



Subject:	World Athletics Road Race
Date:	22 March 2024
Reporting Officer:	John Greer, Director of Economic Development
Contact Officer:	Lesley-Ann O'Donnell, Senior Manager Culture, Tourism & Events

Restricted Reports

Is this report restricted? Yes No

Please indicate the description, as listed in Schedule 6, of the exempt information by virtue of which the council has deemed this report restricted.

Insert number

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?

After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sometime in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in

Is the decision eligible for Call-in? Yes No

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to seek a direction from members pertaining to a funding request from the organisers of the Antrim Half Marathon for the staging of a 5km race and a 1 mile race in Belfast.

2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider approving officers recommendation to not accede to the funding request for £80,000 to the organisers of the June road racing event.
3.0	Main Report
	Background
3.1	The project promoter is hosting a 5km on Sunday June 9 th . The event will feature an appearance by Joshua Cheptigi the current Olympic 5000m champion. The event will also feature elite mile races for men and women.
3.2	The event is currently being supported by the Ulster University and we are aware that the organiser has made applications for funding support from Tourism NI, but that request is still being considered.
3.3	The event will be televised and is a paid for event with the following entry prices for participants, Adults £22, and Students £15.
3.4	The organiser has requested a contribution of £80,000 from Belfast City Council towards the organisation of the event.
3.5	The event promoter has suggested the economic impact would be in the region of £2.7m. Although we have not had an independent verification or test of this proposed level of return.
3.6	Members should be aware there is currently no budget or officer resource assigned to this activity.
3.7	Given the significant workload planned for the Events Team in delivering Belfast 2024, ongoing bidding and organising for Fleadh and Euro's 2028 as well as councils delivered events such as Christmas, Lord Mayor's Day, and the Maritime Festival the addition of this event would place significant unplanned work pressure on staff. As a result of this and the fact that funding for the event has not been planned for within current departmental budgets it is recommended that the committee does not accede to the funding request.
	<u>Financial and Resource Implications</u>
3.8	As referenced, there is currently no provision made within council budgets.
	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u>
3.9	None Identified
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	None