

Extract from minutes of -

STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

18th June, 2010

“Asset Management

Requests for the Use of the City Hall Grounds

Poster for Tomorrow

The Committee was advised that a request had been received from Poster for Tomorrow to exhibit within the grounds of the City Hall 100 posters marking World and European Day against the Death Penalty on 10th October. The posters would be selected from public competition submissions by a panel comprised of eminent local people and would be displayed within the grounds from 7th till 10th October. Belfast would be one of 100 cities across the world marking the event.

The posters would be displayed on trellis-type fencing positioned within the grounds. There would be no resource implications for the Council as the organisation would provide all of their own display materials. In addition, there would be no requirement for electrical power and the organisation would take out full indemnity insurance. Due to the nature of the subject, some of the posters might be sensitive in nature, although the Council did have the option of vetoing specific posters if it were deemed that they were controversial or offensive.

The Committee was advised that the death penalty was still supported by a number of countries, notably the United States of America and China, so the organisers' position would not have unqualified support. It was envisaged that the exhibition might receive significant media coverage. One of the criteria for use of the City Hall grounds stated that the request should comply with the Council's Equality and Good Relations obligations. The application by Poster for Tomorrow had been discussed with the Council's Good Relations Manager who had recommended, given that the United Kingdom had abolished the death penalty, that the application be approved by the Committee.

After discussion, it was

Moved by Councillor N. Kelly,
Seconded by Councillor McCarthy,

That the Committee agrees to accede to the request.

On a vote by show of hands eight Members voted for the proposal and seven against and it was accordingly declared carried.”