



Subject:	Proposed Visit of the Royal Horticultural Society Bulb Committee to the City of Belfast Spring Flower Show in 2019
Date:	5 December 2017
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Director City & Neighbourhood Services Department
Contact Officer:	Rose Crozier, Assistant Director, City & Neighbourhood Services Department Brian McKinley, Events Officer

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
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	<p>The purpose of the report is to present to Members a request received from the Northern Ireland Daffodil Group (NIDG) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Extend a joint invitation to the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) Bulb Committee to attend the City of Belfast Spring Flower Show to be held in Barnett Demesne in 2019.▪ Provide hospitality associated with their proposed visit in 2019. <p>A copy of the request from the NIDG is attached for information in Appendix 1.</p>

2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to agree:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ That the Council with the NIDG, extends a joint invitation to the RHS Bulb Committee to attend the City of Belfast Spring Flower Show to be held in Barnett Demesne in 2019; ▪ That the Council provides hospitality associated with the proposed visit of the RHS Bulb Committee to the City of Belfast Spring Flower Show in 2019; and ▪ Permit Officers to attend meetings with the RHS Shows Manager and NIDG to make the necessary preparations and arrangements for their visit.
3.0	Main report
3.1	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The City of Belfast Spring Flower Show has formed an integral part of the Spring Fair which is annual event attracting around 10,000 visitors to Barnett Demesne. The NIDG has worked in close partnership with Officers over many years to plan the Flower Show element of the event and without their goodwill and support, the success of this event could be undermined. ▪ The NIDG has indicated that the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) Bulb Committee would be interested in returning to the Flower Show in 2019 and may be prepared to hold their late Daffodil Show here in an effort to spread and increase their influence beyond London. Their predecessor, the Daffodil & Tulip Committee attended the City of Belfast Flower Show in 2004 where they assisted with the judging of exhibits and also granted RHS awards to some Irish Bred Plants. ▪ As the RHS rarely hold their Shows outside London, for Belfast to host their Late Show would be a great boost to local horticulture and a recognition of the unique historic and current position that Northern Ireland holds throughout the world, as a centre for specialist daffodil breeding. ▪ The NIDG has requested that the Council extends a joint invitation to the RHS Bulb Committee to attend the Flower Show to be held in April 2019 and for the Council to provide the necessary hospitality associated with the proposed visit. <p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p>
3.2	<p>Based on the hospitality provided in the 2004 visit, the cost for additional hospitality in 2019 is approximately £2,244 which will be accommodated from within existing budgets.</p>

3.3	<p><u>Human</u> Officers will be required to attend meetings with the RHS Shows Manager and NIDG to make the necessary preparations and arrangements for the visit in 2019.</p>
3.4	<p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u> It is an acknowledgment of the international standing of Northern Ireland's daffodil breeders that the RHS Bulb Committee has indicated that they wish to attend the City of Belfast Flower Show in 2019 and possibly hold their Late Daffodil Show there.</p>
3.5	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u> There are no known implications.</p>
4.0	<p>Appendices – Documents Attached</p>
	<p>Appendix 1- Request received from the Northern Ireland Daffodil Group</p>