.	City-wide	TCA / Comms	£3600 – paid from City Dressing	
June >	**Assembly Book** Important record of the Corporation mid-eighteenth century to 1842; also contains list of charitable disembursements. Digitise and make available through web; Index freemen from Town Book. Valuable genealogical resource – potentially supports Gathering programme	On-line	TCA / PRONI / Records Manager		£1000

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BELFAST 400 Easter Festival – Briefing document

Date: Easter Sat, Sun, Mon and Tues (30 March-2 April 2013)
Time: 11am-5pm each day
Venue: Belfast City Hall
Target audience: Families, children, young adults, groups, out of state / tourists (**FREE EVENT)**

For the past 10 years, the City Events Unit has delivered the Titanic Made in Belfast Festival which took place over the Easter holiday period of 4 days in Belfast City Hall. The event in the past has attracted in the region of 10,000 each year. With the success of 2012 now coming to a close, the City Events Unit are keen to revamp the Easter event for 2013 and are keen to tie their programme of activity into the anniversary of the 1613 Charter. To mark this special anniversary, Belfast City Council will lead on developing a programme of events to mark the Belfast charter in 1613. A number of units across the Council would be involved in delivering the wider Belfast 400 programme. Specific to the City Events Unit, we are organising Belfast 400 Easter Festival. **Belfast 400 Easter Festival is pending council endorsement which will not be available until the end of February.**

Key information
Belfast 400 will be a celebration of our city, the charter and our rich history. The event will have a focus on Belfast past, present and future. City Hall will open up for the 4 days and within the building and its rooms there will be an array of free activities for everyone to enjoy.

Provisional entertainment line up to feature: *(*Ticketed)*

- Photographic exhibition depicting Belfasts rich history over the last 400 years
- Storytelling / Puppetry / childrens shows (Mr Hullabaloo)
- Mad Hatter Tea Party (Stripy Sock Productions)
- *Nearly True Tours (3 per day)
- *Lectures/Talks 'Belfast Focus' (1 per day – all 4 days)
- Scheduled films – Focus on Belfast through film / animation / possible workshops
- Face painting
- Caricaturist
- Balloon modelling
- Easter Treasure hunt (City Hall based)
- Dance demonstrations / audience participation (Jitterbug / Charleston)
- Arts and Crafts workshops
- Giant Games Zone
- Titanic artefacts / memorabilia display
- Vintage Photobooth
- Walkabouts throughout
- Street theatre / shows
- Possible activity on lawn – i.e. vintage car display (still tbc)
- *Two special evening tours of Belfast City Hall with a 400 twist (Easter Sat & Easter Monday evening)
- * Four special Archaeological walking tours (city centre based - Ruairi O'Baoill)
- * Four special Architectural walking tours (city centre based – Place NI)
- RJ Welsh Titanic themed exhibition will be located down at Titanic Belfast for 1 month (30 March-30 April 2013 should people wish to see it.
- Prog of activity at the Ulster Hall (Tea dance, Retro Tea dance, Film screenings, guided tours, breakfast mornings, literacy Belfast screening & reading, reminiscence sessions, sing-along's etc

Other info to note:
- The event information is currently on the BCC website only.
- Information will be going into City Matters that will be distributed in Jan 2013.
- There is also mention of Belfast 400 in the visitor guide for 2013 and plans to market it via About Belfast in Feb/March & March/April editions
- Literature will be in the public domain and BWC from early March.
- A media plan has been agreed and radio ads, 48 sheets, adshells etc have been booked for 2 weeks in March.
- We will also be driving this event via all social media networks and hope to push event via BVCB and NITB networks also.
- The lead contact for any information is **Lisa Morgan** (028 9027 0552) Belfast City Council City Events Officer. If there is any calls with queries please contact her in the first instance.

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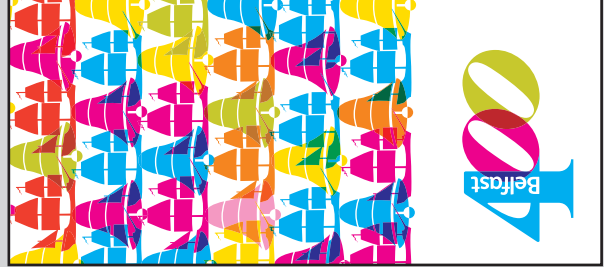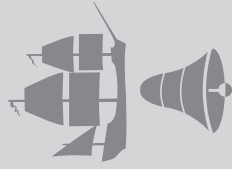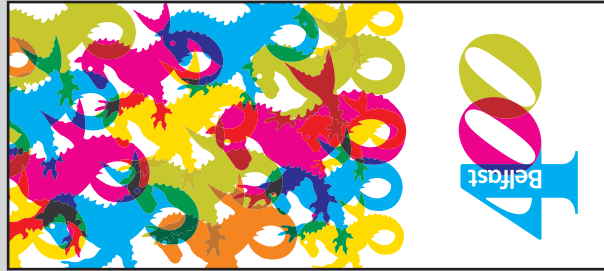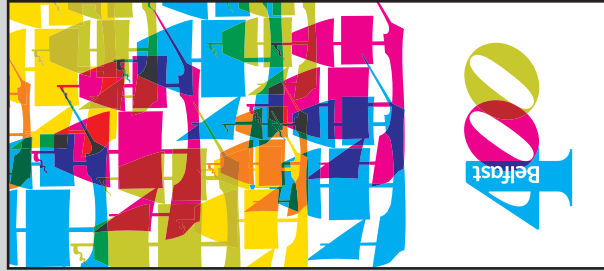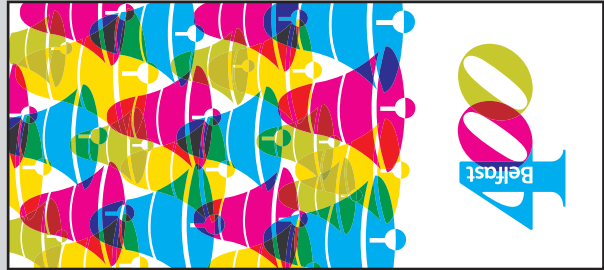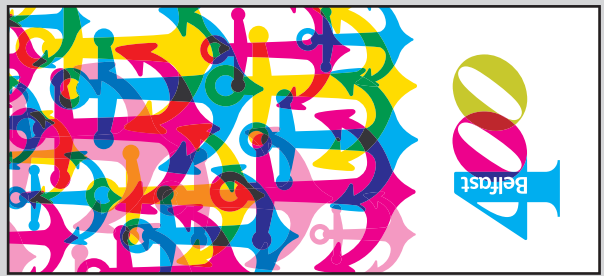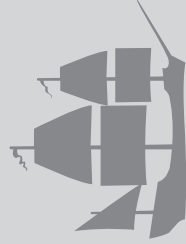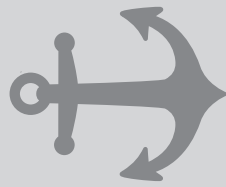
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Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	**Belfast Tourism Monitor**
Date:	19 February 2013
Reporting Officer:	John McGrillen, Director of Development, ext 3470
Contact Officers:	Shirley McCay, Head of Economic Initiatives, ext 3459

1	**Relevant Background Information**
1.1	Members will be aware that the Belfast Tourism Monitor is an integrated monitoring and evaluation service, currently carried out by Millward Brown Ulster, and is aimed at measuring the volume and value of tourism in Belfast on an annual basis. The importance of the data collated through the Tourism Monitor cannot be underestimated in terms of highlighting the economic impact and importance of tourism to the City's economy. The Council recognises the requirement for clear and robust data against which the tourism performance of the city may be measured.
1.2	The methodology of the Belfast Tourism Monitor includes conducting surveys with visitors to Belfast throughout the year. This research provides information on the number of visitors to the city, why they came, where they were from and how much they spent. It also measures satisfaction levels with regard to product and service provision. The surveys are done on a month by month basis.
1.3	The data collected from the Belfast Tourism Monitor informs the future development of tourism for the city by providing primary research for Belfast Visitor and Convention Bureau, the Council and the wider tourism industry. The Tourism Monitor research is made available to the tourism industry through the Council's website.
1.4	The Belfast Tourism Monitor has been conducted annually since 1999 and the work to be undertaken will build upon and add to the current established baseline figures.
1.5	The current three year contract with Millward Brown Ulster will come to an end in July 2013 and due to the lengthy procurement process approval is sought to initiate the tendering process for a new research consultancy to undertake the survey work for the period 2013 - 2016.

1.6	The objectives for the Tourism Monitor are; – To measure the economic benefit of tourism to Belfast, – To analyse and profile visitors to the city, – To measure the impact of our investment into BVCB and Belfast City Council led product development and events initiatives. – To assess the visitor's experience of Belfast.
1.7	A report on 2012 Tourism figures is currently being finalised and will be brought to Development Committee in March 2013.

2	Key Issues
2.1	The current three year contract with Millward Brown Ulster will come to an end in July 2013 and due to the lengthy procurement process approval is sought to initiate the tendering process.
2.2	Permission is sought from the Members of Development Committee for delegated authority to the Director of Development, to appoint the new contract at the end of the procurement process.

3	Resource Implications
3.1	It is envisaged that the maximum budget for the tourism monitoring and research, including events, will be £80,000 per annum for three years, £240,000 in total. (£80,000 per annum is currently available within Departmental budgets)

4	Equality and Good Relations Considerations
4.1	There are no Equality and Good Relations Considerations attached to this report.

5	Recommendations
	Members are asked to: – approve the procurement of the Belfast Tourism Monitor 2013-2016 – commit £80,000 per year over three years (£240,000) to undertake this research – grant the Director of Development delegated authority to appoint research consultants

6	Decision Tracking
A report on the 2012 tourism figures will be brought back to Development Committee in April 2013. Time frame: April 2013 Reporting Officer Shirley McCay	

Belfast City Council

Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	**Belfast Business Survey and Database**
Date:	19 February 2013
Reporting Officer:	John McGrillen, Director of Development, ext 3470
Contact Officers:	Shirley McCay, Head of Economic Initiatives, ext 3459

1	**Relevant Background Information**
1.1	Members will be aware that the Council delivers a range of support initiatives to directly support business start-up and growth as well as a range of employability initiatives.
1.2	Members will also be aware that, within the Investment Programme, there are a range of commitments to encourage business growth and competitiveness within key sectors, including retail, creative industries and financial and business services.
1.3	The economic downturn has clearly had a significant impact on the sustainability and competitiveness of local businesses. Numerous surveys have identified the growing number of vacancies in the city and wider region and this has a knock-on effect on the Council in terms of rates revenue raised. Equally, businesses have become increasingly focused on reducing their overheads and looking at new sales opportunities, and Belfast City Council has been working with local partners to develop programmes to meet these needs.
1.4	In order to ensure that the support programmes are still relevant and to build a picture of business confidence in the city, it is proposed that a business survey be carried out with a representative number of companies across the city. It is proposed that this survey is supplemented by a business database which brings together details on all companies located in the city to build up a picture of the scale and structure of the city's private sector and to help Council target its business support interventions.

2	Key Issues
2.1	Business Survey The Belfast Business Survey is a critical economic tool which analyses trends and patterns of business activities. Successive surveys were carried out in 2009, 2010 and 2011 and these presented a useful baseline and rationale for targeting Council intervention in business support initiatives. The information provided through the survey can be analysed against business sector, size, geographical location and age of business.
2.2	The aims of the survey are: - To establish a framework to help shape Council's future business development initiatives in order to ensure maximum impact - To monitor the trading experiences of businesses in the last twelve months - To identify Belfast businesses' perceptions regarding the economic outlook over the next twelve months. - To provide a longitudinal analysis over the years to help monitor changes to economic conditions - To analyse survey findings against other relevant independent research undertaken over a similar period.
2.3	To ensure the survey is up to date, it is proposed that the Council should commission a 2013 survey of 500 businesses. These companies will be reflective of the location, size and sector of enterprises across the city.
2.4	Business Database To undertake direct marketing of support initiatives to local businesses and facilitate the delivery of research projects such as the Belfast Business Survey, it is essential to have access to accurate and up-to-date information on local businesses.
2.5	In previous years, the Council has accessed information from the National Business Register. This register is drawn from some of the well known sources of business data including Yellow Pages, Thompson, Companies House, Royal Mail and BT records. The data provided can be tailored to the needs of Council with the contact details and sectoral classifications of only those businesses located in the Council area provided. Information on the database is provided for Council purposes only and is subject to Data Protection legislation.
2.6	It is proposed that the Council accesses a revised and updated version of the data for the Belfast City Council area in order ensure that accurate and relevant information is in place to allow targeted marketing of Council support activities to take place.

3.	Resource implications
3.1	The total financial requirement for the business survey and the database is £17,000.

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4	**Equality and Good Relations Considerations**
4.1	There are no Equality and Good Relations Considerations attached to this report.

5	**Recommendations**
5.1	Members are asked to approve the commissioning of the 2013 Belfast Business Survey and the renewal of the licence for the Belfast Business Database at a total cost of £17,000 maximum.

6	**Decision Tracking**
A report on the outcomes of the business survey will presented at the June 2013 meeting of the Development Committee.	
Timeframe: June 2013 Reporting Officer: Shirley McCay	

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Agenda Item 5e

Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	**Eurocities Engagement Approval**
Date:	19 February 2013
Reporting Officer:	John McGrillen, Director of Development, ext 3470
Contact Officers:	Laura Leonard, European Manager, ext 3577

1	**Relevant Background Information**
1.1	Members will be aware that Belfast City Council (BCC), has been a Member of the Eurocities Network since the early 1990's. This network brings together over 140 of Europe's largest local authorities at Officer and Member level. The secretariat for the network is based in Brussels with a staff and Executive Board of elected Members from cities throughout Europe. Through relevant Council Officer engagement BCC has participated regularly in the following thematic fora around which, Eurocities is structured:
	– Social Affairs – Economic Development – Environment – Culture – Knowledge Society
1.2	Meetings are held three times a year in rotated venues around Europe and each Forum has a maximum of eight working groups. An AGM is held each November and is attended by BCC's Chair and Deputy Chair of Development. Each year BCC, like all members of Eurocities are asked to pay a membership fee of €15,820. This fee has been frozen at €15,820 since 2009, and continues at this rate again for 2013.
1.3	Each year BCC experiences very positive gains from participation in the Eurocities network and importantly the Council contributes to policy influencing at the EU Commission and Parliament levels. This platform has consistently opened avenues of policy development, funding opportunity and legislation dissemination, allowing Belfast a strong voice both regionally and in Europe. Officers are currently heavily engaged in a

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		lobby to ensure a maximum level of EU funding is directed to cities and an enhanced delivery role is secured for local government with respect to the EU structural funds spend post 2013. The EU Unit reflects this lobby at Regional Government here in Northern Ireland.
	1.4	The Council engages in EU projects within the network and continues this year to deliver BCC projects namely,
		– Illuminate – installation of new low carbon lighting at City Hall – NICE – training for innovative techniques for reducing and measuring city ICT carbon emissions – Sport I- addressing how urban sports are a tool for social inclusion – Sport II- learning from technological innovations to facilitate physical activity – namely encouraging people to use city walking trails
	1.5	Critically, the Council works with Eurocities to track EU legislation and lobby heavily to influence this and ultimately create savings for the city, eg. EU Services Directive, Inspire Open Data directive.
	1.6	Profiling best practice is also a key objective to our engagement in Eurocities. Members will recall a highly successful cyber security conference hosted by BCC on 19-21 June 2012, in partnership with the Eurocities Knowledge Society Forum, the NI Science Park and the private sector. The event generated very positive PR for Belfast as outlined in Appendix I of this report.
	1.7	Members will be aware that BCC engages in Eurocities meetings and events at both Officer and Member levels. Indeed on 12 June 2012, Members agreed to the establishment of a Members EU Working Group with a view to up skilling Councillors on EU affairs and ensuring consistency with regard to Members engagement in Europe. This working group met for the first time in December 2012 and will report regularly to the Development Committee.
	1.8	An overview of the benefits of engaging in Eurocities in 2012 is outlined in Appendix 2.

2	**Key Issues**
2.1	Each year BCC participates in the Eurocities annual conference. Traditionally attendance has been through the Chair and Deputy Chair of Development or their nominees, as well as the Director of Development and the EU Manager.
2.2	The 2013 annual conference will take place in Ghent, Belgium from 7-10 November 2013. The theme of the conference is 'A New City Politics' focusing at how cities are turning to innovative ways of engaging citizens in local politics.
2.3	The conference will be structured around keynote speakers sessions, workshops, speed networking and the annual City awards ceremony, as well as the Mayor's debate. This session is only attended by BCC Members and not Officers. The 2013 Mayor's debate focus has yet to be confirmed. Members are

	asked to approve the attendance of the Chair and Deputy Chair of Development or their nominees as well as the Director of Development and the European Manager at the 2013 AGM.
2.4	Over 400 delegates are expected to attend the event and the focus of many of the sessions will be to look at new EU policies and funding opportunities coming down the line for local authorities, particularly in the context of the new EU funding round 2014-2020.
2.5	In the lead up to the AGM, Officers will continue to work in the various working groups within the thematic fora of Eurocities. The work plan per forum for BCC engagement is outlined in Appendix 2 of this report. Two key objectives for BCC over and above business as usual within Eurocities, are to bid to secure and host the Social Affairs Forum in 2013 and the Culture Forum in 2014.
2.6	Members will receive detailed reports on the rationale behind both bids and the intention to showcase excellent local work in the social inclusion and culture fields here in Belfast. It is intended at the encouragement of Eurocities, that BCC bids to host the Culture Forum in partnership with Derry City Council.

3	**Resource Implications**
3.1	The annual membership of the Eurocities network for 2013 is €15,820.

4	**Equality and Good Relations Considerations**
4.1	There are no equality and good relations considerations attached to this report.

5	**Recommendations**
5.1	Members are asked to note the Eurocities work engaged in by BCC in 2012 and approve the proposed BCC work plan with Eurocities for 2013.
5.2	Members are asked to approve payment of the annual subscription fee of €15,820 for Membership of the Eurocities network for 2013.
5.3	Members are asked to approve the attendance of the Chair and Deputy Chair of Development or their nominees, as well as the Director of Development and the European Manager at the Eurocities Annual Conference in Ghent from 7-10 November 2013.

6	**Decision Tracking**
	There is no decision tracking attached to this report.

7	**Documents Attached**
	Appendix 1 – PR coverage of BCC hosted Cyber Security Conference in June 2012 Appendix 2 – BCC Eurocities output 2012 and proposed work plan 2013

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BELFAST CITY COUNCIL

APPENDIX 1

20 June 2012

Belfast Cyber Security Infrastructure Examined At Conference

Delegates from across Europe are meeting in Belfast today for a major conference to promote the city as a trailblazer of technological excellence.

It comes shortly after Belfast was awarded £6m to invest in becoming 'super-connected' with fast broadband speeds.

The Eurocities Knowledge Society Forum's (KSF) Summer Conference has been organised by Belfast City Council and will look at the significant role of the city's cyber security infrastructure in transforming it to compete economically with others across the world.

The conference at the City Hall will be opened by the Lord Mayor of Belfast, Alderman Gavin Robinson, and will include talks from Enterprise Minister Arlene Foster, Dr Norman Apsley from the Northern Ireland Science Park, Dr Sinclair Stockman from Digital NI 2020, Ingrid Goetzl from the Eurocities KSF and John McCanny from ECIT.

Mr Robinson said: "When the Titanic was built in 1912, Belfast was a highly motivated, wealthy and industrious city on the cutting edge of technology and advancement. In 2012, we are once again a city at the forefront of innovation and change. Belfast is forging a new reputation as a trailblazer of technological excellence in the field of cyber security and we are keen to show how this is enabling us to achieve economic success by attracting businesses from across the world to our city."

The conference talks will centre on themes including 'Creating a Digital Economy in Northern Ireland in a Fully Connected World' and 'Building Confident, Competent, Safe and Secure Digital Communities'.

City's cyber power to be promoted at EU forum

Wednesday, 20 June 2012

Delegates from across Europe are meeting in Belfast today for a conference to promote the city as a trailblazer of technological excellence.
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The EU delegates, from countries including Belgium, Austria, Spain, Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden, Estonia and the UK, will also be visiting the Northern Ireland Science Park, Titanic Belfast, University of Ulster, CITI, BT NI and Eircom NI headquarters as part of their two-day trip.

Read more: http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/business/business-news/citys-cyber-power-to-be-promoted-at-eu-forum-16174722.html#ixzz2K2notiwx

Conference to promote Belfast as trailblazer of technological excellence

20 June 2012

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The EU delegates from countries including Belgium, Austria, Spain, Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden, Estonia and the UK will also be visiting the Northern Ireland Science Park, Titanic Belfast, University of Ulster, CITI, BT NI and Eircom NI headquarters as part of their two-day trip to the city.

Welcoming the delegates to Belfast, the Lord Mayor Alderman Gavin Robinson, said: "The Eurocities Knowledge Society Forum Summer Conference will tell the story of Belfast`s transformation and it is fitting that our story begins here at City Hall and ends at Titanic Belfast.

"When the Titanic was built, in 1912, Belfast was a highly motivated, wealthy and industrious city on the cutting edge of technology and advancement. In 2012, we are once again a city at the forefront of innovation and change.

"Belfast is re-creating its image and forging a new reputation as a trailblazer of technological excellence in the field of cyber security and we are keen to show how this is enabling us to achieve economic success by attracting businesses from across the world to our city.

"This conference will provide a platform for a meaningful exchange of learning and networking as well as the chance to explore the potential for future joint working and collaboration in the field," he added.

Minister Arlene Foster said: "As Enterprise Minister, I am very aware of the importance of robust cyber security, both in terms of the security of the citizen, of government and of businesses. However I am also aware that this provides us with significant opportunities as well.

"As our globalised world continues to become ever more dependent on the secure transmission of data, that also provides opportunities for highly connected regions such as Northern Ireland to become centres of commercial as well as research expertise in cyber security. Through initiatives such as Eurocities and the Enterprise Europe Network, Northern Ireland businesses, researchers and government can form the partnerships with which to develop a knowledge based economy with innovation at its heart," she added.

The conference talks will centre on the following themes:- `Creating a Digital Economy in Northern Ireland in a Fully Connected World`; `Delivering Cyber Security Technology through Open

Innovation`; `Building Confident, Competent, Safe and Secure Digital Communities`; `Making IT a Reality` and the `Local Government Perspective on Cyber Security`.

The conference follows a launch bid by the council last week to make Belfast one of the most advanced and super-connected cities in Europe for ultrafast broadband and widespread WiFi provision by 2015.

Belfast has been named by Westminster`s Department of Culture, Media and Sport as one of ten cities to receive funding as part of its Super Connected Cities initiative with guaranteed funding of £6 million. But a further £7.7 million is on the table if it can be demonstrated that there is a demand for better broadband connections in the Belfast City Council area and businesses, communities and residents are being urged to back the bid by registering support through completion of an online survey.

For further information on Super Connected Belfast, go to www.belfastcity.gov.uk/superconnected

The Eurocities Knowledge Society Forum`s (KSF) Summer Conference also follows the launch of a new forum recently, facilitated by Belfast City Council, for NI stakeholders to engage with the EU and strengthen Northern Ireland`s voice in Europe.

The Northern Ireland European Regional Forum (NIERF) includes partners from the public, private and voluntary sectors across NI with an interest in European affairs and will provide a platform to meet and discuss EU policy, maximise funding opportunities and shape policy for the benefit of Belfast and NI. NIERF members have also provided support for the conference today.

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Cyber Security - Eurocities Knowledge Society Forum - Free Conference

Momentum - The Northern Ireland ICT Federation
Wednesday, 20 June 2012 from 09:30 to 17:30 (BST)
Belfast, United Kingdom

Ticket Information

No tickets available.

Event Details

Belfast City Council are hosting the Eurocities Knowledge Society Forum Summer Conference on Wednesday 20th June 2012.

The theme of the conference is *"The Role of Infrastructure and Cyber Security in City Transformation"*.

This is a free event and is a great opportunity to not only hear about how Northern Ireland is punching above its weight in this arena, but see how local companies and organisations are really benefiting from this. You will also have a great opportunity to network with colleagues from other European cities enabling the potential for some real and effective partnership opportunities.

The Minister for Trade and Industry, Arlene Foster MLA, will present the central government perspective and the Chief Executive of Belfast City Council, Peter McNaney, will also discuss the local government perspective.

In the afternoon, you will then have an opportunity to select a site visit to witness firsthand some of the local success stories, and enable you to further explore some of the topics presented in the morning sessions.

Finally there will be a structured de-brief and learning session in the new Titanic Belfast building.

For more information and details on how to register, please click here>>

EUROCITIES Knowledge Society Forum

Posted on Kes 4, 2012 in [Events](#)

Will be organized on 20-21.6.2012.

Cyber Security Eurocities Knowledge Society Forum

The theme of the conference is *"The Role of Infrastructure and Cyber Security in City Transformation"*.

This is a free event and is a great opportunity to not only hear about how Northern Ireland is punching above its weight in this arena, but see how local companies and organisations are really benefiting from this. You will also have a great opportunity to network with colleagues from other European cities enabling the potential for some real and effective partnership opportunities.

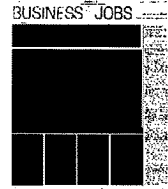This page is intentionally left blank

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The EU delegates, from countries including Belgium, Austria, Spain, Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden, Estonia and the UK, will also be visiting the Northern Ireland Science Park, Titanic Belfast, University of Ulster, CITI, BT NI and Eircom NI headquarters as part of their two-day trip.

City Hall to host seminar

DELEGATES from across Europe meet in Belfast City Hall today for a major seminar to promote the city as a trailblazer of technological excellence. The Eurocities Knowledge Society Forum's (KSF) summer conference, organised by Belfast City Council, will look at the significant role of the city's cyber-security infrastructure in transforming it to compete economically with others across the world. The conference will include talks from Dr Norman Apsley from the Northern Ireland Science Park, Dr Sinclair Stockman from Digital NI 2020, Jim Gamble from Ineqe, Ingrid Goetzl from the Eurocities KSF and John McCanny from ECIT. Enterprise minister Arlene Foster will also speak.

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Conference to promote Belfast as trailblazer of 'tech' excellence

Businesses and residents urged to back a bid to make Belfast a 'super connected' city

DELEGATES from across Europe met in Belfast last week for a major conference to promote the city as a trailblazer of technological excellence.

The Eurocities Knowledge Society Forum's (KSF) Summer Conference was organised by Belfast City Council and examined the significant role of the city's cyber security infrastructure in transforming it to compete economically with others across the world.

The conference at City Hall was opened by the Lord Mayor of Belfast, Alderman Gavin Robinson, and included talks from Dr Norman Apsley from the Northern Ireland Science Park, Dr Sinclair Stockman from Digital NI 2020, Jim Gamble from Ineqe, Ingrid Goetzl from the Eurocities KSF and John McCanny from ECIT. The Enterprise Minister Arlene Foster also spoke at the conference.

The EU delegates from countries including Belgium, Austria, Spain, Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden and Estonia also visited the Northern Ireland Science Park, Titanic Belfast, University of Ulster, CITI, BT NI and Eircom NI headquarters as part of their two-day trip to the city.

Welcoming the delegates to Belfast, the Lord Mayor Alderman Gavin Robinson, said: "The Eurocities Knowledge Society Forum Summer Conference will tell the story of Belfast's transformation and it is fitting that our story begins here at City Hall and ends at Titanic Belfast.

"When the Titanic was built, in 1912, Belfast was a highly motivated, wealthy and industrious city on the cutting edge of technology and advancement.

"In 2012, we are once again a city at the forefront of innovation and change.

"Belfast is re-creating its image and forging a new reputation as a trailblazer of technological excellence in the field of cyber security and we are keen to show how this is enabling us to achieve economic success by attracting businesses from across the world to our city.

"This conference provided a platform for a meaningful exchange of learning and networking as well as the chance to explore the potential for future joint working and collaboration in the field."

The conference follows a launch bid by the council to make Belfast one of the most advanced and super-connected cities in Europe for ultrafast broadband and widespread WiFi provision by 2015.

Belfast has been named by Westminster's Department of Culture, Media and Sport as one of ten cities to receive funding as part of its Super Connected Cities initiative with guaranteed funding of £6 million.

But a further £7.7 million is on the table if it can be demonstrated that there is a demand for better broadband connections in the Belfast City Council area and businesses, communities and residents are being urged to back the bid by registering support through completion of an online survey.

Minister Arlene Foster said: "As Enterprise Minister, I am very aware of the importance of robust cyber security, both in terms of the security of the citizen, of government and of businesses.

"However I am also aware that this provides us with significant opportunities as well.

"As our globalised world continues to become ever more dependent on the secure transmission of data, that also provides opportunities for highly connected regions such as Northern Ireland to become centres of commercial as well as research expertise in cyber security.

"Through initiatives such as Eurocities and the Enterprise Europe Network, Northern Ireland businesses, researchers and government can form the partnerships with which to develop a knowledge based economy with innovation at its heart."

Cyber City has chance to shine

Inside Innovation

DR NORMAN APSLEY

Chief Executive
Northern Ireland
Science Park

CANALS were the accepted agents and arteries of the industrial revolution in England; so first Scotland and then Ireland decided they needed a piece of the action. Unfortunately, they had reasoned without taking account of the changes brought about by the very things they were building. The capital cost never paid back because not enough value was trading through the infrastructure provided.

Some worried as the investments were made in telecommunications fibre, to give us our world class provision, that history was about to repeat itself. So it was with great pride and delight that we welcomed a gathering of city officials from across the EU as part of the Eurocities Knowledge Society Forum's (KSF) Summer Conference the other week to tell them of our successes in research, technology deployment on behalf of democracy and most important of all in software and other knowledge based sales (and jobs). Delegates were hosted by Belfast City Council and heard how the city is a trailblazer of technological excellence and cyber security, capitalising on its infrastructure to transform the city and allowing it to compete economically with the best across the world.

Among the amazing facts that people learned was that already 1/3 of the software that powers Wall Street List originates in Belfast. Similarly we discovered that many of our manufacturers are directly serving the world's tier one makers of planes, cars etc. through secure fibre links. At the same time, our creative industries are expanding to meet insatiable global demand for quality content.

Some of the world's largest technology companies are turning their eyes to Belfast for the strategic acquisition of local technology companies. These include IBM, which has acquired Intelliden and Q1, HP, who purchased Autonomy Meridio, NYSE who acquired Wombat and Kofax, who bought Singularity.

A recent report spells out the opportunity to harness the power of this infrastructure through the full exploitation of cloud computing. Whisple Cloud Services suggest that we could benefit from a further 16,000 jobs as a result of accelerating the development of cloud computing, built on what is recognised now as one of the best digital platforms in the world.

When it comes to cyber security itself we boast a UK centre of excellence at ECIT which has links to all big players in the world. ECIT manages four technology clusters in Secure Digital Systems, Digital Communications, Speech & Vision Systems, High Frequency Electronics and is home to CSIT, the UK's lead Innovation and Knowledge Centre for cyber security research. It played host just last week to a Knowledge Transfer Partnership information event to promote how companies can collaborate to access the £13m funded KTP programme for Northern Ireland. I hope many of you will participate in this brilliant scheme to embed the latest cyber-security in your company.

The Eurocities conference followed a launch bid by Belfast City Council to make Belfast one of the most advanced and super-connected cities in Europe for ultrafast broadband and widespread WiFi provision by 2015. Belfast has been named by Westminster`s Department of Culture, Media and Sport as one of ten cities to receive funding as part of its Super Connected Cities initiative with guaranteed funding of £6m. But a further £7.7m is on the table if we can demonstrate that there is a demand for better broadband connections in the Belfast City Council area. Businesses, communities and residents are being urged to back the bid by registering support through completion of an online survey here www.belfastcity.gov.uk/superconnected/index.asp . I really think each of us needs to consider lending our personal support to this endeavour. Digital connectivity can make us centre of the world rather than a periphery of Europe.

QUB £200m boost to Belfast and province

Conference promotes Belfast as trailblazer of technological excellence

Delegates from across Europe met in Belfast last month for a major conference to promote the city as a trailblazer of technological excellence.

The Eurocities Knowledge Society Forum's (KSF) Summer Conference was organised by Belfast City Council and examined the significant role of the city's cyber security infrastructure in transforming it to compete economically with others across the world. The conference at the City Hall was opened by the Lord Mayor of Belfast, Alderman Gavin Robinson, and included talks from Dr Norman Apsley from the Northern Ireland Science Park, Dr Sinclair Stockman from Digital NI 2020, Jim Gamble from Ineqe, Ingrid Goetzl from the Eurocities KSF and John McCanny from ECIT.

The Enterprise Minister Arlene Foster also spoke at the conference.

The EU delegates — from countries included Belgium, Austria, Spain, Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden, Estonia and the UK — also visited the Northern Ireland Science Park, Titanic Belfast, University of Ulster, CITI, BT NI and Eircom NI headquarters as part of their two-day trip to the city.

Welcoming the delegates to Belfast, the Lord Mayor Alderman Gavin Robinson, said: "The Eurocities Knowledge Society Forum Summer Conference told the story of Belfast's transformation and it is fitting that our story begins here at City Hall and ends at Titanic Belfast.

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"Belfast is re-creating its image and forging a new reputation as a trailblazer of technological excellence in the field of cyber security and we are keen to show how this is enabling us to achieve economic success by attracting businesses from across the world to our city. "This conference provided a platform for a meaningful exchange of learning and networking as well as the chance to explore the potential for future joint working and collaboration in the field," he added.

Minister Arlene Foster said: "As Enterprise Minister, I am very aware of the importance of robust cyber security, both in terms of the security of the citizen, of government and of businesses. However I am also aware that this provides us with significant opportunities as well.

"As our globalised world continues to become ever more dependent on the secure transmission of data, that also provides opportunities for highly connected regions such as Northern Ireland to become centres of commercial as well as research expertise in cyber security.

"Through initiatives such as Eurocities and the Enterprise Europe Network, Northern Ireland businesses, researchers and government can form the partnerships with which to develop a knowledge based economy with innovation at its heart," she added.

The conference talks centred on the following themes:
*Creating a Digital Economy in Northern Ireland in a Fully Connected World
*Delivering Cyber Security Technology through Open Innovation
*Building Confident, Competent, Safe and Secure Digital Communities
*Making IT a Reality
*Local Government Perspective on Cyber Security

The conference followed a launch bid by the council earlier in June to make Belfast one of the most advanced and super-connected cities in Europe for ultrafast broadband and widespread WiFi provision by 2015.

Belfast has been named by Westminster's Department of Culture, Media and Sport as one of ten cities to receive funding as part of its Super Connected Cities initiative with guaranteed funding of £6 million. But a further £7.7 million is on the table if it can be demonstrated that there is a demand for better broadband connections in the Belfast City Council area and businesses, communities and residents are being urged to back the bid by registering support through completion of an online survey.

For further information on Super Connected Belfast, go to www.belfastcity.gov.uk/superconnected

Agenda Item 5f

Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	**Attendance at NILGA Awards – 28 February 2013**
Date:	19 February 2013
Reporting Officer:	John McGrillen, Director of Development, ext 3470
Contact Officers:	Shirley McCay, Head of Economic Initiatives, ext 3459.

1	**Relevant Background Information**
1.1	The Northern Ireland Local Government Association (NILGA) will be holding its Annual Conference and Exhibition on Thursday 28 February 2013 in the Everglades Hotel, Derry/Londonderry. Similar to previous years, the event will incorporate the Local Government Awards.
1.2	At its meeting on the 23 November 2012, the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee authorised attendance at the NILGA Conference by the Committee Chair and Deputy Chair, elected Members who are represented on NILGA and appropriate Chief Officers (or their nominees).
1.3	Details of the projects short-listed for an award have now been issued and there are a number of these in which the Development Committee is involved.

2	**Key Issues**
2.1	The Local Government Awards will be held in the evening of the 28 February 2013 and seek to recognise and showcase the best examples of service provision, new initiatives and outstanding commitment from councillors, councils and officers. The 2013 Awards cover seven categories.
2.2	Correspondence has been received recently from NILGA confirming that a number of Belfast City Council-led initiatives have been nominated as finalists for three categories as set out below.

- Best Initiative by a Councillor/Councillors – Elected Members of Belfast City Council for Belfast Investment Programme
- Best European Funded Project - Belfast Enterprise Academy
- Best Joint Initiative – Super Connected Belfast.

2.3	The overall winners of the Local Government Awards will be announced at the event on 28 February 2013 in the Everglades Hotel. A listing of finalists across all categories is set out at Appendix 1.
2.4	In the event that the Council is successful in winning one or more of the categories in which we are shortlisted as finalists, it will be important that there is representation from the Committee to receive the associated Local Government Award. It is therefore recommend that the Chair of Development Committee (or nominee) attend the event.

3	**Resource Implications**
3.1	All shortlisted finalists receive a free place at the Awards Ceremony Event.

4	**Equality and Good Relations Considerations**
4.1	There are no specific equality and good relations implications attached to this report.

5	**Recommendations**
5.1	It is recommended that Members: − Note the nominations for the NILGA awards − Agree to attendance at the event by the Chair of Development Committee (or nominee).

6	**Key to Abbreviations**
NILGA – Northern Ireland Local Government Association	

7	**Documents Attached**
Appendix 1 – Shortlisted finalists for all award categories	

APPENDIX 1

The 2012 Local Government Award Categories and Finalists are:

Best Local Authority Service Team – Award Partner Association for Public Service Excellence (APSE):
1. Antrim Borough Council – Customer Services Team
2. Cookstown District Council – Leisure Disability Working Group
3. Lisburn City Council – Sports Services Unit 'Review and Refocus'

Best Initiative by a Councillor / Councillors – Award Partner NAC:
1. The Elected Members of Belfast City Council – Belfast Investment Programme
2. Alderman William Leathem and Councillor Uel Mackin, Lisburn City Council – Benefit take up pilot programme
3. Councillor Billy Webb, Councillor Robert Hill and Alderman William DeCourcy, Newtownabbey Borough Council – Youth Zone

Best Sustainable Development Initiative – Sustainable Economy - Award Partner NILGA
1. Coleraine Borough Council – The Portrush / Portstewart Environmental Improvement Programme
2. Derry City Council – Walled City Partnership – Townscape Heritage Initiative
3. Newry and Mourne District Council – Development Management Planning Site and Strategic Partnership

Human Resource Services Award – Award Partner (NIJC)
1. Antrim Borough Council - healthY people = healthy performance
2. Lisburn City Council - HR 20:20 – Developing a clear vision for the future through continuous improvement
3. Newtownabbey Borough Council – Human Resources Team

Best European Funded Project - *Award Partner Northern Ireland Local Government Association (NILGA)*
1. Belfast City Council – Belfast Enterprise Academy
2. Down District Council – Beyond Project

Best Joint Initiative – Award Partner SOLACE
1. Belfast City Council – Super Connected Belfast
2. Coleraine Borough Council – Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership – Ballysally Integrated Nurturing Programme
3. Magherafelt District Council – Greenvale Leisure Centre

Employee of the Year – Award Partner William Johnston Memorial Trust (WJMT)
1. Ballymena Borough Council - Shauna Lagan
2. Ballymoney Borough Council - Keith Beattie
3. Lisburn City Council - Brendan Courtney

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