



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	Translink Ulster in Bloom – Roses in Towns Trophy 2012
Date:	9 February 2012
Reporting Officer:	Rose Crozier, Assistant Director, Parks and Leisure
Contact Officer:	Ricky Rice, City Parks Manager

1.	Relevant Background Information
	<p>The council has received a request for the Lord Mayor or his nominee to attend the Translink Ulster in Bloom award ceremony in mid March 2012, date and venue yet to be confirmed.</p> <p>Ulster in Bloom is Northern Ireland's longest standing community gardening competition. It is organised by Northern Ireland Local Government Association (NILGA) and sponsored by Translink and the Northern Ireland Tourist Board.</p> <p>The competition aims to improve and enhance the environment in Northern Ireland through the imaginative use of trees, shrubs, flowers and landscaping. Also recognised are efforts to deal with litter, graffiti, vandalism and dog fouling together with conservation and recycling.</p> <p>Each year a team of judges assess the standards of participating local authorities and where there is a winning display of roses, a trophy has been provided annually by Belfast City Council.</p>
2.	Key Issues
	<p>The key issues for the committee to note are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The event is being organised by NILGA and sponsored by Translink.• The council has participated in this event for over twenty years.• The council has previously donated a trophy annually to the local authority providing the best display of roses.• The Lord Mayor or his nominee representing Belfast City Council is required to present the trophy to the representative of the winning local authority at the award ceremony.• NILGA has agreed that this year the trophy presented will be a perpetual award and shall become the property of NILGA thereafter for annual presentation.

3.	Resource Implications
	<p><u>Financial</u> The cost of the trophy is in the region of £250 plus VAT</p> <p><u>Human Resources Implications</u> The Lord Mayor or his nominee to attend the event.</p> <p><u>Assets and other implications</u> None.</p>

4.	Equality and Good Relations implications.
	None.

5.	Recommendations
	<p>It is recommended that the committee accedes to the request and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • seeks the attendance of the Lord Mayor or his nominee at the event in mid March at a venue to be confirmed; and • grant permission for the purchase of a suitable perpetual trophy.

6.	Decision Tracking
	The City Parks Manager will be responsible to ensure the actions are completed by the end of March 2012.

7.	Key to abbreviations
	NILGA Northern Ireland Local Government Association

8.	Documents Attached
	None.