



Subject:	Legal-Island Equality & Diversity Awards 2018
Date:	19 January 2018
Reporting Officer:	Ronan Cregan, Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Finance and Resources
Contact Officer:	Paddy Murray - Head of Human Resources

<b>Restricted Reports</b>	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Call-in</b>	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	The purpose of this report is to seek permission for council representatives to attend the 2018 Legal-Island Equality & Diversity Awards event on 23 March 2018.
2.0	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	Members are asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Agree to the council's attendance at the 2018 Legal-Island Equality &amp; Diversity Awards event on 23 March 2018.</li><li>• Approve the attendance of the Chair and Deputy Chair of Strategic Policy &amp; Resources Committee or their nominees, a chief officer; and three council officers</li></ul>

	<p>involved in the three award submissions should it be possible to purchase six individual places at the event. Alternatively if individual places cannot be purchased members are asked to approve the purchase of one table of ten should this be the only available option and agree to the four additional places being allocated to additional SP&amp;R Committee members.</p>
3.0	<p><b>Main report</b></p>
	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p><b>Invitation to Legal-Island Equality &amp; Diversity Awards 2018</b></p>
3.1	<p>The council has been shortlisted as a finalist in three categories of the 2018 Legal-Island Equality &amp; Diversity awards in respect of the ‘Best Disability Initiative’, ‘Best Gender Initiative’ and ‘Best LGBT Initiative’ categories and invited to attend this year’s awards event. The awards are scheduled to take place on the evening of 23 March 2018 in Titanic Belfast.</p>
3.2	<p>This nomination follows an increase in activity in recent years to support and raise awareness of disability, gender and LGBT issues both externally and in the workplace. This is part of our ongoing work to fulfil the council’s Section 75 and other legislative duties, as well as demonstrate civic leadership and best practice. The submissions were prepared and submitted by Corporate HR and the Equality and Diversity Unit.</p>
3.3	<p>The event organisers are inviting organisations to purchase a table of ten at a cost of £1200. Should attendance be approved and if it is possible, at a later date, to purchase individual places at the event, it is proposed that the Chair and Deputy Chair of Strategic Policy &amp; Resources Committee, or their nominees; a chief officer and the three council officers involved in the three award submissions attend the event on 23 March 2018. If it is not possible to purchase six individual places, then approval is sought to purchase a table for ten and invitations to be extended to other Committee members.</p>
3.4	<p><b>Financial &amp; Resource Implications</b></p> <p>A table of ten will cost £1200. Six individual places if available will cost around £120 each, or approximately £720. This cost will be met from the 2017-2018 organisational development budget.</p>

3.5	<b>Equality or Good Relations Implications</b> Attendance at the awards event will demonstrate the council's continuing commitment to embrace equality & diversity and promote itself as an inclusive organisation to staff and the community.
4.0	<b>Appendices</b> N/A