



## Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Development Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Request to extend tenders for: Event Production, Equipment and Service Providers & PA, Stage and Lights
<b>Date:</b>	29 January 2013
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	John McGrillen, Director of Development, ext 3470
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Gerry Copeland, City Events Manager, ext 3412

<b>1</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
1.1	The purpose of this report is to request further extensions to the existing events tenders for Production Management services and PA, Stage and Lighting. Members are also asked to give the Director of Development delegated authority to appoint appropriately qualified contractors at the end of the new tender process.
1.2	These were initially sent to tender in early 2011 and despite extensive work by Officers, the Council has been unable to appoint a suitable contract for either service. Therefore, Members are being requested that Officers extend the incumbent company's for another four months (end of April 2013) and on a rolling process until tenderers are appointed.
1.3	These tenders assist in the delivery of the Council's large scale civic events by the way of management contracts with a variety of companies. This arrangement allows experienced operators to tender for Council contracts whilst full budgetary control remains within the Council. These service contracts would be issued initially for one year, with the option of renewal for a further three years.

<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	The City Events Unit has been working with the Council's Procurement Unit since the Committee approved the issuing of the tenders in October 2010. Despite public calls and a number of submissions the Council has been unable to appoint suitable contractors for both these tenders. Therefore, with the endorsement of the Procurement Unit and approval from the Council's Legal Services Section, Members are asked to extend the existing contracts to the end of April 2013 and on a rolling monthly basis until the procurement process is completed.

