



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
Subject:	Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland - Centenary Conference
Date:	Friday, 22nd June, 2012
Reporting Officer:	Mr. Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager (extension 6314)
Contact Officer:	Ms. Kate McCafferty, Democratic Services Assistant (extension 6308)

1	Relevant Background Information
1.1	The Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland is holding its Centenary Conference in Ballinasloe, County Galway from Thursday 13th to Saturday 15th September.
1.2	The main focus of the Conference will be to examine the mechanisms by which Local Government and local development can be more closely aligned in order to maximise outcomes for citizens. There will also be Conference sessions relating to Local Government Reform and Local Government Finance. Keynote speakers at the Conference will include Dr. Vincent Cunnane, Chief Executive of Shannon Development and Dr. Bríd Quinn, a Lecturer in Public Administration, specialising in governance models.
1.3	The Council has been represented at AMAI events for a number of years and participants at previous events have felt that their attendance provided them with 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 34 of the Local Government Finance Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 in that it involves issues connected with the interests of the inhabitants of the district or any part of it.

3	Resource Implications										
3.1	<p><u>Financial</u></p> <table> <tr> <td>Delegate Fee:</td> <td>£150</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Accommodation Costs:</td> <td>£175</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Travel:</td> <td>£256</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Subsistence:</td> <td>£255</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total per delegate:</td> <td><u>£836</u></td> </tr> </table>	Delegate Fee:	£150	Accommodation Costs:	£175	Travel:	£256	Subsistence:	£255	Total per delegate:	<u>£836</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 Annual Conference 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>July 2012</p>	