



Subject:	Requests for use of the City Hall and the provision of Hospitality
Date:	22 March 2019
Reporting Officer:	John Walsh, City Solicitor
Contact Officer:	Peter McKay, Facilities Manager

Restricted Reports

Is this report restricted?

 Yes No

If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?

After Committee Decision

After Council Decision

Some time in the future

Never

Call-in

Is the decision eligible for Call-in?

 Yes No

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	This paper, together with the attached appendix, contains the recommended approach in respect of each of the requests by external organisations for access to the City Hall function rooms received up to 11 March 2019 which appear to the Civic HQ Unit to comply with the criteria previously established by the Committee and are recommended for approval.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> approve the recommendations made in respect of applications received up to 11 March 2019 as set out in the attached appendix.
3.0	Main report
	<u>Background Information</u>

3.1	Members will be aware that the Committee, at its meeting of 6th January 2017, agreed to modify the criteria governing access to the City Hall function rooms for external organisations.
3.2	The Committee also agreed to the implementation of room-hire charges for some categories of function, and also revised the approach to the provision of civic hospitality for functions on foot of the agreed efficiency programme. Some further modifications to this approach were agreed at the Committee's meetings of 24th March 2017 & 23 rd June 2017.
<u>Key Issues</u>	
3.3	The existing revised criteria and scale of charges have been applied to the various requests received and the recommendations herein are offered to the Committee on this basis for approval.
3.4	The schedule attached at Appendix 1 covers a number of applications for functions, which are scheduled for 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 and are included in order to permit the organisers to commence their event planning and communications activity as early as possible.
3.5	There is one function recommended uses of the once-in-three-years rule in respect of the applications referred to in this report and appendix. Belfast Media Group for the Best of the North Awards 2019. We have hosted this event for many years in City Hall but in line with the once in three rule as if not accommodated in the City Hall, could avail of private sector facilities and pay a full commercial rate.
3.6	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>The implementation of charging for external functions has commenced, in line with the Committee's decisions in the matter.</p>
<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u>	
3.7	There are no direct good relations or equality implications arising from this report.
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
Appendix 1 - Schedule of Function requests received up to 11 March 2019.	