



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	SS Nomadic
Date:	12 May 2010
Reporting Officer:	John McGrillen, Director of Development, ext 3470
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Relevant Background Information

In May 2006 the Minister for the Department of Social Development 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.

In March 2007, the Council agreed that the project should be funded to the sum of £250,000.00. This approval initiated an initial payment of £50,000, which was followed by a second tranche of £50,000, which was agreed in November 2007 and third payment of £50,000 in May 2008, and in January 2009 the Committee agreed to release the penultimate £50,000 of Council funding.

Key Issues

The Council have now been requested, by the Nomadic Trust, to release the final tranche of £50,000. In order to safeguard the Council's investment the Policy & Resource's Committee agreed a five step funding arrangement and that subsequent reports be taken to the Development Committee. The first step of the funding occurred when the Nomadic opened to visitors. The second phase was set against the development of an economic appraisal on the future of the ship; this was completed and presented for Council approval. The third step was set against funding agreements being signed. The fourth step involved the release of funding for the creation of a conservation management plan for ongoing restoration of the vessel. The Council has now been requested to release its final payment of £50,000 to the Trust towards preparation for full restoration. A report outlining works required and process to complete full restoration by January 2010 is attached as Appendix 1.

Resource Implications

<u>Financial</u>

In March 2007 Council agreed to fund the Nomadic Trust to the sum of £250,000. To date £200,000 of this funding has been released. Release of £50,000 to the Nomadic Trust would be the fifth and final staged payment to the Trust and has been included in the Tourism, Culture & Arts budget 2010/11.
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Recommendations

Committee is asked to recommend the final stage of funding for the restoration of the Nomadic to be released.

Documents Attached

Appendix 1 – Report outlining works required and process
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