



**BELFAST CITY COUNCIL**

Report to:	Strategic Policy & Resources Committee
Subject:	<b>Request for use of ILLUMINATE facilities – Royal British Legion</b>
Date:	20 September 2013
Reporting Officer:	Gerry Millar, Director of Property & Projects, Ext: 6217
Contact Officer:	George Wright, Head of Facilities Management, Ext: 5206

<b>1</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
1.1	Members will be aware that the governance arrangements approved by the Committee in February 2013 limit access to the new ILLUMINATE LED lighting facilities to (a) the charities nominated by our civic office-bearers, (b) events organized or supported by the council and (c) an agreed schedule of additional days. Any request not falling into these categories requires the approval of the Committee.
1.2	Members may also recall that, at its meeting of 24 <sup>th</sup> May 2013, the Committee agreed to add Remembrance Sunday to the list of approved days to be marked using the new lighting facilities, and that this was to take the form of the illumination of the main building in soft white and the Cenotaph area in red.
1.3	However, a request has recently been received from the Royal British Legion (RBL) seeking to illuminate the main building entirely in red on <b>24<sup>th</sup> October 2013</b> , in order to coincide with the launch of the 2013 Poppy Appeal which is being held in the City Hall on that date.
1.4	RBL would obviously very much prefer that this request be approved in addition to the agreed use of the facilities on Remembrance Sunday, but if necessary would also be content if this latest request were to be granted instead of the Remembrance Sunday scene.
1.5	Members will be aware that the facilities available at City Hall allow lighting scenes to be created quite easily and without involving additional cost or significant work, and that colouring the building in red would therefore present no difficulties.

<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	Firstly, it should be noted that this request is for a single occurrence only; it is not a request that this date be added to the existing annual schedule of additional days.
2.2	Secondly there is of course always the potential, when considering requests of this type, that a precedent is set which could initiate a significant volume of similar

	requests in the future which may be equally worthy and therefore difficult to refuse.
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<b>3</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
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3.1	There are no direct resource implications in terms of staff time or additional costs associated with this request.
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<b>4</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Implications</b>
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4.1	The relevant equality and good relations implications have been taken into consideration and a completed screening form has been forwarded to the Equality and Diversity Officer in respect of ILLUMINATE issues.
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<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
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5.1	The Committee is asked to approve the use of the ILLUMINATE facilities to colour the City Hall red on <b>24<sup>th</sup> October 2013</b> to coincide with the launch of the 2013 Poppy Appeal in addition to the already-agreed lighting of the Cenotaph on Remembrance Sunday (or in the alternative to transfer the approval already given from the Remembrance Sunday to the Poppy Appeal request).
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<b>6</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
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	If the request is approved the lighting scene will be added to the existing file and will appear automatically on the specified date only.
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<b>7</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
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<b>8</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
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