

Belfast City Council

Report to:	Parks and Leisure Committee
Subject:	London 2012 Games Maker Bursary
Date:	14 June 2012
Reporting Officer:	Andrew Hassard, Director of Parks & Leisure
Contact Officer:	Claire Moraghan, Sports Development Officer

1	Relevant Background Information
	Members will be aware that in August 2011 the committee agreed to fund £30,000 towards the London 2012 Volunteers Bursary Scheme and; agreed to the recommendation that any staff volunteering at the 2012 Olympics would receive half the time off with pay as adhered to for previous events.
	The scheme was designed to assist individuals to become a London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic 'Games Maker'. The bursary will go some way towards expenses incurred while training prior to and during the games.
	Games Makers – The Commitment
	Where an applicant is successful in being selected to become a Games Maker - there is the expectation from the Games organisers that they commit to the following:
	 10 days volunteering, over a potential 3 week period; Personally arrange and cover the cost of their journey to any applicable training and Games Time Venue; and Personally arrange and cover the cost of their accommodation.

2	Key l	ssues
	•	220 potential "Games Makers" from Belfast have been interviewed.
	•	Volunteer Now was appointed to administer the bursary scheme and developed a criteria for applicants based on need.
	•	Applicants needed to demonstrate that they could meet at least one

of the following criteria;

- earn less than £13,000 p.a.
- are unemployed
- have a disability
- be in full time education; or
- are retired

Status to Date

- Interviews took place during June-August 2011.
- 108 bursary applications were received in Northern Ireland.
- Of the 68 successful applicants, 23 were from Belfast.
- Four members of staff have been selected as Games Makers but were not eligible for a bursary.

3	Resource Implications
	Financial The Council's contribution of £30k to the Bursary Scheme was made out of the 2011/12 revenue budget.
	Human Resources Successful staff members will receive approximately 5 additional days leave. Volunteer Now will manage the allocation of funding on councils behalf.
	Asset and Other Implications None at this stage.

4	Equality and Good Relations Considerations
	Volunteer Now promotes equality of opportunity and aligns with council's position on equality and good relations.

5	Recommendations
	Members are asked to note the contents of the report.

6	Decision Tracking
	The Sports Development officer will liaise with Volunteer Now on the issuing of bursaries.

7	Key to Abbreviations
	None

8	Documents Attached
	None