



Subject:	Company Of World Traders' Dublin Trade Visit (14-15 June 2018)
Date:	9 May 2018
Reporting Officer:	John Greer, Director of Development
Contact Officer:	Colin McCabrey, Economic Development Manager

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"/>
Sometime 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	The purpose of this report is to recommend attendance and participation in the Worshipful Company Of World Traders' Dublin Trade Visit dinner on the evening of 14 th June and the trade conference on 15 June 2018 in Dublin.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Consider and approve attendance and participation by the Chair of Committee or their nominee and the Chief Executive at the event on 14 and 15 June.

3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p><u>Background and strategic alignment:</u></p> <p>The World Traders Company is a representative body of traders in the fields of financial services and trading, including brokers, bankers, accountants and consultants, as well as traders in goods and services. The head office for World Traders Company is in London and each February it hosts an international World Traders' Tacitus Lecture in the City of London concerning issues affecting world trade.</p>
3.2	<p>The Master of The World Traders is Professor Michael Mainelli. He is leading the company's annual Trade Trip which this year is to Dublin. He is an Alderman of the City of London and previously studied at Trinity College Dublin. Given his role, he has strong trade links with London and Dublin and, as part of his client work, is advisor to the Taoiseach's Office on international financial services.</p>
3.3	<p>The organisation is hosting a trade visit to Dublin in June 2018, and it has invited representation from Belfast City Council. The other attendees at the event will include senior-level representation from major financial services and professional services companies. Members will be aware that these are both significant employment sectors in Belfast, supporting thousands of high-value jobs in the city. The event will comprise an opening reception event to take place the evening of 14 June and a one-day trade conference on 15 June. The Gala event on the evening of 14 June will include dignitaries from Dublin business, professional and government contacts and is an opportunity to profile Belfast and the social and economic importance of the east coast corridor between Belfast and Dublin.</p>
3.4	<p>The Trade Conference on 15 June is being hosted in the headquarters of the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Dublin City Council is participating at the event and it is an opportunity for Belfast to participate building upon the Memorandum of Understanding between both cities.</p>
3.5	<p>The Project Ireland 2040 National Planning Framework (NPF) stresses the cross-border and all-Ireland dimension of spatial strategy. The NPF puts a particular focus on how investment can be targeted to build economic resilience and linkages in cross-border regions.</p>
3.6	<p>A range of initiatives and programmes are aligning to further support collaboration between Belfast and Dublin, on trade, investment and infrastructure issues. These include:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The opportunities presented by the Belfast Region City Deal to support Innovation, Skills and Infrastructure; - A number of reports by the relevant government departments in NI and RoI to consider improvements to the rail service between the cities; - Lord Mayor of Belfast and Lord Mayor of Dublin, Ardmhéara Micheál MacDonncha on 28 March agreed for increased co-operation between both cities aligned to the original Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2014; - At City Growth and Regeneration Committee in March 2018, Members agreed support for a joint Conference between Belfast and Dublin and the other cities along the Eastern corridor. The indicative timescale for the Conference is now November 2018 and Officers are working with the other councils to agree the draft content; - As part of the Economic Development workplan agreed by Committee in April 2018, Officers are procuring a lead development agency to prospect investment in Dublin and London aligned to our key growth sector, particularly software and IT, financial services and real estate. <p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p>
3.7	<p>The costs associated with attendance and participation at the dinner and conference including of travel to Dublin and overnight accommodation for two persons to be met from 18/19 financial budgets and will not exceed £500.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p>
3.8	<p>No specific equality or good relations considerations.</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	None