



Subject:	International Men's Day, 19 th November 2015
Date:	11 th August 2015
Reporting Officer:	Siobhan Toland, Head of Environmental Health/Lead Operations Officer
Contact Officer:	Una Lappin, Health Equity Project Officer

Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	This report is to update members on International Men's Day on Thursday 19 th of November 2015. It is proposed that an event will take place in Belfast City Hall, 8am to 11am.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	Members are asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Confirm that this is an important annual event which should be recognised and supported by the Council as a member of Belfast Strategic Partnership in its work to address health and life inequalities across the city.
3.0	Main report
3.1	Members will recall last year Alderman Ruth Patterson highlighted the significant issues affecting men and boys all over the world and the important opportunity presented by International Men's Day for the Council to raise awareness of these issues in the Belfast

area. This resulted in a very successful event being held to celebrate International Men's Day. The event, which was the first of its type to be held in Belfast, was attended by approximately 100 people from a diverse range of organisations from the voluntary, community and statutory sectors across the city.

3.2

Last year's theme of "**Working Together For Men and Boys**" will continue this year; it is designed to encourage greater cooperation in addressing issues that affect men and again there will be events and initiatives happening all over the world reflecting the Six Pillars of International Men's Day, which are:

- Working together to promote positive male role models
- Working together to celebrate Men's positive contributions
- Working together to focus on Men's health and well-being
- Working together to highlight discrimination against males
- Working together to improve gender relations and improve gender equality
- Working together to create a safer, better world

3.3

It is proposed that the Council holds an event again this year focusing on men's health and wellbeing, including mental health and building emotional resilience. The event will be organised together with the Belfast Health Development Unit and the costs will be covered within existing revenue estimates and with support from the Public Health Agency. This year it will be a morning (breakfast) event and will include a confidence building motivational speaker and a presentation on behalf of a local community based project, 'Lads to Dads'. There will be health checks, including a skin scanner to assess sun damage, and lots of interactive activities such as yoga, specifically tailored for men. An early draft of the Programme is attached at **Appendix 1**. It is hoped that the event will attract local men from all walks of life across the city.

Key Issues

- Overall this event is an occasion for men to celebrate their achievements and contributions, in particular their contributions to community, family, marriage, and child care while highlighting the discrimination against them
- The theme will be health and wellbeing and there will be practical information and activities tackling issues to do with isolation, poverty, debt management, obesity, drugs and alcohol, smoking, diversity, stress, and skills development.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Invitations will be targeted to endeavour to make the event as inclusive as possible; for example through the Family Support Hubs, Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) Community organisations, etc. ▪ This will be the second consecutive year Belfast City Council has celebrated International Men's Day <p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p><u>Financial</u></p> <p>3.4 There are financial implications in relation to catering, speakers and the health checks. The amount is currently estimated at £1,500 (approximate figures: health checks - £400, speakers - £350, catering - £700). The Belfast Health Development Unit (in conjunction with the Public Health Agency) and Environmental Health will cover the costs of this event from within existing revenue estimates.</p> <p><u>Human Resources</u></p> <p>3.5 Una Lappin (Health Equity Project Officer) and Gillian McEvoy (Senior Environmental Health Officer) are organising this event in conjunction with Valerie Brown (Environmental Health Manager), Nicola Lane (Good Relations Manager) and Jackie McBrinn (Belfast Health Development Unit Manager).</p> <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u></p> <p>3.6 Assets from last year's event are being used this year (pop-up stands) and there are no other asset implications.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>3.7 There are no equality or Good Relations implications to report. The Good Relations Unit is involved in planning the event to ensure any implications, if they arise, are dealt with accordingly.</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
4.1	Appendix 1 - Draft programme as of June 19th 2015.