



<b>Subject:</b>	Request regarding offer of a Statue from representatives of Stena Line
<b>Date:</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> October 2018
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director, City and Neighbourhood Services
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Nicola Lane, Good Relations Manager

<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 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"/>

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues</b>
1.1	To appraise Members of a request received by Officers in relation to the offer of a statue to the City of Belfast from Stena Line along with a funded programme regarding nonviolence for young people.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	The Committee is asked to; <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Consider the request and agree that Officers explore options with Stena Line and submit a further report to Committee in due course.</li></ul>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main report</b>
	<b><u>Background</u></b>
3.1	The Olsson family, founders and owners of Stena Line, support many causes and charities including the Non-Violence Project Foundation. The Foundation has some high-profile

supporters, however, there is not currently much awareness in the UK and Ireland <https://www.facebook.com/nonviolenceuk/>. The family is interested in exploring a potential initiative with the City of Belfast.

3.2 The symbol for this is the famous statue by Carl Reutersvärd, which, among other places, is situated in front of the United Nations building in New York. This statue is a well-known symbol of peace and non-violence.

3.3 The Olsson family is very supportive of the intentions and ambitions in this organisation/ project, especially in relation to Stena Line's property and buildings, many of which are in troubled areas.

#### **Request**

3.4 The idea is to offer a statue to City of Belfast. Belfast is Stena Line's largest port today. Stena Line already supports the Belfast Giants, however, this initiative would seek to demonstrate in a different way that Stena Line cares about the schools and the youth of Belfast. A pack outlining the request is attached for members' information.

3.5 Members of the Olsson family would travel to Belfast for the inauguration of such a statue with the Lord Mayor.

3.6 Stena Line would then support a non-violence program to be rolled out at certain areas or schools.

3.7 The overall purpose is to show that Stena Line takes responsibility and contributes to society in a positive manner.

#### **Key Issues**

3.8 The Strategic Director of City and Neighbourhood Services has met with representatives from Stena to discuss the thinking around the project further.

3.9 While it may initially appear that the image of the "knotted gun" does not sit comfortably within the Belfast context, members may wish to note the statue can be customised to meet local needs / issues (pictures included in the appendix), and it can be colourful and vibrant.

3.10	The attached information pack has been prepared by Stena, and includes some thinking on their part as to where it might be sited. However, they are open to discussion with the Council in relation to the site.
3.11	Should Council agree to the above request, the company have stated that they would be willing to invest significant funds in a programme for children and young people through schools which would look at nonviolence. They have advised that they would wish Council to take the lead on this initiative. Members will be aware that the Council is currently supporting a number of programmes through PEACE IV but these are confined to afterschool activities as stipulated by the funding conditions.
	<u>Financial and Resource Implications</u>
3.12	At this stage, there are no financial implications for Council.
	<u>Equality and Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs assessment</u>
3.13	There are no equality or good relations implications associated with this report. Should Council agree to support the request for the statue and associated programme, the aim would be to promote positive good relations within the City.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Appendices – Documents Attached</b>
	Appendix 1 - Presentation on the Project from Stenaline Appendix 2 - Information about the Non Violence Programme