



## Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Development Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Lord Mayor's Belfast Day, 29 September 2013
<b>Date:</b>	20 August 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 seek permission from Committee to stage the annual Lord Mayor's event on Sunday 29 September 2013.
1.2	Members will be aware that on an annual basis there is a public event staged, by the Council, to mark the Lord Mayor's time in office. Over the last number of years this has taken place at the end of the Lord Mayor's term, but events have been held at the start of their period in Office. The format for these events have involved parades, carnival events and in the case of Alderman Gavin Robinson, a concert/party on the 18 May 2013 in the grounds of City Hall.
1.3	The proposed event would take place on the same weekend as the Lord Mayor's planned inauguration dinner (28 September), on Sunday 29 September and operate from 12 noon to 5 pm in the grounds of City Hall (subject to Strategic Policy and Resources Committee approval for the use of the grounds). The draft event would be designed to celebrate the cultural and tourism offerings of the city and showcase groups and organisations who contribute to the city's cultural life.

<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	As stated the proposed event would take place in the grounds of City Hall (subject to Strategic Policy and Resources Committee approval) and operate from 12 noon to 5 pm. The event would incorporate a range of artistic and tourism elements to showcase the city (see Appendix 1 re. <b>Draft Programme</b> ). It would also be planned to utilise the City Hall, if arrangements for the decant activities connected to the Lord Mayor's inauguration dinner can be managed appropriately.
2.2	The proposed day would be free to access and be promoted by Corporate Communications, alongside Visit Belfast and the Northern Ireland Tourist Board. The City Events Unit would also work with colleagues in the Lord Mayor's Officer, Tourism, Culture & Arts Unit, Economic Development and Good Relations to provide creative input and profile groups from all parts of the city.

