



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
Subject:	Appointment to Outside Body
Date:	21st June, 2013
Reporting Officer:	Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager (ext 6314)
Contact Officer:	

1	Relevant Background Information
1.1	A request has been received from the University of Ulster for the Council to nominate four Members to its Community Liaison Forum which it is establishing in order to co-ordinate and focus the existing wide range of community engagement activities and to ensure that the benefits of the new Belfast Campus flow to the neighbouring disadvantaged communities (copy of letter from the University attached at Appendix 1).

2	Key Issues
2.1	The Council, following the Local Government elections in May, 2011, determined through the application of the d'Hondt system of proportionality its representation on a wide range of outside bodies.
2.2	Members may recall that the Committee, at its meeting on 19 th August, 2005, in considering the nomination of a Member to make application to represent the Council on the Drainage Council for Northern Ireland, agreed to continue the application of the original d'Hondt process to determine the Party Groupings which would be entitled to appoint nominees to any subsequent invitations of a similar nature which might be received during a Council term. Accordingly, this system was again applied during that Council Term when appointments were made to the Lyric Theatre Education Advisory Panel and to the World Police and Fire Games Special Purpose Vehicle Company.
2.3	Under this current system for determining appointments to Outside Bodies, the next four choices fall to the Social Democratic & Labour, the Democratic Unionist, the Sinn Fein and the Alliance Parties.

2.4	The University of Ulster has indicated that in its opinion, the appointment of Members who represent the communities closest to the campus would best assist in the aims and objectives of the Forum and the Parties are asked to consider this when making the nominations of individual members.
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3	Resource Implications
	None.

4	Equality Implications
	There are no relevant Equality or Good Relations implications.

5	Recommendations
5.1	The Committee is asked to approve the appointment of one Member from each of the Social Democratic & Labour, the Democratic Unionist, the Sinn Fein and the Alliance Parties to the University of Ulster Community Liaison Forum

6	Decision Tracking
	Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager July, 2013

7	Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 – Letter from the University of Ulster