



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
Subject:	Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland - Spring Seminar
Date:	Friday, 9 th December, 2011
Reporting Officer:	Mr. Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager (extension 6314)
Contact Officer:	Mrs. Julie Lilley, Democratic Services Officer (extension 6321)

1	Relevant Background Information
1.1	The Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland is holding its Spring Seminar in County Cavan from Friday 10 th to Saturday 11 th February.
1.2	The Conference theme is 'Local Government – Renewal and Development'. The focus of discussion at the event will be how Local Government can be reformed in order to bring it closer to local communities. The keynote speaker at the Conference is Minister Phil Hogan T.D., Minister of Environment, Community and Local Government.
1.3	The Council has been represented at AMAI events for a number of years and representatives attending previous Conferences have felt that their attendance gave them a valuable opportunity to meet with Local Government Representatives from throughout Ireland to discuss issues of mutual interest and concern.

2	Key Issues
2.1	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.

3	Resource Implications										
3.1	<p><u>Financial</u></p> <table> <tr> <td>Delegate Fee:</td> <td>£171</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Accommodation Costs:</td> <td>£150</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Travel:</td> <td>£55</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Subsistence:</td> <td>£125</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total per delegate:</td> <td><u>£501</u></td> </tr> </table>	Delegate Fee:	£171	Accommodation Costs:	£150	Travel:	£55	Subsistence:	£125	Total per delegate:	<u>£501</u>
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4	Equality Implications
	N/A

5	Recommendations
5.1	<p>It is recommended that the Committee authorises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ the attendance at the AMAI Spring Seminar of the Chairman, the Deputy Chairman, the Council's representatives on the National Association of Councillors, Northern Ireland Region, the Democratic Services Manager (or their nominees) and a representative of each of the Parties on the Council not represented by the aforementioned Members. ▪ the payment of the appropriate travelling and subsistence allowances in connection therewith.

6	Decision Tracking
<p>Officers responsible:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Mr. Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager</p> <p>January, 2012</p>	