Belfast City Council Treasury Management Policy Statement December 2011

1. Introduction

1.1 This policy statement is based on the Code of Practice for Treasury Management in Public Services produced by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) and outlines the arrangements within Belfast City Council for ensuring the proper management of the Council's investments and cash flows, its banking and money market capital transactions; the effective control of risks associated with those activities; and the pursuit of optimum performance consistent with those risks.

2. Scope of Treasury Management Activities

- 2.1 Belfast City Council defines its treasury management activities as:-
 - the management of the organisation's investments and cash flows
 - its banking, money market and capital market transactions and
 - the effective control of the risks associated with those activities and the pursuit of optimum performance consistent with those risks.
- 2.2 The Council regards the successful identification, monitoring and control of risk to be the prime criteria by which the effectiveness of its treasury management activities will be measured. Accordingly, the analysis and reporting of treasury management activities will focus on their risk implications for the organisation.
- 2.3 The Council acknowledges that effective treasury management will provide support towards the achievement of its business and service objectives. It is therefore committed to the principles of achieving value for money in treasury management, and to employing suitable comprehensive measurement techniques, within the context of effective risk management.

3. Treasury Management Practices

- 3.1 The Director of Finance and Resources will develop and maintain suitable Treasury Management Practices (TMP's) and accompanying schedules as part of the Councils operational procedures. These procedures will set out the manner in which the Council will seek to achieve its treasury management policies and objectives, prescribe how it will manage and control those activities and address each of the of the following twelve TMP's which are specified in the CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice:-
 - TMP 1: Risk Management
 - TMP 2: Performance Measurement
 - TMP 3: Decision-Making and Analysis
 - TMP 4: Approved Instruments, Methods and Techniques
 - TMP 5: Organisation, Clarity, and Segregation of Responsibilities and Dealing Arrangements
 - TMP 6: Reporting Requirements and Management Information Arrangements
 - TMP 7: Budgeting, Accounting and Audit Arrangements
 - TMP 8: Cash and Cash Flow Management
 - TMP 9: Money Laundering

- TMP 10: Training and Qualifications
- TMP 11: Use of External Service Providers
- TMP 12: Corporate Governance

4. Annual Treasury Management

4.1 The Director of Finance and Resources will report to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee on the council's treasury management policies, practices and activities, including an annual strategy and plan in advance of the year, a mid-year review and an annual report after its close, in the form described in the TMP's.