



<b>Report to:</b>	Development Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Belfast City Centre Management – request for funding
<b>Date:</b>	29 January 2013
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	John McGrillen, Director of Development ext 3470
<b>Contact Officers:</b>	Shirley McCay, Head of Economic Initiatives ext. 3459

<b>1</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
1.1	Members will be aware that Belfast City Centre Management (BCCM) made a presentation to the Development Committee on 21 February 2012 outlining their proposals for the delivery of year 2 of a two year business plan (2011-2013).
1.2	Members agreed to make a financial commitment of £190,000 towards the work programme for the year.
1.3	At the 15 January 2013 meeting of the Development Committee, Members agreed to a presentation from BCCM on their plans for the coming financial year, along with a funding request to support the programme of work.

<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	BCCM have developed a draft action plan for the coming financial year and this is attached as <b>Appendix 1</b> . The action plan sets out the range of activities to be undertaken in the course of the year, along with the associated budget for the delivery of this programme of work.
2.2	The action plan involves a series of activities which are coordinated through three working groups, namely: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Public space management</li> <li>– Safer city</li> <li>– Economic performance</li> </ul>
2.3	Each working group is responsible for the development and delivery of an activity plan which includes targets, measurements and resource allocation. Quarterly reports outlining progress against target are presented in order to release the next tranche of funding.

2.4	The work of the organisation is wide-ranging and crosses a number of departments and services, principally within the Development and Health and Environmental Services Departments. The Director of Environmental Health chairs the Public Space Management group while the Director of Development and Head of Economic Initiatives – along with Elected Members – are represented on the board. Other officers across the Council are also represented on other working groups.
2.5	The proposed budget for the year totals around £616,000, the majority of which relates to staff costs and overheads. The budget also assumes additional income from other public and private partners, principally Department for Social Development (DSD) - £155,000 and private sector contributions (directly and through Belfast Chamber of Trade and Commerce (BCTC) - £119,000.

<b>3</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
3.1	BCCM are seeking a financial contribution of £190,000 towards their total running costs of £616,000 for the financial year 2013/2014.

<b>4</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Considerations</b>
4.1	There are no specific equality or good relations considerations attached to this report.

<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
	Members are asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Note the BCCM action plan and annual budget forecast 2013-2014, attached</li> <li>– Note and approve the funding request for £190,000 core funding in the coming year</li> <li>– Agree that, if the funding is approved, officers should work with the management team at BCCM to further refine the work of the organisation, to ensure compliance with wider Council policies and to support the delivery of Council objectives.</li> </ul>

<b>6</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
	BCCM to make bi-annual presentations to the Development Committee outlining progress against target. Next presentation due – October 2013.

<b>7</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
	BCTC – Belfast Chamber of Trade and Commerce BCCM – Belfast City Centre Management DSD – Department for Social Development

<b>8</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
	Appendix 1 – BCCM action plan and annual budget forecast: 2013-2014