



## Belfast City Council

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| <b>Report to:</b>         | Development Committee   |
| <b>Subject:</b>           | Blue Plaques  |
| <b>Date:</b>              | 15 April 2014   |
| <b>Reporting Officer:</b> | John McGrillen, Director of Development, ext 3470                     |
| <b>Contact Officer:</b>   | Brian Johnston<br>Tourism, Culture, Heritage & Arts Manager, ext 5732 |

| <b>1</b> | <b>Relevant Background Information</b>   |
|----------|--|
| 1.1      | The Ulster Circle has registered a design for Blue Plaques and erects them in Northern Ireland to commemorate significant people, selected according to published criteria, which include a requirement that the subject should have been deceased for more than 20 years. Existing plaques are detailed on the web site <a href="http://www.ulsterhistory.co.uk/plaques.htm">http://www.ulsterhistory.co.uk/plaques.htm</a> . There are approximately 170 plaques across Northern Ireland of which about 81 are in Belfast. |
| 1.2      | On 3 April 2012, Committee agreed a three year arrangement to fund six plaques in year one and a further ten in the years 2013–2015 at a cost of £800 per plaque and this programme has been followed to date.   |
| 1.3      | In 2013 the following plaques were erected: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sir Otto Jaffe</li><li>• Sean Lester</li><li>• Isabella Tod</li><li>• Gustavus Wolff</li><li>• Zoltan and Amy Lewinter-Frankle</li></ul>   |

| <b>2</b> | <b>Key Issues</b>  |
|----------|--|
| 2.1      | In 2014 plaques to Thomas Carnduff and Henry Montgomery have been erected at the Linen Hall Library and the Shankill Road Mission respectively.  |
| 2.2      | Further plaques to commemorate Danny Blanchflower (footballer and journalist), Padraig Gregory (poet and architect), Prof. A. E. Muskett (academic and founder of the 'Best Kept' towns and villages competition), St. John Ervine (playwright and novelist) and J. G. Devlin (actor) are proposed for the financial year 2014/15. |

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| <b>3</b> | <b>Resource Implications</b>  |
| 3.1      | Expenditure and staffing requirements are met within existing departmental allocations. |

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| <b>4</b> | <b>Equality and Good Relations Implications</b>  |
| 4.1      | There are currently no Equality and Good Relations implications attached to this report. |

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| <b>5</b> | <b>Recommendations</b>   |
| 5.1      | <p>It is recommended that Members;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• take note of the plaques proposed for the financial year 2014-15 and;</li> <li>• agree the continuation of the existing arrangements for the agreed period.</li> </ul> |

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| <b>6</b> | <b>Decision Tracking</b>  |
| 6.1      | Brian Johnston – Tourism, Culture, Arts & Heritage Manager to implement Committee decision. |