



**Belfast City Council**

<b>Report to:</b>	Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Investment Programme Update
<b>Date:</b>	25 April 2012
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Ronan Cregan, Director of Finance and Resources
<b>Contact Officers:</b>	Ronan Cregan, Director of Finance and Resources Gerry Millar, Director of Property and Projects

<b>1.0</b>	<b><u>Relevant Background Information</u></b>							
1.1	<p>In order to ensure the delivery of the Investment Programme the following key deliverables will be required to be agreed by the end of June:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Governance arrangements to support the delivery of the Investment Programme.</li> <li>2. Prioritisation frameworks for physical projects.</li> <li>3. First cut Capital Programme, LIF and CIF proposals.</li> <li>4. Investment Programme Communications Plan.</li> <li>5. Delivery Plan for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Procurement</li> <li>- Jobs and Placements</li> <li>- Bursary Scheme</li> <li>- Social Clauses</li> <li>- Marketing the city</li> </ul> </li> <li>6. Completed Urban Broadband Fund submission.</li> </ol>							
1.2	<p>The table below outlines the timetable and key milestones for these deliverables.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20%;">25 April</td> <td>           Presentation to SP&amp;R: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Terms of Reference for Area Working Groups</li> <li>• Local Investment Fund( LIF) guidance, proposal form and prioritisation matrix</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td>30 April – 9 May</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First Area Working Groups meetings</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td>18 May</td> <td>           Presentation to SP&amp;R: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Final Investment Programme (inc. consultation responses)</li> <li>• LIF prioritisation matrix</li> <li>• Capital Programme 2012/13</li> </ul> </td> </tr> </table>		25 April	Presentation to SP&R: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Terms of Reference for Area Working Groups</li> <li>• Local Investment Fund( LIF) guidance, proposal form and prioritisation matrix</li> </ul>	30 April – 9 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First Area Working Groups meetings</li> </ul>	18 May	Presentation to SP&R: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Final Investment Programme (inc. consultation responses)</li> <li>• LIF prioritisation matrix</li> <li>• Capital Programme 2012/13</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capital Programme non-recurrent 2012/13 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Feasibility Fund</li> <li>○ Brighter Belfast Overview</li> <li>○ Planned Maintenance</li> <li>○ ICT</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Communication Plan</li> </ul>
28 May – 13 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Second Area Working Groups meetings</li> </ul>
22 June	<p>Presentation to SP&amp;R:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LIF Proposals</li> <li>• City Investment Fund priorities</li> <li>• Delivery Plan for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Procurement</li> <li>○ Jobs and Placements</li> <li>○ Bursary Scheme</li> <li>○ Social Clauses</li> <li>○ Marketing the city</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Urban Broadband Fund submission</li> </ul>

## 2.0 Key Issues

2.1 **Urban Broadband Fund** - the Council has now received detailed guidance from the Department for Culture, Olympics, Media & Sport on the final submission requirements for the Urban Broadband Fund application. By 2 July 2012 the Council must:

- Agree a programme management and governance structure
- Set out detailed plans for education, profile-raising and demand stimulation
- Agree a procurement strategy and timetable
- Agree a strategy for achieving compliance with State Aid rules
- Provide a complete resources package
- Provide detailed programme delivery plans.

This is a major undertaking in a short timeframe with significant technical elements. In order to maximise the potential of the UBF for the city it is recommended that £150k is allocated to preparing the final submission and that the Council appoint Analysys Mason to assist council officers to prepare the detailed delivery plan for submission to DCMS on 2 July 2012. The Company has expertise in State Aid negotiations with the European Commission and has secured State Aid approvals for broadband projects in the UK. They have worked on assignments with DETI and DFPNI and have a good understanding of the telecoms markets in

Belfast. This recommendation is made on the basis that there is insufficient time to tender for this work and it is of a very specialist nature. The value of the work is below EU thresholds and the recommendation is line with the Council's Standing Orders.

### **3.0 Recommendations**

Strategic Policy and Resources Committee is asked to agree:

1. The key Investment Programme deliverables April-June as outlined in para 1.1.
2. The key milestones April – June 2012 for the delivery of the Investment Programme
3. The allocation of £150k to support the preparation of the UBF submission
4. The appointment of Analysys Mason to support the Council to prepare the UBF submission