



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
Date:	Friday, 22nd October, 2010
Subject:	National Association of Councillors - Annual General Meeting and Conference
Reporting Officer:	Mr. Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager (ext. 6314)
Contact Officer:	Mrs. Julie Lilley, Democratic Services Officer (ext. 6321)

Relevant Background Information
<p>The National Association of Councillors is holding its Annual General Meeting and Conference in Leeds from Friday, 26th until Sunday, 28th November.</p> <p>The theme of this years Conference is 'Working with the New Coalition Government'. The Conference will consider how Local Government can best work in partnership with the new administration at Westminster in order to maximise benefits for citizens. The Conference will also include a 'Question Time' session which will consist of a panel of MPs from all the major Parties and a leading journalist.</p> <p>The Council has been a member of the National Association of Councillors for a considerable period of years and has been represented at previous Conferences. Those Members who have attended have found it to be a valuable opportunity to increase their awareness of Members' issues and to discuss with other Councillors from across England, Scotland and Wales issues of mutual interest and concern.</p>

Key Issues
<p>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.</p>

Resource Implications	
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Delegate Fee:	£350
Travel:	£155
Accommodation:	<u>£110</u>
Total per delegate:	£615

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee agrees to authorise:

- the attendance at the Annual General Meeting and Conference of the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee, the Council's representatives on the National Association of Councillors, Northern Ireland Region, the Democratic Services Manager (or their nominees) and a representative of the Party Groupings on the Council not represented by the aforementioned Members; and
- the payment of the conference fees and the appropriate travelling and subsistence allowances in connection therewith.

Decision Tracking

Officer responsible – Julie Lilley, Democratic Services Officer

2nd November, 2010