

## **Belfast** City Council

| Subject:           | Requests for use of the City Hall and the provision of Hospitality |
|--------------------|--|
| Date:              | 21 <sup>st</sup> April 2017  |
| Reporting Officer: | Gerry Millar, Director of Property & Projects                      |
| Contact Officer:   | George Wright, Head of Facilities Management (Ext.5206)            |

| Restricted Reports                                |     |    |   |
|---|-----|----|---|
| Is this report restricted?                        | Yes | No | X |
| If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted? |     |    |   |
| After Committee Decision                          |     |    |   |
| After Council Decision                            |     |    |   |
| Some time in the future                           |     |    |   |
| Never   |     |    |   |
|   |     |    |   |

| Call-in                               |     |   |    |  |
|---------------------------------------|-----|---|----|--|
| Is the decision eligible for Call-in? | Yes | X | No |  |

| 1.0 | Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues   |
|-----|---|
| 1.1 | Members will be aware that the Committee, at its meeting of 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2017, agreed to |
|     | modify the criteria governing access to the City Hall function rooms for external                   |
|     | organisations. The Committee also agreed to the implementation of hire charges for some             |
|     | categories of function, and also revised the approach to the provision of civic hospitality for     |
|     | functions. Some further modifications to this approach were then agreed in March 2017.              |
|     |   |
| 1.2 | The Committee will also be aware that responsibility for the administration of function             |
|     | booking requests has transferred to the Civic HQ Unit of the Facilities Management Section,         |
|     | with effect from 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2017.  |
|     |   |
|     |   |

| 1.3 | The attached schedule contains the recommended approach in respect of each of the requests received in May 2017 and which appear to comply with the criteria established by the Committee.   |
|-----|--|
| 1.4 | In terms of the provision of civic hospitality it will be noted that two of the events are recommended to be offered hospitality, namely the Champions 4 Peace event which helps young people to manage conflict and appreciate diversity and the Fleming Fulton special school request. This hospitality would be in the form of tea/coffee and soft drinks etc, for the Champions 4 Peace group and would be limited in value to the agreed £2 per person. The Fleming Fulton request would involve a drinks reception to a maximum value of £500. It is proposed that none of the applications made during May 2017 would attract a change. |
| 1.5 | The schedule also contains details of several large events booked for 2018, as the organisers are keen to begin their event planning. Of these, it will be seen that all 3 of the planned events are recommended to receive civic hospitality in the form either of a drinks reception or tea/coffee. Of these, 2 events are recommended to attract the full evening charge.   |
| 1.6 | There are no recommended applications of the once-in-three-years rule in respect of these applications.  |
| 2.0 | Recommendations  |
| 2.1 | The Committee is asked to:   |
|     | <ul> <li>Approve the recommendations as set out in the appendix to this report.</li> </ul>   |
| 3.0 | Main report  |
| 3.1 | Key Issues   |
|     | The revised criteria and scale of charges have been applied to the requests received and recommendations are herein offered to the Committee on this basis.<br><u>Financial &amp; Resource Implications</u>  |
| 3.2 |  |
| 3.2 | The implementation of charging for external functions has now commenced, in line with the Committee's decisions in the matter.   |
| 3.2 |  |
|     | Committee's decisions in the matter. Equality or Good Relations Implications There are no direct good relations or equality implications arising from this report.   |
| 3.3 | Committee's decisions in the matter. Equality or Good Relations Implications   |