



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	Aisling Awards
Date:	8 November 2011
Reporting Officer:	John McGrillen, Director of Development, ext 3470
Contact Officers:	Shirley McCay, Head of Economic Initiatives, ext 3459

1	Relevant Background Information
1.1	As Members will be aware, Belfast's new flagship public artwork, Rise, was completed and launched in September 2011. By artist Wolfgang Buttress, Rise is an iconic addition to the Belfast skyline and a symbol of confidence in and hope for the city's future. Rise imagery and branding has already been extensively used by the Belfast Visitor and Convention Bureau, UTV and MTV, among others.

2	Key Issues
2.1	The Aisling Awards will be held on 17 November in the Europa Hotel, Belfast, time to be confirmed. Rise has been short listed for the Belfast Brand Award, which is dedicated to those projects, organisations or individuals that epitomise the very best of the new Belfast because they possess verve, imagination and are of world-class standard. Rise will be competing against the Lyric, Black Box and Culturlann.
2.2	Belfast City Council has been offered two complimentary tickets to the Awards ceremony. Additional tickets can be purchased at £125 per ticket. The Belfast Media Group has invited the artist directly and has agreed to cover his travel and accommodation.
2.3	It is recommended that two Members and one Officer attend the Awards ceremony.

3	Resource Implications
3.1	<p><u>Financial</u></p> <p>£125 from the Tourism, Culture and Arts Unit's budget 2011–2012.</p>

4	Equality and Good Relations Considerations
4.1	There are no Equality and Good Relations Considerations attached to this report.

5	Recommendations
5.1	<p>Members are requested to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approve the attendance at the Aisling Awards in Belfast on 17 November 2011 of two Members and one Officer from the Development Department; 2. Nominate two Members to attend the ceremony; and 3. Approve the associated costs.

6	Decision Tracking
There is no Decision Tracking attached to this report.	