



Belfast City Council

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| Report to: | Strategic Policy and Resources Committee |
| Date: | Friday, 20th August, 2010 |
| Subject: | National Association of Councillors - Diversity and Media Seminar |
| Reporting Officer: | Mr. Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services manager (extension 6314) |
| Contact Officer: | Mr. Gareth Quinn, Senior Democratic Services Officer (extension 6316) |

Relevant Background Information

The National Association of Councillors is holding a training and development seminar in London from Friday, 24th September until Sunday, 26th September.

The theme of the seminar is 'Diversity and Media' which aims to cover issues which are relevant to how Members can work with the media to promote the Council's objectives. The seminar will provide an opportunity to share best practice and to consider how best to work with the media in order to benefit local government.

The Council has been represented at NAC events in previous years and those Members who have attended have found such events to be a valuable opportunity to increase their awareness of best practice in Local Government and to discuss with other Councillors issues of mutual interest and concern.

Key Issues

The business of the Conference falls within the criteria set out in Section 38 of the 1972 Local Government (Northern Ireland) Act in that it involves issues connected with the discharge of the functions of the Council and/or affecting the district or its inhabitants.

Resource Implications**Estimated cost of attendance**

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| Delegate Fee: | £350 |
| Accommodation: | £110 |
| Travel: | £120 |

Total per delegate: £580

Recommendations

In accordance with Council Policy, as established by the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee at its meeting on 14th March, 2008, it is recommended that the Committee agrees to authorise:

- the attendance at the National Association of Councillors Training and Development Seminar of the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee, the Council's representatives on the National Association of Councillors (NI Region), the Democratic Services Manager (or their nominees) and a representative of each of the Party Groupings on the Council not represented by the aforementioned Members; and
- the payment of the appropriate travelling and subsistence allowances in connection therewith.

Decision Tracking

Mr Gareth Quinn, Senior Democratic Services Officer
2nd September, 2010

Key to Abbreviations

N/A

Documents Attached

N/A