

# Document Pack

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



7<sup>th</sup> May, 2013

## **MEETING OF STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

Dear Alderman/Councillor,

The above-named Committee will meet in the Lavery Room (Room G05), City Hall on Friday, 10th May, 2013 at 10.00 am, for the transaction of the business noted below.

You are requested to attend.

Yours faithfully,

PETER McNANEY

Chief Executive

### **AGENDA:**

#### **1. Routine Matters**

- (a) Apologies
- (b) Minutes
- (c) Declarations of Interest

#### **2. Cross-Cutting Issues**

- (a) Presentation from Representatives of NIPSA - Abolition of the NIHE
- (b) Future of Emergency Services Departments in Belfast - Draft Consultation Response (Pages 3 - 16)
- (c) Consultation on Draft Guidance on Termination of Pregnancy (Pages 17 - 18)

(d) Notice of Motion re – Organ Donation (Pages 19 - 22)

(e) Traffic Congestion in the City (Pages 23 - 24)

3. **Democratic Services and Governance**

(a) Change of Time of Meeting- 24th May, 2013 (Pages 25 - 28)

(b) Allowances for the Lord Mayor, Deputy Lord Mayor and High Sheriff (Pages 29 - 30)

(c) Appointments to the Belfast Education and Library Board (Pages 31 - 36)

**To: The Chairman and Members of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee**



### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Future of Emergency Services Departments in Belfast:</b> Draft Consultation Response
<b>Date:</b>	10 May 2013
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Suzanne Wylie, Director of Health & Environmental Services
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Suzanne Wylie, Director of Health & Environmental Services

<b>1</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
1.1	Members will be aware that the Minister for Health, Edwin Poots launched consultation on 5 February 2013 on the future of Emergency Services Departments in Belfast.
1.2	The consultation period closes on 10 May. The Terms of Reference for the consultation approved by the Minister requires the Health and Social Care Board to provide him with a sound basis for a decision on the future make-up of Emergency Department services across this area.
1.3	The proposals in the consultation document have been developed by the Health and Social Care Board (HSCB) working with Belfast Trust.
1.4	The preferred and recommended option proposed is that <b>Emergency Department services should be delivered from two Emergency Departments at Royal Victoria Hospital and Mater Hospital</b> . Direct access to Belfast City Hospital would be available for patients who have been assessed by their GP as requiring medical assessment or admission to hospital without the need to go via an Emergency Department.
1.5	A Special meeting of the Committee took place at 2:00 pm on Thursday 25 April 2013 at which Members received a presentation from representatives of the Trust and were able to ask questions. At that meeting it was agreed that a draft Council response be drafted for review at the May meeting answering two of the three main questions posed in the questionnaire (Q.s 3 + 4) and leaving question 5 as a matter for the political groups.

2	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	<p>The consultation outlines that there are three key reasons (“key drivers”) for making changes in the way Emergency Department services are delivered across Belfast:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) The future direction for health and social care services, as outlined in ‘Transforming Your Care’ is for urgent care services to be provided as close to people’s homes as possible, provided by an integrated team from primary, community and hospital services with an emergency service configuration that is sustainable and resilient in clinical terms. The report envisaged all hospitals in Belfast Trust as part of a single network of major acute services.</li> <li>(ii) The strategic direction for acute hospitals and service delivery in Belfast, as outlined in Belfast Trust’s ‘New Directions’ document, focuses on both the development of patient pathways which enable people to access services quickly, without having to attend the Emergency Department, and the development of service profiles for the hospitals in the Belfast Acute Network (BCH, Mater Hospital &amp; RVH);</li> <li>(iii) The need to deliver a safe and sustainable service into the future, where highly-skilled clinical teams, supported by an effective physical infrastructure and environment, can provide a high quality service for patients.</li> </ul>
2.2	<p>The 4 <b>shortlisted</b> options considered in the review are outlined below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Option 1: Three Emergency Departments (RVH, Mater &amp; BCH) - This option would result in insufficient numbers of experienced middle grade doctors and doctors in training being available to deliver a safe, high quality service in three Emergency Departments</li> <li>(ii) Option 2: Two Emergency Departments (RVH &amp; BCH) – 2 sites would be preferred - but the RVH and BCH hospitals rely on the same limited cadre of experienced middle grade doctors and doctors in training. This option, with an Emergency Department in both RVH and BCH, could not consistently deliver safe, high quality services because of the limited availability of these experienced decision makers.</li> <li>(iii) Option 3: Two Emergency Departments (RVH &amp; Mater) – 2 sites would be preferred and the Mater Hospital, as a smaller district general hospital, is capable of functioning safely with less experienced medical trainees because, as a smaller hospital, the close proximity of other specialties, such as anaesthetics and general medicine, supports the delivery of emergency services.</li> <li>(iv) Option 6: One Emergency Department (RVH) - The RVH Emergency Department has been designed to care for around 80,000 patients per annum. Any significant increase above this would put pressure on the RVH infrastructure including public access, car parking and access to diagnostic services. Delivery of the current total number of Emergency Department attendances of 120,000 could not be realistically achieved on the RVH site without significant service configuration.</li> </ul>
2.3	<p>The shortlisted options were considered against 5 assessment Criteria for Acute Reconfiguration included in the “Transforming Your Care: Vision to Action” document:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Patient Safety &amp; Quality</li> <li>➤ Deliverability &amp; Sustainability</li> <li>➤ Effective Use of Resources</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Local Access</li> <li>➤ Stakeholder Support</li> </ul> <p>2.4 In response to a query from a Member as to whether the proposals were being driven by the need to make financial efficiencies, the Trust representatives explained that that the primary reasons for proposing these changes were due to patient safety and the lack of available consultants.</p> <p>2.5 With regard to Questions 3 and 4, Members agreed in principle with the Drivers for Change and with how the criteria were applied in the assessment of the options, but they also wished to make the following points in the Council's response;-</p> <p><b><u>The Patient Experience</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The changes ongoing in the Emergency Service provision are not patient-centric enough and could benefit from a “whole system” approach to joining up the “patient experience” from admission through treatment to discharge.</li> <li>➤ The particular example of transport and transfers across and between sites (by ambulance) was referred to as not yet being patient-centric and robust enough to cope with the new proposals;</li> <li>➤ Too many patients are still being transferred too late at night – Out of Hours service for GPs are not well enough understood and used with the result that people still tend to choose going to A&amp;E;</li> </ul> <p><b><u>TYC: More community based services</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ More non emergency patients should be seen in the Health and Well Being centres rather than in A&amp;E (in line with the TYC vision) – and more local “hubs” such as the example of the older peoples hub at Musgrave would be welcomed;</li> <li>➤ Members highlighted the need for much more joined up approaches to out of hours GP and dental services, minor injuries treatment, etc. to discourage people from opting for A&amp;E and also to ensure that non emergency cases don't create an A &amp; E log jam;</li> <li>➤ The process around admission of patients needs to be stream-lined. The existence of the GP Direct Admission unit on level 5 of the Royal was welcomed but it was felt that this service is not yet well used enough by GPs and that it should be promoted more.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Inappropriate Attendance at A&amp;E</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The fact that most GPs still only work 9-5 was highlighted as a practice which should be urgently reviewed in light of this proposal and TYC;</li> <li>➤ Members also queried figures on “re-admissions” and whether there was any link to the quality of service received on first admission.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Other issues raised</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Members were concerned that the number of admissions is continuing to increase and queried whether or not the data used in the development of the proposal had forecast future demand and potential for further</li> </ul>
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	<p>increases and queried if the sites remaining could cope – eg. Parking, infrastructure etc in and around the Royal and the existing expanse of the site;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ With regard to the shortage of suitably qualified consultants, Members emphasised the need for adequate education, training and development as well as appropriate incentives to attract the required level of consultants to the Belfast hospitals;</li> <li>➤ Members also expressed concerns that waiting times were still not coming down enough</li> </ul> <p>Subject to approval by Committee, it is proposed that the draft response attached at Appendix I is submitted to the Department on 10 May in order to meet the deadline but with the proviso that it is still subject to full Council approval at its meeting in June 2013.</p>
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<b>3</b>	<p><b>Resource Implications</b></p> <p><u>Financial</u> None</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u> None</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u> None</p>
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<b>4</b>	<p><b>Equality and Good Relations Considerations</b></p> <p>In the consultation documents BHSC Trust outline that the proposal is subject to a full Equality Impact Assessment. At the early screening stages, based on information available at present, there has been nothing to date to suggest that the proposal would have a major adverse impact on any individual or group covered by Section 75.</p> <p>The outcomes of the EQIA and final EQIA document will be posted on the Health and Social Care Board and Trust’s website and made available on request. The Health and Social Care Board shall issue the outcome of the EQIA to those who submit responses to its consultation on this proposal.</p>
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<b>5</b>	<p><b>Recommendations</b></p> <p>Members are asked to –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Note the contents of this report; and</li> <li>(ii) Approve submission of the draft consultation response to BHSC Trust, subject to any comments or amendment provided, by the deadline of 10 May, attached at Appendix 1.</li> </ul>
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<b>6</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>

<b>7</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
	None

<b>8</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
	Appendix 1 – Consultation pro forma – Draft BCC response plus additional comments.

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**Consultation on the Proposed Future Configuration of Emergency  
Department Services in Belfast**

**Pro – forma for responding to the Consultation Document**

- The consultation period will run **from Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> February 2013 to Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> May 2013.**
- Comments are invited from all interested parties on the Consultation Questions listed below.
- Responses must be received no later than **5pm on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2013.**
- Before you submit your response, please read Annex A regarding the confidentiality of response to public consultation exercises in the context of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.
- The Consultation Paper and Equality Impact Assessment documents are available on both the BHSCT and the HSC Board website pages. An electronic web – form for the Consultation questionnaire and the Equality Impact Assessment is available on the HSC Board website at [www.hscboard.hscni.net/consult](http://www.hscboard.hscni.net/consult)
- Responses should be sent to:

Email: [EDConsultation@hscni.net](mailto:EDConsultation@hscni.net)

Written: Belfast Emergency Department  
Consultation  
HSCB  
12 – 22 Linenhall Street  
Belfast  
BT2 8BS

Telephone: 02890 960069

Text Phone: 02890 566755

(Please note Telephone and Text Phone facilities are to be used only to request a posted copy of the consultation documents or to request the documentation in an alternative format)

## A Consultation on the Future Configuration of Emergency Department Services in Belfast

### Consultation Questionnaire

1. I am responding:

- As an individual
  - As a Health and Social Care Professional
  - On behalf of an Organisation
- (please tick one option)

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

2. About you or your organisation:

Name:	Suzanne Wylie
Job Title:	Director of Health & Environmental Service
Organisation:	Belfast City Council - Cecil Ward Building,
Address:	
Tel:	028 90320202 – Ext:3260
Fax:	n/a
E-mail:	wylies@belfastcity.gov.uk

3. Do you agree that the reasons for change (Section 4 Drivers for Change) clearly show why a three – site Emergency Department service in Belfast, at the Royal Victoria, Mater and Belfast City Hospitals, cannot be maintained in its current form?

Yes I agree  No I do not agree

If not, why not?

4. Do you agree with how the criteria have been applied in the assessment of the 4 options (Section 6 Assessment of Options)?

Yes I agree  No I do not agree

If you do not agree please state your reasons below.

Are there other factors or criteria which should be used in the assessment? If so, please detail below.

5. Do you agree that the proposal for a two – site Emergency Department option, at the RVH and Mater Hospitals, supported by direct access arrangements for patients into the BCH, will deliver a safe, high quality, timely and effective service within the Belfast Emergency Department Service?

Yes I agree  No I do not agree

N/A – Belfast City Council agreed that this question would be a matter for the individual Party Groups to respond to.

**Thank you for completing this response**

### **Additional Points raised by politicians from Belfast City Council:**

Members of Belfast City Council received a presentation from representatives from the Trust. Following on from this it was agreed that the Council would submit a response to Questions 3 and 4 of the questionnaire, but that Question 5 would remain a matter for the individual Party Groups to respond to. The Members also wished to make the following points in the Council's response;-

#### **The Patient Experience**

- The changes ongoing in the Emergency Service provision are not patient-centric enough and could benefit from a "whole system" approach to joining up the "patient experience" from admission through treatment to discharge.
- The particular example of transport and transfers across and between sites (by ambulance) was referred to as not yet being patient-centric and robust enough to cope with the new proposals;
- Too many patients are still being transferred too late at night – Out of Hours service for GPs are not well enough understood and used with the result that people still tend to choose going to A&E;

#### **TYC: More community based services**

- More non emergency patients should be seen in the Health and Well Being centres rather than in A&E (in line with the TYC vision) – and more local "hubs" such as the example of the older peoples hub at Musgrave would be welcomed;
- Members highlighted the need for much more joined up approaches to out of hours GP and dental services, minor injuries treatment, etc. to discourage people from opting for A&E and also to ensure that non emergency cases don't create an A & E log jam;
- The process around admission of patients needs to be stream-lined. The existence of the GP Direct Admission unit on level 5 of the Royal was welcomed but it was felt that this service is not yet well used enough by GPs and that it should be promoted more.

#### **Inappropriate Attendance at A&E**

- The fact that most GPs still only work 9-5 was highlighted as a practice which should be urgently reviewed in light of this proposal and TYC;
- Members also queried figures on "re-admissions" and whether there was any link to the quality of service received on first admission.

#### **Other issues raised**

- Members were concerned that the number of admissions is continuing to increase and queried whether or not the data used in the development of the proposal had forecast future demand and potential for further increases and queried if the sites remaining could cope – eg. Parking, infrastructure etc in and around the Royal and the existing expanse of the site;
- With regard to the shortage of suitably qualified consultants, Members emphasised the need for adequate education, training and development as well

as appropriate incentives to attract the required level of consultants to the Belfast hospitals;

- Members also expressed concerns that waiting times were still not coming down enough

## Annex A to consultation response

### Freedom of Information Act (2000) – Confidentiality of Consultations

The HSC Board will publish an anonymised summary of responses following completion of the consultation process. Your response, and all other responses to the consultation, may be disclosed on request. The HSC Board can only refuse to disclose information in exceptional circumstances. **Before** you submit your response, please read the paragraphs below on the confidentiality of consultations and they will give you guidance on the legal position about any information given by you in response to this consultation.

The Freedom of Information Act gives the public a right of access to any information held by a public authority, namely, the HSC Board in this case. This right of access to information includes information provided in response to a consultation. The HSC Board cannot automatically consider as confidential information supplied to it in response to a consultation. However, it does have the responsibility to decide whether any information provided by you in response to this consultation, including information about your identity should be made public or be treated as confidential.

This means that information provided by you in response to the consultation is unlikely to be treated as confidential, except in very particular circumstances. The Lord Chancellor's Code of Practice on the Freedom of Information Act provides that:

- The HSC Board should only accept information from third parties in confidence if it is necessary to obtain that information in connection with the exercise of any of the HSC Board's functions and it would not otherwise be provided
- The HSC Board should not agree to hold information received from third parties 'in confidence' which is not confidential in nature

- Acceptance by the HSC Board of confidentiality provisions must be good reasons, capable of being justified to the Information Commissioner.

For further information about confidentiality of responses please contact the Information Commissioners Office (or see web site at:

**<http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk/>**).





**Belfast City Council**

<b>Report to:</b>	Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Consultation on Draft Guidance on Termination of Pregnancy</b>
<b>Date:</b>	10th May, 2012
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Mr. Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager Ext. 6314
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Mr. Jim Hanna, Senior Democratic Services Officer Ext. 6313

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
1.1	The Minister for Health, Social Services and Public Safety has launched for consultation Draft Guidance on the Termination of Pregnancy which is entitled The Limited Circumstances for a Lawful Termination of Pregnancy in Northern Ireland.
1.2	The draft guidance builds on previous versions which have been consulted upon and aims to provide guidance to Health and Social Care professionals on the law in Northern Ireland.
1.3	Responses to the consultation are required by 29th July, 2013.

<b>2.0</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
2.1	None associated with this report.

<b>3.0</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Considerations</b>
3.1	There are no relevant equality and good relations implication.

<b>4.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
4.1	It is recommended that the consultation is referred to the Political Parties for

	consideration and comment.
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### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Notice of Motion re – Organ Donation</b>
<b>Date:</b>	10th May, 2013
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Mr. S. McCrory, Democratic Services Manager, 6314
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Mr. J. Hanna, Senior Democratic Services Officer, 6313

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
1.1	Members will recall that the Council, at its meeting on 4th March, passed the following Notice of Motion:  <p style="text-align: center;">“This Council welcomes the calls for consultation around the introduction of an opt-out organ donation scheme to increase the number of organ donors here; notes with concern the current serious shortage of organ donors; and agrees to write to the Minister for Health urging him to explore the introduction of such a scheme which would help save the lives of the many seriously ill people currently on long waiting lists dependent on the gift of organ donation.”</p>
1.2	A letter was subsequently forwarded to the Minister.

<b>2.0</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	A response, copy attached, has been received from the Minister in which he indicates that proposals for an opt-out scheme for organ donations were still being developed and he intends to announce the way forward as soon possible.
2.2	Once the findings of that work were known, he would then consider what the next steps could be for organ donation in Northern Ireland.

<b>3.0</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
3.1	None associated with this report

<b>4.0</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Considerations</b>
4.1	No relevant equality and Good Relations considerations

<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
5.1	The Committee is asked to note receipt of the correspondence.

<b>6</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
Appendix 1 Copy of response from the Minister.	

FROM THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH,  
SOCIAL SERVICES AND PUBLIC SAFETY  
Edwin Poots MLA



# Appendix 1

Department of  
**Health, Social Services  
and Public Safety**

[www.dhsspsni.gov.uk](http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk)

Castle Buildings  
Stormont Estate  
BELFAST BT4 3SQ  
Tel: 028 90 520642  
Fax: 028 90 520557  
Email: [private.office@dhsspsni.gov.uk](mailto:private.office@dhsspsni.gov.uk)



Mr Barry Flynn  
Democratic Services Officer  
Belfast City Council  
City Hall  
BELFAST  
BT1 5GS

Your Ref: 8F/FW  
Our Ref: COR/464/2013  
Date: 12 April 2013

*Dear Barry*

Thank you for your letter of 29 March, in which you affirm Belfast City Council's support for organ donation. I should be grateful if you would advise the Council that I am grateful to it for bringing its views on this important matter to my attention.

Organ donation is an issue that I have a particular interest in and I am keen to explore all options for increasing the number of organs available for transplantation. Although great improvements have been made in organ donation and transplantation in Northern Ireland in recent years, it is recognised that we need to do more as there are still around 200 people actively waiting on a transplant. It is therefore vital that we encourage those who have not already done so to join the organ donor register and to discuss their wishes with family and friends.

As you are aware, on 5 February 2013 I announced that I intend to seek the views of the public on organ donation, including the possible introduction of an opt-out scheme for Northern Ireland. The timings and details of this proposal are currently being developed and I intend to announce the way forward as soon as possible.

Once the findings of this work are known, I will then consider what the next steps will be for organ donation in Northern Ireland.

I hope you find this information helpful.

Please accept my best wishes.

**Edwin Poots MLA**  
**Minister for Health Social Services and Public Safety**

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### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Traffic Congestion in the City</b>
<b>Date:</b>	10th May, 2012
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Mr. Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager Ext. 6314
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Mr. Jim Hanna, Senior Democratic Services Officer Ext. 6313

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
1.1	The Committee will recall that, at its meeting on 19th April, a Member requested that a report in relation to the traffic congestion in the city, caused as a result of the Belfast on the Move project, be submitted to the next meeting of the Committee.
1.2	The Committee agreed that, in the first instance, and as he had done so previously, the Lord Mayor be requested to host a meeting of the relevant stakeholders and key personnel to discuss the matter.

<b>2.0</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
2.1	Members will be aware that the issue was discussed by the Council at its meeting on 1st May.
2.2	Subsequently, it was agreed that the Council, in conjunction with the relevant stakeholders, seek an urgent meeting with the Minister with responsibility for the Roads Service to discuss the problems associated with traffic congestion in the City.
2.3	Whilst it would be useful for the Members to meet with the Minister, it is suggested that, in the first instance, representatives of the Road Service be invited to meet with the Committee to discuss the problems.

<b>3.0</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
3.1	None associated with this report

<b>4.0</b>	<b>Equality Implications</b>
4.1	None associated with this report

<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
5.1	<p>The Committee requested to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. agree that a letter be forwarded to the Road Service inviting representatives to attend a future meeting of the Committee to discuss the problems associated with the Belfast on the Move Project;</li> <li>ii. agree also, as part of a parallel process, a letter be forwarded to the Minister for the Department for Regional Development, inviting him also to meet with the Committee; and</li> <li>iii. consider, in the event that either one or both the invitations are accepted, which other stakeholders should be invited to the meeting.</li> </ul>

<b>6.0</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
<p>Officer Responsible: Jim Hanna</p>	





### Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Change of Time of Meeting- 24th May, 2013</b>
<b>Date:</b>	10th May, 2013
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Mr S McCrory, Democratic Services Manager 6314
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Mr J Hanna, Senior Democratic Services Officer 6313

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
1.1	Members will be aware that the next meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee is scheduled to be held at 10:00am on 24th May.
1.2	An event entitled "Leaders, Leading Change- Women in Politics" is being held in the City Hall on that date from 8.15am- 11.45am.

<b>2.0</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	The event follows on from a US State Department initiative last year - Women in the Workplace, when 10 women from Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland, including the Head of Human Resources, engaged with their American counterparts to examine strategies to support women in the workplace.
2.2	The US Department of State has provided funding for an event in Belfast and invitations have been issued to the female Members of Belfast City Council.
2.3	It is proposed, in order to afford those Members the opportunity to attend both that event and the meeting of the Committee, that the commencement time of the Committee meeting be put back until 12.00 noon.

<b>3.0</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
3.1	None associated with this report.

<b>4.0</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Considerations</b>
4.1	None associated with this report.

<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
5.1	It is recommended that the meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee on 24th May commence at the later time of 12.00 noon.

<b>6.0</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
Officer responsible- Jim Hanna	

<b>7.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
Appendix 1- copy of invite	



# Leaders, Leading Change

## WOMEN IN POLITICS

FRIDAY 24TH MAY 2013, CITY HALL, BELFAST  
8.15 – 11.45AM INCLUDES BREAKFAST

As a key leader in Northern Ireland you are invited to the first of a series of events examining how we can increase the number of women in leadership positions delivering positive change for all people.

This event follows from a US State Department initiative last year - *Women in the Workplace*, when 10 women from NI and ROI engaged with their American counterparts to examine strategies to support women in the workplace. The US Department of State has provided funding for an event in Belfast that develops these Northern Irish, Irish and U.S. dialogues on women in leadership.

Facilitated by BBC's Tara Mills, the first area to be examined is 'Women in Politics'. The format will be interactive and results based and following the speakers, you will be asked to contribute to an agreed action plan through group discussion.

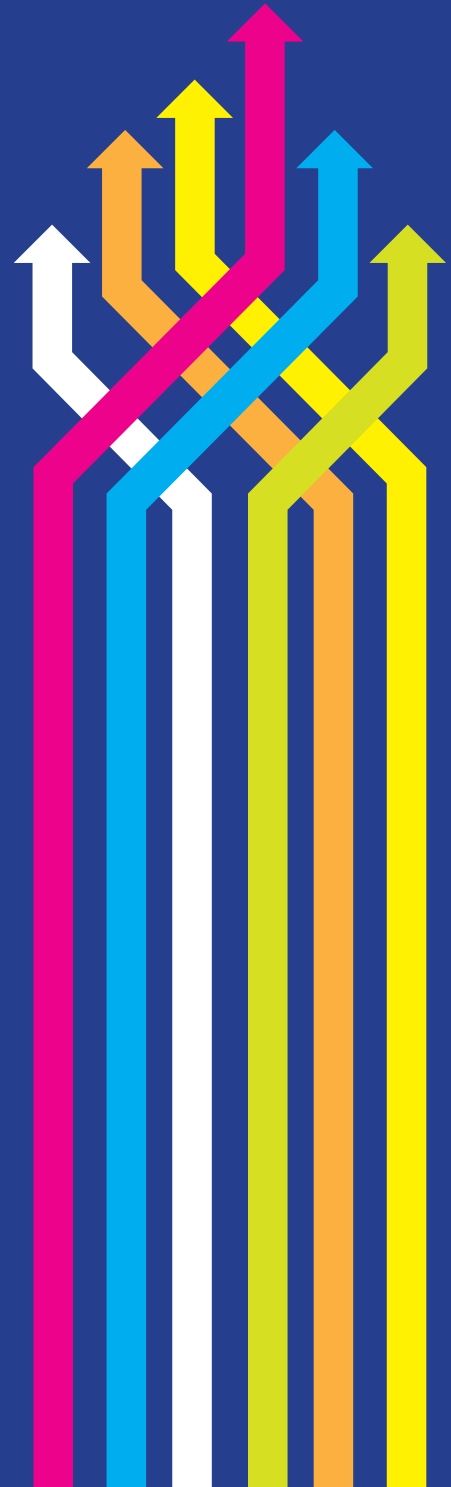
The first theme is around women in politics and our speakers are:

**NAN SLOANE** Director at the Centre for Women & Democracy author of "Sex and Power 2013" report published earlier this year.

**JESSICA GROUNDS** Executive Director of the United States based Running Start Programme that supports the young women who will shape tomorrow's world. "We aim to plant the seed of interest in politics so that they will run earlier, climb higher through leadership, and share more in the decision making power of their country".

**PROF YVONNE GALLIGAN** Director of Queens University Belfast Gender Initiative and Director of the Centre for the Advancement of Women in Politics.

RSVP by Friday 10th May 2013 to [mills1@belfastcity.gov.uk](mailto:mills1@belfastcity.gov.uk)



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**Belfast City Council**

<b>Report to:</b>	Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Allowances for the Lord Mayor, Deputy Lord Mayor and High Sheriff</b>
<b>Date:</b>	10th May, 2012
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager (ext 6314)
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	

<b>1</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
1.1	The Personal and Entertainments Allowances for the Lord Mayor, the Deputy Lord Mayor and the High Sheriff are normally reviewed annually.
1.2	The established practice had been that the Personal and Entertainments Allowances should take into account increases in the cost of living by increasing the allowances in line with the Consumer Price Index.
1.3	However, in the last two years the Committee has considered three options, which were to increase the allowances by a percentage equivalent to the Consumer Price Index, increase the allowances by a percentage equivalent to the District Rate increase for the year or not to increase the allowances for the year.
1.4	In 2011 and 2012 the Committee decided not to make any increase in the allowances and, accordingly, the Lord Mayor's Personal and Entertainments Allowances for those years were maintained at £34,800 and £25,900 respectively and the Deputy Lord Mayor's and the High Sheriff's Personal and Entertainments Allowances were maintained at £6,250 and £735 respectively.

<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	The Committee is requested to consider if there should be a cost of living increase in the civic allowances for the 2013/14 year.

<b>3</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
3.1	Provision for a cost of living increase to the civic allowances has been made in the revenue budget.

<b>4</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Implications</b>
4.1	There are no relevant equality and good relations implications

<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
5.1	<p>The Committee is requested to decide which of the following options should be adopted in relation to the allowances to be paid to the Lord Mayor, the Deputy Lord Mayor and the High Sheriff for the 2013/14 year:</p> <p><u>Option 1</u></p> <p>No increase in the civic allowances for the 2013/14 year.</p> <p><u>Option 2</u></p> <p>Increase the allowances in line with the District Rate increase for the 2013/14 year at 0%.</p> <p><u>Option 3</u></p> <p>Increase the allowances by 2.8%, in line with the Consumer Price Index as at 16th April.</p>

<b>6</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
<p>Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager</p> <p>3rd June, 2013</p>	



**Belfast City Council**

<b>Report to</b>	<b>Strategic Policy &amp; Resources Committee</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Appointments to the Belfast Education and Library Board</b>
<b>Date:</b>	10th May, 2013
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager (ext 6314)
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	

<b>1</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
1.1	Members will recall that, at the meeting on 18th May, 2012, the Committee was reminded that correspondence has been received from the Department of Education indicating that, following the selection process which had been carried out to appoint 4 Members to the Board from the 8 names submitted, which involved the completion of application forms by the nominees, an eligibility sift of applications against the criteria and, for those who met the eligibility criteria, a conversation with a purpose, the outcome was that three of the nominees did not progress beyond the eligibility sift stage and one candidate had withdrawn from the process.
1.2	This has resulted in only four eligible candidates remaining in the process and the Minister for Education has asked for the current pool of candidates to be augmented before he made his choice of candidates to be appointed. The Department had therefore requested the Council to submit an additional four nominations, who would be required to undergo the same selection process as that set out above. It was noted at that time that those Councillors who had previously been nominated and who did not progress beyond the eligibility sift would not be eligible for re-nomination.
1.3	The Committee agreed that the Minister be requested to make as many appointments as possible from those candidates who had already been deemed to be appointable, in line with the Council's d'Hondt system of proportionality which provided that the four appointments should comprise two Sinn Féin Party representatives and one each from the Democratic Unionist and Social Democratic and Labour Parties, with any places remaining unfilled using this process to be selected from those Parties which had not been offered their entitlement. In addition, the Committee agreed that should the Minister not agree

	<p>to make such appointments, then the undernoted process should be employed to select the additional four nominations:</p> <p>Choice 11 – Democratic Unionist                  Choice 12 – Sinn Fein                  Choice 13 – Democratic Unionist                  Choice 14 – Alliance</p>
1.4	<p>However, if the Democratic Unionist Party maintained its previous position of only submitting one candidate (which it had already done as part of the process in October, 2011), then the nominations from the Parties willing to supply names would fall to:</p> <p>Choice 12 – Sinn Fein                  Choice 14 – Alliance                  Choice 15 – Ulster Unionist                  Choice 16 – Sinn Fein</p>
1.5	<p>Correspondence was received from the Department indicating that the Minister was unwilling to make any appointments to the Board until he received an additional 4 nominations from the Council and those persons have completed the selection process. Accordingly, in line with the Committee decision of 18th May, the Party Leaders concerned were to be requested to provide the names of suitable candidates.</p>
1.6	<p>However, at the Council meeting on 3rd April, that decision was amended to provide that the Minister be requested to appoint the four current nominees from the Council who had successfully passed the eligibility sift. A letter was sent to the Department of Education on 8th April making this request.</p>

<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	<p>A response has been received from the Department (copy attached at Appendix 1) indicating that the Minister has considered the request from the Council but has confirmed that he is unwilling to make any appointments to the Board until the Council provides the names of an additional four nominees.</p>
2.2	<p>The Committee will be aware that this matter has been under discussion between the Department of Education and the Council for a considerable time and the Council has expressed its frustration that the Board continues to operate without any local political input. In order to move things towards a resolution, it is recommended that the four names are sought from those political parties eligible to nominate under the d'Hondt table of choices. If any Party refuses to nominate a Member then that choice will pass to the next eligible Party until the four places are filled.</p>



<b>3</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
3.1	None.

<b>4</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Implications</b>
4.1	The identification of those Parties entitled to nominate Members for consideration for appointment is based upon the Council's accepted system of proportionality. There are, therefore no relevant equality and good relations implications.

<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
5.1	The Committee is requested to agree to the process set out in paragraph 2.2 for the identification of the four additional Council nominees.

<b>6</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
<p>Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager</p> <p>June, 2013</p>	

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**Oideachais**

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24 April 2013

Dear Mr McCrory

#### **COUNCILLOR MEMBERS – BELFAST EDUCATION AND LIBRARY BOARD**

Thank you for your letter of 8<sup>th</sup> April in response to my letter of 25<sup>th</sup> February.

The Council requested that the Minister appoint to the Belfast Education and Library Board (BELB) the four Councillors who had already been successful in the eligibility sift process.

The Minister has considered the request but has confirmed that he is unable to make any appointments until the names of the additional four nominees are provided by the Council and those candidates complete the agreed selection process.

The Council will be aware that the Minister's request for additional nominees was initially submitted to the Council on 15 March 2012. The Minister would encourage the Council to comply with his request as it upholds the principle of Ministerial choice.

I am therefore writing to seek a minimum of an additional four nominations from Belfast City Council so that the appointment process for the BELB can proceed without further delay. I should be grateful if you would provide me with the names and addresses of the Councillors who would be willing to serve on the BELB for the period until the Education and Skills Authority is established.

I should remind you that those Councillors previously nominated and who did not progress beyond the eligibility sift stage are not eligible for re-nomination as this remains a continuation of an existing selection process (i.e. Councillors Garrett, Lavery and McVeigh).

I would be grateful to receive details of the Council's additional nominations as soon as possible.

Please contact me if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mervyn Gregg', written in a cursive style.

**MERVYN GREGG**  
Education Governance Team