



Subject:	Invitation to Lord Mayor to visit the White House
Date:	09 March 2016
Reporting Officer:	Donal Durkan, Director of Development, ext 3470
Contact Officer:	Laura Leonard, EU & International Relations Manager, ext 3577

Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of Main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to request Members' approval to accept an invitation received to attend a St Patrick's Day visit to the White House, Washington DC on 15 March 2016.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is requested to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• approve that the Lord Mayor accepts from the US Consul General to attend a St Patrick's Day visit to the White House, Washington DC on 15 March 2016 and agrees to the cost of travel and expenses for the Lord Mayor and one Officer, to Washington from 14–16 March 2016.
3.0	Main report
3.1	<u>Key Issues</u> The US Consul General, Dan Lawton, has nominated the Lord Mayor as his guest at the White House St Patrick's Day event on 15 March 2016.

<p>3.2</p> <p>3.3</p> <p>3.4</p> <p>3.5</p> <p>3.6</p>	<p>Mr Lawton and his team have been working closely with Belfast City Council to support the delivery of the Council's International Relations Framework and in particular, the Boston and Nashville Sister City relationships.</p> <p>Acceptance of the invitation would allow the Lord Mayor to represent the City at this prestigious event and promote the new City 'Let's Talk Belfast' messaging. It would also allow the Lord Mayor to attend other events over two days, including the NI Bureau networking event and the Irish Ambassadors reception, to which he has already been invited.</p> <p>Other targeted meetings would also be built into a programme for the Lord Mayor to take advantage of the visit and promote the objectives of the International Relations Framework.</p> <p><u>Finance and Resource Implications</u> The cost for the Lord Mayor and one Officer to travel to Washington for the US Consul General / Whitehouse event will not exceed £2,000.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u> There are no equality or good relations implications attached to this report.</p>
<p>4.0</p>	<p>Appendices – Documents attached</p>
	<p>None</p>