



Subject:	<b>Request for use of the City Hall Grounds for Chinese Cultural Event</b>
Date:	23rd August, 2019
Reporting Officer:	John Walsh, City Solicitor and Director of Legal and Civic Services
Contact Officer:	Aisling Milliken, Functions and Exhibition Manager (ext: 3335)

<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"/>
Sometime 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</b>
1.1	To seek approval for an entertainment programme to take place in the grounds of the City Hall, as part of the planned cultural activity in September 2019.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
2.1	The Committee is asked to approve the recommendation as outlined below in respect of the proposed event in the grounds of the City Hall on Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> September 2019.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
	<u>Background Information</u>
3.1	A multi-agency group has been set up to promote a China in Northern Ireland programme. As part of the China in Northern Ireland programme 2019/20 the request is for the use of City Hall grounds for a Chinese cultural event involving music and dance involving

	<p>performers from China and the local Chinese community. The event would take place on the afternoon of Friday 27 September 2019. It is anticipated that between 300 and 500 people would take part.</p>
3.2	<p>In addition to the request for the use of City Hall grounds, there has been a request for the use of rooms in City Hall to provide a reception for VIP guests. Due to prior commitments, this would need to be accommodated using the Committee rooms.</p>
3.3	<p>The event would take place from 1 pm to 4 pm, although access would be required earlier and later in the day for set ups and strip downs.</p>
3.4	<p>The event would be free. It would take place on the front lawns only and consequently areas such as the Titanic garden and Cenotaph would remain open to the public. Access to the City Hall itself would not be affected.</p>
3.5	<p>All stewarding/marshalling staff and first aiders will be provided. Indemnities for damage and submission of a formal event-management plan will be required.</p>
	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p>
3.6	<p>The key issue is whether the Committee is minded to approve this request to hold a Chinese cultural event in the City Hall grounds on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2019.</p>
	<p><b><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></b></p>
3.7	<p>In terms of the main event there would be minimal costs for the Council which would be covered by the International /European Unit in terms of staffing and catering for VIP reception. No other costs will be met by the Council.</p>
3.8	<p>There are no concerns from an asset management point of view.</p>
	<p><b><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></b></p>
3.9	<p>The event promotes positive relations with the Chinese community in Belfast and, therefore, it is consistent with the Council's obligation in respect of good relations.</p>
<b>4.0</b>	<p><b>Documents Attached</b></p>
	<p>None</p>