



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	Belfast Rapid Transit proposals – DRD request for presentation
Date:	10 October 2011
Reporting Officer:	John McGrillen, Director of Development, ext 3470
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1	Relevant Background Information
1.1	The Department for Regional Development (DRD) are scheduled to launch the Public Consultation on the route options for the Belfast Rapid Transit project at a reception in Belfast City Hall on Wednesday 12 October 2011.
1.2	In 2007, DRD commissioned transport consultants to undertake a feasibility study looking at possible routes and technologies for rapid transit in Belfast. The study concluded that a bus based rapid transit system is the viable option for Belfast rather than light rail technology. In addition the study identified a pilot network of three routes connecting East Belfast, West Belfast and Titanic Quarter through the city centre. The Department carried out further consultation in January 2010 on policy proposals for the bus based rapid transit system.

2	Key Issues
2.1	The public consultation on the route options for Belfast Rapid Transit will open on the 12 th October for a period of three months. The Department for Regional Development have requested an opportunity to present the proposals to the next Development Committee on the 25 th October 2011.

3	Equality and Good Relations Considerations
3.1	No considerations

4	Recommendations
4.1	To consider the request from DRD to present proposals on the route options for the Belfast Rapid Transit project to Development Committee on the 25 October 2011.

5	Decision Tracking
There is no specific Decision Tracking attached to this report.	

6	Key to Abbreviations
DRD – Department for Regional Development	