Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Tri-Cities Golf Challenge
Date:	12 January 2012
Reporting Officer:	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Fiona Holdsworth, Principal Parks and Cemeteries Services Manager

1.	**Relevant Background Information**
	In September 2002, Edinburgh City Council hosted the first Inter-City Golf Challenge between Edinburgh, Dublin and Belfast City councils. This has been an annual event since then and rotates around the three cities. The event has provided opportunities to build positive relations between the three councils and has also led to the establishment of valuable networks both at Member and officer level.

2.	**Key Issues**
	The eleventh Tri-Cities Golf Challenge between Dublin City Council, Edinburgh City Council and Belfast City Council is due to be staged in Belfast in September 2012. Last year's event was hosted by Edinburgh City Council. The golf competition is between elected Members and officers from each of the city councils competing in an eight man team competition. The teams all travel at their own expense and meet their own accommodation costs. No subsequent allowance or expenses of any kind are paid to any of the participants. Each year the host city meets the costs of the green fees for the visitors, provide suitable prizes and a meal in the clubhouse after the match.
	It is normal practice that the Lord Mayor would also host a dinner in the City Hall on the evening prior to the competition for the competitors. This will be subject to agreement by the new Lord Mayor. Members will be aware that all cities are members of the Cities of the Isles Partnership.

3.	**Resource Implications**
3.1	<u>Financial</u> It is anticipated that the cost of this event would be in the region of £2500.
3.2	<u>Human Resources</u> None.
3.3	<u>Asset and other Implications</u> None.

4.	**Equality and good relations implications**
	None.

5.	**Recommendations**
	The Committee is asked to consider hosting this event in September 2012 and approve the expenditure for the associated hospitality.

6.	**Decision Tracking**
	N/A

7.	**Key to Abbreviations**
	None.

8.	**Documents Attached**
	None.