



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
Subject:	Titanic Signature Project Update
Date:	19th February 2010
Reporting Officer:	Peter McNaney, Chief Executive
Contact Officer:	Kevin Heaney (ext 6202)

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Members will recall that at its meeting on 23rd October 2010 the Committee reaffirmed its commitment of £10million funding towards the realisation of a £97million iconic Titanic Signature Project within the city.
- 1.2 As a condition of its funding, it was agreed that the Council would enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with Titanic Quarter Limited which sought to optimise the city and community benefits to be realised from the development of the overall Titanic Quarter Area.

2.0 KEY ISSUES

- 2.1 Construction on the Titanic Signature Project is now underway and is expected to be completed by the first quarter of 2012 in time for RMS Titanic's centenary.
- 2.2 With regard to the Memorandum of Understanding, Council officers have been engaged in ongoing discussions with Titanic Quarter Limited, community representatives and relevant Government Departments (e.g. DETI, DEL, DE etc) to firm up the governance and management arrangements for the MOU and to examine the potential to realign mainstream activities/programmes (e.g. excess to employment and training initiatives) and resources to support the implementation of the MOU.
- 2.3 In order to enable Members to be fully updated on the progress of the Titanic Signature Project and the Memorandum of Understanding it is suggested that a Special Meeting, with Members of the Development Committee in attendance, be held to:
- i) receive a presentation on the Titanic Signature Project construction process;
 - ii) discuss the Memorandum of Understanding and associated governance arrangements; and
 - iii) receive an update on the emerging proposals with regard to marketing and tourism activities in 2012 around the Titanic product.

3.0 Resource Implications

Financial and Human Resources

- There are no financial or Human Resources implications contained within the foregoing report.

4.0	Recommendations
4.1	The Committee is asked to; i) note the content of the report; and ii) agree that a Special Meeting be held to which Members of the Development Committee would be invited.