



## Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Parks and Leisure Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	London 2012 Olympic Torch Bearer Nominations
<b>Date:</b>	13 October 2011
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Claire Moraghan, Sports Development Officer

<b>1.</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
	<p>The Northern Ireland leg of the 2012 Olympic Torch Relay will culminate in Belfast on 6 June 2012 after a three day tour across the region.</p> <p>This route has been selected by the London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games (LOCOG) and is not open to change as the final selection of both the route and torch bearers rests with the London 2012 Olympic Games organisers. A copy of the route is attached at Appendix 1.</p> <p>The Olympic Flame will be welcomed to City Hall for a celebration event on the evening of 6 June 2012. The cortege will be met by a range of performers, some of which will be supplied by LOCOG.</p>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
	<p><u>Olympic Torch Bearer Nominations</u></p> <p>There was an opportunity for the general public and a range of sporting and non-sporting individuals to be nominated to carry the Olympic flame through Belfast. The public selection of these individuals closed at the end of June 2011.</p> <p>However, the council now has the opportunity to nominate two individuals to carry the Olympic flame. These nominations must be made by 31 October 2011.</p> <p>It should be noted that due to LOCOG 2012 guidelines the council is not permitted to make a public call or campaign for nominations.</p>

	<p>Following discussion at the 2012 Events Working Group meeting in July 2011 it was noted that council officers already had a list of inspirational individuals nominated by the public for the Belfast Sports Awards in March 2011. It was suggested that these individuals form the short list for nominations.</p> <p>At a meeting of the Strategic, Policy and Resources Committee on 26 September 2011 it was agreed that the Chair and Deputy Chair of Parks and Leisure Committee along with officers from the Leisure Development Unit look at winners from the recent Belfast Sports Awards as potential nominees for the council's two torch bearer nominees.</p> <p>It should be noted that those selected by the council are not guaranteed to be part of the 2012 Torch Relay until LOCOG 2012 run their own checks and selection process.</p> <p>As the deadline for submissions is 31 October Members should note that subject to committee approval the nominations will be sent to LOCOG 2012 by that date pending approval at full council in November.</p> <p>It is anticipated that the Chair and Deputy Chair and officers will have considered the potential nominees in advance of the Committee meeting on 13 October 2011 so that Members can approve the two nominations required.</p>
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<b>3.</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
	<p><u>Financial</u> There are no additional financial implications associated with this element of the torch relay.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u> Some officer time will be allocated to manage the process.</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u> None.</p>

<b>4.</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Implications</b>
	<p>Nominations for the Belfast Sports Awards were requested from across the city and those nominated by the public represent all sections of the community.</p>

<b>5.</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
	<p>It is recommended that the Members approve the selection of nominees made by the Chair and Deputy Chair to be submitted to LOCOG 2012 as Belfast Torch Bearers.</p>

<b>6.</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
	The Sports Development Officer to ensure the nominations are submitted before the deadline of 31 October 2011.
<b>7.</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
	LOCOG: London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games
<b>8.</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
	Appendix 1: Belfast Olympic Torch Run Route.