



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
Subject:	Lord Mayor's Personal Allowance
Date:	21st August, 2009
Reporting Officer:	Mr. L. Steele, Head of Committee and Members' Services
Contact Officer:	Mr. L. Steele, Head of Committee and Members' Services (Extension 6325)

Relevant Background Information

At its meeting on 19th June, the Committee deferred consideration of a report indicating that the Lord Mayor did not wish to accept her personal allowance for 2009/2010 and seeking permission to reallocate an amount equivalent to the Lord Mayor's Personal Allowance to the Good Relations Small Grants Scheme. A copy of the report is attached.

Key Issues

The Lord Mayor has indicated that her view has not changed and that she does not wish to accept the personal allowance. She would still like the Committee to authorise an amount equivalent to the personal allowance - some £33,800 - to be allocated to the Good Relations Small Grants Scheme, which supports the work of local communities throughout the City on a range of good relations issues.

Resource Implications

Since the money is already provided for in the Council's current budgets, there would be no additional resources required.

Recommendation

The Committee is recommended to authorise the reallocation of the Lord Mayor's Personal Allowance for 2009/2010 - £33,800 - to the Good Relations Small Grants Scheme, on the understanding that this would be a one-off measure and will not be taken to create a precedent.

Decision Tracking

Responsibility for ensuring the reallocation to the Good Relations Small Grants Scheme of the amount involved will rest with the Head of Committee and Members' Services and will be undertaken by 8th September, 2009.

Documents Attached

Report to Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 19th June.