



Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Development Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Enterprising Britain Award Ceremony
<b>Date:</b>	10 November 2010
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**Relevant Background Information**

Members will be aware that, at the September meeting of the Development Committee, it was noted that Belfast City Council had been nominated as the winner of the Northern Ireland heat of the Enterprising Britain 2010 competition.

Enterprising Britain is a nationwide competition which is delivered locally by Invest Northern Ireland. It recognises and rewards the town, city, place or area that is successfully creating jobs, boosting local business and nurturing entrepreneurial talent as the UK emerges from the recession.

Belfast City Council was shortlisted into the last 6 entries from across the UK and a presentation was made to a panel of experts in London in September 2010.

**Key Issues**

Enterprising Britain has recently informed us that we have not been successful in progressing to the final three in the competition. However they have confirmed that a presentation ceremony for the twelve regional winners will be held in the House of Lords on 15 November 2010. At that meeting, the Minister will announce the national winner and runners-up for this year.

Each regional winner has been invited to attend the event and the organisers have also indicated that they will invite the local MPs to take part.

The MPs will also be invited to a parliamentary debate on enterprise before the awards.

The format for the event is that the Minister and the Chair of Enterprising Britain will give a short address before the regional awards are presented. The overall competition winners will then be announced. Following the event, there will be an opportunity for

networking between programme participants. Each project has also been invited to send images for display at the event so it will be a useful opportunity to promote the work that has been done in the city. A case study brochure will also be produced, outlining the work of each of the regional finalists.

In order to avail of the promotion and networking opportunities offered, it is recommended that the Chair or Deputy Chair plus one officer attend the event.

**Resource Implications**

Flights to London for two people – costs not likely to exceed £350.

**Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Chair or Deputy Chair plus one officer attend the Enterprising Britain awards ceremony in London on 15 November 2010.