



## Belfast City Council

<b>Report to:</b>	Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
<b>Subject:</b>	Attendances at Conferences
<b>Date:</b>	21st February, 2014
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Mr. Stephen. McCrory, Democratic Services Manager (extension 6314)
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Mr Jim Hanna, Senior Democratic Services Officer (extension 6313)

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Relevant Background Information</b>
1.1	At its meeting on 24th January, the Committee agreed that a report on the policy of attendance of Members at 'Members' Association' events, such as Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland and the National Association of Councillors be submitted for consideration
1.2	The consideration of attendance at these types of events previously fell under the remit of the former Members Sub-Committee.
1.3	That Committee, at its meeting on 15th October, 2001 agreed a policy that all reports submitted to it on conferences and seminars should specify that at least one representative from each of the Party Groups on the Council be authorised to attend.

<b>2.0</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
2.1	Following the abolition of the Members Sub-Committee in 2007, all reports relating to Members' Association events have been submitted directly to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee and, in accordance with Council Policy, the recommendation of one Member from each party or, in some instances, such as the National Association of Councillors events the Members who represent the Council on the Association, continues to be applied.

<b>3.0</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
3.1	None associated with this report

<b>4.0</b>	<b>Equality and Good Relations Considerations</b>
4.1	None associated with this report

<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
5.1	The Committee is asked to discuss whether it wishes to continue with or amend the current policy.