

# **Belfast City Council**

Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	Presentation from the Nomadic Trust
Date:	14 January 2009
Reporting Officer:	Marie-Thérèse McGivern, Director of Development ext 3470
Contact Officer:	Shirley McCay, Head of Economic Initiatives ext 3459 Gerry Copeland, Events Manager ext 3412

#### **Relevant Background Information**

In May 2006 the Minister for the Department of Social Development (DSD) announced the creation of the Nomadic Trust that would oversee the development and restoration of the SS Nomadic. The overall make-up of the Nomadic Trust consists of representatives from the public, private and voluntary sectors including Belfast City Council (Chair and Deputy Chair of Development or their nominees). The Trust has been established to fundraise and oversee the restoration of the vessel. It has been stated by DSD that they reserve the right to return the vessel to auction should insufficient progress be made within 18 months of the setting up of the Trust.

In March 2007, the Council agreed that the project should be funded to the sum of  $\pounds 250,000$ . This approval initiated a payment of  $\pounds 50,000$ , which was followed by  $\pounds 50,000$  in November 2007 and third payment of  $\pounds 50,000$  in May 2008.

#### Key Issues

In November 2008 the Committee agreed to receive a presentation by the Nomadic Trust's Chair, Mr Denis Rooney, to update Members on the project and to consider the release of the penultimate £50,000 of Council funding, which would be allocated to the creation of a conservation management plan for the vessel. Copies of the proposed presentation will be forwarded to Members prior to Committee.

# **Resource Implications**

#### **Financial**

In March 2007 Council agreed to fund the Nomadic Trust to the sum of £250,000. To date £150,000 of this funding has been released.

# Recommendations

Members are asked to;

- 1. Note the content of the presentation by the Nomadic Trust and
- 2. Approve the release of a further £50,000 of the agreed £150,000 funding, towards the financing of a conservation management plan for the vessel.

### Abbreviations

- BCC Belfast City Council
- DSD Department of Social Development