

EU & International Relations Workplan 2024/25



Project Name	Project Description	Actions/Targets	Timeline and Milestones	Budget
Maximise potential of economic opportunities with partner cities	Outward business missions Work with city partners in Boston, Nashville and Shenyang to explore potential to for developing business-to-business linkages through coordinated visit programmes. The detail for each will be dependent on partner buy-in and alignment with wider Belfast priorities	Engagement with city partners to scope out opportunities that have the potential to provide good return on investment. This may include collaborating with other partners (e.g. Invest NI, TEO) on wider visit programmes, if appropriate	Dates subject to agreement with partners	Budget tbc subject to finalising scale and scope of potential business missions
	Inward business visits Host a delegation of up to 15 companies from Nashville/Tennessee – with a focus on both trade and investment opportunities. Visit programme to be developed in conjunction with partners including Invest NI, DBT and Catalyst. Delegation may be accompanied by civic leaders and partners from US-based colleges/universities that have existing linkages with Belfast-based organisations Work with other partner cities to explore potential of inward business missions – subject to agreement on areas of mutual alignment.	Nashville partners to work with Invest NI to target potential FDI businesses	Indicative date – early October 2024 Dates to be agreed	£5,000 Resources to be agreed subject to programme finalisation
	Supporting partner linkages Provide guidance, advice and connections for Belfast-based organisations engaging with counterparts in our partner cities in order to strengthen and broaden the civic relationships.	Ongoing engagement with and support for organisations as required	Ongoing	N/A
Support international investment proposition work	Support for key events Senior political and officer level engagement in key events to promote the Belfast investment narrative. Key events in this coming year to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New York New Belfast (already approved by this Committee) Annual showcase and profiling event to 	Developing content for key presentations and meetings to	Event takes place early June 2024	£13,000 already approved by Committee

	<p>exploit the strong linkages between the cities and update on emerging FDI and capital investment opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Belfast Homecoming: Two-day programme to showcase Belfast’s economic trade strengths and international FDI proposition to an inward delegation of 40 targeted recruited attendees, largely from diaspora and key networks. <p>Engagement in key international networks Use existing networks such as Eurocities to share learning and build connections for joint project development activity across a range of corporate priorities. Note that the Eurocities Culture Forum will be held in Belfast this year as part of the 2024 Year of Cultural Celebration</p> <p>Support civic engagements with key international partners Support our key civic partners (universities; large companies) by making connections including access to Lord Mayor/senior staff as required and appropriate – in line with agreed priorities and all relevant protocol</p>	<p>endorse critical investment messaging and develop new leads</p> <p>Developing content for key inputs and supporting development of side programmes for priority attendees</p> <p>Triage system developed to identify appropriate/relevant level of support available. Team to lead on logistics around organisation of event/presentation</p>	<p>Event takes place October 2024</p> <p>Culture Forum event – September 2024</p> <p>Ongoing programme of engagements</p>	<p>Event sponsorship of £5,000</p> <p>Annual membership fee c£15,000</p>