



Subject:	Estates Gazette Awards - 'City of the Year' award
Date:	13 October 2021
Reporting Officer:	Cathy Reynolds, Director of City Regeneration and Development
Contact Officer:	Marie Miller, Marketing Manager, City Regeneration & Development

Restricted Reports	
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"/>
Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to seek approval for attendance at the Estates Gazette Awards ceremony where Belfast has been shortlisted for a 'City of the Year' Award
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Note that Belfast has been shortlisted for a 'City of the Year' Award at the 2021 Estates Gazette Future of Real Estate Awards• Approve the attendance of Committee Chair/Deputy Chair or nominee and one officer at the Estates Gazette Future of Real Estate Awards Ceremony, taking place 28 October in London, at a maximum cost of £1,750, subject to prevailing COVID restrictions• Note that the decision is recommended not for call-in to ensure planning for attendance at this event can commence immediately

3.0	Main Report
3.1	Belfast has been shortlisted in the 'City of the Year' Award category in the 2021 Estates Gazette Future of Real Estate Awards.
3.2	Accolades and awards which recognise Belfast's success at creating a liveable, inclusive city are important benchmarking tools as we build awareness of the Belfast investment proposition within a wider 'Position the City to Compete' proposition which seeks to build on the city's reputation as a unique destination for investment, tourism, development and supporting inclusive economic growth.
3.3	The Estates Gazette Future of Real Estate Awards seek to celebrate cities, advisers, investors and developers from the UK and beyond that are driving innovation, long-term thinking and future proofing in the built environment.
3.4	The 'City of the Year' Award is a new award for 2021 which seeks to celebrate UK's cities and the work they are doing to create liveable, successful places. Shortlisted cities have demonstrated evidence of how they are working to deliver cities that are protected from environmental and societal crises, have strong leadership and are delivering initiatives that have enabled their city to grow, attract investment and deliver on the need for equality. Other finalists in the category include Cardiff, Glasgow, Liverpool, Newcastle and Sheffield.
3.5	The Belfast submission highlighted how our young, vibrant and highly educated workforce, secure and resilient infrastructure, strong civic leadership and city partnerships, are priming Belfast for a positive economic future, focused on sustainability and inclusive growth. It also focused on how we are delivering, through our Corporate Plan and other city plans and strategies, the short-term immediate interventions to drive city recovery during this pandemic phase, as well as building the foundations for sustained, inclusive recovery.
3.6	The awards ceremony will take place in London on the 28 October. It will provide an opportunity for attendees to share best practice and network with other award finalists, including representatives from other UK cities and the wider development and investment community.

3.7	Members are requested to approve the attendance of the Chair or Deputy Chair or nominee plus one Officer at the Awards Ceremony. Attendance in person will be subject to Council advice regarding the implementation of COVID restrictions at that time.
3.8	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>Approval is sought for up to £1,750 to support attendance of the Committee Chair/Deputy Chair or delegated nominee plus one Officer at the Estates Gazette Future of Real Estate Award Ceremony in London on the 28 October 2021.</p> <p>Costs will be met from within the City Regeneration and Development existing departmental budget for '21/22.</p>
3.9	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/ Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents attached
	None