

# Document Pack

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



Date Not Specified

## **MEETING OF DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Dear Alderman/Councillor,

The above-named Committee will meet in the Lavery Room (Room G05), City Hall on Tuesday, 16th December, 2014 at 4.30 pm, for the transaction of the business noted below.

You are requested to attend.

Yours faithfully,

SUZANNE WYLIE

Chief Executive

## **AGENDA:**

1. **Routine Matters**
  - (a) Apologies
  - (b) Minutes
  - (c) Declarations of Interest
2. **Presentation from The Rank Organisation - re: Proposed Casino**
3. **Rural Development Programme (Pages 3 - 6)**
4. **Cathedral Quarter Trust - Support for BiDS (Pages 7 - 8)**
5. **Events Bidding (Pages 9 - 18)**
6. **South by Southwest (Pages 19 - 22)**

7. **Wheelworks Art Cart** (Pages 23 - 24)
8. **Relocation of the Lagan Canal Trust** (Pages 25 - 26)
9. **Get Belfast Reading Initiative** (Pages 27 - 30)
10. **Chinese New Year** (Pages 31 - 34)
11. **Shaftesbury Recreation Centre - Rent** (Pages 35 - 36)
12. **Markets' Staffing Review** (Pages 37 - 38)



<b>Report to:</b>	Development Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	NI Rural Development Programme 2014 - 2020
<b>Date:</b>	21 October 2014
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	John McGrillen, Director of Development, ext 3470
<b>Contact Officers:</b>	Colin McCabrey, Economic Development Manager, ext 3805

<b>1</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
1.1	Lagan Rural Partnership is a delivery agent for Axis 3 of the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2007-2013. At the local level, the programme is delivered by a Joint Committee (JC) representing Belfast City Council, Lisburn City Council and Castlereagh Borough Council. It is implemented by a Local Action Group (LAG) comprised of elected members and Social Partner representatives from the 3 council areas. Lisburn City Council acts as the lead council with responsibility for all financial and administrative matters. The current programme comes to an end on 31st March 2015.
1.2	The Partnership has delivered £7.3m funding for projects in eligible rural areas under the following measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Measure 3.1: Diversification into Non – Agricultural Activities</li> <li>– Measure 3.2: Business Creation and Development</li> <li>– Measure 3.3: Encouragement of Tourism Activities</li> <li>– Measure 3.4: Basic Services for the Economy and Rural Population</li> <li>– Measure 3.5: Village Renewal and Development</li> <li>– Measure 3.6: Conservation and Upgrading of the Rural Heritage</li> </ul>
1.3	The total allocation to the Lagan Rural Partnership in 2007-2013 was £8.7m (including £1.4m for administration costs). Current expenditure is £6,523,000 and future spend is profiled as £777,000 to March 2015. Under the current programme approximately £847,000 was secured against five Belfast based projects. They were Divis Ridge Trail (CAAN) (£206,000), Hannahstown Village Renewal (£241,000), Barnett's Demesne Mountain Bike Trail (£125,000), Belfast Hills Heritage Project (£56,000) and Belfast Hills Strategic Tourism Project (£219,000)
1.4	Officers have been engaging with DARD to determine a proposed Belfast allocation under the new programme. Recent correspondence issued by DARD's Implementation Manager addressed to all councils sought council participation in the formation of LAGs and JCs to administer the new round of funding.

1.5	DARD has advised that Minister O'Neill has agreed that the Belfast rural area should join with Lisburn and Castlereagh for the administration of the new programme. The Minister is keen that the inclusion of the Belfast rural area in the new LAG will be reflected in its identity and membership.
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<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	DARD officials had originally raised the potential for the formation of a LAG and JC for Belfast as a stand-alone entity, without Castlereagh and Lisburn Councils (within the new council boundaries). However, upon further investigation, they confirmed that the Belfast rural area has a population of 4,756. This is below the minimum level of population required by the European Commission of 10,000.
2.2	In addition, Commission guidance on "Community-led Local Development in European Structural and Investment Funds" notes that a minimum allocation figure of €3m is the threshold beyond which a stand-alone LAG may be viable. DARD advised that, no matter what way they reviewed the Belfast case, there was no chance that the Belfast allocation could come close to this figure.
2.3	While DARD never provided a notional Belfast allocation as part of officer engagement with officials, discussion with Lagan Rural Partnership staff suggests that an approximate allocation for an independent Belfast LAG would have been in the region of £530,000-£630,000. Administering the grant over the period 2014-2021 (allowing 1 year to close the programme) is capped at 25% or maximum £157,500, based on a £630,000 allocation. This would leave £472,500 for project activity over the same period.
2.4	DARD officials have met the senior management team in the new Lisburn and Castlereagh Council and they have confirmed that the council would be content to continue to provide management support for the new LAG area. The proposed allocation figure for Lagan Rural Partnership on the basis of the three council model is estimated at £6,161,000. The funding rate under the new programme is being retained at 50% for private sector and 75% for public sector.
2.5	Measures that can be funded under the new programme include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rural Business Investment Scheme (for farm based and other rural based businesses)</li> <li>- Rural Basic Services Scheme</li> <li>- Village Renewal Scheme</li> <li>- All Ireland Co-operation Scheme</li> <li>- Rural Broadband Scheme</li> </ul>
2.6	DARD will still be the Managing Authority for the new Rural Development Programme for 2014-2020. They will contract with newly formed LAGs representing the agreed rural areas, and the LAGs will, in turn, seek to enter into a service level agreement for related administrative services with the appropriate new RPA led Council for the area (i.e. Lisburn and Castlereagh Council).
2.7	A key European Commission stipulation for the formation of the new LAG is that 'no one single interest group shall represent more than 49% of the voting rights'. In effect this means that public sector representatives (considered as a single group) must not exceed 49% of the makeup of the LAG Board. Equally no one single social partner group could occupy more than 49% i.e. farming, community or business. It also means that public sector representation, defined in this case

	as elected representatives, is a requirement.
2.8	It is expected that, even though elected representatives of the new councils will be minority partners on the LAG Board (49%), the Chief Executive of Lisburn City Council will act as the Chief Accounting Officer. To account for this, a protocol is currently being developed by DARD to protect the governance and accountability liability of each Council tasked with facilitating the new LAGs.
2.9	DARD has communicated a timeframe for the LAG application and appointment process. This suggests that the LAG membership will be finalised by complete 19 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2014. DARD appointment of the LAG will follow on 30 <sup>th</sup> January 2015.

<b>3</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
3.1	If approved by Committee, there is no direct funding implication and the governance risk concerning underwriting potential future ineligible LAG and JC approved expenditure will be reviewed under a new Service Level Agreement for the partnership.

<b>4</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Considerations</b>
4.1	An equality impact assessment will be initiated by the lead council.

<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
5.1	Members are asked to note the latest advice received from Minister Michelle O'Neill and consider future participation in Lagan Rural Partnership in partnership with the newly formed Lisburn and Castlereagh District Council.

<b>6</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
Timeline: Formation of the LAG and JC structures to continue to March 2015 Reporting Officer: Colin McCabrey	

<b>7</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DARD – Department of Agriculture and Rural Development</li> <li>- JC – Joint Committee</li> <li>- LAG – Local Action Group</li> <li>- LRP – Lagan Rural Partnership</li> <li>- RDP – Rural Development Programme</li> </ul>	

<b>8</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
No documents attached.	

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**Belfast City Council**

<b>Report to:</b>	Development Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Requests for support for BIDs
<b>Date:</b>	16 December 2014
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	John McGrillen, Director of Development, ext 3470
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Lisa Toland, Head of Economic Initiatives and International Development, ext 3427

<b>1</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
1.1	Members will be aware that, at the June 2014 Development Committee meeting, the committee agreed to provide £45,000 to Belfast City Centre Management (BCCM) to support the recruitment of a member of staff to carry out preparatory work on a Business Improvement District (BID) for a defined area within the city core. The council's funding was matched with a similar amount from Department for Social Development, with the funding to be allocated over an 18 month period.
1.2	BCCM – along with Cathedral Quarter Trust and Lisburn Road Business Association (LRBA) – made a submission to DSD in late 2013 to become a pilot as part of a “BIDs Academy”. This was an initiative to identify areas that had the potential and interest in becoming a BID area and to provide them with support to strengthen their initiative and make them better prepared once the BIDs legislation was in place and organisations were formally invited to apply to become a BID.
1.3	BCCM was one of the six successful projects selected to become a BID pilot. The other two Belfast areas – namely Lisburn Road and Cathedral Quarter – were also successful in their applications.

<b>2.</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	One of the stipulations for those areas taking part in the BIDs Academy is that they provide a budget for a bespoke marketing campaign as well a dedicated person working on the development process on a full-time basis. The BIDs Manager for Belfast – who started work in early November 2014, has spent the majority of her time analysing and verifying the information presented by Land and Property Services (LPS) as well as establishing a working group of city centre businesses and representatives to lead and direct the BIDs process.
2.2	Cathedral Quarter Trust – who are co-ordinating the BID for the Cathedral Quarter area – have now written to the council to ask for a contribution of up to £37,000 towards a resource to carry out the BIDs preparatory work. Lisburn Road Business Association (LRBA) – who

	are coordinating the Lisburn Road BIDs application process – have also made contact with the council to ask whether any resources may be available to help them carry out the preparatory work. They have been successful in attracting £12,000 through Area Working Group funding but they consider that they will require additional resources to enable them to carry out the required preparatory work.
2.3	There is no available to budget to finance either of these requests. Members have already agreed to ring fence any available funding at the year end to cover the non-recurrent costs associated with local government reform. Therefore, Members would need to consider such funding as part of the rate setting process. The department estimates will be considered by the Shadow Strategic Policy and Resources Committee on 16 January 2015.

<b>3</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
3.1	CQT have requested funding of £37,000 towards the cost of a BIDs Manager as well as some overheads. LRBA have not confirmed the scale of the financial request at this point. No provision has been made in current departmental estimates for either amount and members have already agreed to ring fence any available funding at the year end to cover the non-recurrent costs associated with local government reform.

<b>4</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Considerations</b>
4.1	There are no specific equality and good relations implications.

<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
5.1	Members are asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Note the requests for financial support towards the BID development process from CQT and LRBA</li> <li>– Consider how these should be addressed, given that no provision has been made in current departmental estimates for either amount and that members have already agreed to ring fence any available funding at the year end to cover the non-recurrent costs associated with local government reform</li> </ul>

<b>6</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
CQT – Cathedral Quarter Trust LPS – Land and Property Services LRBA – Lisburn Road Business Association.	





**Belfast City Council**  
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<b>Report to:</b>	Development Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Bidding for International Events
<b>Date:</b>	16 December 2014
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	John McGrillen, Director of Development, ext 3470
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Gerry Copeland, City Events Manager, ext 3412

1	Relevant Background Information
1.1	At October's Committee, Members requested a list of potential international events that the Council, along with regional organisations, could bid for over the next five or so years. Therefore, the purpose of this paper is to update Members on scoping work that the Council's City Events Unit, along with input from key partners, has undertaken on a range of sporting and cultural events (see Appendix A – please note the list does not include bids for the 2015 BBC Sports Personality of the Year event or the World Pipe Band Championships, both of which were agreed by Council in November).
1.2	Since 1999 Belfast City Council, working with a variety of regional Government Departments, has been successful in bidding, securing and delivering a range of international events for the city. These events include: the IAAF World Cross-Country Championships; the IABA World Amateur Boxing Championships; the UEFA Under 19 European Football Championship; the IRB Under 19 Rugby World Cup; Sail Training International's Tall Ships Races; Viacom's MTV EMAs; the World Police and Fire Federation's World Police and Fire Games; RCS Sports' Giro d'Italia and various national and international competitions connected to the World Irish Dancing Commission.
1.3	However, after the Tall Ships event next year, the city will have only one national event programmed – the All Ireland Irish Dancing Championships in November 2016. There are currently no other significant bids for major national and international projects approved by Council for the period 2016 to 2021. Nor has the Council the current financial resources to pursue such bids, which will require BCC to identify measures to set-aside specific resources (financial and staff) to deliver at least one international event per year, as per the Council's events and tourism strategies, alongside an extensive domestic programme of annual events funded and/or delivered by the Council.

2	Key Issues
	It is clear from a range of research that the impact of international and national events is a

positive one on the city's economic, cultural and social life. However, any future positive benefits, from staging these events must be balanced against the financial constraints that the Council faces.

Examples of the recent benefits from large international events are as follows:

- The Tall Ships 2009 event generated £16 million for the local economy.
- The Giro d'Italia created a skills programme for over 1,500 volunteers.
- And the MTV EMAs was viewed by an estimated 1.2 billion people across the globe, while generating 669 million media opportunities.

In bidding, securing and delivering major international events the Council was in the position to do so via its allocated reserve budget. However, the current fiscal situation means that such finance is no longer available. Therefore, if Members approved the list in Appendix A, or part thereof, resources would need to be made available that is not in the Council's current medium term fiscal plan.

Appendix A is not a definitive list as there are other national/international events that Council Officers are investigating. These events include national awards events similar to the BBC Sports Personality of the Year, international sports events such as amateur boxing championships, masters games and other annual peripatetic events. However, those events indicated in Appendix A link to key Government Departments/Agencies strategic objectives and thus would allow the Council to move forward knowing that possible support may be available. In addition the events listed are also based on the likelihood of a successful bid. However, like all bidding processes it will be the event owners who decide, regardless of how well a Belfast 'pitch' is presented and funded.

Funding from Government Departments/Agencies would normally be made with an 'in principle support' basis. Unfortunately this means that no letter of offer would be made until a full business case is submitted to the Government Departments/Agencies and this normally only happens on the back of a successful bid.

If Members agreed to bidding for the list of events in Appendix A and if the Council, with partners, were successful the draft programme of national and international events from 2016 to 2021 would be as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Cost to Council</u>	<u>Total Cost of the Event</u>
*2016	UK National Piping Championships	£180,000	£180,000 – totally funded by BCC
2017	National Triathlon Series event	£100,000	£200,000
2017	World Music and Dance (WOMAD) Festival	£100,000	£1,700,000
2017	UK National Piping Championships	£180,000	£180,000 – totally funded by BCC
2018	European Triathlon Series event	£200,000	£400,000
2018	World Irish Dancing	£220,000	£400,000
2018	UK National Piping Championships	£180,000	£180,000 – totally funded by BCC
2019	World Triathlon Grand Final	£500,000	£2,000,000
2020	All Ireland Fleadh Cheoil	£500,000	£1,500,000
2021	Commonwealth Youth Games	£500,000	£3,000,000
	Total Cost	£2,660,000.00	£9,740,000.00

	<p>*The 2016 All-Ireland Irish Dancing Championship has been agreed by Council at a cost £200,000</p> <p>Over the normal calendar year the Council will deliver, on average, twelve large-scale public events. Estimated cost for these would be circa £1.1 million. These events range from St Patrick's Day, the Lord Mayor's annual event through to the Christmas Lights Switch-on. Over the last two decades these annual events have been supplemented with national and international events as per Point 1.2.</p>
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<b>3</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
3.1	If all the events in Appendix A were agreed, the total delivery cost would be in the region of £10 million. Of this the Council would be asked to contribute £2.66 million over a five year period, alongside a significant level of Officer input.
3.2	There is currently no budget available to finance the projected £2.66 million contribution. Members have already agreed to ring fence any available funding at the year end to cover the non-recurrent costs associated with local government reform. Therefore, Members would need to consider such funding as part of the rate setting process. The department estimates will be considered by the Shadow Strategic Policy and Resources Committee on 16 January 2015
3.3	If the entire programme in Appendix A was agreed there would also be staffing implications in regard to the volumes of work across the Council's Departments.

<b>4</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Considerations</b>
4.1	As with all major civic events, public events like those listed have the potential to bring together people from a wide range of backgrounds and therefore promote good relations in the city.

<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
5.1	Members are requested to provide guidance on the outline draft events within Appendix A in regard to bidding for these events. As stated this is not a definitive list and other projects are being explored, but those presented are based on work to date alongside potential partner organisations.

<b>6</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
<p>If approved, Officers will monitor and evaluate the outcomes of the projects and report back to Council as and when required</p> <p>Timeline: December 2014 <span style="float: right;">Reporting Officer: Gerry Copeland</span></p>	

<b>7</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
Appendix A – Bidding list of proposed national and international events	



## Appendix A

	Details
<b>Event</b>	UK National Pipe Band Championships 2016 to 2018
<b>Event Details</b>	It is anticipated that the <a href="#">Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association</a> will invite BCC to bid for either for the UK National championships. Typically over 110 to 120 bands attend this event (this translates into 3,000 plus competitors), traveling from all over UK and Ireland, with an audience in excess of 10,000. The bid process normally involves the perspective host city pitching for the event to be staged for three years: in the case 2016, 2017 & 2018.
<b>Partners and BCC Role</b>	BCC would be one of the lead event delivery organisations along with the Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association. Additional support would be sought from DCAL on this project, the <a href="#">Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association</a> NI and the Ulster-Scots Agency. Although previous requests from funding from these organisations has not been successful.
<b>Economic opportunity</b>	Based on the 2014 National event, which took place in Belfast, it is estimated that National UK competition is worth £300,000 to the city's economy
<b>Legacy Impact</b>	The event gives the opportunity to change tourism perceptions via the attendees. It will also impact in potential employability skills via volunteering.
<b>Publicity/promotional opportunities &amp;</b>	Traditionally this event is broadcast by the BBC and generates media coverage that is valued in excess of £2.5 million. The BBC programme is also streamed globally as a recorded output.
<b>Community Input and Capacity Building</b>	Piping in Northern Ireland and Ireland has a strong community base. The staging of the Championships would see a significant level of interest generated within these networks to not only take part, but on the development of piping in the city, province and island.
<b>Organisational Capacity to deliver</b>	All the key partners would have the experience, knowledge and capacity to deliver this event.
<b>Participation Community/volunteering input</b> –	There would be a high level of community and volunteering interest given the strong support for Piping in NI and Rol.
<b>BCC Contribution</b>	£540,000 over three years plus in kind advice and guidance from various BCC Departments
<b>Total Event Costs</b>	£ 540,000

	Details
<b>Event</b>	Triathlon - National, European and World Series, 2017 to 2019
<b>Event Details</b>	This would be a series of three events connected together in order to host the ultimate competition in the global calendar of triathlons – the World Series. The events are owned by the International Triathlon Union (ITU) and one event cannot be held without staging first the other. This series of three major international championships also comes with a massive level of participants from 200 elite European and World athletes and up to 10,000 international, national and domestic sports men and women across a variety of amateur abilities. Previous host cities for these events have included: Hamburg; London; Auckland; San Diego and Madrid.
<b>Partners and BCC Role</b>	The event would be lead by ITU and Triathlon Ireland (TI). Triathlon Ireland are the internationally recognised umbrella governing body for the sport on the island of Ireland and would be central to both the bid and delivery of these sports events. In order to obtain top athletes commitment the ITU allocate over \$1.1 million of prize money and have a full professional team that works with the local organisers in the delivery of events.
<b>Economic opportunity</b>	In 2012 the Auckland World Series event created an extra £8 million for the local economy and attracted over 10,000 international visitors to the city, which in turn produced over 55,000 bed nights for the local hotel and hospitality industry. On average an international visitor stayed 5.9 days in the city. The total economic return for Auckland's investment was in excess of 300%. The 2014 London World Series event is estimated to have created £5 million of additional economic activity for the city, while bringing 40,000 spectators and 5,000 amateur athletes from across 29 nations.
<b>Legacy Impact</b>	Because these events, unlike many other elite sports competitions, actively encourage non-elite athletes this series engages with local participants. This in turn means a legacy of sport for the local triathlon clubs and their members. In addition it is apparent, though difficult to quantify, that there is a significant volunteering element to staging the projects. Additional recent reports by UK Sport indicate that over 70% attendees at the London event were actively encouraged to take up physical activity or sport after seeing the event.
<b>Publicity/promotional opportunities</b> &	In 2012 the Auckland World Series event attracted a global audience of 25 million viewers and estimated 16 hours of world-wide television coverage via news and sports channels. In addition there was over £7.5 million worth of printed press coverage. The London 2014 World series brought some 100 international journalists. Other stages of the European series and World triathlons have also received global television coverage that have promoted the host cities – see Edmonton 2014 link - <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OpiDGvgQ7bs#t=71">http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OpiDGvgQ7bs#t=71</a>
<b>Community Input and Capacity Building</b>	Due to the nature of the events and the requirement for volunteers it is clear that local people can engage and participate in these events. There is a significant level of volunteer input alongside a notable level of pre-competition activity that will bring communities and people together.
<b>Organisational Capacity to deliver</b>	There is a wealth of experience within ITU and TI to deliver these events. However, like other events of this scale there will be a notable requirement from local organising partners to assist in the delivery of these events. Therefore, input from NITB, VB, DRD Roads, PSNI, etc would be required.
<b>Participation Community/volunteering input</b> –	As stated under Legacy Impact, these events actively encourage community input, non-elite athlete participation and volunteering.
<b>BCC Contribution</b>	£800,000 over three years
<b>Total Event Costs</b>	£ 2.6 million

	Details
<b>Event</b>	WOMAD – World Music and Dance Festival 2017
<b>Event Details</b>	<b>WOMAD</b> (World of Music Arts & Dance) Festival Belfast. Belfast has been given an opportunity to stage one of the most celebrated events in the world music. The event is a three day celebration bringing the best of global arts to a festival village created in one of the city's green spaces (site TBC). WOMAD is a prestigious international festival spanning over 25 countries since 1983 and co-founded by Peter Gabriel and attended by over 1 million people.
<b>Partners and BCC Role</b>	Beyond Skin are the local partner and promoter for WOMAD in Northern Ireland. WOMADNI Ltd will be set up to specifically manage the festival along with the WOMAD UK management team who have considerable experience in event management. It is envisaged that Belfast City Council will play a crucial role in this global event bringing event management and other expertise to the delivery partnership. With the help of Belfast City Council logistical support and investment WOMAD would highlight the city's work on developing shared and diverse values. Other partners will include trusts and foundations, businesses, local service providers, volunteers, artists, arts agencies and Government departments.
<b>Economic opportunity</b>	Belfast has the potential to attract up to 40,000 people to share in the WOMAD experience. The estimated income for the city would be in excess of £15 million.
<b>Legacy Impact</b>	WOMAD's objective to encourage people to reach their full potential as global citizens. The WOMAD Vision aims to build confidence and aspiration while addressing stereotypes and fears and this is integral to the WOMAD ethos. The 2017 WOMAD Belfast Festival will build upon a range of 300 events which have taken place across all NI's local authorities in the last two years. It is hoped that the 2017 event will leave a foundation of mutual understanding by using music, arts and dance to inspire, build confidence, educate, encourage entrepreneurship and create a more peaceful and shared society.
<b>Publicity/promotional opportunities</b> &	Annually WOMAD event will attract multi-million pounds of publicity through its global brand and if staged in Belfast the outcomes would be no different.
<b>Community Input and Capacity Building</b>	The festival will continue the ground work already achieved through the WOMAD in Northern Ireland Outreach programme, providing access for people to engage in world arts. Various initiatives in training opportunities, global education and direct engagement in the performance programme will be available to schools, youth & community groups. Following on from the outcomes of previous small WOMAD showcase events, that have already taken place in NI, the festival will demonstrate the following local legacies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased confidence &amp; aspiration</li> <li>• Rise in entrepreneurship</li> <li>• Increased creative industries and artistic collaborations</li> <li>• Reduction in hate crime (diversity &amp; global education element of the festival)</li> <li>• Highlight environmental issues</li> <li>• Better understanding of local identity and world culture.</li> </ul>
<b>Organisational Capacity to deliver</b>	Beyond Skin has over 10 years experience in project management and events development and delivery. Beyond Skin is recognised as being innovative, ethical, and ground-breaking in this area of work. As the lead delivery organisation Beyond Skin has a diverse team of professionals who have delivered hundreds of projects to thousands of people and are part of the WOMAD global family.
<b>Participation Community/volunteering input</b> -	WOMAD is unlike any other festival format. It is considered as the people's festival. Community engagement & family friendly ethos are key to the festival. An education programme surrounds each festival and Beyond Skin has already started this process through the outreach programme as detailed above. The event will also work closely with volunteer agencies and community input.
<b>BCC Contribution</b>	£100,000
<b>Total Event Costs</b>	£1.3 million

	<b>Details</b>
<b>Event</b>	World Irish Dancing Championships 2018 (tbc and subject to bidding)
<b>Event Details</b>	BCC has previously hosted the 2000, 2004, 2006 and 2008 World Irish Dancing Championships as well as the 2005 and 2012 All Ireland Irish Dancing Championships (it will also host the All Ireland event again in November 2016). These events have attracted over 10,000 competitors from across the globe and generated, on average, in excess of £5 million for the local economy. With the new extension of the Belfast Waterfront the city will be in a better position to secure the World Championship for 2018 and yet again provide a welcome boost for the businesses in the city.
<b>Partners and BCC Role</b>	Bidding for the event would be via BCC, while the delivery of the event would be a combination of BCC staff within the City Events Unit and Waterfront and the Irish Dancing Commission, owners of the competition.
<b>Economic opportunity</b>	Estimated economic return £5 million.
<b>Legacy Impact</b>	The significance of staging this event would be specific to the local Irish dancing fraternity. It would encourage greater participation in Irish dancing in the city due to the profile of hosting the world competition.
<b>Publicity/promotional &amp; opportunities</b>	The main publicity generated would be domestic and nationally across the island of Ireland and across the global Irish dancing network.
<b>Community Input and Capacity Building</b>	As stated under Legacy Impact, the staging of this event would be specific to the local Irish dancing fraternity, in that it would encourage greater participation in Irish dancing in the city due to the profile of hosting the world competition.
<b>Organisational Capacity to deliver</b>	BCC and the Irish Dancing Commission have notable experience over the last decade and a half due to staging previous World and All Ireland championships.
<b>Participation Community/volunteering input</b> -	This limited to the Irish dancing community, were the Irish Dancing Commission would seek volunteers to deliver the event.
<b>BCC Contribution</b>	£220,000
<b>Total Event Costs</b>	£400,000



	Details
<b>Event</b>	All-Ireland Fleadh Cheoil 2020
<b>Event Details</b>	The Fleadh Cheoil, meaning "Festival of music", is an <a href="#">Irish music</a> competition run by <a href="#">Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann</a> (CCE) and was established in 1951 and operates officially over four days –unofficially the event positively impacts on the host location for the best part of a week. There are various stages to the competition from regional heats in Ireland, Britain, USA and Canada. At the event there are competitive elements with musicians divided into the following age categories. The Fleadh has often been described as the "Olympics of traditional music" – with people competing in fiddle, accordion, flute, whistle, concertina, uilleann pipes, harp, mouth organ, banjo, mandolin, piano, tin whistle, melodeon, bodhrán, pipes and drums. There is also a competition for miscellaneous (Rogha Ghléas) instruments, which can include cello, bouzouki, viola, saxophone, hammer dulcimer, banjo mandolin and more. From its beginning, the goal of the Fleadh Cheoil was to establish standards in Irish traditional music through competition. Although the fleadh has developed as a mainly competitive event it also includes many concerts, <a href="#">céilíthe</a> , <a href="#">parades</a> , and impromptu music <a href="#">sessions</a> . In the last number of years the event has attracted in excess of 250,000 people with the 2013 Fleadh in Derry bringing in 430,000 people to the city.
<b>Partners and BCC Role</b>	The event would be officially delivered via the local Belfast Comhaltas who would make the bid to CCE. However, the size and scale of the event would require a significant level support to make it happen and BCC would need to play a central role in this process. Other organisations such VB, NITB, PSNI, and DRD Roads would be critical to its delivery.
<b>Economic opportunity</b>	Figures do vary, but it is estimated that the event is worth somewhere around £20 million for the host city. The Derry 2014 event generated £38 to £42 million, with the average overnight visitor spending £170 per day.
<b>Legacy Impact</b>	The significance of staging this event would be the capacity of the city to host an event of this scale over a four day period. In addition the event would also boost a range of organisation involved in Irish traditional music, volunteering and the overall cultural sector.
<b>Publicity/promotional &amp; opportunities</b>	It is estimated that the overall publicity generated would be in excess of £5 million. This would be generated via a range of media including TV, national and international, radio, press and social media.
<b>Community Input and Capacity Building</b>	The event would also boost a range of organisations involved in Irish traditional music, volunteering and the overall cultural sector.
<b>Organisational Capacity to deliver</b>	Currently the Belfast Comhaltas would have limited capacity to deliver. However, the 2013 Derry Fleadh shows that working with existing cultural organisations, regional partners and CCE any event of this scale can be delivered.
<b>Participation Community/volunteering input</b> –	The significance of staging this event would be the capacity of the city to host an event of this scale over a four day period. In addition the event would also boost a range of organisation involved in Irish traditional cultural, volunteering and the overall cultural sector.
<b>BCC Contribution</b>	£500,000 plus in kind advice and guidance from various BCC Departments
<b>Total Event Costs</b>	£1.5 million

	<b>Details</b>
<b>Event</b>	Commonwealth Youth Games 2021
<b>Event Details</b>	The first Commonwealth Youth Games were held in Scotland in August 2000 where 733 Athletes from 14 countries competed over 3 days. A decision was taken by the Commonwealth Games Federation in 2005 to move the Youth Games outside of the Olympic Games year and in doing so awarded the Commonwealth Youth Games to the Isle of Man for 2014. In total there are around 1,000 competitors invited from 71 countries by the Commonwealth Games Association. In 2014 the Isle of Man Games had over 4,000 competitors along with coaches, judges and other officials attending.
<b>Partners and BCC Role</b>	Bidding for the event and delivery would be via the NI Commonwealth Games Council. BCC's potential role would be as a funder and adviser to the project delivery process.
<b>Economic opportunity</b>	Estimated economic return £3.5 million.
<b>Legacy Impact</b>	The significance of staging this event would be the capacity of the city to host a major sporting event of this nature. With 4,000 participants and officials the Games would showcase the city and its sporting facilities to global participants. The event would also require regional sporting bodies to be engaged in order that the Games can be delivered. This in turn would increase the capacity of these organisations to deliver on future national and international events.
<b>Publicity/promotional &amp; opportunities</b>	The 2014 Isle of Man event attracted over 112 journalists working across a range of local, national and international broadcast, social and print media.
<b>Community Input and Capacity Building</b>	The event would require regional sporting bodies to be engaged in order that the Games can be delivered. This in turn would increase the capacity of these organisations to deliver on future national and international events. Additionally a range of volunteering opportunities would exist which in turn would leave a legacy of customer care and customer servicing post the Games.
<b>Organisational Capacity to deliver</b>	The NI Commonwealth Games Council is a well structured and dedicated to the development of athletes and projects connected to the Commonwealth Games Federation. However, to deliver this project the Council would establish a special purpose delivery company which would have organisations such Sport NI, DCAL and BCC as part of its structures.
<b>Participation Community/volunteering input</b>	As stated above the event would require regional sporting bodies to be engaged in order that the Games can be delivered. This in turn would increase the capacity of these organisations to deliver on future national and international events. Additionally a range of volunteering opportunities would in turn would leave a legacy of customer care and customer servicing post the Games.
<b>BCC Contribution</b>	£500,000 plus in kind advice and guidance from various BCC Departments
<b>Total Event Costs</b>	£3 million



**Belfast City Council**

<b>Report to:</b>	Development Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	South by Southwest 2015
<b>Date:</b>	16 December 2014
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	John McGrillen, Director of Development, ext 3470
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Colin McCabrey, Economic Development Manager, ext 3805

<b>1</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
1.1	Members will be aware that at the 15 April 2014 Development Committee, Members were informed of the activities delivered through Council's participation in the South by Southwest (SXSW) Conference in March 2014.
1.2	For the past four years, the Council has been part of a delegation that has attended South by Southwest in Austin, Texas with a specific focus on promoting the City's music industry and promoting Belfast as a key investment location.
1.3	SXSW includes a conference and exhibition as well as a series of pre-arranged meetings, seminars, networking events and creative showcases. Traditionally music focused, SXSW has seen a significant growth in the digital and film elements of the conference and as such is now seen as key business development initiative for companies in the priority sectors of Film, Television, Digital Media and Music.
1.4	In consideration of the changing focus of the conference and the involvement of key stakeholders including Invest NI, Northern Ireland Screen, UKTI and Generator NI, an opportunity exists to review the Council's future participation in SXSW.
1.5	Officers have been engaging with the creative sector and key stakeholders, to scope out any potential role and future involvement by the Council, as part of a collective approach.

2	Key Issues
2.1	SXSW has evolved in recent years to reflect the growth of the digital and film industries. Engagement with key stakeholders has identified the importance of reflecting this change, in any Belfast/Northern Ireland presence at the event.
2.2	The 2015 event will be held from 13-20 March and UKTI will again be coordinating the collective presence of participating cities and regions across the UK.
2.3	For the 2015 event, funding has been secured from Invest Northern Ireland and Generator NI to support the business and artist delegation. To date, 21 local companies have been confirmed to attend made up of 8 music business and 13 film and digital content companies. In addition the 4 artists selected to showcase at SXSW music are expected to be announced early January. The majority of the companies participating at SXSW are based in Belfast.
2.4	For the 2015 event, Invest Northern Ireland and Generator NI will support participating companies and artists by providing up to 50% of the travel, accommodation and conference pass costs. Generator NI will also provide support on the ground during the SXSW music programme to help ensure local music artists avail of all showcasing opportunities presented to them.
2.5	Discussions have also taken place with Northern Ireland Screen and Belfast based Double Band Pictures, to secure the screening of the bike racing documentary "Road", as part of SXSW Film. Following discussions with SXSW, it is anticipated that "Road" will be screened during SXSW with marketing support by NI Screen.
2.6	Over the past four years Belfast City has led the SXSW mission, this has involved recruiting and supporting Belfast based creative businesses and artists; providing showcase, networking and exhibition opportunities for participants as part of the conference. Since 2013, the Council has secured the commitment and financial support from Invest NI and Generator NI in relation to business and artist participation, with Council contributing to the UKTI campaign to increase the profile of Belfast at the event and provide additional support to the business and artist delegation.
2.7	<p>Following discussions with UKTI the opportunity exists to again partner with UKTI, as part of a wider UK wider delegation for the 2015 conference. Partnership with UKTI will require a minimum financial investment of £10,000 for which the following will be provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Presence at the UKTI exhibition stand during the Film and Interactive conference and the music conference. The exhibition stand will carry the council logo, alongside other UK cities, and provide meeting space for the delegation within the conference convention centre.</li> <li>- Council's logo will also be featured on promotional material distributed by UKTI (posters, programme, advertisements), information on the participating companies and artists will also be included alongside a city narrative on investment and the creative industries.</li> <li>- Use of the UKTI venue to host a business networking event for the delegation. This will provide participating companies with the opportunity to invite key clients, potential buyers and investors from the film, television, interactive and music sectors to enable them to demo products and services in a focussed and bespoke environment. In addition UKTI will also issue invitations to key international businesses interested in doing business in the UK and Northern Ireland. An opportunity exists for council to influence the</li> </ul>

	invite list to maximise benefit for the city and participating businesses.
2.8	Without Council support to the UKTI campaign, participating businesses and artists will not avail of any of the activities outlined above. This will lessen the potential impact of the conference for participating businesses, through lack of profile and participation at bespoke events, which are crucial for the local delegation to meet and network with potential buyers and clients, in this very competitive marketplace. Due to the nature of funding provided by Generator NI and Invest Northern Ireland, they are unable to fund the UKTI element of the conference.
2.9	It is therefore recommended that Council support the UKTI campaign and to maximise the benefits from the event, it is proposed that the Chair and Deputy Chair (or nominees) along with one officer attend the SXSU event.

<b>3</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
3.1	<u>Financial</u> Participation in SXSU will require a budget of £16,000.

<b>4</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Considerations</b>
4.1	There are no specific equality and good relations implications.

<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
5.1	Members are asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Note the contents of the report.</li> <li>- Approve the financial resources and attendance of relevant officers/elected representatives at SXSU.</li> </ul>

<b>6</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
SXSU – South by Southwest UKTI– UK Trade and Investment	

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<b>Report to:</b>	Development Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Support for Wheelworks' ArtCart
<b>Date:</b>	16 December 2014
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	John McGrillen, Director of Development, ext 3470
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Brian Johnston, Tourism, Culture, Heritage & Arts Manager, ext 3586

<b>1</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
1.1	As Members will be aware, Belfast City Council provides revenue funding to 52 core-funded arts and heritage organisations to support the delivery of their annual programmes of activity. This includes £10,000 per year for three years to Wheelworks, a Belfast-based youth arts organisation.
1.2	Wheelworks is the 2014 winner of the Allianz Arts and Business Awards Young People Award. Its programme of activities includes “multiple realities”, which uses digital and traditional arts to address issues facing marginalised and at-risk young people; and “dealing with difference”, a training programme for youth workers and arts facilitators promoting diversity and disability awareness.
1.3	A key tool in Wheelworks' repertoire is the ArtCart, a purpose-built mobile arts hub fitted with a darkroom, sound recording studio, stage and workstations. As well as taking part in festivals and events such as Culture Night, Disability Pride and Belfast Day, the ArtCart enables Wheelworks to bring high-quality, cutting-edge arts provision to areas and communities that lack arts infrastructure and where levels of engagement are below average.

<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	The original ArtCart is now 14 years old and needs to be replaced. Wheelworks has received an offer of £200,000 capital funding via the Arts Council of Northern Ireland (ACNI). This funding is subject to delivery of the project by March 2015. However some partnership funding is required in order to lever the ACNI resources.
2.2	Wheelworks has 2.5 full-time equivalent staff working at capacity to deliver their core

	programme of activity. The request from Wheelworks to Belfast City Council is for £12,000 to support the cost of a project manager to oversee all aspects of the design and build, as well as deliver business and communications plans. This funding, which equates to less than 5 per cent of the total project cost, would enable Wheelworks to buy the time and expertise to successfully deliver the capital project.
2.3	Once operational, the new cart can be utilised effectively to ensure further engagement by marginalised communities in cultural and arts-based activities.

<b>3</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
3.1	<u>Financial</u> This can be funded out of the Tourism, Culture, Heritage and Arts (TCH&A) Unit's 2014/15 budget.

<b>4</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Considerations</b>
4.1	There are no equality and good relations implications attached to this report.

<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
5.1	Members are asked to note the contents of this report and agree to fund £12,000 towards the cost of Wheelworks' new ArtCart, as part of a £212,000 funding package, with the remaining resources agreed by ACNI.

<b>6</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
There is no Decision Tracking attached to this report.	

<b>7</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
TCH&A – Tourism, Culture and Arts ACNI – Arts Council of Northern Ireland	





<b>Report to:</b>	Development Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Request to support the relocation of the Lagan Canal Trust
<b>Date:</b>	16 December 2014
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	John McGrillen, Director of Development
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Brian Johnston, Tourism, Culture, Heritage & Arts Development Manager, ext 3586.

<b>1</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
1.1	<p>In November 2006 Members approved the establishment of the Lagan Canal Restoration Trust, a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee with charitable status. The main purpose of the Trust is to work towards reopening the canal from Belfast to Lough Neagh. Current priorities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Development of the Union Locks</li> <li>- Feasibility assessments of the Aghagallon village plan</li> <li>- Reinstating the pedestrian route from the Blackstaff River to the Lagan towpath</li> <li>- A EU project addressing climate change in the Lagan valley</li> <li>- Development of the Waterways College</li> </ul>
1.2	<p>The Trust currently represents core funding bodies and key interest groups including; Belfast City Council, Lisburn City Council, Castlereagh Borough Council, Craigavon Borough Council and the Department of Culture Arts and Leisure (DCAL). Other Trust stakeholders include Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA), Department of Social Development (DSD), Inland Waterways Association of Ireland (IWAI), Countryside Access and Activities Network (CAAN), Ulster Waterways Group (UWG), Lagan Valley Regional Park and a number of public stakeholders.</p>
1.3	<p>Financial support from the relevant councils is currently calculated based on the length of canal which lies within their area. In 2013-14 this was 18% of the canal for Belfast amounting to £17,341 of funding. Should the same formula be applied, this will increase to 22% following Local Government Reform.</p>
1.4	<p>The current funding agreement between Lagan Canal Trust and the relevant councils runs out in March 2015. The Trust has indicated that they will be requesting a new funding package for the next three year period. It is likely that the request will include an increased contribution from Belfast City Council due to increased running costs, possible extra activity and the greater length of the river included within the city boundary. However in the short term in year costs have arisen that the Trust has indicated cannot be met from the existing funding agreement.</p>

<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	The offices of the Trust are currently in Craigavon at the Lough Neagh Discovery Centre. An opportunity has emerged to relocate to Navigation House, built in 1866 beside the Union Locks in Lisburn, which was acquired by the not-for-profit organisation HEARTH and in due course HEARTH plan to complete a full restoration. A part restoration has already taken place and the board of the Lagan Canal Trust has agreed that the Trust will occupy the first floor on a three year tenancy. The relocation was not budgeted for within 2014/15 estimates.
2.2	A request has been made by the Trust to the councils for funding to cover costs for the relocation. These costs include one-off items totalling £9,300 including furniture and ICT installations. There will also be additional recurrent costs and for the period up to the end of the financial year (March 2015) these include rent and utilities amounting to £7,500. The total cost of relocation is therefore £16,800.
2.3	The Trust has applied the existing formula and requested a contribution from Belfast City Council of £4,652.31. Funding of £9,046.15 from Lisburn City Council and £2,067.69 from Craigavon Borough Council has been approved subject to confirmation of contribution from other councils. A request for £1,033.85 from Castlereagh Borough Council is currently under consideration.

<b>3</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
3.1	A request has been made that Council contribute a one off payment of £4,652.31 additional to the funding already agreed for the current financial year.

<b>4</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Implications</b>
4.1	There are currently no Equality and Good Relations implications.

<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
5.1	Members are asked to note the contents of this report and agree an additional payment to the Lagan Canal Trust of £4,652.31 within the current financial year from TCA unit's 2014-15 budgets.

<b>6</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
There is no Decision Tracking attached to this report.	

<b>7</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
TCA - Tourism, Culture and Arts	



**Report to:** Development Committee

**Subject:** Get Belfast Reading Initiative

**Date:** 16 December 2014

**Reporting Officer:** John McGrillen, Director of Development, ext 3470

**Contact Officer:** Brian Johnston, Tourism, Culture, Heritage & Arts Development Manager, ext 3586.

<b>1</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
1.1	<p><u>Cultural Framework for Belfast 2012–15</u> As Members will be aware, the Cultural Framework for Belfast 2012–15 was agreed and published in October 2012. Its vision is that:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">By 2020, everyone in Belfast experiences and is inspired by our city's diverse and distinctive culture and arts. Arts and heritage are valued for enriching quality of life and creating wealth, and the city's culture and creativity is renowned throughout the world.</p>
1.2	<p>The Cultural Framework complements the Investment Programme, which recognises arts and heritage as key drivers of the city's economy. It was developed in consultation with the arts and heritage sectors, and the Council's approach has been cited as best practice. Its aims are arranged under four themes – Distinctly Belfast, Inspiring communities, Attracting audiences and Strengthening the sector – and its targets include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- increasing audiences from Belfast by 10 per cent</li> <li>- growing visiting audiences from 15 to 25 per cent</li> <li>- establishing a strong, skilled, multifaceted arts and heritage infrastructure</li> <li>- generating £8 in income for every £1 invested in the sector</li> </ul>
1.3	<p><u>Literary Belfast</u> Belfast is the home of many writers and poets, many of whom have enjoyed international success and recognition. The city has a rich literary heritage and prolific literary activity across diverse venues and as part of festivals across the year. This reputation is recognised in tourism initiatives such as Literary Belfast online resources and events developed in 2011.</p>
1.4	<p>However despite its proliferation of writing, Northern Ireland has low literacy levels amongst adults as well as young people. This has been particularly noted in Belfast. Northern Ireland ranked 19 out of 24 for literacy in a major study by</p>

1.5	<p>the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) carried out across Europe last year. A report launched in September 2014 (compiled by the coalition Read On, Get On) also noted that the region had high levels of inequality in reading attainment amongst children.</p> <p>There is therefore a need to stimulate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- reading as a private and group activity, particularly with hard to reach groups or areas of the city</li> <li>- awareness of Belfast's literary history and current talent, and allow people to see the city through its writers' eyes.</li> </ul>
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<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	<p>In line with the vision of the Cultural Framework, Belfast City Council has developed the initiative 'Get Belfast Reading' to help attract audiences, inspire communities, and strengthen the local cultural sector. The main aims are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- increase awareness of and engagement in reading based activities</li> <li>- stimulate the use of books and literature</li> <li>- break down barriers to reading</li> <li>- encourage attendance at literary events</li> <li>- build awareness of local writing talent and literary heritage, and</li> <li>- enhance literacy levels for all ages across the city</li> </ul>
2.2	<p>Get Belfast Reading will contribute to achieving targets in the Cultural Framework and benefits of the initiative will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- improved health and wellbeing</li> <li>- enhanced quality of life through social interaction and pleasure</li> <li>- educational benefits and longer term economic benefits</li> <li>- events and visual elements have positive impacts on perception of the city – local, national, international</li> </ul>
2.3	<p>The initiative has been developed by Belfast City Council in consultation with relevant stakeholders including Arts Council of Northern Ireland, Libraries NI, Verbal Arts Centre, BookTrust, Linen Hall Library, the Reader Organisation, and the Read On, Get On campaign. The focus of the initiative is to encourage participation across the city and focus work where there is currently limited provision.</p> <p>The initiative has several proposed strands.</p>
2.4	<p><u>Belfast Book Boxes</u></p> <p>A minimum of 15 Belfast Book Boxes will be created and installed at key community access points across the city (at least 5 outdoor and 10 indoor). They will be designed by an artist working within the community. 'Book boxes' is an established model that has been rolled out in other cities across the world, but this would be the first initiative in Northern Ireland.</p>
2.5	<p>The call to action is 'take a book, read a book, return a book'. The aim is to stimulate an interest in books, increase access to reading material in areas far from libraries, and improve social cohesion and a sense of community. The book boxes will be promoted with events and programmes such as the 'One City, One Book' initiative. In addition to books, each box will also include information about local events and resources such as library, community, and arts centre activities.</p>

2.6	<p><u>Shared Reading Initiative</u> A number of shared reading groups will be established across the city. The call to action will be to make reading enjoyable, building the confidence, self-esteem and reading ability of all age groups with a focus on hard to reach groups. Key to this will be to train volunteer reading coaches in a high quality model of shared reading, in order to effectively engage new readers and audiences.</p>
2.7	<p>A number of community based 'reading rooms' have already been established in Belfast, led by Verbal Arts Centre. Libraries NI also have an active reader development programme. Interest in these has been strong and has attracted new participants and stimulated them to read (often Belfast focused) literature and be more confident in expressing themselves and sharing their stories. Groups meet in diverse and accessible venues including community centres, libraries, hospitals and arts centres. To date ad hoc approaches have been made by organisations seeking financial support from Council and there is demand for more groups to be established across the city. There is also a waiting list of volunteers who wish to become trained reading coaches. Get Belfast Reading would give structured support to help establish and maintain a number of reading rooms across the city.</p>
2.8	<p><u>Literary Belfast resources</u> This strand will update and increase the accessibility of existing Literary Belfast resources to help raise awareness and knowledge for locals and visitors. This will include reanimation of the Belfast Writers app; an update of web resources; further promotion of the exhibition; and renewal of on-street visuals.</p>

<b>3</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
3.1	<p><u>Financial</u> A budget of £15,000 is included in the TCA unit's 2014/15 budget. In kind support will be provided by stakeholders.</p>

<b>4</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Considerations</b>
4.1	<p>An equality impact assessment for the project will be carried out to ensure all areas of the city have the opportunity to benefit.</p>
4.2	<p>Good Relations considerations will be taken into account.</p>

<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
	<p>It is recommended that Members note the contents of this report and agree to proceed with the Get Belfast Reading initiative.</p>

<b>6</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
	<p>There is no Decision Tracking attached to this report.</p>

<b>7</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
	<p>TCA: Tourism, Culture and Arts.</p>

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<b>Report to:</b>	Development Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Chinese New Year 2015
<b>Date:</b>	16 <sup>th</sup> December 2014
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	John McGrillen, Director of Development, ext 3470
<b>Contact Officers:</b>	Laura Leonard, EU and International Manager, ext 3577

<b>1</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
1.1	Members will be aware that our International Framework promotes education, business and leisure tourism within the three key markets of USA, India and China. Over the past two years, the European and International Unit has engaged with city stakeholders who are active in each of these markets to pursue and create new opportunities.
1.2	One of our city stakeholders, the Confucius Institute at the University of Ulster, has been very active in supporting our work and it has played a significant role in strengthening our relationship and activity in China. On 25 <sup>th</sup> February 2015 the Institute plans to host a major event to mark Chinese New Year and we are seeking approval from Members to provide £3,000 from our International budget as a contribution towards the costs of the event.
1.3	The Confucius Institute was officially opened in April 2012 by China's most senior female politician, Madame Liu Yandong, who is now the vice premier of China. It operates in partnership with the Zhejiang University of Media and Communications in south-eastern China, and is supported by the Education Department in Hubei Province and the Department for Education in Northern Ireland.
1.4	The Institute has established 8 Confucius Classroom Hubs to promote Chinese language and culture to young people across Northern Ireland. It provides around 25 teachers and resources to roll out lessons in Mandarin Chinese, cultural awareness programmes, events and conferences for schools, local communities and partner networks.
1.5	Belfast benefits from two hub schools, Aquinas Grammar School and Grosvenor Grammar School who share their teaching resources with 16 other schools. Over 7,000 pupils at these schools are learning about Chinese culture and Mandarin, and students will gain accreditation by sitting Chinese Proficiency and Youth Chinese Tests. Teachers and students also have an opportunity to visit

1.6	<p>China with most costs covered by the Confucius Institute. In return the schools will host Chinese students here in Belfast.</p> <p>The work of the Confucius Institute underpins BCC's International Framework by providing educational support for our young people which enhances their skills and opens new career opportunities. BCC has also benefited from support provided by Institute staff who have briefed members of the Development Committee in preparation for a visit from a delegation from Hefei, our Sister City in China. Support was also provided for our outward visit to Hefei for the Sister City Conference in October 2013 and Confucius Institute staff have also taken part in our recent careers event at City Hall.</p>
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<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	<p>In January this year, the Confucius Institute brought the Little Flower Troupe - a renowned group of young talented singers and dancers to our city - to perform for the Lord Mayor at City Hall and to perform for a wider audience at the Waterfront Hall to celebrate Chinese New Year. In 2015, the Institute is seeking our support to host a similar event which will also highlight the achievements of our young people in learning Mandarin and promote continued valuable collaboration between our city and China.</p>
2.2	<p>The Chinese New Year celebration will be marked by a joint event with the Culture Office of the Chinese Embassy in London. The event in Belfast will bring senior Chinese Officials to our city including the Ambassador Xiaoming Liu, Minister Counsellor Mr Xiaowei Xiang from the Chinese Embassy in London and the Chinese Consul General for Northern Ireland. Senior university officials including the Vice Chancellor and Pro Vice Chancellor of the University of Ulster, MLAs, and Mayors from various Councils will also be in attendance, together with over 1,800 people including students from the hub schools, parents, teachers and the general public.</p>
2.3	<p>The event will include speeches from senior officials and students will receive Chinese Proficiency and Youth Chinese test certificates. A highlight of the event will be the performance of the Beijing Red Poppy Ladies' Percussion group who will perform Mulan. The Red Poppy Ladies' Percussion group is renowned in China and highly acclaimed worldwide. The group performed at the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing and this year performed again in Beijing for APEC. The group has performed in over 20 countries in venues such as Sydney Opera House, Cairo Opera House and Kennedy Art Centre USA.</p>
2.4	<p>The Confucius Institute is delighted to be able to bring the Red Poppy Ladies' Percussion group to Belfast and invites our Lord Mayor and Members of our Development Committee to join in their Chinese New Year celebration. The Institute has also requested that our Lord Mayor speak at the event.</p>

<b>3</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
3.1	<p>In 2014, all costs for the Chinese New Year celebration were covered by the Chinese Government; however, the Confucius Institute is now seeking financial contributions towards costs from local stakeholders for the 2015 celebration.</p>
3.2	<p>The total cost of the event is estimated at £50,000. This includes travel costs for</p>



	the performers to come to Belfast, hire of the venue and associated event costs. Resource implications for Belfast City Council's for this event are £3,000 contribution towards the event and staff support from the European and International Unit.
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<b>4</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Considerations</b>
4.1	There are no equality and Good Relations considerations associated with this proposal.

<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
5.1	<p>It is recommended that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Members note this report</li> <li>b) Approve a contribution of £3,000 towards the event</li> <li>c) Members attend the Chinese New Year celebration on February 25th 2015</li> <li>d) The Lord Mayor attends and speaks at the event</li> </ul>

<b>6</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>

<b>7</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
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<b>8</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
No documents attached.	

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### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Development Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Shaftesbury Recreation Centre – Lower Ormeau Residents Action Group Rent Review
<b>Date:</b>	December 2014
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	John McGrillen - Director of Development
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Catherine Taggart – Community Services Management

<b>1</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
1.1	Development Committee on 16 January 2008 agreed to lease Shaftesbury Recreation Centre to Lower Ormeau Residents Action Group for 25 years from 3 February 2009 subject to an annual rent of £18,275 per annum reviewable every 5 years.
<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	The rent under the Lease fell due for review on 3 February 2014 and the Estate Management Unit have calculated a revised rent of £36,700 per annum which is an uplift in rent which reflects the extension to the building since the Lease commenced.
2.2	LORAG receives a payment of £55,182.71 per year to manage the centre which is net of the rent due under the Lease.

<b>3</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
3.1	<u>Finance</u> The rental value of the property for recreational and community use has increased to £36,700 per annum and will become payable from 3 February 2014 however the grant is paid net of rent.
3.2	<u>Assets</u> None
3.3	<u>Human Resources</u> None

<b>4</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Considerations</b>
4.1	There are no Equality or Good Relations issues.

<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
5.1	It is recommended that Committee agree to a revised rent of £36,700 per annum payable from the rent review date of 3 February 2013. This would be subject to approval of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee in accordance with Standing Orders.

<b>6</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
6.1	The Director of Development to liaise with the Director of Property and Projects with a view to bringing the matter of the revised rent to the next available meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.

<b>7</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
	LORAG – Lower Ormeau Residents Action Group

<b>8</b>	<b>Document Attached</b>



<b>Report to:</b>	Development Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Markets staffing review - update
<b>Date:</b>	16 December 2014
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	John McGrillen, Director of Development, ext 3470
<b>Contact Officers:</b>	Clodagh Cassin, Markets Development Manager, ext 5455

<b>1</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
1.1	<p>Members will be aware that, in 2013, Deloitte was appointed to carry out a strategic review of St George's Market. The findings of this report were presented to the Development Committee in February 2014 focussing on a number of key areas including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Marketing and branding of the market</li> <li>– Market facilities</li> <li>– Achieving the right balance of categories of stalls/products.</li> <li>– The effect of the layout of stalls within the market and how the layout could be improved</li> <li>– Associated operational issues and impacts.</li> </ul>
1.2	<p>The report highlighted that the staffing structure within the Markets Unit had not changed to reflect the additional trading hours, particularly the Sunday market, and consequently recommended that a review of the staffing at St George's and the wider Markets Unit should take place.</p>

<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	<p>Following a competitive procurement exercise, an independent company was appointed to carry out the staffing review at St George's Market. All staff from the Markets Unit, the BCC TU coordinators and St George's Market traders were involved in this review (through meetings and a focus group).</p>
2.2	<p>The review identified a number of issues for further consideration including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– There are currently more members of staff available to open the building on non-trading days than there are on the three trading days</li> <li>– None of the markets staff are scheduled to work on Sunday. This means covering Sundays by overtime working or by agency staff.</li> <li>– Shift patterns should be changed to ensure greater resources are available on trading days.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– There is a need for a duty manager type role on a full-time basis for the weekend market days.</li> <li>– The potential to focus the role of Markets Assistant on the set-up and operational running of the market, and give consideration to another role to address trader concerns regarding a lack of customer-focusing staff on market days</li> <li>– Better clarity of roles is required between Supervisor/Senior Supervisor and other management.</li> <li>– Consideration to be given to the use of contract cleaner to carry out the deep-clean work, particularly before and after market days. This work is primarily carried out by agency staff and if the Market Assistants' shift patterns were changed as suggested these staff would be available in greater numbers during market opening hours, while the cleaning work could be carried out by a professional cleaning company. This would have the added advantage of being able to “sell” the market for other events and activities from Monday to Wednesday, thereby securing additional income</li> <li>– Develop a more consistent stall layout. Currently, Markets Assistants spend a considerable amount of time on the break down and set-up between market days as the layouts are different on each day. It is recommended that work is undertaken with traders to gain some consistency around the internal layout of the building on the three market days.</li> </ul>
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<b>3</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
3.1	The HR implications of this review will need to be given detailed consideration in accordance with BCC HR policies and procedures including consultation and engagement with staff and trade unions.

<b>4</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Considerations</b>
4.1	Equality and good relations considerations will be addressed through the review process.

<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
5.1	<p>It is recommended that Members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Note the ongoing staffing review at the Markets Unit, focusing on St. George's</li> <li>– Give approval to examine the recommendations further with staff and the Trade Unions in line with Council policy and procedures and taking into account the Council-wide Organisational Design process which is taking place as part of Local Government Reform Agree to consider a further report to be brought back to the relevant council committee in due course, outlining the proposed staffing review.</li> </ul>

<b>6</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
Timeline: February 2015	Reporting Officer: John McGrillen