



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	Presentations from Belfast Visitor and Convention Bureau and Belfast City Centre Management for 2011/12 Funding
Date:	12 January 2011
Reporting Officer:	John McGrillen, Director of Development, ext 3470
Contact Officer:	Shirley McCay, Head of Economic Initiatives, ext 3459

1	Relevant Background Information
1.1	Members will be aware that Council supports the two arms length organisations, Belfast Visitor and Convention Bureau (BVCB) and Belfast City Centre Management (BCCM). As in previous years, both organisations are in the process of developing business plans for the next financial year and are seeking an opportunity to present their performance to date over the previous year and their plans for 2011/2012 to Development Committee in February.
1.2	Belfast Visitor and Convention Bureau is responsible for marketing Belfast to visitors and servicing visitors whilst in the City. BCCM is responsible for delivering a range of city centre services, initiatives and liaising with city centre businesses.

2	Key Issues
2.1	BVCB received £1,605,465 and BCCM received £190,000 in 2010/2011. Both organisations will be seeking similar levels of support for 2011/2012.
2.2	The relocation study for the Belfast Welcome Centre is ongoing and the final recommendations are due January/February 2011.
2.3	At the December 2009 meeting of the Development Committee, Members agreed to provide financial support of £190,000 to BCCM for two years, subject to annual review, commencing April 2010, and subject to activities and targets being met.

2.4	Officers have been working closely with both organisations to ensure that recommendations by Internal Audit that Service Level Agreements are in place and robust monitoring mechanisms to capture outputs from Council's investment. Both organisations will be asked to report on outputs achieved in 2010/2011 as part of their presentations to Development Committee.
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3	Resource Implications
3.1	BVCB receives £1,605,465 per annum and BCCM receives £190,000. It is likely that their requests will be for the same level of funding for 2011/2012.

4	Equality Implications
4.1	No adverse equality implications

5	Recommendations
5.1	The Committee is requested to receive presentations from BCCM and BVCB on their achievements to date and future plans before committing funding for 2011/2012 period, in February 2011.

6	Decision Tracking
BCVB and BCCM make individual presentations to Development Committee	
Timeframe: February 2011 Reporting Officer: Kerrie Sweeney 3586	

7	Key to Abbreviations
BVCB - Belfast Visitor and Convention Bureau	
BCCM - Belfast City Centre Management	