



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	Manifesta Update
Date:	13 April 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 at a Development Committee held on 15 February 2011, approval was given to support salary costs of £10,000 of a Manifesta Bid Coordinator.
1.2	Manifesta is a biennial exhibition of contemporary art, showing approximately one hundred European artists. Exhibitions attract approximately 100,000 visitors during their three-month runs and attract international attention. The first Manifesta was held in 1996 in Rotterdam and the (non-profit) organisational body is located in the Netherlands. It has subsequently been held in Luxembourg, Ljubljana, Frankfurt, Donostia-San Sebastian, Trentino and Murcia.
1.3	The appointee will work with a wide range of arts, cultural, community and urban regeneration partners regionally and internationally to spearhead and prepare a bid for Belfast and Derry to host Manifesta X in 2014. A key role for the bid coordinator will be to secure external sources of funding in order to keep the contributions required from the two City Councils to a minimum.
1.4	Already the cost to the Council will be a key consideration as to whether a bid is ultimately submitted in October 2011.

2	Key Issues
2.1	Belfast City Council and Derry City Council have received a request from the Manifesta Bid Co-ordinator to sign a Letter of Intent to submit a bid to host Manifesta in 2014 (see Appendix 1). Correspondence has stated that this is required in order to proceed with the development of the bid.
2.2	The total cost to a host region to bring Manifesta is 3m Euro. Depending on proposal agreed for region, Manifesta may invest up to an additional 2m Euro. Impacts to regions are as follows:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Event visitors c.108m – 5,000 arts professionals visiting from outside region during the opening weekend only – Direct income (ticket sales): €250,000 – Estimated total ancillary spend in the host region (hotels, restaurants, etc.): 4.2m Euro – Local employment – Physical regeneration e.g. redevelopment of historical building to provide arts infrastructure (depending on proposal agreed with Manifesta) – International profiling and branding of the host region
2.3	This letter is to confirm the joint candidature of Belfast City Council and Derry City Council, Northern Ireland, for the hosting of the <i>Manifesta 10</i> biennial exhibition of contemporary visual art.
2.4	The Letter of Intent states that “The two host authorities acknowledge that if a bid is submitted by the deadline of 30 October 2011, this will include the required commitment to the minimum budget of €3,000,000.00 (three million Euros) and the Transfer Fee of €400,000.00 (four hundred thousand Euros)”.
2.5	The submission of the Letter of Intent does not commit Belfast City Council to any financial commitment other than the previously agreed €10,000 committed to the current feasibility stage.

3	Equality and Good Relations Considerations
3.1	The post was advertised and followed Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act (1998), to promote equality of opportunity and good relations.

4	Recommendations
4.1	It is recommended that Members; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note the contents of this report 2. Consider approval of the signing of the Letter of Intent to submit a bid to host Manifesta in 2014 (see Appendix 1).

5	Decision Tracking
Further to approval, an update report in relation to planning and preparation will be brought to Committee.	
Timeframe:	November 2011
Reporting Officer:	Shirley McCay

6	Documents Attached
Appendix 1 – Letter from Manifesta	