



<b>Report to:</b>	Development Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	HMS Duncan Visit
<b>Date:</b>	17 June 2014
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	John McGrillen, Director of Development, ext 3470
<b>Contact Officers:</b>	John McGrillen, Director of Development, ext 3470

<b>1</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
1.1	Belfast City Council agreed to the City of Belfast becoming affiliated with HMS Duncan in 2008. The ship is one of the latest Type 45 destroyers in the Royal Navy.
1.2	The High Sherriff attended a formal handover to the Royal Navy in September 2013.
1.3	Belfast's affiliation with HMS Duncan brings a number of potential benefits including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Regular visits to Belfast by the ship</li><li>- Support for local charities, currently the NI Children's Hospice</li><li>- The opportunity to further develop the city's maritime heritage</li><li>- The opportunity to promote Belfast when the ship is on duty overseas</li></ul>

<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	HMS Duncan will berth in Belfast arriving on the morning of Saturday 26 July and depart on the morning of Tuesday 29 July.
2.2	There will be a number of elements to the visit. The Royal Navy will host a formal lunch with HMS Duncan's Captain for the Lord Mayor, possibly on Saturday 26 July. The Royal Navy will also host a reception on HMS Duncan with approximately 120 people from the City, particularly from business and commerce.
2.3	The Royal Navy would like to undertake a number of Charitable activities within the City during the visit in support of the NI Children's Hospice. Part of this could be a number of sporting events.

2.4	It is also the intention that HMS Duncan would be open for visits by the general public. This would be subject to the final berth selection by the Harbour Commissioners with the possible need for shuttle buses from the city centre due to limited parking provision.
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<b>3</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
3.1	It is requested that up to a maximum of £2,000 is allocated to cover any logistical arrangements around the visit possibly to include some provision of shuttle buses to allow the general public to be able to access the ship, any gifts deemed appropriate from the City or to cover a reception in City Hall for members of the ship's crew.

<b>4</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Considerations</b>
4.1	There are no Equality and Good Relations Considerations attached to this report.

<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
5.1	It is recommended that officers proceed to work with the Royal Navy in respect of the visit, with a maximum commitment of £2,000 from Belfast City Council to support the visit.

<b>6</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
There is no decision tracking attached to this report.	