



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Strategic Policy and Resources
Subject:	Council AGM - location
Date:	8 May 2009
Reporting Officer:	Peter McNaney, Chief Executive
Contact Officer:	Gerry Millar, Director of Improvement

Relevant Background Information

The Council Annual General Meeting to agree the Lord Mayor, Committee Chairman etc was held last year in Adelaide Exchange due to the refurbishment works in City Hall.

Phase One of City Hall i.e. the rotunda and first floor function rooms including the Council Chamber have been handed over by the contractor since November 2008.

Committee however, have taken a decision not to return to City Hall until the whole building is finished given that even with phase one complete there are restrictions and limitations on ancillary matters such as car parking, party rooms etc as well as ongoing construction noise.

Key Issues

Given the significance of the AGM, officers think it appropriate that Members are asked for their preference in terms of where to hold the 2009 meeting.

The 2009 AGM is due to take place on 1 June 2009 at 6 pm. The Council Chamber is available as is the reception room for catering. If Members decide they wish to go ahead with a City Hall AGM, we can divert resources to finish the Lord Mayors parlour, for the end of May.

However, it is important in taking any decision that Members remain aware of the following:

- The courtyard and car parking will not be available
- Party Rooms will not be available

- There will be no portraiture or artefacts on display
- No telephone services available
- As this report was drafted there was no confirmation that we can bring forward the relaying of carpet to the Chamber and stairway.

In terms of image therefore and in regards to press coverage the Chamber may look somewhat bare.

Recommendations

Committee is asked to indicate its preference for the 2009 AGM location so that all necessary arrangements can be put in place.

Decision Tracking

If Committee decide to go back to City Hall, they will go back on 1 June 2009.
Timeframe: June 2009.
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