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Mr Peter McNaney Chief Executive Belfast City Hall BELFAST BT1 5GS

6th November 2013

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ANNUAL CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION 2014 and NORTHERN IRELAND LOCAL GOVERNMENT AWARDS for 2013

Dear Peter,

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The 2014 NILGA Annual Conference and Exhibition will be held on Thursday 27th February 2014, in the La Mon Hotel, Castlereagh. The theme for Conference 2014 is

"LOCAL COUNCILS - DEMOCRACY, CIVIC PRIDE and SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES"

which will explore the development of councils' roles in sustaining and supporting communities and the Northern Ireland economy.

Local government and local economies are already at the forefront of economic development in Northern Ireland. Going forward, with the increased services and functions delivered through the new 11 councils, further substantial opportunities are on the horizon.

Encouraging the sector to be pioneering in the delivery of the reform agenda, whilst keeping a key focus on the efficient delivery of quality, affordable services to ratepayers and visitors, is a big ask, and Conference will explore both the pioneering and the practical next steps as part of anticipating the post 2015 environment, which is now just around the comer.

Now in its 11th year, the NILGA Conference is regarded as a key event that promotes the sharing of knowledge, skills and ideas, as well as providing the opportunity to network with colleagues.

NILGA members feel that this Conference 2014 event will be particularly important in the context of the reform agenda and the challenges – and opportunities – facing local government.

We very much welcome the attendance of councillors and staff from your council. To support this we are offering **one free place** at Conference for your First Citizen or a senior council representative (a free place is allocated on your council booking form).

In addition a 5% discount will be applied to all council delegate bookings received by NILGA before the end of November 2013 (please note, invoices for council booking will be issued one week after the event).

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Unit 5B, Castlereagh Business Park, 478 Castlereagh Road, Belfast BT5 6BQ tel: 028 9079 8972 fax: 028 9079 1248 email: office@nilga.org www.nilga.org

Additionally, the presentation of the **Northern Ireland Local Government Awards for 2013** will be made following dinner on Thursday 27th February 2014. Each of the finalist councils will be allocated two free places per finalist category (up to a maximum of six) at the dinner. Additional tickets can be purchased to attend the dinner and awards ceremony using the enclosed booking form. Further details in relation to the awards ceremony will follow in due course.

Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact Mark Maher, Communication and Engagement Officer at the NILGA office in the first instance.

Yours sincerely,

Derek McCallan

Chief Executive, Northern Ireland Local Government Association

Enc. NILGA Conference Booking Form





DELEGATE BOOKING FORM – BELFAST CITY COUNCIL NILGA ANNUAL CONFERENCE, EXHIBITION & LOCAL GOVERNMENT AWARDS 27th FEBRUARY 2014 LA MON HOTEL, CASTLEREAGH.

Please return payment and booking forms by Friday 10th January 2014 to: Nuala Shaw, Northern Ireland Local Government Association (NILGA), Unit 5B Castlereagh Business Park, 478 Castlereagh Road, Belfast, BT5 6BQ or via email to n.shaw@nilga.org (Please note: A 5% discount will be applied to all council delegate bookings received by NILGA before the end of November 2013).

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