



## Belfast City Council

Report to:	<b>Strategic Policy and Resources Committee</b>
Date:	<b>Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2008</b>
Subject:	<b>National Association of Councillors - Crime and Disorder Conference</b>
Reporting Officer:	<b>Mr. Liam Steele, Head of Committee and Members' Services (extension 6325)</b>
Contact Officer:	<b>Mrs. Julie Lilley, Members' Liaison Officer (extension 6321)</b>

### Relevant Background Information

The National Association of Councillors is holding a Conference in York from Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> until Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> January, 2009.

The theme of the Conference is 'Tackling Violent Crime and Disorder – Delivering Safer Communities'. The Conference will consider the range of issues faced by local communities which are blighted by criminal and anti social behaviour and the measures which need to be put in place to deal effectively with these problems. The Conference will also provide an opportunity to hear from a number of expert speakers, participate in interactive question and answer sessions and hear of best practice in other Local Authorities.

The Council has been a member of the National Association of Councillors for a considerable period of years and has been represented at previous Conferences. Those Members who have attended have found it to be a valuable opportunity to network and discuss with other Councillors from across England, Scotland and Wales issues of mutual interest and concern.

### Key Issues

The business of the Conference falls within the criteria set out in Section 38 of the 1972 Local Government (Northern Ireland) Act in that it involves issues connected with the discharge of the functions of the Council and/or affecting the district or its inhabitants.

**Resource Implications**

Delegate Fee:	£350
Travel:	£75
Accommodation:	£130
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Total per delegate:	£555

**Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Committee agrees to authorise:

- the attendance at the Conference of the Chairman, the Deputy Chairman, the Council's representatives on the National Association of Councillors, Northern Ireland Region, the Head of Committee and Members' Services (or their nominees) and a representative of the Party Groupings on the Council not represented by the aforementioned Members; and
- the payment of the conference fees and appropriate travelling and subsistence allowances in connection therewith.