



Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	Belfast Masterplan
Date:	22nd May 2012
Reporting Officer:	John McGrillen, Director of Development Ext 3470
Contact Officers:	Shirley McCay, Head of Economic Initiatives Ext 3463

1	Relevant Background Information
1.1	The purpose of this report is to update on progress in respect of the first stage Masterplan engagement and seek approval for a Special Committee to be held in June 2012.
1.2	The 6 th March 2012 Committee agreed that the progression of the Masterplan should be based on a two stage engagement process. The Committee subsequently approved the scope of the proposed engagement and the allocation of additional resources for the required works.

2	Key Issues
2.1	The first stage of the engagement will target the Executive to take full advantage of the potential for alignment of the Masterplan with strategic proposals and initiatives for the city. The objective is to ensure recognition across government of the need for broader support for the Masterplan objectives.
2.2	Whilst this element of the engagement has been initiated with the Masterplan forming part of a broader agenda for a meeting that took place with the DoE Minister and officials it has not been possible to timetable meetings with the other key Departments and Ministers.
2.3	The feedback from the Central Government Departments will supplement the comments already received from Committee and through the individual Party briefings. It was previously agreed that a revised draft (incorporating all the comments) would be brought back to the Committee prior to the broader consultation which was agreed as the second stage of the process.

2.4	It is unlikely that the consultations with the Departments / Ministers will be completed before early June. As a result a Special meeting may need to be convened in late June to enable the consideration of the amended draft prior to the July Council meeting.
2.5	It is therefore suggested that the Committee grants approval for a Special meeting to be held in respect of the Draft Masterplan and that, in recognition of the strategic importance of the issues, all Members of Council would be invited.

3	Resource Implications
3.1	None

4	Recommendations
5.1	<p>Members are requested to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="355 745 1396 813">i. approve the request for a Special Committee meeting in respect of the Draft Masterplan; and <li data-bbox="355 813 1396 918">ii. endorse the recommendation that all Members of Council be invited to the Special Committee, in recognition of the strategic importance of the issues being considered.