



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Strategic Policy and Resources (Transition) Committee
Subject:	Urban Regeneration and Community Development Policy Framework Seminar
Date:	21 st May 2010
Reporting Officer:	Gerry Millar, Director of Property and Projects
Contact Officer:	Kevin Heaney, RPA Project Coordinator (ext. 6202)

1.0	<u>Relevant Background Information</u>
1.1	The Department for Social Development (DSD) has recently commissioned a consortium of consultants to assist the department in preparing a strategy and policy framework for Urban Regeneration and Community Development in Northern Ireland. The consortium of consultants appointed has been brought together by Community Places and includes both academics and practitioners.
2.0	<u>Key Issues</u>
2.1	In order to enable key stakeholders to input into this process, the Northern Ireland Local Government Association (NILGA) has arranged a seminar for Friday 28 th May 2010, 11am-1pm in the Strule Arts Centre, Omagh. A copy of the invitation received is attached at Appendix 1.
2.2	The purpose of the event is to examine the principles and objectives of the emerging policy framework being developed on behalf of DSD to support the effective delivery of the urban regeneration and community development operational functions when they transfer to councils.
2.3	It is understood that the NILGA Office Bearers would intend to commission an independent review of the post of Chief Executive and set within the context of the potential future role of NILGA. It is also understood that NILGA would intend to establish a sectoral task group (with BCC representation) to oversee and input into this process.
2.4	As attendance numbers for the seminar is limited, the invite has been circulated to each Party Group Leader within the Council to consider the possible nomination of 1 attendee for the event.

3.0 Resource Implications

While there is no charge for attending the seminar, there will be associated travel expenses incurred.

4.0 Recommendations

Members are asked to:

- i) note the contents of the foregoing report and appendix attached; and
- ii) approve the attendance of a cross-party delegation (maximum of 1 member per Party) to the NILGA seminar accompanied by relevant Council officers.

5.0 Appendices

Appendix 1: NILGA invite to seminar