



## Belfast City Council

Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	World Transplant Games Bid – Belfast 2011
Date:	16 January 2007
Reporting Officer:	Marie-Therese McGivern, Director of Development, ext. 3470
Contact Officer:	Shirley McCay, Head of Economic Initiatives, ext. 3459 Kevin Grant, Events Manager, ext.3508

### Relevant Background Information

The World Transplant Games is the largest organ donation awareness event in the world. Today the World Transplant Games Federation is made up of 68 member countries, many of whom have their own National Transplant Sports organisations. As members will be aware, Belfast is currently in the midst of the formal bidding process with three other European cities, having been selected as the UK City for the 2011 Games by the Transplant Association of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The indications are that a UK City would be preferred by the world body, the World Transplant Games Federation.

The Local Organising Committee, chaired by Eamonn McCartan, Chief Executive of Sport NI, had originally allocated approximately £25,000 to resource the bid, based on figures provided by London, Ontario, who bid successfully for the event in 2005. In September 2006, the Community and Recreation Committee agreed to provide £6,000 to the bidding process and agree in principle to host the World Transplant Games in 2011 should the bid be successful. The remaining monies were provided by other stakeholders.

Further to the agreement in principle to support the Games, at the Development Committee meeting held on 20 September 2007, Members agreed to adopt a recommendation to support the World Transplant Games 2011 to the cost of £300,000, should the final bid be successful.

### Key Issues

The Local Organisers had originally allocated the equivalent of £25,000 to resource the bid process. This would involve:

- Travel for representatives to Thailand for the formal bid in August 2007
- Production of the necessary bid materials
- Receiving delegations from the World Transplant Games Federation to visit sports and social venues (February 2008)
- Travel for representatives to a second bid presentation (Australia in 2008)

Attached at **Appendix A** is correspondence from the Chairman of the Local Organising Committee (LOC). The letter explains that the original allocation of £25,000 to the bid process has proved insufficient and outlines the core reasons for this. The LOC are requesting that each stakeholder contribute further resources to conclude the bid process successfully.

#### Resource Implications

Belfast City Council is being asked to contribute a further £5,000.

#### Recommendations

Belfast City Council has agreed, at the Development Committee, held on 20 September 2007, to support the event to the figure of £300,000.

It is recommended that Members agree to contribute £5,000 to conclude the bidding process and that this £5,000 is provided from the agreed £300,000 contribution to the event if Belfast's bid is successful.

#### Documents Attached

Appendix A – correspondence from the Chairman of the Local Organising Committee

# Appendix A

24<sup>th</sup> December 2007

## **WORLD TRANSPLANT GAMES 2011 BID**

Dear Chairman,

As you are aware, we are in the latter stages of the bidding process for the above event.

Belfast City Council has already committed £6,000 to the bidding process and we are very grateful for this essential support. This funding has already been allocated on the production of a quality bid document and bid presentation in Bangkok in August 2007.

At the outset of this venture we estimated a total expenditure of £25,000 would be required to deliver this bid and bring this major event to Belfast. This figure was derived from information provided to us by Canada's experience of bidding in the recent past.

We now find that the anticipated expenditure was underestimated, but this can be fully justified:

### **Costs of producing a quality bid document**

We felt that it was important to produce a 'quality' bid document instead of a standard package and this incurred additional costs associated with the quality, quantity and depth of the bid book:

- Digitising of the bid book
- Additional images, pages, and copies of the bid book

It must be stressed that this document and artwork are now a considerable resource for future event bidding. I am aware that the City is currently putting together a bid for the World Pipe Band Championships and I am certain that the existing artwork will provide significant savings for the Pipe Band bid.

### **Accommodation Costs in Bangkok**

Due to a last minute cancellation by our hotel (due to a double booking), the delegation had to secure accommodation at very short notice and pay premium prices.

As you can see, some of these costs were beyond our control whilst others were a conscious decision to provide a quality bid and we feel that this was justified by our success in being further shortlisted.

After a thorough review of the cost implications, the organising committee agree that a further £17,000 in total from our stakeholders will be required to see the bid through to a successful completion and the award of the Games to Belfast.

On Monday 18<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> February a two day site visit by World Transplant Games Federation President Olivier Coustere and Secretary Gary Green will take place in Belfast. We will be the first of the three competing countries (Sweden and Denmark are the others) to host them and the visit will be fundamental in the decision making process. Originally we were led to believe that the Federation would look after their own flights but it is now apparent that the Belfast LOC must help with these costs. After this we will be required to complete the bidding process by presenting in Australia in the first week of June 2008.

The expenditure that therefore still needs to be covered involves:

- ***The costs of the site visit*** (Now including travel costs for the two visitors to and from Northern Ireland, in addition to their accommodation during the visit, transport throughout the two days and two functions at Belfast Castle and Stormont)
- ***The requirement now for a delegation from Northern Ireland to attend Brisbane in June to finalise the submission*** (The travel, accommodation and subsistence for a team of at least five, hopefully including the Lord Mayor, for a seven day period)

As Chairman of the Local Organising Committee, I am writing to all the partners and would appreciate if you would consider a further contribution by Belfast City Council of £5,000 towards this bid.

Yours sincerely

EAMMON McCARTAN  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
SPORT NORTHERN IRELAND