

BELFAST CITY COUNCIL

SUMMONS TO ATTEND THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

TO: THE LORD MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND THE COUNCILLORS OF BELFAST CITY COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given that the monthly meeting of the Council will be held in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Belfast on Thursday, 1st March, 2018 at 6.00 p.m., for the transaction of the following business:

1. Summons
2. Apologies
3. Declarations of Interest
4. Minutes of the Council Meeting of 1st February (Pages 1 - 16)
5. Request to Address the Council

To consider a request for a representative of Amnesty International UK and of the FPA to address the Council in relation to the motion on Criminalisation of Abortion being proposed by Councillor Nicholl.

6. Official Announcements
7. Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 16th February (Pages 17 - 56)
8. People and Communities Committee of 31st January and 6th February (Pages 57 - 94)
9. City Growth and Regeneration Committee of 7th and 21st February (Pages 95 - 138)
10. Licensing Committee of 14th February (Pages 139 - 146)
11. Planning Committee of 13th February (Pages 147 - 164)
12. Belfast Waterfront and Ulster Hall Ltd. Shareholders' Committee of 19th February (Pages 165 - 168)

13. Notices of Motion

a) Criminalisation of Abortion

Proposed by Councillor Nicholl,

Seconded by Councillor Campbell,

"This Council notes the increasing number of women who are accessing abortion pills via the internet, which leaves them vulnerable to prosecution.

The Council further notes the impact on healthcare professionals who, under Section 5 of the Criminal Law Act (Northern Ireland) 1967, may have a duty to provide information to the Police Service. Therefore, if a woman requires medical assistance after accessing these pills, the threat of prosecution and life in prison is likely to act as a real deterrent, thus potentially having a detrimental impact on her health.

Accordingly, the Council believes that abortion should be regulated like any other medical care and not by criminal law, while still enabling incidents of malpractice to be addressed, as with any other health service, through the general criminal law or medical disciplinary procedures.

A woman who has an abortion is not a criminal, nor are healthcare professionals who care for them, and the law should not treat them as such."

(To be debated by the Council)

b) Review of the Council's Code of Practice on Smoking at Work

Proposed by Councillor Reynolds,

Seconded by Councillor Kyle,

"This Council will review and revise its Code of Practice on Smoking at Work on the use of e-cigarettes, in light of the new research published by Public Health England."

**(To be referred, without discussion, to
the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee)**

c) Epilepsy Support

Proposed by Councillor Dorrian,

Seconded by Councillor Milne,

"This Council acknowledges this year's 'Purple Day' on Monday, 26th March, and recognises the challenges that many people in Belfast, of all ages, face living with epilepsy in all its different forms.

The Council will commit to ensuring that proper information is circulated to its staff and through its network of centres and offices, to promote a better understanding of the condition and provide advice on how to react if an epileptic situation arises which requires assistance.”

**(To be referred, without discussion, to
the People and Communities Committee)**

d) Establishment of a Brexit Standing Committee

Proposed by Councillor Canavan,

Seconded by Councillor Carson,

“The referendum result to leave the European Union presents unprecedented political, social and economic challenges for our city, for the North of Ireland and indeed the entire island.

Belfast, as a city, as demonstrated in motions adopted by this Council, supported remaining within the EU whilst also supporting the provision of special status for the North and remaining in the ‘single market’.

As one of the world’s one-hundred resilient cities, with economic resilience being a key focus, it is imperative that we understand the full implications that Brexit could bring.

To enable this, the Council will immediately establish a formal Brexit Standing Committee, made up of Elected Members, with appropriate officer support, to undertake all necessary work required to bring forward a report with recommendations to explore the impact of Brexit on Belfast and its citizens.”

**(To be referred, without discussion, to
the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee)**

e) All-Ireland Boxing Championships

Proposed by Councillor Murphy,

Seconded by Councillor Garrett,

“Belfast has produced world class athletes through the sport of amateur boxing who have consistently succeeded through every level of the sport and brought recognition to the city of Belfast through their successes.

We, as a City, are very proud of the achievements of boxers from this City and should seek to build on these successes by showcasing the talent this vibrant sport has to offer across Ireland.

This Council agrees to engage with the Irish Athletic Boxing Association to explore the possibility of bringing the All Ireland Boxing Championships to the City of Belfast.”

**(To be referred, without discussion, to
the City Growth and Regeneration Committee)**

f) Irish Language Act

Proposed by Councillor Collins,

Seconded by Councillor Milne,

"This Council notes the positive revival of the Irish language in Belfast over the past number of decades. Today, the city of Belfast has a historically large concentration of Irish speakers, which includes a growing number of Irish medium schools, providing for thousands of pupils and thousands more residents who speak the Irish language on a daily basis.

The Council also recognises the impressive grassroots movement that has developed in recent years calling for an Irish Language Act, in order to safeguard and strengthen rights for the Irish language community, a call that has received widespread political support.

The Council believes that such a move is crucial in delivering fair and proper treatment for the Irish language community and supports the introduction of an Irish Language Act."

(To be debated by the Council)

g) Neighbourhood Renewal

Proposed by Councillor Milne,

Seconded by Councillor Pankhurst,

"The Neighbourhood Renewal programme seeks to address urban regeneration in the 10% worst areas for multiple deprivation, many of which lie within the Belfast area. The communities in receipt of this funding are indeed the ones most in need of it. The recent announcement that there will be an 11% cut in the Neighbourhood Renewal budgets could potentially devastate these communities and impede the great progress made to date.

Whilst acknowledging that Neighbourhood Renewal powers do not lie with the Council, this Council will, however, write to the Department for Communities

seeking urgent clarification on the process by which cuts will be made, and requesting that they also review whether any shortfall could be addressed via other means, such as the reallocation of expenditure from other Assembly Departments.

In the case that reallocation is not possible, the Council calls for the shortfall in Neighbourhood Renewal funding to be made available via the Westminster Confidence and Supply agreement, wherein £20 million has been allocated for anti-poverty measures every year, over the next 5 years."

(To be debated by the Council)

The Members of Belfast City Council are hereby summoned to attend.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Suzanne Wylie". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small dot at the end.

Chief Executive