



## Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland – Annual Conference
<b>Date:</b>	Friday, 19th August, 2011
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager (ext 6314)
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Julie Lilley, Democratic Services Officer (ext 6321)

<b>1</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
1.1	The Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland is holding its Annual Conference in Trim, County Meath from Thursday 8th to Saturday 10th September.
1.2	The main focus of the Conference will examine the principle of subsidiarity and the need to balance the efficiency of regional service delivery against local democracy and local responsiveness. The keynote speaker at the Conference is Minister Brian Hayes, Minister of State at the Irish Republic Department of Finance.
1.3	The Council has been represented at AMAI events for a number of years and representatives attending previous Conferences 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.
<b>2</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	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.

<b>3</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
3.1	<p><u>Financial</u></p> <p>Delegate Fee: £175</p> <p>Accommodation Costs: £300</p> <p>Travel: £125</p> <p>Subsistence: £255</p> <p>Total per delegate: <u>£855</u></p>

<b>4</b>	<b>Equality Implications</b>
	N/A

<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
5.1	<p>It is recommended that the Committee authorises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ the attendance at the AMAI Annual Conference of the Chairman, the Deputy Chairman, the Council's representatives on the National Association of Councillors, Northern Ireland Region, the Democratic Services Manager (or their nominees) and a representative of each of the Parties on the Council not represented by the aforementioned Members.</li> <li>▪ the payment of the appropriate travelling and subsistence allowances in connection therewith.</li> </ul>

<b>6</b>	<b>Decision Tracking</b>
<p>Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager</p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> September 2011</p>	