

# Standards and Business Committee

Thursday, 20th February, 2025

## HYBRID MEETING OF THE STANDARDS AND BUSINESS COMMITTEE

Members present: Councillor Lawlor (Chairperson);  
The High Sherriff, Councillor McAteer;  
Aldermen McCullough and Rodgers;  
Councillors Bradley, Carson, de Faoite,  
P. Donnelly, D. Douglas, Groogan, Lyons,  
Magee, McCallin, McDonough-Brown,  
R. McLaughlin and Murphy.

In attendance: Ms. N. Largey, City Solicitor and Director of Legal  
and Civic Services;  
Mr. J. Hanna, Democratic Services and Governance  
Manager, and  
Ms. E. McGoldrick, Democratic Services and Governance  
Coordinator.

### **Apologies**

An apology was reported on behalf of Councillor Maghie.

### **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of 7th January were taken as read and signed as correct. It was reported that those minutes had been adopted by the Council at its meeting on 3rd February.

### **Declarations of Interest**

No Declarations of Interest were reported.

### **Motions**

The Committee considered the following three motions which had been received in advance of the Council's meeting on 3rd March:

#### **Notice of Motion - Action to Address Empty Homes**

The Committee agreed that the motion, which had been proposed by Councillor Collins and seconded by Councillor Groogan, be referred, in the first instance, to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.

#### **Notice of Motion - Developing a Sponsorship and Philanthropy Network in Belfast**

The Committee considered the recommendation.

In response to a Member's question in relation to referring the motion directly to the Social Policy Working Group, the City Solicitor reminded the Committee that the motion required Committee approval, in the first instance, in accordance with Standing Order 13 (n).

Accordingly, the Committee agreed that the motion, which had been proposed by Councillor Long and seconded by Councillor McAteer, be referred, in the first instance, to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.

**Notice of Motion - Dogs in Kennels**  
**Transfer of Ownership**

**Proposal**

Moved by the High Sheriff, Councillor McAteer,  
Seconded by Councillor McDonough-Brown

That the motion be rejected.

**Amendment**

Moved by Councillor Groogan,  
Seconded by Councillor R. McLaughlin,

That the Committee agree that the motion be referred to the Council for debate, with no restriction to be placed on the number of speakers.

On a vote by show of hands, fourteen Members voted for the proposal and two against and it was declared carried.

Accordingly, the Committee agreed that the motion, which had been proposed by Councillor Flynn and seconded by Councillor Verner, be referred to the Council for debate, with no restriction to be placed on the number of speakers.

Chairperson