



## Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Local Authorities Members' Association – Spring Seminar
<b>Date:</b>	Friday, 22nd November, 2013
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Mr. Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager (extension 6314)
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Ms. Kate McCafferty, Democratic Services Assistant (extension 6308)

<b>1</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
1.1	The Council has received advance notification of the Local Authorities Members' Association (LAMA) Spring Seminar in Monaghan, County Monaghan which is taking place from Friday, 31st January to Saturday, 1st February, 2014.
1.2	The theme of the Seminar and details of the keynote speakers are still being finalised and details are not available at this stage. The event information has not been received by the Council at the time of the writing of the report, however, given the constraints due to the oncoming Christmas holidays it was considered expedient to bring this to the Members' attention to allow arrangements to be made should the Committee grant its approval.
1.3	The Council has been represented at LAMA 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.

<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	The business of the Seminar 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.

<b>3</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
3.1	<p><u>Financial</u></p> <p>Delegate Fee: £130  Accommodation Costs: £175  Travel: £ 75</p> <p>Subsistence: £160</p> <p>Total per delegate: <u>£540</u></p>

<b>4</b>	<b>Equality Implications</b>
	N/A

<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
5.1	<p>It is recommended that the Committee authorises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ the attendance at the LAMA Autumn 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.</li> <li>▪ the payment of the appropriate travelling and subsistence allowances in connection therewith.</li> </ul>

<b>6</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
<p>Officers responsible:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Mr. Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager</p> <p>November 2013</p>	

<b>7</b>	<b>Key to Abbreviations</b>
LAMA – Local Authority Members' Association	