



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Town Planning Committee
Subject:	Northern Ireland Housing Council – 30 January 2014
Date:	23 January 2014
Reporting Officer:	Mrs Petra Scarborough, ext 6003
Contact Officer:	

1	Relevant Background Information
	Notification has been received regarding an AgendaNI Event entitled “Northern Ireland Housing Council: <i>Determining the new housing landscape</i> ”, which will take place in the Crumlin Road Gaol on Thursday 30 January 2014 from 9.00 am until 1.15 pm (conference close, followed by lunch).

2	Key Issues
	<p>The housing sector in Northern Ireland is facing a period of unprecedented change. With the planned break-up of the Housing Executive, the structure of the sector will change fundamentally. There is also a limited stock transfer programme underway. In an era of increased demand, there are ambitious new build targets to 2015. This is against a backdrop of continuing difficult economic times and the prospect of welfare reform, which will add pressure on already hard-pressed tenants.</p> <p>This event will bring together key stakeholders in the housing sector to discuss and debate the wide range of issues which are shaping the future landscape.</p> <p>The speakers at the event will include Andrew Hamilton, Deputy Secretary of the Department for Social Development, Martin Armstrong, Chief Executive of the Glasgow Housing Association, Stewart Smyth from the School of Management at Queen’s University Belfast, Anita Conway, Director of Development at the Fold Group, Paddy Gray, Professor of Housing at the University of Ulster, Mark Henderson, Chief Executive of the Home Group, Nicola McCrudden, Policy and Communications Manager of the Housing Rights Service and Mickey Brady, MLA, Deputy Chair of the Department for Social Development Committee.</p>

3	Resource Implications
	The cost of attending the event is £175 per delegate.

4	Equality and Good Relations Implications
	There are no relevant equality and good relations implications.

5	Recommendations
	It is recommended that the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman, or their nominees, be authorised to attend the event.

6	Decision Tracking
	Mrs Petra Scarborough to implement the Committee's decision.

7	Key to Abbreviations
	None

8	Documents Attached
	Event brochure and programme.