

**Democratic Services Section
Legal and Civic Services Department
Belfast City Council
City Hall
Belfast
BT1 5GS**



**Belfast
City Council**

HYBRID MEETING OF THE CITY GROWTH AND REGENERATION COMMITTEE

Dear Alderman/Councillor,

The above-named Committee will meet both online and in-person in the Lavery Room - City Hall on Wednesday, 7th December, 2022 at 5.15 pm, for the transaction of the business noted below.

You are requested to attend.

Yours faithfully,

John Walsh

Chief Executive

AGENDA:

2. **Presentations**

- (b) National Lottery Heritage Fund (Pages 1 - 4)

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Subject:	Presentation: National Lottery Heritage Fund
Date:	7 December 2022
Reporting Officer:	Cathy Reynolds, Director, City Regeneration & Development John Greer, Director, City Regeneration & Investment
Contact Officer:	Deirdre Kelly, Programme Manager Chris McCreery, Culture 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"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input 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 provide a supplementary note to the presentation from representatives of the National Lottery Heritage Fund.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Note that representatives from the National Lottery Heritage Fund will be presenting to Members with regards to their role in supporting heritage in Belfast.
3.0	Main report
3.1	The City Growth and Regeneration Committee at its meeting in January 2022 agreed to receive a future presentation from the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) in relation to their role in supporting heritage in Belfast, given that it was central to place and city and

neighbourhood regeneration plans aligned to the growth, development and sustainability of our city, transport, planning, job creation and social cohesion. Representatives from the NLHF have advised they will specifically cover:

- Funding
- Refreshed Strategy with a focus on conserving, preserving and restoring heritage, climate, sustainability, resilience, place and partnerships
- Overview of funding across Northern Ireland
- Overview of funding in the Belfast City Council area
- Synergies with the vision for Belfast as set out within the Belfast Agenda
- Case studies including Council led projects at the City Cemetery, Tropical Ravine, Templemore Baths, Principles for Remembering including City Hall Exhibition spaces and Belfast Stories
- Heritage benefits
- Working together

3.2 **Council Heritage Audit and Roadmap for Development**

As members will be aware, in 2020 Belfast City Council launched *A City Imagining*, a ten-year cultural strategy for 2020-2030. Underpinned by an extensive engagement process, this strategy was developed co-designed with the city's cultural sector stakeholders, including creatives, arts and heritage organisations, businesses, collaborators, audiences and participants from across the city.

3.3 Conversations from this engagement process from both members of the public and key partners organisations have stressed the importance of heritage. For many people, Belfast's heritage adds value to their quality of life, and it also plays an important role in how people engage with wider cultural experiences, their sense of belonging and is part of what makes Belfast a unique city where they call 'home'. This is also reflected in the strategy itself which seeks to protect and promote "cultural heritage in all its dimensions, both tangible and intangible including the plurality of the city's cultural narratives".

3.4 To build on the high levels of support for *A City Imagining* and to further scope, develop and deliver the priorities relating to heritage within the strategy, the Culture Team is commissioning work to engage the necessary levels of expertise to facilitate conversations with the sector that will result in producing a heritage audit and roadmap for development. The aim of this body of work is to analyse the existing heritage sector in Belfast, and to examine the size, scope of work and remit of different stakeholders in the city working in

	<p>this area. It will seek to define the 'heritage sector' and identify key relationships and interfaces with other sectors.</p>
3.5	<p>This work is currently anticipated as a two-part project. Part one is defined as an audit of the heritage sector in Belfast and the design of a roadmap for development. The purpose of the development programme will be to set out a roadmap for Council to bring forward a more sustainable approach to supporting heritage in the city and the different strands of a work programme that should be taken forward including opportunities for co-design. Following delivery of these outputs it is envisaged that Council will progress with part two of the project which will be the development and delivery of the roadmap including designing action plans through a co-design process.</p>
3.6	<p>In addition to the Council's Heritage Audit and Roadmap for Development, Council led case studies will be covered in the NLHF presentation, Members will also be aware of the ongoing work to deliver the Belfast City Centre Regeneration and Investment Strategy (BCCRIS), which identifies Belfast's rich legacy of heritage buildings, as an essential ingredient of the city's unique character and charm which should be preserved. The strategic acquisition of 2 Royal Avenue and the Belfast Stories site (including the Bank of Ireland Building) are two recent examples of the leading role Council have taken in the regeneration and preservation of built heritage in the city centre. Council's role in the preservation of heritage is also deployed through legislative powers within existing policy.</p>
3.7	<p>Members are also asked to note that work continues to progress around developing a future pipeline of projects aligned to the strategic priorities of Council and as part of this officers have been engaging with the National Lottery Heritage Fund and other potential funders to identify potential opportunities.</p>
4.0	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>NA</p>
5.0	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>NA</p>
6.0	<p>Appendices</p> <p>NA</p>

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