



Subject:	Stratagem Conference
Date:	19th August, 2022
Reporting Officer:	John Walsh, Chief Executive John Tully, Director of City and Organisational Strategy
Contact Officer:	Laura Leonard, International Relations Manager Kevin Heaney, Head of Inclusive Growth and Anti-Poverty

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sometime in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to bring to the Committee's attention a request from Stratagem for the Council to sponsor a forthcoming conference 'Future of Politics: Delivering Effective Government' to be held on 16th September, 2022.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to: (i) note the attached Stratagem discussion paper, which outlines the proposed scope of the areas to be explored at the conference and the current panellists confirmed for the event; (ii) consider the request for the Council to sponsor the event to the value of £5,000; and (iii) approve the proposed approach to seeking Member's representation and participation in the event, as set out in paragraph 3.4 below, should a decision be taken to sponsor the conference.

3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>Stratagem is a public affairs consultancy based in Belfast which provides advice, support and services to help inform policy/strategy development and decision-making processes. Stratagem draws upon expertise and experience from across a range of sectors to inform its work.</p>
3.2	<p>Stratagem has recently made a request to the Council to sponsor a forthcoming conference event to be held on 16th September 2022, focusing on 'Future Politics: Delivering Effective Government'. As outlined in the attached discussion paper, the conference seeks to provide the opportunity to reflect on how our political system operates, its relationship with policy development and the wider political framework in which it sits and to consider workable solutions that could deliver better outcomes for people and communities. This is the inaugural annual conference featuring international speakers and provides a platform to showcase our city leadership.</p>
3.3	<p>The Council has been asked to consider a potential sponsorship of £5k for the event which would be commensurate to other sponsorships received (e.g. NILGA, QUB, UU, the Community Foundation etc). Supporting sponsors receive the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five places to attend the conference • A Speaker place on one of the panel discussions – as set out in the appendix. • an invite to pre-conference dinner event on 15th September 2022 • acknowledgment and promotion of sponsor organisation support to event
3.4	<p>If the Council agrees to sponsor the conference event, it is proposed that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) five places to attend the event be offered to Elected Members (via Party Group Leaders) (ii) the opportunity to participate on panel discussions at the conference event be offered to the Chair of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee (or his nominee) (iii) the invite to the pre-conference event be offered to the Chair of Strategic Policy and Resources Committee (or his nominee)
3.5	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>Any financial implications arising from this report will be covered from existing budgets.</p>
4.0	<u>Document Attached</u>
	Stratagem Conference Discussion Paper