



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
Subject:	National Association of Councillors – Community Sport and Leisure Conference
Date:	Friday, 23rd March, 2012
Reporting Officer:	Mr. Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager (extension 6314)
Contact Officer:	Mrs. Julie Lilley, Democratic Services Officer (extension 6321)

1	Relevant Background Information
1.1	The National Association of Councillors (NAC) is holding a weekend Training Conference in Scarborough from Friday, 13th until Sunday, 15th April.
1.2	The theme of the conference is Community Sport and Leisure. As we approach the 2012 Olympic Games there is an increased focus on the importance of sport and leisure to local communities. The conference will present an opportunity for members to discuss innovative ways to refurbish and improve sports facilities to ensure they are fit for purpose and have the potential to make a real difference to the lives of citizens.
1.3	The council has been represented at NAC 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 England, Scotland and Wales to discuss issues which are impacting on Local Authorities.

2	Key Issues
2.1	The business of the conference falls within the criteria set out in Section 34 of the Local Government Finance Act (Northern Ireland) 2011, which will replace Section 38 of the Local Government Act Northern Ireland with effect from 1 st April, in that it involves issues connected with the interests of the inhabitants of the district or any part of it.

3	Resource Implications										
3.1	<p><u>Financial</u></p> <table> <tr> <td>Delegate Fee:</td> <td>£350</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Accommodation Costs:</td> <td>£120</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Travel:</td> <td>£212</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>-----</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total per delegate:</td> <td>£682</td> </tr> </table>	Delegate Fee:	£350	Accommodation Costs:	£120	Travel:	£212		-----	Total per delegate:	£682
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4	Equality Implications
	N/A

5	Recommendations
5.1	<p>It is recommended that the Committee authorises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ the attendance at the NAC Training 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; and ▪ the payment of the appropriate travelling and subsistence allowances in connection therewith.

6	Decision Tracking
<p>Officers responsible:</p> <p>Mrs. Julie Lilley, Democratic Services Officer</p>	

April, 2012