



Subject:	Belfast City Centre Management: request to present to Committee
Date:	11 January 2017
Reporting Officer:	Donal Durkan, Director of Development
Contact Officer:	Lisa Toland, Head of Economic Initiatives and International Development

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
1.1	The purpose of the report is to request Committee approval to invite representatives from Belfast City Centre Management (BCCM) to attend the March 2017 meeting of the Committee to set out their business plan and request for financial support from the Council in the coming financial year.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to; <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agree to a presentation from BCCM at the March 2017 meeting of the City Growth and Regeneration Committee.
3.0	Main report
3.1	Members will be aware that Belfast City Centre Management was established as a public-private partnership to support the development of the city centre.

3.2	<p>The organisation carries out a range of services on behalf of its funders. The key public sector funders are Belfast City Council and Department for Communities. The private sector investment comes through a Service Level Agreement (SLA) with the Belfast Chamber of Trade and Commerce (BCTC) and the organisation also receives income from the Belfast One BID to cover the costs of some overheads associated with hosting the organisation in the offices of BCCM.</p>
3.3	<p>The Council is represented on BCCM Board by Councillors Craig and Dudgeon. There are also two officers sitting as Advisors to the Board, representing the Development and City and Neighbourhood Services Department.</p>
3.4	<p>BCCM played an important support role in establishing the Belfast One Business Improvement District (BID). It is also undertaking the development work on another BID which will cover the main office area around the City's Linen Quarter. The ballot for this BID is likely to take place in Autumn 2017.</p>
3.5	<p>BCCM has undergone some changes to its business model since the introduction of the two BIDS in Belfast One and Cathedral Quarter in the course of the last year. The development work on a third BID and its potential introduction from the end of 2017 will mean further changes to the role of the organisation in supporting city centre development. The establishment of the City Centre Development Team within the Council along with an enhanced focus on the City Centre as a retail, cultural and business hub for the region signifies a change in focus for the Council's activities in this area. Taking account of all of these changes in the operating context, it is important to consider how BCCM can play a useful support role for the Council going forward. The Council will also engage with DfC, as the other principal public funder, to consider the future funding implications of the organisation and its delivery role in the context of the changing support structures for the City Centre and the changing operating environment.</p>
3.6	<p>In order to understand the current work of the organisation and to set out their plans for activity in the coming financial year – including a request for funding from the Council – it is proposed that representatives from BCCM are invited to attend the March 2017 meeting of the City Growth and Regeneration Committee.</p>

3.7	<p><u>Financial and resource implications</u></p> <p>In the current financial year, Belfast City Council's funding to BCCM is £190,000. An allocation of £190,000 has been included within the Departmental estimates for the financial year 2017/18.</p>
3.8	<p><u>Equality or good relations implications</u></p> <p>No specific equality or good relations implications.</p>
4.0	<p>Appendices – Documents Attached</p>
	<p>None</p>