

Belfast City Council

Report to: Development Committee

Subject: Public Art on Lisburn Road

Date: 13 April 2011

Reporting Officer: John McGrillen, Director of Development, ext 3470

Contact Officer: Shirley McCay, Head of Economic Initiatives, ext 3459

Relevant Background Information

- 1.1 The Council (Health and Environmental Services) has undertaken a pilot initiative in relation to dilapidated properties across the city. In this pilot Council proactively identified and served notice on property owners to upgrade or demolish dilapidated properties subject to legal action in a number of pre-identified areas.
- 1.2 In recent weeks Health and Environmental Services has contacted the Tourism, Culture and Arts Unit in relation to the possibility of erecting street artwork on hoarding at 155 Lisburn Road and 173 -175 Lisburn Road.

Key Issues

- 2.1 The Lisburn Road is identified in the Belfast Integrated Strategic Tourism Framework as one of 9 Tourism Place Destinations. It plays an important role in delivering an independent retail experience to citizens and visitors to the city. Additional support towards a retail led campaign has been allocated to the Lisburn Road Traders Association as part of 2010/2011 underspend. This public art project will further support this campaign and enhance the overall look and feel of the Lisburn Road and act as a gateway to the main shopping area.
- 2.2 The Tourism Culture and Arts Unit has a public art budget and select list of artists who can undertake this type of work.
- 2.3 The process will include establishing a steering group of representatives from retail sector and local community, agreeing a brief and appointing an artist to undertake the artwork.

| 2.4 | The timescale for completion will be end of April 2011. |
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| 3 | Resource Implications |
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| 3.1 | The Tourism, Culture and Arts Unit will provide £6,000 from 2011/2012 budget. |

| 4 | Equality and Good Relations Considerations | |
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| 4.1 | No Equality and Good Relations Considerations are attached to this report. | |
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| 5 | Recommendations |
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| 5.1 | Members note the contents of this report. |

| 6 | Decision Tracking | |
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| Public art erected in May this year. | | |
| Time | frame: May 2011 | Kerrie Sweeney |