



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
Subject:	Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland - Annual Conference
Date:	Friday, 21st June, 2013
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 Annual Conference in Clonakilty, County Cork from Thursday, 12th to Saturday, 14th September, 2013.
1.2	The main theme of the Conference will be "Putting The People First" and will examine the mechanisms Local Government can put in place to maximise service delivery for the citizens. There will also be Conference sessions relating to Local Government Reform and in particular the Reform of Local Government in Scotland and the similarities with the proposed Irish structure. Keynote speakers at the Conference will include Barry Cowen, Frontbench Spokesperson on Environment and Local Government, Brian Stanley TD, Catherine Murphy TD, and Rory Mair, Chief Executive of COSLA.
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>£160</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Accommodation Costs:</td> <td>£260</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Travel:</td> <td>£384</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Subsistence:</td> <td>£160</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total per delegate:</td> <td><u>£964</u></td> </tr> </table>	Delegate Fee:	£160	Accommodation Costs:	£260	Travel:	£384	Subsistence:	£160	Total per delegate:	<u>£964</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>Officer responsible:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Mr. Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager</p> <p>June, 2013</p>	