

Public Document Pack

**Committee and Members' Services Section
3rd Floor, Adelaide Exchange
24-26 Adelaide Street
Belfast BT2 8GD**



14th February, 2008

MEETING OF DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Dear Councillor

The above-named Committee will meet in the Council Chamber, 3rd Floor, Adelaide Exchange on Thursday, 21st February, 2008 at 12.00 pm, 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

Minutes of the meeting of 16th January

2. Shaftesbury Community/Recreation Centre (Pages 1 - 2)

To consider further the minute of the meeting of 16th January under the heading "Shaftesbury Community/Recreation Centre" which, at the request of Councillor P. Maskey, was referred back to the Committee by the Council at its meeting on 4th February (extract herewith) (oral report of Director of Legal Services)

3. Draft Crumlin Road Gaol Masterplan (Pages 3 - 10)

To consider further the minute of the meeting of 16th January under the heading "Draft Crumlin Road Gaol Masterplan" which, at the request of Councillor C. Maskey, was referred back to the Committee by the Council at its meeting on 4th February (extract herewith)

4. Date of March Meeting

Oral report of Committee Administrator

5. Departmental Plan Update (Pages 11 - 24)

6. State of the City Conference (Pages 25 - 26)

7. Quartiers en Crise (Pages 27 - 30)

8. European Union Training for Councillors (Pages 31 - 32)

9. Junior and Cadet Fencing World Championships 2009 (Pages 33 - 74)

10. Interim Revision of Support for Sport Criteria (Pages 75 - 82)

11. Pricing Policy (Pages 83 - 106)

12. Waterfront Hall Cleaning Contract (Pages 107 - 108)

13. Branding Belfast (Pages 109 - 118)

14. Tourism Development Update (Pages 119 - 120)

15. Economic Development Update (Pages 121 - 132)

16. Response to Ligoniel Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan (Pages 133 - 158)

17. Strategic Regeneration Frameworks (Pages 159 - 162)

18. Response to Draft Planning Policy Statement 18 - Renewable Energy (Pages 163 - 182)

19. Renewing the Routes - Update on Antrim Road and York Road (Pages 183 - 188)

Extract from minutes of –

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

16th JANUARY, 2008

"Shaftesbury Community/Recreation Centre"

The Director reminded the Committee that, at its meeting on 12th December, it had agreed that the Lower Ormeau and Markets Community Forum could surrender its current lease agreement with the Council in respect of Shaftesbury Community/Recreation Centre and that the facility be leased for a period of twenty-five years to the Lower Ormeau Residents' Action Group, subject to the Members of the Committee being provided with further information regarding the membership of the Lower Ormeau and Markets Community Forum, the Lower Ormeau Residents' Action Group and the Inner South Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership, prior to the Council Meeting on 7th January. However, in the event that information had not been provided. Accordingly, a report, together with various appendices which contained the requested information, had been circulated with the papers for the current meeting.

The Director advised the Committee that, following a decision of the former Client Services Committee, Shaftesbury Community/Recreation Centre had been leased by the Council to the Lower Ormeau and Markets Community Forum for a period of ten years, commencing in October 2000. The lease agreement had included a sports pitch adjacent to the Centre. She explained that under a Service Level Agreement the Lower Ormeau Residents' Action Group delivered on behalf of the Forum a programme of activities in response to community needs. She explained further that the Group had been awarded funding of £2.3 million, £1,925,000 of which would be provided by Sport Northern Ireland, to undertake improvements to the Centre, including the upgrading of the sports pitch.

The Director pointed out that a Sport Northern Ireland condition required the lease for Shaftesbury to be held by the Lower Ormeau Residents' Action Group, since that organisation would be responsible for all the work being undertaken to the facility and for the efficient and effective operation of the Centre. Hence the request from the Forum for permission to transfer the lease for the facility to the Group. In addition, Sport Northern Ireland had indicated that the Group would be required to meet stringent funding requirements regarding openness and accountability.

Following a lengthy discussion, it was

Moved by Councillor P. Maskey,
Seconded by Councillor Hartley,

That the Committee affirms its decision of 12th December to transfer the lease for the Shaftesbury Community/Recreation Centre from the Lower Ormeau and Markets Community Forum to the Lower Ormeau Residents' Action Group.

On a vote by show of hands five Members voted for the proposal and six against and it was accordingly declared lost.

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Further Proposal

Moved by the Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor Kelly),
Seconded by Councillor McCarthy,

That the new Management Committee for the Shaftesbury Community/Recreation Centre, as required by Sport Northern Ireland's funding condition, be in place prior to the Committee agreeing to transfer the lease in respect of the Centre from the Lower Ormeau and Markets Community Forum to the Lower Ormeau Residents' Action Group.

On a vote by show of hands four members voted for the proposal and six against and it was accordingly declared lost.

Following further discussion, it was

Moved by Councillor Convery,
Seconded by Councillor Ekin and

Resolved – That the Committee agrees to permit the Council to enter into a direct lease arrangement with the Lower Ormeau Residents' Action Group in respect of Shaftesbury Community/Recreation Centre, subject to the facility's Management Committee, as required by Sport Northern Ireland, being cross-community, cross-Party and reflective of the population of South Belfast, and to this being in place prior to Sport Northern Ireland releasing its funding. In addition, the Committee agrees, in order to facilitate this arrangement, that the lease dated 20th December, 2000 between the Council and the Lower Ormeau and Markets Community Forum be surrendered coterminously.”

Extract from minutes of –

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

16th JANUARY, 2008

"Draft Crumlin Road Gaol Masterplan"

The Committee considered a report and a proposed response from the Council regarding the draft masterplan for the Crumlin Road Gaol/Girdwood Park site in North Belfast.

The Committee agreed that the undernoted comments be submitted as the Council's official response to the Draft Crumlin Road Gaol Masterplan Consultation Exercise, subject to it being amended to indicate that the Council acknowledges that the Advisory Panel could not reach a final decision on the housing issue:

'Introduction'

- 1.1 **Belfast City Council welcomes this ambitious proposal. For a long time the Crumlin road gaol has been a derelict site located in a contentious community area. In general the plan brings a significant opportunity for balancing development and regeneration across the city; given the ongoing development in the East of the City at Titanic Quarter and the Sirrocco Quays concept Masterplan.**
- 1.2 **Our general comment would be at the lack of detail of the drawings in the documents. Overall the drawings do not seem to offer enough detail to comment on, especially the ones illustrating the whole site. Layout of some proposed spaces and buildings have been detailed in the main document, some areas omitted.**
- 1.3 **The Council is currently targeting regeneration efforts along Belfast's arterial routes. The Crumlin Road is one of the priority routes identified as requiring targeted regeneration and therefore we are very supportive of the development of the Gaol site.**
- 1.4 **A significant proportion of the draft Masterplan has been based around UK best practice case studies, which the Council strongly supports. We would also recommend to DSD to look at the development of Oxford Castle project that received Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors Project of the Year Award 2007.**

- 1.5 In terms of more specific comments we have shaped our response around the sustainable communities concept. The Sustainable Communities agenda has become pertinent to Belfast as we are all working towards the common goal of creating “Places where people want to live and work now and in the future”.

This means:

- Balancing and integrating social, economic and environmental components of their community;
- Meeting the needs of existing and future generations;
- Recognising the cross cutting nature of issues affecting communities;
- Working in a coordinated way with a wide range of interests and organisations;
- Respecting the needs of other communities in the wider region or internationally; and
- Recognising that sustainable communities are diverse and reflect their local circumstances. There is no standard template to fit them all.

- 1.6 In the last six months the Council has been devising the Community Support Plan for Belfast for which it had to gather evidence on needs in Belfast. The Council focused on Belfast’s four parliamentary constituencies. This response is based around the ‘eight categories’ and needs that the Council has found exist in North Belfast.

2. Leadership & Governance

- 2.1 North Belfast needs support to strengthen its community capacity and infrastructure, which this regeneration plan for Crumlin Road will significantly help. However, the Council believes that this project could do a lot more to increase community capacity in the area by, for example, encouraging social enterprise and cultural tourism.

- 2.2 A particular concern is that the focus of the regeneration is not concentrated on the frontage of the Crumlin Road, as we feel it is here where all communities can benefit most and a successful proposal developed. The masterplan moves the focus of the site away from the Crumlin Road to the rear of the gaol site which:

- Compromises the Crumlin Road frontage as the arterial route/main street
- Undermines the strength of the Courthouse & Crumlin Gaol as focal point.

2.3 Currently the plan suggests to place the “heartspace” to the rear of the Gaol and to the internal area of development which:

- Reinforces the internalisation of communities. We believe that focusing on the centre on the Crumlin Road would help create a focus to draw communities out.
- Could potentially have risks as anti-social behaviour and interface issues could be problematic without the surveillance of passing traffic and footfall especially at night.

2.4 Thus the Council would suggest that the Masterplan provides a greater balance between outwards and inwards orientation.

3. Transport & Connectivity

3.1 It is crucial to improve the connectivity of North Belfast with other neighbourhoods in the city. The Masterplan does place a lot of emphasis on transport, but the Council’s concern is too much emphasis on car parks and car uses. In order to support the concept of “safe space” & “shared space” consideration needs to be given to good public transport links in addition to car access.

3.2 The creation of a major junction could seem an unnecessary use of land as the existing junction with minor re-design could accommodate site traffic. The new junction would further erode the road frontage. The development of buildings is preferable with the retention of the existing street frontage in order to strengthen the urban form.

4. Services

4.1 Improving access to services and more open spaces are very important in North Belfast. The Masterplan does seem to incorporate the needs of different age groups.

4.2 The Council has recently commissioned Deloitte to undertake research on “Accessing services in a divided City” under its Conflict Transformation Project. In relation to developing “safe space” & “shared space” it would be useful for the Masterplan to take into account findings from this research which will be available early next year.

5. Environmental

5.1 A lot more needs to be done to improve the health and well being of the people in North Belfast. While the creation of a health centre on the site is very positive, the Council would suggest a detailed Health Impact Assessment to be undertaken.

- 5.2 A comprehensive Health Impact Assessment of the Lower Shankill was commissioned by the NIHE. The assessment recognises the importance of the Masterplanning process for Crumlin Road Gaol site and recommends that there should be liaison to identify and exploit synergies between various strategies in the area. Although the draft Masterplan does acknowledge the need to consider the impact on the wider regeneration of North Belfast, Lower Oldpark and Lower Shankill, the Council recommends that a detailed HIA of any proposals for the development of the Masterplan area should be carried out, and aligned with others.
- 5.3 In the era of global warming and climate change, the Council believes that any future regeneration project needs to incorporate renewable energy solutions depending on feasibility. This site could be a great candidate for photovoltaics, solar water heating systems and the use of biomass boilers for heating. We think that considering the ambitious Government targets
- to achieve 12% of electricity to come from renewable energy by 2012 and
 - reduce carbon emission by 50% below 1990's level by 2050

DSD needs to consider further these options.

- 5.4 The Council would strongly advise any developer, planner or architect working on the implementation of the Masterplan proposals to:
- Discuss the need for appropriate waste and recycling storage with the Council; and
 - Follows the advice contained in the Council's publication "Waste and Recycling Storage Requirements, a guide for developers, architects and building contractors".

6. Social inclusion

- 6.1 It is vital to address interface issues in North Belfast and reduce the number of people living in deprivation.
- 6.2 Integration of local communities is paramount in this process particularly given the fractious nature of North Belfast. While the proposals mention the "Shared Future" at the beginning the draft Masterplan does not really demonstrate how it will integrate the principles of a Shared Future in order to ensure that public space is created that can be accessed by all the community.

6.3 The Council supports the proposals to undertake further consultations about the plans but this should not be a one time deal. On-going consultation will be critical to the development of this site and can help to ensure local community integration into the process.

6.4 This regeneration project needs to take a broader community significance and focus firstly on the needs of local communities and then on the need of Belfast.

6.5 Community safety needs to be considered as anti-social behaviour especially at night may become an issue that can undermine wider promotion and use of the site.

7. **Economy**

7.1 It is essential that local people are linked to the opportunities that will avail from the site's development eg. job opportunities. Having in mind the nature of long term unemployment within the area, Local Employment Initiatives should be provided to connect local people to the jobs on site. This can also link in with the learning and skills proposals that DSD has for the site.

7.2 It is very positive that the development will encourage social economy enterprises, but the Council would strongly encourage support of LOCAL social economy enterprises which will not only help economic inclusion on the area but also increased community capacity.

7.3 The document includes very limited elaboration on proposals for economic development activity on this site. The Council feels that, given the difficulties of this site, economic development activity would provide an appropriate "buffer zone" and a neutral use. As Belfast in general lacks quality business facilities, we would suggest a stronger emphasis on developing some on the site, both industry hubs (such as creative or knowledge industries) and incubation to link education facilities and employment opportunities.

7.4 We welcome the proposal for creative workplaces and note that this will fill the gap created by proposals for Brookfield Mill which might not proceed.

8. **Infrastructure & Physical**

8.1 We welcome proposals to support sustainability in site development and note that Belfast City Council is developing best practice in such methods through its North Foreshore site and also through its BERI network (Brownfields Europe Regeneration Initiative).

Character

- 8.2 This project poses quite a challenge having in mind design in a sensitive historic environment and difficult community situation. Connection to the local community needs to be achieved through culture connections to the past, as well as connections and use.

Functions

- 8.3 Functions of different spaces and venues need to be rigorously accessed, both day time and night time use, formal and informal and different user groups. It needs to be considered:

- night time space/ public road/interface concerns – there may be risk of creating a “dead” and unsafe place
- how is the public realm integrated into different uses
- lack of activity in the central area with no purposeful function could compromise public realm

Leisure

- 8.4 The Masterplan correctly points out that the Council has agreed that the Crumlin Road Gaol and Girdwood Barracks is its preferred location for a Leisure Centre in the North of the City.

- 8.5 The Masterplan outlines the need to ensure that in relation to the proposed leisure and recreational facilities that where possible the emphasis needs to be on developing multi use facilities that will meet the requirements of the Council, St Malachy's College, other local schools and the wider community need and we would fully endorse this thinking.

- 8.6 The Masterplan proposals for the Leisure Centre include concept facilities to be included in the Leisure Centre and surrounding outdoor sports pitches. We would stress that our normal practice in developing new leisure facilities within Council is that we would commission an independent consultation exercise with the local community to identify and get support for the type of facilities they wish to see included in any proposed facilities. At this stage this exercise has not been undertaken and it is only when this has been completed that we will be in a position to specify our exact requirements for the proposed facility.

- 8.7 In addition to this, more recently when developing new leisure facilities the Council has been keen to explore opportunities for partnership working across the public, private and voluntary sectors. The recent Grove Health & Wellbeing facility developed in partnership with Social Services and the Education Board is a prime example of the type of opportunity

that the Council wants to explore fully. In developing the Leisure Centre on the Crumlin Road & Girdwood site in addition to the opportunities for partnership working with both the Mater Hospital and St Malachy's School we would also require the flexibility to further explore other potential partnership arrangements before agreeing our final plans for the site.

- 8.8 In relation to the proposals for children's play areas and open space within the site while we welcome the fact that these have been included in the Masterplan, as stated above in relation to providing leisure facilities it will also be important to engage in a wider consultation exercise with the local community before finalising any proposals for play areas and open space within the site.

Design

- 8.9 We would strongly suggest the Crumlin Road frontage should be at the forefront of this development – it should provide a sense of continuity for the whole road. Linkages should concentrate on the Gaol's Crumlin Road frontage and Courthouse as a package. Whole project should be phased from this point backwards into adjacent communities.
- 8.10 We understood that the future of the Court House was to be included in the proposals. Historically it was very much associated with the Gaol, including an underground tunnel between the two, and it is difficult to understand why there is no reference to it in the draft plan. It appears on the map of the area in the document which gives the impression that it is part of the Masterplan area.
- 8.11 The suggestion ARC road is a strong structuring element but it seems that its purpose is dominated by vehicular use within the site, will this be well integrated into the community and will it be used as a street or will it look more like an entrance to a business park? Access by other routes should be feasible- ARC not the only option.

Housing development

- 8.12 We recognise that housing development will be very important issue on the site. We feel that any proposals need to be flexible and more work needs to be done with communities in line with the 'Shared Future' agenda.

Public Realm

- 8.13 The area of public realm at the “heartspace” is large and it seems that no frontage is created along the ARC route. The public realm is weakened by a lack of frontage, where public space lies on both sides on the main pedestrian route and the suggested tree closure/landscaping looks insufficient to produce enclosure.
- 8.14 The quality of the public realm and landscape is unclear from the document. The mass and scale of the public realm may in reality be hard to fill monotonous areas of deserted space.
- 8.15 The relationship between spaces and the buildings seems unclear. Little consideration is given to the character of the spaces – we are unconvinced that the proposed public realm is robust enough to support the development of this scale and we have a query over what the main public benefit will be.

9. Social and Cultural

- 9.1 As this development encompasses combining historic with modern, local community and wider strategic uses, it is essential to build its special Identity combining character and heritage. It would also be beneficial to develop overall branding of the place in order to attract wider city and out of Belfast audience.
- 9.2 The Crumlin Road Gaol site provides an excellent opportunity for the development of tourism initiatives on the site. We would recommend the tourism benefits could be further enhanced through the provision of a visitor attraction on the site which could be an excellent catalyst for generating new tourism business with associated infrastructure services, e.g. retail and cafe facilities.
- 9.2 The place could be a cultural capital of North Belfast with a range of events, festivals and, as suggested by the Masterplan, cultural quarters, museum and gallery. Also, the emphasis should be placed on cultural tourism, in which the Council already holds a significant experience. Local pride in the area needs to be nurtured from the outset.’ ”

**Belfast City Council**

Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	Departmental Plan Update November 2007 – January 2008
Date:	21 February 2008
Reporting Officer:	Marie-Thérèse McGivern Director of Development ext 3470
Contact Officer:	Anne-Marie Campbell, Policy & Research Manager, Ext 3620

Relevant Background Information

Development's Departmental Plan 2007 -2008 was approved at Development Committee on the 8 August 2007 with agreement that quarterly update reports would be presented to Committee at later dates. This update is for the period 1 November 2007 – 31 January 2008.

Key Issues

Unit Managers were asked to provide updates on the status of their unit's projects/ initiatives and events under each of the strategic aims providing commentary if necessary. The classifications used to provide updates are outlined below and progress is monitored using the flagging system.

- Complete – the action is complete and targets met;
- Partially complete – action has begun but is not yet complete;
- Delayed – project is delayed.

Resource ImplicationsFinancial

No financial implications identified.

Asset and Other Implications

No implications identified.

Recommendations

The Committee is asked to note the update of the Development Department's projects / initiatives and events for the period of 1 November 2007 - 31 January 2008.

Documents Attached

Appendix 1: Quarterly update of the Departmental Plan 2007 – 2008 using the flagging system.

APPENDIX 1: BUSINESS UNIT QUARTERLY UPDATE OF THE 2007/08 DEPARTMENTAL PLAN

For the period of November 2007 - January 2008, could you please provide an update on the status of your unit's projects/initiatives and events under each of the strategic aims indicating and providing commentary if necessary. The classifications used are as follows:

- **Complete** - the action is complete and targets met;
- **Partially complete** - action has begun but is not yet complete. Please provide new completion date if different from target date and commentary;
- **Delayed** - project is delayed. Please provide commentary.

Strategic Aim: 1 Strategic Leadership

Strategic Objectives 2007/08

- 1.1 To support effective decision-making for the city in collaboration with our public, private and social partners;
- 1.2 To promote and enhance Belfast's position as the capital city and regional driver both at home and abroad;
- 1.3 To provide civic leadership by ensuring strategic, best practice approaches to regeneration and development.

What will we do in 2007/08 (As per agreed Departmental Plan)	Lead Officer (As per agreed Departmental Plan)	Quarterly Update Status Please indicate status of project/initiative or event: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Complete• Partially complete• Delayed	Please provide a more detailed commentary for each project/initiative or event
• Review Belfast: Capital City Strategy II;	Anne-Marie Campbell	Partially complete	• The strategy is currently under review and on schedule to be complete by April 2008.
• Work with key partners through the Belfast: State of the City initiative (SOC Conference V 20 th May 2008 and Autumn Seminar 15 th Nov 2007)	Anne-Marie Campbell	Partially complete	• Autumn Seminar was held on Nov 15 2007 and was very successful with roughly 140 stakeholders attending the event. The SOTC Conference is scheduled for 20 May 2008 where OECD will present the results of the research that they are currently carrying out within Belfast.
• Further Develop City Centre Action Plan and determine best practice model for future city centre management	Shirley McCay	Partially complete	• Research is currently underway and on schedule for completion in March 2008.
• Deliver change management process	Anne-Marie Campbell David Orr	Partially complete	• The delivery of the change management process is on schedule.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that Belfast is at the centre of key European networks. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Information Provision and inward visits b. Promotions c. Support of programmes and forums d. Development of new programmes e. Blueprint development activity with Glasgow and Dublin 	Laura Leonard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Partially complete b. Partially complete c. Partially complete d. Partially complete e. Partially complete 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Inward visit from Czech Republic ambassador Slovenian Embassy, Bulgarian Embassy and Committee of Regions UK and Irish Delegations; b. Article in House Magazine (NI), MEP guide, EU Bulletin produced and extensive coverage of Opportunity Europe. We held 2 promotional events at Brussels Regional Open Days in Oct 07; c. Participation in Eurocities Fora and AGM. Presented at Economic Migrant Working Group and speed networking; d. Development of Eprof Intelligent Energy bid, submission of final skatepark bid, development of North Foreshore, Peace III bid and development of open cities Migrant bid; e. 5 projects planned for delivery in 2008 on enterprise and entrepreneurship between Dublin, Glasgow and Belfast.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Laganside Dedesignation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Agreement by Committee to undertake management arrangement b. The future of former Maysfield leisure site: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Agreement on way forward c. Gasworks Northern Fringe - development of the 6 acres site within the Gasworks Business Park 	Shirley McCay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Delayed b. Delayed c. Delayed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. We are awaiting DSD Ministerial approval to advance discussions; b. We are awaiting outcome of stadium debate, P+R Committee agreed demolition of existing buildings; c. Committee approval to negotiate on a one to one basis with Inislyn who have proposals for major hotel extension. Appointment of consultants outstanding possible land swap on NIE site.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Trade Centre (WTC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Develop WTC services, events and membership base; b. Develop plans and determine location for a WTC building in Belfast; c. Carry out 4 WTC seminars on international trade; d. Develop relationships with the WTC network; e. Host 2 other WTC delegations to Belfast. f. Complete memorandum with NICCI and INI 	Valerie Brown	a. - e. Partially complete	<p>a. - e. Business plan for membership services underway, on schedule for completion on Feb 08; Consideration of ETC to be included in plans for possible exhibition facility; Series of four export programmes launched - first event took place 17 January 2008; Attendance at WTC members' seminar: December 2007; Work on memorandum to be completed as part of business plan process.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ERP/SAP Implementation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Implement change process departmentally and communicate amended changes to procedures and processes. 	David Orr	Partially complete	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ERP/SAP system has "Gone Live". Local Departmental processes and procedures have been introduced. Staff training ongoing. Currently resolving implementation/system issues and developing management information reports.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to co-ordinate planning policy activity and advice in relation to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The engagement in RDS, BMAP and other strategic responses; b. Strategic Council landholdings and development priorities; and c. Strategic policy advice to Town Planning Committee 	Keith Sutherland	a. Partially complete b. Partially complete c. Partially complete	<p>a. This is an ongoing project, based on external timescales. BMAP Inquiry to be completed in May 2008. b. Ongoing project c. Ongoing activity</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brownfield Regeneration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Continue the implementation of the existing Brownfield Europe Regeneration Initiative (BERI) b. Seek to ensure the continuation of the established European Network through additional EU funding for a technical resource for expert advice. 	Sabine Kalke	a. Partially complete b. Complete	<p>a. Completion is scheduled for March 2009 - partner works completed and final meeting held with ongoing completion of administration. b. Submitted 14th January 2008 for IVC</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waterfront Hall <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Launch a re-branding initiative of the Waterfront Hall, introducing a new logo. 	Tim Husbands	Complete	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The new brand identity for "The Waterfront" was officially launched by Belfast City Council on 27th November 2007. Since this time, implementation has been rolled out across all operational areas (such as signage, stationery, staff uniforms, etc.). The completion of the brand roll out is scheduled for 4th February 2008.

Strategic Aim: 2 Creating Wealth**Strategic Objectives 2007/08**

- 2.1 To support business competitiveness and increase investment opportunities;
- 2.2 To use the Council's assets to support regeneration and development;
- 2.3 To encourage and facilitate the development of key sectors of the economy which contribute to city competitiveness;

What will we do in 2007/08 (As per agreed Departmental Plan)	Lead Officer (As per agreed Departmental Plan)	Quarterly Update Status Please indicate status of project/initiative or event:	Please provide a more detailed commentary for each project/initiative or event
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tourism - Product Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The development of an innovative range of special interest and niche products - luxury blue plaques, conferences subvention; support to the creation of a viable and sustainable community tourism initiative; monitoring and evaluating the economic impact of tourism; provision of a comprehensive visitor management scheme. 	Pièr Morrow	Partially complete	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Music In The City Guide to be launched February 2008 • Work on Sunday in Belfast underway • Advice & attendance at Community tourism initiatives • Belfast Tourism Monitor figures due to be completed February 2008 • Production of tourism signage across city commenced
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tourism - Lagan Corridor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Implementation of Lagan Corridor action plan; development of maritime tourism and water based recreational activity on River Lagan; support to the Lagan Navigation Restoration Trust; creation of lock facilities with partner agencies. 	Pièr Morrow	Complete Partially complete	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action Plan is completed and ratified by Council • Consultation programme being undertaken with key stakeholders • Web Page on BCC website completed • Establishment of Lagan Corridor Trust underway • Scoping exercise being undertaken by consultant • Virtual model of Lagan Project underway

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cultural Tourism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and support the cultural tourism offer including facilitation of workshops and seminars; promotion of the cultural tourism product; support and sustain the Sister City link with Nashville. 	Pièr Morrow	<p style="color: green;">Complete</p> <p style="color: orange;">Partially complete</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cultural Tourism Media Conference was completed 7th December 2007 Cultural Tourism Lobbying Conference 16th January 2008 Cathedral Quarter Focus Group & Workshop sessions held Programme for Visit to Nashville being co-ordinated for March 2008 Work with organisers for Belfast Nashville Songwriters Festival in Belfast for 20-24 February Ongoing PR on products with BVCB
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evening Economy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and market a dynamic event economy offer for Belfast; support a range of evening economy projects e.g. MoreTime, Alfresco, Restaurant Month etc. 	Wendi Kane	<p style="color: green;">Completed</p> <p style="color: orange;">Partially complete</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Independent retail guide launched & distributed Lobbying Retail sector to campaign for late night opening from March 08 Introduce Marketing campaign for 08 MoreTime guide to be introduced in spring / summer 08 Ongoing discussions to gain Independent retail support with Castle Street, North street
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open Air Markets Project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the results of an economic appraisal into the proposals to operate an open air market on specified locations. 	Ian Carmichael	<p style="color: orange;">Partially complete</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Open Air Markets consultation project is still ongoing.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Attendance and presenting at MIPIM b. Develop programmes to support the growth and development of the knowledge economy sector 	Lisa Martin	Partially complete	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Plans to attend MIPIM in place with Titanic Quarter, Port of Belfast and other private sector interests; b. Further research being undertaken to refine scope of future knowledge industries programmes - on schedule for completion at the end February 2008.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Industries Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Develop a 2 year plan of interventions to overcome gaps in current provision for environmental industries companies under the five headings; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing environmental Industries infrastructure • Establishing links with academia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Developing technology transfer programmes ii. Increasing private sector engagement iii. Skills development programme 	Lisa Martin	Partially complete	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research completed to provide framework for environmental industries plans; • Further work underway to clarify infrastructure investment at North Foreshore site; • Membership agreement with QUESTOR signed Terms of reference for BITES (Business Improvements through Environmental Solutions) issued; • Terms of reference for skills development programme drafted.

Strategic Aim: 3 Quality of Life Strategic Objectives 2007/08				
What will we do in 2007/08 As per agreed Departmental Plan	Lead Officer As per agreed Departmental Plan	Quarterly Update Status Please indicate status of project/initiative or event: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete • Partially complete • Delayed 	Please provide a more detailed commentary for each project/initiative or event	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to deliver Community Development Support programmes via staff support & network of community facilities across city <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Conduct a pilot review of community centre management options for Carrick Hill and Hammer b. Review city wide provision against levels of demand and explore options for facility ownership and management. c. Administer Grant support programme for independent centres d. Establish priorities against a planned maintenance budget for BCC owned facilities e. Determine BCC Refurbishment responsibility to independently managed properties based on Condition Surveys f. Review procedure for Councillor membership of Community Centre Committees g. Confirm Centre rate of charge policy h. Provide Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership officer support 	Catherine Taggart	<p>a. Partially complete</p> <p>b. Delayed</p> <p>c. Complete</p> <p>d. Delayed</p> <p>e. Delayed</p> <p>f. Delayed</p> <p>g. Complete</p> <p>h. Complete</p>	<p>a. Awaiting second draft from consultants which is due early Feb 08</p> <p>b. Proposed action within the draft Community support plan which is currently subject to consultation. Above to act as a pilot</p> <p>c. This is complete</p> <p>d. Estate services not in a position to facilitate in this financial year.</p> <p>e. As above</p> <p>f. Review in line with Council election time-table as advised by Member Services</p> <p>g. This is complete</p> <p>h. Community Services staff provide ongoing support as BCC representatives on NRPs throughout the city.</p>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administer the Grant Aid Support Programme to Community & Voluntary Organisations across the city (6 categories) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Advice & Information b. Revenue c. Capacity Building d. Summer Schemes e. Community Chest f. Project Grants g. Review of Advice & Information Consortium grants h. Review of Community Services Grant Aid programmes 	Catherine Taggart	<p>a. - f. Complete</p> <p>g. Partially complete</p> <p>h. Delayed</p>	<p>a - f. The Community Aid Support Programme has been administered</p> <p>g. Deloitte commissioned to carry out a review of Advice & Information Services . The final draft report is being finalised and will be tabled for committee consideration March 08.</p> <p>h. The review of Community Services Grant Aid programmes will be integrated into Dept Grant Aid reviews.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate the work of the Youth Forum 6x5 grant programme 	Catherine Taggart	<p>Partially complete</p> <p>Complete</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultant has been appointed to evaluate the work of the Youth Forum; The allocation of the 6x5 grant programme is complete.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review Play Development Support Strategy Confirmation of Summer Scheme Awards & central summer events programme Review of Child Protection Policy 	Blanche Thompson	<p>Partially complete</p> <p>Complete</p> <p>Partially complete</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommendations from consultant for play review due to be completed February 2008. This is complete New vetting arrangements to be introduced in 2008. Working with HR regarding recruitment procedures to adhere to new arrangement and to be incorporated within the policy.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traveller Liaison - Review / mapping exercise of RPA impact on Council services 	Frank O'Hagan	<p>Complete</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This has been completed.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce Community Services Staff Development Programme 	Catherine Taggart	Partially complete	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 Development Dept Induction Programme sessions completed. In-house 12 month BURA regeneration programme initiated for development of CDW staff. Management Team coaching programme underway. Emergency Reception Centre training scheduled for all Supervisor staff.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop actions arising from the integrated cultural strategy and approval of associated spend of £138,000 to deliver the elements of the cultural strategy. 	Siobhan Stevenson	Partially complete	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing implementation of strategy objectives; • Communication activity ongoing, audience development and barriers to access programmes ongoing to the end of the year. The Test Drive of the Arts initiative is complete.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement Culture & Arts funding programmes for 2007/08 and Advertise Culture & Arts funding programmes for 2008/09. 	Siobhan Stevenson	Partially complete	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2007/8 funding in progress to end of year. • 2008/9 funding deadline was 14th December 2007. • 14 MAF and 65 AF currently in assessment.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culture & Arts - Heritage Projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Continue to deliver heritage community programmes e.g. developing a Belfast Heritage forum, development of local lists, heritage archive programme b. Develop a heritage plan for Titanic Quarter c. Develop the heritage resource by making some key texts dealing with the history of the town accessible 	Siobhan Stevenson	Partially complete	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiated Heritage Forum; • 5 community archive projects secured across the city; • Development of Portrait of a Nation project with HLF; • INHERIT programme complete; • Ulster Hall - conservation work commissioned and education and interpretation programme developed; • Titanic Quarter Heritage Plan is at commissioning stage, • Key texts are in production.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culture & Arts Festival development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Continue to support the Belfast Festivals Forum and to co-ordinate activities in line with the Festivals action plan such as Audience development, Festivals skills development etc. 	Siobhan Stevenson	Partially complete	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2008 calendar and directory and other promotional material produced; • 3 festival forum meetings completed; • Festival Skills programme in progress and will continue into 2008/9.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult Public arts framework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult on the Public arts framework and further develop with internal and external partners. 	Siobhan Stevenson	Partially complete	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Art Website is complete - and will be launched by Mar 2008; Processes agreed and full proposals to be brought to Committee by end March 2008.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waterfront Hall <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Develop and implement WFH 10th anniversary celebrations b. Re-development of the Ulster Hall 	Tim Husbands	<p>a. Complete</p> <p>b. Partially complete</p>	<p>a. The programme of activities planned to celebrate the Tenth Anniversary of the venue culminated in the Lord Mayor's Charity Gala Concert in May 2007.</p> <p>b. The support funding package for the redevelopment of the Ulster Hall is in place, with support from DCAL, ACNI, HLF and the EHS. Project work began in May 2007, and is programmed to be completed in February 2009.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategic Neighbourhood Action Programme (SNAP) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Design and agree Neighbourhood geography following consultation; undertake internal services audit of the neighbourhoods b. Establish a cross party working group c. Develop a neighbourhood services database, mapping the role, function and future plans of partner organisations at a local level d. Research and produce proposals for community engagement and begin testing these in local communities e. Provide a co-ordinated response to NRPB recommendations on actions for BCC, overseeing the implementation and review of the initiatives. 	Siobhan Watson	<p>a. Complete</p> <p>a. Partially complete</p> <p>b. Delayed</p> <p>c. Partially complete</p> <p>d. Partially complete</p> <p>e. Partially complete</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Neighbourhood Geographies agreed at the January meeting of development Committee Internal Services Audit commenced in January 08 The Development Committee agreed not to establish a cross party working group. Phase 1 of the Neighbourhood Services Audit is complete. Phase 2 which is to engage with key organisation is already underway. SNAP team has been examining best practice with regard to engagement, Further work will be undertaken following the completion of the internal and external audits Work is still on-going. Responses to five action plans have been completed and the remaining plans are being addressed

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carry out festivals and events in 2007/08. 	Kevin Grant Gerry Copeland	Partially complete	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christmas programme delivered with audience of 600,000 (including continental market). Estimated economic impact of events to date £6 million New Year's concert delivered on 31 Jan successfully Completion of bid document for World Pipe Band Championships Allocation of further £28,500 of events funding through Support for Sport Scheme Number of Scheme funded events and hospitality function completed e.g. NI Horseshow NI Snooker Trophy at Belfast Waterfront Hall
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> North Foreshore - Big Lottery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed the North Foreshore Masterplan and Feasibility Study Completed Stage II of Big Lottery Visit Application Big Lottery Visit complete 	Susan Quail	Complete	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BCC was unsuccessful in securing the BLF. The NFS Unit is reviewing the BLF Assessment of the Bid Submission. Work is being progressed on an integrated plan for the whole NFS site.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to co-ordinate activity in relation to the engagement in BMAP and other strategic responses 	Keith Sutherland	Partially complete	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This activity is ongoing
Review Transport Policy of the Council <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carry out a review of current Transportation Policy for the Council; Taking account of the operational transport aspects for the Council and the relationships to other corporate objectives. 	Keith Sutherland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partially complete Partially complete 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft COMT report agreed with HES.
Regeneration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area action plans have already been developed in relation to the Integrated Development Fund (IDF) project The ongoing work on the Renewing the Routes will continue under the Brighter Belfast initiative 	Keith Sutherland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partially complete Partially complete 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 Plans approved by DSD approval still sought for 4 outstanding. Meetings held with DSD to progress approvals. Completion of Brighter Belfast activity on target for March 2009 (Alleygate Project to extend into next financial year). Additional funds received for Antrim Rd and York Rd from Urban II (£140,000 to be spent by August 2008)

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Belfast City Council

Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	Details of Proposed State of the City V Conference
Date:	21 February 2008
Reporting Officer:	Marie-Thérèse McGivern Director of Development ext 3470
Contact Officer:	Anne-Marie Campbell Policy and Research Manager ext 3620

Relevant Background Information

The purpose of this report is to inform Members of the plans for the Belfast State of the City V Conference scheduled on Tuesday 20th May 2008 in Waterfront Hall.

Members will be aware that as part of the *Belfast: State of the City Initiative*, the Belfast: State of the City IV conference was held in Waterfront Hall on 19 April 2007. Once again the initiative successfully brought together representatives from the city's key regeneration and development organisations to take forward Belfast's urban agenda in order to maximise the city's potential and competitiveness, through keynote speeches from Professor Michael Parkinson, Councillor Alex Maskey, Stephen Purcell (Leader of Glasgow City Council) and Tristam Hunt (historian).

Key Issues

Following the recommendations of delegates at the most recent event, plans are now underway to deliver the fifth annual Belfast: State of the City Conference on Tuesday, 20th May 2008 at Belfast Waterfront Hall.

This year's conference will focus on the economic development research carried out by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) on behalf of Belfast City Council.

This study on Belfast will provide the Council with recommendations on how to move forward economic and regional development agenda. It particularly focuses on economic inclusion, quality of place/life and, leadership & delivery arrangements.

During this study the OECD team has been talking to a number of key decision makers in the city:

- Councillors;
- Ministers;
- Senior Civil Servants;
- Key agencies;
- Cross-border organisations;
- Business sector;
- Voluntary and community sector; and
- Belfast City Council officers.

The conference will aim to present the findings of this study and further engage with the Council's stakeholders to ensure prosperity of Belfast.

Resource Implications

Financial

In line with last year's event the budget for the conference is £25,000 to cover venue, equipment, catering, communication, etc. This was previously approved at Development Committee on the 8 August 2007.

Recommendations

The Committee are asked to

1. Note the date and venue for the 2008 Belfast: State of the City V Conference as Tuesday 20 May 2008 in the Waterfront Hall.
2. To approve the attendance of all Members of the Council at the proposed State of the City V Conference.



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	Quartiers en Crise
Date:	21 February 2008
Reporting Officer:	Marie-Thérèse McGivern Director of Development ext. 3470
Contact Officer:	Laura Leonard European Manager ext. 3577

Relevant Background Information

This report deals with the transfer of the Quartiers en Crise network from the Belfast Trust to Belfast City Council.

Quartiers en Crise

Quartiers en Crise (Neighbourhoods in Crisis) was established as a European cities network in 1989. Under the leadership of the then North and West Health Trust, Belfast was one of the ten founding members. The network was set up to:

- Promote integrated approaches to urban regeneration and local residents' involvement in that process
- Develop programmes and projects which facilitate the exchange of experience and practice
- Support initiatives based on greater participation of target groups
- Promote joined up working and thinking between local authorities and other key agencies, especially local communities and NGOs
- Undertake research and evaluation in order to impact on existing and future urban regeneration policies/programmes
- Represent the views and needs of disadvantaged areas/groups within EU and EU groupings and networks
- Create a network which constitutes a European "think tank" regarding the issues of diversity, integration, social and economic exclusion and urban regeneration

The strength of the network has always been its three pillared approach involving elected members, officials and local residents in influencing policy and project delivery on the ground.

The normal approach to membership of Quartiers en Crise is that the city municipality takes the lead, as the city is the member.

In Belfast however, this function has historically been undertaken by the Belfast Health Trust although the success of QEC in Belfast has been a multi agency approach. Belfast City Council has been active in the network through officer engagement and elected member activity. The current Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Kelly participated in the recent AGM held in Italy in November 07.

The Quartiers en Crise headquarters in Brussels has a team of 11 led by a Director and managed by an Executive Bureau. The Executive Bureau meets four times a year and ensures the implementation of the membership programme as agreed by the General Assembly.

Executive Bureau members are usually officers acting by proxy for the leading politician in each city with a remit for European affairs, in Belfast that is the Council's Chair of The Development Committee.

At a local level each city stakeholder contributes an annual subscription of £2,500, which totals £15,000 or approximately €20,000. From this subscription, €7,800 is paid to the Brussels secretariat as a membership fee and contribution to the staff and running costs of the Brussels office. The balance is used to cover the costs of the Belfast Co-ordinator, travel costs for attendance at meetings and match funding, where possible, for new projects for Belfast.

Each city has a local Quartiers en Crise structured membership with Belfast's as follows:

- Belfast Health Trust
- Belfast City Council
- NI Housing Executive
- Department of Education & Learning
- Belfast Education & Library Board
- Belfast Regeneration Office
- Arts Council
- Probation Board
- Belfast Area Partnership Boards

The benefits of Belfast City Council involvement in Quartiers en Crise include:

- The creation of a local forum for the Chief Executives of key city stakeholder organisations in Belfast
- Early access to information on European policies and funding opportunities
- Funded projects
- Opportunities for staff and community representatives to learn from other projects in Europe
- Opportunities to promote Belfast in Europe
- Access to and opportunities to contribute to best practice in Europe in integrated approaches to urban regeneration
- Opportunities to promote and showcase Belfast best practice in Europe, including citizen involvement.
- Getting involved in EU 'think tank' regarding issues of diversity, integration, social and economic exclusion and urban regeneration.

Projects that have been accessed via Quartiers en Crise for Belfast involvement include 2 Interreg projects, an Equal initiative, ReStart education programme, Latent Potential initiative as well as the Urbact Programme

Key Issues

Proposed way forward

Since the rationalisation of the Health Trusts in Belfast there has been a re-focus of external activity. Although remaining fully and actively committed to Quartiers en Crise, the Belfast Health Trust no longer wishes to retain the position of local co-ordinator and driver of Quartiers en Crise, Belfast. The constituent members of Quartiers en Crise Belfast have collectively requested that the management and delivery of Quartiers en Crise is transferred to Belfast City Council.

In practice this would mean that Belfast City Council, through the Development Department's European Unit, would assume responsibility for the coordination of Quartiers en Crise bi-monthly meetings, oversee the development of new project activity, manage the annual subscription to Quartiers en Crise and manage the local Belfast budget. This local budget would cover administrative support, and the workload of Quartiers en Crise Belfast would be subsumed within the EU Unit. The local Belfast QEC Group would continue to nominate the Belfast Chair and nominate the representative to the Executive Bureau in Brussels.

Currently Belfast's membership includes holding the position of Treasurer of the network. Positions on the Executive Bureau are elected every two years and it is the intention of the Belfast group to seek re-election next year. The Bureau meets quarterly and there is an Annual General Meeting. All expenses related to attendance at the Executive Bureau are paid for centrally.

If Belfast retains the role of Treasurer, the representatives will also have meetings with the accountant, usually alongside the Executive Bureau.

The role of the Executive Bureau is to oversee and approve the work of the network, to represent the network in meetings with significant Commission representatives, and to ensure sound financial management.

If Belfast is not represented in the Executive Bureau, then its participation is reduced to project participation rather than having an overall view of the workings of the network.

Belfast is not guaranteed an elected position on the Executive Bureau but could go forward to seek this if there is a political will.

Benefits to Belfast City Council

Since joining QEC as a founding member in 1989, Belfast City stakeholders have engaged in European projects from a bottom up level.

QEC is a unique network that involves the participation of residents and community stakeholders, elected members and officers. This citizenship involvement in European Union activity is unique and would be lost if QEC Belfast was to disappear.

QEC also provides a local platform of engagement in EU activity at a multi agency level and is the only such vehicle existing in Belfast and the region. It allows BCC officers and Members to engage in EU activity with relevant officers from the member organisations promoting integrated approaches on key priority issues such as governance, housing, health, poverty and urban regeneration.

Resource Implications

Quartiers en Crise

Co-ordination, administration and subscription to the network would be covered by the Belfast members' subscription to Quartiers en Crise. This would be managed through the European Unit and built into its yearly business plan. BCC would manage the local QEC budget of £15,000 plus any income gained from new European project implementation. The direct cost to Council from within the EU unit budget will therefore be £2,500, which is the Council's member contribution to the Belfast budget of £15k.

Recommendations

Members are asked to:

- Approve the transfer of Quartiers en Crise to the management of Belfast City Council
- Approve the 2008 annual subscription fee of £2500

Members will be briefed at a later date on the opportunity to seek a position on the QEC Executive Bureau and resource implications will be considered at this time.

Key to Abbreviations

QEC – Quartiers en Crise

NGO – Non-governmental organisation



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	EU Training Event for Councillors
Date:	21 February 2008
Reporting Officer:	Marie-Thérèse McGivern Director of Development ext. 3470
Contact Officer:	Laura Leonard European Manager ext. 3577

Relevant Background Information

As Members will be aware Northern Ireland's First and Deputy First ministers travelled to Brussels for meetings with senior European Union officials in the first week of January 2008.

During the two-day visit, Ian Paisley and Martin McGuinness held talks with European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso. Mr Barroso visited Northern Ireland last May and promised EU support to help strengthen the economy. He also announced the creation of a taskforce aimed at creating economic growth, innovation and improving Northern Ireland's engagement in Europe. During their Brussels visit, the Stormont delegation met Regional Policy Commissioner Danuta Hubner who was appointed by Mr Barroso to head the taskforce.

The outcomes of the taskforce's work are expected to be announced at the end of February. In light of this strong lobbying within Europe, Belfast City Council and its stakeholders need to equip themselves with a solid knowledge of EU systems in order to position Belfast even more strongly within Europe.

To this end the European Unit is facilitating a training and awareness event for Members and officers within Belfast City Council and the other councils that make up the COMET area. The event will take place from 09.30 – 1.00pm on Friday 28 March 2008

The training will help to develop skills and knowledge around lobbying in Europe as well as initiate thought around policies affecting Council. As we are entering a new funding round with increased queries for support from Members, it is essential to heighten Belfast's profile in Europe. Members also sit on monitoring committees for the new EU funding streams and the Council as a whole is also heavily engaged in other EU programmes such as Peace III, Urbact II and Interreg IV.

Members and officers therefore need to be informed and engaged in EU policy developments. A training event such as this will begin a process of awareness and capacity building.

Key Issues

- The launch of the Taskforce's findings and recommendations at the end of February 2008
- Placing Belfast in a stronger position to influence and capitalise on opportunities within the EU.

Recommendations

Members are asked to note the training event and attend the course from 09.30 – 1.30pm on 28 March 2008



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	Junior and Cadet Fencing World Championships 2009
Date:	21 February 2007
Reporting Officer:	Marie-Therese McGivern, Director of Development, ext. 3470
Contact Officer:	Shirley McCay, Head of Economic Initiatives, ext. 3459 Kevin Grant, Sports Events Manager, ext. 3508

Introduction

In the last ten years, Belfast has built a strong reputation for hosting major events. Prior to 1999, the visit of the Tall Ships was perhaps the one stand out major event to be hosted by the City. However, with the changes in the political climate, the City has had a renaissance in major event management. It began with the World Cross Country Championships in 1999 and gradually bids for major events became more ambitious. The next eight years saw Belfast host many significant major events such as the World Irish Dancing Championships, the World Amateur Boxing Championships, the U19 European football Championships, the Special Olympics Ireland Games, and the U-19 Rugby World Cup.

More recently Belfast City Council has agreed to support the return of the Tall Ships in 2009, the bid to capture the World Transplant Games in 2011, and support the World Police and Firefighter Games 2013, which will be easily the largest event ever to come to Northern Ireland. An approach has now been made by British Fencing and UK Sport to seek funding support from Belfast and the other surrounding local authorities to bring the Junior and Cadet Fencing World Championships to Northern Ireland from 4 to 13 April 2009.

Relevant Background Information

Junior and Cadet Fencing World Championships 2009

The Junior and Cadet World Championships (U20 and U17) are held annually in April and have been in place since the late 1950s. They are run under the auspices of the world governing body, the Federation Internationale d'Escrime (FIE) and are viewed as an important milestone in the elite player pathway, with many athletes seen at these events going on to perform in the Olympics.

Event Specifics

There will be nine days of competition with over 1,000 athletes expected from approximately 85 countries. The venue for the event would be University of Ulster High Performance Centre at Jordanstown. In addition to the athletes, there would be a significant number of officials and family members in attendance. This would result in over 10,000 bednights, the vast majority of which would be in Belfast.

The event is also preceded by a Congress to which all international fencing federations are invited. This is an ideal opportunity for the promotion of Belfast as a city and Northern Ireland as a whole as a potential host of holding and training camps in the lead up to London 2012.

The **Core Objectives** of hosting the Junior and Cadet World Championships in Belfast in 2009 would be to:

- Increase the profile of Belfast as a first class venue for international sporting events.
- Raise the profile of the region through major sports events within the media and visitor economy and get significant return on investment in the form of economic impact for the region.
- To position Belfast as a potential training camp venue for teams in the lead up to the 2012 Olympics and to capitalise on the political benefits both nationally and internationally from hosting a major sports event, particularly in the lead up to 2012.
- Increase the profile of Fencing in Northern Ireland and the UK, and promote the development of the sport. This includes the development of the fencing organisational infrastructure and workforce including skilled and knowledgeable volunteers, officials and referees
- To develop the expertise and capacity required to host major international and world class fencing events in the UK.

Key Issues

This Business Plan, **Appendix A**, is submitted by the British Fencing Association in Conjunction with the Northern Ireland Fencing Union and UK Sport.

An initial meeting of partners has been held and it is recommended that all funding partners are invited to form an event Management Board to assess funding and strategic event issues.

It is anticipated that this Management Board which will act as a steering group with the following members:

- UK Sport
- British Fencing
- Northern Ireland Fencing Union
- Belfast City Council, Carrickfergus Borough Council, Newtownabbey Borough Council
- University of Ulster Jordanstown
- Event Management company

Financial Information

The working budget for the event and associated development work currently stands at £541,447. The full budget is attached **Appendix B**. Members should note that Belfast is being asked for a larger amount than the surrounding Councils (£45,000) because the City will benefit most from the hosting of this event, even though the sports venue is within Newtownabbey. The University can only accommodate 200, and this will result in Belfast having the lion's share of the economic impact. This will be in the region of £1.1m although the source of this information (using the UK Sport model) has described the figure as conservative. See **Appendix C**.

Recommendation / Decision Required

Members are asked to approve funding of £40,000 towards the hosting of the Junior and Cadet Fencing World Championships in 2009. In addition, approval is sought to host the international congress in the Waterfront Hall Studio at a cost of £5,000.

Documents Attached

Appendix A - Business plan.

Appendix B - Budget.

Appendix C - Economic Impact Summary.

**JUNIOR AND CADET
FENCING WORLD
CHAMPIONSHIPS**

DRAFT BUSINESS PLAN

CONTENTS

SECTION 1: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SECTION 2: THE EVENT

SECTION 3: AIMS, OBJECTIVES & STRATEGIC BENEFITS

SECTION 4: EVENT REQUIREMENTS & FACILITIES PROVISION

SECTION 5: EVENT MANAGEMENT & DELIVERY

SECTION 6: FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

SECTION 7: CONTRACTUAL RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

SECTION 8: WINNABILITY

SECTION 9: MARKETING & COMMUNICATION PLAN

SECTION 10: RISK FACTORS

SECTION 11: PERFORMANCE MONITORING

SECTION 1: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Business Plan is submitted by the British Fencing Association in conjunction with the Northern Ireland Fencing Union.

The Junior and Cadet World Championships (U20 and U17) are held annually in April and have been in place since the late 1950s. They are run under the auspices of the world governing body, the Federation Internationale d'Escrime (FIE) and are viewed as an important milestone in the elite player pathway, with many athletes seen at these events going on to perform in the Olympics.

To host the Junior and Cadet World Championships in Belfast in 2009 would provide an ideal opportunity to:

- Showcase Fencing across Northern Ireland and the rest of the United Kingdom
- Enable local partners to achieve objectives covering areas such as economic impact, global coverage and tourism
- Gain valuable experience in managing world class events prior to 2012
- Develop the infrastructure, especially volunteer capacity
- Inspire our elite athletes in the lead up to 2012
- Showcase Northern Ireland as a venue for 2012 training camps
- Showcase the University of Ulster as the premier sports facility in Northern Ireland
- Engage long term media and commercial partners

The working budget for the event and associated development work currently stands at £541,447. We believe this will deliver a high quality, memorable and exciting event.

SECTION 2: THE EVENT

2.1 Fencing

Fencing is an ancient sport and is one of only four that has been included in every one of the Modern Olympic Games since 1896. It consists of three weapons:

- Foil
- Epee
- Sabre

The Foil is a light thrusting weapon with fencers targeting their opponents torso. The Epee is a heavier thrusting weapon and scores can be made through hits on any part of the opponents body. The Sabre is a light cutting and thrusting weapon with it's origins lying with the cavalryman's sword. The valid target area is therefore the opponents upper body.

In each of the disciplines the speed of movement is of such a level that it cannot easily be followed by the human eye and electronic scoring is therefore required.

A Junior World Championships has been run since the late 1950's. The Cadet age category was added in the late 1990's and the two age groups have run as a combined event on an annual basis ever since.

In the UK, Fencing continues to develop and is included in the UK School Games, presenting an opportunity for Fencing to further promote itself as an athletic, disciplined and fast paced sport amongst the nation's young people.

2.2 Fencing - history

Swords and similar stabbing and thrusting weapons have been used throughout the world in battle since man first started working with metal. In Europe the sword was used to devastating effect from the third century BC by the Roman Legions and even today conjures up hugely evocative images of Vikings, Medieval knights, cavalry charges and dueling aristocrats.

As a weapon the sword became obsolete with the widespread use of gunpowder and guns but developed from the mid 17th century onwards into the Olympic sport we know today.

It is reported that the word 'fence' was originally a shortening of the Middle English word 'defens' with the first known literary reference to swordsmanship being in Shakespeare's Merry Wives of Windsor, published in 1602.

2.3 Fencing - an Olympic Sport

The first Modern Olympics held in Greece in 1896 saw the inclusion of three fencing events: men's foil, men's masters foil and men's saber. The medals were shared between France, Greece and Denmark with five different countries represented in total.

Fencing has developed from this position, as mentioned above, to be one of only four sports included in each and every modern Olympic Games. The disciplines have increased with women competing for the first time in Paris in 1924 with the addition of the Foil.

The current Olympic programme sees a full schedule for both men and women as well as team events:

- Men's individual foil
- Men's individual epee
- Men's individual sabre
- Men's team epee
- Men's team sabre
- Women's individual foil
- Women's individual epee
- Women's individual sabre
- Women's team foil
- Women's team sabre

Bouts are held on a 14-metre by 1.5-metre piste, or playing area. Through wires and special clothing, fencers are connected to an electronic scoring system that indicates if a hit has occurred.

Great Britain recorded it's first Olympic medal in 1906 with a Silver in the Men's Team Epee. The first individual medal was in 1924 with a Silver for Gladys Davies in the Women's Individual Foil.

2.4 Fencing – Governance

British Fencing is the branded image for the British Fencing Association English (BFA). British Fencing is the recognised National Governing Body for Fencing in all its forms, including able bodied and disabled.

The BFA is responsible for the development and promotion of Fencing throughout Great Britain.

The BFA is constituted as a company limited by guarantee. Its Executive Board of nineteen members is responsible for the financial affairs, strategic planning and management of the Association.

The sport is overseen by a number of management committees, each of which report to the Executive Board:

- International Committee
- Foil Committee
- Epee Committee
- Sabre Committee
- Refereeing Committee
- Youth Committee
- Rules Committee

There are four home countries within the BFA: England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, along with Jersey and Guernsey. The Northern Ireland Fencing Union (NIFU) are fully involved with and supportive of the plans to host the 2009 Junior and Cadet World Fencing Championships in Belfast.

To assist with the day to day running of the Association the BFA employs professional staff at its National Headquarters in London. These positions are part-time and the Association only employs four members of staff covering areas such as press and media, finance, and administration. There are no dedicated events or development staff.

The **Fédération Internationale d'escrime (FIE)** was founded in Paris, France in 1913. It is governed by its own Constitution, Code of Conduct and Regulations under Swiss law. The FIE is an international non-governmental non profit organisation, composed of its affiliated National Federations which have freely and voluntarily joined the FIE in order to administer and govern worldwide the sport of Fencing and all of its disciplines for both male and female participants. As of 2007, the FIE counted 125 affiliated national federations.

The FIE has ten aims as laid out in the FIE Statutes, October 2007:

- a) to promote the development of fencing throughout the world, to tighten the ties of friendship which unite fencers of all countries, by setting up lasting relations between representative groups, and to nurture the improvement of the practice of our sport in every way
- b) to see that international competitions open to member federations are organised in accordance with F.I.E. Rules
- c) to establish Rules according to which international competitions must be organized
- d) to organise the Open World Championships, as well as Junior, Cadet and Veteran World Championships
- e) to authorise and supervise the other official F.I.E. competitions
- f) to insure that in international competitions the bans, suspensions, expulsions, disqualifications and all other penalties issued by one of the member federations are respected
- g) to study and legislate on all matters pertaining to fencing in international relations
- h) to promote and develop the struggle against doping
- i) to organise the fencing at the Olympic Games, in liaison with the International Olympic Committee
- j) to ensure that the principle of non-discrimination on the grounds of race, sex, ethnicity, religion, political opinions, family status or other, is respected.

2.5 FIE Junior and Cadet World Championships 2008

The Junior and Cadet World Championship is the world's largest fencing event (in terms of participant numbers) and is an annual combined men's and women's event catering for the Under 20 and Under 17 age groups. This event is staged throughout the world and is the premier event for the world's young fencers.

Host countries include:

2008	Italy
2007	Turkey
2006	Korea
2005	Austria

2.6 Belfast 2009 – Junior and Cadet World Championships

British Fencing and its partners propose Belfast as host city for the 2009 FIE Junior and Cadet Fencing World Championships. We believe that Belfast is the ideal location for an international Fencing event for the following reasons:

- Superb newly completed facilities at the University of Ulster
- Access to Belfast City and International airports for participants, officials and spectators
- Experience of hosting a major international fencing event (Commonwealth Championships 2006) and ensuring a lasting legacy
- An excellent mix of accommodation from student halls of residence to five star hotels

Venue: University of Ulster High Performance Centre, Jordanstown, Belfast

Competition Structure: There will be nine days of competition with each day including pool stages leading to direct elimination rounds and then finals.

Athlete numbers: Over 1000 athletes are expected from approximately 85 countries.

Volunteers: Approximately 50 generic volunteers will be required to support an event of this nature. British Fencing, the Northern Ireland Fencing Union and local partners are keen to use this event as a catalyst to develop the volunteer workforce of the sport and the area (see sports development plan). A further 60 officials, armourers and FIE staff will also be in attendance.

Spectators: Fencing as a whole and this event in particular do not have a history of attracting significant spectator numbers. However a publicity and promotion plan will be implemented to develop awareness in schools and the community as a whole. This will be particularly in and around Belfast, including the boroughs of Carrickfergus and Newtownabbey. The event will also be promoted extensively to fencers from across the United Kingdom.

SECTION 3: AIMS, OBJECTIVES & STRATEGIC AIMS

It is recommended that an event management group is established once all funding partners have been confirmed to discuss and confirm event objectives and strategic issues.

At this stage it is felt the **core objectives** will include the following:

- 1. To increase the profile of Fencing in Northern Ireland and the UK**

- 2. To develop the expertise and capacity required to host major international and world class Fencing events in the UK.** It is our ambition to stage an FIE Senior European Championships in 2011 and we believe that hosting a Junior and Cadet World Championships in 2009 would give us a great opportunity to learn vital lessons and develop our capacity.

- 3. To increase the profile of Belfast as a host city of major events**
and to provide global television coverage to help achieve this aim

Additional objectives

- 1) To promote Belfast, Northern Ireland and the University of Ulster as a first class venue for international sporting events .** This will be achieved by working closely with Belfast City Council, Carrickfergus Borough Council Newtownabbey Borough Council and the University of Ulster to maximise the potential of Belfast as a host city and tourist destination. Key partners involved in this process include Tourist

Information, Belfast Marketing Dept, local press, Chamber of Commerce, local businesses and so on etc.

- 2) **To position Belfast as a potential training camp venue for teams in the lead up to the 2012 Olympics.** Again, the marketing and PR unit within the City Council, as well as other funding partners, will be engaged to work with the event management company to promote Northern Ireland and relevant sporting facilities, including the University of Ulster.

- 3) **To use the event to provide top level experience and home advantage to GB fencers.**

2009 is a good year to host such an event as it will be a major test for our younger players to demonstrate whether they are good enough to push for an Olympic place for 2012. Four years provides enough time to support promising players onto a higher plane of training and competition.

- 4) **Capacity Building – To develop the fencing organisational infrastructure and workforce including skilled and knowledgeable volunteers, officials and referees** who will be competent to deliver further world class fencing in the lead up to and beyond London 2012. The Junior and Cadet World Championships will serve as a training exercise and capacity building exercise to recruit, develop and retain volunteers.

Whilst there is no formal volunteer development strategy for fencing at present, the BFA recognise the importance of investing in the volunteer workforce and will use the event to do so through structured training programmes and informal learning. There is already a programme of

training courses in place for the development of young officials and this event would be the ideal opportunity to supplement theoretical knowledge with practical experience.

There is also the opportunity to work in partnership with the University of Ulster to recruit and develop volunteers from amongst the students.

The BFA will engage with volunteers throughout the event management process from planning through to delivery and beyond. This will be done by engaging them as part of dedicated working groups, where they will be given the opportunity to work alongside others to create a pool of enhanced knowledge, skills and expertise which can be employed in future large scale events. (see Sports Development Plan)

5) **Sports Development - To increase participation at grass roots**

level. There are currently 14 fencing clubs in Northern Ireland with just under 200 current fencers. There is therefore a great opportunity to grow the sport within schools and with the development of new clubs.

The event will be used as a catalyst to raise awareness about fencing and to increase participation. The Commonwealth Fencing Championships, held in Northern Ireland in 2006 directly led to a 25% increase in the number of clubs and a corresponding 25% in participation. It is anticipated that these figures will be matched, if not exceeded, for this event.

Linking to the UK Games, British Fencing we will work to influence schools to take up fencing and develop a team to represent Northern Ireland in this competition (see Sports Development Plan)

6) International Influencing - To capitalise on the political benefits both nationally and internationally from hosting a major sports event, particularly in the lead up to 2012.

There are six committees within the FIE structure: Executive, Rules, Medical, Referee, Legal and SEMI. British Fencing is currently represented on the first four of these. It is anticipated that hosting a major FIE event in April 2009 will play a significant part in ensuring the representatives are re-elected and that the UK also has a representative on the final two committees as well.

The event is also proceeded by a Congress to which all international fencing federations are invited. This is an ideal opportunity for the promotion of Belfast as a city and Northern Ireland as a whole as a potential host of holding and training camps in the lead up to London 2012.

7) Economic Impact - To enhance the employment and productivity dividend from volunteering, use volunteering in sporting activities as a route to gaining transferable skills for paid employment.

8) To raise the profile of the region through major sports events within the media and visitor economy.

The event will be filmed to broadcast quality and will be distributed to ensure global TV coverage. This coverage will also serve to promote Northern Ireland as a tourist destination as part of a co-ordinated marketing campaign.

9) To get return on investment in the form of economic impact for the region.

10) Media Profile

To engage the media to assist with development of fencing in the UK and to engage long lasting media partners.

To ensure professional television production and global distribution in order to promote Northern Ireland to a world-wide audience

SPORTS DEVELOPMENT PLAN

1. To develop the fencing organisational infrastructure and workforce including skilled and knowledgeable volunteers, officials and armourers

Objective	Action	Lead Responsibility	Timescale	Cost
Develop a plan for the recruitment, development, deployment and retention of volunteers to support major BFA events	Undertake a comprehensive audit of volunteer requirements to support the effective delivery of a major fencing event.	BFA	TBC	TBC
	Identify current volunteer capacity within Northern Ireland to support BFA events	NIFU	TBC	TBC
	Develop a series of Volunteer Job Descriptions for BFA events	BFA	TBC	TBC
	Identify a series of BFA and complimentary sporting events where volunteers are required in the lead up to 2012 and beyond	BFA / relevant partners	TBC	TBC
	Recruit new volunteers as necessary through BFA website, clubs, UUJ, Belfast CC	BFA	TBC	TBC
	Identify training needs for volunteers required to support major BFA events	BFA	TBC	TBC
	Build on existing volunteer training programmes to include event specific training where necessary (e.g. armourers)	BFA	TBC	TBC
	Further develop 'shadowing' opportunities for volunteers working on events at all levels, particularly those with more strategic roles	BFA	TBC	TBC
	Run a series of information and training sessions for volunteers who sign up to support the BFA events programme in Northern Ireland. Include rewards and incentives – clothing, equipment, social activities, information, skills.	BFA	TBC	TBC
	Identify lead volunteers within the organisation	BFA	TBC	TBC

	to head up areas of responsibility e.g. armourers, key officials etc.			
Develop a plan for development of officials	Undertake an audit of officials and referee requirements to support the effective delivery of a major BFA event			
	Identify current officials and referee capacity to support BFA events			
	Recruit further officials and referees as necessary			
	Train new officials and referees as necessary			

2. Develop junior competitive pathways

Objective	Action	Lead Responsibility	Timescale	Cost
Further develop the number of clubs and participants in Northern Ireland				-
Develop a junior competitions programme, enabling talent identification and progression for promising juniors	Develop a series of BFA junior competition opportunities in the south east culminating in a finals event in Belfast			
	Agree talent identification methods throughout the junior competitions programme including key personnel			
	Develop a programme of coaching support, training and further competition opportunities for those identified as having talent.			
	Develop UUJ as a centre of excellence and training venue (develop a student fencing club)			
	Develop UUJ as a centre for BFA and NIFU coach development – deliver all coach education for the region at the venue, develop coach mentoring schemes at the venue and provide support for coaches at all levels.			

SECTION 4: EVENT REQUIREMENTS & FACILITIES PROVISION

4.1 FIE Guidelines

The FIE provides detailed documentation on event requirements covering areas such as:

- Bidding requirements
- Obligations of the Organising Committee
- Transport and Accommodation
- Accreditation
- Competition structure and requirements
- Opening, closing and finals ceremonies
- Publicity and Promotion

The BFA and the appointed event management company will work to ensure all FIE requirements are adhered to.

4.2 University of Ulster, Elite Performance Centre

The Elite Performance Centre, due to open in November 2007, is part of the sporting facilities at the Jordanstown campus of the University of Ulster. The facilities have been designed and built with elite sport in mind and provide the ideal venue for the Cadet and Junior Fencing World Championships.



The University of Ulster is eager to host the 2009 Junior and Cadet World Championships and will play a pivotal role in the event planning, delivery and legacy.

SECTION 5: EVENT MANAGEMENT & DELIVERY

Underlying the effective delivery of this plan is a seamless approach to event management by all partners involved.

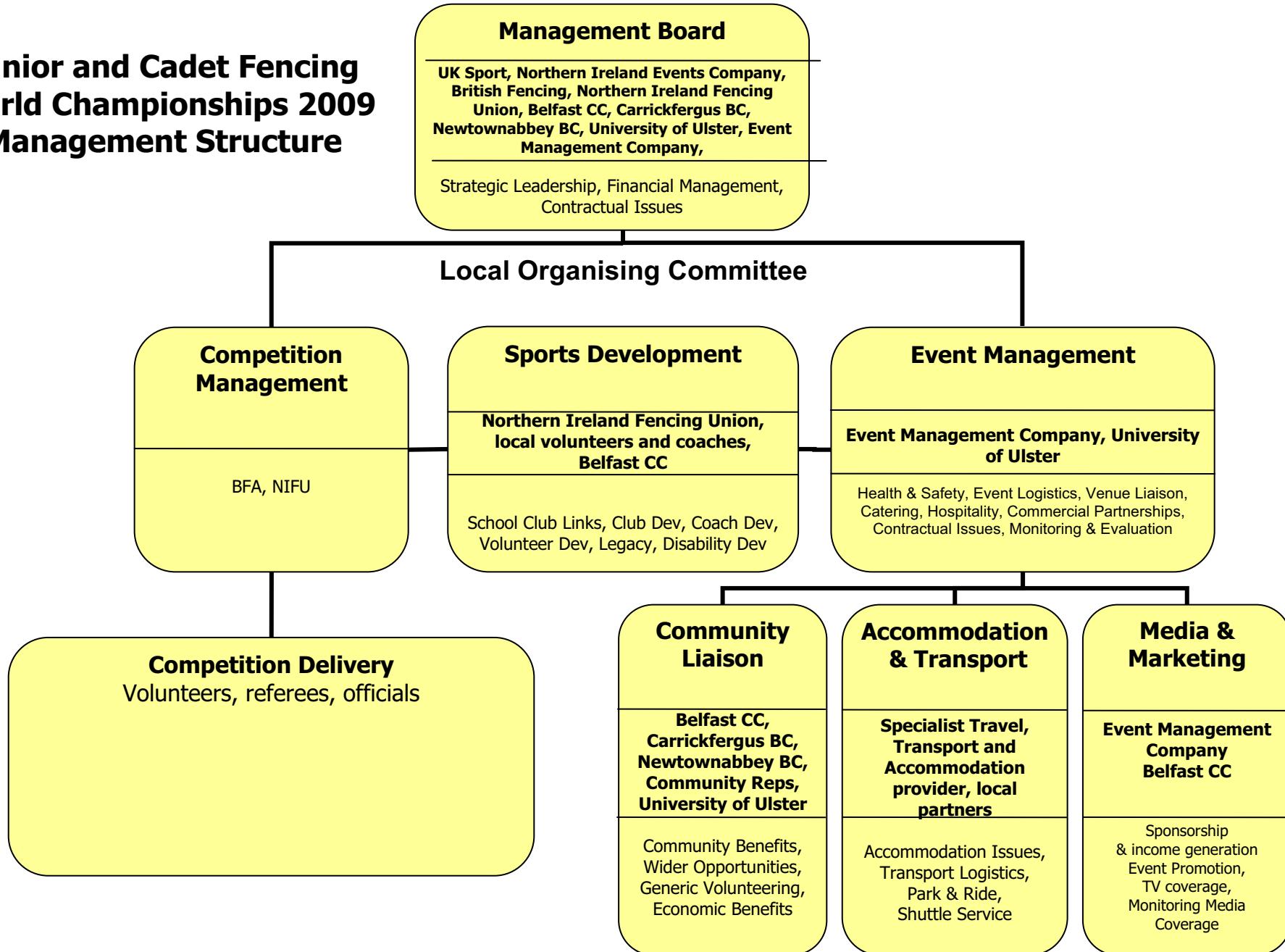
An initial meeting of partners has been held and it is recommended that all funding partners are invited to form an event Management Board to assess funding and strategic event issues.

It is anticipated that this Management Board which will act as a steering group with the following members:

- UK Sport
- Northern Ireland Events Company
- British Fencing
- Northern Ireland Fencing Union
- Belfast City Council
- Carrickfergus Borough Council
- Newtownabbey Borough Council
- University of Ulster Jordanstown
- Event Management company

The chart overleaf illustrates the proposed organisational structure for the event.

Junior and Cadet Fencing World Championships 2009 Management Structure



5.1 Management Board

It is recognised that this Business Plan requires continued development and the input of all event partners.

It is anticipated that the Management Board will facilitate the process of turning the vision into a reality by co-ordinating the work of the Local Organising Committee and providing leadership, expertise and guidance throughout. The Management Board will have overall responsibility for the safe and effective running of the event, including the budget, legal aspects of the event, and policy plan. It will meet on a bi-monthly basis and communicate with the Local Organising Committee and sub groups via the Event Management Company.

British Fencing will work as part of the Management Board to provide, in conjunction with Northern Ireland Fencing Union, sport specific information and will be the key liaison with the FIE. British Fencing's President, Keith Smith, will be the representative on the group and the organisation is fully committed to delivering a successful event with lasting benefits. British Fencing will also act as the under-writing authority and will manage the process of recruiting an Event Director / Event Management Company on behalf of the Management Board, which will take place in preparation for a February start.

University of Ulster

UUJ will not only support the event through the provision of facilities but will also act as a key strategic partner.

Belfast City Council (BCC)

BCC has a strong history of involvement with major arts and cultural events and is keen to secure further events to attract visitors and further build awareness and profile of the city. As well as potential financial support BCC are also

interested in hosting the FIE Congress as value in kind support to the event. The Waterfront Centre has been proposed as a potential venue and this aspect of the event will be used to promote Belfast and Northern Ireland as a potential location for training camps in the lead-up to London 2012.

Borough Councils

It is recognised that both Carrickfergus and Newtownabbey Borough Councils will have a vital role to play in the success of the event. It is anticipated that both Boroughs will have representatives on the Management Board.

Further liaison is required with both Borough councils and the city council to ensure their objectives are understood and are included within this Business Plan.

An **Event Director / Management Company** is required in the absence of sufficient capacity within partner agencies to fulfil the role and drive forward the event preparations and delivery. BFA will employ the Event Director / Event Management Company on a contractual basis, nominating a person responsible for the day-to-day liaison with the appointed Director / Company.

Event Director Key Roles and Responsibilities

- To be responsible for establishing the framework to deliver a world class event and ensure a lasting legacy
- To manage the non sport specific aspects of the Fencing event
- To ensure the event fulfils the delivery obligations of the International Governing Body – the FIE
- To develop close relationships with all event partners and to establish effective partnership working
- To ensure the event achieves the core objectives of all the event partners

Administration

- To set and manage the event project plan with key stakeholders
- To negotiate contracts with partners and 3rd parties
- To ensure contractual fulfilment of all partners
- To produce regular reports for the Management Board and Local Organising Committee
- To provide management and an infrastructure which ensures effective communication across the management structure
- To attend all relevant meetings

Finance

- To work with British Fencing (underwriters) to provide a budgetary management function including financial reporting (forecasted figures and variances and purchase order and invoicing system)

Marketing and Promotion

- To provide a bespoke in-house PR and Marketing function to maximise sponsorship and income generation for the event.
- To maximise coverage of the event and showcase the uniqueness of the sport.
- Oversee production and distribution of TV coverage
- Sponsorship and commercial partnerships
- Media liaison

Venue and Event Services Delivery

- To liaise with UUJ on venue and facility contracts
- To liaise with the contractor on accommodation and transport arrangements
- Event Hospitality
- Catering
- To put in place effective systems for monitoring and evaluation pre, during and post event.

5.2 Local Organising Committee

Working under the Management Board it is planned that a Local Organising Committee will be established to focus on operational issues and delivering against strategic objectives as directed by the Management Board.

British fencing in conjunction with the Northern Ireland Fencing Union will provide the sport specific knowledge and expertise required to run a successful Fencing competition and event via their volunteer network.

Volunteer capacity will be mobilised to ensure that the event runs efficiently and is used to benefit the sport infrastructure in Northern Ireland. This will take the form of existing fencers from Belfast and the surrounding area, and it is anticipated that Belfast City Council and the University of Ulster will play a key role in recruiting volunteers as well as the Borough councils. These will be augmented by volunteers from the rest of the UK as and where necessary. The event will also make use of school-club links, marketing and promotion through the fencing networks, and extensive training of new volunteers as officials, referees and generic support for an event of this nature.

University of Ulster

UUJ will play a lead role in delivering the event, harnessing their expertise associated with delivering indoor sporting events at this facility.

Belfast CC

It is anticipated that Belfast CC will provide support through their relevant departments including the Sports Development Unit, establishing lasting relationships with other relevant event, schools, clubs, generic volunteers and community organisations.

SECTION 6: FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The budget is attached as a separate file and has been completed using the UK Sport Funding Model for major events.

The Primary input level provides detailed information and top-line information can be found in the Summarised and Consolidated level.

Funding Partners

Northern Ireland Tourism

A submission has been made for £122,000 which is currently being assessed by the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure and the Northern Ireland Tourist Board.

A response is expected by the end of January as to the success of this application.

UK Sport

After inclusion of financial contributions from all potential partners (still to be confirmed) there will need to be a submission to UK Sport. It is anticipated that this submission will be in the region of £125,000.

Funding Partners

For budgetary purposes the funding model shows a cash contribution from local partners (Belfast CC, Carrickfergus BC and Newtownabbey BC). These amounts are to be confirmed and need to be set against agreed benefits.

Financial Considerations: Income

As stated previously it is recommended that all potential event partners meet as a matter of urgency to confirm funding levels and to establish a contractual relationship as soon as possible.

Sponsorship and Advertising

The figure of £20,000 income through sponsorship has been developed as a realistic estimate after consultation with key partners. The figure has also been generated after assessment of previous major fencing events in the United Kingdom and previous Junior and Cadet World Fencing Championships in other countries.

It will be the responsibility of the event management company to lead on this aspect of income generation.

Accommodation Recharge

A specialist travel and accommodation provider, WGT Sport, have been engaged to advise on the potential of a recharge to the event.

It is planned that a surcharge will be included on all accommodation and transport costs. This income will then be returned to the event and is expected to generate event revenue of £100,000. It should be noted that this figure is dependent on projected numbers of participants being reached.

Financial Considerations: Expenditure

The budget, attached as an appendix, provides varying level of detail. However this plan will highlight particular areas:

Personnel - £30,000 for event management

As mentioned elsewhere in the Business Plan it is thought to be vital to engage with a professional event management company and a budget of £30,000 has been included to secure this.

It is anticipated that £30,000 will secure at least 120 event management days. This equates to nearly a half time role over a 12 month period.

This is thought to be sufficient against the event management role laid out earlier in this plan and when coupled with significant support from both event partners and the venue.

There is also an additional £5,000 to specifically pay for support through the Northern Ireland Fencing Union. This organisation currently has a volunteer network which includes people with direct experience of managing the Commonwealth Fencing Championships in 2006. This budget will be used to engage with these volunteers on a contractual basis to support the sport specific aspects of the event management process.

International and National Travel

It is recognised that there will need to be considerable national travel for partners and the event management company to effectively fulfil their roles.

Budget has also been included to enable key personnel from the Management Board to travel to the 2008 Junior and Cadet World Fencing Championships in Italy. This delegation will conduct an event analysis as preparation for the Belfast event.

Venue Hire

£50,000 has been included as a hire charge to University of Ulster for the venue. This includes staffing costs for the period of the event.

Press and Media

As detailed elsewhere in this plan there is significant budget available to run promotional campaigns with a view to reaching event and partner objectives.

There is also specific budget available for a media centre at the event and to pay a specialist to manage this area over the course of the event itself. The budget covers not only the hire and installation of a suitable area but also the furnishing and inclusion of printers, copiers, refreshments and so on.

It is also recognised that specialist TV production and distribution companies will need to be engaged to maximise coverage. Links have already been established with Sky Sports and Setanta. The event management company will be tasked with overseeing this area of the event.

Web-site

A separate budget of £5,000 has been included to enable the development, management and regular updating of an event specific web-site.

It is anticipated that this will be the primary information source with regards the event.

The web-site will be supported by all event partners with the provision of copy, logos and event information.

Suppliers and Contractors

Within the budget all relevant costs have been developed through liaison with, and quotes from, specialists providers.

It is intended that all such contractors and suppliers will be selected through competitive tender once the event and the funding have been secured.

The FIE have a number of requirements with regards equipment provision and these have been included within the budget.

SECTION 7: CONTRACTUAL RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

The formal bid to FIE to stage the event will be made by British Fencing. However a verbal confirmation that the UK has won the right to host the event has been received from the FIE.

As noted earlier, it will be the role of an Event Management Director / Company to broker then manage the key contracts with partners and third party organisations. This will be a priority once appointed.

It is anticipated that the most significant contracts will be:

- University of Ulster
- Sponsors
- Funding partners
- FIE
- Suppliers and contractors

The event will be underwritten by British Fencing who will accept financial liability on behalf of the Management Board. British Fencing, alongside the Event Management Director / Company will provide regular reports to the Management Board.

SECTION 8: WINNABILITY

The British Fencing Association have received verbal confirmation that, dependent on funding, the UK have won the right to host the event.

The BFA wish to confirm that funding is in place and that the event is therefore feasible no later than the end of February 2008.

SECTION 9: MARKETING & COMMUNICATION PLAN

An initial Marketing and Communication Plan has been produced by the Northern Ireland Fencing Union. This plan is attached as an appendix.

It is recommended that a more detailed plan is produced once consultation with all key partners has been completed.

SECTION 10: RISK FACTORS

The primary reason for choosing a Junior and Cadet World Championship as opposed to a major adult competition is to minimise the risks and gain maximum experience from organising and delivering a world class event.

A comprehensive risk assessment will be undertaken by the Event Management Director/Company.

SECTION 11: PERFORMANCE MONITORING

Close monitoring and evaluation of the process and delivery of the event will be vital if we are to capitalise on this as a learning experience for the sport and stakeholders in preparation for bidding for bigger world class Fencing events.

Monitoring and evaluation will be a thread running through each element associated with delivering this plan and will be led by the Event Management Director/Company.

Is recommended that the Management Board has the development of clear and agreed KPIs as one of the first areas of priority.

Expenditure		Cost
Event Management	Event Management Company Volunteers Training / Expenses	£47,000
Administration	Meetings / Inspections Postage & Couriers Uniforms Office Equipment & Supplies	£16,900
IT & Telecommunications	Information and Results System	£44,000
Legal & Insurance	Contracts Accountancy	£3,400
Venue	Hire of venue and equipment	£121,080
Doping Control		£3,800
Medical		£1,500
Media and TV		£32,500
Marketing	Advertising Public Relations	£29,000
Accommodation	Federation Executives All Officials and Comp. Delegates	£204,615
Transportation		£22,225
Protocol & Events	Ceremonies Medals Hospitality	£12,883
Event Bid Costs		£2,544
Total Expenditure		£541,447
Income		
Sponsorship & Advertising Income		
Other Revenues	Income from Accommodation Entry Fees	£186,250
Public Sector Funding	Dept. Culture, Arts & Leisure Belfast City Council Newtownabbey Borough Council (& others)	122,000 45,000 30,000 £197,000
Total		£404,750
Shortfall (to be covered by UK Sport)		£136,697

Summary of Pre-Event Estimate							Total	Total %
	Delegations	Officials	Media	Spectators	Totals			
Bed-Nights	16500	1650	30	1100	19280			
Accommodation	£ 577,500	£ 57,750	£ 2,400	£ 49,500	£ 687,150	60%		
Food & Drink	£ 123,750	£ 49,500	£ 2,550	£ 32,900	£ 208,700	18%		
Entertainment	£ 33,000	£ 8,250	£ 450	£ 6,400	£ 48,100	4%		
Programmes/Merchandise	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 7,300	£ 7,300	1%		
Shopping/Souvenirs	£ 82,500	£ 16,500	£ 650	£ 26,500	£ 126,150	11%		
Travel	£ -	£ -	£ 1,000	£ 4,000	£ 5,000	0%		
Other	£ 49,500	£ 8,250	£ 150	£ 4,200	£ 62,100	5%		
Total	£ 866,250	£ 140,250	£ 7,200	£ 130,800	£ 1,144,500	100%		
Organisational Spend						0%		
Total Additional Expenditure					£ 1,144,500	100%		

Category	Amount £s	%
Delegations	£ 866,250	76%
Officials	£ 140,250	12%
Media	£ 7,200	1%
Spectators	£ 130,800	11%
Organisational Spend	£ -	0%
Totals	£ 1,144,500	100%



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	Interim Revision of Support for Sport Criteria
Date:	21 February 2008
Reporting Officer:	Marie-Therese McGivern, Director of Development, ext. 3470
Contact Officers:	Gerry Copeland, Events Manager, ext. 3412 Kevin Grant, Sports Events Manager, ext. 3508

Relevant Background Information

The 'Support for Sport' Scheme has funded clubs and organisations for the past six years. The scheme has four main elements:

- Development Grants, Large Development Grants, and Hospitality funding; allocated by the Sports Development Unit (Parks and Leisure Committee).
- Events Funding is the responsibility of the Sports Events Unit, formerly with Community and Recreation, but now within the Development Department.

The Events Fund, which totals £85k, is allocated in three tranches to events being organised in Belfast. Set assessment criteria were initially agreed at the Client Services Committee in October 2001. Up until Summer 2006, a member/officer working group met regularly to discuss applications received and assessed against the criteria.

Key Issues

Previous Criteria

Relevant minutes relating to the previous criteria are attached at **Appendix A**. When an application was scored against this criteria, the weighting for the criteria were as follows:

Media Coverage (25%),
 Joint Marketing (20%),
 Spectator numbers (20%),
 Economic Benefits (10%),
 Bednights (10%)
 Development Plan (15%)

Revised Criteria

The changes to the existing criteria are outlined in **Appendix B** but in summary, the key changes are:

1. Less weighting on spectator numbers and additional weighting on event/sport development

- | |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">2. Clearer guidelines on assessing applications.3. The creation of ratios which provide a clear link between the application assessment score, and the level of support given by Belfast City Council. |
|---|

Outcomes

- 1. Increased weighting on Event / Sports Development. This will benefit events where there is a strong ethos of Sports Development.
- 2. A linkage between the assessment score and the funding allocation. An event scoring 80% will be treated differently to an event scoring 45%.
- 3. Support for new events as well as rewarding established events which have secured non-public sector funding e.g. private sector support or ticket income

A copy of the proposed final assessment sheet is contained in **Appendix C** for Members reference.

Resource Implications

Financial

£85,000 has previously been agreed by Committee.

Members are asked to note this is an interim review of criteria. The rationale for such a position is that the Department is currently reviewing all grants administered by it with a view to streamlining the process under an updated Capital City Strategy.

Recommendations

Members are asked to approve the recommendations on the proposed revised Support For Sport Events interim criteria.

Documents Attached

Appendix A Relevant minutes on the existing criteria

Appendix B Revised criteria brief explanation

Appendix C Full assessment sheet

Appendix A

Client Services Committee, Wednesday, 24th October, 2001

Criteria and weightings

- **Media coverage**□ 30
- **Joint marketing**□ 25
- **Spectator appeal**□ 20
- **Economic benefits**□ 10
- **Tourism appeal**□ 10
- **Other sponsorship**□ 5
- **Accessibility**□ 0
- **Inclusivity**□ 0

Joint marketing, media coverage and spectator appeal have been weighted heavily to reflect the local benefits to be accrued from the sponsorship.

Tourism appeal and economic benefits have been weighted moderately to reflect the likely impact of sponsoring local sports to the amounts available.

Other sponsorship has been weighted lightly as the inclusion of other sponsors will be welcomed to ensure the viability of the event but can potentially limit Belfast City Council's exposure.

Accessibility and inclusivity for spectators have not been weighted as these should be considered essential criteria."

Client Services Committee, Tuesday 23rd April 2002.

Criteria	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Events must be organised in Belfast□• Organisers must be affiliated to governing bodies recognised by Sports Council or recognised by Belfast City Council□	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Media Coverage• Joint Marketing• Spectator Appeal• Economic Benefits• Tourism Appeal• Development Plan

Appendix B

Revision of Criteria

Continue with the assessment sections of

Media Coverage	(25%),
Joint Marketing	(20%),
Spectator Appeal	(reducing to 15%),
Economic Benefits	(10%),
Bed Nights	(10%) and

Replacing the 'Development Plan' (previously 15%) section with a new section called **Event Development** (20%)

The Event Development assessment will have three subsections:

Event History (5% weighting), looking at the age of the event and promoting newer ones:

1 st year of the Event	100
2 nd year of the Event	80
3 rd year of the Event	60
4 th year of the Event	40
Event 5 years old or over	20

Event Sustainability (5% Weighting), rewarding events that rely less on Public Sector funding:

5% - 10% of event budget from public sector	100
11% - 20% of event budget from public sector	80
21% - 30% of event budget from public sector	60
31% - 40% of event budget from public sector	40
41% - 50% of event budget from public sector	20
Over 50% of event budget from public sector	0

Sport Development (10% weighting)

Clear marking based on the provision of key information selected by the Sports Development unit.

Similar criteria are used for the Large Development Grants.

Marks (out of 100) would be awarded for evidence of the following:

- The sport is one which has a club structure
- Event organised by a Sports National Gov Body
- The NGB/Club has an active development plan
- There is an opportunity for the young people
- The sport has a clear competition pathway
- The event will leave a legacy
- Inclusive pricing structure

Funding (link from score to allocation of Funding)

When a final score is reached the cash awarded will be in the following ratios:

Scoring between 80 – 100 marks	Full Amount Requested *
Scoring between 70 – 79 marks	90% of amount requested
Scoring between 60 – 69 marks	80% of amount requested
Scoring between 50 – 59 marks	70% of amount requested
Scoring between 40 – 49 marks	60% of amount requested

* Applicants can only apply to Belfast City Council for a maximum of 50% of the overall budget. This will be made clear in the updated application form and accompanying notes.

Appendix C

Media Coverage (Weighting 25%)	Score	Description
Live international Tv coverage	100	Inc live broadcasting on Sky Sports, Eurosport, international Television channels.
International TV highlights	80	Highlights on the above channels.
Dedicated TV Coverage	70	Half an hour/1 Hour special on local TV
Local TV dedicated show	60	Short Clip on BBC/UTV news.. Season Ticket/UTV Life
National Press	50	National Newspaper Coverage
Local Radio	40	BBC Ulster, Cool Fm, Citybeat
Local Press	30	Local News papers and magazines

Joint Marketing (Weighting 20%)	Score	Description
Level 7	100	Title Sponsor (Belfast in title) and BCC recognised + LEVEL 6
Level 6	80	Logos on clothing (volunteers/athletes+event material e.g.Race Nos) + LEVEL 5
Level 5	60	Use of players prior, during and post event + LEVEL 4
Level 4	50	Prominent Branding at Venue beyond other sponsors + LEVEL 3
Level 3	40	Branding at venue equal to other sponsors, free advert + LEVEL 2
Level 2	30	Logos on Letterheads, Programmes, Posters + LEVEL 1
Level 1	20	Basic PR - Photoshoot stating BCC support

Number of Spectators (Weighting 15%)	Score	Description
10,000+	100	This is the total number of Spectators over the duration of the event!
7500+	90	
5,000+	80	
2500+	70	
1,000+	60	
750+	50	
500+	40	
250+	30	
100+	20	

Economic Benefits (Weighting 10%)	Score	Description
£500,000.00	100	This is only calculated on the event spend (suppliers, services, equipment, venue etc) in Belfast
£200,000.00	80	
£100,000.00	60	
£50,000.00	50	
£25,000.00	40	
£10,000.00	30	
£5,000.00	20	

Total Bednights (Weighting 10%)	Score	Description
2,000	100	The Number of Spectators and Participants who are staying in a Belfast Hotels.
1,000	80	
500	60	
250	40	
100	20	

Event Development (20% includes below)	Score	Description
Event History (5%)	Score	Description
1st Year of Event	100	
2nd Year of Event	80	
3rd Year Of Event	60	
4th Year of Event	40	
Event 5 years or over	20	
Event Sustainability (5%)	Score	Description
5%-10% of event budget from public sector	100	
11%-20% of event budget from public sector	80	
21%-30% of event budget from public sector	60	
31%-40% of event budget from public sector	40	
41%-50% of event budget from public sector	20	
Over 50% of event budget from public sector	0	
Sports Development (10%)	Score	Description
The sport is one which has a club structure	20	Must be within City Of Belfast
Event organised by a Sports National Gov Body	20	As recognised by Sport NI/BCC or club affiliated to a National Governing Body
The NGB/Club has an active development plan	20	Benefits of event for identified within the plan (a copy of the plan should be provided
There is an opportunity for the young people	10	From Belfast to participate in development activities as part of the event
The sport has a clear competition pathway	10	Opportunities to compete at local, provincial, national and international levels
The event will leave a legacy	10	Providing opportunities for the citizens of Belfast to participate in the sport in the future
Inclusive pricing structure	10	To encourage people to attend

Total	Out of 100
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Belfast City Council

Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	Pricing Policy 2008-2009
Date:	21 February 2008
Reporting Officer:	Marie-Thérèse McGivern Director of Development ext 3470
Contact Officer:	Tim Husbands Managing Director Belfast Waterfront Hall and Ulster Halls ext 1400 Catherine Taggart Community Development Manager ext 3525

Relevant Background Information

The purpose of this report is to consider the annual review of prices for hire/rental charges at the Belfast Waterfront, Ulster Hall and Community Centres and to agree an implementation with effect from 1 April 2008.

Key Issues

Belfast Waterfront

It is proposed to implement a 5% price increase, effective as of 1 April 2008 on hire charges relating to all areas of the Belfast Waterfront, including Main Auditorium, Studio, Meeting Rooms, Exhibition areas including Concourse, Gallery Levels 1 and 2, Bar Levels 1 and 2, and where appropriate, event services hire charges.

The proposed 5% price increase for 2008/2009 takes account of inflation and also keeps the Waterfront Hall prices competitive with other comparable venues throughout the UK.

The new charges are attached as **Appendices 1 - 5**

Ulster Hall

Members should note that as the Ulster Hall will be closed until February 2009 that the proposed Pricing Policy covers the period from February 2009 until March 2010.

The new charges are attached as **Appendix 6**

Community Centres

Each year the schedule of prices is reviewed and in general is increased in line with inflation. A general increase of 3% is proposed for 2008/2009.

The proposed schedule of prices for each of the Community Centres is detailed in **Appendix 7**.

The Pricing Policy in respect of the Hire of Community Centres is set out in **Appendix 8**

Recommendations

That Members note the contents of the report and approve:

- 1) an increase of 5% in hire charges for Belfast Waterfront for the year April 2008 – March 2009
- 2) the charges as detailed for the Ulster Hall for the period February 2009 – March 2010
- 3) an increase of 3% for the rental of Community Centres for the year April 2008 – March 2009
- 4) an effective date of 1st April 2008 for all facilities

Documents Attached

Appendix 1 – Entertainment and Miscellaneous Events Venue Hire

Appendix 2 – Conference and Business Sales Venue Hire

Appendix 3 – Main Auditorium Event Services Pricing

Appendix 4 – Studio Event Services Pricing

Appendix 5 – Business Advantage Meeting Rooms and Bar Event Services Pricing

Appendix 6 – Ulster Hall Pricing Policy February 2009 – March 2010

Appendix 7 – Community Centres Charges from 1st April 2008

Appendix 8 – Community Services Pricing Policy

WATERFRONT PRICING POLICY – 2008/09
ENTERTAINMENT AND MISCELLANEOUS EVENTS

(ALL RATES ARE SUBJECT TO VAT)

AUDITORIUM - DAILY RATE SEATED - FULL DAY (09:00 – 23:00)

(Full Day) – Seated	Monday – Thursday	Friday – Sunday
Commercial/ Standard Events	8,390	9,230
Registered Charity	6,700	7,400
Multi Event (5) Commercial Promoters	6,700	6,700

AUDITORIUM - DAILY RATE SEATED - PART DAY (09:00 – 18:00 or 13:00 – 23:00)

(Part Day) – Seated	Monday – Thursday	Friday – Sunday
Commercial/ Standard Events	6,700	7,400
Registered Charity	5,360	5,920
Multi Event (5) Commercial Promoters	6,700	6,700

AUDITORIUM – DAILY RATE STANDING FULL DAY (09:00 – 23:00)

(Full Day) – Standing	Monday – Thursday	Friday – Sunday
Commercial/ Standard Events	9,000	10,300
Registered Charity	7,200	8,240
Multi Event Commercial Promoters	7,200	7,200

Weekly Rates
(Monday – Saturday)

Commercial/Standard Events	41,950
Registered Charity	33,500
Commercial Promoters	33,500

STUDIO – DAILY RATE FULL DAY (09:00 – 23:00)

(Full Day) – Seated	Monday – Thursday	Friday – Sunday
Commercial/ Standard Events	990	1,170
Registered Charity	790	940
Multi Event (5) Commercial Promoters	750	850

STUDIO – DAILY RATE PART DAY ((09.00 – 18:00 or 13:00 – 23:00)

(Part Day) – Seated	Monday – Thursday	Friday – Sunday
Commercial/ Standard Events	900	1,100
Registered Charity	720	880
Commercial Promoters	750	850

STUDIO – DAILY RATE FULL DAY STANDING/CABARET (09:00 – 23:00)

(Full Day) – Standing	Monday – Thursday	Friday – Sunday
Commercial/ Standard Events	1,150	1,400
Registered Charity	950	1,050
Commercial Promoters	950	950

**Weekly Rates
(Monday – Saturday)**

Commercial/Standard Events -	4,950
Registered Charity -	3,950
Commercial Promoters -	3,750

Registered Charities

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

Commercial Promoter Reduced Capacity Packages

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

Alternatively, a minimum hire charge of £5,000 + 10% Box Office receipts, against 40% Box Office receipts, whichever is the greater, will be applied. (Note: This package is based on Arena and Middle Tier usage only).

Box Office Commission – Multi Concert benefit (not to be used in conjunction with the Commercial Promoter package as above)

Up to 5 events	- 10% Box Office Commission
From 6 to 10	- 7½%
From 11 to 19	- 6%
20 events and over	- 5%

Studio Community Rate – Full or part day - £600

CBS Room Hire

Individual Meeting Rooms are hired by CBS for meetings, rehearsals, conferences, talks, presentations, exhibitions, etc., at the following rates in 2008/09:

Room Name	Full Day 9.00-23.00	Part Day 8hrs 09.00-18.00 OR 13.00-23.00	1/2 day rate 4hrs 9-13.00 / 14-18.00
Concourse	1,304	1,134	
Gallery Level 1	898	720	
Gallery Level 2	1,028	857	
Bar Level 1	824	653	
Bar level 2	1,167	997	
Brasserie	963	793	
Conductor	221	165	125
Soloist	221	165	125
Harland	221	165	125
Pirrie	331	276	185
Andrews	221	165	125

Room Name	Full Day 9.00-23.00	Part Day 8hrs 09.00-18.00 OR 13.00-23.00	1/2 day rate 4hrs 9-13.00 / 14-18.00
Ritchie	221	165	125
Boardroom	413	329	240
Lagan	473	420	260
Blackstaff	221	165	125
Farset	221	165	125
Olympic	221	165	125
Titanic	331	289	190
Canberra	375	300	150
Britannic	280	222	
Green Room	515	434	
VIP Suite	515	434	290

Exhibition Rate

Concourse Box	500
Bar 1 or Gallery 1 exhibition rate	551
Bar 2 or Gallery 2 exhibition rate	662

Miscellaneous Charges

- First 1.5 hours of get out included in basic rate of hire. Rehearsals or Get-in Hire Charge are at 50% of standard daily rates.
- Additional usage surcharge each full or part hour - Main Auditorium £380
- Studio £160
- P.R.S – up to 4.8% of Net Box Office, dependent upon music content.

4. Ticket Printing - £0.21 per ticket.
5. Hirers are limited to taking away for private sale/allocation a maximum of 20% tickets, including any complimentary/press/artiste ticket allocations.
6. Only one means of discount may apply to each booking made.
7. Studio pit seating can be provided at a cost of £130.
8. An administration fee for marketing activity booked and paid for by Belfast Waterfront is calculated as follows:
 - (i) Auditorium Events - the greater of 15% of net marketing costs or £250;
 - (ii) Studio Events – the greater of 15% of net marketing costs or £100.
9. Merchandise and/or programmes sold by Belfast Waterfront Hall Merchandising staff are subject to a 25% + VAT commission charge.
10. Merchandise may be sold by or on behalf of artistes at Belfast Waterfront Hall subject to payment of a facility fee. The fee is charged according to the size of the audience.

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

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

Both Main Auditorium/Studio

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

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

b. Seasonal Off-peak Discount Period

Applicable periods – July/August

Should an event be placed at the Hall during one of the stated off peak periods then the Hirer shall be entitled to a 25% discount in Hire charge.

VENUE PRICING 2008 - EFFECTIVE APRIL 2008 TO MARCH 2009**PLEASE NOTE ALL CHARGES ARE EXCLUSIVE OF VAT**

Room Name	Full Day 9.00-23.00	Part Day 8hrs 09.00-18.00 OR 13.00-23.00	1/2 day rate 4hrs 9-13.00/ 14-18.00
Auditorium	8,554	6,843	
Studio	1,371	1,198	
Concourse	1,304	1,134	
Gallery Level 1	898	720	
Gallery Level 2	1,028	857	
Bar Level 1	824	653	
Bar level 2	1,167	997	
Brasserie	963	793	
Conductor	221	165	125
Soloist	221	165	125
Harland	221	165	125
Pirrie	331	276	185
Andrews	221	165	125

Exhibition Rate

Concourse Box	500
Bar 1 or Gallery 1 exhibition rate	551
Bar 2 or Gallery 2 exhibition rate	662

The hire cost includes basic sound and orchestral lighting, and technical staff to provide this.
Plus duty manager and stewards.

Rehearsals or Get In

50% of Full or Part Day or Weekly Rate

Additional usage surcharge**Each full or part hour**

First 1.5 hrs. of Get Out included in basic rates of hire. Rest at additional usage surcharge

Main Aud**£380****Studio****£160****Discount structure**

Association	20%
Charity	20%
Repeat business 4yrs + @ Belfast Waterfront	25%
Series discount corporate > 4 events	20%
Venue Finding Agency	8% on request

Box Office Commission

Registered Charity	10%
Others	15%
Piano Hire (Steinway)	per day £
Piano Tuning	255
PRS	58
Advertising	3% of Net Box Office
Followspot operators	POA
Merchandising	POA
Ticket printing	£0.20 per ticket

APPENDIX 2

Room Name	Full Day 9.00-23.00	Part Day 8hrs 09.00-18.00 OR 13.00-23.00	1/2 day rate 4hrs -13.00/ 14-18.00
Ritchie	221	165	125
Boardroom	413	329	240
Lagan	473	420	260
Blackstaff	221	165	125
Farset	221	165	125
Olympic	221	165	125
Titanic	331	289	190
Canberra	375	300	150
Britannic	280	222	
Green Room	515	434	
VIP Suite	515	434	290

hold at 2007 rate

reduction

introduction of half day rate

standard increase at 5%

catering rate for the Canberra when hiring the Green room

MAIN AUDITORIUM EVENT SERVICES PRICING 08/09

Area	Equipment	Item	08/09 Per Day Standard Rate £	08/09 Per Day Community Rate £
SOUND	PA	Standard Sound Provision: Flown and ground stacked d&b loudspeakers, mixing console, FX, 4 monitor mixes controlled from FOH	INC	INC
	Sound Desk	Heritage 3000 Sound Desk	INC	INC
	Microphones	Up to 40 cabled microphones with stands + 8 DI boxes	INC	INC
	Monitor Desk	Stage Monitor Desk controlling up to 15 mixes of stage	100	50
	Radio Mics	Lapel Radio Microphone	50	25
		Hand Held Radio Microphone Beta 87	50	25
		Hand Held Radio Microphones for Q&A (x 2No.)	60 /pair	30 /pair
		Backline and Instrument hire	POA	POA
		Multi-track Sound Recording	POA	POA
		Recording	50	25
LIGHTING	Fixed Lights	Auditorium Generic House Lighting Rig (193 lamps) - Configured as 6 colour wash and many specials	INC	INC
	Lighting Desk	ETC Lighting Console	INC	INC
	Colour Change	Changing the Colour Washes of the Generic House Rig	POA	POA
	Moving Lights	Mac 2000 Automated Luminaries (10 No.) Located in House	80 /each	40 /each
		Mac 250 Krypton Automated Luminaries (12 No.)	40 /each	20 /each
	Lighting Design	Specific Design for Events	POA	POA
		Bespoke stage sets with intelligent lighting package	POA	POA
	Hazers	Dual high output quality haze units	100	50
	Followspot	Follow Spot in FOH Position (4 No.)	75 /each	37.50 /each
	FOH Gobos	Production of custom gobo from clients artwork: black and white. 1 colour. 2 colour. colour. full colour original; 95 170 210 250 300 duplicate; 75 120 140 170 210	/each	/each
		Single Gobo fitting and re-focus	50	25
		Single Gobo operation 0900-1800	50	25
		Single Gobo operation 0900-2300	100	50
A/V	Speaker Props	Trilite Lectern	INC	INC
		Top Table	INC	INC
		Laser Pointer	INC	INC
	Projection	16mm, 35mm & 70mm Kiniton film projector	INC	INC
		above film projector with dolby 5:1 surround sound	POA	POA
		Barco 5000L	350	175
		Sanyo XP41 LCD Projector 3500L	350	175
		35mm Slide Projector	25	12.5

MAIN AUDITORIUM EVENT SERVICES PRICING 08/09

Area	Equipment	Item	08/09 Per Day Standard Rate £	08/09 Per Day Community Rate £
		35mm/70mm Kiniton Cinema Projector	200	100
		Overhead Projector	10	5
	Media Players	VHS Video / DVD Player	25	12.5
		Visualiser	25	12.5
	Camera	Sony TRV950 Mini DV Camera	100	50
	Screens	12' x 9' Fastfold Screen	65	32.5
		20' x 15' Fastfold Screen	150	75
		8' x 6' Fastfold Screen	30	15
		60" Plasma Screen	150	75
		42" Plasma Screen	120	60
		Cinema Screen	150	75
	Laptop	Hi Spec Laptop	75	37.5
	Switching/Mixing	Smartcut 2 Switcher	100	50
		Vision Mixer Edirol V4	40	20
	Speaker Aids	Combo Cue 2	25	12.5
		15" LCD Monitor	15	7.5
	AV Package	AV package (ask AV Co-ordinator for detail)	900	450
		DV Transfer to DVD of Conference Video Recording	POA	POA
		Wireless presenter	15	7.5
STAGE	Conductor Stand	Wenger Conductor System	INC	INC
	Music Stands	Wenger Bravo Music Stand (80 No.)	INC	INC
	Staging Sections	8' x 8' x 2' 6" Sico Modular Staging Unit	40	20
		2m x 1m x .3m Ultralight Staging Unit	15	7.5
		1m x 1m x .3m Ultralight Staging unit	10	5
		1m x .52m x .15m Ultralight Staging unit	5	2.5
	Dance Floor	Hard Shoe Dance Floor	POA	POA
	Stage Sets	Bespoke event stage sets with intelligent lighting	POA	POA
		Rigging of Sets, Props, Scenery, etc., pre-show	POA	POA
		Power flying of Sets, Props, Scenery, etc., during performance	POA	POA
		8'x4' lite deck staging sections (various legs)	15	7.5
	Drapes	Silver bright lustre stage drapes 3m x 10m drop to show & reflect light effects (10 No.)	40 /each	20 /each
		above silver drapes to cover full stage (10 No.)	300	150
	Crowd Barrier	Stage Wide Crowd Control Barrier	200	100
	Pianos	Steinway Model D Concert Grand Piano	230	230
		Yamaha UL3 Upright Piano	50	25
		Piano Tuning	75	75

MAIN AUDITORIUM EVENT SERVICES PRICING 08/09

Area	Equipment	Item	08/09 Per Day Standard Rate £	08/09 Per Day Community Rate £
		Piano Pitch Change	POA	POA
	Stand Lights	Wenger Bravo Music Stand Light Fitting (25 No.)	5 /each	2.5 /each
POWER	Phase	200Amp 3-phase Lighting or Sound Power	INC	INC
		63Amp 3-phase Lighting Power	INC	INC
		100Amp 1-phase Sound Power	INC	INC
		63Amp 1-phase Sound Power	INC	INC
	Exhibition	13Amp Double Socket	40 /pair	20 /pair
COMMS	Prompt Desk	Stage Management Prompt Desk	INC	INC
	Headsets	Techpro Comms Set (6 No.)	INC	INC
		Techpro Comms Set - additional	25	12.5
	Phones	Internal Mobile Phone	10	5
		Analog Line Installation	50	25
		Analog Line Rental per day (calls additional)	10	5
	Broadband	BT Openzone Vouchers	POA	POA
STAFF	Duty Managers	Duty Manager & Assistant Duty Manager	INC	INC
	Box Office	Box Office Supervisor + Box Office Customer Service Assistants	INC	INC
	Front of House	Up to 24 staff: 0900-1800 or 1800-2300	INC	INC
	Technicians	Duty Stage Manager (to facilitate WFH H&S procedures), Sound Operator & Lighting Operator	INC	INC
		Additional Technical Operators to control : Sound, Lighting, Audio Visual, Stage Monitors or House Rigging	20 /hr day 40/hr o/n	20 /hr day 40/hr o/n
		Additional Technical Operator Full Day rate 0900-2300	200	200
	Production Manager	Production Management Service - Pre Event Planning & Event Day	30 /hr	30 /hr
	Stage Crew	Stage Crew to Unload & Load Equipment, Set-up & Dismantle Stage Sets, Assist in Changeovers & Set Changes	15 /hr day 30 /hr o/n	15 /hr day 30 /hr o/n
	Follow Spot Operator	Follow Spot Operator	15 /hr	15 /hr
	Porter	Portering Service	15 /hr	15 /hr
	Front of House	Staff Service	15 /hr	15 /hr
	Event Security	Security/Stewarding for Exhibitions, Stage Barrier, etc	POA	POA
	Cleaner	Cleaning Service	15 /hr	15 /hr
	NB - MINIMUM CALL OUT FOR ALL STAFF IS 4 HRS			
FIRST AID	First Aid Provision	First Aid service required for events over 500 persons NB - MINIMUM CALL OUT IS 4 HRS		

MAIN AUDITORIUM EVENT SERVICES PRICING 08/09

Area	Equipment	Item	08/09 Per Day Standard Rate £	08/09 Per Day Community Rate £
		First Aider	19.25 /hr	19.25 /hr
		Emergency Medical Technician	26.80 /hr	26.80 /hr
		State Registered Paramedic	31.40 /hr	31.40 /hr
		Ambulance	21 /hr	21 /hr
		NB - NYE; NYD; Easter Monday; May Day; July 12 & 13; Christmas Day & Boxing Day IS HOURLY RATE + 1/2		
PHOTOS / FILMING	Commercial Recording	Recording Auditorium Event for Commercial Purposes	2200	2200
	Publicity	Waterfront Hall Events & Publicity	INC	INC
		Filming	250	250
		Photoshoot	125	125
OTHER	Photocopying	A4 B&W Photocopy	10p /sheet	10p /sheet
	Display Boards	Clip System	10 /m	10 /m
	Towels	Hire	POA	POA
	Laundry	Coin operated	2 /wash	2 /wash
	Recycling	Disposal of event material	15 /tote	15 /tote
TECHNICAL DISCOUNT	Event Discounts	Technical Services Discount (applicable to hire of Waterfront Hall equipment only - not applicable to staff costs)	5 Day for 3	5 Day for 4
		Association rate	20%	n/a
		Repeat Event Annual Bookings > 4 yrs	20%	n/a
		NB - ONLY 1 DISCOUNT PER EVENT MAY APPLY		
<u>PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL OF THE ABOVE CHARGES (EXCEPT FIRST AID) ARE SUBJECT TO VAT</u>				



ULSTER HALL

PRICING POLICY 1 FEBRUARY 2009 - 31 MARCH 2010

ULSTER HALL PRICING POLICY 1 FEBRUARY 2009 - 31 MARCH 2010
ALL CHARGES ARE EXCLUSIVE OF VAT (UNDER REVIEW)

MAIN HALL	Single	Two	Three
	Session	Sessions	Sessions
Category A			
Commercial Events, Business Hires, etc.	£2,250	£2,750	£3,250
Category B			
Charitable and Voluntary bodies or Rehearsals for Category A	£1,800	£2,200	£2,600
Category C			
Rehearsals for Charitable or Voluntary Bodies	£900	£1,100	£1,300

WEEKLY RATES

Registered Charities	Monday - Friday	£10,400
Commercial Events/Business Hires	Monday - Friday	£13,000

MISCELLANEOUS CHARGES

1. Extra Charge for Standing Concert

(All Categories) £950

2. Bar Facilities

Group Bar Facilities	Category A	£250
	Category B	£150
Foyer Bar Facilities	Category A	£200
	Category B	£100
Snack Bar Facilities	Per Event	£50
Kitchen Hire	Per day (8 hours)	£160
	Per half-day (4 hours)	£80

ROOM HIRE

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

Name of Room

Meeting Room A

Per day (8 hours)	£600
Per half day (4 hours)	£400

Meeting Room B

Per day (8 hours)	£500
Per half day (4 hours)	£300

Meeting Room C

Per day (8 hours)	£300
Per half day (4 hours)	£200

The Group	Hire of Group:	
	Per day (8 hours)	£800
	Per half day (4 hours)	£500

EQUIPMENT HIRE (Per Concert)	Cost (excl. VAT)
Mulholland Organ	£300
Piano (Upright Acoustic)	£100
Piano (Steinway Grand)	£250
Piano/Organ Tuning	£75
Stage and Choral Seating	£450
Data projector	£125
TV/DVD; TV/Video	£25
Flipchart	£10

NOTES:

- Note 1 **Sessions are 09:00 to 13:00; 14:00 to 18:00; 19:00 to 23:00.**
- Note 2 First 1.5 hours of get out are included in the basic rate of hire.
- Note 3 Events are not permitted to continue after 23:00 without written permission from the Manager.
- Note 4 Additional usage surcharge for each full or part hour - £380.
- Note 5 Main Hall hire charges include the use of Dressing Rooms as available.
- Note 6 Standard Box Office Commission charged on ticket sales at 10%.
Multi-concert rates are as follows:
Up to 5 events - 10%
From 6 to 10 - 7.5%
From 11 to 19 - 6%
20 events and over - 5%
- Note 7 Ticket Printing - 21p per ticket.
- Note 8 Performing Rights Society charges - at the appropriate rate will be applied to box office receipts.
- Note 9 Merchandise and/or programmes sold by Ulster Hall staff are subject to a 25% plus VAT commission charge.
- Note 10 Merchandise may be sold by or on behalf of artistes at the Ulster Hall subject to payment of a facility fee. The fee is charged according to the size of audience, as follows:
Up to 500 £100 plus VAT
Over 500 £200 plus VAT

COMMUNITY CENTRES RATE OF CHARGE 2008/2009

Centre	Facility	£ Per Hour 7.00pm-12.00pm	£ Per Hour 9.00am-7.00pm
Ardoyne	Main Hall	5.10	3.35
	Minor Hall	1.91	1.13
	Activity Room	1.13	0.93
	Committee Room	0.82	0.62
	Kitchen	1.60	1.60
	Loft	1.29	0.98
Concorde	Main Hall	4.84	2.99
	Minor Hall	1.91	1.39
	Activity Room	1.60	1.13
	Kitchen	0.98	0.98
Dee Street	Main Hall	4.02	2.68
	1st Floor Recreation	3.30	2.11
	Activity Room	1.80	1.13
	Arts & Crafts Room	1.70	1.08
	Kitchen	0.98	0.98
	Dark Room	0.98	0.98
Divis	Main Hall	6.08	3.81
	Minor Hall	3.30	2.21
	Activity/Project Room	1.08	1.13
	Committee Room	1.08	1.13
	Kitchen	1.08	1.13
Donegall Pass	Main Hall	3.40	2.11
	Minor Hall	1.91	1.39
	Committee Room	1.39	0.82
	Kitchen	0.72	0.72
Duncain	Main Hall	4.02	2.58
	Minor Hall	1.80	1.39
	Ground Floor C.Room	1.13	0.82
	Kitchen	1.39	0.72
Finaghy	Main Hall	3.61	2.58
	Recreation Room	2.21	1.80
	Committee Room	1.13	1.13
	Office	0.62	0.62
	Kitchen	0.82	0.82
Glen Road	Main Hall	7.98	5.00
	Minor Hall	1.91	1.91
	Committee Room	1.60	1.60
	Project Room	1.60	1.60
	Activity Room	1.60	1.60
	Kitchen	1.39	1.39
	Stage	1.39	1.39

Hammer	Main Hall	5.00	3.71
	Committee Room	1.60	1.60
	Activity Room	1.60	1.55
	Kitchen	0.98	0.98
	Minor Hall	1.91	1.91
	Pitch-Junior	12.46	6.08
	Pitch-Senior	16.22	7.57
Highfield	Main Hall	6.70	4.02
	Committee Room	1.91	1.91
	Project/Activity	1.60	1.60
	Kitchen	1.60	1.60
Horn Drive	Main Hall	3.71	2.21
	Minor Hall	1.60	1.13
	Office(Back)	1.34	1.34
	Office (Small)	0.98	0.98
	Committee Room	0.98	0.98
	Kitchen	0.98	0.98
Inverary	Main Hall	6.08	4.22
	Committee Room	1.80	1.13
	Kitchen	0.62	0.62
	Activity Room	1.60	1.60
	Project Office	0.98	0.98
Knocknagoney	Main Hall	3.40	2.11
	Minor Hall	1.91	1.39
	Committee Room	1.39	0.98
	Project Room	1.39	0.98
	Kitchen	0.72	0.72
Ligoniel	Main Hall	4.22	2.68
	Minor Hall	2.21	1.80
	Committee Room	1.13	0.72
	Kitchen	0.98	0.98
	Dark Room	0.72	0.72
Markets	Main Hall	3.71	2.58
	Minor Hall	1.70	1.39
	Committee Room	1.13	1.13
	Kitchen	1.08	1.08
Morton	Main Hall	2.11	1.60
	Kitchen Downstairs	0.72	0.72
	Minor Hall	1.91	1.39
	Kitchen Upstairs	0.62	0.62
	Committee Room 2	1.39	0.72
	Committee Room 1	1.39	0.72

North Queen Street	Main Hall	5.10	3.30
	Minor Hall	3.14	2.11
	Committee Room	1.13	1.13
	Project Room 1	1.39	1.39
	Library	1.13	1.13
	Kitchen	1.55	1.55
	Project Room 2	0.98	0.98
Olympia	Main Hall	3.40	2.11
	Minor Hall	1.91	1.39
	Committee Room	1.39	0.98
	Project Room	1.39	0.98
	Kitchen	0.72	0.72
Sandy Row	Main Hall	4.69	2.68
	Activity Room	1.60	1.60
	Committee Room	0.00	1.13
	Kitchen	1.39	1.39
	Project Room	1.13	1.13
	Games Room	2.01	2.01
Suffolk	Main Hall	3.40	2.11
	Minor Hall	1.91	1.39
	Committee Room	1.39	0.98
	Project Room	1.39	0.98
	Kitchen	0.72	0.72
Whiterock	Main Hall	3.61	2.06
	Minor Hall	1.91	1.60
	Committee Room	1.13	1.13
	Club Room	0.98	0.98
	Project Room	0.98	0.98
	Kitchen	0.72	0.72
Woodvale	Main Hall	4.02	2.58
	Committee Room	0.97	0.72
	Kitchen	0.98	0.98

BELFAST CITY COUNCIL



DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

COMMUNITY SERVICES PRICING POLICY

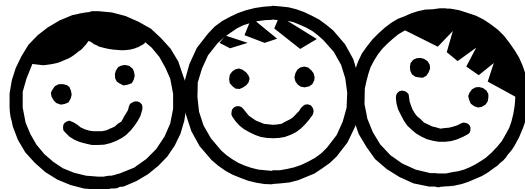
FROM 1 APRIL 2004

PRICING POLICY

The Community Centre Committee will advise on applications from Groups/Projects wishing to book the Community Centre facilities. This will be carried out in consultation with the Community Development worker. In a situation where it is not possible to meet with the 'full' Community Centre Committee the Community Development Worker will consult with honorary officers of the Centre Committee.

Criteria have been drawn up which will provide assistance on how Groups/Projects should be charged. This includes guidelines regarding consideration of applications for 'alcohol' bookings.

The Centre Committee should be aware that all income raised from rent is in fact returned to the Community Centre through the Centre budget and is therefore utilised in a productive manner.



1 **GENERAL BOOKINGS**

A **Community Development Eligibility Criteria – Free Us**

The Council recognises that an immense amount of effort, time and commitment has been given voluntarily to various projects which are of benefit to local communities.

Further, it has been agreed that as a result a range of community activities should be considered for free use. In an effort to support this view and to ensure a consistent and equitable approach the criteria outlined below should be applied in order to assess groups for free use.

Groups are required to meet all elements of the criteria.

This criteria also applies to Centre Committee Activities

Criteria:

- The Project/Group is meeting an identified need in the local area, this will include relevant sporting and cultural activities.
- The Project/Group promotes positive responses to local needs. (This means that there is no element of personal financial gain for the organisation(s) or for individuals).
- The Project/Group involves local participation.voluntary input.
- The Project/Group is not a duplication of an existing facility.
- The Project/Group is of clear benefit to the local community.
- The Project/Group is no-profit-making.
- The Project/Group is not in receipt of Grant Aid for running costs

B **Groups/Projects who do not meet the Community Development Criteria.**

1) **Groups/Projects which attract Grant Aid/have an income.**

Where groups are attracting Grant Aid on running costs or have an income, normal rate should be applied.

2) **Projects of an exclusive use**

An annual rent will be agreed based on the criteria laid down by the Council.

This will apply to projects where exclusive access to facilities is required thus preventing ad hoc use of the facility by other groups, projects and/or events.

The rent applied will reflect the actual costs and will be in accordance with the Centre opening hours.

3) **Profit Making Groups**

Profit making groups should be charged the full economic rate (ie normal rate x 4).

4) **Use by Statutory Bodies**

Where Centres are used by the Northern Ireland Housing Executive, Social Services or any other public body the full economic rate (normal rate x 4) will be charged.

The only exceptions to this policy should be determined by the Community Services Manager.

5) **Weekend Bookings & Bank /Public Holiday Bookings**

Approval must be given by the Community Services Manager for any bookings outside of normal opening hours.

If approved, bookings will be charged at the appropriate rate as per category A) or B) above. Bookings that do not qualify for Community Development free use will also be charged full staff costs for any bookings outside of normal opening hours.

Opening of the Community Centre
will also be subject to staff availability

2 **ALCOHOL BOOKINGS**

A **Licensed/Unlicensed Functions**

The Community Services Manager shall give final approval for licensed/unlicensed functions, therefore final arrangements must not be made until the booking is approved. This process may take up to six weeks.

The following requirements should be adhered to:

- A maximum of 12 licensed/unlicensed functions per year(1 April – 31 March). All applications for use of Community Centre facilities will be recommended in the final instance by the Community Centre Committee in conjunction with the Community Development Worker.
- Licensed/unlicensed functions should be confined to the Centre Committee or user groups.
- User group applications can only be considered where nominees from the user groups are represented on the Centre Committee.
- Where the Centre Committee agrees to recommend such bookings the centre Committee will be required to nominate two representatives from the Centre Committee to attend, oversee and monitor such events. Names of the Centre Committee representatives should be supplied to the Community Development Worker.
- Rent for Centre Committee licensed/unlicensed functions as well as those user group functions recommended by the Centre Committee and approved by the Community Services Manager will be charged half rate. However, where the premises have not been vacated on time the full rate plus staff costs to the nearest hour after will be charged. Also functions will be charged the full rate plus staff costs for each hour, or part thereof, after 1.00am.
- Payment should preferably be made at the time of booking but must be received no later than the evening of the event.
- Event/Project organisers will be held liable for any damage to Belfast City Council facilities or equipment. In the event of such damage no further bookings will be accepted until payment has been recouped.

B Closed Group Alcohol Bookings

Applications may be considered occasionally from Groups which hold a current block booking.

These types of events are normally seasonal and one off in nature and the group must ensure and demonstrate to the Community Development Worker, and the Centre Committee that there is no admission to the general public and no element of fund-raising.

The Centre Committee, in conjunction with the Community Development Worker, will consider applications of this nature and make a recommendation in the first instance.

The normal rental rate for the Group will apply.

The Community Services Manager shall give final approval for closed group alcohol bookings, therefore final arrangements must not be made until the booking is approved. This process may take up to six weeks.

A Right of appeal

A right of appeal to any decision in regard to the implementation of this pricing policy will be to the Head of Recreation and Community Development.

Council Responsibility

Nothing in the Pricing Policy shall be taken as prejudicing the right of the Council to take whatever action it might consider necessary in the interests of the protection of the Centre Staff and the Centre.



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Belfast City Council

Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	Waterfront Hall Cleaning Contract
Date:	21 February 2008
Reporting Officer:	Marie-Thérèse McGivern Director of Development, ext. 3470
Contact Officers:	Tim Husbands, Managing Director, Waterfront Hall, ext. 1400 Judith Owens, House Manager, ext. 1307 Sean Glynn, Finance and Administration Manager, Ext. 1404

Relevant Background Information

The current cleaning contract for the Waterfront Hall is due to expire on 30 April 2008.

Accordingly, approval is now sought from Members to undertake a procurement exercise to secure a new cleaning contract for the Hall. In order to complete the tendering exercise it will be necessary to extend the duration of the current contract for a further three months.

The new contract will be for an initial three-year period with an option to renew for a further two years.

Full details of the tender documentation and requirements are available on request from Judith Owens, House Manager.

Key Issues

As with the current contract, the scope of the new contract is event-led and will cover all internal surface areas within the Hall, with the exception of the areas occupied by Mount Charles Catering Limited.

A panel, comprising the Waterfront Hall's House Manager, Finance and Administration Manager and the Council's Procurement Manager will carry out an analysis of the submissions received, based on quality and cost considerations, to determine the most advantageous tender for the Council.

The successful company will be required to enter into a formal contract with the Council to be drawn up by Legal Services Department.

Resource Implications

Financial

The cost of a contracted cleaning service for the Hall is included within the venue's annual revenue estimates for 2008/09 and future years.

The total annual value of the contract is estimated at approximately £210,000.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee:

- 1) Gives approval to commence the tendering exercise;
- 2) Gives approval to extend the current contract for a period of three months until 31 July 2008 to enable the tendering exercise to be completed; and
- 3) Delegate authority to the Director of Development, in consultation with the Chair to accept a tender, within the Waterfront Hall's revenue budget, for the cleaning of the Waterfront Hall,



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	Branding Belfast
Date:	21 February 2008
Reporting Officer:	Marie-Thérèse McGivern, Director of Development, ext. 3470
Contact Officer:	Shirley McCay, Head of Economic Initiatives, ext. 3459

Relevant Background Information

To update Development Committee on progress towards developing a brand for Belfast and the proposed roll-out of the new brand.

Key Issues

New Belfast Brand

The process behind the creation of a new brand for Belfast commenced in June 2007 with the appointment of Lloyd Northover, international brand consultants. It was clear at this stage that the formal “Smiley Face” logo developed in 1997 was largely redundant. Many new logos had been developed on an ad hoc basis which had led to multiple messages being given out about Belfast. In an increasingly competitive city market it was agreed that the time had come to renew the Belfast brand. The agreed objectives and activities and key milestones to date are set out in **Appendix 1**.

Visioning Phase

At the crucial ‘visioning’ stage all the learnings from Primary Research and work sessions were coalesced into 3 options for a vision for Belfast - the basis of the new Brand – that is both inspiring and authentic, rooted in reality but representing people’s aspirations for the city. These options were explored in terms of developing a unique proposition for the city, a set of values and qualities associated with it that people think are important and to be preserved/promoted.

The distinctiveness, value, credibility and sustainability of these options (for all audiences) were tested through further interviews, steering group and reference group sessions, a Belfast City Councillor briefing session and wider reaching activities including a web based survey and a programme of research for external audiences (from visitor and investor markets). The following proposition is the distillation of the central message which will be conveyed through the brand.

Proposition

A unique history and a future full of promise have come together to create a city bursting with energy and optimism. This is Belfast’s moment.

The time is right for us to create a thriving, vibrant city. Bringing together our strong sense of identity, our resilience and enterprise, and our renowned warmth and wit, we are seizing this opportunity with both hands. Proud of our heritage, we embrace the future to build an even better Belfast, providing a warm welcome for visitors, an attractive, exciting environment for investors and a great place to live.

This is the core message for the brand, the foundation and framework for further development.

Creative Development Phase

This is the current phase in the brand process its main purpose being to create the visuals for future campaigns. Options for the creative visual and verbal expression of the brand will be explored and tested in further presentations and work sessions including steering, reference group and Belfast City Councillor meetings and focus groups with the local community.

At the same time, the practical implications of the new brand will be thoroughly explored across a broad range of possible physical, cultural and policy manifestations for how the brand will affect people's real, tangible experience of the city – the 'brand experience' that builds over time to help attain the vision of Belfast.

Tangible outputs of the project will be tools, resources and documentation that enable the successful and effective implementation of the new Belfast City Brand, including:

- Brand assets (logo, proposition, "look and feel", imagery and verbal identity, etc.)
- Brand architecture – including using the new brand with existing brands in the city and throughout Northern Ireland
- Visual branding guidelines
- Brand Experience documentation and report
- Illustrated (in pictures and words) possible applications of the branding – web, collateral, signage etc

The creative will be brought to committee for final sign off in March.

Suggested Timeline of Creative Development Phase

12 and 13th Feb	Focus Groups presented with creative options.
26th Feb	Reference Group (focus Groups with Belfast City Councillors)
March	Brand Creative to Committee
Feb and March	Business/investors breakfasts/internal audiences briefed on brand proposition, vision and visual identity.
April	Launch in Belfast Waterfront Hall (tbc)

Brand Roll Out Phase

In the short term, the brand roll out phase will take the following shape:

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Stakeholder</u>
Brand influences the creative of Belfast City Council communications and marketing materials, web, street dressing etc	BCC
Brand adoption by key local businesses	Private Sector
Brand adoption by key local media	Press, radio and TV (Belfast based)
Brand adoption by venues, events, festivals	Arts sector
Brand adoption in all tourism marketing and communications	BVCB
Brand adoption by Belfast retail sector	BCTC and BCCM
Brand adoption by Belfast educational organisations	UUJ, QUB, BMC
Brand adoption by community organisations	APBs, NICVA

BVCB have now commenced work on the roll-out of the brand. A sum of £250,000 has been earmarked in the 07/08 budget to support this process and bring the brand to life.

It is essential having come this far that we proceed to maximise the value of the branding. To realise this, and based on good practice elsewhere, it is essential that the Brand launch and rollout is carefully planned. The budget would cover a number of elements of the brand unveiling:

- Brand launch event aimed to maximise publicity and interest for brand. This event is planned for the Waterfront Hall but will also involve other sites throughout the City on the day and following on in the year. £25,000.00
- Development of promotional materials which will be designed from the logo. It is essential that the logo lends itself to marketing which in turn can produce its own income stream through sales in a number of venues across the City. £15,000.00
- The inclusion of the logo in all materials and networks where it can be placed. This includes Council controlled publications and events, and BVCB/BCCM channels. We are currently seeking further endorsements and use of the logo through wider channels in business, retail, education, the community and other sectors. £25,000.00
- The production of 2 new advertisements aimed primarily at the tourism market for use over the next year and beyond. It is intended that these advertisements will set new standards for the promotion of Belfast and so require higher funding than has been normal. £130,000.00

- Showcase promo for use in promotional and information work with citizens aimed to instil pride and give information on what the City has to offer. £25,000.00
- Showcase promo for use with business/investment sector detailing the new Belfast and the advantages of development/investment in the City. £25,000.00
- General DVD for distribution. £10,000.00

Should the next stage be successful and the Committee, and subsequently Council, approve the new logo then a real opportunity for impact would be to have the launch scheduled in late April just prior to the US International Conference in May 2008.

The logo itself will attract interest and it is likely that additional funding both direct and indirect may be attracted from a number of sources in relation to wider impact. Discussions are taking place with a wide range of sectors and organisations on this matter.

Resource Implications

Financial

£250,000 (already within budget).

Recommendations

Members are asked:

- note progress of process;
- approve funding as outlined for brand of £250k; and
- agree in principle to the launch of new brand at end of April 2008.

Documents Attached

Appendix A – Agreed Objectives and Methodology, Summary of Activity and Key Milestones.

Appendix 1

Aim

The aim of the project is to develop a multi faceted umbrella brand which represents collective pride in the city's past and its ambition for the future and under which all those with an interest in the future prosperity of Belfast and Northern Ireland can comfortably accommodate themselves

Objectives

The key objectives of the projects are to:

- to develop a new brand which will **reinforce** Belfast's position as:
 - o a place for **companies** to locate and grow their business
 - o a place which **attracts talent** to meet the **skills** needs of our key sectors and organisations
 - o a magnet for leading **research, education and innovation**
 - o a location with a high **quality of life** for its citizens
 - o a quality leisure, business, **tourism** and conference destination
 - o a **confident and contemporary city** with a unique history and built heritage
- develop an integrated brand image for Belfast that creates a framework within which all those involved in marketing the city can operate and at the same time **add value to other city marketing**, creating synergy and avoiding duplication or competition between city marketing budgets
- develop a brand image to **direct the city's marketing** by understanding how our city is viewed by its key sectors
- discover how various markets and sectors perceive the city. This will show its **strengths and weaknesses** and allow the city to build on its highlights, develop its strengths and challenge its weaknesses
- to develop a brand image with a **range of messages** for different sector that will encourage others to use the same look and feel and style and benefit from co-ordinated integrated marketing
- develop a brand that encompasses a vision for the city that can be used to inform investment, policy and operational decisions about Belfast.

Summary of Activity and Key milestones

Phase /date	Status	output
Secondary Research June-July 07	complete	<p>Analysis of relevant data using the resources available from partner agencies to inform the brand development process</p> <p>Delivery of a report summarising key learning and output of research</p>
Competitive benchmarking June- July 07	complete	<p>Undertaking a competitive positioning analysis to establish Belfast's relative position in the marketplace. This will give Belfast's strengths and weaknesses in key sectors, including leisure tourism, conferences, inward investment, leisure and retail</p> <p>Identify a competitive set of city regions in each sector against which Belfast should benchmark its performance</p> <p>Assessment of the way Belfast is currently represented in the marketplace inc visual styles and promotional language- how the current family of Belfast brands actually works</p> <p>Delivery of a report including a competitive set analysis</p>
Product Awareness June- Aug	complete	<p>Lloyd Northover undertaking series of FAM/orientation visits to experience Belfast.</p> <p>Walking, taxi and bus tours, review of literature</p>
Administration/ management and decision making	ongoing	
Setting up of working group June- Jan 08	Complete and on going	<p>Working group established consisting of BVCB and BCC weekly conference calls to Lloyd Northover. Oversees the administration of the contact and the management of the process</p>
Setting up of Steering Group June- Jan 08	<p>Complete and on going</p> <p>June – introduction and process</p> <p>July- dissemination of key words and concepts</p> <p>Sept- 5 propositions sense checked and distilled to three by LN following feedback</p>	<p>Meets at key milestones to make decision on the way forward for the brand and receives progress reports from LN.</p> <p>Sense checks the information going to the Reference group.</p> <p>Consistent viewpoint through out the project</p> <p>Steering group members also spokespeople and brand champions.</p> <p>Identifies and develops brand values</p> <p>Development of a final tested concept with creative</p>

Establishment of Reference Group June- Jan 08	June – introduction and process July- dissemination of key words and concepts Sept- 5 propositions sense checked and distilled to three following group feedback Dec- results of web survey and recommendation for one proposition Feb 08- creative development of proposition	The reference groups are a group of key decision makers and stakeholders (as well as potential funders) who have an important role to play in the execution of the Belfast brand. The role primarily is to : Test brand concepts and values Test and develop the chosen concept Buy into set of brand guidelines for implementation of the brand Act as brand champions
Belfast City Council Oct- Jan 08	Series of one to one briefings with Councillors Development Committee (Nov) Officers briefing Via 4 workshops And briefing 13 th Feb	Brand spokespeople, engagement Engagement/ideas Engagement /ideas Decision on the final recommendation and the creative Engagement/ideas
Primary Research Local June- Sept	Workshops, one to one interviews, focus groups, telephone interviews with key sectoral representatives of tourism, government, local government, youth, community, culture, press arts, media	Develop and deliver a programme of research amongst partners in target sectors of tourism, businesses and citizens Analyse the research outputs and develop and evaluate a set of brand positions for Belfast which reflect the diverse stakeholder groups and which provides the material from which the elements of the brand may be constructed
Community Consultation July - Oct	2 workshops Consultation via APBs and reference group Council officer consultation	Encourage engagement by community sector and to sense check ideas/propositions
Press ongoing	Press briefing (Aug) Via Reference group PR- series of pics and	Encourage engagement: - hosting the web based survey - publicising the process

	press releases Press one to one meetings (BVCB/BCC)	- brand spokespeople/devt brand ambassadors
Out of state primary research Oct	(2 each city) October 23rd - Glasgow October 24th - Barcelona October 30th - Manchester October 31 - Dublin	Perceptions feedback Prepare and test concepts feedback on propositions feedback on creative
Market testing In and out of state 10th Oct – 8th Nov	Web based survey to test the 3 brand propositions distributed widely via (see attached)	Analysis of the web based survey and development of one brand concept
Brand development Jan-March 08	Creative development	Set of ideas, values, architecture inc tone of voice, typefaces, visuals and colour palette Branding implementation guidelines
Feb and March	Focus groups	Creative focus groups with all major stakeholder groupings (7 groups)
And Brand roll out April 08- ongoing Launch		See ideas attached

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Belfast City Council

Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	Tourism Development Update
Date:	21 February 2008
Reporting Officer:	Marie-Therese McGivern, Director of Development, ext. 3470
Contact Officer:	Shirley McCay, Head of Economic Initiatives, ext. 3459 Pier Morrow, Acting Tourism Development Manager, ext. 3585

Relevant Background Information

Community Tourism Update

Members will be aware that a city-wide application was submitted under the Belfast Regeneration Office Action Plan bid to co-ordinate, support and implement a programme of community tourism initiatives in each of the Area Partnership Board localities. Issues developed as a result of changes in personnel in a number of organisations and new officers having to lead on the project without full knowledge of the project. This resulted in numerous time consuming queries and reclarifications. In addition there was a lack of response back from some of the APBs thereby delaying progression.

A meeting was held on 29 January 2008 with BRO and the Area Partnership Boards to discuss what is realistically deliverable by the end of March 2008. Each APB indicated its expected outputs and at this time we are waiting for word back from BRO to confirm or otherwise that the money is going to be approved with a final letter of offer.

Evening Economy - Café Culture

The adoption of cafe culture by the hospitality sector has been curtailed due to the 1993 Obstruction Order enforced by the Department of Regional Development. With the implementation of smoke free legislation in 2007 it was recognised that the provision of outdoor seating would become a bigger issue. Belfast City Council's Tourism Unit took the lead in 2006 by establishing a Cafe Culture Steering Group which included representatives from the DRD, DSD, the NI Licensed Trade Association, Belfast Vintners, NI Hotels Federation, BCCM, BVCB, officers from BCC Regulatory Services, Planning and Environmental Health Unit.

In July 2006 the then Chair of BCC Tourism and Promotion of Belfast Sub-Committee, Councillor Dodds, wrote to the Minister for DRD asking that the Roads (NI) Order 1993 be re-examined with a view to amending it to accommodate café-style culture and in particular in anticipation of the impact of the introduction of smoke free legislation. No reply was received and a number of attempts to get feedback were to no avail. It is now a matter of urgency that this be progressed and a meeting with the relevant local ministers be sought to discuss it.

Conference Subvention

At a meeting of the Tourism and Promotion of Belfast Sub-Committee held in February 2000 it was agreed to adopt a conference subvention policy for securing and supporting

national and international conferences in Belfast. Four requests have been received and the proposals have been assessed against the funding criteria and they meet the category for financial support as detailed below:

(1) Many Core & Reconfigurable Supercomputing Conference 1-3 April 2008 at Queen's University

It is anticipated that the economic impact from this conference will be £120,000. Funding of £500 is recommended towards this conference.

(2) 2nd European Mediation Conference 10-12 April 2008 at Waterfront Hall and Hilton Hotel

It is anticipated that the economic impact from this conference will be £223,000. Funding of £1,000 is recommended towards this conference.

(3) ARMO Global Conference 7-9 September 2008 at Waterfront Hall

It is anticipated that the economic impact from this conference will be £243,500. Funding of £1,000 is recommended towards this conference.

Resource Implications

Conference Subvention

£2,500 for 3 conferences.

Recommendations

Community Tourism

Members note the above update.

Evening Economy – Café Culture

That the Minister of the Department of Regional Development and the Minister for the Department of Social Development meet with a deputation from the Committee to progress the matter.

Conference Subvention

Funding of £500 is recommended to the Many Core & Reconfigurable Supercomputing Conference 1-3 April 2008 at Queen's University.

Funding of £1,000 is recommended to the 2nd European Mediation Conference 10-12 April 2008 at Waterfront Hall and Hilton Hotel.

Funding of £1,000 is recommended to the ARMO Global Conference 7-9 September 2008 at Waterfront Hall

Key to Abbreviations

APBs – Area Partnership Boards

DRD – Department of Regional Development

DSD – Department of Social Development

BCCM – Belfast City Centre Management

BVCB - Belfast Visitor and Convention Bureau

ARMO – Alliance of Rotational Moulding Organisations



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	Economic Development Update
Date:	21 February 2008
Reporting Officer:	Marie-Thérèse McGivern Director of Development, ext. 3470
Contact Officer:	Shirley McCay, Head of Economic Initiatives, ext.3459 Lisa Martin, Economic Development Manager, ext. 3427

Relevant Background Information

Co-financing for European Social Fund (ESF) applications

At the January 2008 meeting of the Development Committee, members received an update on European funding. They were reminded of council's successful application for funding from the European Social Fund (ESF). It aims to provide training to help those not currently in employment to find jobs within the hospitality and retail sectors. ESF projects are 65% funded and project promoters are expected to find the 35% co-financing from other sources.

Belfast City Council has been approached to provide co-financing to a number of other organisations who have made applications under the European Social fund programme.

Ulster Community Investment Trust (UCIT) Social Economy Event

At the December 2007 meeting of the Development Committee, members asked that consideration of a report on the proposal for sponsorship of the UCIT All-Island Social Enterprise Trade Show be deferred for consideration at a future date.

Collaboration with Northern Ireland Science Park (NISP)

Members will be aware that the Northern Ireland Science Park (NISP) delivered a range of activities last year which were co-financed by Belfast City Council. NISP has now submitted a proposal for additional activity in the next financial year and has asked Belfast City Council to make a financial contribution towards this work.

BITES (Business Improvements through Environmental Solutions) Tender: Request for delegated authority to accept tender

At the 8 August 2007 Development Committee, members approved an action plan for the development of the environmental industries in the city. This included the second phase of a programme to support business improvements through environmental solutions (BITES). A tender for the development and delivery of this programme was issued in January 2007.

Shopmobility – request for support

Members will be aware that the Shopmobility scheme has been supported by council since 1995 as part of its local economic development plan. A proposal for financial support of £25,000 for the current year of operation has been submitted for consideration.

Key Issues

Co-financing for European Social Fund (ESF) applications

The European Social Fund (ESF) provides funding for training measures to help people get into employment and enhance their career prospects. In October 2007, a call for projects under Priority 1 of the Northern Ireland ESF Programme – Helping People into Employment – was launched. The call closed in November 2007.

A number of organisations approached council to ask for support in advance of making their submissions. These were:

- LEAP (north Belfast): project to enhance employer and client engagement in north Belfast with a view to increasing employability of local people. The project aims to place around 300 local people in employment over the three year period of the programme.
- Stepping Stones (east Belfast): project to enhance employer and client engagement in east Belfast, focusing on addressing the needs of small businesses. The project aims to place around 220 local people in employment over the three year period of the programme.

Both organisations are part of the Citywide Employability Consortium (CEC) which has been supported by Belfast City Council since 2006.

These organisations have now been informed that their applications have been approved, pending economic appraisal by Department for Employment and Learning (DEL).

The financial support requested from Belfast City Council as co-financing is:

- LEAP: £48,684 per annum
- Stepping Stones: £32,665 per annum.

In the previous year, the funding allocated to each of these organisations as part of their work with the CEC was:

- LEAP: £48,506
- Stepping Stones: £42,500.

It is proposed that any co-financing offered to these ESF projects by Council would replace any future Council contribution to the CEC work for both organisations.

Belfast City Council has also been approached by Women in Business to co-finance a "Women Returners Network". This group will provide services such as e-mentoring, discussion forum and networking opportunities, work placement opportunities and newsletters to encourage women back into the labour market. The projects aims to:

- Direct 110 women to further course in enterprise/business start-up
- Direct 110 women to further educational courses
- Help 55 women find employment.

Women in Business have asked for co-financing from Belfast City Council of £30,419 in year 1. It is understood that they also intend to approach four other councils for co-funding, namely Newtownabbey Borough Council, Ards Borough Council, Castlereagh Borough Council and Lisburn City Council.

To date, Belfast City Council has not engaged in female-only business support activity given that this has not emerged as a priority within the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) research and it was an issue that had traditionally been led by Invest NI and organisations such as Women in Business.

Members should be aware that, given that this ESF is funded by the EU, any agreement to co-finance these projects will preclude the draw-down of monies from DETI (i.e. the money for co-financing will have to come from rates monies only).

Members are asked to consider co-financing the first year of the three projects as follows:

- LEAP: £48,684, providing that specific targets are met
- Stepping Stones: £32,665, providing that specific targets are met
- Women in Business: £30,419, on condition that the other named councils also approve co-financing of the project to an agreed level.

It has been confirmed with DEL that agreement to co-finance these schemes will have to be renewed on an annual basis. If Members are to agree on co-financing support for all three projects the total contribution will be £111,768.

Ulster Community Investment Trust (UCIT) Social Economy Event

Members are reminded that UCIT had requested sponsorship of £14,000 from Belfast City Council for its All-Island trade fair and conference in June 2008. Other confirmed sponsors include:

- International Fund for Ireland (IFI) – sponsorship of £43,000
- Co-operation Ireland – sponsorship of £43,000
- Invest NI – sponsorship of £12,500.

UCIT have asked Belfast City Council to contribute £14,000 towards the event. The funding will be used to cover costs of venue hire (St George's Market) and the gala dinner (Belfast Castle).

The event will be attended by up to 200 exhibitor delegates, 30 buyers, 60 statutory representatives and around 300 additional operators within the social economy sector in Ireland. It is expected that up to 40 of the exhibitor delegates will be from Belfast.

Members are asked to agree to sponsorship of this event, up to a value of £14,000.

Collaboration with Northern Ireland Science Park (NISP)

NISP has submitted a funding proposal to Belfast City Council to support the development and delivery of four programmes aimed at consolidating the knowledge industry in the city. A copy of the proposal is attached as **Appendix 1**. The key components are:

- Springboard – a year-round, flagship programme that assists technology-based companies and entrepreneurs refine their business and financial strategies through a group mentoring process
- Frameworks – a series of 23 half-day workshops targeted at entrepreneurs and the research community. Content is delivered by experts from service providers (law firms, IP, accounting). Workshops are delivered onsite at the universities.
- Evening Series – Case studies of successful ventures from inside and outside of the region or leading innovation breakthroughs from established European

- technology companies delivered at the Innovation Centre
- 25K award – continuation and expansion of the successful programme to stimulate action around the identification of the most promising ideas from our research base

Each of these components is interrelated and, when combined, they create a rounded package of support for the most promising knowledge-based research or early stage ventures.

Belfast City Council support will be used towards Belfast-based companies and will predominantly cover costs related to the Frameworks initiative. However it is accepted that there is a win-win situation if all initiatives can be offered as a package to target businesses.

It is therefore recommended that members agree to the allocation of up to £60,000 towards the development and delivery of the NISP-CONNECT model, pending confirmation of additional support from the other identified public and private sector sources.

BITES (Business Improvements through Environmental Solutions) tender: request for delegated authority to accept tender

The deadline for submission of tenders for the delivery of this programme was 29 January 2007. In order to expedite the procurement process, members are requested to delegate authority to the Director of Development, in consultation with the Chair of the Development Committee, to accept the most advantageous tender for the works, within the overall available budget.

Shopmobility – request for support

Shopmobility currently operates from five locations within the city and, with the opening of its new location in Victoria Square, this will increase to six. It is also working to extend its facilities to a number of other venues including Belfast City Council parks, Belfast Zoo and the local hospitals. The service currently provides 44 scooters, 3 electric wheelchairs and 86 wheelchairs at events and venues all across Belfast.

The charity's annual operating budget is around £200,000. Income to support the scheme includes:

- Department for Regional Development - £75,000
- Belfast Trust - £26,000
- Environment and Heritage Service - £24,000
- Department for Social Development - £25,000
- Wheelchair hire - £6,000
- Private/other income – £20,000

Members are asked to approve a request for £25,000 funding to support the current year's activities. This will cover costs relating to ongoing development as well as marketing and promotional activity.

Resource Implications

ESF applications:

- £48,684 towards LEAP project
- £32,665 towards Stepping Stones project
- £30,419 towards Women in Business project.

Ulster Community Investment Trust (UCIT) Social Economy Event: Request for

£14,000 sponsorship.

Collaboration with Northern Ireland Science Park (NISP): financial contribution of £60,000 towards programme delivery requested.

Shopmobility: Request for £25,000 funding.

Recommendations

It is recommended that members:

- Agree to co-finance the LEAP ESF application up to a maximum of £48,684 for one year, providing that specific targets are met and as a replacement for any contribution towards CEC activity by LEAP
- Agree to co-finance the Stepping Stones ESF application up to a maximum of £32,665 for one year, providing that specific targets are met and as a replacement for any contribution towards CEC activity by Stepping Stones
- Agree to co-finance the Women in Business ESF application up to a maximum of £30,419, on condition that the other named councils also agree to co-finance the project
- Agree to sponsorship of the UCIT Social Economy trade event, up to a maximum of £14,000
- Agree to the allocation of up to £60,000 towards the development and delivery of the NISP-CONNECT programme, pending confirmation of additional support from the other identified public and private sector sources
- Give delegated authority to the Director of Development, in consultation with the Chair of the Development Committee, to accept the most advantageous tender for the BITES programme, within the overall available budget
- Approve a request for £25,000 funding to support the current year's activities for Shopmobility.

Key to Abbreviations

ESF	- European Social Fund
UCIT	- Ulster Community Investment Trust
NISP	- Northern Ireland Science Park
BITES	- Business Improvements Through Environmental Solutions
LEAP	- Local Enterprise Action Programme
CEC	- Citywide Employability Consortium
DEL	- Department for Employment and Learning
GEM	- Global Entrepreneurship Monitor
DETI	- Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment

Documents Attached

Appendix 1: Northern Ireland Science Park – NISP CONNECT proposal

Appendix 1

Northern Ireland Science Park: proposal to Belfast City Council for development of NISP-CONNECT: 2008-2009

Background

NISP CONNECT will act as the catalyst between the region's entrepreneurs, research institutions, investors, technology corporations and service providers by linking entrepreneurs with the resources they need for success. The programmes will create the networks which break down social and professional hierarchies and support knowledge transfer. While our role is not to pick winners, the end result is in an increase in the quantity of science and technology businesses and their chances of success.

CONNECT is an internationally-recognised model which was created in San Diego. It was built upon a model of networking and business assistance that has been pivotal to the growth of hundreds of innovative technology companies in the region, both in IT and the Life Sciences. Since 1985, CONNECT has assisted in the formation and development of over 1,200 companies and is widely regarded as the United States' most successful regional economic development program. CONNECT-supported companies have been twice as likely as other entrepreneurial companies to be successful and in business after five years. Global CONNECT seeks to work with regions around the world to understand and further develop their innovation systems. The Global CONNECT membership network then applies the principles of the regional CONNECT model to an international matrix of regions and companies to achieve similar benefits on a global scale. Today the CONNECT model has been replicated in Scotland, Yorkshire, Midlands UK, Sweden, New Zealand, Jordan, Seattle, Estonia, Norway, Denmark and Taiwan.

NISP CONNECT will be a member and active participant in the Global CONNECT network and will engage Global CONNECT to consult and help tailor operations and services during the start-up phase of operations.

Programme Overview

NISP CONNECT is a business accelerator that helps to customise regional and inter-regional support for the most promising knowledge-based research or early stage ventures in Northern Ireland.

There are four main themes of activity:

Education	Collaboration
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For Entrepreneurs: inexpensive half day seminars and workshops on the issues most critical to new venture creation. Targeted at scientists and engineers, content is delivered by leading service providers (law firms, accounting firms, etc) Case Study Presentations: Leading edge content for the whole community that the CEOs of any organization in the region would want to attend. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assisting technology based companies and entrepreneurs refine their business and financial strategies through a group mentoring process. Helping ventures to become "investor ready" Accessibility of experienced entrepreneurs as "role models" helps to break down "I could do that" gap All at no cost to the entrepreneur
Facilitation	Recognition
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Events for knowledge transfer between the research community, the business community and investor community. Events to promote the region's promising ventures that require funding Events showcasing leading edge research from the local community or leading edge successes from the global community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Celebrating innovation success stories within the region helps to showcase what is possible to up and coming entrepreneurs Providing valuable PR coverage for products that have a chance at success

Additional key elements:

- Knowledge Industry focus: Knowledge Industry innovations have the greatest potential commercial value and the greatest potential returns to investors and the wider economy in job creation and higher wages.
- The quality of event content is key: It is accepted that business networking is a crowded arena. However NISP considers that the key part of CONNECT's value to the individual or corporate user is the quality of the content they experience or learn as the result of attending a CONNECT event. Collaboration programmes create new relationships and trust between the experts which further enhances creativity and innovation
- Available to anyone: Services will be available to anyone - public or private sector, research or industry - with a high growth venture or idea as long as their venture will be based in Northern Ireland.
- Create the eco-system: Part of the role is to help to build and cultivate the regional innovation eco-system: connecting people and ideas that lead them to challenge accepted norms or explore the borders of their respective fields of expertise.
- Failure is a positive metric: if we are to create an admired innovation system in Northern Ireland we have to fully embrace failure as a positive outcome.

Key differentiators between NISP CONNECT and the region's incumbent programmes:

- Independent organisation: NISP CONNECT is the private sector's vehicle to engage in the process of new venture creation. This support is channelled through the programmes and directed to the region's most promising ventures
- Pro-bono basis: private sector involvement depends on altruism and the understanding that everyone will benefit if we create an environment that provides ventures from our region with a competitive advantage over ventures from other regions.
- The Wisdom of crowds: recognising that each venture we support is different, support will be customised leveraging the virtual organisation of between 500-1000 domain expert volunteers rather than static panels of "expert mentors".
- Inter-regional networks: as part of the Global CONNECT network we will leverage relationships from other regions to benefit ventures from NI

Programmes

Going forward, we immediately focus on and deliver four key programmes on a year round basis:

- Springboard (formerly Enzyme) – a year-round, flagship programme that assists technology-based companies and entrepreneurs refine their business and financial strategies through a group mentoring process.
- Frameworks (formerly Innovonet) – a series of 23 half-day workshops targeted at entrepreneurs and the research community. Content is delivered by experts from service providers (law firms, IP, accounting). Key themes are demystifying the Venture capital process or intellectual property basics. Workshops are delivered onsite at the Universities which will further promote NISP to the local audience.
- Evening Series – Case studies of successful ventures from inside and outside of the region or leading innovation breakthroughs from established European technology companies delivered at the Innovation Centre

- 25K award – continuation and expansion of the successful programme to stimulate action around the identification of the most promising ideas from our research base

Springboard (Formerly Enzyme)

Springboard provides free assistance for knowledge industry companies in all stages of development, including concept, start-up, challenge and opportunity. Entrepreneurs accepted into the program spend 3 to 8 weeks in coaching sessions with one of NISP CONNECT's Entrepreneurs in Residence. Upon completion of this process, the entrepreneur is invited to make a presentation of their business model to a select group of experts. This group will usually include a venture capitalist, seasoned entrepreneur with domain expertise, accountant, corporate and patent attorneys, marketing professional, and an executive from a successful company in the same industry. Experts will also be drawn from insurance, real estate, human resources, and other areas as needed. The panel of experts is tailored to the individual needs of each company. The goals of the panel presentation are to provide the entrepreneur with candid recommendations for the refinement of their business plan and to help identify next steps to achieve the company's goals. Following the panel presentation, the entrepreneur meets with their Entrepreneur in Residence to identify next steps, incorporate the feedback from the panel, and implement a strategic plan for the next six to twelve months.

The Springboard programme operates in parallel with the halo Business Angel programme, with Springboard clients being referred to halo and vice-versa. Springboard provides investor readiness support to potential halo participants.

Targets for 2008/09

- 100 Leading business people supporting the network
- 6 Springboard meetings with leading entrepreneurs
- 5 Entrepreneurs in Residence
- 20 Advisory, mentoring and business development meetings
- 6 Investment Ready Presentation Training

Evening Series

The purpose of this series is to educate entrepreneurs in an informative and entertaining environment in front of adverse audience of Northern Ireland's business leaders and technologists, as well as capital and service providers. Content will be topical and leading edge and the event will be open to anyone which will create a first class networking environment. The most popular events will become annual.

Example titles:

- The next big thing
- Pitchfest: a competition
- International corporation
- MIT Enterprise Forum: Venture backed company's live issues

Targets 2008/2009 for each event

- 4 events
- 50 Participating
- 70% Satisfaction
- 350 Distribution List.

Frameworks

Entrepreneur workshops offer content-rich, targeted educational programs that help young to mid-staged companies build a business around their promising science or technology. Subject matter expertise is provided by knowledgeable top-tier professionals. Program attendees gain valuable business vocabulary and tactical skills, and underwriters gain credibility with our future business leaders.

Entrepreneurs attending the workshops include technology and biotech founders, CEOs and top management, and the workshops will attract people from a wide range of disciplines including technology, communications, software, life sciences and business services.

The Workshop program includes 23 subjects in four categories: Business Development Basics, Funding and Finance Basics, Intellectual Property Basics and Operations Basics:

Business Development Basics	Funding and Finance Basics	Intellectual Property Basics	Operations Basics
1. Getting started legally 2. Commercializing Innovation 3. Human Resources 4. Compensation 5. Governance 6. Product Development 7. Marketing 8. Branding and Sales 9. Employment Law 10. Regulatory & Reimbursement Issues	11. Government Grants Overview 12. Start-up Accounting and Tax Issues 13. Preparing for Investment 14. The Art of Term Sheet 15. Partnerships and Alliances-Technology 16. Partnerships and Alliances-Life Science 17. Mergers & Acquisitions 18. Licensing-Life Science 19. Licensing-Technology	20. IP Overview 21. Building your IP Portfolio-Life Science 22. Building your IP Portfolio-Technology	23. Selecting and Managing Production Facilities

The incumbent InnovaNET network consists of over 300 members of the local business and academic network. Feedback is strongly positive from events.

Targets for 2008/09

- 8 Entrepreneur workshops

For each event: -

- 15 Participating
- 70% Satisfaction
- 350 Distribution List

The 25k Award

The programme builds upon the lessons learned from running the successful £25k Award, the student business plan competition, for the past eight years. The Award evolved from simple awareness creation to an increasing number of business starts. Over that time, twenty three companies were started with over £750k invested. Seven of the then 2007 finalists have incorporated and are live ventures.

The programme is targeted at members of our research community with products and services that have potential for commercialisation. It enables market-based entrepreneurs to work with the technology base and vice-versa.

Budget

NISP have estimated that the cost for the delivery of the four initiatives is approximately £290,000.

The proposed breakdown of funding is as follows:

Invest NI	£200,000
Belfast City Council	£60,000
Private sector	£30,000

NISP's aspiration is that NISP CONNECT will one day become 100% funded by private sector membership and events revenues. However it is felt that, without public sector grant, it will not get started and may never be able to survive.

With this in mind, NISP CONNECT aims to grow private sector funding support by 5% per annum, reducing public sector support in the process aiming to achieve the following funding ratios:

Year	Public Sector Funding	Private Sector Funding
1	90%	10%
2	80%	15%
3	70%	20%

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**Belfast City Council**

Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	Response to Ligoniel Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan
Date:	21 February 2008
Reporting Officer:	Marie-Thérèse McGivern Director of Development ext.3470
Contact Officer:	Siobhan Watson SNAP Manager ext. 3579

Relevant Background Information

Members will be aware that twelve of the Department for Social Development's Neighbourhood Renewal Partnerships lie within the Belfast City Council boundary and that they are all developing individual plans for their areas.

Each plan details a series of actions and identifies organisations that the Partnership believes can contribute to delivering them. Belfast City Council has been identified against a number of these actions (either as the lead partner or in a supporting role) and has been asked to consider how we can contribute to their successful delivery.

To date we have replied to five plans and we have now drafted a response to the plan from Ligoniel Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership.

Key Issues

A response has now been formulated for the Ligoniel Neighbourhood Renewal Action plan (see **appendix 1**). There are 29 individual actions noted from the plan that are of relevance to the council. These cover a wide range of council services.

Members are asked to approve the contents of the response and to note that further Action Plans will be presented to Committee for approval in due course.

Resource Implications

Human Resources

Coordination by the SNAP Unit with contributions from each council department.
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Recommendations

Members are asked to approve the Belfast City Council response to the Ligoniel Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan
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Key to Abbreviations

Documents Attached

Appendix 1 - Belfast City Council response to the Ligoniel Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan



Belfast City Council response to Ligoniel Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership's Action plan (2007)

Background

The Ligoniel Village Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership has been working to address local needs for some time in the Ligoniel area. In the introduction to its Action Plan, it notes that its vision is:

"An engaged, welcoming and integrated community, where people care for one another, which is at peace with itself and its neighbours, which enjoys equality of opportunity and a vibrant village centre, as well as its distinctive natural environment and heritage"

This vision is underpinned by the following strategic objectives:

- **Community Renewal** – to develop confident communities that are able and committed to improving the quality of life in the most deprived neighbourhoods;
- **Economic Renewal** – to develop economic activity in the most deprived neighbourhoods and connect them to the wider urban economy;
- **Social Renewal** – to improve social conditions for the people who live in the most deprived neighbourhoods through better co-ordinated public services and the creation of safer environments; and
- **Physical Renewal** – to help create attractive, safe and sustainable environments in the most deprived neighbourhoods.

The authors note that 'in line with other NR Action Plans, it is anticipated that in Year 1 the focus will be on the delivery of actions/initiatives that are currently in progress and negotiation. Year 2 will start to bring forward new projects and proposals that further support the vision and strategic objectives as set out in the plan. Whilst it is acknowledged that some commitments may already have been made in existing planning cycles, the NRP will work and negotiate with the relevant body/agency to ensure that these are timed and/or amended to reflect the locally expressed need and interests of the NRA.'

'In Year 3, the LVNP will be seeking the implementation of the projects/proposals that have been negotiated and refined with the relevant stakeholders during Years 1 and 2. The Action Plan therefore contains specific proposals for the earlier stages and indicative actions and dates for the later stages.'

The council's input

Detailed below are each of the twenty-nine council-related actions suggested by the Partnership in the Action plan and an agreed council response to each.

Strategic Theme: Community Renewal

Desired outcome: Sufficient skills and capacity to engage local people and influence statutory bodies
Shared Learning
Existing capacity shared amongst groups

(1) Action sought: **Implement tailored targeted capacity building programmes for individual community organisations**
Identify & facilitate access to community leadership training – for emerging as well as existing leaders

Resource implications: Cost of Capacity building and leadership training programmes
Training costs

Lead: DSD, **Belfast City Council**

Support: LVSP, LIA, CEP, LFC

Council response: Our Community Services unit is currently devising a new Community Support Plan which we will be consulting on with the public in early 2008. Capacity building is a theme within the proposed plan and there are therefore likely to opportunities for our Community Services section to work with the NRP and other Ligoniel stakeholders on such training programmes.

Desired outcome: Proactive engagement of all the community in NR & local volunteers actively involved in NR projects / activities
Volunteer opportunities
Ensuring continuation of resource to carry out actions
Recognition and appreciation of volunteers

(2) Action sought: **Identification and promotion of volunteer opportunities**
Provision of advice, information to existing local groups to recruit & retain volunteers
Identify and access existing volunteer training programmes
Additional volunteers recruited
Annual volunteer recognition awards
Development and expansion of "community chest" scheme

Resource Implications: Staff time and resources including materials for training and equipment
Staff time and resources to recruit volunteers and manage volunteer scheme £ sourced to run annual volunteer recognition awards

Lead: DSD, (VCU), (NBCAU)

Support: LVSP, LIA, CEP, N.B. Advice Partnership

Council response: As one of the local service providers, our Community Services unit has a support role to play in this regard with staff active in the local area and volunteering playing a major role in Ligoniel Community Centre's provision of programmes and activities. The council is currently developing a new community support plan 2008-2010, as part of which we are planning to develop a volunteer policy.

Desired outcome: Community engagement
Increase in uptake of service delivery
Identify and ensure maximised use of existing facilities – Boxing Club, Community Centre, Wolfhill Centre, Primary School, Youth Club, Ligoniel Family Centre and parochial hall

(3) Action sought:

Develop marketing strategy with local organisations
Develop and distribute a directory of activities, events and groups to the wider community
Work with facility owners to develop agreement for sharing and using facilities
Run targeted promotional events for specific programmes

Resource Implications: Marketing, advertising, publicity meetings

Lead: LVSP

Support: BRO, CEP, LIA, Schools, Boxing Club, Parish Hall

Council Response: Our Community Services Unit has an important role to play in this regard, especially concerning Ligoniel Community Centre as the local physical resource. The council is currently developing a new community support plan 2008-2010. It is proposed that consideration is given within this to best practice approaches, including a review of directly managed community centre roles and responsibilities.

Desired outcome: Greater engagement between the community and statutory bodies
Building up of trust between community and statutory agencies
Greater statutory accountability

(4) Action sought:

Service level agreement – statutory bodies working with community organisations in implementing / delivering programmes to the community
Sourcing and delivery of shared community development training
Team building events

Resource Implications: Legal fees
Admin costs
Training costs

Lead: LIA

Support: DSD, CEP, BHSCT

Council response: The council's move towards Local Area Working will encourage the active participation of local communities in shaping the prioritisation and delivery of council services and also seek to establish clearer channels of communication between the council and local communities. The council is consulting publicly on its plans for local area working in early 2008.

Desired outcome: A recognised and accessible heart / village centre
Holistic approach and provision of services
A more active and vibrant village centre
Positive recognition and promotion of Ligoniel Village

(5) Action sought:
Establish a residents' forum representing all parts of the Ligoniel area
Promote awareness of Partnership and associated services
Continue communication of issues / activities through Ligoniel View
Identification and establishment of village centre management
(NB. Physical actions related to developing the 'village centre' under physical renewal)

Resource implications: £ for continuation and promotion of local services
Cost of production and distribution of local services
£ for village centre management

Lead: **Belfast City Council, NIHE**

Support: Local Residents Groups, CEP, LVSP, LIA

Council response: The council's move towards Local Area Working will encourage the active participation of local communities in shaping the prioritisation and delivery of council services. A new residents forum could have an important role to play in such a relationship.

Local Area Working will also seek to establish clearer channels of communication between the council and local communities.

The council is consulting publicly on its plans for local area working in early 2008.

Our Community Services unit has a support role to play in this regard with staff active in the local area and an important physical resource in the Ligoniel Community Centre. The council is currently developing a new community support plan which we will be consulting on with the public in early 2008. There are therefore likely to be opportunities for our Community Services unit to work with the NRP and other stakeholders on engagement and communications mechanisms.

Desired outcome:	Programme of community events designed and owned by the local community An annual local 'fun' event for all NRA residents to incorporate positive community recognition Increased cross- community participation Development of joint Environmental strategy Increased Environmental Awareness
(6) Action sought:	Community consultation and engagement in design of community events Tie in with other community events e.g. CEP festival (soccer / lark in the park / clean-up) etc Creation of community environmental initiatives
Resource implications:	Funding for Programme of events
Lead:	Belfast City Council, DCAL
Support:	LVSP, CEP, Arts Council, Sports Council, LIA, LEI, Joint Neighbourhood Forum
Council response:	<p>The council's Community Services unit, which manages the local community centre, can offer support for the co-ordination of community activities and for local consultation and engagement. (The unit is currently consulting on future priorities and actions of its new Community Support Plan – and would welcome comments and suggestions on it.)</p> <p>The council's new Strategic Neighbourhood Action Programme (SNAP) is putting in place new 'Local Area Working' policies and processes that will allow the council to operate in a much more effective and joined-up manner at neighbourhood level. It will create mechanisms to allow it to engage at a local level in a more joined-up fashion in relation to, for example, the co-ordination of local events.</p> <p>With regard to practical support for events there is potential for support from a variety of sources under, for example, the council's existing leisure programme for youth, culture and arts funding, community services grants, and our Good Relations programme.</p> <p>Our Culture and Arts Unit offers funding and support for arts and heritage based activity and are keen to engage community partners for heritage initiatives and on public art. There is also support for local festival organisations through the Belfast Festivals Forum including training and audience development.</p> <p>Council's Cleansing service offers a range of community engagement activities from community talks, workshops, youth activities (eg) summer schemes and school workshops and visits alongside specific community focused anti-litter projects. Our Community Awareness Team facilitates cleanups across the city with a wide range of partners. The Team also visits schools promoting the anti-litter message.</p> <p>Our Good Relations unit are leading on a number of activities in local areas around the city, for example, the Re-Imaging Communities programme (resources have been secured from the Arts Council); Conflict Transformation Projects; Good Relations grant aid (grants up to £10,000 to support community relations projects); and St Patrick's Day grants (grants to support small scale events to mark St Patrick's Day). These funding streams can support local initiatives and actions that actively promote greater local engagement on good relations issues.</p>

Through its Parks and Cemeteries service the council would be keen to work with the Partnership on local environmental issues. Our Open Space strategy seeks to improve the character and accessibility of existing council owned open space such as Ligoniel Park.

Desired outcome:	Greater understanding and tolerance of issues & concerns – 'new respect' Build and develop existing relationships Intergenerational meetings on a regular basis
(7) Action sought:	Design and develop intergenerational events e.g. discussion platform for sports and domestic activities Advertise for two young people to be represented on the LVNP Encourage and support youth representation within local organisations
Resource implications:	£ for events
Lead:	DSD
Support:	Belfast City Council , BELB, BHSCT, LVSP, Pensioners Club, Young Men's Group, Young Women's Group, CEP, North Belfast Advice Partnership, Ligoniel local history group
Council response:	Noted.

In general our Community Services unit have an important operational role to play in this regard with staff active in the local area and an important physical resource in the Ligoniel Community Centre, which has been providing programmes for a wide range of age groups from toddlers to older people. As part of NR, we would suggest that the Centre develop a specific pilot project on this issue in conjunction with other stakeholders.

Through its Good Relations unit, the council is involved in several initiatives and programmes in support of good relations in the area and the unit are available to explore joint action with the Partnership. The unit is already involved in a number of inter-generational projects.

Belfast Community Safety Partnership has funded the employment of an Intergenerational Coordinator in Belfast in partnership with Age Concern NI. The Coordinator is based at Age Concern NI offices in Belfast. The project is due to finish at the end of March 2008 and we are currently exploring sustainability.

Desired outcome:	Reduced interface tension and violence Increased cross community participation in issues such as environmental awareness, health, education and youth
(8) Action sought:	Work through Joint Neighbourhood Forum on practical projects / joint issues to encourage greater collaboration (e.g. lobbying re Glenbank, space between the two schools) Pro-actively engage with potential 'interface' areas through specific initiatives e.g. environmental initiatives, youth initiatives to develop short term and long term activities to reduce tensions Team building Establishment of a charter for working with neighbouring communities Implementation of Good Relations Policy
Resource implications:	Staff time and resources Facilities £ for activities and programmes
Lead:	DSD, Joint Neighbourhood Forum
Support:	LVSP, Belfast City Council , PSNI, BRO, Community Relations Council, LIA, CEP, LEI

Council response: Noted.

The Good Relations Unit of the Council will be shortly awarded a significant amount of funding under Peace III to assist groups and organisations work with communities on a range of issues associated with interface life. The Ligoniel partnership would be an important partner in this work. The Unit's Conflict Transformation Project is currently producing research that will also pinpoint areas for development and involvement. The Good Relations grant aid programme can assist groups in activities such as developing a local good relations policy (grants up to £10,000 to support community relations engagement activity).

The annual St Patrick's Day grants programme also provides, grants to support small scale events to mark St Patrick's Day.

In general our Community Services unit have an important operational role to play in this regard with staff active in the local area and an important physical resource in the Ligoniel Community Centre.

Desired outcome:	Points of contact for new arrivals Creation of resource for non-English speaking residents Promotion of long term residency Establishment of welcome pack
(9) Action sought:	'Community' for new people moving to the area. Provide information of what is going on / opportunities to take part Establish links with organisations who can provide assistance / training serving people whose first language is not English Encourage short term residents to stay longer term Promotion of a positive and safe community
Resource implications:	Cost of welcome pack and £ in order to keep it updated £ for community housing officer
Lead:	DSD
Support:	LVSP, LIA, CEP
Council Response:	The council's Good Relations unit has developed a welcome guide for migrant workers to the city. The unit has resources for working with the migrant community and would be keen to work with the Partnership in sharing best practice. Good Relations funding may also be available for a resource.

Desired outcome:	Increased cultural awareness and understanding among local residents Development of mutual understanding
(10) Action sought:	Cultural awareness programmes through public art workshops
Resource implications:	£ for resourcing of programmes
Lead:	DCAL
Support:	DSD, LVSP, CEP, LIA, PSNI
Council Response:	Our Good Relations unit are involved in a number of activities in this respect in local areas around the city and may be a valuable resource supporting this issue.

Strategic Theme: Economic Renewal

Desired outcome:	New social economy opportunities identified and considered + additional opportunities for growth of existing enterprises Increased local uptake of business start-up and development programmes Promotion of positive role models Explore and support social economy initiatives
(11) Action sought:	Explore and support social economy opportunities, e.g. Childcare / DIY /Tourism, /Polytunnel / Environment & Heritage Project / Ligoniel Family Centre / Boxing Club Promotion of entrepreneurial activity through courses for local residents Develop links with major employers – Mater / Post Office / International Airport etc Run PR campaign for positive role models Explore partnerships with local developers and greater links with colleges Linkage with the North Belfast Partnership and North City Business Centre in their delivery of enterprise and exploring social enterprise programmes on behalf of Invest NI
Resource implications:	Staff time and resources; Localised enterprise strategy finance for social economy project; Business development services; £ for programme delivery
Lead:	DEL
Support:	Social Economy Network, Invest NI, LVSP, LCE, LIA, Ligoniel Economic Initiative, LEMIS, Belfast City Council , Federation of small businesses, Ligoniel Family Centre, WB and Greater Shankill Enterprise Council

Council response: Noted.

Local economic development has been an important strand of the council's work for over a decade. Through its Local Economic Development Plan for the city, the council has focussed on a number of priorities which it believes are key to successful economic renewal. These have include supporting a culture of entrepreneurship, the support of the emerging social economy and employment projects that link employees to the local work force.

Local employment initiatives have been a key component of the council's current and previous economic development strategies. Key examples of this have been support for the Belfast GEMS project which was linked to the Gasworks and more recently the LEAP initiative in north Belfast.

The council will be keen to work with the Partnership to ensure that barriers – physical, educational and economic are reduced for the local community in north Belfast.

Our Enterprise Officer is actively engaged in trying to increase the number of new business starts across the city. This work is done by undertaking a structured programme of outreach activity and the council would be keen to work with the community in Ligoniel to ensure that those who are interested can avail of the service.

The council is working to increase the employment rate in the city by ensuring better linkages between employers and potential employees. Through our Citywide Employability Consortium, we are seeking to provide an employer interface and support community-based development organisations to maximise the exposure of their clients to potential job opportunities.

Desired outcome: Greater awareness of benefit entitlement and access to advice service
Increase in personal finance contributing to improved quality of life

(12) Action sought: **Continuation of advice services.**
Use community led mentoring services for individuals / families to assist with benefits advice and uptake
Identify and provide advice training for mentors / volunteers (e.g. through Advice NI)

Resource implications: Personnel; Training; Facilities

Lead: DSD

Support: North Belfast Advice Partnership, **Belfast City Council**, LIA, Advice NI, Housing rights service, Law Centre

Council response: Noted.

The council offers a number of advice services covering a wide range of issues including consumer advice and currently provides grant assistance to the Advice Service run by the Ligoniel Improvement Association.

Strategic Theme: Social Renewal

Desired outcome:	Zero tolerance of underage and open-air drinking and drug taking
(13) Action sought:	Work with FASA to identify local needs and link with appropriate training. Development and delivery of new approaches to issues of young people alcohol & drugs with schools and community – e.g. Peer mentoring, detached youth work Awareness campaigns and education programmes for community / parents / schoolchildren Development and enforcement of alcohol free zones Work with local licensees to adopt a code of conduct Additional support for parents in alcohol / drug education (awareness sessions/ prevention etc

Resource implications:	Staff time and resources £ for additional courses for parental support in drug / alcohol issues £ for training required £ of detached youth work
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Lead: **Belfast City Council, BHSCCT / H&SC Authority**

Support: Schools, Local Licencees, DSD, BELB, BHSCT, FASA, Youth Club, Ligoniel Family Centre, LIA, CEP, Local residents groups, The Healthy Living Centre, North Belfast Advice Partnership, PSNI

Council response: There are a number of council resources which could be called upon to assist the Partnership in delivering on this action.

The Belfast Community Safety Partnership currently coordinates the Get Home Safe Project, which, with the council, includes a number of partners such as PSNI and the Federation of Retail Licensing Trade. This includes a range of initiatives targeting issues such as underage drinking, off licences, on street drinking, and personal safety.

The council also has a Regulatory Services Manager who can work with the community on a number of these issues.

We are developing an Anti Social Behaviour Policy that will reflect issues around ASB and alcohol abuse.

A Community Safety Coordinator for North and West Belfast is available to work with the partnership on community safety issues.

To illustrate what can be achieved in tackling such issues, Belfast Community Safety Partnership recently funded a project in partnership with EDACT to run a campaign around the themes of parental responsibility around drinking.

Our Community Services Unit will work with the Partnership to address issues of anti-social behaviour through programme support, shared learning, and information.

Our Parks and Cemeteries Service are keen to work with the local community on ensuring that local open space is managed creatively to ensure that it is not a venue for anti-social behaviour.

Desired outcome:	All residents feel safe outside and inside their homes Reduction in crime related incidents
(14) Action sought:	Development of safer neighbourhood scheme Provision of training for scheme participants Relationship building with the police Establishment of a local Care group Establishment of a community safety forum to support area initiatives
Resource implications:	Resource for training and advice; £ for facilities and volunteers for care group
Lead:	PSNI, NIO Community Safety Unit
Support:	Belfast City Council , DSD, LIA, Local residents groups, LVSP, NIHE, Private Landlords, Housing Association

Council response: Noted.

Again, as above, there are a number of council resources which could be called upon to assist the Partnership in delivering on this action.

The Belfast Community Safety Partnership currently coordinates the Get Home Safe Project, which, with the council, includes a number of partners such as PSNI and the Federation of Retail Licensing Trade.

A Community Safety Coordinator for North and West Belfast is available to work with the partnership on community safety issues. Belfast Community Safety Partnership currently support the work of the Upper Springfield Safer Neighbourhood Forum and the Greater Shankill Community Safety Network, which may be models of good practice for the Ligoniel scheme.

To illustrate what can be achieved in tackling such issues, Belfast Community Safety Partnership recently funded a project in partnership with EDACT to run a campaign around the themes of parental responsibility around drinking.

Our Community Services Unit will work with the Partnership to address issues of anti-social behaviour through programme support, shared learning and information.

Our Parks and Cemeteries Service are keen to work with the local community on ensuring that local open space is managed creatively to ensure that it is not a venue for anti-social behaviour.

Desired outcome:	Shared spaces and parks are safe and accessible to the entire community Respect for parks and public spaces Reduction in the acceptable levels of anti-social activity Increased social cohesion Youth more involved within the community Creation of programme development for "at risk" IT programme development Internet cafe
(15) Action sought:	Educate through intergenerational programme, community (including emerging and youth leadership programmes (see Community Renewal actions) Identify and implement environmental projects for young people in parks / public spaces. Develop a detached youth work programme to integrate young people into organised activities. Review the potential for CCTV at known 'hot-spots' Identify and implement appropriate programmes for re-integration of repeat offenders back into the community (e.g. contact NIACRO re this)

Resource implications: Cost of programmes; Cost of detached youth work.

Lead: BELB, PSNI

Support: **Belfast City Council**, NIHE, LIA, CEP, Ligoniel Family Centre, Local Schools, Youth Club, Local residents group, North Belfast Advice Partnership, LVSP, The Healthy Living Centre, Youth Justice Agency

Council response: Noted.

Our Good Relations grant aid scheme can support local programmes that lead to greater community cohesion within the area. Under Peace III there will be opportunities for the area to engage in large scale developmental programmes that will engage local young people in wider community activities.

In general our Community Services unit have an important operational role to play in this regard with staff active in the local area and an important physical resource in the Ligoniel Community Centre.

Belfast City Council is currently developing an Anti-Social Behaviour Policy that may support the work of the local community in this activity.

Belfast Community Safety Partnership run a small grant programme for community based activity tackling ASB and diverting young people.

The Partnership also funds an Intergenerational Coordinator who is based at Age Concern NI.

Belfast Community Safety Partnership currently coordinates a project that looks at CCTV provision, particularly in Belfast City Centre. There may be learning from this to support community activity.

As noted above, our Parks and Cemeteries Service are keen to work with the local community on ensuring that local open space is managed creatively to ensure that it is not a venue for anti-social behaviour but an important community resource in the neighbourhood renewal process.

Desired outcome: Community and Youth Club 'fit for purpose' and open on evenings and weekends & holiday periods
Additional local youth activities and facilities provided

(16) Action sought:

PR Strategy to maximise centre utilisation
Undertake scoping analysis of youth provision in the area
Develop rationale for re-developing youth centre (see action under physical renewal)
Develop detached / outreach worker programme in the area
Negotiate with BCC / BELB in regards to opening hours and management of the Community Facilities

Resource implications: Costs of extended opening hours
£ to improve existing facilities & equipment
£ for scoping analysis of youth provision
£ for detached youth work

Lead: BELB, Belfast City Council

Support: DSD, NBCAU, LVSP, CEP, Youth Club, LEA, Healthy Living Centre

Council response: Our Community Services have an important operational role to play in this regard with staff active in the local area and an important physical resource in the Ligoniel Community Centre.

The council is currently developing a new community support plan 2008-2010. It is proposed that consideration is given within this to best practice approaches including a review of directly managed community centre roles and responsibilities

Desired outcome: Parents engaging with the schools
Better communication & interaction
More young people gaining meaningful education leaving school with the necessary qualifications and life skills to fulfil potential
Sufficient provision of pre-school for all children in the area
Parents fully equipped with the knowledge, skills and resources to help their children
Children with learning difficulties offered the same educational opportunities

(17) Action sought:

Identify and quantify gaps in provision and support for pre-school children
Work with school to develop parent / children's views on importance of education – through mentoring project, positive role models and promotional material
Support local schools in developing the extended schools agenda (...)
Increased individual support for struggling pupils (...)
Develop a parents group
Increased after-school provision in the area e.g. homework club
Develop a parent / pupil education / information support pack

Resource implications: Use of Extended Schools Initiative
£ for community support initiatives
£ for after-school provision
£ for information / support pack

Lead: DE, BELB – Youth Service

Support: DSD, LIA, Ligoniel Family Centre, Local schools, Business in the Community, **Ligoniel Community Centre**, SureStart, LVSP, CEP

Council Response: Our Community Services have an important operational role to play in this regard with staff active in the local area and an important physical resource in the Ligoniel Community Centre.

Through the Grant Aid system, funding may also be available to support some of the recommended actions.

Desired outcome: Inclusion of older participants in a varied programme of activities as a group and with other local groups
Improved access to service provision
Increased domiciliary care
Establishment of social structured activities
Voluntary help and care to support independent living
Usage of social economy business which contributes to independent living
Access to welfare advice and support

(18) Action sought: **Develop outreach programme (using volunteers) designed to reach out to the local elderly community**
Actively encourage older people to attend existing daytime / evening classes & programmes or to volunteer
Linkage to the Good Morning Ballysillan scheme and expansion into Ligoniel (take into consideration NIO report on Good Morning Schemes in NI in March 2006)
Use of intergenerational programmes (see under community renewal)

Resource implications: £ for expansion Of Good Morning Ballysillan into Ligoniel
Resource for training volunteers
£ for cost of programme of activities for older people

Lead: **Belfast City Council**

Support: BHSCT, LVSP, Age Concern, PSNI, Local Church, Ligoniel Family Centre, Pensioners Club, CEP, LIA, Local residents groups, North Belfast Advice Partnership, Healthy Living Centre, Belfast Institute

Council response: The council's Community Services unit can offer support in developing inclusive activities for older people on the local community. The local community centre is already a resource for local voluntary activity and the unit would be keen to work with the Partnership on priorities focussing on older people.

The council has made a specific commitment to responding to the needs of older people and has a series of facilities and schemes including discount scheme for our leisure centres, community centre activities; Safety of Seniors events and assisted lift bin collections.

We have an Older Persons Working Group which was set up to our services are suitably adapted to meet the specific needs of older people. The group is developing an action plan and will be hosting a related Older Persons convention in May 2008.

Belfast Community Safety Partnership, along with Belfast District Policing Partnership and a range of partners coordinate the Safety of Seniors Project. This is an information road show on issues of safety for older people that are run via community centres and local community groups.

Belfast Community Safety Partnership have in the past funded the work of the three Belfast based Good Morning Projects, and continue to work with them to explore sustainability and the potential for mainstream funding.

Belfast Community Safety Partnership fund Volunteer Training via Volunteer Development Agency. The second of three sessions takes place on 19th Feb 2008 in Clarendon House from 10am – 4pm on the subject of Volunteer Management. The third of three sessions takes place on 13th March 2008 on the topic of Risk Assessment (venue to be confirmed).

Desired outcome:	Improved health and well-being of the local community Development of sports facilities Increased health related physical activity programmes for all Development of environmental and heritage project Reduction in Sedentary & Health related illnesses
(19) Action sought:	Feasibility study into development of a local Sports facility (indoor / outdoor) in conjunction with neighbouring communities Seek sufficient equipment to ensure optimal use of existing facilities. Healthy Living Centre to run physical activity programmes in local facilities / area (e.g. local walking club, arm chair aerobics etc.)
Resource implications:	£ required to build new facility £ required for Environmental and Heritage project £ for feasibility study (approx. £7,500)
Lead:	Sport NI
Support:	BHSCT / H&SC Authority, DSD, DCAL, Belfast City Council , HLC, BLF, Joint Neighbourhood Forum, CEP, LVSP, LIA

Council response: Noted.

The council is keen to see that its leisure services can make an active contribution to the regeneration of the surrounding neighbourhood and is eager to remove perceived barriers to access. Our Recreation Service can work with the Partnership and others to examine this action.

There is also potential of linkages with our Parks team in jointly exploring the role of open space in the area in contributing to neighbourhood regeneration; and with our Community Services unit regarding the use of the local community centre resource.

Desired outcome:	Co-ordinated approach to improving the sexual health of people in the area Reduction in high risk and underage sexual activity Reduction in reported STI's
(20) Action sought:	Identify gaps in training and sexual health service provision in the area and recommend key areas for development Target marginalised young people who do not access services Promotion of STI and sexual awareness programmes Develop and provide appropriate training for local staff / volunteers in sexual health
Resource implications:	£ for staff and training £ for programme costs £ for equipment
Lead:	BHSCT
Support:	LVSP, Belfast City Council, Healthy Living Centre, Ligoniel Family Centre, North Belfast Advice Partnership, CEP, Sure Start
Council response:	Our Community Services Unit will continue to play an important operational role in this regard with staff active in the local area and an important physical resource in the Ligoniel Community Centre. In particular, the Co-ordinator of services to Children and Young People based within the Community Services unit, and the council-supported Youth Forum would be important resources in delivering this action.

Strategic Theme: Physical Renewal

Desired outcome:	A cohesive and integrated community Identification of private rental mapping exercise Established response and referral system for all residents Safer and cleaner community Key contacts established with all departments
(21) Action sought:	Employment of a Housing officer for the area to represent and engage with all levels of house occupiers Establish a residents' forum representing all parts of the Ligoniel area
Resource implications:	£ for housing officer £ for mapping exercise
Lead:	DSD
Support:	NIHE, LIA, LVSP, CLANMIL, BIH, Belfast City Council

Council response: Noted.

The council's move towards Local Area Working (through the work of its SNAP team) will encourage the active participation of local communities in shaping the prioritisation and delivery of council services. A new residents forum could have an important role to play in such a relationship. The council is consulting publicly on its plans for local area working in early 2008.

The council offers a number of advice services covering a wide range of issues including consumer advice, cleansing, building control issues and a variety of environmental health matters. The majority of these have developed mechanisms for engagement and support at a local level.

Desired outcome:	Positive and productive community led forum Greater participation in community development and awareness of the environment Upkeep and maintenance of Ligoniel Park Aesthetically pleasing environment
(22) Action sought:	Development of a strategy regarding planning / community lobby – potential establishment of an open space forum through the existing structures in the LVNP Environmental Awareness campaign Establishment of local environmental forum Maintenance and upkeep of Ligoniel Park
Resource implications:	Staff time and resources £ for park ranger and maintenance of park
Lead:	NIHE, DSD
Support:	Planning Service, NIO (CSU), LIA, LVSP, Belfast City Council – Parks, Belfast Hills, Local residents groups

Council response: Noted.

Our Parks and Cemeteries Service can work with the Partnership to expand the opportunities presented by the park and other open space in the area to contribute to the wider renewal work beyond the traditional projects associated with open space. Parks have an outreach worker available to facilitate such work.

Parks and Cemeteries Service will work with local community groups to seek to improve, protect and promote the provision of open space in Inner North which is accessible to all. At all time the council must function within physical, human and financial constraints.

Desired outcome: Additional Sports Facilities
Purpose built local sports facility (N.B. Social Renewal actions relating to SR issue 10)
Increased uptake in physical activity
Reduction in sedentary & health related illnesses
Increased community cohesion & social capital

(23) Action sought: **Identify potential sites for multi-use games / sports area.
Undertake feasibility study / economic appraisal for potential development of multi-use games / sports area
Land purchase**

Resource implications: Approx £10,000 in order to complete feasibility study and economic appraisal
Funding to support findings from feasibility study and economic appraisal
£ for capital build
£ for professional & legal fees
Staffing
Security & maintenance costs

Lead: Sports Council, **Belfast City Council**

Support: Joint Neighbourhood Forum, DSD, Local Sports Clubs, LIA, LVSP, CEP

Council response: The council is keen to see that its leisure facilities can make an active contribution to the regeneration of the surrounding neighbourhood and is eager to remove perceived barriers to access. Our Recreation Service can work with the Partnership to examine this action.

The council can engage with the Partnership on the specific community proposals for a multi-use games area (MUGA). Such a proposal would need to include the development of sport activity plan as part of any resulting facilities management agreement.

Desired outcome:	Appropriate youth facility (N.B. Social Renewal actions relating to SR issue 3) Reduction in antisocial behaviour Increased social cohesion More youth involvement in the community Personal Development e.g. Capacity Building Greater interaction with neighbouring communities
(24) Action sought:	Investigate the DE / BELB fund for community led youth facilities. Feasibility Study and economic appraisal for potential new youth centre Development of a fit for purpose youth facility
Resource implications:	Approx £10,000 in order to complete feasibility study and economic appraisal Funding to support findings from feasibility study and economic appraisal £ to complete development / building of facility
Lead:	BELB
Support:	Belfast City Council, LIA, LVSP, Youth Club, DSD

Council response: Noted.

Our Community Services have an important operational role to play in this regard with staff active in the local area and an important physical resource in the Ligoniel Community Centre. The council is currently developing a new community support plan 2008-2010. Consideration is being given within this to resources including directly managed community centres and future developments.

Desired outcome:	Safe, attractive and fully equipped play areas Increased generated prospect for community ownership Additional play facilities to captivate new developments
(25) Action sought:	Develop programme of additional evening diversionary activities for youth Undertake activities on-site to encourage children and young people to value the area (e.g. community painting initiatives) Satellite play areas
Resource implications:	£ for additional diversionary activities and on-site activities Funding secured for satellite play areas £ to maintain and equip play areas £ for facilitation, supervision & support
Lead:	NBCAU, Belfast City Council
Support:	DSD, LIA, BELB, LVSP, Local residents groups

Council response: Current Community Services facilities provide a range of activities for children and young people as part of a general community development programme. There may be some additional capacity available at the council centres.

Belfast Community Safety Partnership currently works with Belfast Education and Library Board to fund diversionary activities via youth outreach workers.

Belfast Community Safety Partnership currently runs a small grants programme with an emphasis on reducing Anti-Social Behaviour and diversionary activities.

Desired outcome: Reduced interface tension and violence
Mutual respect for other traditions

(26) Action sought: **Pro-active engagement with the Glencairn / Ballysillan communities
Consider the issue of an emerging interface with Glencairn
(N.B. Community Actions relating to relationship building under
Community Renewal action 8)**

Resource implications: Staff time and resources
Good relations worker

Lead: CEP, Joint Neighbourhood Forum

Support: NBCAU, CRC, **Belfast City Council**, PSNI, NIHE, DSD, NIO, LVSP, LIA, BCF, Glencairn Community Association

Council response: Our Good Relations unit is involved in a number of activities in local areas around the city. The unit is keen to engage local people in the development of a local area good relations plan and through this support actions which promote engagement within the area. Good Relations grant aid (grants up to £10,000 to support community relations projects);

The Good Relations Unit can also offer advice and developmental support, as well as linking the partnership with practitioners in the field of good relations. There may also be potential for Good Relations training for the community.

Desired outcome: Litter free streets
Clean streets
Local residents managing their domestic rubbish
Increased knowledge of Environmental Damage

(27) Action sought: **Advertise / enforce litter laws & better co-ordination of street cleaning and bin collection
Additional promotion / information re: blue bin recycling
Meet with BCC to negotiate for:
- better coordination of street cleaning with bin collection
- additional Waste Bins and Cleaning Operatives
Quarterly Annual Community Clean-ups**

Resource implications: Cost of additional signage, promotion and enforcement
Rescheduling of street cleaning after bin collection
Additional Cleansing Operatives
£ for environmental health programmes
£ for additional and promotion of additional recycling points

Lead: **Belfast City Council**

Support: NIHE, Local residents, LVSP, LIA, Local Schools, Healthy Living Centre
LEI, Joint Neighbourhood Forum

Council response: Representatives from the Council's Cleansing Services, Community Awareness, Enforcement and operational teams service are available to meet with the Partnership to provide a full picture of current activities and to discuss support in the future.

The Council's North Belfast Cleansing Forum holds quarterly meetings as a way for community groups and individuals to work with Cleansing Services and we encourage the Partnership to join the forum.

Cleansing offers a range of community engagement activities from community talks, workshops, youth activities (eg) summer schemes and school workshops and visits alongside specific community focused anti-litter projects. Our Community Awareness Team facilitates cleanups across the city with a wide range of partners. The Team also visits schools promoting the anti-litter message.

The council has a recycling education and awareness team available to work on recycling issues with local groups providing similar initiatives to that highlighted above. We can arrange for the ARC21 recycling education bus to visit the area and we are working with the Community Section to use community centres and waste education information centres. A new comprehensive communication campaign is currently being designed with a specific aim of community targeting which will highlight any needs arising in Ligoniel. We are also eager to work with communities to develop waste initiatives for specific areas

Desired outcome: Dog dirt placed in appropriate bins that are available in necessary locations throughout the estate
Health awareness campaign
Reduction of stray and unwanted dogs

(28) Action sought:
Request for more dog bins (with bags) on streets / outside shops etc
Enforcement of the Dog fouling laws
Education programmes for dog owners in the NRA – targeted visible dog warden presence
Dog health awareness and check-ups
Walking route for dog owners

Resource implications: Installation and clearance of bins
Cost of education programmes
Focus of dog warden resource for specified time

Lead: **Belfast City Council (Dog Warden)**

Support: Schools, LVSP, Local residents group, LIA, Joint Neighbourhood Forum

Council response: The council would be keen to work with local groups on education and awareness programmes to promote responsible dog ownership. The Council does not favour separate dog fouling bins and encourage the placement of bagged dog fouling into existing litter bins, or for owners to dispose of it at home, via their own wheeled bins

This is also an issue that relates to the management of the local park and is something Parks and Cemeteries Service are available to discuss.

Desired outcome: All graffiti is removed and does not reoccur – community educated and involved
Greater community ownership
Reduction of public damage
Establishment of Self Expression areas
Youth wardens responsible for allocated areas

(29) Action sought: **Use of public arts projects with children, young people and residents to encourage community involvement**
Investigate potential of localised graffiti removal operation (social economy potential)

Resource implications: Staff time & resources + artists & materials
Equipment and volunteers
£ for maintenance of self expression areas

Lead: **Belfast City Council, DCAL**

Support: BELB, NIHE, LVSP, LEI, Local Schools, Youth Club, Ligoniel Family Centre, LIA, CLANMIL, BIH

Council response: As noted above representatives from the council's Cleansing Services, Community Awareness, Enforcement and operational teams service are available to meet with the Partnership to provide a full picture of current activities and to discuss support in the future.

There are technical and legal issues around the removal of graffiti which the council can discuss.

The Council's North Belfast Cleansing Forum holds quarterly meetings as a way for community groups and individuals to work with Cleansing Services and we encourage the Partnership to join the forum.

Cleansing offers a range of community engagement activities from community talks, workshops, youth activities (eg) summer schemes and school workshops and visits alongside specific community focused anti-litter projects. Our Community Awareness Team visits schools promoting the anti-litter message.

The council's citywide Safer Neighbourhoods pilot project – which includes work in north Belfast – is also tackling the issue of graffiti.

The council also manage a Roaming Wardens Project in which a team of wardens are allocated to appropriate areas across the city (on a temporary basis) through consultation with various partners. These wardens can act as a mechanism for the reporting of anti-social behaviour including graffiti.

There are also possible contributions from our Culture and Arts unit – who have an Artist in Residence who is involved in a number of community arts projects. Our Good Relations unit, through its administering of the Re-Imaging Communities programme, can also engage with the community about such projects. Ligoniel Community Centre could be a valuable resource as a physical base in the area to run such projects.

STATUTORY IMPACT ANALYSIS

With specific reference to an item in the Vision document, the council would also suggest a change to the Statutory Impact Analysis text on page 96. Replace '*Community Centre & 1.5 FTE Community Development Worker (this post will soon change to be 1 FTE working between Ligoniel and Ardoyne)*'. Suggested replacement is '*Community Centre with 1.5 Supervisors, 2 p/t Assistant Supervisors, 1 f/t Community Development Worker, & 1 Community Development Assistant (24 hr post). Community Services structure is currently under review.*



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	Strategic Regeneration Frameworks
Date:	21 February 2008
Reporting Officer:	Shirley McCay, Head of Economic Initiatives, ext. 3459
Contact Officer:	Shirley McCay, Head of Economic Initiatives, ext. 3459

Relevant Background Information

Under the Renewing Communities Programme each Area Partnership Board (APB) has been resourced to, and tasked with, producing a Strategic Regeneration Framework (SRF) for their area by the Department for Social Development. Each APB has engaged a consultancy team to support them in this work which is due for completion in June - September 2008. Whilst each APB is at a different stage in development, efforts are being made to co-ordinate activity across the frameworks.

Members will also be aware of the local masterplans being produced for Inner East, Lower Shankill, Lower Falls, Crumlin Road and Shore Road. These plans are being developed by DSD as part of Renewing Communities also. It is intended that the SRFs for each respective area will take account of these local plans.

Key Issues

Engagement with councillors in each partnership board area has been pursued directly by the APBs. Some councillors are participating on the steering groups of the SRFs whilst others input through the APB meetings and consultation processes. Ministers and MLAs have been engaged to a varying level dependent on the approach taken by the APB and the stage of development of their SRF.

Belfast City Council has not yet been formally invited to engage at political level on the SRF process. Senior officers have recently been invited by each APB to join the steering group of each SRF. This is an essential step in ensuring co-ordination with Council's own development processes including the preparation of an Asset Management Plan, a City Development Plan, and refreshed Capital City Strategy. Members will also be aware of the Council's production of a City-wide masterplan in 2003 which, although becoming a little dated, remains an extremely valuable document in setting out the context for the SRFs for each area.

DSD's approach to pursuing regeneration frameworks on a partnership board by partnership board basis presents a number of issues. Whilst increased scope for analysing issues particular to North, South, East, West and the Shankill exists, there is the inherent danger of losing sight of the critical mass of the City as a whole. Without

co-ordination and an assessment of the strengths and deficiencies of the City as a whole there can be no agreed Strategic Regeneration Framework for the City overall.

Council must be mindful of its approach to City-wide development and regeneration and the on-going process to develop a City Investment Fund which is fundamentally underpinned by a City Development Plan. The issues analysed and opportunities identified under the SRF process need to be integrated with the City Development Plan being drafted by Council. Similarly, active engagement by Council in the SRF process is wholly necessary to ensure that the resultant SRFs are meaningful and connected to the City Development Plan. Emerging out of these discussions there may be the need for a co-ordination framework to attach the SRFs to the City Development Plan. This may necessitate the refreshing of the Council's City-wide masterplan produced in 2003.

Status report on each SRF:

West

Deloitte have been appointed to produce the SRF which is due for completion in June. Comprehensive data analysis and interpretation has been undertaken, leading to housing, health, physical, social and economic profiles. Detailed mapping of the physical features of the area, land uses and opportunity sites has also been completed. Community engagement at an intensive level is due to commence shortly along with a range of sessions with business people, statutory agencies and politicians. The SRF is now at the stage of identifying the big ideas for West Belfast by considering its specific role in the City.

East

Paul Hogarth Company has been appointed to produce the SRF. They have now completed Stage 2 of the process following the information gathering, data analysis and interpretation stage as well as identifying key drivers for change and articulating concepts for the area. The Framework is underpinned by principles which recognise the active collaboration of sectors but which attaches key responsibility for economic development with the private sector. Concepts being explored at present include a reshaping of the local economy, a networked governance approach, exploiting historical image, sustaining export industries in East Belfast, employing "development gain to optimise the local impact of new investment, ensuring spatial connectivity with East Belfast and changing the physical fabric of the area."

Shankill

Paul Hogarth Company has only recently been appointed to produce the SRF with the first meeting having taken place on 30th January. It is anticipated that the work will be completed inside 8 months. The SRF for the Shankill is intended to produce an outline view of the existing physical infrastructure with particular regard to business, retail, commercial, community and residential property balance and develop a view of potential future balanced land use and areas for development across the electoral wards of Shankill, Woodvale, Crumlin, Glencairn and Highfield. It is also intended that the SRF will make recommendations for improving transportation and traffic management within the area and which will improve links between Greater Shankill to the rest of the City in order that the area may benefit from, and participate in, the regeneration of Greater Belfast. The SRF will also help determine the shortfall in community, business and individual access to digital technology and develop proposals to enhance ICT use and place digital technology at the heart of local business and the community.

South

Hyder have been appointed to progress the SRF. Presently work is underway to create a physical structural map of the area, along with a mapping of the organisation's working in the area and their inter-relationships. Community consultation is also due to start shortly along with formal engagement of other players. Propositions around the environment, community, economy and management are being considered as starting points for concepts to be produced.

North

Deloitte have been appointed to produce the SRF which is due for completion in June. Comprehensive data analysis and interpretation has been undertaken, leading to community, housing, health, physical, social and economic profiles. Detailed mapping of the physical features of the area, land uses and opportunity sites are being completed. Community engagement at an intensive level is due to commence shortly along with a range of sessions with business people, statutory agencies and politicians.

Resource Implications

Financial

None requested at this stage.

Human Resources

Senior staff in Development and Core Improvement Team already engaged in process.

Asset and Other Implications

Will be dependent on an agreed Asset Management Plan and City Development Plan.

Recommendations

To note the preparation of SRFs for each Partnership Board area and to agree Council's active involvement in ensuring linkages to the City Development Plan.

Key to Abbreviations

APBs - Area Partnership Board
SRFs - Strategic Regeneration Framework
MLA – Members of the Legislative Assembly
DSD – Department for Social Development

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Belfast City Council

Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	Response to Draft Planning Policy Statement 18: Renewable Energy
Date:	21 February 2008
Reporting Officer:	Ms Marie Thérèse McGivern, Director of Development, ext. 3470
Contact Officer:	Ms Shirley McCay Head of Economic Initiatives, ext. 3459 Mr Keith Sutherland, Planning and Transport Policy Manager, ext. 3578

Relevant Background Information

Draft Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 18 - 'Renewable Energy' was published for public consultation by the Planning and Environmental Policy Group of the Department of the Environment, on 23 November 2007. This policy is intended to supersede Policy PSU12 of the Departments 'Planning Strategy for Rural Northern Ireland'. The consultation period for Draft PPS18 closes on Friday 21 March 2008.

The aim of PPS 18 is to encourage and facilitate the provision of renewable energy and heat generating facilities in appropriate locations within the built and natural environment. PSU12 is considered insufficiently detailed to take account of the different forms of renewable energy development. More explicit guidance is required by the public to allow planning proposals to be better tailored to requirements of the Planning Service.

At present the NI Planning Service is undertaking a review of permitted development rights for small scale renewable development (micro-generation). This review could potentially remove the requirement to apply for planning permission for many small domestic renewable energy schemes. This review is expected to complete before the adoption of PPS18.

Key Issues

Draft PPS18 – 'Renewable Energy' has two policies Renewable Energy 1 and Renewable Energy 2. Policy RE1 relates the general principles of development and additional assessment criteria for wind energy development. Policy RE2 relates exclusively to passive solar design and the necessity for all new public sector development, large-scale urban development and dwellings in the countryside to demonstrate what consideration has been given to Passive Solar Design principles in the layout, siting and design of their proposals. Annex 1 and 2 provide information and best practice guidance for each form of renewable energy development. Annex 3 discusses in detail the community benefits arising from renewable energy development. A summary of PPS 18 is attached in **Appendix 2**.

Belfast City Council recognises the importance of a comprehensive planning policy for the future of renewable energy development. Renewable energy developments are vitally

important in limiting environmental damage and the promotion of such development is supported by BCC. Such development should however, be rigorously assessed to limit the impact upon residential and visual amenity.

Belfast City Council would be concerned with any attempt at piecemeal legislation, which will deal solely with renewable energy in the narrow context of planning; as such legislation could detrimentally impact upon other industries such as construction and eventually on the end-user or consumers/ residents.

Draft PPS18 provides an opportunity for the Planning Service, District Councils and other interested parties to undertake a comprehensive review of all issues surrounding climate change, renewable energy and reducing carbon emissions. The Council is of the view that Draft PPS 18 provides a good basis for more substantial debate inclusive of all parties regarding what we can all do to improve the built and natural environment in response to the threat of Climate Change.

The draft Council response relates to a number of issues including;

- the development plan process
- air quality monitoring
- methodologies for the acoustic impacts of development
- green house gas mitigation and
- the cost benefit of passive solar design principles

The latter two issues consider the overlap between the Draft PPS 18 with the Building Regulations particularly in light of the introduction of Part F Technical Booklet on (Conservation of Fuel and Power) which came into operation on the 30 November 2006 by virtue of The Building (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006. In addition to the recent decision from the Minister of Finance and Personnel to set a target of a further 25% reduction in CO₂ emission from buildings.

The proposed responsibilities and work regarding solar passive designs may cause an obvious overlap between the work of the Planning Service and that of the Belfast City Council's Building Control Service. This issue requires further consideration and discussion on whether work in this area will necessitate joint working arrangements being created between the Council and the Planning Service to ensure passive design conditions are properly enforced at the planning and construction stages of any development.

The Council would consider it appropriate for the PPS to contain policy which requires local development plans to assess the potential development opportunities in their area for renewable energy technologies. The Draft Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan 2015 does not contain any commitment to the goals of renewable energy or guidance as to where large scale renewable energy development would be acceptable.

Resource Implications

Financial

No additional direct financial implications are involved with these recommendations

In relation to the recommendations there may be a future requirement or need for joint working arrangements to be established as outlined in the main body of this report. This possible joint approach may have staff and resources implications for the Building Control Service, who would carry out such work on behalf of the Council.

Human Resources

There may in the future need to be joint working arrangements set up between the Planning Service and the Council which may have staff resource implications.

Asset and Other Implications

No additional asset implications are involved with these recommendations.

Recommendations

Members are asked to consider the content of the proposed draft response to PPS18, as set out in **Appendix 1**, and if appropriate endorse this as the formal response to the NI Planning Service consultation.

Documents Attached

Appendix 1 - Draft Response to Draft PPS18 – ‘Renewable Energy’

Appendix 2 - Summary of PPS18

Key to Abbreviations

PPS - Planning Policy Statement

Appendix 1

Draft Response to Draft PPS 18 – ‘Renewable Energy’

The main policy objective of draft PP18 is:

“to encourage and facilitate the provision and siting of renewable energy generating facilities in appropriate locations within the built and natural environment”.

Belfast City Council strongly supports draft PPS18 and recognises the Regional Development Strategies (2025) commitment to address the causes and effects of climate change, which will have implications for lifestyles and the form of development in the future.

Belfast City Council agrees that strategic planning, to deal with key impacts that may arise from climate change, will be more cost effective than taking retrospective action.

In general terms draft PPS18 is to be welcomed as it provides up-to-date guidance on renewable energy developments and re-affirms the Departments commitment to ensuring developments are guided to appropriate locations. As a consequence it reflects the balance required to accommodate renewable energy developments.

However, the Council has concerns in relation to the processing times of applications for renewable energy development. Draft PPS18 indicates that extensive consultation will be undertaken by the NI Planning Service in the assessment of renewable energy development, in particular for wind turbines. The standard consultee turn-around time is normally 14 working days, however many consultee's can take much longer to respond due to staffing resources, lengthening the overall assessment time.

Many domestic renewable energy schemes are subsidised via schemes such as ‘the Environment and Renewable Energy Fund Household Programme’ and these schemes are dependant on the applicant being successful with their planning application. Delays in receiving planning permission may lead to funding delays.

Belfast City Council supports the structure and clarity of **Polices RE1 & RE2** in providing much greater detail of the criteria for assessment of planning applications by the Department. The greater degree of guidance and accessibility to the public will potentially facilitate a wider up-take of renewable energy schemes.

Development Plans and Renewable Energy Commitment

Many local authorities throughout the UK have sought to include policies in their area plans which require new development to incorporate renewable energy and energy efficiency. The Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan 2015 does not contain any commitment to the goals of renewable energy or guidance as to where large scale renewable energy development would be acceptable. For example the siting of wind farms which can be controversial as many residents in the locality feel that it may damage visual and residential amenity, should ideally have been considered within an area plan. Belfast City Council considers that the identification of suitable sites within an area plan reinforces renewable energy policies and their implementation.

Policy RE2 - Integrated Renewable Energy and Passive Solar Design

Passive Solar Design

The Building (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006, introduced increased minimum legal requirements for the attainment of energy conservation and thus a reduction in CO₂ emissions from buildings; these were enacted on the 30th November 2006. These changes were significant and the process of adaptation is continuing. Notwithstanding the above, draft PPS 18 now stipulates that consideration must be given to Passive Solar design principles in the layout, siting and design of:

- All public sector development;
- Large-scale urban development (generally defined for the purposes of this policy as a site of 1ha or greater or a building of 5,000m² or greater); and
- Dwellings in the countryside.

The regulatory impact assessment for The Building (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006 when they were introduced, estimated that there would be an increase of cost in complying with the European directive in respect of the conservation of energy within buildings. It is accepted across the construction industry that compliance with this directive resulted in a rise in the construction costs of buildings.

The Council recommends that in the introduction of policy a balance is sought between increased costs and the anticipated return. This balance should seek to ensure that policy and practice develop in such a way as to not to overburden or deter potential investment in the Northern Ireland economy.

Passive Solar Design

The Council would request greater clarification and evidence on the suitability of Passive Solar Design in Northern Ireland. It is a seasonal technology, which relies upon diffuse sun rays and for a large portion of the year in Ireland, solar impacts are limited. In these circumstances the design solution requires careful consideration to ensure that the seasonality is recognised.

Further clarification may also be required in relation to the implications for future developments in the vicinity of buildings which have passive solar equipment installations. Differentials in building heights and orientations in close urban proximity raise implications for the potential for development or redevelopment on adjacent properties which may impact upon or shadow the solar panel. It is not clear how this may restrict future development potential, in the vicinity of passive solar builds, or influence the decisions to invest in such technology where the long term benefits may not be controlled or protected from adverse implications from adjacent development.

Page 110 of the draft PPS18 lists the components of the PSD toolkit which may be employed. The Council would request clarification on the weight afforded to each element in terms of the potential contributions to CO₂ reduction.

Density and Brownfield development

The density of housing units in any new urban residential development may be affected by the need to apply the PSD principles and this may contradict the ethos of the 'Compact City' concept, which advocates the containment of urban development to avoid urban sprawl in to the surrounding Greenfield areas. In addition, PSD relies on development being orientated to maximise solar gain, whilst brownfield development in an existing urban areas may be constrained by the immediate environment and buildings surrounding the site. The application of PSD within urban settlements could if inappropriately applied

contribute to a reduction in housing density and lead to increased pressure to development beyond the greenbelt.

PSD Implementation - Increased Development costs imposed on new developments:

In addition to the costs which are likely to be encountered by public sector development, the potential for increased costs in relation to residential development could be significant within a market, which has experienced a significant increase in unit costs. The development industry, until the market adjusts to such changes, is likely to seek to pass on the costs of renewable energy elements included in a new home such as solar panels or air source heat pumps. As this will further increase the cost of home ownership the Council would welcome research into the assessment or prediction of what the likely offset will be for purchasers of houses, which use energy from renewable sources.

Role of Building Control

Building regulations, in the main are a set of performance based standards which determine the minimum legal requirement at a point in time for the construction of our built environment. The regulations specify the outcomes and outputs developers should require for buildings and they allow a flexibility for designers in terms of what they intend to build.

Technical booklet Part F1 and F2 of these regulations currently sets out criteria for developers to improve energy conservation in buildings and already covers the effect of passive solar design. The council believes that Draft PPS18 in this regard could be considered to run contrary to what is contained within the Building Regulations as it seeks to introduce prescriptive requirements for passive solar design with no regard to the outcome or effect of these requirements on design considerations.

The Council would recommend that Passive Solar design be retained within the auspices of the building regulations for assessment by those who have technical capability in determining the outcome of the design features on the environment. We would also recommend that the designers be afforded the freedom to design for site specific aspect of their building and that the PPS be amended to allow greater flexibility in considering the visual impact, where it incorporates passive solar design features as a method of compliance with the building regulation requirements.

CO2 Emission Target

Although Draft PPS18 specifies that new developments should incorporate elements of Passive Solar Design it does not recommend the establishment of a minimum requirement for renewable provision in new developments and a target for new developments to cut their CO₂ emissions. Belfast City Council is committed to reducing its own carbon emissions in line with the UK government's domestic target of a 20% reduction below 1990 levels by 2010¹. The establishment of targets requires careful consideration as clarity would be essential both in relation to the basis for any target and the appropriate legislative control between Planning and Building Control. In addition a baseline position would be required in order to determine percentage reduction as this is a changing position that could be difficult to regulate or enforce. The Council would recommend that the limits of CO₂ emissions stay within the Building Regulations to ensure clarity.

Resources

¹ Belfast City Council, Carbon Management Action Plan, Local Authority Carbon Management Programme 2004. (www.carbontrust.co.uk/NR/rdonlyres)

In terms of resources the Council believes that it is essential that the Planning Service ensures that it is ‘fit for purpose’ in terms of staffing and technical capacity to enable them to administer the complexities of the technical issues to be assessed as a result of renewable energy developments.

Enforcement of PSD Principles

Point 4.44 states that “Passive Solar Design concerns the fundamental design of a building; it cannot easily be dealt with by way of planning conditions”. However the enforcement of planning conditions relating to PSD principles must be as enforceable any other cosmetic or integral design element of a building. The supporting report written to accompany any application which includes PSD principles should be incorporated as an enforceable element of the planning application or else linked to building regulations approval.

This could be made feasible if the applicant detailed the utilised PSD principles on both the supporting statement and the building plans. Under such an approach any deviation from these principles could result in enforcement action requiring the modification of the building or proposed elements.

The Council would support the need for the effective enforcement of passive solar design principles. There may be an opportunity to exploit a functional overlap and potential for the Planning Service to enter joint working arrangements with the Councils, in particular the Building Control Service, to ensure that these principles are adhered to during construction. This potential early intervention and monitoring is critical as non-compliance could result in the necessity for action to secure the alteration or reconstruction of a building. PPS 18 could, in these circumstances lead to a situation whereby planning conditions made in respect of a building could be enforceable under the building regulations – this will require further discussion and exploration.

Limited Empirical Data of effectiveness of PSD

Draft PPS18 does not supply any observed or statistical data relating to the effectiveness of PSD principles. Rather the policy appears to approach the issue in broad terms in relation to effectiveness of PSD principles, without providing evidence of how this methodology had worked effectively when applied previously in Northern Ireland or the wider UK. Indeed PSD principles are at best a complementary measure to other renewable energy schemes and perhaps the emphasis of the policy should be on the incorporation of substantive renewable energy technologies into new developments such as:

- Wind turbine
- Solar Photovoltaic
- Solar Water Systems
- Ground source heat pumps
- Biomass

Evidence suggests that with this active technology there is a more concerted effort toward achieving an individual household reduction of 10% in CO₂ emissions whilst it is also accepted as being more relevant to small scale developments. The Council would additionally ask for more empirical data to clarify the relationship between a cost benefit analysis in relation to the application of the technology and the reduction of CO₂ emissions.

Permitted Development Rights

In regard to permitted development rights, a review of existing provision in Northern Ireland is currently underway by the NI Planning Service (Review of Permitted Development Rights for Small Scale Renewable Energy Development – commenced January 2007) and it is possible that residential properties will see their permitted development rights in relation to renewable energy proposals extended. At present there are very few circumstances under which renewable energy development could be incorporated into a home without requiring an application for planning permission. Rather than simply re-interpret existing planning legislation to allow renewable energy developments, there is a need for adequate and comprehensive permitted development rights related specifically to renewable energy to be recorded onto a comprehensive database maintained to supplement Building Control Service records which may in the future assist with any joint working arrangements.

However with the extension of PD rights there must be an appropriate balance between permitted development and the need to restrict those forms of renewable development which could impact upon the residential or visual amenities of residential developments. It is reasonable to consider that it is unacceptable for the amenity of neighbours to be reduced by excessive and intrusive vibration or noise from a micro-generation device

Community Benefits

(Arising out of the development of large scale renewable energy projects)

The creation of a format by which local communities can benefit from the development of large scale renewable energy projects is to be welcomed. The offsetting of potential negative externalities created by for example wind turbines which can detract from visual amenity (view) is necessary. However the critical issue is what format such compensation should take. Draft PPS18 suggests that compensation could take the form of a financial payment, the construction of a community facility or even the use of contractor services as needed. However the policy states that these agreements are entirely outside of the remit of the Planning Service and will not influence the assessment of any planning application. It is difficult to concur with this conclusion when a proposed development is considered to have a direct impact and the proposed amelioration may include proposals that have direct land use implications and require separate planning consents.

Community Benefits - Article 40 Agreements

Article 40 of the Planning (Northern Ireland) Order 1991 enables the Department to enter into Planning Agreements with any person who has an estate in that land for the purpose of facilitating, regulating or restricting the development or use of the land either permanently or for a specified period of time. This legislation should be employed by the department as the most appropriate vehicle for securing community benefits which arise from development. Utilising this legislation would ensure that community benefits are negotiated with the supervision of the Department and place less of an onus on the community to liaise with a developer.

The Council would seek further evidence that the generation of electrical power in one area which will supply another area, will not be disproportionately harmful to the community in which the technology is sited in terms of the direct local environmental impact on the host community.

Where such ‘benefits’ are outside of the Planning system and will not influence a planning application then Draft PPS18 should not need to state that developer offers are necessary. This issue gives rise to questions of who would be responsible for the assessment of the

appropriateness such developer contributions. If the policy states that the Planning Service will have no involvement in this issue then it cannot consider whether a scheme provides sufficient community benefits.

The Council considers that it would be more appropriate to account for developer contributions within the policy for large scale renewable energy development, and then to establish an assessment test for the contributions, or perhaps an independent assessment process. It must be acknowledged that there will be potentially negative or contradictory externalities arising from renewable energy developments, the most obvious being the impacts on natural landscapes or the immediate local environments. In such circumstances it is rational to assume that a developer would seek to offset this negative externality by compensating the local community.

Section B45 – Planning Issues (Economic Benefit to local community)

Section B45 states that economic and social benefit to the communities will be given weight in assessing renewable energy proposals, particularly biomass energy crop production. Clarification is required as to the degree of weight carried by this factor. The justification of economic benefit to the local community could be used as a convenient pretext to override almost any negative effects of development. For example a scenario whereby a significant natural landscape is affected by a wind farm is justified because the local community benefits from a developer contribution or preferential electricity supply. The concept economic benefit has the potential to introduce uncertainty or confusion in regard to the balanced assessment of planning proposals. This issue should therefore be subject to further clarification as to the role economic benefit could play in the assessment of an application. It may be appropriate for each component of the planning policy criteria to be listed according to weight, for example:

1. Impact of residential amenity
2. Economic Benefit to local community
3. Impact on visual amenity
4. Road Traffic implications

This prioritisation of assessment criteria could not be applied equally in all development scenarios; this format would make planning assessment more predictable and less speculative.

Energy from Waste (Annex C)

Landfill Gas

Belfast City Council is committed to utilising its significant landfill gas reserves in the near future and therefore the decision not to include specific policy guidance in the main body of Draft PPS18 is disappointing. Landfill gas in particular offers an opportunity to derive energy in the short to medium term from a diminishing source.

The Renewable Obligation (NIRO) compels licensed electricity suppliers such as NIE to source an increasing proportion of electricity from renewable sources. Organisations such as Belfast City Council would seek to provide energy to NIE by utilising Renewable Obligation Certificates (ROC's), but require planning guidance in the form of planning policy statements to add a degree of certainty to future renewable energy planning. The Council as the owner of the Dargan Road landfill facility on the North Foreshore of Belfast Lough would seek within the near future to utilise the large amount of landfill gas which has accumulated on the site. This would result in the Council becoming a renewable energy generator selling electricity to NIE through the Renewable Obligation Certificates scheme. The council in the absence of a generation facility is currently flaring this gas at a

rate of 2500 m³ per hour, which is sufficient to produce four megawatts of electricity and power up to 5000 homes.

Although Draft PPS18 does mention landfill gas in Annex C, it does not provide specific guidance on developments which utilise energy from waste within the main body of the policy. This is particularly important as this energy is derived from a diminishing source as landfilling operations across the province have in compliance with EU Policy been curtailed in recent years. The council would advocate policy guidance which provides a clear and definitive approach to development to extract energy from waste. The Council would reiterate the need to assist renewable energy producers by providing explicit development guidance, rather than providing generalised information in the annex of the document.

Energy from Waste (Excluded Conventional Technologies)

Belfast City Council considers that the definition of renewable energy employed in the composition of Draft PPS18 is inappropriate in the context of European and UK policies. The guidance on energy from waste in Annex C is exclusive and does not consider conventional Energy Recovery Incineration (ERI). ERI is the combustion of waste under controlled conditions in which the heat released is recovered for a beneficial purpose. This may be to provide steam or hot water for industrial or domestic users, or for electricity generation. Combined heat and power (CHP) incinerators provide both heat and electricity. The fuel value (calorific value) of household waste is about one third that of coal: as a rough guide, for every 100,000 tonnes of ERI capacity about 7 megawatts (MW) of electricity could be exported to the grid to meet the needs of about 11,000 homes. Rather than exclude this method of recovering energy from waste, the Department should condition such developments, to ensure that thermal and electrical efficiency and / or combined heat and power targets are maintained. To exclude such development from consideration in Draft PPS18 would result in the loss of a significant amount of energy which can be provided if sufficiently monitored, with minimised environmental effects.

Biomass

Wood Burning Fuel Pellets - Delivery distances from supplier to consumer:

The number of pellet burning boilers installed in Northern Ireland has increased rapidly and this has led to fuel supply issues. A significant proportion of fuel pellets used in Northern Ireland are imported, which does not correspond with Policy RE1 which states that 'proposals will be expected to be located at, or as close as possible to, the source of the resource needed for that particular technology'. It is likely that suppliers will need to travel more than an average distance of 40 km to deliver fuel pellets which adds to the total carbon cost of the development.

Heating with wood pellets, a renewable fuel, is seen as an environmentally friendly alternative to fossil fuel heating, however wood pellet production and supply in the UK is still a key barrier to widespread uptake of wood pellet heating. A survey carried out by CONNESS GmbH, Austria and ECONERGY Ltd, Great Britain showed that in 2004 only ten wood pellet mills operated across the UK². This figure has increased however there is still a significant shortfall in domestic wood pellet production. Supply chain cost is an important factor in the entire wood pellet cost and that wood pellet produced locally brings lowest supply cost.

As a result of a domestic production shortfall, wood pellets have been imported from the Baltic countries which are lower in price than UK produced pellets, although transported

² Schuler, Anton Leander 'Developing a wood pellet fuel sector in South Yorkshire', (www.wood-fuel.org.uk)

over long distances. This travel associated with supply leads to an increase in the 'carbon cost' of the technology which detracts from the overall goals of reducing CO₂ emission.

There are many reasons to support the development of the UK bio fuels industry for example, demonstrated carbon savings achievable in the transport fuel sector; increased UK fuel security and benefits to the rural economy. However the question of whether there is sufficient spare agricultural land in Northern Ireland to meet the supply for the forthcoming demand for bio fuels should be addressed. Another key target in reducing carbon emissions is to attain a high level of self-sufficiency in the provision of food and other agricultural products.

Greenhouse Gas Mitigation

A further planning issue listed in section B45 is Greenhouse Gas Mitigation (GHGs). This is a complex issue, which must be subject to careful assessment. In regard to the calculation of greenhouse gas mitigation it is not clear whether this merely related to the carbon footprint associated with the activity of fuel burning or the mitigation associated with the production and delivery of fuel crops. The concept of total carbon cost would be a more appropriate measurement.

In regard to the assessment of the mitigation proposals, the Council would seek clarification as to whether or not the Department intend to carry out and publish such a technical assessment as part of the planning application assessment report.

Protection of Built and Natural Heritage

Draft PPS18 demonstrates good awareness of issues relating to the impact of renewable energy installations on the archaeological and built heritage and on aesthetic quality. Within the overall context of promoting sustainability with planning policy, it is worth noting that in terms of 'total carbon cost' there are substantial environmental benefits to perseveration of the historic or older building stock over new build. This is demonstrable despite the ability to reduce ongoing energy consumption in newer developments. Given the widely held public perception that new build is superior this is perhaps a point that needs to be more clearly emphasised.

In respect of the protection of built heritage and ancient monuments in the natural landscape, rigorous planning assessment must be undertaken to safeguard against the accumulation of for example wind turbines in the setting of a significant historical building/monument. Such assessment would require special consideration in line with Planning Policy Statement 6: 'Planning, Archaeology and the Built Heritage' and PPS 6 Addendum: 'Areas of Townscape Character'.

Protection of Air Quality in Belfast

Response by Belfast City Council's Environment Protection Unit

In response to the recently published Draft Planning Policy Statement 18 - 'Renewable Energy' The Environmental Protection Unit wish to submit the following comments.

The Environmental Protection Unit within the Council's Environmental Health Department is a statutory consultee for the Planning Service for any development that has the potential to have an impact on air quality within Belfast Council boundary. The Unit is also tasked to carry out the duties under the Environment (NI) Order 2002 that places a responsibility on local authorities to monitor, review and assess air quality within its boundary. Consequently, the Unit has developed a detailed understanding and knowledge of air quality issues that pose a risk to human health. It is therefore considered that the Unit has

the necessary skills and experience to comment on the implications of the Draft Planning Policy Statement 18 and its potential impact on air quality.

The Unit welcomes the over riding objective to "encourage and facilitate the provision and siting of renewable energy generating facilities in appropriate locations within the built and natural environment". It recognises the role that renewable energy has in reducing green house gas emissions and assisting in diversifying Northern Ireland's energy supplies.

The Unit would like to draw the Department of the Environment's attention to the ten areas within Northern Ireland where fine particulates (PM^{10}) exceed or are predicted to exceed the 2004 National Air Quality Strategy Objective. One of these areas falls within the Belfast City Council area and encompasses the M1-Westlink corridor. This area was predicted to exceed the annual mean objective (40 ug/m^3) and the 24 hour mean objective (50 ug/m^3 not to be exceeded more than 35 times a year). Recent monitoring within this area has confirmed these predictions and to date (December 2007) 37 days have seen concentrations in excess of 50 ug/m^3 . These levels of fine particulates are some of the highest levels monitored anywhere in the UK.

The Air Quality Standards Regulation (Northern Ireland) 2007 introduced a further objective for ultra fine particulates ($PM^{2.5}$). This objective sets a target for exposure reduction of 20% in concentrations at urban background sites between the years 2010 and 2020. By the year 2020 $PM^{2.5}$ annual means should not exceed 25 ug/m^3 . Responsibility for regional exposure reduction for $PM^{2.5}$ will fall upon the Department of the Environment (NI).

Eleven areas within Northern Ireland have been declared on the grounds that concentrations of nitrogen dioxide exceed or are predicted to exceed the 2005 National Air Quality Strategy Objective. Four of these areas occur within the Belfast City Council area. These areas are predicted to exceed the annual mean objective (40 ug/m^3) and one area (the Westlink-M1 corridor) is also predicted to exceed the hourly mean (200 ug/m^3 not to be exceeded more than 18 times a year). Recent monitoring within this area has confirmed these predictions and to date (December 2007) the annual mean is 64 ug/m^3 , some 60% higher than the 2005 objective.

Belfast City Council is striving to meet the 2004, 2005 and 2007 objectives. In May 2006, the Belfast City Air Quality Action Plan was launched and identified 164 steps that would assist in the reduction of air quality pollutants across the city. It is the opinion of this Unit that developments involving combustion have the potential to significantly undermine these efforts and result in the failure to meet these objectives. Consequently, this Unit would consider the inappropriate siting of renewable energy generating facilities within Belfast City as a potential source of emissions that could have a direct impact on human health. This Unit therefore proposes that any new energy generating development should be subjected to a rigorous pre-assessment to determine the emissions to air and to demonstrate that these emissions have minimal adverse effect. This is particularly prevalent when considering biomass plant. Similarly, developments that attract vehicle movements have the potential to adversely impact air quality due to vehicle emissions. Consequently, any large scale biomass generators would require detailed assessment of not only the generator emissions but traffic generated emissions.

The Unit would also like to highlight that areas within Belfast City are designated as Smoke Control Areas and all new Biomass generators (regardless of size) would have to adhere to the Clean Air (Northern Ireland) Order 1981.

This Unit is highly supportive of any initiative to encourage and increase the amount of energy generation from renewable resources however the Planning Policy Statement 18

would benefit from clear statements and clarification on the balance required between the need to promote new energy schemes and to offset potentially negative environmental impacts.

Wind Farm noise Measurement

Draft PPS18 states that (Building Regulation) BS4142 will not be the preferred method of assessment for noise levels generated from wind turbines. Amplification is required as to the methodology employed in preference to BS4142. 'The Assessment and Rating of Noise from Wind Farms' (ETSU-R-97), describes a framework for the measurement of wind farm noise and gives indicative noise levels calculated to offer a reasonable degree of protection to wind farm neighbours, without placing unreasonable restrictions on wind farm development. In addition, any acoustic measurement must take account of the construction or maintenance noise levels of a wind farm. Amplification is required within Draft PPS18 as to how an additional turbine is to be assessed in an existing factory setting, employing this methodology. Clarification is also required as to the role Belfast City Council will play as an expert environmental health consultant.

Compositional Errors in Document

Error in document relating to Page 55 Paragraph A.122 refers to paragraph A.36 as containing additional information relevant to an EIA, however this is an error and A.122 should refer to A.35 instead.

Error in document relating to Page 36 Paragraph A.38 states that paragraph A.117 contains information relating to when an EIA is deemed necessary to accompany a development application. However paragraph A.123 details this information and A.117 relates to decommissioning.

Appendix 2

SUMMARY

Draft PPS18 - 'Renewable Energy'

The main policy objective of draft PP18 is:

"to encourage and facilitate the provision and siting of renewable energy generating facilities in appropriate locations within the built and natural environment".

The main objectives behind the policies are:

- To contribute to the alleviation of climate change through reducing greenhouse gas emissions;
- To contribute to the regional target of 12% of electricity generation by 2012, and 40% by 2025 from renewable energy sources;
- To assist the diversification of energy supply and a more competitive energy market;
- Encourage economic growth and rural diversification associated with the development of an indigenous renewable energy industry;
- To ensure that the environmental, landscape, visual and amenity impacts associated with renewable energy development are adequately addressed;
- To ensure appropriate protection of the Region's built and natural, and cultural heritage features;
- To promote knowledge of and greater acceptance by the public of prospective renewable energy developments that are appropriately located;
- To foster greater community involvement in renewable energy projects and encourage use of community benefits; and
- Promote greater application of the principles of Passive Solar Design in the design, siting and layout of new development.

Draft PPS18 – ‘Renewable Energy’ contains two policies **RE1 and RE2** and the remainder of the document is composed of **five annexes** which provide development control guidance for renewable development proposals, details of benefits to communities from renewable development, a list of stakeholder organisations and screening for the documents Equality Impact Assessment.

Policy RE1 – ‘Renewable Energy Development’

Policy RE1 – ‘Renewable Energy Development’ provides the underlying general principles of acceptable development. Broadly speaking, development which respects the following values will be acceptable to the Department:

- (a) Public safety; human health; or residential amenity;
- (b) Visual amenity and landscape character;
- (c) Biodiversity, nature conservation or built heritage interests;
- (d) Local natural resources, including air and water quality; and
- (e) Public access to the countryside.

Policy RE1 also states that:

- Proposals should be located as close as possible to the natural resource which is to be exploited. This minimises transportation costs or other externalities which could minimise net benefits. Combined Heat and power schemes will be exempted from this rule provided the benefits outweigh the associated costs.
- All applications for renewable energy development will be required to submit a detailed statement of the environmental effects of the proposal, including the amount of energy generated.
- An Environmental Impact Statement may be required depending upon the scale of the development.
- Permission will only be granted providing damage caused during installation is minimised, mitigated or compensated for
- In addition the wider environmental, economic and social benefits of all proposals for renewable energy development will be regarded as material considerations. Developers of large renewable energy schemes will be encouraged to provide community benefits to offset potential residential or visual amenity impacts.

Wind Energy Development

Wind Energy Development is given particular attention due to its potential to disrupt residential and visual amenity.

Such developments are required to demonstrate the following:

- (i) That the development will not have a unacceptable impact on visual amenity or landscape character through: the number, scale, size and siting of turbines; or the need for new transmission lines for connection to the electricity supply grid;
- (ii) That the development will not impact significantly on peatland carbon stores if sited in or near a peatland habitat;
- (iii) That the development has taken into consideration the cumulative impact of neighbouring wind turbines or wind farm development, existing or approved;
- (iv) That no part of the development will give rise to unacceptable electromagnetic interference to communications installations; radar or air traffic control systems; emergency services communications; or other telecommunication systems;
- (v) That no part of the development will have an unacceptable impact on roads, rail or aviation safety;
- (vi) That the development will not cause significant harm to the safety or amenity of the users of any regularly occupied building arising from noise; shadow flicker; ice throw; and reflected light; and
- (vii) That above-ground redundant plant (including turbines), buildings and associated infrastructure shall be removed and the site restored to an agreed standard appropriate to its location.

Policy RE2 – ‘Integrated Renewable Energy and Passive Solar Design’

The Department wishes to encourage greater application of the principles of Passive Solar Design (PSD) through the planning system, while recognising this is likely to be constrained to an extent by building and location specific factors. Passive Solar development has of course been a traditional element of building construction for hundreds of years. The ability to orientate or design a building to capture natural sunlight.

To assist this process, applicants for the following types of development will be expected to demonstrate what consideration has been given to PSD principles in the layout, siting and design of their proposals:

- All public sector development;
- Large-scale urban development (generally defined for the purposes of this policy as a site of 1ha or greater or a building of 5,000m² or greater); and
- Dwellings in the countryside.

Annex 1 - Information and best practice guidance for renewable energy development proposals

This annex is designed to facilitate applicants to more easily comply with the requirements of the Development Control process. It clearly indicates those elements of each form of renewable energy development which are acceptable and unacceptable. In addition detailed information is provided on the definition and various forms of equipment used to harness natural energy.

- A. Wind Energy
- B. Biomass
- C. Energy from Waste (biological processes)
- D. Energy from Waste (Thermal processes)
- E. Small Hydro
- F. Active Solar (Photovoltaics)
- G. Solar Thermal (Solar Water Heating)
- H. Ground, Water and Air Source Heat Pumps

ANNEX 2 - Passive Solar Design

Annex 2 provides similar information to Annex 1 but from the perspective of the Passive Solar Design.

ANNEX 3 - Community benefits arising out of the development of wind farms and other large scale renewable energy projects in Northern Ireland

1. To off-set the cost of additional public infrastructure necessary to accommodate a private renewable energy development, the developer may be requested to make an in-kind or financial contribution towards its provision.
2. An applicant / business may wish to enter into a legally binding agreement with third parties to deliver particular and agreed benefits to the community, to negate the effects of a renewable energy scheme. This concept is advocated by the Department as a means of arriving at a local consensus between developers and local residents.

Such benefits offered to local communities could take the form of one or more of:

- In-kind benefits such as the construction of a needed community facility;
- A lump sum financial payment for the benefit of the community;
- Annual payments to the community; and/or
- A commitment from the developer to use local labour and/or contractors/services wherever possible.

It is, however, considered to be essential that:

- Benefits are negotiated with appropriate and representative persons or bodies;
- Benefits are channelled through a regulated and properly constituted body or trust (this could include the local authority);
- Benefits are utilised for an agreed range of appropriate uses that would all fall within the definition of sustainable development;
- At least part of any annual payment benefits should be invested in carbon; and
- Emissions reduction measures in the local community.

ANNEX 4 – Stakeholder organisations

A list of stakeholder organisations who have contributed to the formulation of Draft PPS18.

ANNEX 5 – Screening for Equality Impact Assessment - Draft Planning Policy Statement 18 ‘Renewable Energy’

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Belfast City Council

Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	Renewing the Routes: Update on Antrim Road and York Road Projects
Date:	21 February 2008
Reporting Officer:	Marie-Thérèse McGivern Director of Development, ext. 3470
Contact Officers:	Shirley McCay Head of Economic Initiatives, ext 3459. Keith Sutherland Planning and Transport Policy Manager, ext. 3578.

Relevant Background Information

Regeneration activity in the target areas on the York Road and Antrim Road has continued utilising resources provided from the Brighter Belfast budgets and an allocation from Urban II. The Development Committee on 20 September 2006 received a report on the potential for additional regeneration works on the Antrim and York Roads on the basis of an enhanced URBAN II budget allocation, provided following a review of ongoing activity.

The continued success of the regeneration activity in partnership with URBAN II has resulted in the Renewing the Route programme being considered for a further additional funding in respect of both the Antrim Road and York Road.

This report provides an update on the ongoing activity in these areas and seeks approval for the development and implementation of additional regeneration activity on these roads.

Key Issues

Update on existing activity

The Carlisle Circus artwork within the Antrim Road area is progressing towards completion by March 2008. Planning permission has been granted and the selected artist is currently fabricating the artwork with the proposed implementation date scheduled for the end of March 2008.

In parallel with the work on the Antrim Road the York Road the gateway piece is also progressing towards final implementation. Planning permission and the necessary approvals have again been secured and the art piece implementation is due to take place in March 2008.

Following a review of existing activity on the completion of the commercial shop frontage scheme the potential for an additional local signage project has been identified on the York Road utilising funding from the existing budgets agreed at the above mentioned Committee. This local information and visitor signage would build on the successful project initiated across the city centre and contribute to the development of linkages into the surrounding sectors of the city (**Appendix 1**).

Antrim Road & York Road funding uplift

The successful delivery of Phase previously approved projects has resulted, through further URBAN II funding, in an opportunity to extend the Renewing the Routes programme on the Antrim and York Road. As the schemes previously approved have now largely been completed it is necessary to identify further regeneration projects for implementation along the identified arterial routes. To inform this process additional scoping and feasibility work has been carried out in consultation with local community groups, organisations and statutory bodies including BRO Physical Development Unit, BRO North Team, NIHE Community Liaison and North District Office.

URBAN II have also confirmed that the Antrim Road has been allocated an additional £80,000 and York Road £60,000. The potential additional funding was confirmed in late December 2008 with a spend deadline for August 2008 to conform to EU guidelines. This presents a challenging timescale for the successful development and delivery of regeneration projects within the target areas.

The proposed additional priority and potential projects arising from the scoping works are set out in the appendices to this report for approval by Committee (**Appendix 1 & 2**). In response to the timescale restrictions it has been necessary to introduce a distinction between "priority" projects and "potential" projects within the appendices for both the York Road (**Appendix 1**) and Antrim Road (**Appendix 2**). The inclusion of the potential projects is, in effect, an over allocation to allow for flexibility in the delivery of projects within the tight timescales. In circumstances where the further development of the "priority project" suggests that they may not be feasible within the tight financial timescales it may be necessary to progress to development of the reserve projects identified as a "potential projects" in the appropriate appendix.

Resource Implications

Additional external funding from URBAN II of £80,000 for the Antrim Road and £60,000 for the York Road/ North Queen Street target regeneration areas.

Recommendations

Members are asked to:

- note the progress in relation to the ongoing regeneration projects
- approve the review and reallocation of project expenditure on York Road to allow the development of the local information and visitor signage
- endorse the proposed additional projects and outline budgets for the York Road /North Queen Street and Antrim areas as a basis for project development and implementation as detailed in Appendix 1 and 2 respectively

Documents Attached

Appendix 1 - York Road/ North Queen Street updates and proposed activity

Appendix 2 - Antrim Road updates and proposed activity

APPENDIX 1

YORK ROAD / NORTH QUEEN STREET

Update on existing activity	Budget	Timescale
York Road Gateway Site – scheme progressing	£35,000	March 2008

Additional Project	Budget	Timescale
Environmental Improvement – local information provision through the installation of Visitor Signage at the Junction of York Road with North Derby Street (North Side).	£12,500	March 2008

Priority Project	Indicative Budget	Timescale
Environmental Improvement – installation of Traditional Lighting Columns to upgrade lighting on North Queen Street in partnership with DRD & NIHE.	£37,500	August 2008
Environmental Improvement - tree planting at locations on North Queen Street / Canning Street and York Road shops .	£10,000	August 2008
Environmental Improvement – minor environmental works and painting on North Queen Street gable walls including the provision of hanging baskets in partnership with NIHE and Belfast in Bloom	£5,000	August 2008
Commercial improvements – cosmetic enhancement works on North Queen Street and York Road to improve individual properties (1-2 projects)	£7,500	August 2008

Potential Projects	Indicative Budget	Timescale
Commercial Improvements – comprehensive works to target properties on York Rd / North Queen Street. (2-3 properties)	£35,000	August 2008
General Environmental Improvements - York Road land within the commercial area between Mountcollyer Ave and Parkmount Street in partnership with NIHE	£4,000	August 2008
Art works – Various sites including Archway Art Project for the Northern Ireland Railways Building	£20,000	August 2008

APPENDIX 2

ANTRIM ROAD

Update on existing activity	Budget	Timescale
Carlisle Circus artwork – currently being fabricated by the appointed artist.	£40,000	March 2008

Priority Projects	Indicative Budget	Timescale
Commercial Improvement – cosmetic works to properties between Carlisle Circus and Lincoln Ave.	£7,500	August 2008
Environmental Improvements- between 101-103 Antrim Road in partnership with NIHE - boundary and lighting improvements.	£15,000	August 2008
Environmental Improvement – local information provision through the installation of Visitor Signage for Clifton Cemetery.	£12,500	August 2008
Environmental Improvement – local information provision through the installation of Visitor Signage at Carlisle Circus.	£15,000	August 2008
Environmental Improvement –installation of decorative lighting columns and hanging baskets in partnership with DRD and Belfast in Bloom	£30,000	August 2008

Potential Projects	Indicative Budget	Timescale
Environmental Improvement – Boundary treatment to frontage of four properties between 184-190 Antrim Road	£20,000	August 2008
Environmental Improvement – Boundary treatment and landscaping works between 21 and 55 Antrim Road in partnership with NIHE	£15,000	August 2008
Environmental Improvement – additional amenity lighting, boundary enhancement and restoration, including landscaping	£40,000	August 2008
Environmental Improvement – Fegan Garage – Additional lighting & repainting	£8,000	August 2008
Environmental Improvement – Tree planting throughout route	£10,000	August 2008