

Belfast City Council

Report to: Development Committee

Subject: Request from Gaeltacht Quarter Board

Date: Tuesday, 6th November, 2012

Reporting Officer: Mr. Barry Flynn, Democratic Services Officer (ext. 6312)

Contact Officer: As above.

Relevant Background Information

Correspondence (copy attached) has been received from Mr. Jake MacSiacais on behalf of the Gaeltacht Quarter Board inviting the Committee to send a delegation to meet with the Board and to undertake a fact-finding tour of the area.

Key Issues

Members will be aware that, as part of the Investment Programme, the Council has committed itself to develop a range of 'emerging partnerships' in the City. In essence, the Council has agreed that, in respect of certain emerging projects, including the Gaeltacht Quarter, it will 'commit itself over the course of the programme to work with communities and partners to define and refine project proposals, explore potential funding streams and help build capacity to support delivery.' Furthermore, the Council has indicated within the Investment Programme that it 'will continue to work with partners to prioritise and invest in those projects which will deliver the best benefits for the city and its neighbourhoods.'

This request should be considered also within the context of the proposed development of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Council and the Gaeltacht Quarter Board. Officers have been in discussion with representatives of the Quarter regarding the MoU over the past number of months and a report on their initial findings is due to be submitted to the Committee in due course.

Recommendation

The Committee is requested to consider the request and to take such action thereon as may be determined.

Document Attached

Correspondence from Mr. MacSiacais.