



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
Subject:	Documentary on Lord Mayor – Request to Film Council Meetings
Date:	23rd March, 2012
Reporting Officer:	Mr. Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager (extension 6414)
Contact Officer:	Mr. Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager (extension 6314)

1	Relevant Background Information
1.1	The Committee will recall that, at its meetings on 18th November, 2011 and 20th January, 2012, it had granted authority for a film company, Waddell Media, to record the proceedings of the December, 2011 and March, 2012 Council Meetings, respectively, as part of a documentary it was producing on behalf of the British Broadcasting Company on the Lord Mayor's year in office.
1.2	The Company has, in order to show some of the day to day business of how the City is run, now requested permission to film also the full proceedings of the following Council meetings: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monday, 2nd April, 2012• Tuesday, 1st May, 2012• Friday, 1st June, 2012.
1.3	It is understood that the company would require two personnel to be in attendance to carry out the filming. One camera would be used, operating from both fixed and non-fixed positions.

2	Key Issues
2.1	If the Committee is minded to accede to the request, it should be noted that the Company would be attendance after the minutes of the Council minutes have been adopted at the April meeting and at the commencement of the May and June meetings.
2.2	It should be noted also that the meeting on 1st June will be the Annual Meeting and requests are normally received from broadcasting companies to film the election of the Lord Mayor and Deputy Lord Mayor.
2.3	As indicated, the Council agreed to the previous requests from Waddell Media and has agreed to similar applications from other companies producing documentaries on the Lord Mayor and the City in general.
2.4	The filming of the proceedings of the Council meeting will not cause any disruption to the proceedings and staff from the Corporate Communications Section will liaise directly with the production team to make them aware of the rules and protocols to be observed.

3	Resource Implications
	None.

4	Equality Implications
	None.

5	Recommendations
5.1	The Committee is recommended to accede to the request for the filming of the Council meetings as outlined.

6	Decision Tracking
Mr Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager	
March, 2012.	