



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
Date:	Friday, 7th August, 2009
Subject:	Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy - On Board Training Programme
Reporting Officer:	Mr. Liam Steele, Head of Committee and Members' Services (extension 6325)
Contact Officer:	Mrs. Julie Lilley, Members' Liaison Officer (extension 6321)

Relevant Background Information

The 'On Board' training programme, delivered by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, is the leading training programme in the United Kingdom for board members of public bodies. It provides new and existing board members with invaluable information on their roles and responsibilities and also explores many of the practical issues facing board members and their organisations. The programme is delivered by consultants who are widely recognised as experts on corporate governance in relation to public bodies.

To date the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy has delivered successfully almost five hundred 'On Board' programmes in England, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

The programme will be delivered on a one-day basis at various venues in Belfast during 2009 and 2010.

Key Issues

The programme is designed in such a way that on completion delegates will:

- understand the roles and responsibilities of the Board as a corporate body and the common problems which can arise
- have an appreciation of the knowledge, skills and attributes of an effective board member and an effective Chairman

- understand how to develop and maintain key internal and external relationships
- be familiar with the Nolan Principles that boards and board members are expected to adhere to and understand the practical issues arising from their application
- be aware of the public service environment and in particular the requirements arising from the need to account for the use of public money and the safekeeping of public assets.

Resource Implications

The cost of participating in the programme is £295 per delegate.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee authorises:

- participation in the 'On Board' training programme of the Chairman, the Deputy Chairman (or their nominees) and a representative of each of the Party Groupings on the Council not represented by the aforementioned Members.

Decision Tracking

Mr. Liam Steele, Head of Committee and Members' Services, will arrange for those Members who wish to participate in the programme to be enrolled on a date of their choice.

Documents Attached

N/A