



## Belfast City Council

Report to:	<b>Strategic Policy and Resources Committee</b>
Date:	<b>Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> March, 2009</b>
Subject:	<b>Local Authority Members' Association - Annual Spring Seminar</b>
Reporting Officer:	<b>Mr. Liam Steele, Head of Committee Members' Services (extension 6325)</b>
Contact Officer:	<b>Mrs. Julie Lilley, Members' Liaison Officer (extension 6321)</b>

### **Relevant Background Information**

The Local Authority Members' Association is holding its Annual Spring Seminar in Portlaoise, County Laois on Thursday, 16th and Friday, 17th April.

The business of the Seminar is such that it will allow Members, through participation in a series of workshops, to learn from best practice in other jurisdictions as well as explore innovative citizen focussed approaches being implemented by Local Authorities elsewhere.

The Council has been represented at LAMA Seminars for the past number of years and representatives attending previous Seminars have felt that their attendance gave them a valuable opportunity to meet with Local Government Representatives from throughout Ireland to discuss 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:	£230
Accommodation Costs:	£140
Travel:	£190
Subsistence:	£145
Total per delegate:	<u>£705</u>

**Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Sub-Committee authorises:

- the attendance at the Annual Spring Seminar 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 each of the Party Groupings on the Council not represented by the aforementioned Members.
- the payment of the appropriate travelling and subsistence allowances in connection therewith.

**Key to Abbreviations**

N/A

**Documents Attached**

N/A