

Public Document Pack

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



**Belfast
City Council**

11th October, 2023

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Dear Alderman/Councillor,

The above-named Committee will meet in hybrid format, both in the Lavery Room - City Hall and remotely, via Microsoft Teams, on Tuesday, 17th October, 2023 at 5.00 pm, for the transaction of the business noted below.

You are requested to attend.

Yours faithfully,

John Walsh

Chief Executive

AGENDA:

7. (d) Committee Workshops (Pages 1 - 4)

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Subject:	Updated Schedule of Planning Committee Workshops
Date:	17 October 2022
Reporting Officer(s):	Kate Bentley, Director of Planning and Building Control
Contact Officer(s):	Ed Baker, Planning Manager (Development Management) Keith Sutherland, Planning Manager (Plans and Policy)

Restricted Reports									
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
<p>Please indicate the description, as listed in Schedule 6, of the exempt information by virtue of which the council has deemed this report restricted.</p> <p>Insert number <input type="checkbox"/></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Information relating to any individual 2. Information likely to reveal the identity of an individual 3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the council holding that information) 4. Information in connection with any labour relations matter 5. Information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained 6. Information showing that the council proposes to (a) to give a notice imposing restrictions on a person; or (b) to make an order or direction 7. Information on any action in relation to the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime 									
<p>If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?</p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 70%;">After Committee Decision</td> <td style="width: 30%;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>After Council Decision</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sometime in the future</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Never</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>		After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sometime in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>	Never	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>								
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>								
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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/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to provide Members with an updated Schedule of Planning Committee Workshops (see Appendix 1). The Planning Committee is asked to agree the updated programme.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	That the Planning Committee agrees the updated Schedule of Planning Committee Workshops at Appendix 1 for the period October 2023 to September 2024.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	For the last three years, the Planning Committee has agreed a schedule of Planning Committee Workshops to support Members' continuous development, to work with officers on a number of projects and be briefed on a number of matters (schedules have been agreed in December 2020, September 2021 and June 2022).
3.2	Many of the planned workshops have taken place over the last three years, although a number of have been postponed or cancelled or the workshops have been used to consider additional Committee business that couldn't be accommodated on the normal Tuesday meetings.
3.3	In setting a forward programme for Committee Workshops, a number of approaches have been made to Committee Members and officers regarding the content of workshops and requests have been made to address the Committee. In addition, a number of suggestions for further workshops have emerged from members of the Planning Committee in considering Committee business.
3.4	Based on the issues identified, a proposed schedule of workshops for the remaining months in 2023 and for 2024 is set out in Appendix 1 . The workshops scheduled for 2023/24 may need to be fluid to allow for adaptation and for additional committee sessions to be held if they are considered necessary. The Draft Schedule included in Appendix 1 is therefore indicative and the programme will be confirmed on a month-by-month basis.
3.5	<u>Financial and Resource Implications</u> The preparation of the workshops, including attendance by officers, will have some impact on resources, but is considered value for money. Where appropriate, the Planning Service may choose to appoint outside professionals or agencies to lead or participate, which may result in additional costs.
3.6	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u> There are no equality or good relations implications associated with this report.
4.0	Appendices - Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 – Draft schedule of Planning Committee Workshops October 2023 – September 2024

Draft Schedule of Planning Committee Workshops

August 2023 – September 2024

Committee	Workshop Topic
October 2023	No workshop
November 2023	Planning Committee Operating Protocol
December 2023	Principles of decision making including “on balance” decisions
January 2024	Place making including consideration of City Architect
February 2024	Enforcement
March 2024	Local Development Plan - Local Policies Plan update – call for sites and engagement
April 2024	Review of Previous Decisions of the Committee and Appeal decisions
May 2024	Northern Ireland Federation of Housing Associations (NIFHA)
June 2024	Built Heritage issues including presentation from the Civic Trust
July 2024	Recess
August 2024	Biodiversity and Trees
September 2024	Annual Performance Framework 2023/24

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