

# Public Document Pack

## 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, on Monday, 3rd September, 2018 at 6.00 pm., for the transaction of the following business:

1. Summons
2. Apologies
3. Declarations of Interest
4. Minutes of the Council (Pages 1 - 16)
5. Official Announcements
6. Request to Address the Council

(To consider a request from Mr. Máirtín Mac Gabhann to address the Council in relation to the motion on Organ Donation being proposed by Councillor Corr)

7. Minutes of Strategic Policy and Resources Committee (Pages 17 - 98)
8. Minutes of People and Communities Committee (Pages 99 - 126)
9. Minutes of City Growth and Regeneration Committee (Pages 127 - 142)
10. Minutes of Licensing Committee (Pages 143 - 146)
11. Minutes of Planning Committee (Pages 147 - 158)
12. Minutes of Belfast Waterfront and Ulster Hall Ltd. Shareholders' Committee (Pages 159 - 162)
13. Minutes of Brexit Committee (Pages 163 - 172)
14. Notices of Motion

a) Graffiti

Proposed by Councillor Boyle,

Seconded by Councillor Dudgeon,

"This Council recognises the damage caused by and unsightliness of the growing amount of graffiti within our City centre and our neighbourhoods, on our shutters, our walls, our doors, our utility boxes etc.

As the Council has the power under Article 18 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1985 to remove or obliterate any graffiti which, in the opinion of Council, is detrimental to the amenity of any land in the district, pro-active policies and procedures for addressing the problem need to now be put in place, perhaps on the lines of those adopted in 2016 by Ards and North Down Borough Council.

Accordingly, the Council agrees to allocate the necessary funding and resources, or the reprioritisation of existing resources, to tackle the environmental scourge of graffiti in the City.”

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

b) Implementation of a Perinatal Care Pathway Service

Proposed by Alderman Convery,

Seconded by Councillor Boyle,

“This Council believes that in pregnancy both lives matter, the mother and the unborn child. This commitment to the rights of both must be reflected in the support provided to mothers, the unborn child and their families throughout the pregnancy.

The Council calls for the immediate implementation of a Perinatal Care Pathway Service in Northern Ireland and eventually the provision of a Perinatal Hospice Care Facility to ensure the best medical, emotional and social support for those who are faced with the diagnosis of a severe life limiting condition.”

**(To be debated by the Council)**

c) Sustainable Development Strategy

Proposed by Councillor McReynolds,

Seconded by Councillor Nicholl,

“This Council recognises its important role in shaping a Belfast that is environmentally sustainable (as described in the Belfast Agenda). It recognises also the importance of thinking strategically and with a long-term aim of making Belfast meet the highest environmental standards, especially in the areas of energy, waste, transport, construction and resilience.

The Council agrees to establish both a Member-led Sustainable Development Think Tank and an officer steering group that meet regularly to support the development of the Council’s Sustainable Development Strategy and discuss implementing best practice from across Europe and globally.”

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

d) Green Spaces

Proposed by Councillor Long,

Seconded by Councillor McReynolds,

"This Council agrees to establish a strategy to tackle the issue of grass cutting along verges and roads in the City. This will include auditing the number of sites that need maintenance, determining the best way to maintain them, increasing revenue to meet the costs and setting up a forum with other relevant agencies, including the Department for Infrastructure, to ensure that the areas are maintained in a way which promotes road safety, civic pride and protects the environment."

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

e) Brexit - The People's Vote

Proposed by Councillor Nicholl,

Seconded by Councillor McAllister,

"This Council acknowledges the result of the EU Referendum of June 2016, but asserts that no one in Belfast voted for a bad deal, or no deal, that could wreck our economy and jeopardise our peace process.

The Council agrees to write to the Secretary of State and to the Prime Minister expressing its support for the growing demand for a People's Vote on the final Brexit deal."

**(To be referred, without discussion, to the  
Brexit Committee)**

f) Ireland Women's Hockey Team

Proposed by Councillor Attwood,

Seconded by the Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor McDonough-Brown),

"This Council applauds the incredible achievement of the Irish Women's Hockey team in winning a silver medal in the Hockey World Cup. The Council agrees to host a special civic reception to honour the team."

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

g) Unadopted Alleyways

Proposed by Councillor Dorrian,

Seconded by Councillor Newton,

"This Council will engage with relevant agencies to develop protocols in respect to addressing issues around unadopted alleyways across the City, recognising health and safety and public hygiene concerns. All efforts should be also made to identify legal owners and compel them to meet their obligations."

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

h) Organ Donation

Proposed by Councillor Corr,

Seconded by Councillor Carson,

"This Council notes that Organ Donation Week this year will run from 3rd till 9th September and supports the efforts of all of those organisations seeking to increase the number of people joining the Organ Donation Register."

**(To be debated by the Council)**

i) Empty Chair Campaign

Proposed by Councillor Baker,

Seconded by Councillor Murphy,

"This Council supports Inspire's Empty Chair Campaign on 10th September, 2018 to mark World Suicide Prevention Day.

This would entail placing the Lord Mayor's chair at the front of City Hall on 10th September, representing the empty chairs that have been created around the Belfast Council area as a result of suicide."

**(To be debated by the Council)**

j) Belfast Rapid Transit

Proposed by Councillor Collins,

Seconded by Councillor Heading,

"This Council notes the introduction of the Belfast Rapid Transit (BRT) to the City. This £90 million investment is intended to lead to an improvement of connectivity in Belfast and in public transport for citizens. The Council notes, however, that the introduction of BRT has led to a number of serious issues that need urgent redressing if the system is not to have an adverse effect on our City.

These include:

- impaired access to homes for the elderly and those with serious disabilities;
- parents unable to safely leave children to school in some locations;
- access to local shops has been severely restricted, with car parking spaces removed without any recourse as to where this parking would go thereafter;

- double yellow lines are to be extended into residential areas, restricting access to homes and again exacerbating the parking problem;
- a severe increase in congestion, and the need to come up with solutions to this; and
- despite these issues being raised, the Department for Infrastructure has failed to introduce any mitigating measures.

In the absence of a Stormont Executive and, acknowledging the important role played by local government in community planning, this Council can play an important role in representing the views of this City to the Department on the relevant issues surrounding BRT. The Council believes that urgent measures are needed to solve these issues. This should be done in an open and transparent manner, involving residents and other stakeholders. Where necessary, aspects of BRT should be delayed to ensure a competent and satisfactory delivery.

To assist such an approach, the Council will host open meetings in East and West Belfast in order to listen to the concerns of residents on this issue. The Council will also arrange a deputation to the Department for Infrastructure, which will be open to Councillors from all political parties, to discuss how the above problems can be resolved or mitigated.”

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

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Suzanne Wylie".

Chief Executive

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## **Council**

### **SPECIAL MEETING OF BELFAST CITY COUNCIL**

Held in the City Hall on Sunday, 1st July, 2018  
at the hour of 10.45 o'clock a.m., pursuant to Notice.

Members present: The Right Honourable the Lord Mayor  
(Councillor Hargey) (Chairperson);  
the Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor McDonough-Brown);  
the High Sheriff (Councillor Howard);  
Aldermen Convery, Copeland, Kingston, McCoubrey,  
McGimpsey, Rodgers, Sandford and Spence; and  
Councillors Attwood, Beattie, Boyle, Campbell,  
Carson, Clarke, Corr-Johnston, Dorrian, Dudgeon,  
Garrett, Graham, Groves, Hutchinson, Johnston,  
Long, Magee, McConville, Murphy, O'Hara,  
Pankhurst, Reynolds and Walsh.

### **Summons**

The Chief Executive submitted the summons convening the meeting.

### **Apologies**

Apologies were reported on behalf of Aldermen Browne and Haire and Councillors Armitage, Baker, Canavan, Corr, Kyle, Magennis, McAllister, McAteer, Mullan, Newton, Nic Biorna and O'Donnell.

### **Battle of the Somme Anniversary**

Moved by the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor (Councillor McAllister),  
Seconded by Alderman Rodgers and

Resolved – That we, the Lord Mayor and Citizens of the City of Belfast, on the 102nd Anniversary of the Battle of the Somme, desire again to record our feelings of gratitude to the brave men of the 36th (Ulster) Division, the 16th (Irish) Division and other forces who, by their glorious conduct in that battle, made an imperishable name for themselves and their people and whose heroism will never be forgotten.

Lord Mayor  
Chairperson

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# **Council**

## **MONTHLY MEETING OF BELFAST CITY COUNCIL**

Held in the City Hall on Monday, 2nd July, 2018  
at 6.00 o'clock p.m., pursuant to notice.

Members present: The Right Honourable the Lord Mayor (Councillor Hargey) (Chairperson); the Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor McDonough-Brown); the High Sheriff (Councillor Howard); Aldermen Browne, Convery, Copeland, Kingston, McCoubrey, McGimpsey, L. Patterson, Rodgers, Sandford and Spence; and Councillors Armitage, Attwood, Baker, Beattie, Campbell, Canavan, Carson, Clarke, Collins, Corr, Corr Johnston, Craig, Dorrian, Dudgeon, Garrett, Graham, Groves, Heading, Hussey, Hutchinson, Johnston, Long, Lyons, Magee, Magennis, McAteer, McConville, McReynolds, Mullan, Murphy, Newton, Nic Biorna, Nicholl, O'Donnell, O'Hara, O'Neill, Pankhurst, Reynolds and Walsh.

### **Summons**

The Chief Executive submitted the summons convening the meeting.

### **Apologies**

Apologies were reported on behalf of Aldermen Haire and R. Patterson and Councillors Boyle, Kyle, McAllister and McCusker.

### **Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were reported.

### **Minutes of the Council**

Moved by the Lord Mayor (Councillor Hargey),  
Seconded by the Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor McDonough-Brown) and

Resolved - That the minutes of the proceedings of the Annual meeting of the Council of 4th June be taken as read and signed as correct.

### **Official Announcements**

At the request of Councillor Murphy, the Lord Mayor, on behalf of the Council, congratulated local boxer Michael Conlon on winning his recent fight and confirmed that she would be hosting an event in the City Hall to mark his achievement.

**Meeting of Council,  
Monday, 2nd July, 2018**

**Submission of Report**

At the request of Councillor Beattie, the Chief Executive undertook to submit to the next meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee a report providing clarification on the legislation governing the display in the workplace, including the Council Chamber, of clothing or other items which might be deemed to be offensive.

**Request to Address the Council**

The Chief Executive reported that Mr. Aidan Hanna, representing Northern Ireland Patient Voice, together with Ms. Maria Scott of the Dunmurry Manor families' group, had sought approval to address the Council in advance of the motion on the Dunmurry Manor Care Home which Councillor Heading was due to propose later in the meeting.

The Council agreed to receive the representatives and they were welcomed to the meeting.

Mr. Hanna informed the Council that Northern Ireland Patient Voice had, for many years, been campaigning for improved standards of care in nursing homes and that it represented families and patients in the complaints process and in care reviews. The group had initially been made aware of issues surrounding the Dunmurry Manor Care Home early in 2016, which he stressed was subsequent to the publication in 2014 of a report into the operation of the Cherry Tree House care home in Carrickfergus and the Commissioner for Older People raising concerns in 2015 with the Assembly's Health Committee around the poor standards of care and safety in a number of nursing homes.

He reported that Northern Ireland Patient Voice had viewed inspection reports for the Dunmurry Manor Care Home on the Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority's website, which had immediately given it cause for concern. Those reports had identified serious issues and had indicated clearly that the South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust had been raising concerns only a few months after the home had opened in 2014. He pointed out that families had not been made aware of the care home's poor performance when selecting a place for their family member and that it was the view of Northern Ireland Patient Voice that there had existed sufficient evidence in 2016 for the Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority to close the facility. He added that the report on the review of the Cherry Tree House care home should have led to a significant improvement in standards of care across all nursing homes and drew the Council's attention to the fact that the owners of the Dunmurry Manor Care Home had since been subject to various types of enforcement action in respect of other care homes which they operated across Northern Ireland. Mr. Hanna concluded by inviting the Council to support Councillor Heading's motion.

Ms. Scott informed the Members that her grandmother, Mrs. Annie McCourt, had entered the Dunmurry Manor Care Home in early 2016. Her family had selected the home in good faith and had been oblivious to the fact that the Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority had, in the previous year, identified twenty-six areas for improvement and had met with the owners to highlight its concerns. Had the family been

**Meeting of Council,  
Monday, 2nd July, 2018**

aware of them, she argued, the neglect and poor care which Mrs. McCourt had experienced would have been avoided.

She pointed out that her family had not been invited to discuss her grandmother's requirements prior to her admission to the care home and that a subsequent review meeting had not taken place due to a shortage of staff. She stressed that her family had continuously raised issues around Mrs. McCourt's general standard of care and outlined the circumstances surrounding her fall in June, 2016, which had led to her being hospitalised. Her grandmother had not returned to the Dunmurry Manor Care home and had died four months later.

Ms. Scott added that the Dunmurry Manor families' group was working to ensure that the poor standards experienced within the Dunmurry Manor Care Home would not be replicated elsewhere and that it was campaigning for a change in policy to allow for closed circuit television to be installed in entrance halls, corridors and all communal areas, with a view to safeguarding residents.

The Lord Mayor thanked Mr. Hanna and Ms. Scott.

The Council noted the information which had been provided and that Members would have an opportunity to discuss the matter later in the meeting.

**Positions of Responsibility and Committee Membership**

The Chief Executive reported that, following the decision of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee on 18th May to establish a Brexit Committee, the Nominating Officers of the Political Parties had submitted their nominations for Committee membership, together with those for the additional Positions of Responsibility, for the year ending on the date of the Local Government Elections in 2019.

Accordingly, she recommended that the Council note the Committee Membership and Positions of Responsibility for that Committee as set out hereunder:

**Committee Membership (20 Members)**

**Sinn Féin**

Councillor Beattie  
Councillor Campbell  
Councillor Canavan  
Councillor Carson  
Councillor O'Hara  
Councillor McAteer  
Councillor Walsh (Chairperson)

**DUP**

Alderman Kingston  
Alderman Spence (Deputy Chairperson)

**Meeting of Council,  
Monday, 2nd July, 2018**

Councillor Dorrian  
Councillor Pankhurst  
Councillor Reynolds

**Alliance**

Councillor McAllister  
Councillor McDonough-Brown  
Councillor Nicholl

**SDLP**

Councillor Attwood  
Councillor Lyons

**UUP**

Alderman McGimpsey  
Councillor Dudgeon

**PUP**

Councillor Hutchinson

**Positions of Responsibility**

Chairperson	Sinn Féin (Councillor Walsh)
Deputy Chairperson	DUP (Alderman Spence)

The Council noted the Committee membership and Positions of Responsibility.

**Change of Membership on Outside Bodies**

The Chief Executive reported that notification had been received from the Sinn Féin Party of the following changes to membership on Outside Bodies:

- Councillor O'Donnell to replace the Lord Mayor (Councillor Hargey) on Visit Belfast;
- Councillor Murphy to replace Councillor Campbell on the North Belfast District Policing and Community Safety Partnership; and
- Councillor Canavan to replace Councillor Magennis on the West Belfast District Policing and Community Safety Partnership.

The Council approved the changes.

**Meeting of Council,  
Monday, 2nd July, 2018**

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee**

Moved by Alderman Rodgers,  
Seconded by Councillor Campbell,

That the minutes of the proceedings of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 20th and 22nd June, omitting matters in respect of which the Council has delegated its powers to the Committee, be approved and adopted.

**Amendment**

**Draft Plan Strategy - Belfast  
Local Development Plan**

Moved by Councillor Johnston,  
Seconded by Councillor Reynolds,

That the decision of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 22nd June, under the heading "Draft Plan Strategy – Belfast Local Development Plan", be amended to provide that the policy HOU5 on Affordable Housing will have a threshold of 10 units, 0.2 hectares and the percentage reduced to 10%.

On a recorded vote, twenty Members voted for the amendment and thirty-two against and it was declared lost.

<b><u>For 20</u></b>	<b><u>Against 32</u></b>
Aldermen Browne, Copeland, Kingston, McCoubrey, McGimpsey, L. Patterson, Rodgers, Sandford and Spence; and Councillors Corr Johnston, Craig, Dorrian, Dudgeon, Graham, Hussey Hutchinson, Johnston, Newton, Pankhurst and Reynolds.	The Lord Mayor (Councillor Hargey); the Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor McDonough-Brown); the High Sheriff (Councillor Howard); Alderman Convery; and Councillors Armitage, Attwood, Baker, Beattie, Campbell, Canavan, Carson, Clarke, Collins, Corr, Garrett, Groves, Heading, Long, Lyons, Magee, Magennis, McAteer, McConville, McReynolds, Mullan, Murphy, Nic Biorna, Nicholl, O'Donnell, O'Hara, O'Neill and Walsh.

**Area Based Festivals Funding**

Councillor Long indicated that he wished to propose an amendment to the decisions within the minutes of the meetings of 20th and 22nd June, under the heading "Area Based Festivals Funding". Initial advice had indicated that this decision had been taken by the Committee under the powers delegated to it under Standing Order 37(a).

**Meeting of Council,  
Monday, 2nd July, 2018**

Following a review of the minutes and discussion, the Council agreed, in view of the discrepancy in the minutes around the functions which the Council had agreed should be delegated to the Committee, to allow the amendment to be submitted.

**Amendment**

**Area Based Festivals Funding**

Moved by Councillor Long,  
Seconded by Councillor Lyons,

That the decisions of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 20th and 22nd June, under the headings “Area Based Festivals Funding” be rejected and accordingly no funding be provided.

On a recorded vote, eighteen Members voted for the amendment and thirty-two against and it was declared lost.

<b><u>For 18</u></b>	<b><u>Against 32</u></b>
The Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor McDonough-Brown); the High Sheriff (Councillor Howard); Aldermen Browne, Convery, Copeland, McGimpsey and Rodgers; and Councillors Armitage, Attwood, Dudgeon, Heading, Johnston, Long, Lyons, McReynolds, Mullan, Nicholl and O’Neill.	The Lord Mayor (Councillor Hargey) Aldermen Kingston, McCoubrey, L. Patterson, Sandford and Spence; and Councillors Baker, Beattie, Campbell, Canavan, Carson, Clarke, Collins, Corr, Corr Johnston, Craig, Dorrian, Garrett, Groves, Hussey, Hutchinson, Magee, Magennis, McAteer, McConville, Murphy, Newton, Nic Biorna, O’Hara, Pankhurst, Reynolds and Walsh.

**Amendment**

**Publicising Planning Applications in the Press**

Moved by Councillor Garrett,  
Seconded by Councillor Attwood,

That the decision of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 22nd June, under the heading “Publicising Planning Applications in the Press”, be rejected and accordingly the Council agrees to adopt Option 2, that is, to continue to publicise planning applications in two newspapers.

On a recorded vote, twenty-three Members voted for the amendment and twenty-eight against and it was declared lost.

**Meeting of Council,  
Monday, 2nd July, 2018**

<b><u>For 23</u></b>	<b><u>Against 28</u></b>
The Lord Mayor (Councillor Hargey); and Councillors Attwood, Baker, Beattie, Campbell, Canavan, Carson, Clarke, Collins, Corr, Garrett, Groves, Heading, Lyons, Magee, Magennis, McAteer, McConville, Murphy, Nic Biorna, O'Donnell, O'Hara and Walsh.	The Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor McDonough-Brown); the High Sheriff (Councillor Howard); Aldermen Browne, Convery, Copeland, Kingston, McCoubrey, McGimpsey, L. Patterson, Rodgers, Sandford and Spence; and Councillors Armitage, Corr Johnston, Craig, Dorrian, Dudgeon, Graham, Hussey, Hutchinson, Johnston, Long, McReynolds, Mullan, Newton, Nicholl, O'Neill, Pankhurst and Reynolds.

**Amendments to Standing Orders**

Moved by Alderman Rodgers,  
Seconded by Councillor McAteer and

Resolved - That the Council agrees, in pursuance of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee's decision of 18th May, to amend its Standing Orders, as follows, to provide for the establishment of the Brexit Committee:

**SECTION 2 - STANDING COMMITTEES**

***36. Standing Committees***

The following shall be the Standing Committees of the Council:

- (a) Strategic Policy and Resources
- (b) City Growth and Regeneration
- (c) People and Communities
- (d) Licensing
- (e) Planning
- (f) Belfast Waterfront and Ulster Hall Ltd Shareholders' Committee and
- (g) Brexit

***37. Duties of Committees***

The Standing Committees shall be responsible to the Council for the matters described hereunder and shall control the various Departments which carry out the functions of the Council, that is to say

**(g) Brexit Committee**

The Brexit Committee will be responsible for researching, monitoring and reviewing the financial, resource or operational impact upon the Council and the district as a result of the UK's leaving the European Union and for making recommendations to Council on such issues (or to the relevant Standing Committee where appropriate).

Its specific functions include:

- **Articulating the Belfast specific issues to be considered as part of the negotiation and transition arrangements;**
- **The continuous monitoring of progress and announcements around Brexit;**
- **Influencing and contributing to regional considerations of the implications of Brexit on both the work of the Council and on the district;**
- **Identifying any actions the Council may take to mitigate any adverse impacts arising and capitalising on any opportunities as a result of Brexit;**
- **Reviewing changes to legislation arising out of Brexit and analysing the likely impact which they may have upon the delivery of council services;**
- **Fostering and maintaining positive relations and cultural links with the EU;**
- **Maintaining and promoting social cohesion within the district, post Brexit;**
- **Monitoring the impact on migrant workers, skills gaps and issues arising with regard to various sectors in the labour market;**
- **Financial and budget assumptions and implications for the district arising out of Brexit;**
- **Identifying the implications for EU grant funding and alternative funding opportunities;**
- **Seeking to influence decisions with regard to continuing access to and distribution of EU funds (including Peace, Culture and Interreg programmes);**



**Meeting of Council,  
Monday, 2nd July, 2018**

- **Ensuring the ability of Belfast to achieve the objectives, as set out within the Belfast Agenda;**
- **Ensuring the ability of Belfast to continue to attract and retain investment and grow the rate base;**
- **Ensuring the ability of Belfast to increase trade with existing and potential trade partners (access to supply chains / import and export issues); and**
- **Hearing evidence from other parties.**

**People and Communities Committee**

Moved by Councillor Nicholl,  
Seconded by Councillor Magennis,

That the minutes of the proceedings of the People and Communities Committee of 5th June be approved and adopted.

**Amendment**

**Temporary Structure at Alderman  
Tommy Patton Memorial Park**

Moved by Councillor Corr Johnston,  
Seconded by Councillor Newton,

That the decision of the People and Communities Committee of 5th June, under the heading "Temporary Structure at Alderman Tommy Patton Memorial Park", be rejected and accordingly the Council agrees to accede to the request to provide a temporary structure, subject to the terms and conditions as detailed within the report.

On a vote by show of hands, thirty-two Members voted for the amendment and eight against and it was declared carried.

**Adoption of Minutes**

Subject to the foregoing amendment, the minutes of the proceedings of the People and Communities Committee of 5th June were thereupon approved and adopted.

**City Growth and Regeneration Committee**

Moved by Councillor Lyons  
Seconded by Councillor Mullan,

That the minutes of the proceedings of the City Growth and Regeneration Committee of 13th and 27th June be approved and adopted.

**Meeting of Council,  
Monday, 2nd July, 2018**

**International Relations - Nashville Invitation**

Having been advised that Mr. Dan Lawton's three-year term as US Consul General was due to end soon, the Lord Mayor agreed to forward to him a letter expressing the Council's appreciation and wishing him well in the future.

The Council extended its best wishes also to Ms. Bernadette Roberts who had recently vacated her role as Political and Economic Officer with the US Consulate in Belfast.

**Adoption of Minutes**

Subject to the foregoing addition, the minutes of the proceedings of the City Growth and Regeneration Committee of 13th and 27th June were thereupon approved and adopted.

**Licensing Committee**

Moved by Councillor O'Hara,  
Seconded by Councillor Hussey and

Resolved - That the minutes of the proceedings of the Licensing Committee of 20th June, omitting matters in respect of which the Council has delegated its powers to the Committee, be approved and adopted.

**Planning Committee**

Moved by Councillor Garrett,  
Seconded by Councillor Hutchinson and

Resolved - That the minutes of the proceedings of the Planning Committee of 6th and 12th June, omitting matters in respect of which the Council has delegated its powers to the Committee, be approved and adopted.

**Notices of Motion**

**Brexit – Backstop Option**

In accordance with notice on the agenda, Councillor Walsh proposed:

"This Council supports paragraph 49 of the agreed Joint Report from the Negotiators of the European Union and the British Government of December 2017, which is an approach that will ensure there is no hardening of the border in Ireland.

The Council wishes to see the 'backstop' option, as defined in paragraph 49, included in the legally binding Withdrawal Agreement and agrees to lobby for retaining the 'backstop' in the Withdrawal Agreement unless and

**Meeting of Council,  
Monday, 2nd July, 2018**

until something better emerges. In addition, the Council demands that the full EU rights of citizens are protected, as proposed in the current draft Withdrawal Agreement.”

The motion was seconded by Councillor Carson.

In accordance with Standing Order 13(f), the motion was referred, without discussion, to the Brexit Committee.

**Personal Independence Payments**

In accordance with notice on the agenda, Councillor McReynolds proposed:

"This Council:

- notes the importance of Personal Independence Payments to sustaining and maintaining the lives of many across Northern Ireland;
- notes with concern the many issues associated with undergoing assessments and the stress they can bring upon individuals;
- is concerned at the fall in figures of those receiving the benefit and the impact this is having on their lives;
- notes the link that exists between the drop in support provided and the '20m rule' for the highest rate of PIP mobility support, as highlighted by 'PIP – a step too far' published by MS Society; and
- accordingly, agrees to write to the Minister for Work and Pensions calling for an urgent review of the 20m rule and to engage with key stakeholders to find a more appropriate alternative.”

The motion was seconded by the Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor McDonough-Brown).

After discussion, the motion was put to the meeting and passed.

**Dunmurry Manor Care Home**

In accordance with notice on the agenda, Councillor Heading proposed:

"This Council notes the Commissioner for Older People for Northern Ireland's investigation into the Dunmurry Manor Care Home and its findings in the report entitled 'Home Truths'.

The Council acknowledges and congratulates the Dunmurry Manor Relatives' Group and Northern Ireland Patient Voice in their campaign to highlight the deplorable living conditions of older people at the care home. The Council further notes and welcomes the first use in Northern Ireland of

**Meeting of Council,  
Monday, 2nd July, 2018**

the Commissioner's statutory investigative powers into a privately run Care Home.

The Council welcomes the 59 recommendations made by the Commissioner into the Safeguarding and Human Rights, Care and Treatment, Medicines Management, Environmental Cleanliness, Regulation and Inspection, Staff training, Management and Leadership, Complaints and Accountability. In particular, the Council agrees to support the recommendation by the Commissioner of the introduction of an Adult Safeguarding Bill by the Northern Ireland Assembly when it next convenes by writing to each Party Leader calling for their support for the Commissioner's proposal."

The motion was seconded by Councillor Attwood.

Councillor Heading sought and was granted approval by the Council to amend his motion to the effect that the letters to be forwarded to each Party Leader be signed by the Lord Mayor and that all Members be offered the opportunity to add their signature.

After discussion, the motion, as amended, was put to the meeting and passed.

**Graffiti**

In the absence of Councillor Boyle, the Council agreed, in accordance with Standing Order 13(i), that the notice of motion standing in his name be withdrawn from the agenda.

**Perinatal Care Pathway Provision**

At the request of Alderman Convery, the Council agreed, in accordance with Standing Order 13(i), that the notice of motion standing in his name be withdrawn from the agenda.

**Rohingya Genocide**

The Lord Mayor drew the Members' attention to a motion which had been submitted by Councillor Attwood, calling upon the Council to support the campaign to declare 25th August as Genocide Day and to host an event on that day to show support with the Rohingya population.

She explained that, as had been stated within the report which had been circulated to Members, such requests normally fell under the remit of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee and that the motion should, under Standing Order 13(f), stand referred to that Committee. However, given that the Committee would not meet again until August and that any decision would not be ratified by the Council until September, the proper authority would not be in place to allow an event to take place on 25th August. On that basis, the Lord Mayor, in accordance with the powers conferred upon her under Standing Order 13(l), granted approval for Councillor Attwood's motion to be debated by the Council and confirmed that, as had been stated within the report, should the Council

**Meeting of Council,  
Monday, 2nd July, 2018**

be minded to support it, there would be sufficient funds within the existing Civic Hospitality budget to cover the use of a function room and catering for a small to medium event:

Accordingly, Councillor Attwood proposed:

"This Council notes that the UN Special Rapporteur has said that the Government of Myanmar have been responsible for the pre-planned and violent deportation of about 800,000 men, women and children from Rohingya's ethnic minority since October 2016.

The Council supports the existential needs of the estimated one million Rohingyans violently deported to borders of Bangladesh and recognises that they will require international protection until such time as Myanmar is ready to accept them as full and equal citizens with basic human and minority rights.

The Council also supports the campaign to declare 25th August as 'Genocide Day', the day Myanmar Armed Forces began their violent and premeditated attacks on the Rohingya population, and will support an event in Belfast City Hall on 25th August, 2018 to show solidarity with the Rohingya population."

The motion was seconded by Councillor Lyons.

After discussion, the motion was put to the meeting and passed.

**Gasworks Northern Fringe**

In accordance with notice on the agenda, the Lord Mayor (Councillor Hargey) proposed:

"This Council recognises and supports the right of homeless families in the Markets community and in the wider City to family homes on land zoned for social housing, as an integral part of any redevelopment on the Gasworks Northern Fringe.

Furthermore, the Council recognises the need for the sustainability, prosperity, and inclusive economic growth of the Markets community to be central to any redevelopment of said site and the Council will clearly demonstrate how it intends to implement these commitments"

The motion was seconded by the Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor McDonough-Brown).

In accordance with Standing Order 13(f), the motion was referred, without discussion, to the City Growth and Regeneration Committee.

Lord Mayor  
Chairperson

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## Strategic Policy and Resources Committee

Thursday, 5th July, 2018

### SPECIAL MEETING OF STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Members present: Alderman Rodgers (Chairperson);  
The Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor McDonough-Brown);  
Aldermen Browne, Convery, and Spence; and  
Councillors Attwood, Beattie, Campbell, Carson,  
Garrett, Hutchinson, Long, McAteer, O'Donnell and Walsh.

In attendance: Mrs. S. Wylie, Chief Executive;  
Mr. R. Cregan, Director of Finance and Resources;  
Mr. J. Walsh, City Solicitor;  
Mr. N. Grimshaw, Director of City and  
Neighbourhood Services;  
Mr. S. McCrory, Democratic Services Manager; and  
Mr. H. Downey, Democratic Services Officer.

#### **Apologies**

Apologies were reported on behalf of Alderman Haire and Councillors Craig, Graham, McAllister and Reynolds.

#### **Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were reported.

#### **Audio Recording of Meeting**

The Committee agreed that the meeting be audio recorded.

#### **Alderman Convery**

Alderman Convery drew the Committee's attention to the fact that, as an Independent Member, he was not a member of the Bonfire Panel and had not, therefore, been briefed on the issues which were to be discussed at this meeting.

He confirmed that he wished to ensure that he was not associated with any information arising from the meeting which might be reported in the media and, accordingly, he withdrew from the meeting.

#### **Restricted Item**

**The information contained in the report which was tabled in relation to the following item is restricted in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.**

**Special Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Thursday, 5th July, 2018**

Resolved – That the Committee agrees to exclude the members of the Press and public from the Committee meeting during discussion of this item as, due to the nature of the item, there would be a disclosure of exempt information as described in Section 42(4) and Section 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014.

**THE COMMITTEE DEALT WITH THE FOLLOWING ITEM IN PURSUANCE  
OF THE POWERS DELEGATED TO IT UNDER STANDING ORDER 37(a)**

**Contingencies Relating to the Summer Months**

The Director of City and Neighbourhood Services provided the Committee with an update on a number of high profile bonfires across the City, on both Council and non-Council land.

The Chief Executive drew the Committee's consideration to a report which had been tabled, which provided details around the Bloomfield Walkway bonfire in the east of the City. She reported that the Department for Infrastructure, which owned the land on which that bonfire was situated, had requested that the Council make its contractor available, as part of the Department's contingency arrangements, and had requested the Council to contribute to the costs of any works which were undertaken as part of those arrangements.

After a lengthy discussion, it was

Moved by Councillor Walsh,  
Seconded by Councillor Carson and

Agreed unanimously - That the Committee agrees:

- i. to accede to the request from the Department for Infrastructure to secure access to the Council's contractor, as part of the contingency arrangements which it was putting in place around the Bloomfield Walkway bonfire;
- ii. that the Chief Executive negotiate with the Department for Infrastructure the apportionment of the costs of any works which were undertaken under the contingency arrangement;
- iii. to continue to support the community led initiative, up to the latest viable point, as determined by the Department for Infrastructure and other relevant agencies;
- iv. that the Chief Executive write to the Department for Infrastructure making the Council's position clear regarding the agreement outlined above and reinforcing the Department's legal responsibilities as the landowner and occupier of the Bloomfield Walkway;



**Special Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Thursday, 5th July, 2018**

- v. that the Chief Executive write to the Executive Office and to the Northern Ireland Office to raise concerns around the invidious position being faced by councils in dealing with bonfire issues; and
- vi. that a special meeting of the Committee be held at 12.00 noon on Saturday, 7th July to receive an update on this site and that a further meeting might be required on Monday, 9th July.

In addition, the Committee agreed that clarification be sought from the Strategic Inter-Agency Bonfire Group on which agency would be responsible for meeting the costs of putting in place measures to protect homes from bonfires and for the payment of compensation for any damaged caused to them.

**Call-in**

The Committee agreed further, in accordance with Standing Order 47 (2) (c), that the decisions would not be subject to call-in, on the basis that an unreasonable delay could be prejudicial to the Council's or the public's interest.

Chairperson

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# Strategic Policy and Resources Committee

Saturday, 7th July, 2018

## SPECIAL MEETING OF STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Members present: Alderman Rodgers (Chairperson);  
Aldermen Browne, Convery, Haire and Spence; and  
Councillors Attwood, Beattie, Campbell, Carson,  
Garrett, Graham, Hutchinson, Long, McAteer, O'Donnell,  
Reynolds and Walsh.

Also attended: Councillor Boyle.

In attendance: Mrs. S. Wylie, Chief Executive;  
Mr. J. Walsh, City Solicitor;  
Mr. N. Grimshaw, Director of City and  
Neighbourhood Services; and  
Mr. H. Downey, Democratic Services Officer.

### **Apologies**

Apologies were reported on behalf of the Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor McDonough-Brown) and Councillors Craig and McAllister.

### **Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were reported.

### **Audio Recording of Meeting**

The Committee agreed that the meeting be audio recorded.

### **Alderman Convery**

Alderman Convery drew the Committee's attention to the fact that, as an Independent Member, he was not a member of the Bonfire Panel and had not, therefore, been briefed on the issues which were to be discussed at this meeting.

He confirmed that he wished to ensure that he was not associated with any information arising from the meeting which might be reported in the media and that it was his intention to withdraw from the meeting.

The Chief Executive explained that, since this series of special meetings were being called at short notice and information was often being received up until the start of each meeting, officers had no alternative but to table information.

She undertook to ensure that Alderman Convery would, in future, where practicable, be fully briefed.

Alderman Convery then withdrew from the meeting.

**Restricted Item**

**The information relating to the following item is restricted in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.**

Resolved – That the Committee agrees to exclude the members of the Press and public from the Committee meeting during discussion of this item as, due to the nature of the item, there would be a disclosure of exempt information as described in Section 42(4) and Section 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014.

The Chairperson referred to the media coverage which had followed the Committee meeting on 5th July and drew the Members' attention to their responsibilities in relation to the reporting of restricted information.

**THE COMMITTEE DEALT WITH THE FOLLOWING ITEM IN PURSUANCE OF THE POWERS DELEGATED TO IT UNDER STANDING ORDER 37(a)**

**Contingencies Relating to the Summer Months**

The Director of City and Neighbourhood Services provided the Committee with an update on the Bloomfield Walkway bonfire, including discussions which had taken place on the previous day with representatives of the Department for Infrastructure, the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service and the Police Service of Northern Ireland.

The Chief Executive reminded the Committee that, at its meeting on 5th July, it had agreed that she should write to the Executive Office and to the Northern Ireland Office to raise concerns around the invidious position being faced by councils in dealing with bonfire issues. The Committee had agreed also that the Department for Infrastructure should be advised of its decision to support the contingency arrangements which it was putting in place around the Bloomfield Walkway bonfire, by making the Council's contractor available and contributing to the costs of any works, as had been requested, and that it should be advised also of its responsibilities as the landowner and occupier.

She reported that a response had been received from the Northern Ireland Office, which had confirmed that the Secretary of State had no decision-making powers in relation to bonfires and that they were the responsibility of the locally devolved administration and statutory agencies, including councils. The response had confirmed also that decisions relating to the protection of property and life rested with the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service and the Police Service of Northern Ireland. She tabled for the Committee's consideration a draft response which she was proposing to forward to the Northern Ireland Office, which had highlighted, amongst other things, the need for decisions to be taken at a Governmental level, the Committee's concerns around the Bloomfield Walkway bonfire and the need for a strategic approach to be adopted for bonfires and related issues, to be led by the Northern Ireland Office and involving all relevant stakeholders.

The Chief Executive reported further that the Executive Office had indicated that, in the absence of a functioning administration, it was unable to address the issue of bonfires in the short-term and that the Department for Infrastructure had confirmed that it was still fully committed to protecting life and property around the Bloomfield Walkway bonfire.

**Special Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Saturday, 7th July, 2018**

With the permission of the Chairperson, Councillor Boyle raised a number of concerns on behalf of local residents in the Bloomfield Walkway area.

After a lengthy discussion, it was

Moved by Councillor Attwood,  
Seconded by Councillor Long,

That the Committee agrees that the letter of response, as tabled by the Chief Executive, be forwarded to the Northern Ireland Office.

On a vote by show of hands, nine Members voting for the proposal and six against, and it was declared carried.

The Committee agreed further:

- i. to continue to support the contingency arrangements being put in place by the Department for Infrastructure around the Bloomfield Walkway bonfire; and
- ii. that a special meeting of the Committee be held at 2.00 p.m. on Monday, 9th July to receive an update on this site.

The Committee noted that the Director of City and Neighbourhood Services would be putting in place contingency arrangements to protect staff over the coming days, should the need arise.

**Call-in**

The Committee agreed, in accordance with Standing Order 47 (2) (c), that the decisions would not be subject to call-in, on the basis that an unreasonable delay could be prejudicial to the Council's or the public's interest.

Chairperson

**B1956**

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# Strategic Policy and Resources Committee

Monday, 9th July, 2018

## SPECIAL MEETING OF STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Members present: Alderman Rodgers (Chairperson);  
the Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor McDonough-Brown);  
Aldermen Browne, Haire and Spence; and  
Councillors Attwood, Beattie, Campbell, Carson,  
Garrett, Graham, Hutchinson, Long, McAteer, O'Donnell,  
Reynolds and Walsh.

Also attended: Councillor Armitage.

In attendance: Mrs. S. Wylie, Chief Executive;  
Mr. J. Walsh, City Solicitor;  
Mr. N. Grimshaw, Director of City and  
Neighbourhood Services; and  
Mr. H. Downey, Democratic Services Officer.

### Apologies

Apologies were reported on behalf of Alderman Convery and Councillors Craig and McAllister.

### Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were reported.

### Audio Recording of Meeting

The Committee agreed that the meeting be audio recorded.

### Restricted Item

**The information relating to the following item is restricted in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.**

Resolved – That the Committee agrees to exclude the members of the Press and public from the Committee meeting during discussion of this item as, due to the nature of the item, there would be a disclosure of exempt information as described in Section 42(4) and Section 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014.

**THE COMMITTEE DEALT WITH THE FOLLOWING ITEM IN PURSUANCE OF THE POWERS DELEGATED TO IT UNDER STANDING ORDER 37(a)**

**Special Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Monday, 9th July, 2018**

**Contingencies Relating to the Summer Months**

The Director of City and Neighbourhood Services provided an update on a number of potentially problematic bonfires across the City and confirmed that the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service had advised that, given the current scale of the Bloomfield Walkway structure, it would be required to put measures in place to protect a number of local properties.

The Chief Executive reported that the Department for Infrastructure, which owned the land on which the Bloomfield Walkway bonfire had been built, had indicated in an email that, whilst the structure was deemed to be well outside the safety limit, it still considered it to be manageable. The Department had indicated also that, in light of the progress which had been made by the East Belfast Community Initiative, it felt that intervention would not be appropriate at this stage and that the situation would be kept under review. In addition, the Northern Ireland Office, which the Committee on 5th June had agreed should be made aware of the invidious position which councils faced in dealing with bonfire issues, had confirmed that it had been in contact with the Department for Infrastructure, the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service and the Police Service of Northern Ireland to discuss bonfires and had requested regular updates.

The Chief Executive highlighted the fact that, on several occasions that morning, media coverage had referred to the role of Council officers in the decision-making process around bonfire issues. She tabled for the Committee's approval a draft position statement, which referred to the Council's duty of care to its staff and which stressed that its approach to managing bonfires was led by Elected Members and that a Member-led decision-making process had been agreed, which allowed for bonfires to be considered on a site-by-site basis.

After discussion, the Committee agreed:

- i. to endorse the position statement on Council staff and the bonfire decision-making process;
- ii. that an urgent meeting be sought with senior representatives of the Department for Infrastructure, the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service and the Police Service of Northern Ireland, to be attended by the Party Leaders; and
- iii. that a special meeting of the Committee be held immediately following the inter-agency meeting to allow Members to be briefed on the outcome.

**Call-in**

The Committee agreed, in accordance with Standing Order 47 (2) (c), that the decisions would not be subject to call-in, on the basis that an unreasonable delay could be prejudicial to the Council's or the public's interest.

Chairperson

**B1958**

**Page 26**



# Strategic Policy and Resources Committee

Monday, 9th July, 2018

## SPECIAL MEETING OF STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Members present: Alderman Rodgers (Chairperson);  
the Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor McDonough-Brown);  
Aldermen Browne, Haire and Spence; and  
Councillors Attwood, Beattie, Campbell, Carson,  
Garrett, Graham, Hutchinson, Long, McAteer, O'Donnell,  
Reynolds and Walsh.

Also attended: Councillor Armitage.

In attendance: Mrs. S. Wylie, Chief Executive;  
Mr. J. Walsh, City Solicitor;  
Mr. N. Grimshaw, Director of City and  
Neighbourhood Services; and  
Mr. H. Downey, Democratic Services Officer.

### Apologies

Apologies were reported on behalf of Alderman Convery and Councillors Craig and McAllister.

### Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were reported.

### Audio Recording of Meeting

The Committee agreed that the meeting be audio recorded.

### Restricted Item

**The information relating to the following item is restricted in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.**

Resolved – That the Committee agrees to exclude the members of the Press and public from the Committee meeting during discussion of this item as, due to the nature of the item, there would be a disclosure of exempt information as described in Section 42(4) and Section 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014.

**THE COMMITTEE DEALT WITH THE FOLLOWING ITEM IN PURSUANCE OF THE POWERS DELEGATED TO IT UNDER STANDING ORDER 37(a)**

**Contingencies Relating to the Summer Months**

The Committee was reminded that, at its meeting earlier in the day, it had agreed, amongst other things, that an urgent meeting be sought with representatives of the Department for Infrastructure, the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service and the Police Service of Northern Ireland, to be attended by the Party Leaders, to discuss the Bloomfield Walkway bonfire. The Committee had agreed also that a special meeting be held immediately afterwards to allow Members to be briefed on the outcome of those discussions.

The Chief Executive reported that the inter-agency meeting had taken place earlier and that it had been attended by the Assistant Chief Fire Officer, Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service, and the Permanent Secretary and the Deputy Secretary within the Department for Infrastructure. The Police Service of Northern Ireland had been unable to send a representative to the meeting, as it had coincided with a major briefing event. During the meeting, the Assistant Chief Fire Officer had confirmed that the height to distance ratio of the Bonfire Walkway structure was well in excess of Fire and Rescue Service guidelines and that it had the potential to impact upon a number of adjacent properties. Unlike in previous years, the Fire and Rescue Service had decided that it would deploy fire appliances at that location from the outset on 11th July. The Permanent Secretary had confirmed that the Department for Infrastructure was aware of the issues surrounding the size of the bonfire and its proximity to properties and that it was working closely with the Fire and Rescue Service in terms of identifying mitigation measures. He had stressed that no decision had been taken to intervene at this point and that the Department would continue to keep the situation under review.

After discussion, it was

Moved by Councillor Long,

That the Committee agrees that the Council release a statement, a copy of which he circulated, in relation to the Bloomfield Walkway bonfire.

The proposal was seconded by Councillor Attwood.

At the request of Councillor Reynolds, the proposer agreed to amend his statement to read as follows:

**“Belfast City Council recognises the huge effort made by Council officers, Councillors, mediators and community representatives in trying to resolve issues around bonfires this year.**

**All Parties in the City Hall had agreed to work to improve the situation from last year. There has been some success in this regard, which is welcome. However, the situation at the Bloomfield Walkway has continued to prove difficult.**

**Despite efforts by a range of agencies, the bonfire has been measured this morning as not being at a safe height acceptable to be within the guidelines of the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service.**

**Special Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Monday, 9th July, 2018**

**We would make a final plea to the bonfire builders to remove the surplus material so as to reduce the threat to property.**

**However, we recognise that the land on which the bonfire is built is owned by the Department for Infrastructure and so is its responsibility. If there is not a satisfactory resolution in the time remaining, the Council calls upon the Department for Infrastructure to take all measures possible to reduce the potential damage to local properties.”**

The statement, as amended, was thereupon put to the Committee and passed unanimously.

**Proposal**

Moved by Councillor Long,  
Seconded by Councillor Atwood,

That the Committee agrees that the Council apply to the Court for an injunction to be served upon the Department for Infrastructure to protect the Council’s assets and property adjacent to the site of the Bloomfield Walkway bonfire site and invites local residents to be interested parties.

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

**Request for Access to the Council’s Electrical Supply**

The Chief Executive reported that a request had been received for access to be provided on the night of 11th July to the electrical supply in Council premises at Orangefield Park and Inverary/Alderman Tommy Patton Playing Fields, in connection with bonfire-related events.

In response to a question from a Member, the City Solicitor pointed out that the Council owned both the premises in question and the land on which the bonfires were situated.

After discussion, it was

Moved by Councillor Reynolds,  
Seconded by Alderman Haire,

That the Committee agrees to accede to the request to provide access on the night of 11th July to the electrical supply in Council premises at Orangefield Park and Inverary/Alderman Tommy Patton Playing Fields.

On a vote by show of hands, seven Members voted for the proposal and nine against and it was declared lost.

**Special Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Monday, 9th July, 2018**

**Bonfire Clean Ups**

The Chief Executive sought and was granted authority for the Council's appointed contractor, if requested, to tend to bonfires still hot or smoking on land owned by other agencies and landowners, prior to them being removed, and noted that those making the request would be required to meet the cost.

**Call-in**

The Committee agreed, in accordance with Standing Order 47 (2) (c), that the decisions would not be subject to call-in, on the basis that an unreasonable delay could be prejudicial to the Council's or the public's interest.

Chairperson

# Strategic Policy and Resources Committee

Wednesday, 1st August, 2018

## SPECIAL MEETING OF STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Members present: Alderman Rodgers (Chairperson);  
Alderman Haire; and  
Councillors Attwood, Beattie, Campbell, Carson,  
Garrett, Graham, Hutchinson, McAllister, McAteer,  
O'Donnell, Reynolds and Walsh.

In attendance: Mrs. S. Wylie, Chief Executive;  
Mr. R. Cregan, Director of Finance and Resources;  
Mr. J. Walsh, City Solicitor;  
Mr. S. McCrory, Democratic Services Manager; and  
Mr. H. Downey, Democratic Services Officer.

### **Apologies**

Apologies were reported on behalf of the Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor McDonough-Brown), Aldermen Convery and Spence and Councillor Long.

### **Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were reported.

### **Audio Recording of Meeting**

The Committee agreed that the meeting be audio recorded.

### **Restricted Item**

**The information relating to the following item is restricted in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.**

Resolved – That the Committee agrees to exclude the members of the Press and public from the Committee meeting during discussion of this item as, due to the nature of the item, there would be a disclosure of exempt information as described in Section 42(4) and Section 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014.

**THE COMMITTEE DEALT WITH THE FOLLOWING ITEM IN PURSUANCE OF THE POWERS DELEGATED TO IT UNDER STANDING ORDER 37(a)**

**Special Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Wednesday, 1st August, 2018**

**Contingencies Relating to the Summer Months**

The Committee was reminded that, at its meeting on 27th April, it had approved governance arrangements for the management of bonfires in 2018 and had delegated authority to officers to undertake a range of bonfire-related work.

The Chief Executive referred to bonfires which would be taking place around 8th August and provided details of a number of potential sites. She highlighted the fact that officers could, under the authority which had been delegated to them by the Committee, remove materials which were either being stored or had already been placed on bonfires. However, further clarity was required to ensure that those officers would be operating within the parameters of that authority, in terms of public roads, non-Council land and access to the Council's contractor by third parties. With that in mind, she sought the Committee's approval to implement the following additional arrangements for bonfires taking place in August and to delegate authority to officers to implement those arrangements:

- (i) delegated authority already applies to land for which the Council is the landowner. The Council will, therefore, proactively remove as much bonfire material as is possible. However, closer to 8th August, a prioritised approach, based on the level of risk/nuisance will need to be applied, as it would not be possible to clear all bonfires at one time;
- (ii) where the Council is not the landowner, but the landowner agrees and has the capability to remove the bonfire material, that landowner should do so;
- (iii) where the Council is not the landowner and the landowner is not willing or able to remove the bonfire material (subject to the appropriate permissions being in place), the Council will do so but will make all reasonable endeavours to recoup the associated costs;
- (iv) where the Council is not the landowner and the landowner cannot be identified, the Council will remove the bonfire material;
- (v) in the case of public roads/footpaths, where the Department for Infrastructure considers that it is the operator, as opposed to the landowner, the Council will work with it to remove the bonfire material this year. The Council's position, however, is that this is the Department for Infrastructure's responsibility, so the Council will be taking legal advice on the ownership issues and will escalate discussions on cost responsibilities, based on this advice, at the highest level;
- (vi) in circumstances where there is political and community support/demand for the removal of an in situ bonfire on land not owned by the Council in the days immediately preceding or on 8th August, the landowner will be required to make the final decision on what action will be taken and to cover any associated costs. The Committee is, however, asked to permit other landowners, at their own expense,

**Special Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Wednesday, 1st August, 2018**

access to the Council's contractor, as part of any contingency arrangements for such removal; and

- (vii) where land ownership and associated legal responsibilities is unclear, this Committee will be asked to reconvene to consider the Council's role in undertaking actions/interventions in the context of its statutory functions, provided this is understood as not conferring the same responsibilities associated with ownership of the land upon which the bonfire has been built. This position was already agreed as part of the Bonfire Governance arrangements considered on 27th April, 2018 by this Committee and subsequently ratified by the Council in May, 2018.

The Committee granted the approvals sought and noted that, based upon previous years and taking into account the apportionment of costs across other agencies, the cost to the Council should not exceed £30,000.

The Committee noted also that it might be necessary to call further special meetings in the lead up to 8th August.

**Call-in**

The Committee agreed, in accordance with Standing Order 47 (2) (c), that the decisions would not be subject to call-in, on the basis that an unreasonable delay could be prejudicial to the Council's or the public's interest.

Chairperson

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# Strategic Policy and Resources Committee

Friday, 17th August, 2018

## MEETING OF STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Members present: Alderman Rodgers (Chairperson);  
Aldermen Browne and Convery;  
Councillors Beattie, Campbell, Carson, Craig,  
Garrett, Graham, Hutchinson, Long, McAllister,  
McAteer, O'Donnell, Reynolds and Walsh.

Also attended: Councillor Heading.

In attendance: Mr. R. Cregan, Director of Finance and Resources;  
Mr. J. Walsh, City Solicitor;  
Mr. G. Millar, Director of Property and Projects;  
Mr. N. Grimshaw, Director of City and  
Neighbourhood Services;  
Mr. J. Tully, Director of City and Organisational Strategy;  
Ms. G. Long, Commissioner for Resilience;  
Mr. S. McCrory, Democratic Services Manager; and  
Mr. J. Hanna, Senior Democratic Services Officer.

### Apologies

Apologies for inability to attend were reported from the Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor McDonough-Brown); Aldermen Haire and Spence and Councillor Attwood.

### Minutes

The minutes of the meetings of 20th and 22nd June were taken as read and signed as correct. It was reported that those minutes had been adopted by the Council at its meeting on 2nd July.

### Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were recorded.

### Request to Make a Presentation to Committee - POBAL

The Committee agreed to accede to a request from POBAL to address the Committee, at its September meeting, in relation to research which they have carried out entitled "*Further and Higher Education, Training and Employment Experience of Past Pupils of Irish Medium Education in Belfast – 1970s to Present.*"

### Meeting of Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Friday, 17th August, 2018**

The Committee agreed to accede to a request from the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission to meet with all Elected Members as part of its community engagement.

**Restricted Items**

**The information contained in the reports associated with the following six items and the final item on the agenda is restricted in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.**

Resolved – That the Committee agrees to exclude the members of the Press and public from the Committee meeting during discussion of these items as, due to the nature of the items, there would be a disclosure of exempt information as described in Section 42(4) and Section 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014.

**Discretionary Payments**

The Committee considered a report in relation to a proposed framework for the management of discretionary payment requests which did not fall within existing Council funding schemes.

The Committee was reminded that, under the general power of competence, by virtue of the Part 11 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014, the Council still had the power to make such discretionary payments and it was proposed that the Committee reintroduce the previous criteria for such a payment as agreed by the Policy and Resources Committee in June 2014. These are:

1. That the total discretionary payments may not exceed the rate product limit calculated using the formula in Appendix 1 to this report.
2. That there are sufficient in year resources available for reallocation to meet the discretionary payment expenditure approved.
3. That the application for the discretionary payment links to one or more of the council's corporate priorities.
4. That there is direct benefit to be obtained to the council or its district or inhabitants.
5. That the activity or initiative in respect of assistance being sought is being promoted by a person or organisation living or operating, or otherwise having a direct connection with the City.
6. That the request for a discretionary payment does not relate to an event or initiative which falls within a funding stream established through the remit and statutory power of any other committee of the council (in which case it should be so referred).
7. That the request relates to a specific event, activity or initiative as distinct from a request for a contribution to general funds or organisational running costs.
8. That the benefit to be obtained will be commensurate with the payment to be made.

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Friday, 17th August, 2018**

The Committee was advised that, if it was minded to agree the above-mentioned criteria, then information on discretionary payments would be published on the Council website. It would be emphasised that there was no designated fund, but that if in year resources became available for re-allocation then an amount may be set aside by the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee for discretionary payments and that that would normally be considered at the meetings of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee in June and November.

The Committee agreed:

1. the proposed Discretionary Payments Framework as detailed in the report; and
2. to set a discretionary payment limit of £396,600 for the 2018/19 budget.

**Medium Term Financial Plan and Efficiency Programme**

The Committee considered a report which provided an update on the assessment of the key financial factors which would influence the development of the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan for 2019/20 – 2021/22 and the rate setting process for 2019/20, together with an overview of the priorities and work in progress for the 2019/20 – 2021-22 Efficiency Programme.

The Committee noted the financial pressures outlined in the medium term financial plan and the work in progress on the efficiency programme to achieve the 2019/20 efficiency target of £0.5 million additional income and £2.5 million in expenditure savings and how work would be progressed to achieve future years' savings.

**City and Neighbourhoods Improvement Programme – Health Development**

The Committee was advised that the Belfast Health Development Unit (BH DU) had originally been set up and funded by the Council, the Belfast Trust and Public Health Agency (PHA) on a temporary basis to allow employees from all three organisations to be co-located and jointly work on a health improvement and wellbeing agenda. There were four employees on temporary contracts employed by the Council who were located within this team. Those temporary employees work on thematic areas that supported the Belfast Agenda in tackling health inequalities. As the Belfast Agenda was formally in place and targets had been set around reducing health inequalities across the City, there was now an operational need to create four permanent Council posts to allow for better planning and co-ordination in order to achieve the outcomes as set out within the Living Here agenda of the Council's community plan. A review had been completed in line with the City and Neighbourhoods Improvement Programme and the report detailed the findings and recommendations.

Accordingly, the Committee approved the following:

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Friday, 17th August, 2018**

1. the creation of four permanent posts within the City and Neighbourhood Services Department which would be focused on improving health and wellbeing; and
2. noted the human resources matters and consultation with employees and Trade Union representatives.

**Recruitment of Head of Commercial and Procurement Services**

The Committee was reminded that, as part of the Council's efficiency programme, the operating model for Council procurement had been reviewed with the aim of identifying opportunities to become more commercial and better support inclusive economic growth in the City. At its meeting on 18th May, the Committee had agreed the new organisational structure, including the renaming of the vacant post of Head of Contracts now to be recruited as the Head of Commercial and Procurement Services. The Committee was advised that it now needed to appoint a selection panel to recruit the post.

The Committee approved the recruitment panel for the recruitment of the Head of Commercial and Procurement Services to consist of the Chairperson, the Deputy Chairperson, Alderman Convery, the Director of Finance and Resources and the Director of Property and Projects. The Committee approved also the associated timetable.

**Giant's Park North Foreshore Environmental Resource Park**

The Committee considered a report which sought approval to the leasing of two sites for the development of both a Data Centre and an Anaerobic Digestion facility at the Giant's Park, North Foreshore and also to approve the installation of additional electricity capacity for the site as a whole to enable further anticipated development to proceed.

The Committee agreed:

- i) that a Site Options Agreement be entered into with Evermore Ltd (or its designated Special Purpose Vehicle) for the development of a Data Centre at Giant's Park, North Foreshore, subject to detailed terms to be agreed with the Council's Estates Manager, together with the City Solicitor; and
- ii) that a Site Options Agreement be entered into with Viridian Ltd (or its designated Special Purpose Vehicle) for development of an Anaerobic Digestion facility at Giant's Park, North Foreshore, together with other related legal agreements required to facilitate generation and export of electricity, subject to detailed terms to be agreed with the Council's Estates Manager, together with the City Solicitor; and
- iii) noted the requirement to proceed with the installation of additional electrical infrastructure for the Giant's Park, North Foreshore and to note the cost of these works was currently provided for in the Council's

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Friday, 17th August, 2018**

Capital Programme. Agreement with NIE to be subject to detailed terms agreed by the Director of Property and Projects.

**Giant's Park - North Foreshore - Commercial  
Leisure Led Mixed Use Development**

The Committee considered a report which sought approval to the appointment of a developer for the commercial leisure led mixed use development opportunity at the Giant's Park, North Foreshore.

Moved by Alderman Convery,  
Seconded by Alderman Browne,

That the Committee agrees to defer consideration of the matter for a period of one month to enable Party briefings to take place.

On a vote by show of hands six Members voted for the proposal and eight against and it was declared lost.

Accordingly, the Committee agreed to note the outcome of the marketing process for the development of a 250 acre site at Giant's Park, North Foreshore and approved the award of this development opportunity and agreed to enter into a Site Options Agreement with Giant's Park Belfast Limited, subject to detailed terms to be agreed with the Council's Estates Management Unit, together with the City Solicitor.

**Matters Referred Back from Council/Motions**

**Motion - City Deal**

The Committee was reminded that the Council, at its meeting on 4th June, had passed the following motion on City Deal, which had been proposed by Councillor Canavan and seconded by Councillor McAteer:

**“This Council welcomes the progress being made to secure a Belfast Region City Deal which will deliver inclusive growth, create more and better jobs, have a positive impact on our most deprived communities, and provide a balanced spread of benefits across the region.**

**The city deal will strengthen Belfast's role as the driver for the regional economy. In supporting the case for regional growth that will benefit us all, the Council urges the British Government to formally commit to a deal for the North West.”**

It was reported that a response had been received from Mr. David Herson, on behalf of the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government. He stated that the Department welcomed the Council's support for the Belfast City Deal and pointed out that the Government had made a commitment to work with the Northern Ireland Executive and other stakeholders towards a comprehensive and ambitious set of city deals across Northern Ireland. He concluded by confirming that the Secretary of

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Friday, 17th August, 2018**

State was aware of local interest in a deal for the Derry/Londonderry region and that he was looking forward to considering proposals for that region in due course.

Noted.

**Motion - Arts Matter NI Campaign**

The Democratic Services Manager reminded the Committee that the Council, at its meeting on 4th June, had passed the following motion on the Arts Matter NI Campaign which had been proposed by Councillor Long and seconded by Councillor McAllister:

**“This Council asserts the value of the arts in our everyday lives, including our wellbeing, education, inclusion as well as our creative and evening economy and our tourism offering.**

**Accordingly, the Council extends its formal support to the Arts Matter NI campaign for equal funding and agrees that an all Party delegation meet the Permanent Secretary at the Department for Communities to demand more funds for the arts.”**

It was reported that a response had now been received from the Permanent Secretary, Mr. O'Reilly in which he stated that the Arts Council for Northern Ireland provided financial support to the arts sector and was funded via grant-in-aid by the Department for Communities. He explained that the Department for Communities' overall budget for this year had been reduced and that that had been reflected across multiple funding streams. As a result, the Arts Council had been allocated £10,092,480, compared to £10,572,000 in the previous year. He pointed out that the Arts Council allocated this funding, along with funding from the Arts Lottery Fund, based upon its assessment of the merits of individual projects, and that the Department for Communities had no input into that process.

Mr. O'Reilly had added that his Department was keeping its in-year financial position under review but that, at this stage, it had no additional funding to make available to the Arts Council in the current year. He concluded by stating that the Council would be informed if that position were to change and suggested, in light of that, that the meeting called for within the Council's motion be deferred at this time.

The Committee noted the response from the Permanent Secretary and agreed that a further letter be sent requesting that he reconsider the request to meet with an All-Party Deputation from the Council.

**Belfast Agenda/Strategic Issues**

**Belfast Agenda Governance**

The Committee considered the following report:

**“1.0 Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues**

**1.1** The purpose of this paper is to set out, for Committee approval, proposed governance arrangements to oversee the delivery of the Belfast Agenda.

**2.0** Recommendations

**2.1** The Committee is asked to

- Approve the proposed governance model for the Belfast Agenda as summarised below and set out in detail at Appendix 1.

**3.0** Main report

**3.1** Purpose of Governance Arrangements

**3.1.1** The Belfast Agenda was created by a partnership of key city partners, residents and community organisations. It sets out a clear, joint vision and long-term ambitions for Belfast's future.

**3.1.2** The Council now needs to implement 'fit for purpose' governance arrangements to deliver the Agenda and secure continuous improvement. With this in mind, a proposed governance model has been developed, aimed at ensuring that there is effective partnership working, focus, direction, decision making and oversight of the ongoing development and delivery of the Belfast Agenda.

**3.2** Proposed Governance Model

**3.2.1** The proposed governance model is attached at Appendix 1 of this report: The key elements of the model are as follows:

- Formal Council governance will be via Strategic Policy & Resources Committee, the Corporate Management Team and four underpinning boards, reflecting the 4 priority areas of the Belfast Agenda, chaired by a nominated Senior Responsible Officer (SRO).
- Formal partnership governance of the Belfast Agenda will be via the Belfast Community Planning Partnership and the SROs will be accountable to the Community Planning Partnership (CPP). The CPP will provide overarching oversight, guidance and strategic direction for the Community Planning process in Belfast to ensure that objectives of the Belfast Agenda are achieved and compliance with statutory obligations for community planning.
- Each SRO will have a Portfolio Management support from the Strategic Hub, which will manage the overall delivery of

outcomes and inclusive growth for their 2017-2021 Priorities. Board membership will be flexible; the SRO will be guided by the need for delivery of outcomes against priorities rather than rigid structures.

- There will be clear terms of reference for the proposed boards based on those shown in Appendix 1.
- Where possible, partnership delivery will be achieved through existing organisations and/or existing partnerships towards the achievement of Belfast Agenda outcomes. It may also be necessary to establish new partnerships, such as time-bound task and finish groups.
- The governance arrangements will be implemented on a phased basis, with the first SRO-led Board established in September 2018 to oversee delivery of the 'Living Here' strand of the Belfast Agenda, with the remaining Boards being established shortly thereafter. The governance arrangements will also be kept under review.
- No changes to the Council's financial decision-making arrangements are proposed at this stage.

### **3.3 Implications for Committee**

**3.3.1** The Strategic Policy and Resources Committee has a key role to play in the successful implementation of the Belfast Agenda. As part of the Belfast Agenda governance arrangements, it is proposed that a special Strategic Policy and Resources Committee is convened each quarter to focus on the Committee's existing responsibilities as follows:

- setting the strategic direction of the Council through the development of its corporate plan and other key corporate and cross cutting strategies and policy;
- working with partners to lead the development of the community plan;
- managing and monitoring performance against the achievement of the Council objectives (agreed in the Corporate Plan) and those agreed in the community plan, including those aspects of the plans relating to inclusive growth; and
- developing the Council's organisational development strategy and all matters relating to its implementation including: governance and organisational structures, organisational improvement initiatives, member and officer capacity building and monitoring of organisational performance.

**3.3.2** The first specific (special) SP&R Belfast Agenda Committee meeting is proposed for December 2018.



**3.3.3 No changes are proposed to the structure or terms of reference of the Council's other standing committees are proposed; Standing Committees will be furnished with reports on the progress of relevant Belfast Agenda related activity, issues and outcomes.**

**3.4 Financial and Resource Implications**

**3.4.1 The Strategic Hub will support the new governance model / structure, when fully resourced. The Hub will ensure that relevant Board and Committee meetings are properly planned, with clear agendas and information to ensure focus.**

**3.4.2 BCC funding in relation to the Belfast Agenda is currently agreed as part of the departmental estimates process, with agreed budgets captured in departmental or corporate priority budgets. All emerging proposals for budget / resources will be considered using existing mechanisms.**

**3.5 Equality or Good Relations Implications/  
Rural Needs Assessment**

**3.5.1 None."**

The Committee adopted the recommendations.

**Inclusive Growth Update**

The Director of City and Organisational Strategy submitted for the Committee's consideration the following report:

**"1.0 Purpose of Report or Summary of Main Issues**

**1.1 Members have expressed their desire to embed inclusive growth within the decision-making process of Council. As a result, the draft Corporate Plan 2017-21 includes a commitment to 'work to drive inclusive growth through the development and adoption of an inclusive growth framework'.**

**1.2 At SP&R Committee on 20th April 2018, members agreed to a five step approach in developing an inclusive growth framework for the city. The first of these steps was to develop and agree a definition of inclusive growth for Belfast.**

**1.3 Following a series of one to one interviews with Party Group Leaders, Committee Chairs, Chief Officers and an all member workshop, as well as a detailed analysis of the data available in Belfast, a definition has been drafted and attached as Appendix One.**

1.4 This report asks Members to approve this definition as a working draft and provides an update on the development of the framework and associated actions.

## 2.0 Recommendations

2.1 The Committee are asked to:

- Note the working draft definition of inclusive growth that will be brought to Party Group Leaders for further discussion and refinement prior to formal approval;
- Note the progress in developing the inclusive growth framework for Belfast City Council; and
- Approve scoping and development of the related actions listed in section 3.6 that have arisen during discussions with Members.

## 3.0 Main Report

### Agreed steps to developing a framework

3.1 At SP&R Committee on 20th April 2018, members agreed to a five step approach in developing an inclusive growth framework for the city:

1. *Defining inclusive growth for Belfast.* It is vital that there is an agreed, and Belfast specific, definition of inclusive growth. To do this we must use data and evidence to determine challenges facing the city, and its population, and collectively develop a common narrative about the vision for change. Doing this will ensure a common framework is in place for all policy and decision makers.
2. *Developing and adopting a Belfast City Council bespoke framework.* Following the agreement of a specific definition of inclusive growth for Belfast, we will develop an inclusive growth framework to ensure that inclusive growth is placed at the heart of policy, capital and programme decisions. This will ensure that the Council has a practical and simple framework to use in future decision making to quantify the inclusive growth benefits of investments and interventions.
3. *Assessing current interventions.* This step will involve an assessment of whether the Council's and the actions of other agencies / partners are sufficient, along with the development of a plan to address deficiencies or build on strengths.
4. *Measuring our progress.* Members will be aware the Community Planning and Smart Cities teams are currently

working with Community Planning Partners to pilot a City Dashboard; it is proposed that the agreed measurements of inclusive growth form part of this dashboard. This will enable Members to assess progress.

5. *Ensuring Delivery.* The Director of City and Organisational Strategy, via the Council's newly established Strategic Hub, will oversee the successful implementation and delivery of the Council's inclusive growth framework.

#### Defining Inclusive growth for Belfast

- 3.2 It was also agreed to procure independent expertise to help complete steps one and two. Metro Dynamics have subsequently been appointed to undertake this work with officers from the Strategic Hub. Detailed research has been undertaken into the definition of inclusive growth for Belfast through a desktop analysis of key strategies and relevant socio-economic data. They have also undertaken one to one interviews with Party Group Leaders, Committee Chairs and Chief Officers to discuss the issues in depth and really get to understand inclusive growth in Belfast.
- 3.3 This culminated in an all member workshop on 26th June in which a number of energised cross party discussions were held around what inclusive growth means for Belfast, where the key challenges are and how we implement it in Belfast City Council. In summary, the main feedback points from the group discussions are as follows:
  - Geographically there are areas across Belfast that have suffered from long term deprivation and economic deprivation that should be addressed in the framework;
  - There are socio-economic groups in Belfast where the evidence points to a disproportionately high level of income deprivation – 28% of children in Belfast are currently growing up in poverty and the gender pay gap between women (£472.30 per week) and men (£519.10) were two examples used;
  - It was also recognised that, whilst there is a large amount of data at a city level, it is not all available at a lower level (either geographically or socio-economically) at this stage to determine which groups should be targeted. It was therefore felt that the framework should be written in a flexible way that allowed the affected groups in Belfast to be reviewed on an annual basis. This means that, as the evidence base builds, the framework can be adjusted accordingly to ensure it is as reflective of the city as the data allows;

- The framework should include all capital, policy and programme interventions taken by the Council; and
- The framework should help to target groups but should not be so prescriptive that all spending is skewed towards these targeted groups.

3.4 Since the workshop, Metro Dynamics have reflected on the research they have undertaken and the discussions at the one to one interviews and workshop. This has resulted in the draft definition of inclusive growth for Belfast. Members are asked to note the working draft definition of inclusive growth that will be brought to Party Group Leaders for further discussion and refinement prior to formal approval. This will enable officers to develop and test the framework for Belfast.

#### Next Steps

3.5 Should Members approve the inclusive growth definition, Officers from the Strategic Hub will move to Step Two of the process - Developing and adopting a Belfast City Council bespoke framework (see paragraph 3.3). An update on the progress of this will be brought to SP&R Committee in November. Between now and then, Officers will engage with senior managers across the Council to test the practicalities of implementing the framework to ensure that, as originally agreed with councillors, the framework is practical and capable of effecting future capital, policy and programming decisions.

#### Additional Actions

3.6 During the one to one interviews and at the workshop, Members consistently brought up a number of actions they felt needed taken forward as part of inclusive growth. Whilst these are not part of the framework, they are necessary in moving forward the inclusive growth agenda. Should Committee agree to the actions below, officers will further scope out and bring recommendations to committee in November:

- Examine how we use powers over planning, skills and employment support, procurement, and community investment to encourage a new strategic approach to inclusive growth;
- Embed the Inclusive Growth Investment Decision Making Framework into the corporate planning and estimating process;

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Friday, 17th August, 2018**

- **Examine the inclusion of procurement clauses and measurement against inclusive growth outcomes for both future social and economic spending;**
- **Develop a more granular understanding of our city through better data and analysis, learning what works as we grow;**
- **Work with the city’s anchor institutions and businesses to embed inclusive growth principles in their organisations; and**
- **Form networks and relationships with other cities committed to the inclusive growth agenda.**

**Financial and Resource Implications**

- 3.7 There are no additional financial or resource allocations contained within this report.**

**Equality or Good Relations Implications/  
Rural Needs Assessment**

- 3.8 There are no equality, good relations or rural needs implications contained within this report. However, the framework, once developed will be screened to test its implications against these requirements.”**

The Committee adopted the recommendations.

**City Region Growth Deal – update**

The Committee considered the following report:

**“1.0 Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues**

- 1.1 To update Committee on the ongoing development of a Belfast Region City Deal Proposition including engagement and negotiation with Northern Ireland Civil Service (NICS), Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) and Treasury on emerging projects and next steps.**

**2.0 Recommendations**

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to note**

- **the progress made in developing the Belfast Region City Deal (BRCD)**
- **that a meeting of the Joint Members Forum hosted by Mid and East Antrim will be held in mid September.**

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Friday, 17th August, 2018**

- A communication and engagement event has been planned to take place in Westminster on 24th October 2018

**2.2** The Committee is also asked to agree to party group briefings and a possible special SP&R committee meeting to be held in early September to discuss specific projects and the emerging shape of the BRCD proposition for negotiation with UK and Central Government.

**3.0** Main report

**3.1** At the last SP&R committee meeting members were provided with the following framework documents that were prepared in support of the Belfast Region City Deal (BRCD)

- Draft Proposition document
- Industrial Strategic Framework
- Digital Vision and Strategy
- Initial Employability and Skills Proposition
- Draft Belfast Region Infrastructure Investment Framework

**3.2** These documents provided the evidence base for the BRCD including the key pillars for investment, which build on the region's strengths and will support ongoing economic growth.

**3.3** Members were also advised that projects that had been identified for possible inclusion in the BRCD proposition had been discussed with officials from both UK and Regional government departments and based on their feedback and ongoing discussions around affordability the BRCD partners were focussing on a reduced list of primary projects for further development.

Programme Update

**3.4** Innovation / Digital

As outlined to committee, it is anticipated that the Innovation and Digital pillar will be a major focus for the BRCD as it is likely to attract more funding from UK Government given the projects contribution to the UK Industrial Strategy. Future Cities Catapult supported by the SMART Belfast team in the council have been working intensively with the universities and the BRCD councils to continue to develop projects in this pillar and to define the overall digital / innovation proposition for the city region. This has involved intensive discussion and

consultation with UK government departments who have provided some positive feedback on a number of proposals and also suggested areas where further development is required. FCC have also hosted a number of stakeholder engagement events, including direct engagement with the private sector, and are actively working with partners to identify additional / alternative sources of funding.

### **3.5 Tourism**

The BRCD continues to make the case that tourism is a specific growth sector that requires significant investment to ensure the potential economic benefits are realised. The sector has suffered from lack of investment in the past and still under performs in comparison with other UK regions and the ROI but visitor numbers continue to increase and there are significant job opportunities which could be realised across the sector.

- 3.6 Members will be aware that work is almost complete on the development of an OBC for the Belfast Story gallery and film Centre which is a priority project for BCC and a number of potential tourism products have also been identified in other council areas. Tourism NI are chairing the tourism steering group and supporting BRCD in the development of a Tourism Product Narrative and Development Framework and have undertaken market testing of proposals to help inform the projects with the best potential to help the sector grow.

### **Other Infrastructure and Regeneration**

- 3.7 DfI are supporting the BRCD in the identification and development of key Infrastructure projects which may form part of the deal and will most likely be funded by regional government.
- 3.8 The primary projects for Belfast highlighted to members were the Belfast Rapid Transit phase 2- linking the north & south of the city and York Street Interchange. It is becoming increasingly likely that York Street Interchange will not require funding through City Deal and therefore there may be potential for an element of the Lagan Bridges and Links project to be included in the city deal proposition. Initial work on the Lagan Bridges and Links has been done through the City Centre Regeneration Strategy and a number of the city's masterplans and it is therefore proposed to review this along with DfI to assess deliverability, scheduling and state of readiness to see if any of the bridges may move up to the primary list.

A number of regeneration projects across the other council areas are also being developed with support from DfC.

**3.9 Employability and Skills**

The Employability and Skills Steering Group is updating the initial Employability and Skills proposition based on the capital projects likely to be included in the BRCD and will propose an ongoing partnership to develop a more integrated approach to prioritising and planning interventions across the region and respective Council areas in relation to skills for growth and skills for inclusion. This will be informed by the new analysis available through the Regional Skills Barometer prepared for the City Deal partners by Ulster University's Economic Policy Centre.

**3.10 Specific priority areas and programmes are being developed to support the key pillars for investments in areas such as;**

- Careers Enhancement,
- Apprenticeship Hub,
- Graduate Development,
- Employability for All,
- Economic Activation,
- Business Productivity.

**Programme Development**

**3.11 An intensive programme of work for phase 3 of the BRCD has continued at pace over the summer months with the NICS and UK Government. This process includes; providing assurances on the affordability element of projects and ensuring any projects going forward to the deal will have robust costings from both a capital and revenue perspective; developing financing considerations at both a project and programme level including assessing affordability, borrowing requirements and alternative sources of funding; ensuring the approach being adopted is compliant with Northern Ireland Civil Service and HM Treasury requirements to help build a prioritised programme of schemes which will take account of economic benefits, impact, value for money and inclusivity considerations.**

**3.12 This will allow the BRCD partners to progress towards a shorter list of priority projects which will form the basis of an overall negotiating proposition being developed by the end of September 2018. Given the tight timeframe it is recommended that party group briefings are held at the beginning of September to discuss the priority projects including indicative**



costs, and the emerging shape of the negotiating proposition. A special meeting of SP&R may also be required early in September to approve the negotiating proposition. This proposition will form the basis of discussions with Central and Regional Government with a view to reaching a Heads of Terms agreement in advance of the Autumn Budget statement.

#### Next Steps

#### **3.13 Finance and Governance**

The Director of Finance and Resources is working with local government colleagues and officials from DfP to develop a possible financing strategy for an emerging deal. Cost consultants have been working with the programme team to validate financial information and work is also ongoing to identify funding streams and ensure affordability. The financial make up of any potential deal will inform the governance and delivery structures and options for these are also being considered.

#### **3.14 Communication and Engagement**

As the shape of the deal develops it is important that engagement at all levels continues so that we maximise the benefits across the region both with partners and local businesses. A communication and engagement plan has been developed by the six partner councils and a number of events will be held over the coming months.

**3.15** Specifically committee should note that a Joint members Forum, hosted by Mid and East Antrim, will be held with members from all six councils mid September to discuss progress and consider the projects and the emerging shape of the deal. A Communication and Engagement Event is also planned for all BRCD partners on 24th October 2018 in Westminster and details will be presented to members at the September Committee meeting.

**3.16** Further meetings will be held throughout October with members and officers when feedback is expected from UK and Regional government on the BRCD position and the elements that may be included in a Heads of Term document.

#### **3.17 Financial and Resource Implications**

Finance for the development of the Belfast City Region Deal has been included in the revenue estimates.

**3.18 Equality or Good Relations Implications/  
Rural Needs Assessment**

To be considered in preparation of Belfast City Region Deal.”

The Committee adopted the recommendations.

**100 Resilient Cities and the International  
Urban Cooperation Programme**

The Commissioner for Resilience submitted for the Committee’s consideration the following report:

**“1.0 Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues**

**1.1 In January, members approved Belfast’s membership of the International Urban Cooperation (IUC) programme for sustainable urban development as part of its global 100 Resilient Cities work.**

**1.2 Membership of the programme provides Belfast with an opportunity to co-operate with other cities to solve common problems. Partnerships are established based on mutual size, common challenges and interests. Earlier this month, New York and Barcelona were partnered to focus on sustainable urban development. Manchester has been partnered with Montreal in Canada to focus on smart cities, economic growth and social inclusion. Belfast has been accepted onto the programme, to partner with Santiago de Cali + Medellín, to focus on post-conflict urban development. All three cities face similar challenges in ensuring that all residents benefit from economic growth in their respective cities, and the programme also provides an opportunity to share knowledge and learning of building connections across communities.**

**1.3 Belfast’s membership will build on the existing links that the city has with Colombia including the increasing trade links being fostered by Invest NI; and the work of the British Council in Northern Ireland, which is planning a major Belfast initiative with Colombia in 2018.**

**1.4 The first exchange visit has been scheduled for 22 – 27 October 2018, which will see a Belfast delegation, to include council, Invest NI and the British Council representatives, visit counterparts in Cali and Medellín, Columbia.**

**2.0 Recommendations**

**2.1 The Committee is asked to:**

- 1. Note the draft programme of work and outline schedule for the Belfast to Cali and Medellin visit from 22 October**
- 2. Approve the attendance of Chair and Deputy Chair of Committee (or their nominee) and two officers to attend this visit, accompanied by representatives from the British Council and Invest NI.**

**3.0 Main report**

**3.1 IUC membership provides financial support for an eighteen-month exchange programme at a senior level between Belfast and the Colombian cities of Cali and Medellin focusing on post-conflict urban development (on themes of social inclusion, regional / urban innovation and competitiveness; and inclusive and sustainable economic growth).**

**3.2 This is a substantial programme providing significant opportunities for Belfast to work alongside other cities to solve common problems. The work encompasses three phases (1) Development Phase- understanding the problems and needs of the cities (2) Implementation Phase- Putting Together a Joint Action Plan for the cities (including city exchange visits) (3) Closing Phase- seeking city wide support for implementation.**

**3.3 We are currently working through the 'Development Phase', which chiefly focuses on the problems we are trying to solve. The overall theme that has been identified for this city-to-city cooperation is 'Peace Process and Post Conflict Management'. However, officers from Belfast, Cali and Medellin are undertaking 'problem identification' to hone in on detailed common challenges as we plan the programme. The Commissioner for Resilience has produced a 'Challenge Description report', which is based on the challenges we have identified in Belfast Agenda, and this will form the basis of our city co-operation with Santiago de Cali and Medellin.**

**3.4 The city co-operation will require significant joint working across the three cities, and this will also include study tours, exchanges, training seminars and the development of a local action plan to drive sustainable development.**

**3.5 There will be two exchange visits: the first visit will be by the Belfast team visiting Colombia (Cali and Medellin) most likely in October 2018. During this first visit both delegations will start work on a joint action plan. In early Spring 2019, the**

second visit will take place when representatives from Cali-Medellin will visit Belfast.

3.6 IUC officials will work with the new Commissioner for Resilience to agree a joint programme of work with the Colombian cities.

3.7 Members should also note that this IUC programme activity forms part of the programme of work for the Commissioner in the development of the Belfast Resilience strategy.

3.8 **Financial & Resource Implications**

There are no specific resource implications attached to this report.

3.9 **Equality or Good Relations Implications/  
Rural Needs Assessment**

There are no specific equality or good relations implications attached to this report.”

The Committee adopted the recommendations.

**Sports Development Strategy – Guiding Principles**

The Committee deferred consideration of the report to enable further consideration and information to be obtained in relation to the guiding principles.

**Customer Focus Update**

The Committee considered the undernoted report:

“1.0 **Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues**

1.1 The Strategic Policy and Resources Committee at its meeting on the 24th November 2017 agreed the recommendations contained in the outline business case for an enhanced and innovative approach to customer focus across the council.

1.2 A further report was presented to Strategic Policy and Resources Committee on the 16th February 2018 at which time an overview of a blueprint for Customer Focus was presented and accepted by the Committee. It was acknowledged that this would represent a major programme of work, which would require careful planning and significant resources to deliver. For this reason, the Council subsequently agreed to adopt a three-phase approach starting with mobilisation, then

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Friday, 17th August, 2018**

discovery and ending with a design and implementation phase.

- 1.3 At its meeting of 18th May 2018 Committee was advised of the completion of Phase one of the Customer Focus programme which culminated in the production of the Blueprint for Customer Focus (Appendix 1) and an Outline Business Case. At this meeting Committee agreed to the commissioning of the next phase of the programme, the Discovery phase.
- 1.4 Deloitte were appointed to assist with this phase and the work has progressed to a stage where Elected Members will be invited, subject to agreement, to participate in a workshop to review findings and recommendations and to recommend to Strategic Policy and Resources priorities for implementation as part of an implementation plan.
- 1.5 Committee is reminded that Digital Services has procured external assistance to help deliver a new ICT Strategy and this work is progressing and will be aligned with the Customer Focus Discovery phase.

**2.0 Recommendations**

**2.1 The Committee is asked to:**

1. Note progress with the Discovery phase of the Customer Focus Programme.
2. Agree that a structured workshop is arranged from 12pm to 2pm on Thursday 4 October 2018 to provide Elected Members with an opportunity to consider the findings and recommendations from the Discovery phase. A workshop brief and agenda will be circulated in advance of the workshop.
3. Agree that all Elected Members are invited to participate in the workshop.
4. Consider draft guiding design principles emerging from the Discovery phase and agree that they are used to inform the priorities and plans to be considered at the workshop.

**3.0 Main Report**

- 3.1 Committee is reminded that Deloitte proposed the following deliverables from the Customer Focus 'Discovery' phase:

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Friday, 17th August, 2018**

<b>Deliverables</b>	
<b>Customer</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Customer Personas</li> <li>• Prioritised User Journeys</li> </ul>
<b>Website</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pain Points / Issues / Challenges</li> <li>• Prioritised Product Backlog</li> <li>• Minimal Viable Product</li> <li>• Solution Architecture</li> </ul>
<b>CRM</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pain Points / Issues / Challenges</li> <li>• Prioritised Product Backlog</li> <li>• Proposed Solution Architecture</li> </ul>
<b>Contact Centre</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contact Centre review and approach</li> </ul>
<b>Organisation Impact Assessment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organisation Impact</li> <li>• Benefits Management Plan</li> <li>• High Level Financial Analysis</li> </ul>
<b>Implementation Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High Level Risk Analysis</li> <li>• Indicative Implementation Plan</li> </ul>

**3.2 Committee is advised that operational workshops have taken place with Council staff involved in customer contact to understand the operational and organisational impacts of proposed changes. Similarly engagement with external stakeholders has taken place to understand the customers' views regarding contacting the Council and in addition an online survey has been conducted. The internal and external engagement combined with extensive research has informed the deliverables outlined above and implementation options to be presented at the workshop.**

**3.3 The purpose of the proposed workshop is to provide Elected Members with insight into the approach used in the Discovery phase and the key findings and recommendations. It is further proposed that draft guiding design principles emerging from**

the Discovery phase, and subject to agreement by Strategic Policy and Resources committee, are used to inform recommendations and priorities for the way forward as part of an implementation plan.

3.4 The draft guiding design principles emerging from the Discovery phase are as follows and are provided in more detail at Appendix 2:

1. A corporate approach, consistent and joined up and underpinned by customer service standards
2. Deliver greater insight and analysis on customer behaviour
3. Improve the efficiency of processes
4. Ensure inclusivity and channel choice ( Digital first where possible)
5. Improved customer experience (Customer first)
6. Provide access to the right information at the right time and from anywhere

If agreed the design principles will be used to shape options for future delivery and will provide a frame of reference for future decision making in relation to customer focus.

3.5 Committee is also advised that Trade Unions have been kept up to date regarding the Discovery phase and it is proposed that a meeting with Trade Union representatives will take place in advance of the Members' workshop to provide a further update.

3.6 Financial & Resource Implications

The Strategic Policy and Resources Committee agreed in November 2017 that a budget of £500k be set aside to cover the costs associated with the implementation of the customer focus project.

It was also agreed by the Strategic Policy & Resources Committee in February 2018 that a Programme Director would be appointed to oversee the project and to develop a comprehensive improvement programme in line with the recommendations contained in the OBC.

3.7 Equality or Good Relations Implications/  
Rural Needs assessment

N/A.”

The Committee adopted the recommendations.

**Governance/Members' Issues**

**Electronic Voting at Council Meetings**

The Democratic Services Manager submitted for the Committee's consideration the following report:

**“1.0 Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues**

**1.1 To decide if a system of electronic voting should be introduced at Council meetings.**

**2.0 Recommendations**

**2.1 The Committee is requested to;**

- Consider if it wishes to introduce a system of electronic voting in the Council Chamber.
- As the existing system would not provide Members, the public and the Press present at the meeting with information as to how each Member voted on a matter, the Committee is recommended not to use this system as a replacement for the current procedure.
- If the Committee is minded to introduce an electronic voting system, then a further more detailed report would be presented to Committee setting out the exact costs and a possible time scale for its introduction. It should be noted that such costs would need to be included in the estimates for the next financial year and therefore the system would be unlikely to be installed prior to the local elections next May.

**3.0 Main report**

**Key Issues**

**3.1 The Committee, at its meeting on 18th May, considered a proposal from Councillor Corr-Johnston that:**

*‘The Council agrees to explore the feasibility of and the costs associated with electronic voting and digital display at full council meetings. Through the mechanism of electronic voting Members would be enabled to cast their votes immediately and the results of which returned in a fraction of the time it takes to carry out a traditional recorded vote. Results would be displayed digitally through a large screen at the top of the chamber. A screen that could also be used to display proposals and amendments.’*



**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Friday, 17th August, 2018**

- 3.2** The Committee agreed that a report be produced examining the possibility of introducing such a system.
- 3.3** The proposal which was made by Councillor Corr-Johnston referred to the introduction of such a system instead of the process currently employed when recorded votes are requested. Currently, the Council's Standing Orders provide that any Member can request that any vote is taken by way of a recorded vote and the request alone is sufficient for that process to be employed. In a recorded vote, the division bell is sounded for 1 minute to allow any Member not present in the Council Chamber to return for the vote. At the expiration of the minute, the Chief Executive reads out the motion or amendment to be put to the vote. Then each Member's name is called out and they respond with 'for, 'against' or 'no vote'. The votes are then counted and checked and the Chief Executive reads out the result. The names of the Members and how they voted are subsequently recorded in the minutes of the meeting.
- 3.4** Typically, each recorded vote takes about 7 or 8 minutes to complete. Over the year from June 2017 till May 2018, a recorded vote was requested on 33 occasions, averaging 3 per meeting.
- 3.5** In deciding whether to introduce a system of electronic voting, the Committee might wish to consider the following points:
- The time taken for recorded votes at Council meetings (based upon the last Council year) is approximately 20 to 25 minutes on average. Using any electronic voting system will also take some time. For example, the ringing of a division bell to alert Members that a vote to be taken would still need to continue. The Committee might wish to consider if the time saved by using an electronic system is worth the cost of its purchase/installation.
  - If the Committee was to decide to introduce the system described in option 1 below then there would not be any way of verifying that the votes cast were by Members present. There would not be a systemic way of requiring a Member to log in to the system before registering a vote. It is not anticipated that any Member would seek to record a vote for another Member who was not present, however it is not possible for the system to verify this and it is always possible that the results of votes could be called into question. Also, the existing system does not provide an instant record of

how each individual Member voted, therefore Members, the public and the Press present at the Council meeting would not know how any individual Member voted on a matter. The system software does provide a means of analysing the vote after the meeting to ascertain how each individual seat in the Chamber voted so it would be able to produce information to allow the minute to record the vote in the same way as is done currently.

- The introduction of an electronic voting system would be disruptive in that a degree of work would need to be undertaken to the fabric of the Council Chamber. Any changes to the fabric of the Chamber would need the approval of the Department for Communities, Historic Environment Division.

- 3.6 If the Committee is minded to support the introduction of an electronic voting system, then the following two options have been identified:

Option 1 - Install previously purchased voting panels

- 3.7 The Council already owns a very basic system which would provide for a form of electronic voting which was purchased at the time of the refurbishment of the City Hall which was completed in 2009. Obviously, this is a relatively old system which would not incorporate the most modern electronics and, as it has been in storage since it was purchased, there is no guarantee that the units would all be in working order.

3.8 Functions

Basic voting control for parliamentary voting procedure. Members can register:

- 'Present', 'Yes', 'No' and 'Abstain'.
- A separate Chairperson/Clerk unit can start, stop and suspend the voting.
- A page function which activates a voting tone. With this tone the Chairperson can indicate that a voting round is about to start
- The result will only provide the numbers who voted 'Yes', 'No' and 'Abstain' but will not indicate how each individual Member voted

3.9 Display

The existing voting panels can display six lines of text on display screens around the chamber when the vote has concluded:

Voting timer

Number of Members present

Number of Members who voted 'Yes'

Number of Members who voted 'No'.

Number of Members who voted 'Abstain'.

Number of Members who did not vote.

### 3.10 Costs

Costs for using this system will include purchasing display screens (c. £2,000 each) and installation of the panels (work could be done in-house).

### 3.11 Restrictions

- No user verification
- No ability to display the text of the vote
- No graphical display of the results of the vote
- Display screens must be mobile and cannot be fixed to the walls in the Chamber
- No graphical display as to how each individual Member voted

### 3.12 Impact

- Installing the voting panel into each existing mic panel in the Chamber
- Replacing the Lord Mayor's mic unit completely
- Placing a screen in the chamber with associated cabling

### 3.13 Option2 - Purchase new voting system

Property maintenance have suggested the Bosch Dicontis Conference range which is currently used at the Scottish Parliament and the European Commission. This system, at the top end of the range, provides units with a 7' touch screen and would replace both the current microphone unit and its wooden mount at each bench. A new platform would be made for each bench to hold the new units, with space for the Councillors' table PCs.

### 3.14 Functions

- Integrated mic, voting and display unit

- 'Present', 'Yes', 'No' and 'Abstain' voting options
- A separate Chairperson/Clerk unit can start, stop and suspend the voting. Councillors can change their vote until the voting session has closed
- Text of vote can be displayed on screens around the chamber
- User verification via NFC swipe card for each vote

### 3.15 Display

Graphical displays can be presented at the conclusion of the voting session displaying the results by party/group, total, Yes/No/Abstain – as a list, bar chart, pie chart or seating plan. This could be displayed on screens around the chamber and on the screens built into the voting units, if the top of the range units are bought. The voting unit screens could also be used to show presentations, agenda items, text or video. However, if the less expensive units are purchased which don't have a screen on each unit then the results would only be displayed on the large screens in the Chamber. It might be very difficult for Members, the public and the Press present to clearly see how each individual Member voted on a particular matter.

### 3.16 Cost

May cost between £103,000 and £120,000 depending on which version of the Bosch system is purchased (Multimedia 7' touchscreen, touchscreen or voting only)

### 3.17 Restrictions

Display screens must be mobile and cannot be fixed to the walls in the Chamber.

### 3.18 Impact

- Existing mic units and mounts would be removed and replaced with a flat platform to hold the new mic/voting units with space for the Councillors' tablet PCs
- A new PC installed at the Clerks' desk to control the voting system, input text, call/suspend/close voting session and tally results. This could potentially have the added benefit of the existing sound system in the VIP gallery being removed and the Webcasting system moving into that corner to make more space.
- New mic/voting units would be collected after each meeting to charge/for safe storage – would need an extra half hour of officer's time before and after each meeting

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Friday, 17th August, 2018**

- **Placing a screen in the chamber with associated cabling**

**3.19 Financial and Resource Implications**

The cost of option 1 would be approximately £4,000 for 2 display screens plus the in-house costs of carrying out the work to the benches at each Member's seat. This cost could be met from within existing budgets.

The cost of option 2 is estimated to be between £103,000 and £120,000. There is not any budget set aside for this and if this option is preferred then the costs would need to be included in the estimates for 2019/20.

**3.20 Equality or Good Relations Implications/  
Rural Needs Assessment**

**None associated with this report.”**

The Committee agreed not to introduce a system of electronic voting in the Council Chamber.

It was agreed also that a report be submitted to the next meeting to consider changing Standing Order 24 to provide that all divisive votes at the Council meetings be subject to a recorded vote.

**NILGA Annual Conference and  
Local Government Awards**

The Committee was advised that the NILGA Annual Conference would take place this year at the Armagh City Hotel on 12th October. The Council was represented on NILGA by a number of Members across the political parties. The normal practice was to authorise those representatives to attend the Annual Conference if they so desired.

It was reported also that, in addition, later that evening the Northern Ireland Local Government Awards dinner would be held. The Awards set out to showcase excellence in service delivery across the work of the Councils. This year the Council had submitted four applications and, although the finalists had not yet been shortlisted, it would be important for the Council to be represented at the Awards dinner so that, if successful, an elected Member could accept the award. Accordingly, it was recommended that the Committee approve the attendance of the Chairpersons and the Deputy Chairpersons of the Strategic Policy and Resources, City Growth and Regeneration Committees and the Belfast Waterfront and Ulster Hall Shareholders' Committee (or their nominees), together with appropriate officers at the awards dinner.

The Committee

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Friday, 17th August, 2018**

- approved the attendance of the Council representatives on NILGA at the Annual Conference on 12th October; and
- deferred consideration of attendance at the Local Government Awards dinner on 12th October until the finalists had been shortlisted.

**Physical Programme and Asset Management**

**Physical Programme Update**

The Committee considered the following report:

**“1.0 Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues**

**1.1 The Council’s Physical Programme covers projects under a range of funding streams including the Capital Programme, the Leisure Transformation Programme, LIF, BIF, the Social Outcomes Fund and the projects which the Council is delivering on behalf of other agencies. This paper provides an update for Members on the Physical Programme**

**2.0 Recommendations**

**2.1 The Committee is asked to;**

**General**

- note that a tour of a number of physical projects (both completed or underway) is being scheduled for a Saturday morning in September and all Members are encouraged to take up this opportunity (see 3.2)

**Capital Programme**

- Proposed movements - agree that the Belfast Story/Destination Hub project and the Reservoir Safety Programme are moved to Stage 2 – Uncommitted
- Project Updates – HLF City Cemetery – to note that the Council has been successfully awarded £1.687m from HLF towards the re-development of the City Cemetery

**Leisure Transformation Programme**

- note the update in respect of Templemore and that agreement has been reached with the Templemore Users Trust (TUT) in regard to a formal usage agreement for the new facility
- agree the recommendation, which has been endorsed by the East AWG at its meeting on 2 August, that the

£70,000 annual grant which is currently paid to TUT is continued for the two year closure period on the basis that this is only used for the purposes of supporting business continuity necessitated by the closure of the centre for redevelopment (see 3.7 -3.9)

#### Social Outcomes Fund (SOF)

- note that all SOF projects are required to go through the Council's rigorous due-diligence process in keeping with the processes in place for BIF and LIF projects (see 3.9)
- note that three SOF projects (*SOF01- James Connolly Museum; SOF03 – Assembly Buildings Conference Centre and SOF09 – Belfast Orange Hall Museum*) which previously been approved in principle have been scored and have met the necessary threshold. Members re therefore asked to agree that these are progressed to due-diligence (Section 3.12 and Appendix 1)

### **3.0 Main report**

#### Key Issues

- 3.1 Members will be aware that the Council runs a substantial physical programme covering over 200 projects under a range of funding streams including the capital programme, BIF and LIF together with the projects that it is delivering on behalf of other agencies including the Executive Office and the Department for Communities. There are currently approx. 200 'live' projects on the physical programme worth in excess of £300m which makes it not only a significant programme from a Council perspective but also one of the biggest regeneration programmes in the city.
- 3.2 Members previously agreed that given both the current scale of the programme and the number of new Members, that a tour of a number of physical projects (both completed and underway) across the city is scheduled for all Members. Members are asked to note that this is being scheduled for a Saturday morning in September and that all Members are encouraged to take up this opportunity.

#### Proposed movements on/additions to the Capital Programme

- 3.3 Members have previously agreed that all capital projects must go through a 3 Stage process where decisions on which projects progress are taken by SP&R. Members are asked

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Friday, 17th August, 2018**

to agree to the following movements on the Capital Programme -

<b>Project</b>	<b>Overview</b>	<b>Stage</b>
Destination Hub/ Belfast Story	The development of a new world class visitor attraction within the city centre	Move to Stage 2- Uncommitted
Reservoir Safety Programme	To examine the options to ensure the safety of Council owned reservoirs	Move to Stage 2- Uncommitted

**Move to Stage 2 – Uncommitted**

- 3.4 Destination Hub – Members will be aware that the Belfast Agenda sets out the ambition to deliver a second world class visitor attraction to generate additional tourist spend and footfall in the city centre. This was also set out in the City Centre Regeneration and Investment Strategy 2015. In addition, a number of agencies (Arts Council NI, Tourism NI, NI Screen, National Museums NI) have identified the need for additional facilities to support the growth of the cultural and tourism offer in Belfast and NI as a whole. The proposed new Destination Hub proposal is for a single site in the city centre incorporating a range of facilities including the ‘Belfast Story’ visitor destination, a Northern Ireland film centre, gallery and exhibition space and a digital media/skills training facility.**

**An SOC has been completed with work underway on the Outline Business Case (OBC) and in line with this, it is recommended that the Destination Hub is moved to Stage 2 – Uncommitted on the Capital programme. Work is continuing including looking at the identification of potential capital funding sources as well as possible commercial operating models and Members will be aware that the Destination Hub has been identified as a project under the Tourism strand of the Belfast Region City Deal. Further detail on the OBC will be brought back to Members in due course.**

- 3.5 Reservoir Safety Programme - The Council owns a number of reservoirs across the city including Half Moon Lake, Boodles Dam, Waterworks Upper and Lower and Alexandra Park. As a reservoir owner the Council has a number of obligations under the Reservoirs Act (Northern Ireland) 2015 and the Drainage (Northern Ireland) Order 1973 which includes ensuring the safety of reservoirs. The Council has received correspondence from the Rivers Agency reminding us of our**



obligations in this regard. Given these requirements, it is recommended that that the Reservoirs Safety Programme is moved to Stage 2 – Uncommitted on the Capital Programme to allow the programme to be fully worked up and costed and an OBC to be completed.

#### Project Updates

- 3.6 HLF – City Cemetery - Members will recall that the City Cemetery was moved to Stage 3 ‘Committed’ on the capital programme in November 2017 and held at Tier 0 ‘Schemes at risk’ pending the confirmation of funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund. The project is designed to protect and enhance the rich heritage within the cemetery, and incorporates a number of elements such as the development of a new visitor centre, restoration of key heritage assets and enhanced interpretation.

Members are asked to note that funding of up to £1.687m has now been secured from HLF and a letter of offer was received in July. This will be match funded with up to £620,000 of Council funding. There has already been extremely positive media and public reaction to this news demonstrating the level of interest in the project.

#### Leisure Transformation Programme

- 3.7 Templemore - In April the SP&R Committee agreed that *‘Option 4 – the Council enter into a contractual relationship with the TUT for the original building only, that being the interpretative area and the existing pool, with the new build being outsourced for management by the Council’s strategic partner’* be adopted as the preferred future management option for the new Templemore Baths. The Committee, however, further agreed that due to the tight timescales for this work given the HLF timescales and the potential impact of the loss of HLF monies on the overall East leisure provision, that *‘Option 6 – Outsource the management of the building in its entirety to a strategic partner / the Council’s existing strategic leisure partner’ would be the fall back option in the event that consensus on Option 4 could not be satisfactorily reached’*. Unfortunately, between April-May insufficient progress was made in terms of Option 4 and Committee, on the direction of the East AWG, therefore agreed in May that the Council had no option but to progress Option 6 as above in order to ensure that the HLF application could be successfully submitted. Recognising the important role of TUT to date, Members also authorised officers to enter into discussions with TUT’s Board on the opportunity for them to become an

'anchor user' for the existing pool, which would be on a rental basis falling under Option 6.

- 3.8 Committee is asked to note that we have reached agreement with TUT on the principles of this anchor user arrangement which will now be incorporated within a formal usage agreement lasting a period of 8 years. This period is contemporaneous with existing term on GLL's current contract.
- 3.9 In relation to mobilisation, and to ensure business continuity for TUT necessitated by the closing of the centre during the redevelopment of the Baths, it is recommended that the current annual grant which is paid to TUT (£70,000) continue for this closure period on the basis that the grant is used solely for the purposes of supporting business continuity (e.g. to cover pool costs/ rental for office premises). The final mechanism for the drawdown of this money to be agreed with TUT. Members are asked to note that this recommendation was endorsed by the East AWG at its meeting on 2nd August.

#### Social Outcomes Fund

- 3.10 Members will be aware that the Council, at its meeting on 1st February 2018 adopted and approved the minute of the meeting of the SP&Rs Committee of 20th October 2017, under the heading '*City Centre Social Outcomes Fund Update – Proposed Recasting to Support the City's Growing Tourism Infrastructure*'. As per this decision, officers have been working on the 9 projects which were allocated in principle funding. The in principle allocations for these projects vary between £80,000 to over £1m.
- 3.11 Members will be aware that the Council has rigorous due-diligence processes in place for projects under both the Local Investment Fund (funding up to a maximum of £250,000) and the Belfast Investment Fund (funding over a minimum of £250,000). It is recommended that the SOF projects follow this same process with projects of less than £250,000 investment following the LIF DD process and projects over £250,000 following the BIF process.
- 3.12 Both processes require projects to be scored initially and met a minimum threshold (Appendix 1). Members are asked to note that three SOF projects (SOF01- James Connolly Museum; SOF03 – Assembly Buildings Conference Centre and SOF09 – Belfast Orange Hall Museum) which previously been approved in principle have been scored and have met

the necessary threshold. Members re therefore asked to agree that these are progressed to due-diligence.

**3.13 Financial and Resource Implications**

*Financial* – No arising implications  
*Resources* – Resources from Property & Projects and appropriate departments in working up proposals in conjunction with groups.

**3.14 Equality or Good Relations Implications/  
Rural Needs Assessment**

All capital projects are screened as part of the stage approval process.”

The Committee adopted the recommendations and noted the Reservoir Safety Programme would be progressed through the People and Communities Committee.

**Assets Management**

**Proposed Disposal of Medway Street Depot**

The Committee approved the marketing of the former Civic Amenity Site at Medway Street, with further updates to be submitted to the Committee as appropriate in relation to the disposal process.

**Proposed Disposal of Site at Ladas Drive**

The Committee approved the disposal of the 1.5 acre site at Ladas Drive to the Northern Ireland Policing Board for the consideration of £400,000.

**St. James Community Forum – LIF Project**

The Committee granted approval for the Council to act as the sponsor body for St. James Community Forum in its proposed acquisition of land at St. Katherine’s Road/Rodney Parade, Belfast.

**Finance, Resources and Procurement**

**Financial Reporting – Quarter 1 2018/19**

The Committee considered the following report:

**“1.0 Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues**

**1.1 This report presents the Quarter 1 financial position for the Council including a forecast of the year end outturn. It includes a reporting pack which contains a summary of the**

financial indicators and an executive summary (Appendix 1). It also provides a more detailed explanation of each of the relevant indicators and the forecast outturn for the year.

- 1.2 The Departmental year end forecast is a net year end under spend of £1,007k which represents a variance of 0.7% of the annual net expenditure budget. The District Rate forecast by Land and Property Services (LPS) is a clawback of £622k, meaning that the forecast net underspend for the Council is £385k. It should be noted that this forecast is provided at a very early stage in the financial year and Council Officers will be working with LPS to scrutinise the rate forecast before an updated position is presented to Committee at Quarter 2.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are asked to note the report and, given that the forecast outturn is based at an early stage in the financial year, agree that no in year budget reallocations should be considered until the Quarter 2 position is presented to the Committee in November 2018.

3.0 Main report

Current and Forecast Financial Position 2018/19

- 3.1 The financial position for Quarter 1 is a net departmental under-spend of £1,282k (3.4%). The forecast year-end departmental position is an under-spend of £1,007k (0.7%), which is well within the acceptable variance limit of 3%.
- 3.2 The departmental underspend arises mainly from below budget employee and supplies expenditure. This has helped offset budgetary pressures including Vehicle Maintenance and Belfast Zoo.

Rates Finalisation

- 3.3 The Quarter 1 forecast from LPS is a clawback of £622k. This includes an estimates rates clawback of £500k and de-rating grant clawback of £122k. The clawback mainly arises from movements in the non-domestic rate base such as the former BHS store being removed from the Valuation List during development phase.

Capital Projects

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Friday, 17th August, 2018**

- 3.4 **Planned capital expenditure for 2018/19 approved as part of the capital programme is £51.16m with forecast expenditure for the year of £48.17m.**
- 3.5 **The Summary Dashboard on Page 2 of the attached performance report summarises forecast expenditure on other capital programme including Non-Recurring Projects (£1,336k), Feasibility Fund (£250k) and projects in the new boundary areas (£414k).**
- 3.6 **Committed expenditure approved by the Committee on Belfast Investment Fund projects is £19.4m, with a further £4.96m committed on LIF 1 projects and £3.92m on LIF 2 projects.**

**Capital Financing**

- 3.7 **The summary dashboard has also been updated to provide analysis of the annual capital financing budget. Actual capital financing expenditure is forecast to be on budget by the year end.**

**Forecast Reserves Position**

- 3.8 **The balance of general reserves is forecast to increase from £13.67m to £14.06m at the year end. This increase is based on the forecast departmental underspend less the forecast LPS clawback. An updated position will be brought to Committee in Quarter 2.**
- 3.9 **Specified reserves are forecast to be spent during the year.**

- 3.10 **Financial and Resource Implications**

**The Departmental position at Quarter 1 together with the forecast year end Council position is detailed within the report. It is recommended that no budget reallocations are considered until Quarter 2 given that the current forecast is based at an early stage in the financial year.**

- 3.11 **Equality or Good Relations Implications/  
Rural Needs Assessment**

**None.”**

The Committee noted the information provided and agreed that no in year budget reallocations should be considered until the Quarter 2 position was presented to the Committee in November, 2018.

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Friday, 17th August, 2018**

**Contracts for Award**

The Committee:

- approved the public advertisement and acceptance of tenders as listed in Appendix 1, Table 1 through the Council's electronic procurement system.
- granted delegated authority to the appropriate Director using pre-agreed criteria to award the most economically advantageous tender.
- allowed month by month extensions where contracts were under review as outlined in Appendix 1, Table 2
- agree to accede to Standing Order 55(a) exceptions in relation to contracts by direction of the Council acting on recommendations of a Chief Officer that the exception is justified in special circumstances for the contracts laid out in Appendix 1, Table 3.
- noted the contract awarded by Arc21 as per Appendix 1, Table 4.

**Appendix 1 - Schedule of tenders for consideration**

**Table 1 – New tenders**

Title of tender	Senior Responsible Officer	Proposed contract duration
St Patricks Day Carnival Parade	Alastair Reid	1 year plus option to extend annually for a further 2 years
Tender for the provision of a Transport (Driving) Academy (T1891)	John Greer	1 year plus option to extend for a further year
Tender for the provision of a Hospitality and Hotel Employment Academy (T1901)	John Greer	1 year plus option to extend for a further year
Temporary Agency Resources (T1792)	Ronan Cregan	2 years plus option to extend for annually for a further 2 years
Lift repair and maintenance	Gerry Millar	1 year plus option to extend annually for a further 2 years
Belfast Full Fibre Programme – Public Sector Anchor Tenancy (T1902)	Paul Gribben	20 to 25 years

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Friday, 17th August, 2018**

Belfast Full Fibre Programme – Public Sector Asset Reuse (T1903)	Paul Gribben	One –off engagement
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**Table 2 – Contracts for extension of contract period**

<b>Title of Tender</b>	<b>Director Responsible</b>	<b>Proposed Extension</b>
Repair and maintenance of building energy management system	Gerry Millar	Extension required on a month by month basis until new contract is in place

**Table 3 - Direct Award Contracts (Single Tender Action)**

<b>System / product</b>	<b>Supplier</b>	<b>Estimate</b>
RADAR centre admission fees	RADAR	£50,100
Roof Waterproofing System to Lower Plant Waterfront Hall	Gordon & Co	£78,000

**Table 4 – Tenders awarded by Arc21 on behalf of the Council**

<b>Title of tender</b>	<b>Senior Responsible Officer</b>	<b>Proposed contract duration</b>
Tender for the provision of a dry material recovering facility	Nigel Grimshaw	Extension for a further period of up to 24 months with a variation on price bands

**Equality and Good Relations**

**Minutes of the Meeting of  
the Shared City Partnership**

The Committee approved and adopted the minutes of the meeting of the Shared City Partnership of 6th August and agreed to the following:

**Review of Shared City Partnership**

To endorse the appointment of those representatives from the community and voluntary sector who had been selected to serve on the Shared City Partnership

**50th Anniversary of the Civil Rights Movement**

To approve the allocation of financial provision of up to £7,800 from existing funds towards the programme costs to mark the 50th Anniversary of the Civil Rights Movement and to note that the remaining £1,000 would be allocated from the existing Good Relations budget.

**Community Led Cross Interface Event at  
Townsend Street for International Day of Peace**

To authorise funding of up to £4,000 for the delivery of a community-led cross interface event on Townsend Street.

**Update on District Council Good Relations  
Programme Interfaces Expression of Interest 2018/19**

To grant authority to the Strategic Director of Neighbourhood and City Services to approve successful applications to the programme under delegated authority.

**District Council Good Relations Action Plan  
2018/19 – Request for Reallocation**

To approve the reallocation of £37,000 from the Good Relations approach to Hate Crime (£15,000) and the Hate Crime Awareness (Holocaust Project) £22,000) to Tranche 2 of the Good Relations Small Grants Programme.

**Shrouds of the Somme Exhibition**

The Committee was reminded that, at its meeting on 18th May, it had agreed to host the Shrouds of the Somme exhibition at the City Hall from Thursday, 23rd August till Sunday, 16th September, 2018.

The Committee was reminded that the Shrouds of the Somme was an extraordinarily powerful piece of commemorative art, which marked the centenary of the end of the First World War in 2018.

The Committee was reminded further that the artist, Rob Head, had created over 72,000 hand crafted shrouded figures to represent men from across the Commonwealth who had died at the Battle of the Somme but had no known grave and whose names appeared on the Thiepval memorial. In November, those figures would be laid out in the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park in London to commemorate the centenary of Armistice Day. In advance of that, an element of the overall exhibition would come to Belfast and be hosted in the City Hall grounds.



**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Friday, 17th August, 2018**

For the exhibition in Belfast, the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, working with Shrouds of the Somme, had now identified 3,775 names, representing those from the Ulster and Irish Regiments, or from Belfast, who had died in the Battle of the Somme and had no known grave. Each of those 3,775 men would be represented by a shrouded figure, laid out in the Garden of Remembrance. Each man's name, regiment and rank, along with any military honour would be listed on an interpretative panel, which would sit alongside the main installation. The official opening event, which would be hosted by the Lord Mayor, had been planned for Thursday, 23rd August from 11.00 am till 12.00 noon in the Reception Room, City Hall. The exhibition would then run until Sunday 16th September, with free access during normal City Hall grounds opening hours (7 am till 9 pm each day). There would be a 24 hour security presence at the exhibition throughout its duration.

The Committee noted the information which had been provided.

**Invitation to Join International  
Shared Societies Project**

The Committee considered the following report:

**“1.0 Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues**

**1.1 To advise members of a request to participate in an international Shared Societies Project involving four other countries which starts in October 2018.**

**2.0 Recommendations**

**2.1 Members are asked to consider and agree the following:**

- That Belfast City Council agrees to participate in the first event in October 2018 to explore how the project is developing.
- That a report on the project after the event would be brought back to the Council through the Shared City Partnership for further consideration
- Given the nature of the project, The Chair and Vice Chair of the Shared City Partnership would be the most suitable members to attend along with the Director of CNS or his nominee.
- Given the challenging time commitment from 2-9th October, if required Officers will investigate the options for timing which will yield the most benefit to Council.

**3.0 Main report**

**3.1 The Council has received a request for up to three participants to be part of an international shared societies project.**

**3.2** The project which is envisaged as a five year programme aims to bring together five countries to work collectively to create a deeper understanding of the idea of a shared society. It will bring together theorists from universities and practitioners who have to contend with real life cultural contestation on a day to day basis.

**3.3** It has been designed as a shared learning experience and has secured funding for the first year from the German Peace Academy. Funding is being sought for the following years from EU Horizon 2020 project and other funding bodies. The countries involved are Belgium, Germany, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Israel/Palestine.

**3.4** Participants from Northern Ireland

The academics who were contacted about the project thought that BCC as a practitioner organisation would have much to share from our experience of creating a shared city ethos. The academics who will be attending are

Gráinne Kelly, a Ulster University lecturer in Peace and Conflict Studies at INCORE, (International Conflict Research Institute).

Paul Nolan, an independent researcher who produced the first three Northern Ireland Peace Monitoring Reports for the Community Relations Council.

Professor Mari Fitzduff is from Brandeis University, Boston. Mari is an international conflict resolution specialist who was previously the first director of the NI Community Relations Council, and the first director of INCORE.

Clem McCartney is Policy and Content Co-ordinator, Shared Societies Project, Club de Madrid, has been asked to participate in that capacity.

**3.5** Content

This is not a conference per se but rather participants will be expected to deliver presentations, talk knowledgeably about the Council's work in relation to a shared city, methodologies, current thinking and participate in discussions. Each country will describe its experiences, exploring both the achievements and the frustrations, and engage in discussions with the other partners. An annual report will be compiled distilling the learning from the sessions.

- 3.6 This will be a residential experience and the first stage will be at Givat Haviva Centre in Israel from 2 October – 9th October 2018.

3.7 Context

The experience of the other four countries involved will assist with our own discussions around shared societies and contribute to our good relations strategy.

- 3.8 Belgium is a prosperous member of the European Union, but a country with three very distinct internal cultures: the Dutch-speaking region of in the north, the mostly French-speaking Wallonia region in the south, and the German-speaking cantons in the east. In 2010/11 Belgium did without a government for 589 days.

Germany, the heart of European social democracy, which is now struggling with issues arising from immigration. This is not just a recent phenomenon. In the 1960s and 1970s, the German governments invited 'guest workers' (Gastarbeiter) to migrate to Germany for work in the German industries. The largest immigrant group came from Turkey, and some generations on there are unresolved issues about the extent to which the host country and the immigrant communities experience a shared sense of citizenship.

Bosnia-Herzegovina The Bosnian war concluded in 1995 with the signing of the Dayton Accord, but since then the country has experienced an unhappy form of 'peace without reconciliation'. A complex constitutional architecture has led to the segregation of Bosniak, Serb and Croatian communities, but the Nansen Dialogue Project has created links extending across Croatia, Bosnia Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro, Kosovo and Macedonia.

Israeli/Palestinians. The Middle Eastern partnership in this project is not between Israelis and the Palestinians in the West Bank or Gaza, but rather with the Palestinians who live within the state of Israel. The Givat Haviva Centre, which would be the official partner organisation, was created in order to build solidarity between Israeli peace activists and the Palestinian community in Israel. It is a recipient of the UNESCO Prize for Peace Education for its longstanding work in promoting Jewish-Arab dialogue and reconciliation.

- 3.9 Therefore, it should be noted that while the first part of the residential programme is based in Israel, it is not about the Israeli/Palestine experience – rather it is about the experience

of all the countries, some of which will have a lot of to share around experiences of segregation, working to build cohesion etc. as outlined above.

3.10 In addition, the Givat Haviva Centre were advised of concerns around the requirement for cross community participation and reassurances have been received that this will be the case. The Givat Haviva Centre is intended to provide solidarity for those working for equality between Palestinians and Israelis and the Centre is particularly concerned to maintain international links as it works against discrimination in the recent legislation.

3.11 Outcomes for Belfast City Council:

The Shared City Partnership is regarded as a model of best practice in terms of drawing together a range of sectors within a political setting to advise and influence decision makers to take on board good relations implications. This active learning experience presents BCC with the opportunity to reflect critically on the work of the Partnership and the Council.

3.12 It will allow Council

- To have more understanding not just about physically sharing space but how we promote shared living in a city where the majority of social housing is segregated.
- To explore the tensions between neutral or good and harmonious environments and how identity features within shared societies.
- To hear first-hand how other countries are addressing legacies of division in a post conflict society and how academics and practitioners evaluate the associated policies/concepts. Subsequently, we would look critically about how these could practically be applied to the Belfast setting.
- To investigate what has been the experience of connecting areas of deprivation to areas of opportunity and how has this impacted upon good relations and cohesion.
- What role community planning and physical planning has played in developing a more diverse but cohesive society – to learn what has and has not worked well and ensure these are featured in discussions around the Local Development Plan and Community Plan.
- It is essential that the city is developed in such a way that does not inhibit future initiatives which have the ability to promote and enhance good relations and equality. The SCP has noted that transformative

change is required around regeneration to make a difference to local communities, not just in terms of the two main communities but also to include and integrate new communities. What are the levers and drivers to ensure this happens?

**3.13 Decisions Required:**

If Members are minded to agree to the Council's participation in the project, a decision could be taken to participate in the first event in October to explore how the project is developing.

A report on the project after the event would be brought back to the Council through the Shared City Partnership for consideration.

Given the nature of the project, The Chair and Vice Chair of the Shared City Partnership would be the most suitable members to attend along with the Director of CNS or his nominee.

In addition, it should be noted that 7 days is an exceptional time commitment and there is a possibility that nominated Members may wish to look at participating for a shorter period. Officers will investigate the most appropriate option.

**3.13 Financial and Resource Implications**

The only cost to Council would involve Member and Officer time and expenses. . The costs of travel and accommodation for the first seminar will be covered by the Peace Academy grant as outlined in the report. As detailed previously, the organisers are seeking further funding for the next steps of the project from EU Horizon Project 2020 and other programmes.

**3.14 Equality and Good Relations Implications/  
Rural needs Assessment.**

The rationale for participating in the project is to look at how to create and sustain shared societies which will have a positive impact on equality and good relations."

The Committee agreed not to accept the request to participate in an international Shared Societies Project.

**Operational Issues**

**Local Investment Fund – Recognition Ceremony**

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Friday, 17th August, 2018**

The Committee noted the update for the arrangements for the Local Investment Fund Recognition Ceremony and that the event would take place on the evening on Thursday, 25th October in the City Hall.

**Belfast Healthy Cities**

The Strategic Director of City and Neighbourhood Services submitted for the Committee's consideration the following report:

**“1.0 Purpose of Report or Summary of Main Issues**

**1.1 The purpose of this report is to:**

- Provide an update in relation to the forthcoming World Health Organisation (WHO) International Healthy Cities Conference being hosted in Belfast Waterfront from 1-4 October 2018 and the WHO Healthy Cities Phase VII programme which is due to commence in January 2019.
- Consider an informal request, for the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee Chair and Deputy (or nominees) to attend the conference and potentially participate as chair and / or discussant in relation to the learning through practice sessions and strategic workshops.
- Note that an informal request has been presented to the People and Communities Committee Chair and Deputy (or nominees) to attend the conference and potentially participate as chair and / or discussant in relation to the learning through practice sessions and strategic workshops.
- Consider a request to approve the Expression of Interest as part of the process to re-designate Belfast as a WHO Healthy City and participate in Phase VII of the WHO European Healthy Cities Network.
- Consider a formal request for the Lord Mayor (or nominee) to attend the 68<sup>th</sup> session of the WHO Europe Regional Committee, which is being held in Rome, Italy from 17 to 20 September 2018.
- Consider a formal request for the Lord Mayor (or nominee) to attend the WHO European Healthy Cities Summit of Mayors which will be held in Almaty, Kazakhstan on 23 and 24 October 2018.
- Note that Christine Robinson, Strategy Policy and Partnerships Manager has been appointed, to represent Council, as a Member of the Board of Belfast Healthy Cities.

**2.0 Recommendations**

**2.1 The Committee is asked to:**

- Note the contents of the report.
- Agree that the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee Chair and Deputy (or their nominees) attend the conference and potentially participate as chair and / or discussant in relation to the learning through practice sessions and strategic workshops.
- Approve completion of the Expression of Interest and submit it as part of the application process to re-designate Belfast as a WHO Healthy City and participate in Phase VII of the WHO European Healthy Cities Network.
- Agree that the Lord Mayor (or nominee) attend the 68<sup>th</sup> session of the WHO Europe Regional Committee, which is being held in Rome, Italy from 17 to 20 September 2018.
- Agree that the Lord Mayor (or nominee) attend the WHO European Healthy Cities Summit of Mayors which will be held in Almaty, Kazakhstan on 23 and 24 October 2018.

**3.0 Main Report**

**Key Issues**

**WHO International Healthy Cities  
Conference 1-4 October 2018**

- 3.1 In 2018, the WHO European Healthy Cities Network, celebrates its 30th year as a network and global movement. The highlight of the celebrations will be the conference, which is being hosted in Belfast Waterfront from 1st to 4th October.**
- 3.2 As well as celebrating 30 years of Healthy Cities as a network and a global movement, the conference will focus on the six themes established by the WHO European Healthy Cities Network's Political Vision Group for Phase VII, which are people, place, participation, prosperity, planet and peace.**
- 3.3 For three decades the Healthy Cities movement has been a pioneering driver of change, creating healthier urban settings that support the health and well-being of the people that use them. It has also inspired Healthy Cities Networks to grow in all other WHO regions, creating a global push for healthy cities and positioning health high on the social, economic and political agenda of city governments. As a result, city health**

profiles have evolved as an indispensable tool for informing citizens, policy-makers and politicians about health and also as an evidence base for city health planning.

- 3.4 The conference, which takes place every five years, offers cities the chance to engage with their international counterparts and benefit from the Network's experience. The four day programme in Belfast will provide opportunities to learn from the work of Healthy Cities globally, bringing together politicians and key decision-makers, as well as technical experts. The conference will provide inspiration and insight through multiple examples of innovative ways to improve health and well-being.
- 3.5 The 68th session of the WHO Regional Committee for Europe will take place from 17 to 20 September 2018 in Rome, Italy and WHO has requested that the Lord Mayor or Deputy Lord Mayor attend the event to present the forthcoming WHO International Healthy Cities conference in Belfast and a joint statement with the WHO European Regions Network. The event will be attended by high level representatives of the WHO European Region fifty three Member States, as well as partner organisations. Although the event is scheduled over four days, the Lord Mayor or Deputy Lord Mayor will not be expected to attend all days of the event.
- 3.6 Belfast Healthy Cities has taken a lead in the management and organisation of the Belfast conference, being held from 1-4 October 2018. A Steering Group and Events Team have been established, together with several Committees to ensure that a successful, well organised and enjoyable conference is delivered on behalf of Belfast City.
- 3.7 Council officers have been liaising with Belfast Healthy Cities in relation to conference arrangements and are supporting the programme through the delivery of six specific site visits. Furthermore, Council Officers are proactively working to ensure that the conference is recognised as a conference for the city and that the health and well-being vision and ambitions in the Belfast Agenda and the Local Development Plan, together with the priorities of the Belfast Strategic Partnership are highlighted, thus illustrating a long term commitment to address health inequalities across Belfast. It is hoped that opportunities can be created to demonstrate Council's civic leadership on an international platform and to showcase Belfast as a great place to visit and do business.
- 3.8 Additionally, following Council's Friendly Co-operation Agreement with Shenyang in 2014 and subsequent Sister City



Status in 2016, discussions are ongoing with Belfast Healthy Cities to ensure that a conference invitation is extended to the Mayor of Shenyang and consideration is being given to the Shenyang Mayor's involvement in the conference side events.

- 3.9 In February 2018, Belfast Healthy Cities published a call for abstracts, resulting in three hundred and fifty abstracts being received. These have been assessed and successful delegates are in the process of being informed.
- 3.10 Seven side events are being developed that will be held at the start of the conference. These events will provide delegates with the opportunity to participate in a range of off-site seminars, focusing on topics such as healthy aging, healthy places, early years and peace, all of which reflect the vision and outcomes that have been captured in the Belfast Agenda.
- 3.11 Additionally, seventeen sites visits, relating to the conference themes, have been confirmed for the third day of the conference. These site visits will provide delegates the opportunity to learn about good practice examples being delivered in Belfast, in relation to the six key themes as outlined in point 3.2 above. The planned visits will range from physical projects such as the Connswater Community Greenway and the Regional Trauma Unit, to urban governance models and community initiatives. Furthermore, a number of tours taking in different parts of the city, will offer delegates the opportunity to experience Belfast from a different perspective. The site visits include the following:
- **People:** Innovative approaches to medicine Regional Trauma Unit, Royal Victoria Hospital; Diversity in South Belfast.
  - **Place:** Shaping the future development of Belfast, a Local Development Plan; Connswater Community Greenway; Supported Housing for people living with dementia and developing Dementia Friendly Communities; Public health tour of Belfast.
  - **Participation:** Treating conditions, exercise through prescriptions; W5 Science Centre; Early years intervention approaches in Shankill; Belfast an age-friendly city; Belfast a UNESCO Learning City.
  - **Prosperity:** Sustainable growth, a city region deal, Prosperity along the river Lagan; Glider, a new mode of travel for Belfast.
  - **Planet:** Institute for Global Food Security, Queens University; Bryson Recycling, leading social enterprise; Devonish Nutrition, Dowth Farm Visit.

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Friday, 17th August, 2018**

- **Peace: Care Zone in North Belfast; Health and Housing; Creating a shared city; Irish language in east Belfast.**
- 3.12 **A copy of the draft conference programme is attached at Appendix 1.**
- 3.13 **Dr Janez Potočnik, the Co-chair of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) International Resource Panel, has been confirmed as a keynote speaker at the forthcoming conference. Dr Potočnik is a former Commissioner for Environment and previously Commissioner for Science and Research in the European Commission. In those roles and his current position as the Co-Chair of the International Resource Panel, he has played a key role in policy making on natural resources and in the transition to a circular economy. Dr Potočnik will deliver a keynote address during the conference and will also participate in a panel discussion during the event.**
- 3.14 **An informal request has been received for the Chair and Deputy Chair (or nominees) of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee to attend and potentially Chair one of the learning through practice sessions and / or strategic workshops. Further details in relation to these sessions and workshops are expected from Belfast Healthy Cities within the next few weeks.**
- 3.15 **An informal request has also been received for the Chair and Deputy Chair of the People and Communities Committee (or nominees) to attend and potentially Chair one of the learning through practice sessions and / or strategic workshops.**
- 3.16 **An informal request has been received from Belfast Healthy Cities, seeking the Chief Executive to possibly deliver the Key Note 2 speech on 3 October and also to participate in the conference closing session on 4 October.**
- 3.17 **It is also anticipated that there will be opportunities for additional Elected Members and Council officers to be involved in the conference as chairs and / or discussants in relation to the learning through practice sessions and strategic workshops.**
- 3.18 **Belfast Healthy Cities has also submitted a request for Council volunteers, fluent in European languages (German in particular), to act as interpreters during the conference.**
- 3.19 **Additionally, the conference will provide the opportunity to close Phase VI of WHO Healthy Cities and commence**

preparation in relation to Phase VII. Details of Phase VII will be announced, together with the new cohort of designated healthy cities.

**WHO European Healthy Cities Phase VII (2019 – 2024)**

- 3.20** The WHO European Healthy Cities Phase VII expression of interest is expected to be released from WHO in August 2018. The process for completion and submission of an expression of interest from Belfast requires a letter of support from the Lord Mayor. This element of the Phase VII application process is currently being progressed and will be required before the conference in October 2018.
- 3.21** The goals and framework for Phase VII will be agreed at the conference and will be known as the Belfast Charter. WHO has requested that the Lord Mayor presents the Belfast Charter as the Healthy Cities Acclamation, at the 40th anniversary celebration of the Alma Ata, at a celebratory event in Almaty. At the International Conference on Primary Health Care, held in Alma-Ata (now Almaty), Kazakhstan in 1978, Member States signed the Declaration of Alma-Ata, expressing the need for urgent national and international action to protect and promote the health of all. Forty years later, countries will gather in Almaty again to celebrate this milestone and address the need for continued efforts to support and strengthen primary health care. The Healthy Cities Acclamation confirms the commitment of Healthy Cities to achieving the vision of Alma Ata. A copy of the Draft Provisional Programme of the WHO European Healthy Cities, Summit of Mayors, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 23-24 October 2018 is attached at Appendix 2.
- 3.22** In order to be re-designated as a WHO Healthy City, and participate in Phase VII, Belfast will need to complete a Phase VII application, including consultation, by December 2018. Details of the application criteria are expected to be released in September 2018.
- 3.23** Belfast Healthy Cities will take a lead on the preparation of the Phase VII application. Council Officers have been liaising with Belfast Healthy Cities in relation to this application and have highlighted the importance of Phase VII aligning to the priorities in the Belfast Agenda and Local Development Plan as well as the work of the Belfast Strategic Partnership.
- 3.24** Historically, Council has provided a funding contribution to support the work of Belfast Healthy Cities which is reviewed on an annual basis. Given Council's ongoing significant organisation change and efficiencies programme, it has been

highlighted to Belfast Healthy Cities that it is unlikely Council will be in a position to continue the same level of partnership funding in future years. The introduction of Phase VII is an opportunity to revisit the existing governance and model of funding and delivery.

### **3.25 Recommendations**

It is recommended that consideration be given to the following:

- Agree the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee Chair and Deputy (or nominees) attend the conference and potentially participate as chair and / or discussant in relation to the learning through practice sessions and strategic workshops.
- Approve that the Expression of Interest is completed and submitted as part of the application process to re-designate Belfast as a WHO Healthy City and participate in Phase VII of the WHO European Healthy Cities Network.
- Agree that the Lord Mayor (or nominee) attend the 68th session of the WHO Europe Regional Committee, which is being held in Rome, Italy from 17 to 20 September 2018.
- Agree that the Lord Mayor (or nominee) attend the WHO European Healthy Cities Summit of Mayors which will be held in Almaty, Kazakhstan on 23 and 24 October 2018.

### **Financial and Resource Implications**

#### **WHO International Healthy Cities Conference 1-4 October 2018**

- 3.26** At the present time there are no financial implications to report in relation to the WHO International Healthy Cities Conference being held in Belfast from 1 – 4 October 2018.

Ongoing resource commitments in relation to the conference are being progressed within existing resources. Additionally, further council officer involvement during the conference, in relation to practice sessions and workshops, will be delivered within existing resources.

- 3.27** A request has been received from Belfast Healthy Cities seeking Council volunteers who are fluent in European languages to act as interpreters during the conference. If

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Friday, 17th August, 2018**

volunteers are available, this support will be delivered within existing resources.

- 3.28 The Council has allocated £81,294 in the current year to Belfast Healthy Cities.

**68th Session of the WHO Europe Regional Committee and WHO European Healthy Cities Summit of Mayors, Almaty, Kazakhstan**

- 3.29 It is estimated that the total cost per person to attend the 68th session of the WHO Europe Regional Committee in Rome, Italy will be approximately £580. It is estimated that the total cost per person to attend the WHO European Healthy Cities Summit of Mayors in Almaty, Kazakhstan will be approximately £880. A breakdown of estimated costs is included in Table 1 below.

3.30 **Table 1: Estimated Costs Per Person**

Estimated Costs	£
<b>68<sup>th</sup> Session WHO Europe Regional Committee, Rome, Italy 17-20 September 2018</b>	
	£
Return flight from Belfast to Rome	230.00
Return transportation from Rome airport to summit venue	50.00
Hotel accommodation (estimated £100 / night / person)	300.00
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>580.00</b>
<b>WHO European Healthy Cities Summit of Mayors, Almaty Kazakhstan, 23-24 October 2018</b>	
	£
Return flight from Belfast to Almaty	530.00
Return transportation from Almaty airport to summit venue	50.00
Hotel accommodation (estimated £100 / night / person)	300.00
<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>880.00</b>
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>1,460.00</b>

- 3.31 **Equality or Good Relations Implications/  
Rural Needs Assessment**

At present there are no equality or good relations or rural needs assessment issues to report.”

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Friday, 17th August, 2018**

<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION</b>	<b>FUNCTION DATE</b>	<b>FUNCTION DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>CRITERIA MET</b>	<b>ROOM CHARGE</b>	<b>HOSPITALITY OFFERED</b>	<b>CIVIC HQ RECOMMEND</b>
<b>2018 EVENTS</b>						
All Ireland Institute of Hospice and Palliative Care (AIHPC)	10 September 2018	<b>Launch of Palliative Care Week 2018</b> – Launch event to help increase awareness and understanding of palliative care with simultaneous launch in Dublin.  Attending – 40	C & D	No (Charity)	Yes - Tea Coffee and Biscuits	<i>Approved via Delegated authority from Director.</i>  Approve No Charge Tea and Coffee Reception
Belfast Orangefest	15 September 2018	<b>Commemoration of 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Armistice Day 'FAITHful Allies'</b> – Commemoration event recognizing contribution of ethnic and religious minorities to WWI.  Numbers attending – 150	C & D	No (Community)	Yes - Tea Coffee and Biscuits	<i>Approved via Delegated authority from Director.</i>  Approve No Charge Tea and Coffee Reception

The Committee adopted the recommendations.

**Minutes of Budget and Transformation Panel Meeting**

The Committee approved and adopted the minutes of the Budget and Transformation Panel of 9th August.

**Requests for use of the City Hall and the Provision of Hospitality**

The Committee approved the recommendations made in respect of applications received up to 7th August 2018 as set out in the following appendix, subject to the room charge for the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust event on 7th October being waived:

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Friday, 17th August, 2018**

Intercultural Education Service	20 September 2018	<b>Schools of Sanctuary Celebration Awards –</b> Presentation awards ceremony for 11 schools becoming Schools of Sanctuary.  Numbers attending – 225	B & C	Yes - £115	No	<i>Approved via Delegated authority from Director.</i>  Approve Room Charge No hospitality
Belfast Health and Social Care Trust	7 October 2018	<b>A Time to Remember – Children’s Services of Remembrance for bereaved parents–</b> Remembrance service for bereaved relatives and friends of children who have died at Royal Belfast Hospital for sick Children.  Numbers attending – 350	C	Yes - £115	Yes - Tea Coffee and Biscuits	<i>Approved via Delegated authority from Director.</i>  Approve Room Charge Tea and Coffee Reception
Foras na Gaeilge	9 October 2018	<b>Celebration of the Irish Language Officers Scheme and Launch of Research –</b> Launch event to mark commencement of work of Belfast City Council Irish Language Officer and launch research of Conradh na Gaeilge.  Numbers attending - 60-100	B & C	Yes - £115	No hospitality	Approve Room Charge No hospitality
International Powered Access Federation (IPAF)	10 October 2018	<b>Europlatform Networking Reception –</b> Reception as part of one-day international conference held in Europa.	A & B	No – <i>linked to Visit Belfast (£300 waived)</i>	Yes - Wine Reception – <i>linked to Visit Belfast</i>	Approve No Charge Wine Reception

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Friday, 17th August, 2018**

		Numbers attending - 150				
British Council	12 October 2018	<b>Global Cities Strategy – Belfast Round-Table Workshop</b> – Engagement session to provide update on British council’s Global Cities Strategy.  Numbers attending - 40	B & C	No (Charity)	No hospitality	Approve No Charge No hospitality
Northern Ireland Public Services Ombudsman	22 October 2018	<b>Sharing International Best Practice for Ombudsmen undertaking Own Initiative Investigations Dinner</b> – Dinner as part of 2 day international conference held at Stormont.  Numbers attending - 80	A & B	Yes - £300	Yes - Wine Reception	Approve Room Charge Wine Reception
Law Society of Northern Ireland & Women in Business NI	25 October 2018	<b>National Mentoring Day Celebration Event</b> – Lunch event to celebrate mentoring schemes across Northern Ireland.  Numbers attending 50-150	B & C	Yes - £115	No hospitality	Approve Room Charge No hospitality
Belfast City of Sanctuary	30 October 2018	<b>Launch of ‘A Part of Belfast Now’ (the stories of those coming to our City of Belfast)</b> – Launch event with speeches and presentation on update of work of city of Sanctuary.  Numbers attending – 100-120	C & D	No (Community)	Yes - Tea Coffee and Biscuits	Approve No Charge Tea and Coffee Reception



**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Friday, 17th August, 2018**

Belfast Unemployed Resource Centre	7 November 2018	<b>Breaking down Barriers to Integration –</b> Networking event for black and minority ethnic groups to identify barriers to integration & provide help to overcome these.  Numbers attending - 60-70	C & D	No (Community)	Yes - Tea Coffee and Biscuits	Approve No Charge Tea and Coffee Reception
Health and Social Care Board	26 November 2018	<b>Celebration of Childcare in Belfast –</b> Celebration event to note the achievement of childcare provisions in Belfast, linked to childcare strategy supported by council.  Numbers attending - 120	B & C	Yes- £115	No hospitality	Approve Room Charge No hospitality
<b>2019 EVENTS</b>						
The National Deaf Children's Society	5 March 2019	<b>Young Authors and Artists Prize Day 2019 –</b> prize-giving ceremony to celebrate artistic achievements of deaf children and young people across Northern Ireland.  Numbers attending 160	C & D	No (Charity)	Yes - Tea Coffee and Biscuits	Approve No Charge Tea and Coffee Reception
Volunteer Now	6 March 2019	<b>Millennium Volunteers – Awards of Excellence –</b> Award ceremony to recognize contributions of young people through volunteering.  Numbers attending - 400	C & D	No (Charity)	Yes - Tea Coffee and Biscuits	Approve No Charge Tea and Coffee Reception

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Friday, 17th August, 2018**

Faculty of Radiologists, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland	4 April 2019	<b>Faculty of Radiologists (RCSI) spring Meeting Dinner</b> – Formal dinner as part of 2-3 day national conference taking place in Belfast.  Numbers attending – 80-100	A & B	No (Charity)	Yes - Wine Reception - <i>linked to Visit Belfast</i>	Approve No Charge Wine Reception
Girl Guiding Belfast	8 May 2019	<b>Belfast County Guides Awards Ceremony for Young People and Leaders</b> – annual awards ceremony for young people involved in girl guiding.  Numbers attending – 200-250	C & D	No (Charity)	Yes - Tea Coffee and Biscuits	Approve No Charge Tea and Coffee Reception
Institute of Water/ NI Water	26 June 2019	<b>UK Annual Conference President's Dinner</b> – Formal dinner as part of 3-day national conference taking place in Belfast.  Numbers attending – 200	A & B	No – <i>linked to Visit Belfast (£825 waived)</i>	Yes - Wine Reception - <i>linked to Visit Belfast</i>	Approve No Charge Wine Reception
<b>2020 EVENTS</b>						
Irish Football Association	April/May 2020	<b>UEFA Under 19 Championship Final Draw NI – Final Pool Draw</b> for Under 19 Championship, which is being hosted by IFA in Belfast in 2020, similar to Women's Under 19 Championship in 2017.  Numbers attending - 200	B & C	Yes- £300	No hospitality	Approve Room Charge No hospitality

**Ladies' Lunch – ABF The Soldiers' Charity**

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Friday, 17th August, 2018**

The Committee was advised that correspondence had been received from the ABF The Soldiers' Charity concerning a "Ladies' Lunch" event which would take place on 11th September. The lunch was designed to give local women an opportunity to meet with serving soldiers in informal surroundings and to hear their experiences both on operation and in barracks. The Council had previously supported events organised by the charity, namely the Centenary of the Battle of the Somme Event in 2016 and the Ulster at War event in 2017. The cost of attendance was £20 per person and this expenditure could be met from within existing budgets.

The Committee agreed to accede to the request and authorised the attendance of the Chairperson and the Deputy Chairperson, together with one Member from each of the six main political parties represented on the Council not already covered by the Chairperson and the Deputy Chairperson.

**Minutes of the meeting of the  
Active Belfast Limited Board**

The Committee noted the minutes of the meeting of the Active Belfast Limited Board of 6th August.

**Minutes of the Meeting of the North  
Foreshore Members' Steering Group**

The Committee approved and adopted the minutes of the meeting of the North Foreshore Members' Steering Group of 13th August.

**Issues raised in Advance by Members**

**Motion of No Confidence in the Chairperson**

(Prior to the aforementioned item being discussed, Alderman Rodgers made a statement to the Committee and then left the meeting.)

The Deputy Chairperson, Councillor Campbell, in the Chair.

In accordance with notice on the agenda, Councillor Long raised the issue of passing a vote of no confidence in the Chairperson.

After a lengthy discussion, it was

Moved by Councillor Long,  
Seconded by Councillor McAllister,

That the Committee agrees to pass a vote of no confidence in the Chairperson on the basis of his handling of issues to do with bonfires situated in East Belfast in the run up to and in the aftermath of 11th July.

On a recorded vote seven Members voted for the motion and four against and it was declared carried.

**Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Friday, 17th August, 2018**

<b><u>For (7)</u></b>	<b><u>Against (4)</u></b>
Councillors Campbell, Carson, Garrett, Long, McAllister, McAteer and Walsh.	Alderman Browne and Councillors Craig, Graham and Reynolds.

Chairperson

# Strategic Policy and Resources Committee

Friday, 17th August, 2018

## MEETING OF STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Members present: Alderman Rodgers (Chairperson);  
Alderman Convery; Councillors Beattie,  
Campbell, Carson, Craig, Garrett,  
Graham, Hutchinson, Long, McAllister,  
McAteer, O'Donnell, Reynolds and Walsh

Also attended: Councillor Heading.

In attendance: Mrs. S. Wylie, Chief Executive;  
Mr. R. Cregan, Director of Finance and Resources;  
Mr. J. Walsh, City Solicitor;  
Mr. N. Grimshaw, Director of City and  
Neighbourhood Services;  
Mr. A. Thatcher, Director of Planning and Building Control;  
Mr. S. McCrory, Democratic Services Manager; and  
Mr. J. Hanna, Senior Democratic Services Officer.

### Apologies

Apologies for inability to attend were reported from the Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor McDonough-Brown); Aldermen Haire and Spence and Councillor Attwood.

### Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest of reported.

### Restricted Items

**The information contained in the reports associated with the following items is restricted in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.**

Resolved – That the Committee agrees to exclude the members of the Press and public from the Committee meeting during discussion of these items as, due to the nature of the items, there would be a disclosure of exempt information as described in Section 42(4) and Section 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014.

### Area-Based Festivals

The Committee was reminded that, at its meeting on 18th May, it had agreed to fund the following summer diversionary events and education programmes:

- Féile an Phobail (Festival) - £100,000;

**Special Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Friday, 17th August, 2018**

- Twaddell Woodvale Residents' Association (Woodvale Festival) - £100,000
- NI Alternatives (East Belfast Community Festival) - £50,000;
- New Lodge Arts (New Lodge Festival) - £40,000;
- Markets Development Association (Diversionsary Activities) - £10,000;
- Belfast South Community Resources - £26,521; and
- Ulster-Scotch Heirskip Coouncil/Ulster-Scots Community Network – community education programme, community visualisation programme and 3 year strategic planning process for new festival) - £80,000.

It had been agreed also that:

- the funding applications be subject to due diligence, appropriate legal agreements and to evaluations being undertaken;
- To ensure transparency in future years, to establish an open call diversionsary programme with an agreed budget; and
- That Council officers engage with the groups that were not allocated support to discuss alternative funding opportunities.

It was reported, given the tight timescales in relation to a number of the projects, officers had been working closely with the groups to develop their project proposals and work through due diligence and appropriate legal agreements as agreed by the Members. That had involved officers from a number of Services within the Council.

The Committee was advised that, to date, four of the proposals had been approved and a further two had reached the stage of due diligence where funding agreements could be prepared. Those were Belfast South Community Resources and the Ulster-Scotch Heirskip Coouncil/Ulster-Scots Community Network.

It was pointed out that both organisations had made representations indicating that a higher proportion of funding was needed to be paid up front to ensure successful delivery of the events.

After discussion, it was

Moved by Councillor Beattie,  
Seconded by Councillor Carson,

That the Committee agrees to defer consideration of the applications until its next monthly meeting.

**Amendment**

Moved by Councillor Reynolds,  
Seconded by Councillor Craig,

That the Committee agrees to authorise the release of Funding Agreements to the Belfast South Community Resources and the Ulster-Scotch Heirskip Coouncil/Ulster-Scots Community Network, with 90% of the

**Special Strategic Policy and Resources Committee,  
Friday, 17th August, 2018**

funding to be paid up front and the remaining 10% to be paid following satisfactory completion of monitoring and evaluation returns.

On a vote by show of hands five Members voted for the proposal and nine against and it was declared lost.

The original proposal standing in the name of Councillor Beattie and seconded by Councillor Carson was put to the meeting when seven Members voted for and five against and it was declared carried.

**Walkway Physical Works**

In accordance with notice on the agenda, the Chairperson (Alderman Rodgers) requested that the Committee receive a report on the possibility of erecting gates and fencing at land at Bloomfield Walkway, such a report to include discussions on the portion of land owned by the Department of Infrastructure and any associated costs.

After discussion, the Committee agreed that a broader report to include the rest of the Council-owned land surrounding the Walkway and discussions and engagement with all the community partners on possible use of the land be submitted in due course.

Chairperson

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## People and Communities Committee

Tuesday, 7th August, 2018

### MEETING OF PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

Members present: Councillor Nicholl (Chairperson);  
Aldermen Copeland, McCoubrey and Rodgers; and  
Councillors Baker, Canavan, Corr, Corr Johnston,  
Heading, Magee, Magennis, Milne, McReynolds, Newton,  
and Pankhurst.

In attendance: Mrs. R. Crozier, Director of Neighbourhood Services;  
Mrs. S. Toland, Director of City Services; and  
Mrs. S. Steele, Democratic Services Officer.

#### **Apologies**

Apologies were recorded on behalf of Alderman Sandford and Councillors Armitage and O'Donnell.

#### **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of 5th June were taken as read and signed as correct. It was reported that those minutes had been adopted by the Council at its meeting on 2nd July with the following amendment - "That the decision of the People and Communities Committee of 5th June, to defer consideration of the matter, under the heading "Temporary Structure at Alderman Tommy Patton Memorial Park", being rejected and accordingly the Council agreed to accede to the request to provide a temporary structure, subject to the terms and conditions as detailed within the report.

#### **Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were reported.

#### **Presentations**

#### **Update from NIHE - Belfast Housing Investment Plan 2018**

The Chairperson welcomed to the meeting Ms. S. McCauley (Director of Regional Services), Mrs. J. Hawthorne (Belfast Regional Manager) and Ms. F. McGrath (Programme Manager), representing the Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE).

Ms. McCauley introduced the members of her team and indicated that the purpose of the meeting was to notify the Council of its past year's performance and next year's proposals. She pointed out that, whilst the NIHE was required by statute to present to the Council, officers very much looked forward, in 2018/19, to developing further relationships with councils and other stakeholders. She advised that the NIHE recognised the important role of the Council and stated that the Local Development Plans (LDPs) would help to

**People and Communities Committee,  
Tuesday, 7th August, 2018**

provide long-term strategies to support economic and social progress and assist in the delivery of Community Plans.

Ms. McCauley then provided the Members with a presentation on the Housing Investment Plan (HIP) for Belfast. She explained that the HIP was a four-year plan with an annual update in the intervening years, this being the third and final annual update as a new plan would be produced in 2019. She added that in future years it was intended that the HIP would reflect the Community Planning priorities. She advised that the current HIP provided an update on the progress of the Housing Executive and other agencies to achieve the intended outcomes, this included an overview of the housing market in Belfast, including details regarding social housing investment at a local level. She summarised further the five themes as contained within the presentation:

- to identify and meet housing need and demand;
- to improve people's homes;
- to transform people's lives;
- to enable sustainable neighbourhoods; and
- to deliver quality services.

She then proceeded to outline the key housing issues that had been identified for Belfast, as follows:

- an ageing population;
- a slight decrease in waiting list, higher proportion in housing stress  
10,136 total applicants – 7,336 in housing stress;
- Increasing homelessness -  
5879 households presented as homeless  
3940 (67%) accepted as homeless (20% increase);
- 468 new social homes completed 2017/18;
- 424 new social homes started in 2017/18;
- 484 new social housing units programmed 2018/19;
- City centre developments and affordable housing;
- land availability;
- delivery through the Local Development Plan;
- increase in private rented sector; and
- total Housing Executive stock - 25,761 units.

The Committee noted the future housing themes that had been identified by the NIHE as follows:

- to identify new housing requirements;
- to increase the supply of affordable renting to meet the needs of communities;
- to assist home ownership;
- to improve the quality of the housing stock;
- to develop low carbon homes and reduce fuel poverty;
- to provide suitable accommodation and support services for vulnerable residents;

**People and Communities Committee,  
Tuesday, 7th August, 2018**

- to ensure that homelessness was prevented or addressed effectively;
- to regenerate neighbourhoods;
- to create safer and cohesive communities; and
- to deliver better services.

Following a query in respect of shared housing, Mrs. Hawthorne advised that the NIHE would continue to facilitate and encourage mixed housing schemes, as far as this was practical, desirable and safe. She detailed that the shared housing ethos would be further embedded via delivery of the target of 200-shared social housing units each year and confirmed that the Housing Executive would continue to work closely with colleagues in the Department for Communities and Housing Associations to ensure delivery. In addition:

- all new schemes would be fully integrated into the local area via development and delivery of the Good Relations Plans for each scheme; and
- the Housing Executive would continue its work to improve segregation in existing Housing Executive Estates via its team of Good Relations Officers across NI and the delivery of its cohesion strategy and associated programmes.

The Members also drew the attention of the officers from the NIHE to several further matters, a number of which are set out hereunder:

- the loss of open space due to the significant demand for additional housing in specific areas and the potential to consider green field sites outside the Council boundary;
- flash flooding throughout the City;
- the cost of private rentals (usually higher than NIHE); and
- delays in undertaking planned maintenance works.

Ms. McCauley concluded the presentation by advising that many of the HIP themes were complementary to the Council's Community Planning themes and could contribute to the achievements of the Community Planning outcomes. She stated that the Housing Executive looked forward to continuing to develop its relations with the Council and other stakeholders and that it intended to build lasting housing solutions that would benefit all communities.

The Chairperson thanked the officials from NIHE for attending and they left the meeting.

The Committee noted the information which had been provided.

**Finance, Procurement and Performance**

**Financial Reporting - Quarter 4 2017/18**

The Committee was updated in respect of the financial position of the People and Communities Committee for Quarter 4, which confirmed an under spend of £848k for that

period. This represented 1.1% of the budget which was well within the acceptable variance limit of 3%.

The Committee noted that the current under spends related to vacant posts across a number of services and the receipt of additional income from grants and growth.

The report detailed that the year-end departmental position for the Council was an under-spend of £435,514 (0.3%). The Strategic Policy and Resources Committee had, at its meeting held on 22nd June, agreed to allocate £406k of this to fund area-based festivals, with the remaining balance to transfer to general reserves.

The Committee noted the year-end financial position.

**Funding to the Belfast Hills Partnership  
and Lagan Valley Regional Park**

The Committee considered the following report:

**“1.0 Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues**

**1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval from Members to provide core funding to the Belfast Hills Partnership (BHP) and Lagan Valley Regional Park (LVRP) in 2018/19.**

**2.0 Recommendations**

**2.1 It is recommended that the Committee:**

- **Note the contents of the report;**
- **Approve annual funding of £36,900 to the BHP and £41,055 to LVRP in 2018/19, subject to the relevant funding agreements being updated as per existing revenue budgets.**

**3.0 Main report**

**Key Issues**

**3.1 Belfast Hills Partnership**

The BHP brings together a divergent range of partners from local government, environmental groups, quarry and farming representatives and local communities with the joint aim of protecting this valuable resource on the perimeter of North and West Belfast. The Council has supported BHP since its inception in 2003/4 and the Parks & Leisure Committee at its meeting on 14 April 2011, approved its annual funding of £36,900. Provision has been made in revenue budgets at this level since then.

3.2 This partnership has in turn generated much needed investment in the landscape and infrastructure within our parks. This ranged from the construction of new paths in Ligoniel and Cave Hill Country Park and an orienteering course in Belfast Castle Estate to heritage interpretation, visitor counters, habitat mapping and numerous events.

3.3 During 2018/19, BHP will undertake a number of actions including:

- Undertake surveys for priority and protected species between April and October 2018;
- Undertake surveys for priority habitats between May and September 2018;
- Monitor wildfires and their severity, primarily in Cave Hill Country Park;
- Liaise with Park Managers in the preparation of habitat management plans and work with Volunteers on habitat management or creation projects for priority species and priority habitats;
- Provide senior management and support for the Landscape Partnership Scheme project and the Belfast Hills' projects of 'Our Environment Our Future' and Wildfire Connections;
- Continue to monitor and control invasive terrestrial and aquatic alien species as agreed with the Community Park Managers; and
- Raise awareness and promotion of the Belfast Hills through events, talks, leaflets and website

3.4 Lagan Valley Regional Partnership

The LVRP is a partnership between Belfast City Council, Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council, the Department of Communities and the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA). Belfast City Council has funded LVRP since its inception in 1967 and, along with Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council, are its main funders. The People & Communities Committee at its meeting on 12 May 2015, approved funding of £41,055 for 2015/16 and provision has been made in revenue budgets at this level since then. The NIEA provides funding to LVRP but at a reduced level and there remains uncertainty around central government funding. As LVRP remains heavily dependent on funding from both Councils, a consultant has been commissioned to identify and secure external funding to ensure its sustainability. Belfast City Council has recently been approached seeking a review to increase funding for 2019/2020. Officers will meet with Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council

officers to discuss and a further report will be brought to committee.

3.5 The Council has to date benefitted from the work of LVRP in countryside recreation, biodiversity, promotion, events, additional signage and community engagement. A five year management plan has been developed for LVRP and during 2018/19, the LVRP will undertake a number of actions on Council sites including to:

- Proactively manage, protect and improve the biodiversity in the Regional Park;
- Manage and monitor visitors to the Regional Park and support events and sustainable tourism;
- Encourage involvement of the community and to develop volunteering in the Regional Park;
- Proactively protect and celebrate the character of the Regional Park and Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty;
- Protect and celebrate the rich historic and cultural legacy of the Regional Park; and
- Promote the benefits of green open spaces, within the area, for health and wellbeing and to support appropriate recreational activities.

3.6 **Financial and Resource Implications**

£77,955 has been allocated in the revenue estimates for funding to BHP and LVRP and both organisations will be required to sign a Funding Agreement.

3.7 **Equality or Good Relations Implications/  
Rural Needs Assessment**

There are no known implications.”

The Committee approved annual funding of £36,900 to the Belfast Hills Partnership and £41,055 to Lagan Valley Regional Park in 2018/19, subject to the relevant funding agreements being updated as per existing revenue budgets.

**Operational Issues**

**Street Naming**

The Committee approved:

- the naming in respect of Broadway Link, off Broadway, BT12 and Red Hall Lane, off Circular Road, BT4; and
- the proposed continuation of existing roads namely Buttermilk Loney, off Ballysillan Park, BT14 and Glenmachan Park, off Glenmachan Road, BT4

### **Dual Language Applications**

The Committee approved the applications to erect second nameplates in Irish at Forfar Way, Forfar Lane, Millennium Way, Killeen Park, Errigal Park, Comber Gardens and Strand Walk.

### **Learning City Inter Agency Group**

The Committee considered the following report:

#### **“1.0 Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues**

**1.1 Members will be aware that in 2012, Council adopted the Holyland and Wider University Area Strategic Study. The recommendations of the study were two-fold:**

- **To grow Belfast’s reputation as a Learning City and destination of choice for students requires a city-wide strategy for student housing that will promote choice and fit-for-purpose accommodation.**
- **To restore the Holyland by gradually reintroducing affordable, single household accommodation and improving the quality of the environment, whilst working towards developing a new approach to managing the area.**

**1.2 An Action Plan to progress these recommendations was presented with the final Strategic Study Report. Subsequent update reports have been presented to Committee, which have provided Members with progress achieved in relation to the recommendations.**

**1.3 In summary, the short and medium term recommendations within the Strategic Study have been implemented. The longer term recommendations have been incorporated into Council’s long term (10-15 years) strategies, which are being progressed via the Local Development Plan and the Belfast Agenda. The Local Development Plan’s strategic theme of ‘shaping a liveable place’ promotes development to enhance the health and wellbeing of communities, neighbourhoods and place whilst the Belfast Agenda’s strategic priority ‘living here’ focuses on making life better for all our residents. Further information regarding the Holyland and Wider University Area Strategic Study and its recommendations can be found on Modern.gov**

**1.4 Through the Learning City Interagency Group (formerly the Holyland Interagency Group), a Programme of Work has been developed to deliver short to medium term projects, that include**

actions to restore the physical and social integrity of the Wider University Area.

1.5 The purpose of this report is to provide Members with an update, on the work of the Learning City Interagency Group during the period 2017 / 2018 and to present the Programme of Work in relation to 2018 / 2019.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 The Committee is asked to:

- Consider the contents of the report.
- Note the progress to date in relation to the work delivered through the Learning City Interagency Group and endorse the future Programme of Work to address ongoing issues on a city wide basis.

3.0 Main report

Key Issues

Learning City Interagency Group Terms of Reference

3.1 In September 2016 the Learning City Interagency Group revised its Terms of Reference and Governance Model, widening its scope, to make Belfast a Learning City and address the opportunities and challenges faced by communities within new and existing university neighbourhoods across the City. A copy of the Learning City Interagency Group Terms of Reference and a list of current organisations that make up the group can be found on modern.gov

2017 / 2018 Programme of Work

3.2 A number of agreed work streams deliver the operational plans for the Learning City Interagency Group and are captured in a Programme of Work that is overseen by the Learning City Interagency Group.

3.3 The work streams in the 2017 / 2018 were as follows:

- Learning City
- Restoring Integrity (physical) of the Wider University Area
- Restoring Integrity (social) of the Wider University Area
- Delivery and Enforcement
- Communications and Media



**3.4 An update in relation to the key actions in the 2017 / 2018 Programme of Work is as follows:**

- Through continued, effective partnership working with the higher education institutions across the city, procedures to manage student behaviours have been introduced which include induction and disciplinary procedures.
- Work is being undertaken with partners to review the effectiveness of legislation and byelaws, relevant to addressing antisocial behaviour. On 17 April 2018 the Department of Justice launched an eight week public consultation to review the current criminal legislation framework to tackle anti-social behaviour, including on-street drinking. A corporate Council response has been prepared in relation to this consultation which was presented to Committee on 5 June 2018. Several physical and environmental improvement projects have been delivered or are in the process of being delivered which include:
  - (i) graffiti removal in partnership with Probation Board NI;
  - (ii) tree planting through the Local Investment Fund;
  - (iii) regeneration of the area known as 'Horsey Hill' to develop a corridor to link local green spaces;
  - (iv) capacity support to assist the delivery of community led projects;
  - (v) community clean-ups; and
  - (vi) a South Belfast circular economy project is being considered to encourage recycling rates.
- Multiagency advance activity planning around key dates and events across the city was developed, which included St Patrick's Day planning. This robust planning process supported effective operational management of city wide events. Following monitoring and evaluation, learning from activity planning in relation to events has been incorporated into future planning, to further enhance existing procedures around event management.
- Engagement with licensed premises owners has been undertaken and, where relevant, targeted interventions in relation to problem premises has been carried out.
- Through the development of the Local Development Plan, work continues to ensure that Belfast becomes a more liveable and attractive city to support sustainable, resilient communities.

- Preparations remain ongoing to transfer the HMO function to Council in April 2019.
  - Through the development of proactive communication protocols, communications in relation to city events was successfully managed.
- 3.5 More information on the work completed can be found in the latest update report on modern.gov
- 3.6 Members will be aware that a Community Campus Regeneration Forum (CCRF) has been established. The aim of this Forum is to support the identification, capture, delivery and monitoring of community, social, economic, equality and environmental benefits and issues resulting from the relocation of the Ulster University Jordanstown Campus to Belfast City Centre. The Learning City Interagency Group has developed close links with the Forum, through liaison between Council Officers and representation at relevant meetings. This has enabled sharing of best practice and learning, and these connections will continue to be applied and reviewed during 2018 / 2019.

2018 / 2019 Programme of Work

- 3.7 The Learning City Interagency Group has developed a 2018 / 2019 Programme of Work.
- 3.8 The work streams within the 2018 / 2019 Programme of Work are similar to 2017 / 2018, to reflect ongoing needs across the city, enabling continuity of delivery in relation to ongoing programmes and activities. The 2018 / 2019 PACT Plan is currently being reviewed and will be considered at the Learning City Interagency Group meeting on 14 June, to ensure that it compliments and reflects the work streams contained in the 2018 / 2019 Programme of Work.
- 3.9 The 2018 UK Town and Gowns Association (UKTGA) biannual conference is being held in Belfast on 19 and 20 November. The core principle of UKTGA is to enhance experience through consistency, ongoing support and improved standards for students and long term residents living in off-campus communities.
- 3.10 In conjunction with UKTGA and Queens University Belfast, Council has been invited to shape the conference agenda to ensure that key issues relevant to Belfast are included for discussion.

**3.11 Human Resources**

In terms of supporting the delivery of the Learning City Interagency Group and the associated Programme of Work, this is through existing Council staff, with no additional costs to the ratepayer.

**3.12 Financial and Resource Implications**

At this time there are no financial or resource implications associated with this report.

**3.13 Equality or Good Relations Implications / Rural Needs Assessment**

At this time there are no equality, good relations or rural needs assessment implications associated with this report.”

The Committee noted the progress in relation to the work delivered through the Learning City Interagency Group and endorsed the future Programme of Work to address ongoing issues on a citywide basis.

**Belfast Healthy Cities - WHO Conference**

The Committee considered the following report:

**“1.0 Purpose of Report or Summary of Main Issues**

**1.1 The purpose of this report is to:**

- Provide an update in relation to the forthcoming World Health Organisation (WHO) International Healthy Cities Conference being hosted in Belfast Waterfront from 1-4 October 2018 and the WHO Healthy Cities Phase VII programme which is due to commence in January 2019.

**2.0 Recommendations**

**2.1 Committee is asked to:**

- Note the contents of the report.
- Agree that the Committee Chair and Deputy (or their nominees) attends the conference and potentially participate as chair and / or discussant in relation to the learning through practice sessions and strategic workshops.
- Agree that Councillor Copeland, as Chair of the Age Friendly Reference Group attends the conference and participates as chair and or / discussant in the Healthy Ageing side event being held on 1 October.

- Note that a Committee report will be presented to SP&R Committee on 17 August 2018, providing an update in relation to the forthcoming World Health Organisation (WHO) International Healthy Cities Conference being hosted in Belfast Waterfront from 1-4 October 2018 and the WHO Healthy Cities Phase VII programme which is due to commence in January 2019.

### **3.0 Main Report**

#### **Key Issues**

#### **WHO International Healthy Cities Conference 1-4 October 2018**

- 3.1 In 2018, the WHO European Healthy Cities Network, celebrates its 30th year as a network and global movement. The highlight of the celebrations will be the conference, which is being hosted in Belfast Waterfront from 1 to 4 October.
- 3.2 As well as celebrating 30 years of Healthy Cities as a network and a global movement, the conference will focus on the 6 themes established by the WHO European Healthy Cities Network's Political Vision Group, which are people, place, participation, prosperity, planet and peace.
- 3.3 For three decades the Healthy Cities movement has been a pioneering driver of change, creating healthier urban settings that support the health and well-being of the people that use them. It has also inspired Healthy Cities Networks to grow in all other WHO regions, creating a global push for healthy cities and positioning health high on the social, economic and political agenda of city governments. As a result, city health profiles have evolved as an indispensable tool for informing citizens, policy-makers and politicians about health and also as an evidence base for city health planning.
- 3.4 The conference, which takes place every five years, offers cities the chance to engage with their international counterparts and benefit from the Network's experience. The four day programme in Belfast will provide opportunities to learn from the work of Healthy Cities globally, bringing together politicians and key decision-makers, as well as technical experts. The conference will provide inspiration and insight through multiple examples of innovative ways to improve health and well-being.
- 3.5 Belfast Healthy Cities has taken a lead in the management and organisation of the conference. A Steering Group and Events Team have been established, together with several Committees

to ensure that a successful, well organised and enjoyable conference is delivered on behalf of Belfast City.

- 3.6 Council officers have been liaising with Belfast Healthy Cities in relation to conference arrangements and are supporting the programme through the delivery of six specific site visits. Furthermore, Council Officers are proactively working to ensure that the conference is recognised as a conference for the city and that the health and well-being vision and ambitions in the Belfast Agenda and the Local Development Plan, together with the priorities of the Belfast Strategic Partnership are highlighted, thus illustrating a long term commitment to address health inequalities across Belfast. It is hoped that opportunities can be created to demonstrate Council's civic leadership on an international platform and to showcase Belfast as a great place to visit and do business.
- 3.7 Additionally, following Council's Friendly Co-operation Agreement with Shenyang in 2014 and subsequent Sister City Status in 2016, discussions are ongoing with Belfast Healthy Cities to ensure that a conference invitation is extended to the Mayor of Shenyang and consideration is being given to the Shenyang Mayor's involvement in the conference side events.
- 3.8 In February 2018, Belfast Healthy Cities published a call for abstracts, resulting in three hundred and fifty abstracts being received. These have been assessed and successful delegates are in the process of being informed.
- 3.9 Seven side events are being developed that will be held at the start of the conference. These events will provide delegates with the opportunity to participate in a range of off-site seminars, focusing on topics such as healthy aging, healthy places, early years and peace, all of which reflect the vision and outcomes that have been captured in the Belfast Agenda.
- 3.10 Additionally, seventeen sites visits, relating to the conference themes, have been confirmed for the third day of the conference. These site visits will provide delegates the opportunity to learn about good practice examples being delivered in Belfast, in relation to the six key themes as outlined in point 3.2 above. The planned visits will range from physical projects such as the Connswater Community Greenway and the Regional Trauma Unit, to urban governance models and community initiatives. Furthermore, a number of tours taking in different parts of the city, will offer delegates the opportunity to experience Belfast from a different perspective. The site visits include the following:

- **People:** Innovative approaches to medicine Regional Trauma Unit, Royal Victoria Hospital; Diversity in South Belfast.
  - **Place:** Shaping the future development of Belfast, a Local Development Plan; Connswater Community Greenway; Supported Housing for people living with dementia and developing Dementia Friendly Communities; Public health tour of Belfast.
  - **Participation:** Treating conditions, exercise through prescriptions; W5 Science Centre; Early years intervention approaches in Shankill; Belfast an age-friendly city; Belfast a UNESCO Learning City.
  - **Prosperity:** Sustainable growth, a city region deal, Prosperity along the river Lagan; Glider, a new mode of travel for Belfast.
  - **Planet:** Institute for Global Food Security, Queens University; Bryson Recycling, leading social enterprise; Devonish Nutrition, Dowth Farm Visit.
  - **Peace:** Care Zone in North Belfast; Health and Housing; Creating a shared city; Irish language in east Belfast.
- 3.11 A copy of the draft conference programme was available on modern.gov
- 3.12 Dr Janez Potočnik, the Co-chair of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) International Resource Panel, has been confirmed as a keynote speaker at the forthcoming conference. Dr Potočnik is a former Commissioner for Environment and previously Commissioner for Science and Research in the European Commission. In those roles and his current position as the Co-Chair of the International Resource Panel, he has played a key role in policy making on natural resources and in the transition to a circular economy. Dr Potočnik will deliver a keynote address during the conference and will also participate in a panel discussion during the event.
- 3.13 An informal request has been received for the Chair and Deputy Chair of the People & Communities Committee to attend and potentially Chair one of the learning through practice sessions and / or strategic workshops. Further details in relation to these sessions and workshops are expected from Belfast Healthy Cities within the next few weeks.
- 3.14 An informal request has been received for Councillor Copeland, as Chair of the Age Friendly Reference Group, to attend the conference and Chair or speak at a Healthy Ageing side event session being hosted on 1 October 2018. Further details in relation to this session are expected from Belfast Healthy Cities within the next few weeks.

- 3.15 An informal request has been received from Belfast Healthy Cities, seeking the Chief Executive to possibly deliver the Key Note 2 speech on 3 October and also to participate in the conference closing session on 4 October.
- 3.16 It is also anticipated that there will be opportunities for additional Elected Members and Council officers to be involved in the conference as chairs and / or discussants in relation to the learning through practice sessions and strategic workshops.
- 3.17 Belfast Healthy Cities has also submitted a request for Council volunteers, fluent in European languages (German in particular), to act as interpreters during the conference.

The conference will also provide the opportunity to close Phase VI of WHO Healthy Cities and commence preparation in relation to Phase VII. Details of Phase VII will be announced, together with the new cohort of designated healthy cities.

**WHO European Healthy Cities Phase VII (2019 – 2024)**

- 3.18 The WHO European Healthy Cities Phase VII expression of interest is expected to be released from WHO in July 2018. The process for completion and submission of an expression of interest from Belfast requires a letter of support from the Lord Mayor. This element of the Phase VII application process will be progressed further when the expression of interest is made available, however will be required before the conference in October.
- 3.19 The goals and framework for Phase VII will be agreed at the conference and will be known as the Belfast Charter.
- 3.20 In order to be re-designated as a WHO Healthy City, and participate in Phase VII, Belfast will need to complete a Phase VII application, including consultation, by December 2018. Details of the application criteria are expected to be released in September 2018.
- 3.21 Belfast Healthy Cities will take a lead on preparation of the Phase VII application. Council Officers have been liaising with Belfast Healthy Cities in relation to this application and have highlighted the importance of Phase VII aligning to the priorities in the Belfast Agenda and Local Development Plan as well as the work of the Belfast Strategic Partnership.

**3.22** Historically, Council has provided a funding contribution to support the work of Belfast Healthy Cities which is reviewed on an annual basis. Given Council's ongoing significant organisation change and efficiencies programme, it has been highlighted to Belfast Healthy Cities that it is unlikely Council will be in a position to continue the same level of partnership funding in future years. The introduction of Phase VII is an opportunity to revisit the existing governance and model of funding and delivery.

**3.23** Financial and Resource Implications

WHO International Healthy Cities Conference 1-4 October 2018

**3.24** At the present time there are no financial implications to report in relation to the WHO International Healthy Cities Conference being held in Belfast from 1 – 4 October 2018.

Ongoing resource commitments in relation to the conference are being progressed within existing resources. Additionally, further council officer involvement during the conference, in relation to practice sessions and workshops, will be delivered within existing resources.

**3.25** A request has been received from Belfast Healthy Cities seeking Council volunteers who are fluent in European languages to act as interpreters during the conference. If volunteers are available, this support will be delivered within existing resources.

**3.26** The Council has contributed £81,294 in the current year to Belfast Healthy Cities.

**3.27** Equality or Good Relations Implications / Rural Needs Assessment

At present there are no equality, good relations or rural needs assessment issues to report."

The Committee adopted the recommendations.

**Film Requests**

The Committee was advised that two separate requests to film had been received. The first was from a Company called Raw Cut TV, which was seeking permission for Belfast City Council staff to participate in a BBC One Series called 'The Defenders'.

The Director of City Services advised that officers had carried preliminary discussions with the producers to ascertain the aim of the programme and they had



**People and Communities Committee,  
Tuesday, 7th August, 2018**

confirmed that it was to showcase the work of agencies going about their daily work. The producers had indicated that they would be willing to sign a legal agreement with the Council to ensure adequate safeguards and to provide reassurance that the Council's image and reputation would not be jeopardised in any way.

A further approach had been made to the Council by Clean Slate TV, which was investigating producing a show for the BBC which would document 'A Year in Botanic'. This would include detail in respect of the gardens, the Palm House and the Tropical Ravine and information regarding the maintenance and effort required in order to maintain the area.

The Committee:

- agreed that staff from Belfast City Council could participate in a BBC One television series "The Defenders", subject to a robust legal agreement being established between the Council and Raw Cut TV and following detailed discussions between Raw Cut TV, Environmental Health Managers, Corporate Communications and Legal Services; and
- agreed that officers could engage with Clean Slate TV to explore the scope of any proposal that might be realized in relation 'A year in Botanic' and, if deemed appropriate, agreed that the Strategic Director of City and Neighbourhood Services could grant permission to proceed under delegated authority.

**Request for the use of Alexandra Park  
for North Belfast Magical Festival**

The Director of Neighbourhood Services advised that a request had been received for the free use of Alexandra Park to host the North Belfast Magical Festival. She explained that this would be the third year that the festival would take place in Alexandra Park and it had been a great success. This event was a project of the Ashton Community Trust which had, for the past fifteen years, been managed by New Lodge Arts, a voluntary arts organisation across communities in North Belfast.

The Members were advised that this would be a family event with tickets costing £2.00 each and she outlined a brief itinerary of proposed events as follows:

- art workshops and street performances;
- an outdoor cinema;
- a lantern parade, that would make its way from Cliftonpark Avenue to Alexandra Park;
- a magical evening event that would include outdoor performances;
- stage entertainment; and
- a fireworks display to close the event.

**People and Communities Committee,  
Tuesday, 7th August, 2018**

The Director advised that this year it was proposed that the two-day festival would take place on Monday 29th October from 11.30 a.m. – 8.00 p.m. and on Tuesday 30th October from 11.30 a.m. – 9.00 p.m.

The Committee noted that the event organisers had confirmed that they would undertake to do the following in order to ensure delivery of a safe and successful event:

- employ a security firm to safeguard participants and equipment;
- employ reputable contractors to ensure a safe and professional event;
- ensure that a one-way system for the park was in place;
- ensure that local residents were informed about the event 7 days prior to the event and that there would be no inconvenience or nuisance caused to the residents on the day of the event; and
- work with the relevant Council departments to ensure the effective management of the park and event.

The Members also noted that, to assist with the setup, the organisers had requested that the park be closed to members of the public from 4.00 p.m. – 6.00 p.m. on 30th October and that only members of the public with tickets would be permitted entry from 6.00 p.m. until the event had finished.

The Committee granted authority for the free use of Alexandra Park for the North Belfast Magical Festival on condition that the event organisers:

- liaise with Council officers and ensure that all health and Safety requirements are met to the Council's satisfaction, including an event management plan and risk assessments;
- complete an appropriate legal agreement and meet all statutory requirements including entertainment and fireworks licensing; and
- liaise with Council Parks staff.

**Pollinators and Neonicotinoid Pesticides –  
Responses Received**

The Committee was reminded that, at the meeting of the People and Communities Committee held on 5th December, 2017, it had agreed to write to the Department for Environment and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) and the Permanent Secretary of the Department of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (DAERA) to outline the Council's support for the proposed restrictions in relation to neonicotinoids and its agreement that such restrictions should be retained following Brexit.

The Members noted that responses had been received and that both DEFRA and DAERA had outlined that they too agreed that the existing restrictions should be retained following the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the European Union.

The Committee noted the responses received and requested that they be submitted to a future meeting of the Council's Brexit Committee for information.

### **Waste Collection Update**

The Committee was provided with an update in respect of the waste collection service which included a detailed update in respect of the following key areas:

- customer call handling and management interventions; and
- the waste collection improvement plan.

During discussion a Member raised a number of issues in respect of the call-handling centre and it was agreed that more detailed report would be submitted to a future meeting.

The Director informed the Committee that Mr. Jim Ferguson, Cleansing Operations Manager, was retiring from the Council in the near future.

Several Members paid tribute to Mr. Ferguson for the significant contribution which he had made during his employment in the Council and wished him well in his retirement.

The Committee:

- requested that a report be submitted to a future meeting in respect of the call handling procedures used for waste collection issues; and
- noted that the next update would be submitted to the November meeting.

### **Pride of Place Awards - update report**

The Committee was reminded that, at its meeting held on 8th May, a report relating to the Council's participation in the 2018 Pride of Place Competition and Gala Awards ceremony had been withdrawn to enable more information in respect of costs to be obtained from Co-operation Ireland.

The Committee was asked to note that, due to the timeframe for nominations, this matter had been considered by the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee at its meeting on 22nd June.

The Committee noted that the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee had agreed to Option 2, which was, maximum participation in the awards - five nominated groups plus Council representation.

### **Request for the use of Falls Park and Falls Park Bowling Pavilion**

The Director of Neighbourhood Services advised that a request had been received from Féile an Phobail seeking permission to host the "Draíocht Children's Festival" at Falls Park and Falls Park Bowling Pavilion on 22nd – 26th October, from 12 noon – 2.00 p.m. daily, and Monday 29th and Tuesday 30th, from 12 noon – 9.00 p.m. daily.

**People and Communities Committee,  
Tuesday, 7th August, 2018**

The Committee noted that the event organiser had in the past number of years hosted a number of events across various council parks. These events aimed to promote social inclusion and the celebration of diversity by providing opportunities for the expression of Irish Culture in all its forms, encouraging interchange with other cultures and communities through traditional and modern forms of artistic expression.

The officer reported that the proposed event would entail youth diversionary activities such as educational walks, music, storytelling, performance artists, arts and crafts workshops and a lantern procession.

Any reinstatement work carried out as a result of the event would be paid for by the Event Organiser and a reinstatement bond of £5,000 would be required.

The Director of Neighbourhood Services advised that a subsequent request had been received from the organisers looking for free use of the Bowling Pavilion.

The Committee granted authority for the use of Falls Park and free use of the Pavilion for the “Draíocht Children’s Festival” on Monday 22nd October – Friday 26th October, Monday 29th and Tuesday 30th October, subject to the completion of the appropriate Event Management Plans and satisfactory terms being agreed by the Strategic Director of City and Neighbourhood Services and on the condition that the event organisers:

- resolve all operational issues to the Council’s satisfaction;
- meet all statutory requirements including public liability insurance cover, health and safety, fireworks licensing and licensing responsibilities; and
- consults with adjoining public bodies and local communities as necessary.

**World Record Plaque at the Waterworks**

The Committee was reminded that the Celtic World Spey Casting Invitational Challenge Event had taken place at the Waterworks Park during May 2018. This had been the third year that Belfast City Council had supported the event and it had attracted competitors from all over the world.

The Director of Neighbourhood Services advised the Members that visitors to the event had witnessed the longest ever ‘spey cast’ when a Norwegian angler had sent his line 61.5 meters across the water.

The Committee approved the purchase of a plaque to recognise the longest ever ‘spey cast’ and world record in spey casting that had been achieved. The plaque would be installed in the Anglers’ Cabin at a cost not exceeding £300, which would be met from the existing revenue budget.

**Landlord Registration Information Sharing Protocol**

The Committee considered the undernoted report:

**“1.0 Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues**

- 1.1** The Department for Social Development (now the Department for Communities) introduced the Landlord Registration Scheme Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014, which became operational on 25th February 2014. Landlords of any new tenancies created after 24th February 2014 must register with the registrar. Local Councils have the responsibility of enforcing this legislation.
- 1.2** The Department appointed a Landlord Registration Registrar who is in charge of the information and may disclose it, on request, to:
- a district council to enable or assist it to carry out its legal duties;
  - the Department of Finance and Personnel Northern Ireland to help it to carry out its legal duties for rating purposes;
  - the Northern Ireland Housing Executive for the purposes of administering housing benefit and the regulation of Houses in Multiple Occupation ( HMO regulation due to be transferred in 2019)
- 1.3** The offence of the failure of a landlord to register carries a maximum fine on conviction of £2,500. If a landlord is found guilty of providing false information a maximum fine on conviction of £2,500 is applicable. If a landlord fails to provide evidence of registration a maximum fine on conviction of £500 can be given.
- 1.4** Payment of a fixed penalty will discharge any liability for prosecution. These fixed penalties which was determined by the Council were set at £500 for the offence of non-registration and providing false information, and £100 for the offence of failing to provide evidence of registration.
- 1.5** The Landlord Registrar has developed a protocol for sharing data with all Councils in Northern Ireland.
- 1.6** The purpose of this document is to ensure there is a protocol for the sharing of certain personal data collected by the Registrar in its role as Data Controller of the Landlord Registration Scheme, where that personal data is needed for the purposes of enabling or assisting a council in the exercise of its functions under any provision of the Private Tenancies (Northern Ireland) Order 2006 and Article 54 of the Rent (Northern Ireland) Order 1978, as per The Landlord Registration Scheme Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014.

1.7 The protocol sets out the following areas:

- What data can be shared,
- How the information is going to be exchanged
- Timescales
- How securely the data is to be stored
- Breach of Confidentiality
- Requests for Disclosure of Information subject to legislation.
- Audit Requirement – System Access Check

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 The Committee is;

- Invited to consider and endorse the Information sharing protocol between the Landlord Registration Registrar and Belfast City Council
- Asked to authorise the Director of City and Neighbourhood Services to sign the protocol on the Council's behalf.

3.0 Key Issues

3.1 The protocol outlines the arrangements between the Landlord Registration Registrar and the City and Neighbourhood Services Department of Belfast City Council.

1. The objectives of this agreement are:
2. To establish the roles of both parties;
3. To establish an agreed level of response and performance targets;
4. To set out the legal responsibilities of both parties

3.3 The document has been reviewed by the Council's Records Management Unit and Legal Services.

3.4 Financial and Resource Implications

None.

3.5 Equality or Good Relations Implications/  
Rural Needs Assessment

There are no relevant equality considerations associated with the delivery of the service level agreement.”

**People and Communities Committee,  
Tuesday, 7th August, 2018**

The Committee endorsed the Information sharing protocol between the Landlord Registration Registrar and Belfast City Council and granted authority to the Strategic Director of City and Neighbourhood Services to sign the protocol on the Council's behalf.

**Boxing Strategy Quarterly Update**

The Director of Neighbourhood Services reminded the Committee that the Council had previously agreed to provide £200,000 to the Irish Athletic Boxing Association (IABA) in the current financial year for delivery of an agreed action plan supporting the Belfast Boxing Strategy.

She advised that the Council had agreed a total of 37 indicators with the IABA to monitor delivery of the programmes and she confirmed that it had complied with all the reporting requirements.

The Committee noted that the recent recruitment of a Belfast Development Officer through this funding would also contribute to ensuring full delivery in Quarters 2, 3 and 4.

Noted.

**Sydenham Bowling Club Facility  
Management Agreement**

The Committee was reminded that, at the meeting of the People and Communities meeting held on 8th August 2017, the Committee had agreed to review the Facility Management Agreement with Sydenham Bowling Club and at this stage the key holding arrangements for the facility had reverted to the Council and the management arrangement fee had been suspended. Since then, all usage and bookings at the facility had been staffed by a Parks Mobile Facilities Attendant.

The Director of Neighbourhood Services advised that, following negotiations with the various stakeholders, the Club had agreed to comply with all reporting requirements which included financial, bowling usage and safeguarding and it wished to, once again, have key holding and all other responsibilities for bowling activities at the facility. The Club had requested that the Council would continue to provide staffing and key holding for all non-bowling activities at the facility.

The Committee was advised that, as there would continue to be a requirement for staffing at the site, it was proposed that the Facility Management Arrangement fee would be amended to £700.00 per calendar month.

The Committee also noted that the Club had accumulated a significant financial surplus during the period of the Agreement and that this would be reinvested back into the facility. A plan of works would be drawn up for the agreement of Council officers.

The Committee agreed a variation to the Facility Management Agreement at Inverary Bowling Pavilion.

## **Dog Control in Parks**

The Committee considered the following report:

### **“1.0 Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek Members’ views on the control of dogs within parks and cemeteries and to present a phased approach to dealing with the issues around this.

### **2.0 Recommendations**

2.1 The Committee is asked to

- Agree the proposed phased approach as outlined in this report.

### **3.0 Main report**

#### **Key Issues**

3.1 Dog walkers are one of the biggest users of our parks particularly at off peak times in the morning and evening and they are also year round users in all weather conditions.

3.2 However the perception among many dog owners is that they can let their dogs off their leads in our parks to exercise and this has caused conflicts with other park users and a growing number of complaints. Dog fouling is also an issue and some dog owners when they let their dogs off the leads are not aware of them fouling and therefore do not clean up after them.

3.3 There has been previous attempts to deal with this issue and a dog off lead enclosure has been developed in Grove Playing Fields. This facility is well used and there are proposals to pilot 3 further areas across the city in Falls, Orangefield and Clement Wilson Parks.

#### **Link to the Belfast Agenda**

3.4 The control of dogs within our parks and open spaces fits under Living Here within the Belfast Agenda and feeds into the workstream ‘Maximise the benefit of our natural and built environment’.

#### **Dogs in cemeteries**

3.5 Under the Cemeteries Rules and Regulations dogs are not permitted in cemeteries and there is some signage to this effect.



Whilst this is complied with by users in the majority of our cemeteries, as most are closed or as in Roselawn there are very few dog walkers, there is a significant issue in the City Cemetery. Given the location of the cemetery within a built up area and adjacent to Falls Park, many local residents treat the cemetery as a park and use it to walk their dogs. As is common across all our parks, the majority of dogs are allowed off leads by owners and there is a high level of dog fouling. Staff currently receive numerous complaints around this issue and in particular about instances of dog fouling on graves, which is a very emotive issue for the families involved.

- 3.6 Cemetery staff have been in discussions with colleagues in enforcement around co-ordinated enforcement operations against dog fouling in the City Cemetery and they are currently exploring options as to how these can be undertaken.

Proposed approach

- 3.7 Given the emotive nature of this issue and the number of dog walkers who use our parks, it is proposed that the following phased approach be adopted.

3.8 Phase 1

- An education and awareness campaign is rolled out across the city, targeted at hotspots, emphasising that our parks are shared spaces and that dogs need to be kept on leads
- That off lead dog enclosures are piloted in Falls, Orangefield and Clement Wilson Parks
- An enforcement campaign is undertaken in City Cemetery to combat dog fouling and to raise awareness that dogs are not permitted in cemeteries.

3.9 Phase 2

- Enforce the bye laws around dogs off leads in parks and open spaces
- Enforce the rules around no dogs in cemeteries
- Introduce Dogs Control Orders to allow us to prohibit dogs from certain areas and to create zones where dogs would be allowed off leads at certain times.

Timescales

- 3.10 Subject to Members' agreement the timescale for the initial phase of the proposed approach is:

- Commence education and awareness campaign - autumn 2018
- Develop dog off lead enclosures in 3 further parks – autumn 2018
- Commence enforcement campaign re dog fouling in City Cemetery – immediately.

It is proposed that these activities would be monitored for effectiveness for 12 months and an analysis undertaken of the findings which would be used to inform the introduction of Phase 2. A report on the effectiveness of Phase 1 will be brought to committee in advance of progressing to Phase 2.

### **3.11 Financial and Resource Implications**

There are financial implications in relation to the educational and awareness campaigns and the development of dogs off lead enclosures, but these will be met out of existing resources.

### **3.12 Equality or Good Relations Implications/ Rural Needs Assessment**

There are no implications associated with this report. The introduction of any new Dogs Control Orders would be screened in line with the Council's processes."

Following a number of queries, the Director of Neighbourhood Services confirmed that the Council would be consulting with users and residents regarding these proposals.

The Committee agreed to commence the phased approach which would include consultation with the various stakeholders

### **Issues Raised in Advance by Members**

#### **Temporary Structure at Alderman Tommy Patton Memorial Park**

Councillor Nicholl reminded the Committee that, the Council, at its meeting held on 2nd July, agreed that the decision of the People and Communities Committee of 5th June, under the heading "Temporary Structure at Alderman Tommy Patton Memorial Park", to defer consideration of the matter, had been rejected and accordingly the Council agreed to accede to the request to provide a temporary structure, subject to the terms and conditions as detailed within the report. She requested that the Committee give consideration to the decision of the Council with a view to it requesting it to rescind and not grant permission for the installation of the temporary structure.

Accordingly, it was,

**People and Communities Committee,  
Tuesday, 7th August, 2018**

Moved by Councillor Nicholl,  
Seconded by Councillor McReynolds,

That the Committee agrees that the Council be recommended rescind its decision of 2nd July, under the heading "Temporary Structure at Alderman Tommy Patton Memorial Park", and accordingly agree not to grant permission to install a temporary structure on the Alderman Tommy Patton Memorial Park.

On a vote by show of hands, nine Members voted for the amendment and six against and it was declared carried.

Chairperson

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## City Growth and Regeneration Committee

Wednesday, 8th August, 2018

### MEETING OF CITY GROWTH AND REGENERATION COMMITTEE

Members present: Councillor Lyons (Chairperson);  
The High Sheriff, Councillor Howard;  
Aldermen Haire, Kingston and McGimpsey; and  
Councillors Beattie, Corr, Dudgeon,  
Graham, Hussey, Johnston, Mullan,  
Murphy, O'Hara, O'Neill, and Walsh.

In attendance: Mr. A. Reid, Strategic Director of Place and Economy;  
Mr. J. Greer, Director of Economic Development;  
Mr. G. Millar, Director of Property and Projects;  
Mrs. C. Reynolds, Lead Officer, City Regeneration  
and Development; and  
Mrs. L. McLornan, Democratic Services Officer.

### **Apologies**

Apologies for inability to attend were reported from Councillors Baker, Dorrian and O'Donnell.

### **Minutes**

The minutes of the meetings of 13th and 27th June were taken as read and signed as correct. It was reported that those minutes had been adopted by the Council at its meeting on 2nd July.

### **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor O'Neill declared an interest in Item 3b, namely, City of Music Update, in that she was an employee of the Oh Yeah Music Centre, and she left the meeting whilst this item was under discussion.

### **Matters Referred Back from Council/Notices of Motion**

#### **Motion: Gasworks Northern Fringe**

The Committee agreed to defer consideration of the motion until the draft masterplan was being considered by the Committee.

**Restricted Items**

**The information contained in the reports associated with the following 2 items is restricted in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.**

Resolved – That the Committee agrees to exclude the members of the Press and public from the Committee meeting during discussion of the items as, due to the nature of the items, there would be a disclosure of exempt information as described in Section 42(4) and Section 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014.

**Belfast Telegraph - Update on Development Proposals**

The Strategic Director of Place and Economy provided the Committee with an overview of the Council's joint venture partnership with McAleer & Rushe (Bel Tel LLP) in relation to "The Sixth", and advised the Members of the recent submission of a full planning application for the scheme.

He informed the Members that the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee, at its meeting on 22nd June, 2018, had agreed to increase the Council's investment in Bel Tel LLP by £940k to part-fund enabling works to The Sixth. The Committee was advised that the works would be funded through the City Centre Investment Fund.

After discussion, the Committee:

1. noted the approval from the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee, and subsequent Council ratification, to increase the Council's investment in Bel Tel LLP by £940k (from £3.75m to £4.69m) to part fund enabling works to 'The Sixth' (former Belfast Telegraph site, 124-144 Royal Ave); and
2. noted the progress to date with the project and the intention of Bel Tel LLP to undertake enabling works.

**City of Music – Update**

(Councillor O'Neill declared an interest in this item and left the meeting whilst it was under discussion.)

The Director of Economic Development provided the Committee with an overview of the City of Music Programme 2018/19, which the Committee had agreed to at its meeting on 7th March, 2018.

The Members were advised that the Programme had three key strands with associated activity, namely, Communications activity, Support for local artists and infrastructure and Long-term development.

**City Growth and Regeneration Committee,  
Wednesday, 8th August, 2018**

The Director explained to the Committee that an Open Call for proposals had been requested from those organisations producing music related events in the city between October, 2018, and March, 2019. The proposals would form the Amplified project.

He outlined to the Members the details of the assessment and eligibility process which was carried out to score each proposal and explained that, as a result, four projects were being recommended for funding.

The Committee:

1. noted the contents of the report and the progress which had been made to date; and
2. agreed to recommend that funding of £57,900 be allocated from the existing City of Music 2018/2019 budget, to the four successful projects, as follows:
  - Beat Carnival - £15,000;
  - Belfast International Arts Festival - £15,000;
  - Duncairn Centre for Culture and Arts - £12,900; and
  - Oh Yeah - £15,000.

**Growing Businesses and the Economy**

**City for Investment - Service Update**

The Committee considered the undernoted report:

**“1.0 Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update on Council-led City for Investment support for indigenous businesses and new investors. An 18-month pilot of the City for Investment Service commenced in April 2018. The report covers progress to date and considers options for the future.

1.2 Future development of the service is dependent on demand, consideration of resource implications and value for money assessment. The pilot will review and assess performance of the service over the 18-month period to inform choices regarding the future approach.

**2.0 Recommendations**

2.1 The Committee is asked to:

- Note the work being progressed by the ‘City for Investment’ Service to date;
- Note that future options concerning the strategic development of the service will be presented to a future meeting of the Committee based on the learning gained

in the pilot project period (18 months from April 2018);  
and

- **Note that any future approach to scaling the service may require additional finance or staff resources which will be referred to relevant Committees for consideration and will also be taken account of in the future rate-setting processes.**

**3.0 Main report**

**3.1 The Council currently delivers a range of business support activities focused on Starting a Business, Growing a Business and Investing in Belfast. It is one of a number of partners operating in this field. In recognition of the challenges that local businesses and inward investors can face in navigating the current system, the City for Investment Service approach agreed by this Committee in March 2018 consolidates the Council's business services available across the various departments with a view to making it easier to do business in Belfast and enhancing the investor experience. It also links to the various support services provided by other partners.**

**3.2 The development of the 'Belfast: City for Investment' Service does not preclude the Council undertaking investment attraction initiatives such as MIPIM and international relations business members. Lead prospecting for investment from cities such as Dublin and London will also continue as part of the Council's core service offer to local businesses who are seeking to explore export markets for their products and services or diversification of their business model into Belfast.**

**3.3 Following agreement by the Committee in March 2018, activity has started on the City for Investment Service. Available support includes:**

- **Soft landing Service: Working proactively with investors, providing the professional and personal connections to help businesses be successful in Belfast including advice on business accommodation;**
- **Welcome Service and Accessing Networks: Assisting with an overview of the city and providing familiarisation visits of local businesses, housing, schools, colleges and universities, as well as providing an insight into Belfast's social and cultural energy;**
- **Planning: Co-ordinating and providing advice including pre-planning application discussions, planning performance agreements, local development**



plans and arranging access to development engagement managers where required;

- **Sector-specific support and skills academies:** Guidance and direction on the availability of sector-specific support, citywide skills academies, upcoming career fairs and events and provide access to third-party training providers;
- **Supplier and supply chain opportunities:** Access to meet the buyer events, local supply chain opportunities and enabling corporate social responsibility with neighbouring communities; and
- **Internationalisation and export opportunities:** Providing access to Sister City Networks in Boston, Nashville and Shenyang and World Trade Centre Networks.

**3.4** To date there have been 37 client enquiries.

- **Early Stage/Pre-Investor:** A business which is undertaking initial scoping work, intelligence gathering, familiarisation, business development scoping, as part of their consideration to locate or expand in Belfast – 14 enquiries to date
- **Committed:** A business which has committed to locating in Belfast and is further developing or implementing their plans and / or proposals or awaiting planning approval – 12 enquiries to date
- **Established:** Company is post-investment and seeking receipt of Council support post investment to better become embedded in the City and grow – 11 enquiries to date.

**3.5** 11 of the businesses included above are businesses in receipt of joint support from both Invest NI and Belfast City Council.

**3.6** Enquiries have been received across a range of business sectors including Retail, Office, Recruitment Consultancy, Cyber Security, Creative & Digital, Construction Products, Renewable Energy, Joinery, Hospitality and Leisure, Advanced Manufacturing & Composites. The total potential scale of investment across the enquiries is £3.5million, with a need for 50,000sq ft. of new accommodation or occupied premises. The estimated number of jobs that may be created as a consequence of this investment is 181 jobs. An overview of the activity to date and projected outputs is attached as Appendix 1.

**3.7 Financial & Resource Implications**

The current City for Investment Service is being met from existing Economic Development Budgets for 2018/19. Conclusion of the review of the pilot in September/October 2019 will be used to inform the estimates setting process for 2019/20.

**3.8 Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment**

Each of the proposed projects referenced in this report is informed by statistical research, stakeholder engagement and complementary policies and strategies. New projects or service areas are equality screened and considerations given to equality and good relations impacts at the initial stages of project development. Officers will work closely with the Equality and Good Relations Team on this activity.”

The Committee adopted the recommendations.

**Heathrow Hub**

The Director of Economic Development reminded the Members that the UK government had recently approved the expansion of Heathrow Airport, with the installation of a third runway, which he explained would be one of the largest infrastructure projects in the UK.

He outlined to the Members that it was estimated that the development would create around 60,000 new jobs and generate around £70bn in total economic benefit by the 2050s.

The Committee was advised that, in recognition of the scale of the investment, and the potential for all parts of the UK to benefit from supply chain and skills development opportunities, Heathrow had sought expressions of interest for up to four Logistics Hub locations. The Director explained that the Hubs would be used as off-site centres for construction and manufacturing in order to help the airport to deliver its expansion plan within an agreed timeframe and with minimal on-site disruption.

He reminded the Committee six of the 65 sites which had been shortlisted were located in Northern Ireland. They included:

- North Foreshore – Belfast;
- Global Point Business Park – Antrim and Newtownabbey;
- Belfast International Airport – Antrim and Newtownabbey;
- Former Michelin Site – Mid and East Antrim;
- Silverwood Business Park – Lurgan; and
- Former Shackleton Barracks – Ballykelly.

**City Growth and Regeneration Committee,  
Wednesday, 8th August, 2018**

He outlined to the Committee that, following a visit to Northern Ireland in June 2018, senior representatives from Heathrow's Procurement Team had met with representatives from all sites as well as with some potential first and second tier suppliers for the expansion works. In order to improve the chances of making a successful bid, the Director explained that the partners had identified that a collaborative proposition involving all six NI sites was likely to be favoured over individual, stand-alone site solutions. He advised the Committee that the Heathrow Team was expected to provide an update on the procurement timeframes by the end of August 2018.

In relation to the North Foreshore site, he highlighted that, due to a range of development interests on the site, if it was to progress to the next stage of the process, consideration would need to be given as to how it could complement other planned development activity on the site.

The Director also pointed out that the Heathrow Procurement Team had committed to a series of 'Meet the Buyer' Events across the UK, in partnership with local business organisations. He explained that the Northern Ireland Chamber of Commerce had arranged the first ever Northern Ireland-based Meet the Buyer event in the City Hall on 20th June, 2018. The event had enabled local businesses to meet with key buyers from Heathrow, focusing on existing supplies and services requirements.

He outlined that more than 160 local companies had had meetings with a number of procurement leads from Heathrow, 77 of which were from Belfast. The Members were advised that an evaluation of the event was underway by the Northern Ireland Chamber of Commerce but that anecdotal feedback had suggested that the participating businesses had found the event very useful.

After discussion, the Committee noted:

1. the potential supply chain opportunities for local companies which had been created as a result of the expansion of Heathrow Airport; and
2. the recent "Meet the Buyer" event which had taken place in the City Hall and which was attended by a significant number of companies from the Belfast City Council area.

**Regenerating Places and Improving Infrastructure**

**Inner North West Masterplan - Update and Next Steps**

(Ms. C. Persic, Regeneration Project Officer, attended in connection with this item)

The Committee considered the undernoted report:

**"1.0 Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues**

- 1.1 **The purpose of this report is to inform Members of the engagement activities undertaken during the Inner North West (INW) masterplan consultation, provide a summary of the**

consultation feedback (available on modern.gov), and set out the proposed next steps.

**2.0 Recommendations**

**2.1 The Committee is asked to:**

- note the recent INW consultation and initial summary findings and
- note that a full consultation report and updated masterplan will be presented to committee for approval later this year.

**3.0 Main report**

**3.1 Background**

The 12-week consultation for the Inner North West (INW) masterplan began on 13 February 2018 and concluded on 8 May 2018. As outlined previously to committee, the Masterplan seeks to provide a framework to help shape emerging opportunities in this part of the city and ensure a more comprehensive approach to development of both public and private sector owned land.

**3.2 The Inner North West Masterplan is underpinned by robust urban design principles that will help shape proposals coming forward and has at its heart, the intention to create a new city centre, mixed neighbourhood that:**

- incorporates a mix of uses, including residential, commercial, retail and leisure, all integrated through a strong and cohesive public realm;
- takes into consideration the heritage of the area and the historic urban grain;
- reinstates the historically vibrant economy of the Inner North West area;
- promotes 'city centre living', with its social and environmental benefits;
- strengthens the city centre's urban fabric and streetscapes;
- supports and strengthens pedestrian connections within the city centre and to/from adjoining neighbourhoods; and
- delivers the ambitions of the Belfast Agenda, in line with the Local Development Plan.

**3.3 Engagement and communication programme**

Targeted pre-consultation engagement took place in September 2017 with representatives from:

- Greater Falls Neighbourhood Partnership
- Lower Shankill
- Brown Square
- Carrick Hill
- Castle Street traders
- Smithfield & Union Traders

Input from this pre-consultation, coupled with the feedback from the workshop with Members in November 2017, informed and shaped the final consultation document and council's approach to engagement.

**3.4** A focus on existing residents in the INW was an important feature of this consultation, and staff developed a new approach to support resident engagement. An architect-led walkabout of the masterplan area took place, which enabled local residents and business owners to get an in-depth understanding of the proposals as well as highlight what they saw as key issues for the area.

**3.5** To encourage participation from local residents, the consultation drop-in venues were located across the INW area. In total, 16 different engagement activities took place, including presentations, 'drop-in' sessions to walkabouts and these were attended by approximately 225 people.

**3.6** Meetings and/or presentations also took place with a number of private sector developers operating in the area and with the following groups and organisations:

<b>Cathedral Quarter BID</b>	<b>West Belfast Partnership</b>
<b>Cathedral Quarter Trust</b>	<b>Shared City Partnership</b>
<b>BID One</b>	<b>Section 75 Consultative Forum</b>
<b>Ulster Reform Club</b>	<b>Campus Community</b>
<b>Carrick Hill Residents</b>	<b>Regeneration Forum</b>

**3.7** Copies of the consultation document and a summary A5 sized leaflet were available at all events. Large font print and braille formats of the summary leaflet and questionnaire were also made available. Exhibition boards summarising the

masterplan were on display in the Cecil Ward Building between 13 February - 8 May 2018 and in the Central Library from 13 April-8 May 2018.

- 3.8 Key communication channels were through letters and emails to stakeholders and network groups, drop-in sessions, City Matters (delivered to every Belfast household), the BCC website and council's online Consultation Hub, external press and social media was used throughout the consultation period and programmed at key intervals. All information was available on: <https://yoursay.belfastcity.gov.uk/>.

3.9 Statutory partners

Engagement with statutory partners included the Department for Communities, Department for Infrastructure, Translink and the Historic Environment Division and feedback received from them shaped to the draft consultation document. Discussions will continue during the finalisation of the plan. Feedback was also received from council departments.

Responses received during the consultation

- 3.10 During the current formal 12-week consultation period effort was made to engage with a diverse range of stakeholders, including residents, businesses, statutory partners and developers. There were 36 formal responses received; 24 of these were returned via email whilst 12 were logged on Citizen Space. Feedback was also collected at the drop-in sessions, walk-about meetings and presentations.
- 3.11 A full consultation report and the final masterplan will be brought back to committee later in the year, but an examination of the feedback indicates general support for the regeneration of the INW area and the draft proposals.

Planning policy context and the Local Development Plan

- 3.12 The INW is in line with the emerging policies in the Local Development Plan (LDP) draft Plan Strategy that supports population growth, sustainable development and the city's ambitions in relation to the inclusive growth agenda. Following adoption of the LDP Plan Strategy the Council will be in a position to review the INW masterplan with a view to bringing it forward as more formal planning guidance thereby providing the masterplan with greater weight in the decision making process - as a more detailed articulation of LDP policy.

**Next Steps**

**3.13 Statutory consultation on the Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitats Regulation Assessment opened on 9 July and will run to 1 October 2018. The feedback from this consultation, combined with the findings from the INW consultation, will form the final masterplan, which will come back to the committee for approval in the autumn.**

**3.14 Additionally, and in parallel, the development of land in public ownership is currently being discussed with DfC as part of the Strategic Site Assessment work that was reported to committee in May 2018, and a residential market analysis for the city centre is being commissioned.**

**3.15 Financial and Resource Implications**

**Resource requirements will be met from existing departmental budget allocations.**

**3.16 Equality, Good Relations and Rural Needs Implications**

**Consultation on the draft EQIA Screening was held as part of the Inner North West Masterplan and a further Equality Screening will accompany the final masterplan. The Rural Needs Impact Assessment found that the masterplan involves the development of an inner city area and will have no direct impact in rural areas. The use of emerging spaces and facilities will be kept under review to ensure there is no adverse impact on rural areas and proposals for improved access to and within the area will help facilitate those visiting from rural areas.”**

The Committee adopted the recommendations.

**East Bank Development Strategy**

The Committee agreed to defer consideration of this item to enable Party Group Briefings to take place.

**Swanston Hall**

The Members of the Committee were advised that they had been invited to attend a “soft opening” event at Swanston Hall, formerly known as the Athletic Stores Building, on Friday, 24th August, 2018 at 10.30a.m.

Noted.

**Strategic and Operational Issues**

**Tesco Taste Festival Market Licence Application**

The Director of Economic Development advised the Committee that an application had been received for the 'Taste of Northern Ireland Festival' to be held in the Custom House Square, Belfast on 21st, 22nd and 23rd September, 2018. He advised that this would be the seventh year that the event had taken place in Belfast and that it was designed to showcase the range of food and drinks produced in Northern Ireland.

He explained that, in line with the overall Council Markets' Development Strategy, the Tesco market would help enhance that area of the city and, in doing so, would drive footfall into Custom House Square and the surrounding area. The Members were advised that the one-off, annual event would animate the city and support the other permanent market offer.

The Committee was advised that, while some stallholders would have products for sale, most would offer free samples and use the event as an opportunity to demonstrate their product range.

The Committee was reminded that anyone who wished to operate a market or car boot sale within Belfast must apply to the Council for a licence and that the organisers had supplied all relevant documentation for this event. The Director explained that officers from the Markets Development Unit had engaged with the relevant officers across the Council in order to check and verify the documentation and confirmed that checks would also be carried out during the event, in line with the Markets Rights Policy guidelines.

In response to a Member's request, the Committee agreed that, given the high level of packaging used in supermarkets, designated staff from Belfast City Council should attend the event to encourage and provide education on the importance of recycling within the city.

The Committee agreed to grant the licence for the "Taste of Northern Ireland Market" at Custom House Square on 21st, 22nd and 23rd September, 2018.

**Response to Transport Consultations from DfI**

The Committee considered the undernoted report:

**"1.0 Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues**

- 1.1 To provide an update on a number of Department for Infrastructure (DfI) consultations and outline a proposed response to the consultations. The schemes for which details have been received are: M1 and M2 busways; traffic calming scheme in Tennent Street; the Rathgar Street, proposed one way traffic; waiting restrictions on various streets in Belfast; and the extension of the bus lane on the Hollywood Road.**



**2.0 Recommendations**

**2.1 The Committee is asked to:**

- Consider the draft response summarised in paragraphs 3.5 - 3.7 and if appropriate agree the submission to DfI of the draft response set out on modern.gov.

**3.0 Main report**

**3.1 Key Issues**

**M1 and M2 Busways – Proposed hard shoulder bus lanes**

The Department proposes to improve provision of public transport facilities on the M1 and M2 approaches by introducing new sections of hard shoulder bus lanes. The proposals will be an extension to the existing hard shoulder bus lanes on the M1 and M2. It should be noted that the hard shoulder will remain available for use in an emergency.

- 3.2 The hard shoulder bus lanes will normally operate between 7am to 7pm, Monday to Friday and variable message signs will indicate when the bus lanes are open. Only buses and coaches with 28 or more seats will be legally permitted to use the hard shoulder bus lanes.**

**Transport Scheme Consultations**

- 3.3 Consultation on proposals for 2 traffic management schemes, 8 waiting restrictions and a bus lane extension have also been received.**

- 3.4 The traffic management is proposed for parts of Tennent and Rathgar Streets. The waiting restrictions are proposed for Apollo Road, Connswater Street, Stoneyford Street, Ballymacarrett Road (Frazer Pass), Ballymacarrett Road, Frazer Pass (Ballymacarrett Road), Carrick Street and Townsend Street. The area of extended bus lane is located along the Hollywood Road. Details of the extent of the proposed changes are set out in the papers available on modern.gov.**

**Proposed Consultation Responses**

- 3.5 There is a high volume of travel by car into and out of Belfast, particularly by single occupancy private cars for commuting purposes. The development and use of the extended bus lanes during congested periods will improve journey time reliability for public transport users and should encourage a modal shift. The hard shoulder areas to be utilised will remain available for use in an emergency and Variable Message Signs will be highlight when the bus lanes cannot be accessed or are unavailable. It is suggested that the Council welcome the proposals to extend bus lanes along the hard shoulders on the M1 and M2 as the proposals should promote and encourage the use of public transport for travel into Belfast. It is also proposed that the members encourage the department to continue to investigate and promote extended Park & Ride facilities, and the installation of continuous bus lanes on the M1 & M2 corridors
- 3.6 It should be noted that the waiting restrictions and other schemes have been requested by either members, residents and businesses. The basis for the requests being to improve road safety and traffic movement on the streets and prevent all day commuter parking. It is proposed that these traffic management schemes on Tennent Street and Rathgar Street and proposed waiting restrictions on various streets in Belfast are therefore supported by Council.
- 3.7 The proposal to extend the city bound bus lane on a section of Holywood Road would assist public transport movement along this arterial route and it is suggested that this should also be supported by Council.
- 3.8 **Financial & Resource Implications**
- None
- 3.9 **Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment**
- None.”

The Committee adopted the recommendations.

**Finance, Procurement and Performance**

**Year End (Q4) Finance Report**

(Mr. M. McBride, Head of Finance and Performance, attended in connection with this item)

**City Growth and Regeneration Committee,  
Wednesday, 8th August, 2018**

The Head of Finance and Performance presented the financial position of the City Growth and Regeneration Committee to the Members. He advised them that the year-end position for the Committee was an underspend of £47,000 (0.3%), in an annual budget of £16.1m, which he explained was well within the acceptable tolerance of 3%.

The Committee was advised that the main reasons for the underspend related to a reduced spend on employee costs as a result of vacant posts across a number of services and increased income which were offset by increased expenditure in relation to premises costs; supplies and services and through the creation of a Specified Reserve for Twilight Markets in 2018/2019 as agreed by the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee at its meeting on 15th December, 2017.

The Committee noted the report and the associated financial reporting pack.

**Expression of Sympathy**

The Chairperson advised the Committee of the recent death of the father of the European Manager, Ms. L Leonard, and, on behalf of the Committee, extended his condolences and deepest sympathy to Ms. Leonard and her family circle.

**Nashville Healthcare Conference – Verbal Update**

The Director of Economic Development reminded the Committee that, at its meeting on 13th June, it had agreed the attendance of the Chairperson, or his nominee, and one officer to engage in an outward business visit to Nashville with key stakeholders and Belfast businesses, from 26th – 30th August, 2018. He advised the Members that the visit was subject to the confirmation of stakeholder commitment and that unfortunately none of the businesses had been able to commit to attend.

The Committee noted, therefore, that the visit would not take place.

Chairperson

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## Licensing Committee

Wednesday, 15th August, 2018

### MEETING OF LICENSING COMMITTEE

Members present: Councillor O'Hara (Chairperson);  
Aldermen Copeland and L. Patterson;  
and Councillors Boyle, Clarke, Collins, Craig,  
Dudgeon, Groves, Hussey, Hutchinson,  
Magennis, McConville, Milne and Nic Biorna.

In attendance: Mr. A. Thatcher, Director of Planning and Building  
Control;  
Mr. S. Hewitt, Building Control Manager;  
Miss N. Largey, Divisional Solicitor; and  
Mr. H. Downey, Democratic Services Officer.

#### Apologies

Apologies for inability to attend were reported on behalf of the High Sheriff (Councillor Howard), Alderman Spence and Councillors Heading and McReynolds.

#### Minutes

The minutes of the meetings of 20th June were taken as read and signed as correct. It was reported that those minutes had been adopted by the Council at its meeting on 2nd July, subject to the omission of those matters in respect of which the Council had delegated its powers to the Committee.

#### Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interested were reported.

### **THE COMMITTEE DEALT WITH THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN PURSUANCE OF THE POWERS DELEGATED TO IT UNDER STANDING ORDER 37(d)**

#### **Applications Approved under Delegated Authority**

The Committee noted a list of licences and Road Closure Orders which had been approved under the Council's Scheme of Delegation.

#### **Applications for the Renewal of Seven-Day Annual Indoor Entertainments Licences with Previous Convictions – Belfast Barge/Glenowen Inn**

The Committee was reminded that, under the terms of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1985, it had a duty, when considering any application for the grant, renewal or transfer of an Entertainments Licence, to take into account any convictions of the applicant relating to an offence under the Order which

**Licensing Committee,  
Wednesday, 15th August, 2018**

had occurred within a five-year period immediately preceding the date on which the application had been made.

Accordingly, the Building Control Manager drew the Committee's attention to applications which had been received for the renewal of Seven-Day Annual Indoor Entertainments Licences in respect of the Belfast Barge, Lanyon Quay and the Glenowen Inn, 108 Glen Road.

He reported that Lagan Legacy Limited, the licensee of the Belfast Barge, had on 23rd May, 2017, been fined £150 and ordered to pay £76 in costs, arising from an inspection in July, 2016 whilst entertainment had been taking place. Officers had found that the exit door to the rear of the multi-function space had been obstructed by the band's equipment and that the external gate on the rear escape walkway and one leaf of the main entrance/exit door had each been locked in a closed position. In addition, an emergency exit light had not been illuminated and the pre-entertainment log book had not been completed.

The Committee had, at its meeting on 21st June, 2017, agreed to renew the Entertainments Licence and subsequent inspections had revealed that all management procedures were being implemented effectively.

In terms of the Glenowen Inn, the licensee had, on 24th May, 2016, been fined £600 and ordered to pay £66 in costs, as a consequence of an inspection in October, 2015 whilst entertainment had been taking place, which had found that a rear exit door had been blocked by combustible materials, the alleyway leading from that exit had been partially obstructed by a vehicle, an exit sign had not been illuminated and the premises' log book had not been completed.

The Committee had, in November, 2016 and 2017, agreed to renew the Entertainments Licence and subsequent inspections had indicated that the premises were being managed in accordance with the Entertainments Licensing legislation.

The Building Control Manager pointed out that no written representations had been received in relation to the applications and that the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service and the Police Service of Northern Ireland had offered no objections.

The Committee agreed to renew the Seven-Day Annual Indoor Entertainments Licences in respect of the Belfast Barge, Lanyon Quay and the Glenowen Inn, 108 Glen Road.

**Consideration of the Variation of Designated Commodities for  
Street Trading Sites – Sale of Bus Tour Tickets**

The Committee agreed to defer until its meeting in September applications for the variation of the Designating Resolutions for stationary street trading sites in Castle Junction and Castle Place to provide for the sale of bus tour tickets, to enable representatives of Visit Belfast, which had submitted additional comments, to attend.

**Review of Stationary Street Trading Licences –  
Fountain Lane and Fountain Street**

The Committee was reminded that, at its meeting on 16th May, it had agreed that it was minded to revoke two Stationary Street Licences held by Mr. J. Kerr for designated sites in Fountain Lane and Fountain Street and agreed that he be invited to make representation to the Committee in that regard.

The Building Control Manager reported that the Committee's decision had been taken on the basis that Mr. Kerr had failed to pay the annual licence fee for each site and pointed out that his debt had since risen from £1,577.54 to £2,202.50. Mr. Kerr had been invited to address the Committee at this meeting, however, he had confirmed that he was on holiday and would, therefore, be unable to attend.

Accordingly, the Committee agreed to defer consideration of the matter until its next monthly meeting to enable Mr. Kerr to attend and noted information which had been provided in relation to the number of licensed stationary street trading sites within the City centre, together with their level of usage between March, 2015 and May, 2018 and those traders who had licence fees owing to the Council.

**Non-Delegated Matters**

**Institute of Licensing National Training Conference**

The Committee was reminded that the Institute of Licensing was the professional body for licensing practitioners in local government, the police, private sector, trade and the legal profession. The Institute, which operated throughout England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, had been established to provide education and training and to disseminate knowledge in all matters relating to licensing.

The Committee was reminded further that Belfast was a Corporate Member affiliated to the Northern Ireland Region of the Institute and that Mr. James Cunningham, the Council's Regulatory Services Manager, was the chairman of the Institute of Licensing (Northern Ireland Region) and a Director and Trustee of the Institute.

The Building Control Manager reported that, this year, the Institute would be holding its National Training Conference in Stratford-Upon-Avon from Wednesday 14th till Friday 16th November. He referred to a number of topics which would be covered over the course of the event and pointed out that it would provide Elected Members and officers with an opportunity to meet with other licensing professionals and to obtain an update on changes within the licensing sector. Accordingly, he recommended that the Committee approve the attendance at the conference of the Chairperson, the Deputy Chairperson, the Director of Planning and Building Control and the Building Control Manager (or their nominees), and approve also Mr. Cunningham's attendance, in recognition of his role as the chairman of the Northern Ireland Region. Mr. Cunningham's residential fee would be paid for by the Institute of Licensing.

The Committee adopted the recommendation.

**Licensing Committee,  
Wednesday, 15th August, 2018**

**Change of Date of November Meeting**

The Committee agreed to move its monthly meeting on 14th November to an alternative date, to prevent it from coinciding with the Institute of Licensing National Training Conference, which the Chairperson, the Deputy Chairperson and a number of officers had, earlier in the meeting, obtained approval to attend.

**Training for the Licensing Committee**

At the suggestion of the Chairperson, it was agreed that a report be submitted to a future meeting providing details on a proposed training programme for the Committee, with a view to assisting it in discharging its responsibilities.

Chairperson



## Planning Committee

Tuesday, 14th August, 2018

### MEETING OF PLANNING COMMITTEE

- Members present: Councillor Garrett (Chairperson);  
Alderman McGimpsey;  
Councillors Armitage, Carson, Dorrian, Hussey,  
Hutchinson, Johnston, Lyons, Magee,  
McAteer, Mullan and Nicholl.
- In attendance: Mr. A. Thatcher, Director of Planning and Building  
Control;  
Ms. N. Largey, Divisional Solicitor;  
Mr. E. Baker, Development Engagement Manager;  
Mr. S. McCrory, Democratic Services Manager; and  
Ms. E. McGoldrick, Democratic Services Officer.

### Apologies

Apologies were reported on behalf of Councillor Bunting.

### Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 6th and 12th June were taken as read and signed as correct. It was reported that those minutes had been adopted by the Council at its meeting on 2nd July, subject to the omission of those matters in respect of which the Council had delegated its powers to the Committee.

### Declarations of Interest

Regarding item 9. a) LA04/2018/0448/F - Lands at former Sirocco works, Block C, 13 storey Grade A office building, Councillor Nicholl declared an interest, in so far as she had attended University with one of the applicants, however she had not formed any opinion on the matter prior to the meeting. Councillor Armitage also declared an interest, in that he had met with the agent, however he had not formed any opinion on the matter prior to the meeting.

In respect of item 9.b) LA042018/0522/F - 42 Strathmore Park, remove condition 7 - LA04/2015/1102/F (Occupancy Condition), Councillor Magee declared an interest, in that he had spoken with residents about the proposal.

Regarding item 9.c) LA04/2017/2623/F - 88 Circular Road, dwelling with detached garage, Councillor Johnston declared an interest, in so far as he had discussed the application with the Planning Service, however he had not formed any opinion on the matter prior to the meeting.

In respect of item 9.d) LA04/2017/0261/F - Land to rear of no 49 Diamond Gardens, 2 Storey detached dwelling, Councillor McAteer declared an interest, in that she had made representation to the Planning Service on behalf of the objector.

**Planning Committee,  
Tuesday, 14th August, 2018**

Councillor McAteer also declared an interest in item 10.b) Update on draft LDP Strategy including Engagement Strategy and Technical Supplements, in that she was an employee of the West Belfast Partnership Board.

**Request to Present - Belfast Civic Trust**

The Director advised the Committee that a request had been received from Belfast Civic Trust to present to the Planning Committee in relation to their vision for the city and planning matters.

The Committee agreed to receive a presentation from the Belfast Civic Trust at a future Committee Workshop.

**Financial Reporting - Quarter 4 2017/18 Update**

The Committee noted the contents of a report which provided an overview of the financial position of both the Planning and Licensing Committees, as at the end of the financial year. It was noted further that the financial position for Quarter 4 was a net departmental over-spend of £111k (7.7%) and the over-spend arose from expected under-recovery of Building Control income of £235k and a £52k overspend in advertising costs in Planning.

**Abandonments of Public Rights of Way**

The Committee noted the receipt of correspondence from the Department for Infrastructure in respect of the Abandonment of Public Rights of Way at Finvoy Street and Tyndale Gardens.

**Planning Appeals Notified**

The Committee noted the receipt of correspondence in respect of a number of planning appeals which had been submitted to the Planning Appeals Commission, together with the outcomes of a range of hearings which had been considered by the Commission.

**Planning Decisions Issued**

The Committee noted a list of decisions which had been taken under the delegated authority of the Director of Planning and Building Control, together with all other planning decisions which had been issued by the Planning Department between 11th June and 7th August, 2018.

**Review of Listed Structures - Lynn Memorial, Belfast City Cemetery**

It was reported that correspondence had been received from the Department for Communities in respect of the Review of Architectural or Historic Interest Survey.

**Planning Committee,  
Tuesday, 14th August, 2018**

The Committee noted that, as part of the survey, the Lynn Memorial at Belfast City Cemetery, Falls Road had been reconsidered and remained of sufficient interest for protection as a listed building, therefore its statutory listing remained unchanged.

**Withdrawn Items**

**East Bank Development Strategy**

The Committee noted that item 4) East Bank Development Strategy had been withdrawn from the agenda.

**Miscellaneous Items**

**Update on Replacement of the Planning Portal (Verbal Update)**

The Committee was reminded that the Council was participating in a joint project with the Department for Infrastructure (DfI) and the other 10 council areas to examine the options to replace the Planning Portal.

The Development Engagement Manager explained that, following on from the interim response to DfI in relation to the Draft Outline Business Case in June, further information relating to the costs and governance issues had been requested. He indicated that once this information was received from DfI, options on the replacement Planning Portal would be submitted to the Planning Committee and the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee for consideration.

Noted.

**Restricted Item**

**The Information contained in the following reports is restricted in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014**

Resolved – That the Committee agrees to exclude the members of the Press and public from the Committee meeting during discussion of this item as, due to the nature of the items, there would be a disclosure of exempt information as described in Section 42 (4) and Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.

**Update on draft Local Development Plan Strategy including Engagement Strategy and Technical Supplements**

The Development Planning and Policy Manager provided an update on the launch and publication of the draft Plan Strategy and the proposed approach to consultation.

He highlighted that the draft plan documents would be published on 23rd August, 4 weeks in advance of the statutory 8-week period and comments on the documentation would only be accepted during the formal consultation period which commenced on Thursday, 20th September and would close at 5pm on Thursday, 15th November.

**Planning Committee,  
Tuesday, 14th August, 2018**

He advised that the publication of additional technical documents would accompany the Draft Plan Strategy when it was formally published.

After discussion, the Committee noted the information which had been provided, in particular:

- the arrangements for the launch of the draft Plan Strategy;
- the timescale / arrangements for the proposed, the draft plan strategy summary and leaflet; and
- the details of the full range of technical supplements.

**Planning Applications**

**THE COMMITTEE DEALT WITH THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN PURSUANCE OF THE POWERS DELEGATED TO IT BY THE COUNCIL UNDER STANDING ORDER 37(e)**

**LA04/2018/0448/F - Lands at former Sirocco works, Block C, 13 storey Grade A office building**

The Committee considered the aforementioned application for the erection of 13 storey Grade A office building with ground floor, first floor and mezzanine café/bar/restaurant uses (sui generis), ground floor retail unit, lobby/reception area, basement and deck car parking, servicing (refuse/recycling/cycle storage/changing facilities), landscaping/public realm works, temporary pocket park, pedestrian/ cycle access route from Bridge End, temporary pedestrian/cycle access to riverfront, associated access arrangements to Short Strand and Bridge End and other associated infrastructural works.

The case officer informed the Committee that, after the agenda had been published, the following points had been received from the agent, on behalf of the applicant:

- The office development had a total investment value of £50 - £70 million and the potential to create 2,500 jobs;
- Highlighted the application's policy considerations as outlined in greater detail in the case officer's report and its strategic fit for Belfast;
- Further explanation of the sequencing and status of other planning applications for the site;
- A summary of design changes undertaken as a result of engagement with the Council's planning team;
- An outline of Vanguard Real Estate's (the applicant) global experience; and
- A summary of the economic impact of the whole development of Belfast Waterside - £400 million total investment, circa 8,000 jobs.

The case officer outlined the response of the Planning Department to the aforementioned issues raised, as set out in the Late Items Report Pack.

**Planning Committee,  
Tuesday, 14th August, 2018**

The case officer also informed the Committee that, after the agenda had been published, further updates on the status of the following consultation responses had been received and outlined in the Late Items Reports Packs:

- Environmental Health re: Air Quality;
- DEARA Contamination and Marine;
- Rivers Agency;
- Natural Heritage;
- Shared Environmental Services;
- Historic Environment Division;
- NITHC / Translink; and
- BCC Landscape and Trees.

The Committee received a representation from Mr. J. Osborne, applicant, Mr. M. Gordon and Mr. C. Kane, representing the applicant.

Mr. Osbourne outlined a range of support for the case officer's recommendation to approve the application as follows:

- £20 million had been invested in the project;
- The development team had a belief in the potential of Belfast, in terms of growth in the economy and jobs;
- The development was fully aligned with the interests of Belfast and they had carried out detailed consultations with key stakeholders;
- They had the resources and capital to deliver on the vision as set out in their presentation;
- They continued to bring investors to the city and were keen to evolve the site and the 'Belfast Story';
- The project intended to create a development where investors could deploy their capital and would assist in driving the Belfast agenda; and
- Investors were committed to the socially inclusive development.

Mr. Gordon suggested that this was the third time that the site had been and it was common for a first phase of a development to be granted planning permission ahead of the wider outline plan proposal. He suggested further that this application would not prejudice the wider site proposal but would support the site for future development.

During points of clarification, the agents provided further details in relation to the potential for job creation, the proposed cycle provision and the continued investment of the development.

During discussion, the case officer confirmed that there was an error, under the Executive Summary and paragraph 9.40 of the report, which should read: '*Residential properties are also located within Short Strand and are approximately 170m from the nearest dwelling to the eastern elevation.*'

The Committee approved the application, subject to the imposing of the conditions set out in the case officer's report and, in accordance with Section 76 of the Planning Act

**Planning Committee,  
Tuesday, 14th August, 2018**

(Northern Ireland) 2015, delegated power to the Director of Planning and Building Control, in conjunction with the City Solicitor, to enter into discussions with the applicant to explore the scope of any Planning Agreements which might be realised by way of developer contributions and, if so, to enter into such an Agreement on behalf of the Council. The Committee also delegated power to the Director of Planning and Building Control for the final wording of the conditions.

**LA042018/0522/F - 42 Strathmore Park, remove condition 7 - LA04/2015/1102/F  
(Occupancy Condition)**

(Councillor Magee, who had declared an interest in this application, withdrew from the table whilst it was under discussion and took no part in the debate or decision-making process.)

The case officer reminded the Committee that the application had previously been listed for consideration at the Planning Committee of 17th April. However, it had been withdrawn from the agenda to allow full consideration of the submission received from the applicant's legal representative prior to the meeting.

She highlighted that the application sought to remove Condition no.7 from planning permission LA04/2015/1102/F. This condition related to the occupancy of the new dwelling unit created as a result of the subdivision of 42 Strathmore Park, as follows:

*'The occupancy of dwelling No.42A as indicated on drawing No.03 shall be limited to direct family members of the occupants of dwelling No.42. A direct family member shall be a spouse, parent or sibling, son or daughter and shall include any dependents of that person or a widow or widower of such a person.'*

The case officer informed the Committee that, after the agenda had been published, the following points of objection to the case officer's recommendation for refusal had been received from the applicant:

- They wished to address the new Planning Committee and new Director of Planning and Building Control;
- Outlined a timeline of events of previous planning application LA04/2015/1102/F;
- Raised concerns in relation to the occupancy condition attached to planning permission granted under LA04/2015/1102/F;
- Highlighted existing overlooking into neighbouring properties with photographic evidence provided; and
- The Applicant was being harshly treated.

The case officer outlined the response of the Planning Department to the aforementioned issues raised, as set out in the Late Items Report Pack.

She highlighted that the case officer's report explained how the occupancy condition had met the 6 tests of being '*Necessary, Relevant to Planning, Relevant to the Proposal, Enforceable, Precise and Reasonable*' under paragraphs 9.2.4.

**Planning Committee,  
Tuesday, 14th August, 2018**

She explained that, after assessment, it had been recommended for refusal on the grounds that:

- The proposal was contrary to Policy QD 1 of Planning Policy Statement 7: Quality Residential Environments and Policy LC 1 of the Addendum to Planning Policy Statement 7: Safeguarding the Character of Established Areas in that it would, if permitted, result in unacceptable damage to the local character and environmental quality of the established residential area, by reason of additional in-curtilage parking, a second new access and sub-division of the curtilage resulting in a plot size which would be out of character with the pattern of development in the area and would set an undesirable precedent; and
- The proposal was contrary to Policy QD 1 of Planning Policy Statement 7: Quality Residential Environments in that the proposed development would, if permitted, result in an adverse impact on residential amenity of prospective occupants by way of inter-overlooking between the properties into and out of the resulting houses at the rear.

The Committee received a representation from Councillor Campbell in objection to the case officer's recommendation for refusal. She pointed out that the footprint of the properties had not changed, the area was of mixed tenure, the property next door had a bungalow in its back garden, the applicant's son could not get a mortgage in the future based on the occupancy condition and the development provided a quality residential environment. She suggested that the recommendation to refuse the application should be overruled by the Committee, as the condition on the property was unreasonable and the Committee should consider removing the occupancy condition.

The Committee received representation from Mrs. A. Stewart, Mr. C. Dunford and Mr. A. Acheson.

Mr. Dunford endorsed the comments outlined by Councillor Campbell and highlighted that he had made a written submission, on behalf of the applicant, against the case officer's recommendation for refusal. He suggested that there were contradictory statements in the case officer's assessment of the development, such as 'overlooking' being stated as 'not a main concern' in January, 2017, and he questioned the consistency of how planning policy had been applied to the proposal.

He suggested that there was already precedent permitting similar developments such as Upper Malone Road (reference Z/2006/2070/F) and Cleaver Avenue (reference Z/2004/2834/F) as outlined in his written submission, which pre dated the amendment to PPS7, and both cases had been approved without conditions.

Mr. Acheson referred to Planning Policies QD1 of PPS7 and LC1 of the addendum. He stated that the relevant section of QD1 for this application stated that "*there is no unacceptable adverse effect on existing or proposed properties in terms overlooking, loss of light, overshadowing, noise or other disturbance*" and the site had

**Planning Committee,  
Tuesday, 14th August, 2018**

had houses on it for over 50 years with no adverse affect between neighbouring properties.

He suggested that whether people were related or not had no effect on the issues raised by the case officer such as density, pattern of development, size, car parking, access, sub-division and plot site.

Mrs. Stewart suggested that the retrospective application had established the development as two semi-detached houses with separate gardens. She suggested that the development was not out of character in the area and her application should not be treated differently. She suggested that the occupancy condition was unreasonable, unfair and placed a restriction on her family for the future.

During discussion, the case officer clarified that the assessment of overlooking at the site had not changed.

The Committee refused the application for the reasons as set out in the case officer's report and delegated power to the Director of Planning and Building Control for the final wording of the refusal.

(Councillor Magee returned to the Committee table at this point.)

**LA04/2017/2623/F - 88 Circular Road, dwelling with detached garage**

The case officer provided an overview of the aforementioned application. She outlined the planning history on the site and clarified that the previous buildings on site had been demolished and works had commenced on the erection of the new dwelling and garage; the garage being substantially complete.

Alderman Browne indicated that he wished to speak on the matter and accordingly, the Committee agreed. He raised objections to the recommendation by the case officer to approve the application including neighbour objections, non-permission of building works already completed, height of garage, information lacking from the Planning Service and problems with the application process. He suggested that a site visit should be arranged.

In response to the issues raised by Alderman Browne, the Director advised that case officers were objective in their assessment of applications and confirmed that it was not an offence to undertake works without planning permission, unless the building was listed, and the process to regularise building work that had been undertaken needed to be assessed fairly.

The Committee received a representation from Mr. I. Adamson, Mrs H. Brooker and Mr. D. Brooker. They suggested that the development had a large number of objections, would be detrimental to the townscape character and heritage of the area, was unlawful as the current structure had no planning permission and there had been a lack of information disclosed by the Council on the enforcement issues at the site. They also suggested that the development had already been used as a precedent for further demolitions on the road and that a site visit would be useful for the Committee.



**Planning Committee,  
Tuesday, 14th August, 2018**

The Committee received a representation from Mr. C. McAuley and Mrs F. Dunwoody representing the applicant. Mr. McAuley endorsed the recommendation to approve the application and highlighted that the site had been purchased for a family home. He suggested that the site already had full planning permission for a house and garage and minor changes were required under this application. He pointed out that the current application included a landscape and planting plan to enhance the character and townscape. He suggested that the design amendments had been made since meeting with the Planning Department, the site had a history of approval and the Committee should approve the application.

After discussion, the Committee, given the issues which had been raised by the objectors, agreed to defer consideration of the application to permit a site visit to be undertaken to allow the Committee to acquaint itself with the location and the proposal at first hand.

**LA04/2017/0261/F - Land to rear of 49 Diamond Gardens, 2 Storey detached dwelling**

(Councillor McAteer, who had declared an interest in this application, withdrew from the table whilst it was under discussion and took no part in the debate or decision-making process.)

(Councillor Hutchinson had left the room whilst the item was under consideration.)

The Case officer outlined the application for a residential dwelling on lands to the rear of 49 Diamond Gardens including new access, bicycle shelter and bin storage.

The case officer informed the Committee that, after the agenda had been published, the following points of objection had been received from Mr. J. McVeigh:

- Requested the delay of the presentation to the Planning Committee to allow time for the objectors' Planning Consultant to respond to an email from Planning in response to an email from Mr McVeigh dated 11th July;
- It was unclear what conditions had been included by Planning Service - this information had not been provided and Mr. McVeigh had been unable to locate it on the Planning Portal;
- It was unreasonable to rush this planning application through the Planning Committee given the level of effort that had been put into it by concerned local residents and also considering it had previously been earmarked for refusal;
- Given the late response received from Planning Service to an email dated 11th July, it was only fair and reasonable to delay a decision on this application until the next month;
- If this application was considered to the Planning Committee, local residents would feel let down by the Planning Service; and
- There were no conditions in the case officer's report regarding the proposed movement of the pillars.

**Planning Committee,  
Tuesday, 14th August, 2018**

The case officer outlined the response of the Planning Department to the aforementioned issues raised, as set out in the Late Items Report Pack.

Councillor McAteer indicated that she wished to speak in objection to the proposal and accordingly, the Committee agreed. She suggested that the area had a rural feel and there were currently three houses on the laneway and raised concerns in relation to vehicle movement and the heritage value and ownership of the gate posts at the entry of the lane. She suggested that the separation distances between the proposal and the existing houses was minimal and a site visit would be beneficial for the Committee to assess the impact of the proposal on the surrounding houses.

The Committee received a representation from Mr. J. Cassidy, agent, representing the applicant. He advised that this was a revised application to consider issues which had been raised by the Planning Service and residents. He suggested that concerns in relation to the existing road junction with Diamond Gardens had been taken into consideration and the proposal addressed this as it would widen the existing carriageway, relocate one of the existing gate posts, remove the existing hedge and replant a new one. He suggested that the gate posts were on Transport NI land and had been built without its knowledge or approval, however, the proposal would move one of them outside the increased width of carriageway.

After discussion, the Committee, given the issues which had been raised in relation to the ownership of the gate post and width of the laneway, agreed to defer consideration of the application to permit a site visit to be undertaken to allow the Committee to acquaint itself with the location and the proposal at first hand. The Committee also agreed that further information from the applicant in relation to ownership of the gate post be submitted for the Planning Service for consideration.

(Councillors Hutchinson and McAteer returned to the Committee table at this point.)

**LA04/2017/1707/F - Tomb Street. Graham House, 11 storey office building with ground floor restaurant/café**

The Committee considered the application for the erection of an 11 storey office building with ground floor restaurant/café, associated works and vehicular access from Tomb Street.

During discussion, Members raised concerns in relation to the design, the impact of the proposal on the nearby Custom House Square and the objection from the Historic Environment Division in relation to the updated plans.

The case officer confirmed that HED were now more content with the design but required clarification from the Planning Service and delegated authority was sought to engage with HED.

The Director highlighted that HED were a consultee and the Planning Service would facilitate the extra consultation to remove their concerns in relation to the scheme, however, the recommendation of the Planning Service was to approve the application.

**Planning Committee,  
Tuesday, 14th August, 2018**

The Committee approved the application, subject to the imposing of the conditions set out in the case officer's report and, in accordance with Section 76 of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2015, delegated power to the Director of Planning and Building Control, in conjunction with the City Solicitor, to enter into discussions with the applicant to explore the scope of any Planning Agreements which might be realised by way of developer contributions and, if so, to enter into such an Agreement on behalf of the Council. The Committee also delegated power to the Director of Planning and Building Control for the final wording of the conditions and to engage with HED on the proposal's conformity with Planning Policy Statement 6.

**(The meeting was adjourned for 10 minutes.)**

**LA04/2017/0456/F - 2 Dargan Crescent, partial demolition of existing building and extension to provide new tyre depot and new access to Duncrue Road**

(Councillor Mullan had left the room whilst the item was under consideration.)

The Committee was apprised of the principal aspects of the application located on Dargan Crescent, off Duncrue Road. The application related to an existing warehouse which was currently vacant.

It was noted that the application, in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, had been presented to the Committee since the Council was the landowner of the development site.

The Committee granted approval to the application, subject to the imposing of the conditions set out within the case officer's report and delegated power to the Director of Planning and Building Control for the final wording of the conditions.

(Councillor Mullan returned to the Committee table at this point.)

**LA04/2018/0828/LBC - Belfast City Hall, alterations to reception within main rotunda to provide changing rooms facility**

It was noted that the application, in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, had been presented to the Committee since the Council was the applicant.

The Committee granted approval to the application, subject to the imposing of the conditions set out within the case officer's report and delegated power to the Director of Planning and Building Control for the final wording of the conditions.

**LA04/2018/1605/A - Land at 22-30 King St, advertisement**

It was noted that the application, in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, had been presented to the Committee since the Council was the applicant.

The Committee granted approval to the application, subject to the imposing of the conditions set out within the case officer's report and delegated power to the Director of Planning and Building Control for the final wording of the conditions.

**Planning Committee,  
Tuesday, 14th August, 2018**

**LA04/2018/1629/A - Kent St/Union St. advertisement**

It was noted that the application, in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, had been presented to the Committee since the Council was the applicant.

The Committee granted approval to the application, subject to the imposing of the conditions set out within the case officer's report and delegated power to the Director of Planning and Building Control for the final wording of the conditions.

**LA04/2018/1290/A - 14A Hi-Park, Church Lane, advertisement**

It was noted that the application, in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, had been presented to the Committee since the Council had an interest in the development.

The Committee granted approval to the application, subject to the imposing of the conditions set out within the case officer's report and delegated power to the Director of Planning and Building Control for the final wording of the conditions.

**LA04/2018/0283/F - Lands adjacent to 115-119 Upper Dunmurry Lane for environmental improvement including play area**

It was noted that the application, in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, had been presented to the Committee since the Council was the applicant.

The Committee granted approval to the application, subject to the imposing of the conditions set out within the case officer's report and delegated power to the Director of Planning and Building Control for the final wording of the conditions.

**LA04/2017/2574/F - 69-73 Glenmachan Street, demolition of 4 units, erection of 2 car showrooms, alterations to existing workshop, and erection of car valet building and associated car parking**

The Committee considered the aforementioned application.

The Committee granted approval to the application, subject to the imposing of the conditions set out within the case officer's report.

**LA04/2018/1651/F - Belfast City Cemetery 511 Falls Road, Visitors Centre**

It was noted that the application, in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, had been presented to the Committee since the Council was the applicant.

The Committee granted approval to the application, subject to the imposing of the conditions set out within the case officer's report.

Chairperson

**F607**

## **Belfast Waterfront and Ulster Hall Ltd. Shareholders' Committee**

Monday, 13th August, 2018

### MEETING OF BELFAST WATERFRONT AND ULSTER HALL LTD. SHAREHOLDERS' COMMITTEE

Members present: Alderman Copeland; and  
Councillors Carson, Clarke, Dorrian,  
Graham, Johnston, McConville, Mullan,  
Nicholl, Nic Biorna and O'Neill.

In attendance: Mr. J. Greer, Director of Economic Development;  
Ms. C. Toolan, Managing Director, Belfast Waterfront  
and Ulster Hall Ltd;  
Mr. I. Bell, Business Support Director; and  
Mrs. L. McLornan, Democratic Services Officer.

#### **Chairing of Meeting**

In the absence of the Chairperson and the Deputy Chairperson, it was agreed that Councillor Carson take the Chair.

(Councillor Carson in the Chair)

#### **Apologies**

Apologies for inability to attend were reported from the Chairperson, Alderman Haire, and the Deputy Chairperson, Councillor Attwood.

#### **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of 21st May were taken as read and signed as correct. It was reported that those minutes had been adopted by the Council at its meeting on 4th June.

#### **Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were reported.

#### **RESTRICTED ITEM**

**The information contained in the reports associated with the following 2 items is restricted in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.**

**Belfast Waterfront and Ulster Hall Ltd. Shareholders' Committee,  
Monday, 13th August, 2018**

**Finance and Performance Report – Quarter 1**

The Managing Director of Belfast Waterfront and Ulster Hall Ltd. (BWUH Ltd.) provided the Committee with an overview of the Company's mission and vision, its corporate governance and its strategic goals for 2020/2021.

She advised the Committee of the Company's performance during April, May and June, 2018, and the Business Support Director provided a detailed analysis of actual performance against the budget and of the sales mix.

The Members were advised that the occupancy rates for both the Belfast Waterfront and the Ulster Hall were ahead of target for Quarter 1.

In relation to the Ulster Hall occupancy rates, she confirmed to the Members that discussions were ongoing with the Ulster Orchestra with regards to its rehearsals throughout the year.

The Managing Director explained to the Members that, following the Committee's agreement and, as a result of the recent repositioning exercise, the Belfast Waterfront would be marketed as the "ICC Belfast" to international audiences, and would maintain the Waterfront Hall title for the local market. She advised the Committee that the official launch of the "ICC Belfast" name was to be confirmed and that the Members of the Committee would be informed in due course.

The Members were advised that the Belfast Waterfront had hosted some very high profile events during the first quarter of 2018/2019, including the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards, the Royal College of Nursing (RCN) Congress and the HBO Games of Thrones Wrap Party. She pointed out to the Committee the significant amount of media coverage which the RCN Congress had generated, both for Belfast and for the Waterfront Hall as a venue.

In response to a Member's question regarding whether BWUH Ltd. followed-up with previous clients, the Managing Director confirmed to the Members the importance of maintaining those relationships.

The Managing Director outlined to the Committee that three new conference centres in Great Britain were due for completion in 2019, and would therefore be competing with the Waterfront for business.

The Committee was provided with an update on the catering contract for the business. The Members noted that the catering contract had been terminated in June, 2018, and that correspondence was ongoing between the companies. She outlined that an interim contract was in place and appeared to be working well at this stage. The Committee was advised that a full catering tender was being prepared.

The Members were advised that the work to create apprenticeship positions within the business continued to be a challenge but that it was a work in progress. She advised the Committee that the company was working with Youth in Action and providing a six-week training programme for 10 unemployed young people.

**Belfast Waterfront and Ulster Hall Ltd. Shareholders' Committee,  
Monday, 13th August, 2018**

The Business Support Director advised the Committee that, in terms of sales, the company was 7% ahead of budget and 7% ahead of the previous year.

A Member raised concerns regarding the potential impact that Brexit could have on the business.

In response, the Managing Director advised the Committee that, while no bookings had been cancelled as a result of Brexit, there were a number of uncertainties in relation to elements of their future costs, such as Value Added Tax, which could hinder the company's ability to be competitive on price.

A number of Members stated that the Titanic Dance musical, which had opened in the Belfast Waterfront on 9th August, had been a success and that it illustrated that there was a demand for entertainment throughout the summer in Belfast.

The Committee was advised that Board meetings and Audit & Risk subcommittee meetings had been held throughout the year as scheduled, and regular monthly meetings had been held with the Director of Economic Development, as the Senior Responsible Officer, to review BWUH Ltd.'s progress to date.

After further discussion, the Director of Economic Development extended his gratitude to Catherine and all of the BWUH Ltd. staff for their hard work to ensure that the corporate targets were being met.

The Committee noted the update which was provided.

**Annual Report and Financial Statements**

The Managing Director reminded the Committee that it had considered the year-end position and overview at its Annual General Meeting on 21st May, 2018. The full accounts had not been available at that time and it was agreed that they would be submitted to the next meeting of the Shareholders' Committee for notation.

The Committee noted the Annual Report and the Financial Statements for the period ending 31st March, 2018.

Chairperson

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## Brexit Committee

Thursday, 9th August, 2018

### MEETING OF BREXIT COMMITTEE

Members present: Councillor Walsh (Chairperson);  
Aldermen Kingston, McGimpsey and Spence;  
Councillors Attwood, Beattie, Campbell, Canavan,  
Carson, Dudgeon, Hutchinson, Lyons, McAllister,  
McAteer, McDonough-Brown, Nichol, O'Hara,  
Pankhurst and Reynolds.

In attendance: Mr. N. Grimshaw, Strategic Director of City and  
Neighbourhood Services;  
Mr. J. Greer, Director of Economic Development;  
Ms. G. Long, Commissioner for Resilience;  
Mr. J. Walsh, City Solicitor; and  
Mr. J. Hanna, Senior Democratic Services Officer.

### Routine Matters

#### Apologies

An apology for inability to attend was reported from Councillor Dorrian.

#### Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were recorded.

#### Scheduled of Meetings for 2018

The Committee agreed to the following schedule of meetings for 2018:

- Thursday, 20th September at 4.30 pm;
- Thursday, 11th October at 4.30 pm;
- Thursday, 8th November at 4.30 pm; and
- Thursday, 6th December at 4.30 pm

### Matters Referred back from Council/Motions

#### Motion – Backstop Option

The Committee was reminded that the following motion regarding a Brexit Backstop Option, which had been proposed by Councillor Walsh and seconded by Councillor Carson had, in accordance with Standing Order 13(f), been referred to the Committee by the Council at its meeting on 4th June:

**Brexit Committee,  
Thursday, 9th August, 2018**

“This Council supports paragraph 49 of the agreed Joint Report from the Negotiators of the European Union and the British Government of December 2017 which is an approach that will ensure there is no hardening of the border in Ireland.

The Council wishes to see the ‘backstop’ option, as defined in paragraph 49, included in the legally binding Withdrawal Agreement and agrees to lobby for retaining the ‘backstop’ in the Withdrawal Agreement unless and until something better emerges. In addition, the Council demands that the full EU rights of citizens are protected, as proposed in the current draft Withdrawal Agreement.”

Councillor Carson, who had seconded the motion at the Council meeting, subsequently proposed that the Committee adopt the motion as the Council’s position.

At the request of Councillor Lyons, the proposer agreed to amend the motion with the removal of the first sentence of the second paragraph to be replaced by the following:

“This Council recognises that the ‘backstop’ option is the minimum position agrees to lobby for retaining this and furthermore any position the Brexit Committee adopts going forward.”

The motion, as amended, was thereupon put to the Committee when ten members voted for and seven against and it was declared carried.

**Officer’s Reports**

**Brexit and Council Day One Readiness Preparation**

The Committee considered the following report:

**“1.0 Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues**

**1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Members with a brief summary of the work being undertaken in council to ensure the council’s day 1 readiness for Brexit**

**2.0 Recommendations**

**2.1 The Committee is asked to note the contents of this report and agree to a more detailed update report being brought in the future.**

**3.0 Main report**

**3.1 As Members are aware, the UK Government has stated its intention to withdraw from the EU on 29 March 2019. A two year transition period has been proposed to allow for consequent changes to be implemented, however there is no**

agreement to date. Although there is still significant uncertainty as to the nature (and final date) of the UK's withdrawal from the EU, the council has begun preparations to ensure that the council's business will continue to be delivered as usual, regardless of the terms of the withdrawal agreement. These preparations include:

**3.2 a) Assessment of impact & business continuity planning**

A council-wide audit of services is currently being undertaken to identify the nature and extent of potential impact on services. (In particular regarding funding; personnel; procurement/contracts; and legislation). An assessment of risk to identified key service areas will be carried out and an action plan to mitigate the impact and ensure business continuity will be developed. Nigel Grimshaw, Director of City & Neighbourhood Services Department, is the senior responsible officer for progressing this work.

**3.3 b) Engagement with Departments in the Assembly**

All NI councils have been invited to engage with Departments in the Assembly to assist in exploring the impacts, potential opportunities and any contingency planning following Brexit. The Executive Office has circulated Day 1 Planning Guidance to all councils. This sets out key principles to be used by local councils to work in conjunction with the Northern Ireland Civil Service to develop delivery plans, to ensure that all policy areas and services have been considered and that there are no 'surprises' or unexpected impacts on any government service on Day 1 following an EU exit. Council officers have attended meetings with DEARA and DfE and with TEO earlier this year and further meetings are planned for the near future.

**3.4 c) Engagement with Northern Ireland Local Government Association (NILGA)**

NILGA has published several papers in relation to Brexit and has been identifying practical actions to support councils. One of which is to bring together key personnel on a task and finish basis to scope the potential impact on council services, identify solutions and highlight gaps that need to be addressed at a UK level. To implement this NILGA have extended the remit and membership of their Economy, Investment and Rural Development Working Group to create an all-council team of Members and support officers who would convene regular meetings to consider relevant issues. BCC has been asked to nominate two Members to attend these

meetings and this is being progressed through the council's 'appointment to outside bodies' process.

**3.5 Financial & Resource Implications**

There are no specific resource implications attached to this report.

**3.6 Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment**

There are no specific equality or good relations implications attached to this report."

The Committee noted the contents of the report and agreed to receive a more detailed update report at a future meeting.

The Committee agreed also, in order the help identify the potential impact of Brexit on the Council, community organisations, the business and other sectors, to the holding of two workshop/events, with one event being internally focused and the other to host the external sectors.

**Brexit: Overview of the Potential Impact and Opportunities for the Local Economy**

The Committee considered the following report:

**"1.0 Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues**

**1.1 This paper provides an overview of the work undertaken to date to inform the Council's considerations of the potential economic implications and opportunities for Belfast associated with Brexit. This is in line with the Committee's responsibility for researching, monitoring and reviewing the financial, resource or operational impact upon the Council and the district as a result of the UK's leaving the European Union**

**2.0 Recommendations**

**2.1 The Committee is asked to note the contents of the report.**

**3.0 Main report**

**3.1 Given the region's unique position, as the only part of the UK that shares a land border with an EU member state (Republic of Ireland) and is involved in a range of cross-border cultural, economic and political initiatives; and assessment of the impacts will be more challenging to assess until the future relationship between the UK and EU is determined. However,**

to inform our plans to grow an inclusive economy and the success of the city, the Council has undertaken and engaged with experts to provide research and views as well as engaging with key stakeholders and business to consider the potential impacts and opportunities of Brexit.

**Special Meeting of the City Growth and Regeneration Committee (November 2017)**

- 3.2** This meeting enabled informed discussion of the potential economic impact and Belfast's resilience to meet any challenges and take advantage of any opportunities associated with Brexit, to ensure the inclusive economic growth and regeneration of the city. This was within the context of the Belfast Agenda and Local Development Plan and the vision for the city in 2035.
- 3.3** Prof Neil Gibson (EY) and Dr Eoin Magennis (Ulster University Economic Policy Centre (UUEPC)), Dr Stevie Nolan (Trademark) and Dr Katy Hayward (Queen's University Belfast) provided independent expert input. Research prepared by the Nevin Economic Research Institute was also circulated to inform considerations.
- 3.4** The key issues from this meeting were noted at the City Growth and Regeneration Committee meeting in December 2018. This included the following:
- Importance of attracting and retaining investment (particularly high value growth services such as financial services)
  - Increasing trade (focusing on high growth services sector) and exploring opportunities to encourage business to export
  - Clarity on the movement of people, which is vital for the city to secure a pipeline of talent and increase tourism
  - Strengthening and diversifying the local economy – growing the local business base and accelerating alternative models such as social enterprises
  - The vital contribution of EU funding to social cohesion, economic and cultural regeneration as well as PEACE and securing any replacement funds
  - Key interests for business lie in terms of potential changes to labour mobility and talent/workforce availability, access to supply chains, regulation and compliance, tax, customs and tariffs.
  - There are ways in which Belfast may benefit in certain sectors due to its location and proximity to Dublin; its competitive cost base may be an advantage.

- The professional services ‘axis’ of Belfast – Dublin - London offers a real opportunity to position the city.
- Ensuring connectivity (air, road, rail and digital connections) and appropriate infrastructure are crucial for growth.

#### **Belfast Region City Deal**

- 3.5 The Belfast Region City Deal is both a vehicle to improve prosperity and quality of life in the city-region as well as making the city-region more globally competitive. The emerging City Deal will create opportunities for innovation, skills and infrastructure that will play a key role in strengthening the City’s position as the regional driver and in mitigating potential impacts of Brexit.
- 3.6 In developing the City Deal proposition a Belfast Region Industrial Strategic Framework has been developed to provide context and coherence for the proposed programmes of work that will be delivered. This draft Framework was presented at the Strategic Policy & Resources Committee in June 2018 and is available at [SP&R June minutes](#).
- 3.7 The Framework provides a shared vision for sustainable and inclusive growth of the Belfast Region based on a robust analysis of the competitive strengths and the key economic challenges. This includes consideration of the potential implications of Brexit that has been informed by economic research and modelling from the UUEPC. The Economic Growth Forum, which includes representatives from the city’s anchor institutions, and business representative groups such as the CBI and Chamber of Trade have also held focused discussions on Brexit and contributed to the draft Industrial Strategic Framework.
- 3.8 While caution must be applied when relying on economic forecasts and modelling; it is clear that in terms of the employment projections, Belfast has a critical role as the economic driver for the city-region in each of the potential scenarios presented, emphasising the importance of giving specific consideration to Belfast’s position and its specific economic eco system. A copy of this presentation is attached as Appendix 1. As the negotiations continue between the UK government and the EU, this work will be refined and refreshed as part of the ongoing work on the Belfast Region City Deal.

**Inclusive Growth Framework**

- 3.9** The City Growth and Regeneration Committee noted that the Council's role was vital in continuing to show leadership to drive inclusive economic growth, particularly given the uncertainty in the political, economic and global environment. The Committee will be aware that Metrodynamics have been commissioned to develop an Inclusive Growth Framework. A Members workshop took place in June 2018 to help define what Inclusive Growth means for Belfast. The development and implementation of this framework will take account of the economic climate and ambitions for Belfast and Brexit will inform considerations in shaping its development during autumn 2018.

**Commissioner for Resilience for Belfast (100 Resilient Cities)**

- 3.10** The growth and diversification of the Belfast economy is critical to maintain its resilience in order to manage future economic changes, potential shocks and stresses.
- 3.11** The appointment of the Commissioner for Resilience in May 2018 to champion the development and implementation of a Belfast resilience strategy will have a key role to play in shaping the city's future approach in the post-Brexit environment. This emphasises the importance of continuing to attract investors, employers and visitors to ensure economic prosperity for the city and the region as a whole.

**3.12** **Ongoing programmes of work**

- 3.12** The Committee should note that the Council has also highlighted the issues and opportunities of particular relevance to Belfast in response to the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee request for suggested topic areas for the next Brexit and Northern Ireland Inquiry in February 2018. As agreed by Committee, this response also outlined that the Council had considered a number of Notices of Motion, which were subsequently carried. It also expressed concern about the impact on the NI economy, the impact of a hard border as well as concern about the loss of a number of E.U. programmes that were specifically focused on targeting social inclusion and the cohesion of communities, particularly through skills and employment, and through the loss of INTERREG programmes. The NI Affairs Committee has taken a themed approach to its Brexit and NI Inquiries and have selected agriculture as their Inquiry topic. A summary of the

various Notices of Motion considered by Council and subsequently passed in included in Appendix 2.

- 3.13** The Council is continuing to engage with business and others to monitor and understand their issues to inform future messaging and support.
- 3.14** Irrespective of the potential impact of Brexit, the key challenges for the city remain – the need to grow the population, increase the business base and companies exporting, encourage innovation and tackle the levels of economic inactivity in the city. While there is may be a need to tailor and adapt approaches, the delivery of the Belfast Agenda ambitions and programmes of work remains key to drive inclusive growth and position the city for the future. Our approach to delivering these strategies, programmes and plans (such as programmes aimed at encouraging business to start up and grow, targeted interventions to support social enterprise, the emerging Enterprise Framework, Employability and Skills programmes, strengthening the city’s tourism potential and international relations) will continue to develop and refine as the future relationship between the UK and EU becomes clearer.
- 3.15** Officers are continuing to monitor developments and the Committee will note the recent UK government White Paper published in July 2018 ‘The future relationship between the United Kingdom and the European Union’ which is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-future-relationship-between-the-united-kingdom-and-the-european-union>
- 3.16** **Financial & Resource Implications**
- There are no resource implications attached to this report.
- 3.17** **Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment**
- There are no specific implications attached to this report.”

The Committee noted the contents of the report and agreed that a report be submitted to a future meeting considering possible scenarios for the Belfast services industry if Article 56 ‘freedom to provide services’ of the Treaty on the functioning of the EU does not apply to that sector following the UK’s departure from the European Union.



**Brexit Committee,  
Thursday, 9th August, 2018**

**Scenario Planning – Brexit**

The Commissioner for Resilience reminded the Committee that, in making its decision to establish a Brexit Committee, the Council and the Strategy Policy and Resources Committee had recognised the importance of understanding the full implications of Brexit for the city’s resilience and had adopted the following position:

“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.”

The Commissioner reported that urban resilience was the capacity of individuals, communities, institutions, businesses and systems within a city to survive, adapt, and grow no matter what kinds of chronic stresses and acute shocks they experienced. In other words, it strengthened the city’s capacity to identify risks and opportunities before they happened, to be better prepared when they occurred and more capable of recovering or bouncing back from shocks.

Cities that were resilient tended to be better at planning for the future and used a range of methods for doing this. Scenario planning, that is, considering plausible situations arising from a risk or opportunity, had proven to be effective in enabling cities to design potential solutions during times of uncertainty. As the UK continues its negotiations on EU withdrawal, there remained a range of potential outcomes and the current context was therefore highly uncertain.

She pointed out that Belfast’s membership of 100 Resilient Cities give the city access to key resources to build the city’s decision-making capacity. Among those was its ‘City Solutions Catalogue’, which was a suite of resilience-building tools and services, provided by partners from the private, academic, public and non-profit sectors. This was an invaluable resource to the city of Belfast and could be accessed to help the city consider a particular risk or opportunity.

It was therefore proposed that the Commissioner for Resilience commissions 100 Resilience Cities to design an approach to scenario planning for the city to consider the risks and opportunities associated with the UK withdrawal from the EU. Initial conversations with 100 Resilience Cities had confirmed that, if approved by the Committee, this work would be commenced within weeks. A model of scenario planning would be designed relatively quickly and available in time for the next meeting of the Committee for Members to consider.

The Committee noted the information which had been provided and agreed to use the resources available to the Council from its membership of 100 Resilience City’s to undertake scenario planning to prepare for UK withdrawal from the European Union.

**Issues Raised in Advance by Members**

**Port Health Unit – Councillor Dudgeon**

In accordance with notice on the agenda, Councillor Dudgeon proposed the following:

“This Committee agrees in the light of the particular Brexit-impacted functions performed by council staff in our Port Health Unit to an urgent review of its role after March 2019.

The Port Health Unit at Belfast Harbour Estate is currently approved to act on behalf of the EU as a Designated Point of Entry. It also currently controls high-risk products of non-animal origin imported from outside the EU and is approved as a Border Inspection Post for the examination, sampling and clearance of third country imports of products of animal origin.

Given the changes after Brexit when the Unit may have to inspect direct imports from all the current EU states, as well as non EU countries, the proposed review of its role and options will need to involve forward planning for various outcomes.”

After discussion, the Committee agreed to undertake a study visit to the Port Health Unit and noted that, whilst a Council-wide audit was being undertaken to identify the nature and extent of potential impact on services, that a separate report be submitted on the potential impact on the Port Health Unit.

Chairperson