



Belfast District Council

Report to	Shadow Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
Subject:	Request for the Use of the Council Chamber
Date:	20th March, 2015
Reporting Officer:	Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Officer (Ext 6314)

1	Relevant Background Information
1.1	The Council has received a request from Concern Worldwide seeking the use of the Council Chamber on Wednesday, 15 th April to hold a schools debating event.
1.2	A series of debates have been taking place between schools around hunger, the provision of aid, climate change and other issues relating to international development. Concern Worldwide has requested the use of the Council Chamber between the hours of 7.00 p.m. and 9.00 p.m. on that date to hold the final of the competition.
2	Key Issues
2.1	The use of the Council Chamber for events other than the monthly Council meeting taking place from 1st April onwards requires the approval of the Shadow Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.
2.2	The applicant is of the view that the use of the Council Chamber will add prestige to the event and create a sense of excitement amongst participants and the small audience of parents and teachers who will be in attendance. As such, it is considered that the request should be supported.
3	Resource Implications
	None.

4	Equality and Good Relations Implications
	None.

5	Recommendation
5.1	The Committee is recommended to approve the use of the Council Chamber on Wednesday, 15 th April for the final of the schools debating competition, together with appropriate hospitality in the form of tea, coffee and biscuits.

6	Decision Tracking
Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager	