



Subject:	Diversity Mark Summit 2026 - Sponsorship
Date:	22 May 2026
Reporting Officer:	Christine Sheridan -Director of Human Resources
Contact Officer:	Julie Fleming – Principal HR Adviser – Development

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>Please indicate the description, as listed in Schedule 6, of the exempt information by virtue of which the council has deemed this report restricted.</p> <p>Insert number <input type="checkbox"/></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Information relating to any individual 2. Information likely to reveal the identity of an individual 3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the council holding that information) 4. Information in connection with any labour relations matter 5. Information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained 6. Information showing that the council proposes to (a) to give a notice imposing restrictions on a person; or (b) to make an order or direction 7. Information on any action in relation to the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime 	
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
<p>After Committee Decision</p> <p>After Council Decision</p> <p>Sometime in the future</p> <p>Never</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to seek approval to sponsor the Diversity Mark Summit 2026 taking place at Titanic Belfast on 7 October 2026.

2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is asked to agree to the sponsorship of the Diversity Mark Summit 2026.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>At its meeting on 23 May 2025, the Committee approved sponsorship of the 2025 Diversity Mark Summit. Diversity Mark is an independent not-for-profit Diversity and Inclusion Accreditation in Northern Ireland and has to date accredited almost 200 organisations across the UK and Ireland on their path to a more inclusive workplace. Membership provides support to employers to make and demonstrate progressive improvement in creating an inclusive & diverse workplace. The Council holds Silver Diversity mark Accreditation and is currently working towards attaining Gold Accreditation. The Council continues to work closely with Diversity Mark on a number of initiatives and forums aimed at sharing and promoting equality, diversity and inclusion best practice.</p>
3.2	The Council has been invited again, along with a small number of other organisations to contribute to the 2026 summit as a supporting sponsor.
3.3	<p>The benefits for sponsoring organisations are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Involvement: Continued involvement in the EDI Forum. The forum will support on shaping the strategic direction of this annual summit and meet to explore best practice and global trends in EDI as identified by Diversity Mark. • Prominent Recognition: Elevate your organisation’s profile with extensive recognition and promotional opportunities throughout the summit as a valued supporting sponsor, ensuring visibility among industry leaders and decision-makers. • Exclusive Attendance: Secure up to 10 in-person summit passes for employees, promoting diversity from senior levels throughout, with the flexibility to invite guests or donate tickets to charitable organisations and a seat on the steering committee. • Thought Leadership Platform: Opportunity to showcase your expertise by speaking at the summit or suggesting influential speakers. • Comprehensive Branding: Benefit from extensive branding across all promotional materials, advertisements, and the website, with logo prominently displayed throughout the summit venue as a supporting sponsor, reinforcing your organisation’s commitment to EDI and its pivotal role in driving economic growth and inclusivity.

3.4	<p>Financial and Resource Implications</p> <p>The investment required for this sponsorship is £3000. this includes 10 places at the summit and a seat at the Steering Committee will be met from the existing Organisation Development budget.</p>
3.5	<p>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</p> <p>Sponsorship of this event will allow the Council to demonstrate its commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion as well as showcase our best practice as an employer and civic leader.</p>
4.0	<p>Appendices – Documents Attached</p>
	None