



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
Subject:	Allowances for the Lord Mayor, Deputy Lord Mayor and High Sheriff
Date:	17 th June, 2011
Reporting Officer:	Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager (ext 6314)

1	Relevant Background Information
1.1	The Committee, at its meeting on 3 rd June, considered a report on a review of the allowances paid to the Lord Mayor, the Deputy Lord Mayor and the High Sheriff.
1.2	The Committee referred consideration of the matter to the Budget and Transformation Panel in the first instance and agreed that a decision would be taken by the Committee at its next meeting.

2	Key Issues
2.1	The Committee referred the matter to the Budget and Transformation Panel in order for it to consider the report attached as appendix 1.
2.2	The Panel agreed to recommend to the Committee that there should be no increase to the allowances to be paid to the Lord Mayor, the Deputy Lord Mayor and the High Sheriff.
2.3	Furthermore, the Panel requested that the Committee be provided with the relevant information in relation to the use of a Lord Mayor's Entertainment Allowance by a Deputy Lord Mayor. In this regard it should be pointed out that the primary role of the Deputy Lord Mayor is to deputise for the Lord Mayor and in respect of the application of strict protocol, the Deputy Lord Mayor enjoys no civic precedence other than in deputising for the Lord Mayor. When the Deputy Lord Mayor or the High Sheriff is acting on behalf of the Lord Mayor and where this Civic duty involves the provision of hospitality, then the cost of this is borne by the Lord Mayor's entertainment budget and not the Deputy Lord Mayor's or the High Sheriff's budget.

3	Resource Implications
3.1	N/A

4	Equality and Good Relations Implications
4.1	None.

5	Recommendations
5.1	It is recommended that the Committee approves the recommendation of the Budget and Transformation Panel in that there should be no increase to the allowances to be paid to the Lord Mayor, the Deputy Lord Mayor and the High Sheriff.

6	Decision Tracking
Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager	
4 th July, 2011	