## **Public Document Pack**

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



4<sup>th</sup> October, 2019

### MEETING OF CITY GROWTH AND REGENERATION COMMITTEE

Dear Alderman/Councillor,

The above-named Committee will meet in the Lavery Room - City Hall on Wednesday, 9th October, 2019 at 5.15 pm, for the transaction of the business noted below.

You are requested to attend.

Yours faithfully,

SUZANNE WYLIE

Chief Executive

### AGENDA:

### 1. Routine Matters

- (a) Apologies
- (b) Minutes
- (c) Declarations of Interest

### 2. **Presentations**

(a) Committee WorkShop Update and BCRIS Presentation (Pages 1 - 6)

### 3. Restricted

- (a) Gasworks Northern Fringe Masterplan (Pages 7 24)
- (b) City Centre Public Realm Catalyst Projects (Pages 25 40)

### 4. **Growing Business and the Economy**

(a) Growing the Economy - Update (Pages 41 - 46)

- (b) Working and Learning Update (Pages 47 54)
- (c) Innovation and Inclusive Growth Commission (Pages 55 60)

## 5. Regenerating Places and Improving Infrastructure

(a) Car Parking Strategy - Update (Pages 61 - 72)

### 6. **Positioning Belfast to Compete**

- (a) Cultural Strategy Implementation and Investment (To Follow)
- (b) Tourism and Events Update 2019-20
- (c) Belfast at MIPIM The International Market Event for Real Estate Professionals (Pages 73 82)
- (d) IABA Re-alignment of funding (Pages 83 86)

# Agenda Item 2a



### CITY GROWTH AND REGENERATION COMMITTEE

Subjec	et:	City Growth and Regeneration Committee Workshop Update				
Date:		9 <sup>th</sup> October 2019				
Report	ing Officer:	Alistair Reid, Strategic Director of Place and E				
		Sean Dolan, Acting Director City Regeneratio	n & De	evelopr	nent	
Contac	ct Officer:	Lisa Toland, Senior Manager: Economic Deve	elopme	ent		
Restric	ted Reports					
Is this	report restricted?		Yes		No	X
11	Yes, when will the	report become unrestricted?				
	After Committe	ee Decision				
	After Council D	Decision				
	Some time in t	he future				
	Never					
Call-in						
Is the c	decision eligible for	Call-in?	Yes	X	No	
1.0	Purpose of Repor	t or Summary of main Issues				
1.1	In June 2019, the	Committee agreed the headline priorities for the	e 201	9/20 pr	ogran	nme of
	work to enable offi	cers to continue to deliver on agreed program	nmes	and pr	ojects	. The
	Committee also agr	eed to hold a workshop to allow more detailed d	iscuss	ion on t	the pri	orities.
	This report provides	s an overview of the workshop held on 25th Se	ptemb	er 2019	9.	

- The Committee's priorities will help to deliver the Belfast Agenda, and key corporate priorities including the Belfast City Centre and Investment Strategy (BCCRIS), Belfast Region City Deal, the investment in digital connectivity, infrastructure and innovation; and the Inclusive Growth Framework. The Agenda includes four headline goals to focus on the sustainable, economic and social growth of Belfast so that by 2035:
  - Our economy supports 46,000 additional jobs.
  - Our city is home to 339,579 people.
  - There will be 33% reduction in the life expectancy gap between the most and least deprived neighbourhoods.
  - Every young person leaving school has a destination that fulfils their potential.
- 1.3 The Belfast City Centre Regeneration and Investment Strategy (BCCRIS) was produced and adopted by the Council in 2015 and subsequently adopted as policy by the Department for Communities (DfC). The Strategy provides the framework for change to drive the growth and regeneration of the city core and its surrounding areas. It is a key mechanism to deliver the shared city ambitions of the Belfast Agenda. It sets out eight policy areas including:
  - Increase the residential population;
  - Increase the employment population
  - Manage the retail offer
  - Maximise the tourism opportunity
  - Creation of regional learning and innovation centres
  - Create a green walkable, cyclable centre
  - Connect to the city around
  - Shared space and social impact

It also highlights a number of key projects and special action areas.

- 1.4 In line with the Belfast Agenda stretch goals for 2021 a stock take of development across the City Centre as set out in BCCRIS has been undertaken. The stock take is presented in the form of an animated fly through covering the 8 policy areas, projects and places and special action areas. The fly through highlights key achievements in terms what has come forward and highlights gaps, which will help identify opportunities for growth and development support.
- 1.5 The Economic Development and Employability elements of the Council's work have been set out across a series of frameworks and strategies. These include the new Cultural Strategy, the enterprise framework and the employability framework. The key focus of this

work is on creating more new businesses, making existing businesses more productive and competitive, helping people into employment – particularly those who are economically inactive, increasing the skills of the resident population and increasing the value of tourism in Belfast. A workshop focusing on the economic development and employability and skills issues has been scheduled for 10 October at 5.15pm.

#### 2.0 Recommendations

#### 2.1 The committee is asked to:

- Note the key issues and messages from the strategic workshop held on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2019 and the planned employability and skills workshop on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2019.
- Note the brief presentation on BCCRIS including the fly through animation, development snap shot and key challenges.

## 3.0 Main report

### 3.1 Key Issues

The City Growth and Regeneration Committee is responsible for the following:

- The development and implementation of strategies, policies, programmes and projects directed towards regeneration and growth of the city in the context of outcomes agreed in the community and corporate plans and other corporate strategy decisions.
- Oversight of the exercise of Council functions in relation to economic development, city centre development, tourism, culture & arts, European and international relations, car parks, city markets, city events, Belfast Castle, Malone House and Belfast Zoo.

The Committee workshop on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2019 was introduced by the Deputy Chair, Cllr Carole Howard and took the following format:

- An introduction and overview of the committee's areas of responsibility
- An overview of the priorities in the Belfast Agenda and Corporate Plan where this Committee has the primary lead role
- The priorities and proposed approach to addressing the city's challenges and building on its strengths, in terms of the broad areas of economic development and city regeneration and development
- Challenges identified across economic development and city regeneration and development
- Discussion on how officers can better support the work of the Committee.

- 3.3 The main discussion points from the workshop included:
  - Maximise the Council's role as convenor and influence strategic city issues and investments such as housing, transport, regeneration, connectivity, and open and green shared spaces to encourage the establish of sustainable city centre living
  - Continue to lobby for the transfer regeneration powers to local councils
  - Build on our strategic partnership working to promote the city's assets and to realise the opportunities presented by the Belfast Region City Deal
  - The Council's role as a responsible employer and leading by example
  - Delivering a twin track approach to support people into employment and engage with employers to support upskilling and progression opportunities
  - The need to build strategic relationships with key employers in order to understand how we can help them and they can help us address some of the key city challenges
  - Provide tailored and targeted support to enable those who face multiple barriers to employment to benefit from a range of employability and skills support
  - The need to be ambitious in encouraging new businesses to start up and grow in Belfast and to think more radically about the types of support that might help them
  - The increasing importance of tourism to the city's development and the need to continue to invest, in order to ensure that the city feels the benefit of the tourism growth
  - The need for meaningful and ongoing community engagement for city developments and infrastructure; particularly in terms of established communities and neighbourhoods
  - The benefit of masterplanning to bring forward coherent urban design
  - The benefit of working with public and private sector partners to provide critical mass in terms of attracting and bringing forward development opportunities that can deliver mixed tenure residential, along with a viable mix of commercial, social enterprise and cultural opportunities
  - Explore the feasibility of alternative options to help address key issues, for example, codevelopment of housing, a business start-up offer for the Belfast economy, increasing vitality in the city centre and the future role of retail; generating a city centre environment to build communities and that people choose to live in
  - Learning from the experience of the Bank Buildings Primark response to inform and manage our approach to intervene and support residents and businesses, for example in the event of recent redundancies.

3.4	A number of issues were raised in the course of the conversation and these will be followed
	up by officers. This may include bringing future reports back to the Committee on some of
	the key issues.
3.5	The workshop reinforced the value and format of these sessions, enabling Members to gain
	a deeper understanding of the issues and challenges across the city. It also allowed more
	focused engagement and consideration to be given to the proposed approaches to progress
	programmes of work. Members suggested that particular consideration should be given to
	improve the working between the Planning and the City Growth & Regeneration Committees
	to support the shared understanding of the city's ambitions and enhance decision-
	making. Further consideration will be given to this in order to identify appropriate
	mechanisms that will ensure full compliance with statutory responsibilities.
3.6	Financial & Resource Implications
	The Committee Plan and annual programme of work will be in line with the budget of
	£17,118,371, as agreed by the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee in January 2019.
3.7	Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment
	Programmes and activities contained within the Committee Plan will be subject to appropriate
	equality, rural needs and good relations considerations.
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	None
	NOTE



# Agenda Item 3a

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.















# Agenda Item 3b

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.





## Agenda Item 4a



Subject:

## **CITY GROWTH AND REGENERATION COMMITTEE**

Date:		9 October 2019				
Report	ing Officer:	John Greer, Director of Economic Developme	nt			
Contac	ct Officer:	Cathy Keenan, Economic Development Mana Development)	iger (Lo	ocal Ec	onom	ic
Restric	ted Reports					
Is this	report restricted?		Yes		No	Х
If	Yes, when will the	report become unrestricted?				
	After Committe	ee Decision				
	After Council D	Decision				
	Sometime in th	ne future				
	Never					
Call-in						
Is the c	lecision eligible for	Call-in?	Yes	Х	No	
1.0	Purpose of Report	t or Summary of Main Issues				
1.1	The purpose of the	nis report is to provide an update on progr	ess ag	gainst	a ser	ies of
		out under the Growing the Economy pillar of t		_		
	update is in line wit	h the activity that was approved at this Commit	tee on	6 Marc	h 201	9.

Growing the Economy Update

2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to:  Note the Council's performance and contribution to delivering against Belfast Agenda ambitions to grow the Belfast economy, focusing on the current support for Business Start-up, Growth and Investment.  Main Report
3.0	Main Report
3.1	At its meeting of 6 March 2019, the City Growth and Regeneration Committee approved the delivery of the Growing the Economy work plan for the 2019/20 financial year. Since April 2019, officers have been working on a range of activities to address the challenges around low levels of start-up, innovation, business competitiveness and productivity and ensure that all of our residents are connected to economic opportunities.
3.2	This programme of work reflects the commitments of the Inclusive Growth Framework in relation to social enterprise and cooperative development, and in supporting the development of businesses in high growth sectors to create opportunities to connect our residents to the jobs of the future.
3.3	With the Enterprise Framework now in place, we have been working in partnership with stakeholders across the city to put in place an Action Plan to 2021. The framework sets a vision for the city as a great place to start and grow a business. It outlines recommended steps to be taken for Belfast to be "recognised for its diverse community of entrepreneurs, who benefit from a comprehensive, planned and coherent system of enterprise support, which fulfils their needs at all stages of the business growth life-cycle". Aligned to the thematic priorities of the framework, officers have been working to develop research and intelligence and deliver and further develop the range of support offered by the council. We have also been working to put in place the foundations required to support us to deliver the service more effectively through the development of a new customer relationship management system, and processes to ensure the support is flexible to meet the needs of the market.
3.4	Whilst work is ongoing to deliver the 2019/20 work plan, the key achievements to date are outlined below.

### 3.5 City for Enterprise

We deliver a range of initiatives which enable individuals including those from traditionally underrepresented groups to explore opportunities to start their own business or consider self-employment as a career path. To date 193 females have been engaged in activities with 72 accessing support through workshops, boot camps, peer support and pitching competitions. Our outreach and enterprise awareness support will culminate in a week-long series of events and workshops on Global Entrepreneurship Week in November. During that week, we plan to engage 400 individuals and support them to take positive steps towards starting a business. We are also exploring opportunities to engage with local community groups and individuals who are economically inactive to support them into self-employment as well as supporting access to St George's Market and other test trading opportunities for new businesses.

Following on from research undertaken as part of the Global Entrepreneurship Model (GEM) report for Belfast, the potential for additional economic impact to be generated from targeted graduate entrepreneurship activity was identified. The Council has been working with both universities and the FE colleage for some time to deliver targeted enterprise support for college and university students, alongside their studies. 37 students participated on this support last year with 11 reporting that they are actively trading to date. A further 6 of the students have gone on to access salary support through Invest NI, enabling them to build their business and undertake the necessary development work required in advance of them being able to draw down a full salary. This year's programme is launching in September with the new academic year and will support 40 univeristy and college students to start their own business.

### 3.7 City for Business Start-Ups

3.8

New businesses, social enterprises and cooperatives can access a range of advice and guidance to support them to go out on their own. Since April this year, 182 individuals have been engaged in the "Go for It" programme which has supported the development of 112 new jobs to date. In June we launched a new initiative to extend the range of support available to new starts by providing additional mentoring and access to financial and other incentives. Since its launch, 37 new businesses have been supported and we have allocated £6,000 worth of incentives, helping towards business overheads.

One of the most significant challenges in Belfast is not only the number of business starts but also the lack of new businesses that have the potential for high growth. While there has been significant inwards into the development of more knowledge-based and high growth companies, our micro-business base is still predominantly locally-focused and the key individuals oftern require targeted support in terms of leadership skills to drive future growth.

- In recognition of the need to provide a more focused support service to those businesses that have the potential to be high growth companies, the Council has put in in place a support programme in collaboration with Invest NI and with support from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). 33 businesses are currently accessing this support and, since April 2019, this has helped create 44 full time or equivalent jobs and helped the companies secure nearly £1m in export sales.
- 3.10 Members have confirmed their commitment to provide targeted support for the social enterprise and cooperative sectors and this is reflected in our new social enterprise programme which was launched in June 2019. This year to date our support for the Social Enterprise and Cooperative sector support has enabled us to work with 11 individuals or organisations. Later in the year, the Crowdfunder Belfast pilot project will go live. This will provide opportunities for 10 social enterprises or cooperatives to generate up to £10k of public pledges in order to grow their organisation. Subject to attracting funding from other sources, Belfast City Council will provide up to £5,000 of financial support towards each of these businesses.

### 3.11 City for Business Growth

Members will be aware that, since 2015, the Council has had statutory responsibility for business start-up, social enterprise and targeted business support e.g. for female entrepreneurship. The Council also works with early stage and small businesses that are not yet Invest NI clients (in that they have not yet reached the export threshold or are not in key growth sectors). The support provided helps the companies address a specific growth challenge and covers issues such as marketing, cashflow management, digital skills and leadership development. Since April this year, we have supported 120 businesses by providing targeted 1-2-1 mentoring on their specific areas of challenge. We have also supported a further 16 companies to export to new markets. Collectively, these companies expect to generate very initial increases in sales of around £1.6million.

3.12 In August 2019, this Committee endorsed the "Way to Scale" programme and this was subsequently launched – along with our partners from Catalyst Inc. and Invest NI – in early September. The prorgamme aims to increase the number of businesses with the potential

to scale and achieve turnover in excess of £1m in Belfast. 70 businesses have now registered to take part in the business bootcamp which will form part of the programme's selection process. Following the bootcamp, 10 businesses will be selected to participate In a one week residential as part of Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Entrepreneurship Development Programme. They will also engage in 1-2-1 mentoring and peer workshops with other participating businesses and the programme will close with a one week Boston-based residential programme, which will focus on go-to-market strategies and tactics. We will work with our Boston-based contacts and networks to maximise the return for participating businesses.

In addition to our programme delivery, we continue to deliver services through the Innovation Factory including access to workspace, workshops and coaching for the growing entrepreneurial community. To date, the service has supported the creation of 125 jobs and houses 44 small businesses. The Innovation Factory is currently at 60% occupancy and the target for 31 Dec 2019 is 68%. The calibre of the businesses at the Innovation Factory is very impressive and they continue to create positive profile for themselves and for the centre. One example of this is a local start-up tenant, New Era Global Sports, which recently attracted a significant amount of positive publicity due to its association with Rio Ferdinand. He recently visited the centre to launch the business.

#### 3.14 City for Investment

In 2018, the City Growth and Regeneration Committee agreed to the establishment of a "City Investment Service" on a pilot basis, for a period of 18 months. The aim of the service is to make the process of attracting and manageing investment to the city as straightforward as possible Since its launch, the team has worked with over 76 businesses. An evaluation into this service is currently underway, and this will be used to inform potential future options and approaches for delivery. Further details will be presented to the committee at a future date.

## 3.15 Financial & Resource Implications

The activities outlined within this report will be resourced from the 2019/20 Economic Development budget agreed by this Committee on 6 March 2019.

## 3.16 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. The unit is currently undertaking a process of equality screening on the overall work programme, this will ensure

	consideration is given to equality and good relation impacts throughout the delivery of each
	project.
4.0	Amondica
4.0	Appendices

# Agenda Item 4b



## CITY GROWTH AND REGENERATION COMMITTEE

Subje	ect:	Working & Lea	uning Opuale					
Date:		9 <sup>th</sup> October 20	19					
Repo	rting Officer:	John Greer, Director of Economic Development						
Conta	act Officer:	Ruth Rea, Economic Development Manager						
Restri	icted Reports							
Is this	s report restricted	?			Yes		No	X
	If Yes, when will t	he report beco	me unrestrict	ed?				
	After Comm	ittee Decision						
	After Counc	il Decision						
	Sometime in	the future						
	Never							
Call-ir	n							
	n decision eligible	or Call-in?			Yes	X	No	
Is the	decision eligible				Yes	X	No	
			of main Issu	es	Yes	X	No	
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1.0	decision eligible	ort or Summary	update elected	members on	the prograr	mme of	f work	•
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 Note the ongoing work to inform the future strategic direction of the employability and skills work programme, supporting the ambitions of inclusive growth and Belfast Agenda commitments.

### 3.0 Main report

- 3.1 Members will be aware that, at the Committee meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> March 2019, approval was given for a series of activities that would support the commitments made under the Working and Learning pillar of the Belfast Agenda. Through this work programme, the council is directly contributing towards the Belfast Agenda to better connect people to economic opportunities by:
  - Addressing educational inequalities and increasing skill levels
  - Connecting local residents to employment opportunities across a range of sectors
  - Addressing barriers to employment
  - Supporting young people to progress through coherent pathways into employment, education and/or training.
- This work programme mirrors the commitments of the Council within the Inclusive Growth Framework in relation to employability and skills. It sets out how the Council is proactively working to address the barriers preventing city residents from accessing economic opportunity and to address the challenges of poverty and deprivation, focusing on the role of skills development and sustainable job creation as a way out of poverty.
- However members should be aware that the extent to which Council alone is able to make an impact in this area is limited by its statutory powers and by available resources (both financial and staff resources). In order to achieve a step change, partnership working with government departments and employers is crucial. Strategic opportunities presented through the Belfast Region City Deal and Community Planning provide mechanisms through which the Council can better influence regional polices to ensure that provision is aligned to local needs. Moving forward, the Council's role in this area will require a combination of direct delivery interventions, where opportunities exist for investment, as well as a wider influencing role to champion the needs of the city within a regional context.
- Recognising the importance of buy-in from other organisations, officers are working closely with partners to refresh the Employability and Skills Framework which was developed in 2015 and which served as a pre-cursor to the commitments within the Working and Learning theme of the Belfast Agenda. The refreshed framework will allow a greater degree of focus, ensuring that supply meets demand in terms of new employment opportunities. This will include

exploring how the Council can work strategically with key employers to develop and deliver interventions that will create sustainable job opportunities for Belfast residents. A critical element of this work will include a commitment to supporting inclusive growth through our employment and skills interventions.

In parallel with these planned activities, there is a significant degree of work already under way on the delivery of the 2019/20 Working & Learning work plan. Progress to date (since April 2019) indicates that nearly 1750 Belfast residents have been supported, of which almost 650 have positively progressed into employment, education and/or training – 590 of these into employment alone. An update on the key elements of the Working and Learning work plan is outlined below:

#### Supporting access to employment

3.5

The largest area of intervention through the employability and skills work programme is focused upon supporting Belfast residents into employment or into better employment. The spectrum of support provided through Council activities and/or funded projects provides a pathway of intervention geared towards supporting residents to positively progress, at their own pace, into a positive destination.

Tailored support for those furthest from the labour market is provided through five European Social Fund (ESF) projects, whose client groups include unemployed, economically inactive, young people (NEETs) and those with disabilities. Across these projects, over 1200 Belfast residents have accessed support to date, of which over 445 have entered employment, a further 35 participants have progressed into further education. The council is a match-funder of these projects: the majority of the funding is provided by Department for Communities (DfC) and ESF.

One of our key tailored interventions is the suite of Employment Academies that we operate.

The structure of these varies from programme to programme but they are generally employer-led interventions designed to fill identified employment opportunities. Employers are involved in the design of the training and offer a guaranteed job interview or ring-fence employment opportunities for the specific target groups – principally the economically inactive.

This year we have extended delivery of Employment Academies across a number of sectors including construction, hospitality, transport, health and social care, childcare and leisure. Feedback from employers, including sectoral representative bodies, is very supportive of this model of delivery. Key employers engaged through academies include Translink, GLL, Belfast Health & Social Care Trust, as well as a broader spectrum of small employers.

Academies continue to be focused upon supporting residents into employment, however further work has been undertaken this year to increase the scale of our upskilling academies supporting residents to developer high level skills to move into better-paid employment. To date our academies have supported 244 Belfast residents, of whom 146 have progressed into employment or better employment (this is in addition to the figure in section 3.7). Average into-employment rates for academies is 65% which compares favourably to European Social Fund provision at 41% and regional employability programmes such as Steps to Success at 31%.

### Focus on young people

- 3.10 High levels of educational underachievement in Belfast coupled with high percentages of youth unemployment mean that there is a need for targeted interventions for affected young people. Over the last year, the Council has been increasing its level of investment and direct intervention within this area. Key activities and achievements within the last six months include:
  - Procurement and launch of a citywide GSCE revision programme, aimed at supporting
    young people at risk of not achieving a C grade in English and/or Maths. This
    approach builds upon successful delivery models operating in parts of the city,
    ensuring provision is accessible across Belfast. In the 19/20 academic year up to 365
    young people will be supported
  - Over 250 young people have been supported through our youth interventions, providing a range of support including career advice, work experience opportunities and intensive supports for young people at greatest risk of disengaging from the education and/or labour market. Intensive support is currently provided to 65 young people with complex needs and challenges and, to date, over 50% of the young people have positively progressed into employment, education and/or training
  - Work is about to get under way on a new Citywide Youth Support Programme. This
    programme focuses on providing a flexible programme of support tailored towards the
    needs of young people, helping them more towards training or employment outcomes.
    This initiative will operate alongside existing provision, recognising that a combination
    of interventions are often required to make an impact on a young person's life.

#### Strategic Engagement/Partnership working

Officers are continuing to work in partnership with government departments and wider stakeholders to facilitate better alignment between regional employment and skills programmes and the needs of the Belfast labour market. Key areas of work underway includes:

- Engagement on new employability programme Employability NI: Officers are currently working with Department for Communities in their redesign of future intowork support. This provision will replace the current employability programmes such as Steps to Success. Whilst the proposed delivery model is still emerging, there is a clear focus for the department on local models of delivery with flexibility aligned to employer and participant need. The potential role of the Council in its future implementation is being explored and will be brought back for members' consideration at a future meeting. To help inform this approach, a number of test and learn pilots are being undertaken. These include looking at how the business start-up support can be better aligned with employability support and exploring better approaches for employer engagement
- Belfast Region City Deal (BRCD): work is underway to refine the design of the employability and skills programme, aligned to employment opportunities arising from the 22 BRCD projects.
- Belfast Agenda Working & Learning Board: Officers are working with community planning partners to develop collaborative interventions focused on a number of key issues including tackling educational inequality.
- In addition to the above joint working is taking place with a range of stakeholders to pool resources for maximum impact. For example new areas of work include the delivery of a Northern Ireland Apprenticeship week, commencing 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020. The Council in partnership with the Department for the Economy, Belfast Metropolitan College and apprentice providers will undertake a series of activities to promote apprenticeships to employers, young people and parents. This is particularly important given the low take-up of apprenticeships in Belfast and the need to address the skills gaps at levels 3 and 4 (A level and BTEC level), as identified in the Belfast skills barometer.

#### Supporting Inclusive Growth

3.13 The Inclusive Growth Framework presented to the Strategic Policy and Resources (SP&R) Committee on 20 September 2019 outlines the Council's vision and commitments to supporting inclusive growth. The employability and skills work programme directly contributes towards inclusive growth by better connecting local residents to economic opportunity, removing barriers to participation, increasing skill levels and creating coherent pathways for progression. Whilst much of this activity is outward focused, Officers have also been working internally to develop ways of maximising the social and economic impact of the Council's procurement and planning functions.

- 3.14 In partnership with Corporate Procurement Services, Officers are considering the options for the implementation of a social value procurement framework. Approaches being developed take into account best practice from elsewhere, central government ambition to evolve their existing 'Buy Social' approach and any potential cost implications of this approach.
- 3.15 Members will be aware of the draft Developer Contributions Framework which has been brought to the Planning Committee. This framework include an option to seek contributions from developers to address employability and skills challenges in specific areas. Officers have commenced engagement with a number of key developments including Waterside and Tribeca. Whilst developer contributions are commonly used across the UK, they have not really been used to date in the Northern Ireland market. To ensure that the Council's approach to developer contributions, in the context of employability and skills, is sufficiently ambitious whilst not discouraging development, officers have commissioned technical support to inform our approach, best upon best practice. The outcome of this work will be presented to members at a future meeting.

#### 3.16 Intelligence & research

As highlighted previously, one of the biggest challenges within the Belfast labour market is the persistently high levels of economic inactivity. Despite significant levels of investment in this area, the levels of economic inactivity have not dramatically changed in recent years. To better understand the challenges and barriers facing this cohort and inform future interventions, the Council and Urban Villages are undertaking research in this area. Delivered through primarily Urban Village areas in Belfast, the study will get a first-hand account from this client group as to the barriers they face. It will also ask questions about the awareness and experience of interventions and will explore what measures might encourage individuals to engage in support programmes. Research findings are expected later this year and will be reported to members in early 2020.

#### 3.17 | Finance and Resource Implications

The activities outlined within this report are resourced from the existing 2019/20 budget for the Employability & Skills section of the Place & Economy Department budget approved at the City Growth and Regeneration Committee meeting on 6 March 2019.

#### 3.18 | Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessments

Equality screening data is gathered on a regular basis for all of the council's employability interventions. The most recent review has indicated a broad spectrum of participation across our employability programmes. However, officers constantly review participation and take

	action to encourage participation amongst specific client groups (e.g. additional outreach and		
	engagement support for identified groups). It is important to note that participation on Council		
	interventions is done on a voluntary basis.		
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached		
	None		



## Agenda Item 4c

#### **CITY GROWTH AND REGENERATION COMMITTEE**



Subject:		Innovation and Inclusive Growth Commission	า			
Date:		9 October 2019				
Date.		9 October 2019				
Report	ing Officer:	Suzanne Wylie, Chief Executive				
		Grainia Long, Commissioner for Resilience				
Contac	ct Officer:	John Tully, Director of City and Organisation	al Strate	gy		
Restric	ted Reports					
Is this	report restricted?		Yes		No	X
If	Yes, when will the	report become unrestricted?				
	After Committe	ee Decision				
	After Council [	Decision				
	Some time in t	he future				
	Never					
			_			
Call-in						
Is the c	decision eligible for	Call-in?	Yes	Х	No	
<b>-</b>	T					
1.0	Purpose of Repor	t or Summary of main Issues				
1.1	To update member	s of the City Growth and Regeneration Commi	ttee on t	he term	ns of	
	reference, program	me of work and governance of the newly-estal	blished lı	nnovati	on ar	nd
	Inclusive Growth C	ommission.				
2.0	Recommendation	S				
2.1	The Committee is r	equested to;				
	note the me	embership of Commission and how this will link	k with po	litical d	ecisi	on-
	making and	l existing governance arrangements, the resou	ırce alloc	cation i	nclud	ing
	financial bu	dgets and also the programme of work.				
		9				

note the update on the work of the Innovation and Inclusive Growth Commission.
 Regular updates will be provided to this Committee throughout the Commission's lifetime.

This report has already been agreed by SP&R on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September.

#### 3.0 Main report

- 3.1 The Innovation and Inclusive Growth Commission was set up to support the Council and city partners in the further development and implementation of the priorities as set out in the Belfast Agenda. A particular focus has been given to the priorities of (1) growing the economy and (2) city development. The Commission will seek to deliver the core objective of inclusive growth.
- The work of the Commission will take place in three distinct phases analysis, visioning and participative to include a full economic review and baseline for the city and completion of a mini stern (by January 2020), scenario planning and ultimately the production of a full economic growth plan for the city by Autumn 2020.
- 3.3 Belfast City Council CEO will Chair the Commission and lead its work. She will be accountable for ensuring the Commission meets its goals and works within its terms of reference. The Commission will take evidence from all eight political parties represented on the council and will engage with the City Growth and Regeneration Committee throughout the process.
- Accountability for day to day operation of the Commission (SRO) will rest with the Commissioner for Resilience, who will be tasked with advising and supporting the Commission, identifying resources (including from 100RC) and producing final outputs, as part of her requirement to produce a Resilience Strategy for the city. She will work alongside John Tully to ensure that the effective support is in place to support the Commission and its workstreams, provide research and ensure linkages with Community Planning and City Deal. Close working arrangements will also be put in place, the Director of Finance and Resources, the Director of Place and Economy and the City Deal lead and regular reports brought to CMT.

3.5 Core membership of the Commission is as follows:

- Suzanne Wylie, Chief Executive, Belfast City Council
- Michael Lyons, Chair- English Cities Fund

- Matthew Taylor, RSA (previously led RSA Inclusive Growth Commission)
- Owen Reidy, or nominee, ICTU (tbc)
- Emma Cariaga, British Land
- Alice Charles, World Economic Forum
- Joe O'Neill, Belfast Harbour Commissioners
- Paddy Nixon, Vice Chancellor and President, Ulster University
- Ian Greer, Vice Chancellor and President, Queen's University Belfast
- Rotha Johnston
- Ronan Cregan, Deputy Chief Executive, Belfast City Council
- Anne McGregor, NI Chamber of Commerce
- Judith Totten, INI Non-Exec Board Member
- Ed Vernon
- Angela Magowan, Director, CBI Northern Ireland
- Neil Gibson, EY

However, the Commission will also take advice from a wide range of organisations including the Nevin Institute and JRF etc.

3.6

#### **Inclusive and Sustainable Growth**

The Commission's membership has been broadened to include a wider range of economic expertise and viewpoints. ICTU has confirmed it will nominate a member and the Nevin Institute has also been contacted to provide advice and insight to the Commission. As the Commission's work proceeds, it will also seek advice from Trademark and other similar organisations to ensure that insights and practice on co-operative development inform the Commission's work. We are also seeking insight from social enterprise organisations to provide advice throughout. Inclusive growth has been re-emphasised in the Commission's terms of reference and its title brief, and Commission members were also briefed on the importance attached to inclusive growth at its first meeting. Specific reference has been made to cities that have developed economic strategies with inclusive growth or 'good growth' as core goals, and officers have been tasked with seeking input and insights from cities that can demonstrate success in this area. As the Commission develops it will align with ongoing work on climate change and sustainable development and seek advice from Leeds Climate Commission, Place based Climate Action Network (PCAN), Friends of the Earth etc.

3.7

#### Governance and member engagement

The Commission is a collaboration between four city institutions- Belfast City Council, Belfast Harbour, Queen's University and Ulster University. Each organisation will take part in the Commission as per its own system of governance.

The following approach has been agreed for Belfast City Council:

- That SP&R remains the primary committee through which the Chief Executive will report on the Commission's work. SP&R will ultimately approve early and final drafts of outputs produced by the Commission, for formal ratification by Council. City Growth and Regeneration Committee will also be consulted.
- 2. Three events, attended jointly by BCC members and Commission members, will be held throughout the Commission's work. The first will take place in the autumn to inform the Commission's early thinking; the second in early 2020 when some initial themes have begun to emerge and the third to inform draft conclusions.
- 3. Party briefings will take place in the normal way to ensure parties are informed continuously throughout.
- 4. A summary note of each Commission meeting will be produced for SP&R and CGR Committees.

#### Summary note of the Commission's first meeting

- The first meeting was a general introduction and context setting meeting- held on the evening of the 9<sup>th</sup> and all day on the 10<sup>th</sup> September.
- The meeting included presentations from local SME sector and large local and global businesses based in Belfast. It also included an overview of the UK Industrial Strategy to ensure alignment with wider policy goals. Data was presented on Belfast's existing economic and 'good growth' performance and how it compares with other cities across Europe and globally, as well as presentations and discussion on cities as drivers of inclusive economic growth.
- Some critical issues emerged in the discussion:
- 1. Belfast has an immense opportunity to align its economic ambitions with its social and environmental goals. For example, the transition to a low-carbon economy must be an equitable one, and this therefore presents an opportunity to significantly reduce and perhaps eradicate fuel poverty over time. Recent successes by industry (e.g. exceeding our targets on renewables) must be learned from and scaled up.
- 2. The Commission's eventual conclusions/outputs must ensure that Belfast builds on its strengths- where it has already proven to succeed. However, its work will be impacted by national (UK) policy and we must be cognisant of that—an example is UK government policy on visa restrictions for international students.

3.8

3.9

- 3. The Commission does not intend to work 'behind closed doors' for a year, and then produce a report. It wants to focus on practical solutions to drive city growth in the interests of communities, and will be looking for ways that the four anchor institutions (BCC, Belfast Harbour, QUB and UU) can work collaboratively to deliver 'good growth'.
- 4. Belfast has significant advantages given its proximity to Dublin and London. Both cities will continue to be successful in a post-Brexit environment, and therefore we must find ways to better leverage this connectivity and proximity, given the scale and nature of growth in both cities.
- 5. The major issues remain those we've been debating for years- how to build skills among those furthest from the labour market and those economically inactive, so that they feel there are opportunities for them, as well as ensuring that we do not lose talent from the city. Skills already emerging as a major challenge.
- 6. The city has many strengths but we are one of many cities that is promoting our distinctive 'offer'. Belfast has yet to really 'hone' what makes us unique. For example, the fact that the city is a leader in cyber security and food security is little known outside of these niche sectors. Generally speaking, there's a perceived lack of strategy on our economic future- other successful cities are clearer about their assets (economic, social and environmental) and focused on what they are going to do with them. A grand vision is needed- e.g. the Oxford/Cambridge corridor has a vision to be the R&D Centre for the UK.
- 7. A focus on inclusive growth and/or 'good growth' (term used by Edinburgh) is an example of how we can be competitive and distinctive... Glasgow has done this by stressing its quality of life and really pursuing a strong environmental agenda- which is increasingly being sought by people visiting the city and those investing in the city- both companies and workers.
- 8. Several presenters/contributors emphasised the importance of focusing on the current drivers of growth investing more in them rather than trying to do too many things.

Future meetings/themes/areas of focus:

- Transition to a low-carbon/carbon neutral economy, and how we do this in an equitable way
- Learning from economic shocks and how the poorest and most economically vulnerable have been impacted- including across the generations
- Opportunities from energy transition- retro-fitting our existing stock and possible job opportunities for this/next generation

3.11

3.10

	Utilising existing budgets and resources, a maximum budget of £200k has been allocated		
	to include commissioning three key phases of work and the five workstream research		
	pieces (inc a mini stern).		
3.12			
	Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment  None		
4.0	<u> </u>		

# Agenda Item 5a



### CITY GROWTH AND REGNERATION COMMITTEE

Subjec	ot:	Car Parking Strategy and Action Plan		
Date:	Date: 9 <sup>th</sup> October 2019			
Report	ting Officer:	Sean Dolan, Senior Development Manager		
Contac	ct Officer:	Richard Griffin, Development Manager		
Restric	cted Reports			
Is this	Is this report restricted?			
l1	f Yes, when will t	he report become unrestricted?		
	After Comm	ittee Decision		
	After Counc	il Decision		
	Some time in	n the future		
	Never			
Call-in				
Odii iii	Call-III			
Is the d	Is the decision eligible for Call-in?			
1.0	Purpose of Ren	ort or Summary of main Issues		
1.0	ruipose oi Kep	ort or Summary or main issues		
1.1	To provide mem	bers with an update on the Belfast Car Parking S	trategy and Action Plan	١.
2.0	Recommendation	ons		
2.0	- Noodiiii onaati			
2.1	The Committee i	s asked to:		
	• note the upd	ate on the Belfast Car Parking Strategy & Actio	n Plan, and progress w	vith
	key recomme	endations;		
	agree the pre-	oposed approach to engagement across the wo	rk strands of the Car Pa	ark
	Strategy.			

### 3.0 Main report 3.1 The Belfast City Centre Regeneration & Investment Strategy (BCCRIS) identified the need for a parking strategy and action plan to ensure appropriate provision and location of parking to support the vitality of the city centre. A Car Park Strategy (CPS) and Action Plan was published in May 2018. Public consultation took place between August and November 2016, including an event in City Hall which was open to elected Members, key stakeholders and the general public. 3.2 The CPS included a comprehensive baseline review of parking, focused largely within the city centre and surrounding neighbourhoods, which identified parking issues, challenges and opportunities, and outlined a number of objectives and actions to support the Strategy's vision; 'Belfast is a city offering sufficient, high quality and appropriately located parking which supports economic development and regeneration within the city by balancing the requirements of residents, businesses, commuters and visitors'. 3.3 The baseline review generally concluded that there is sufficient overall public parking supply within the city centre; a significant proportion of all day commuter parking takes place in the city centre; the quality of car parking facilities and payment technology varies greatly; and better management of parking demand and supply is needed to provide an integrated parking information system. The report also noted the impact of commuters who park in mainly residential areas, which prevents local residents from parking, adding to the cluttered feel of individual streets, decreasing perceived safety levels and reducing access for emergency service vehicles. 3.4 To address the issues identified, a number of objectives were agreed: ensure appropriate provision to support city centre and district centres encourage sustainable commuter travel minimise potential impacts on residential communities improve quality of parking information identify opportunities to provide secure bicycle and coach parking ensure appropriate provision for taxis within the city centre. 3.5 In terms of delivery, a number of actions for the relevant statutory organisations were identified. A Belfast City Council officer led Car Park Working Group, overseen by the City Regeneration and Development section was established to oversee and report on

implementation, with actions grouped within four work streams, and a lead department / organisation. A summary of the four work streams is outlined below, and provided in detail in Appendix A of this report.

#### 3.6 Operational

The Operational work stream is managed by City & Neighbourhood Services Off-Street Parking Unit and includes issues such as Parking Orders, tariffs, ticketing and enforcement.

- 3.7 The Off-Street Parking Unit (OSPU) are progressing the development of the Belfast Off Street Parking Order, which includes a review of tariffs, and blue badge parking policy. In August 2019, City Growth and Regeneration Committee agreed that a twelve-week period of consultation would commence on the Order. During this period, consultees will have the opportunity to put forward their views on other issues including on-street parking and residents parking schemes. The findings of the public consultation will be reported back to Members.
- The CPS also suggested providing additional Belfast Bike docking stations within or adjacent to parking facilities. A Strategic Review of the Belfast Bikes Scheme is currently underway, which included engagement with members, and final recommendations will be presented to City Growth & Regeneration Committee at a future date.

#### 3.9 Parking Forum

The Parking Forum work stream covers the actions relating to the wider car parking offer in the City, including off-street, on-street and private operators. The first meeting of the Parking Forum took place in September 2019 and will bring together statutory bodies and private car park operators. The Forum will facilitate sharing of information among stakeholders, with a view to finding solutions to common issues, such as the use of smart technologies to facilitate ease of parking and payment, improved information signage and direction to spaces and the potential introduction of quality standards across car parks.

#### 3.10 <u>Strategic Sites Assessment (SSA)</u>

This work stream is overseen by the City Regeneration and Development Team, with actions including the monitoring of parking stock across the city centre and identifying opportunities to consolidate surface parking to provide a balanced parking offer while releasing development opportunities. The CPS identified a number of benefits from carefully planned

rationalisation of surface car parking, including reduced traffic volumes from fewer circulating vehicles; reduced air pollution, improved road safety, and opportunities for regeneration.

- 3.11 An update on the emerging findings of the draft SSA was presented to the City Growth and Regeneration Committee in June 2019, followed by engagement with Members, by way of a workshop in September 2019, to discuss the emerging proposals and next steps. The key findings proposed three priority clusters be taken forward for further consideration; Inner North West, Clarendon and Ormeau Avenue. A further report detailing the outworking's of the member engagement and emerging next steps will be brought to Committee in the near future.
- 3.12 The SSA work stream will also continue to monitor car parking across the city centre, taking into account new multi-storey car parks, and other factors impacting supply, including future development proposals and transportation schemes. Further analysis is being undertaken and findings will be reported to a future meeting of Committee.

#### (4) Transport

- 3.13 The actions within this work stream are generally the responsibility of the Department for Infrastructure (DfI), in consultation with Council Officers and other statutory partners. DfI provided an update on infrastructure issues including car parking at their Bi-annual Report to City Growth and Regeneration Committee in August 2019.
- 3.14 The CPS recommends a number of Transport related actions including:
  - a review of on-street parking controls (tariffs, controlled zones, ticketing & payment);
  - improved enforcement;
  - review and implementation of Resident Parking Zones;
  - new Park and Ride sites and review of parking costs at P&R sites;
  - improvements to cycling infrastructure;
  - minimising traffic in the BMTP core.
- 3.15 Dfl are currently preparing the Belfast Metropolitan Transport Strategy (BMTS) which will inform a number of the actions of the Transport work stream. Council are represented on the Project Board of the BMTS and Members will continue to be consulted throughout the process.

3.16 The Local Development Plan will contain policies relating to transportation and parking, setting Council's position on issues including parking standards for development proposals and accommodation of sustainable modes of travel.

#### **Engagement**

- 3.17 Given the far reaching impacts of work being progressed, engagement and communication with city-wide stakeholders will be critical to successful delivery. In this context, it is important to note that the CPS is a 'City' strategy that will require cross-sector working and collaboration, in particular with Dfl, who remain responsible for on-street parking, transport and infrastructure.
- 3.18 As agreed by CG&R committee on the 9<sup>th</sup> September (and as amended at Council), a twelve-week period of consultation is planned in relation to the Parking Order and members will be updated throughout the process.
- 3.19 It is proposed that specific engagement is undertaken on the emerging work-streams of the SSA work following agreement of the next steps, and agreement with other land-holders where appropriate.
- 3.20 It is proposed that the CG&R committee provide official correspondence to the DfI highlighting the issues caused by problem parking and to request their support in resolving. DfI have completed one Residents Parking Zone in the Rugby Road area, which opened in April 2018. The Department will evaluate the impact of this initiative, and review the Residents' Parking Zone Policy. The DfI are also currently implementing a new RPZ in the Iveagh area.
- 3.21 It is also proposed that Council undertake detailed engagement with communities where onstreet parking issues are most prevalent in order to seek agreement on potential priority resident parking schemes in these areas. This engagement will seek to identify the potential requirements of the parking scheme appropriate for the particular area, and to gain majority support to enable the DfI to action.

#### 3.22 <u>Financial & Resource Implications</u>

In order to undertake the detailed engagement required to address problem parking issues in residential areas there will be a financial requirement of up to £15k which will be met from within existing budgets.

Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment
No specific equality or good relations implications at this time.
Appendices
Appendix 1 – Belfast Car Parking Strategy Action Plan Update
1

### Appendix 1 - Belfast Car Parking Strategy and Action Plan

1. (	1. Operational			
	Action	Status		
1.1	Consider extension of free parking for Blue Badge holders to off-street sites.	Review of existing Parking Order ongoing		
1.2	Re-examine tariffs and permitted parking durations at all sites.	Review of existing Parking Order ongoing		
1.3	Remove season ticket provision at certain sites (i.e. Cromac Street).	Review of existing Parking Order ongoing		
1.4	Introduce a modest charge after two hours at all non-city centre council sites apart from Shaw's Bridge. Parking to remain free for up to two hours.	Review of existing Parking Order ongoing		
1.5	Consider impact of above on adjacent areas and develop plan prior to implementation.	Review of existing Parking Order ongoing		
1.6	Consider additional Belfast Bikes docking stations associated with parking facilities.	Strategic Review of Belfast Bikes on-going, final Review and recommendations to be presented at a future CG&R Committee.		
1.7	Government and local authority bodies remove PNR space or charge for use.	Action to be progressed.		

2. Par	2. Parking Forum		
	Action	Status	
2.1	Establish a Parking Forum.	Complete	
2.2	Investigate integrating parking payment, management technologies and information systems in a city wide system.	Action on-going through the Parking Forum.	
2.3	,	Action to be to be investigated by CRDT following support from parking forum.	

2.4		Parking Forum did not support this action due to safety issues and instead preferred the establishment of a car parking website.
2.5		Action to be to be progressed following support from operators.
2.6	technology.	On-going through Parking Forum. Operators indicate some already provide this and others currently find this cost prohibitive.
	The council should encourage car park operators to invest in their facilities to the extent that they will achieve the Park Mark standard and increases spaces available for accessible and family parking.	
2.8	A Shuttle Bus to connect all of the MSCPs and the main shopping and employment areas should be considered in consultation with Translink.	The Parking Forum do not currently consider this to be required however it is proposed that this action is kept under review

## 3. Strategic Sites Assessment

	Action	Status
3.1	Keen current narking stock under review with demand levels regularly monitored	Work progressing to existing & proposed stock. Findings will be reported to a future CG&R Committee.
	1	Progressing through the Strategic Sites Assessment and to be reported to future CG&R Committee meeting
3.3	Retain all council sites but with a view to incorporation within MSCP provision	Work progressing to existing & proposed stock. Findings will be reported to a future CG&R Committee.

### 4. Transport

	Action	Status
4.1	Free on-street parking for Blue Badge holders to remain.	Current position to be maintained.
4.2	Tariffs for on-street parking to be examined at a strategic level.	Dfl action to be examined.
4.3	Variable pricing to be examined.	Dfl action to be examined.
4.4	Review of ticketing and payment systems.	Dfl action to be examined.
4.5	DfI to consider a pilot of on-street bay monitoring.	Dfl action to be examined.
4.6	Extend controlled on-street parking area within the core. Dfl to undertake parking studies within the city centre fringe in consultation with the council.	Dfl action to be examined.
4.7	Improved enforcement to reduce inappropriate parking such as pavement parking.	On-going throughout the city.
4.8	Parking Standards to be re-examined by development type.	The LDP Draft Plan Strategy contains a policy outlining reduced parking standards within designated areas of parking restraint for residential and non-residential development. Designations will be considered as part of the revised BMTP and at the next stage of the LDP (Local Policies Plan).
4.9	Support DFI to deliver Residents Parking Schemes in specific areas of city.	Action on-going through Dfl and Member Engagement. Residents Parking Scheme operational in the Rugby Road area and a further scheme at Iveagh Drive is being progressed.
4.10	Wayfinding signage scheme for individual areas of city centre, including cycling routes.	Dfl action to be examined.

4.11	Confirm location of off-street coach park and provide facility.	Dfl examining this can be included as part of the Transport Hub. Coach parking bays at the Stranmillis Road at Ulster Museum are programmed.
4.12	Improve enforcement against car parks operating outside their planning conditions.	Action on-going.
4.13	Minimising traffic in the BMTP core.	Ongoing through the preparation of the Belfast Metropolitan Transport Strategy.
4.14	Gamble Street Halt.	Ongoing through the preparation of the Belfast Metropolitan Transport Strategy.
4.15	Review Park and Ride costs versus city centre parking charges.	Ongoing as part of DfI's annual works programme.
4.16	New Park and Ride sites.	An expanded Park and Ride at Blacks Road opened in November 2018 and Dfl are currently developing proposals to expand Park and Ride capacity at Ballymartin, Cairnshill, Moira, Mossley, Newtownards and Sprucefield and create new facilities at Comber, Tillysburn and Trooperslane.
4.17	Improve parking at train stations (including for cycles).	Dfl action to be examined.
4.18	Examine feasibility of a Cycle Parking Hub.	Dfl examining this as part of Park and Ride work.
4.19	Review the level of cycle parking provided for new developments.	The LDP Draft Plan Strategy contains a policy to ensure major new development takes account of cyclists in terms of safe, convenience and secure cycle parking. Cycle parking will also be considered as part of the review of the BMTP.
4.20	Examine taxi parking provision citywide.	Ongoing as part of Dfl's annual works programme.

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## Agenda Item 6c



Subje	ct:	Belfast at MIPIM - The International Market Event for Real Estate		
		Professionals		
Date:		9 October 2019		
Repor	ting Officer:	Alistair Reid, Strategic Director of Place and Economy		
Conta	ct Officer:	Marie Miller, Marketing Manager City Regeneration & Development		
Is this	report restricted?	Yes No X		
Is the	decision eligible fo	or Call-in?		
	· ·			
1.0	Purpose of Repor	t or Summary of main Issues		
1.1	This report update	s the Committee on the benefits of attending MIPIM as requested at the		
	meeting of the Con	nmittee in April 2019. It also updates on preparations for MIPIM 2020.		
2.0	Recommendation	s		
2.1	The Committee is a	asked to note :		
	The benefits of	attending MIPIM.		
	On-going preparent	arations for MIPIM 2020.		

### 3.0 Main report 3.1 Belfast City Council has been working with private and public-sector organisations to bring a delegation to MIPIM for the last four years. In April 2019, City Growth and Regeneration Committee agreed that planning for MIPIM 2020 needed to commence immediately and, accordingly, approved attendance at the event of the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson (or their nominees), along with senior officers, as appropriate, including travel and accommodation. Committee also approved funding of £80,000 in line with the amount approved for MIPIM 2019, as part of the overall public private sector sponsorship fund, and the appointment of external consultancy support for programming, event management, communications and design for MIPIM 2020, with the cost to be met from the overall private public sector sponsorship fund. Committee also agreed that a report be submitted outlining the benefits for the City resulting from the Council's participation in MIPIM. In August 2019, Strategic Policy & Resources Committee subsequently agreed the contract on behalf of the partnership for the build, hire and fit out of a stand/pavilion at MIPIM 2020. At the meeting they also asked for a report on the benefits derived from attending MIPIM. They also asked for details of the contractual arrangements in place for MIPIM 2020. This paper outlines the benefits of attending MIPIM and contractual arrangements in place for MIPIM 2020. 3.2 MIPIM (in French - Le marché international des professionnels de l'immobilier, in English -The International Market for Real Estate Professionals) is arguably the most important real estate event in the world, gathering influential investors from across the international property industry. It facilitates showcasing of cities, networking, introductory meetings, learning and transaction through events, seminars and dedicated exhibition zones for each city over four days in Cannes, France each year. In 2019, 26,800 participants from over 100 countries attended MIPIM, of which approximately 6,000 were from the UK and 14,500 from Europe. The delegation included 6,380 investors, 2,743 developers and 1,610 local and public authorities' representatives. The purpose of attending MIPIM is to showcase the investment opportunities in Belfast to 3.3 attract long term institutional investment, developers of scale with a social conscience and corporate occupiers into the city. 3.4 In 2019, 43 private and public-sector organisations including Belfast Region City Deal partner Councils, Belfast Harbour Commissioners, Queens University Belfast, Tourism NI, Translink, Visit Belfast, Ulster University together with a number of developers, professional and financial consultancy organisations attended MIPIM as 'Team Belfast' to help showcase the city offer and seek funding for their regeneration and development projects when they

are at the right stage. The delegation and preparation for MIPIM is led by Taskforce comprising of representatives from public and private sector sponsors. The 2020 Taskforce is chaired by Joe O'Neill, Chief Executive, Belfast Harbour Commissioners. Members include representatives from Titanic Quarter, Invest NI, KPMG, a developer, and Belfast City Council.

3.5

The Belfast Agenda sets bold ambitions and economic development priorities for the city. Delivering inclusive growth and ensuring that no one is left behind is central to this vision. It aims to develop a competitive city region economy by supporting 46,000 additional jobs and 66,000 new residents. Short term targets include attracting £1 billion in private sector investment and securing a Belfast Region City Deal.

- Achieving these ambitious targets requires significant private and public sector investment. To give members a sense of investment required, the Belfast Agenda indicates a stretch target of £5 billion in investment over ten years from the inception of the plan and a total in the region of £7.5 billion by 2035. This includes the requirement to deliver 31,600 new homes for and develop 550,000 sq m of employment floor space to support the additional jobs. In addition, major infrastructure works for the Belfast Dublin economic corridor programme would require a further estimated £10 billion of investment. The Belfast Region City Deal funding commitments also requires an additional £150 million of private sector investment.
- Belfast City Centre Regeneration and Investment Strategy (BCCRIS) recognises that the city's large scale development projects are catalysts for wider city regeneration, however many of these projects require inward investment to come to fruition. Significant projects being brought forward include Tribeca, a £500 million regeneration scheme; Belfast Waterside, a £465 million multi-phase development; and The Sixth, a £80 million development project. Translink are currently seeking a private sector development partner to deliver Weavers Cross, a 125,000sqm million regeneration project centred around the £250 million Transport Hub.
- It is evident that, in order to deliver our aspirations for the city, Belfast must proactively promote itself to the international investment and real estate community. Council must work in partnership with public and private sector partners to build awareness of the Belfast investment proposition and facilitate investor engagement to support delivery of catalyst regeneration projects.

- 3.9 Members will be aware that Council is also involved in a range of work streams to promote the city internationally. These include:
  - International Relations framework which focuses principally on Sister City
     Agreements with Shenyang, Boston and Nashville, the Memorandum of
     Understanding with Dublin, and developing relationships with the City of London.
  - Integrated Tourism Strategy 2015 2020 which aims to double the value of tourism through enhanced marketing, better events, and product development.
  - Working in partnership with Invest NI to attract foreign direct investment;
  - Work in partnership with Department for International Trade (DIT) to promote investment opportunities through the Northern Ireland Investment Portfolio.
  - Supporting local companies to export and develop an international presence through Invest NI and Catalyst Inc.
- 3.10 The key objectives for MIPIM were presented to Members in December 2018 as:
  - Attracting the interest of real estate investors, developers, occupiers and funders in the context of development and investment that provides for sustainable inclusive growth in the city;
  - Positively influence perceptions of the city showing its investment potential;
  - Shared learning from other UK and European Cities
  - Deliver an initiative which reflects the ambitions of the Belfast Agenda;
- Attracting the interest of real estate investors, developers, occupiers and funders in the context of development and investment that provides for sustainable inclusive growth in the city

Belfast at MIPIM includes a concentrated programme of on and off stand events, meetings and investor presentations to showcase Belfast as a credible investment location. Belfast is seen by other cities to 'punch well above its weight'.

In 2019, City Council officers and the Chairperson of City Growth and Regeneration Committee held over 60 one-on-one meetings over three days with developers and investors interested in Belfast. It would be very challenging to organise this number of meetings in Belfast, or any UK or Irish location. There was a significant increase in footfall on the Belfast Stand in 2019 and requests for impromptu meetings from investors which highlights the growing interest in Belfast within the investment community.

- 3.13 We can demonstrate that relationships established and investment propositions presented at MIPIM have translated into inward visits to the city by institutional investors, funds, developers and occupiers looking at opportunities across the city.
- 3.14 While it is difficult to precisely quantify the total level of inward investment resulting from MIPIM, in 2016, when Belfast first attended the event, the city set a target to attract £1bn of investment. Since then, development completed or in progress is valued at approximately £2bn.
- 3.15 Since 2016, Brookfield, a global institutional investment fund with whom we had a series of meetings with at MIPIM, has invested over £100m in purpose built student accommodation, a new asset class in Belfast. 2018 saw a significant increase in interest in residential development with proposals coming forward on a number of build to rent schemes and follow up visits from funds and companies who are working through planning etc to bring forward a number of schemes. Officers have also held follow up meetings in Belfast with institutional investors, including Legal and General and Aviva, and facilitated connections to project sponsors. Visits have also taken place from interested development companies such as Bruntwood and Generate who have carried out significant mixed use developments and innovation districts in the North of England.
- 3.16 A number of major regeneration projects which would not otherwise come forward without long term investment are currently in discussions with institutional investors and first met via MIPIM. While these types of processes can take a number of years to complete, they are likely to result in over £1 billion investment when fully delivered. Invest NI are also following up with a number of corporate occupiers who expressed interest in Belfast at MIPIM. Thus, the collaborative approach between Council and city partners has assisted in attracting investment to deliver projects in the city.
- 3.17 In addition, private sector partners have secured business and investment as a result of relationships brokered at MIPIM. Commercial sensitivities preclude us from providing some of the specific examples which are currently under negotiation, however it is evident from the growing number of sponsors, and level of repeat sponsors, that city partners see value in attending MIPIM at part of the Belfast delegation.
- 3.18 | Positively influence perceptions of the city showing its investment potential

Attending MIPIM has necessitated the Belfast delegation to develop a shared investment narrative for the city and communicate this message globally, causing a step change in market awareness of Belfast as a destination for investment. All messaging has been developed in line with the Belfast brand and is incorporated into other marketing activities undertaken by Council to promote investment. In addition, through proactive PR, Belfast has received high quality media coverage in international, national and regional publications.

3.19 Create and continue to foster a strong public-private sector collaborative effort and strengthening relationships with international and city partners

Belfast at MIPIM is delivered as a public private partnership. The Belfast delegation includes project sponsors for key city regeneration and development projects, and BRCD partners. This collaborative approach across public and private sector leaders provides potential investors with a comprehensive overview of the opportunities and benefits of investing in Belfast, and provides confidence of stability through a strong civic leadership presence.

- 3.20 Delivering Belfast's international ambitions relies on strong collaboration with Department for International Trade (DIT), the City of London, Northern Ireland Office and Invest NI. Invest NI co-fund Belfast at MIPIM. DIT have a significant presence at MIPIM and invite Belfast to participate on panel discussions with other UK regions and promote the Northern Ireland Investment Portfolio. Through relationships fostered at MIPIM, the Chief Executive was invited to join the DIT Capital Investment Advisory Board in May 2018.
- 3.21 | Shared learning from other UK and European Cities

Representatives from national, regional and city governments attend MIPIM, including London, Manchester, Liverpool, Leeds, Newcastle, Scotland Development International, Sheffield City Region, Midlands UK and Dublin City Council all participate at MIPIM.

- 3.22 Through MIPIM officers have built relationships with city leaders from other UK and European cities. This has facilitated shared learning and better working relationships across officers and elected Members. Examples include:
  - Invite from Liverpool City Council to join the European Waterfront Cities Network resulting in best practice exchanges on Waterfront development.
  - Engagement with Homes England to share how they are accelerating house building in England.
  - Input from Edinburgh City Council to inform the City Centre Connectivity Study

- Engagement with Dublin City Council to support the Belfast Dublin Economic Corridor.
- In addition, guest speakers are invited to participate in events to inform industry best practice. In 2019, City of Edinburgh Council and Cardiff Capital Region shared learnings from their respective City Deals; award winning regeneration company Urban Splash participated on a city living panel and Bruntwood, a key development partner for the Manchester Innovation District, joined an innovation district panel discussion.

#### 3.24 Deliver an initiative which reflects the ambitions of the Belfast Agenda;

While progress has been made over the past number of years, Belfast faces a number of challenges to growing the city, including unlocking inclusive city centre living to increase the city centre residential population and addressing aging infrastructure. It is essential that the city continues to promote Belfast as an attractive location for investment and development to enable the shared and inclusive growth of the Belfast Agenda.

3.25 Belfast has won a series of awards and accolades which help position us as a business friendly city and raise profile within the investment and real estate community. The annual FDI awards organised by the FDI Magazine are held during MIPIM. In 2019, Belfast received 8 awards including being ranked number one for business friendliness and second globally to Hong Kong for FDI Strategy. Other awards include being ranked within the overall top 10 for mid and small sized cities, economic potential, human capital and lifestyle, cost effectiveness, connectivity and within the top 25 emerging and developing global markets.

#### **MIPIM 2020**

- 3.26 In April 2019 Committee agreed the need for immediate planning for MIPIM 2020 and authorised officers to commence preparations, including budget spend, for MIPIM 2020.
- 3.27 Plans are well underway for MIPIM 2020. The official launch was held on the 6 September and 19 sponsors are so far confirmed. Invites have been issued to institutional investors for a pre-MIPIM Investor Event in London in November. It would be at significant financial cost to Belfast City Council and reputational risk to the city to not attend MIPIM 2020.

- 3.28 The City Solicitor has reviewed the vendor contractual commitments for MIPIM 2020. The value of these are £189,506 in respect of stand hire and build, event management, marketing, communication and logistics.
- 3.29 It should be noted that as per Committee agreement in April 2019 accommodation and delegation passes have been booked.
- 3.30 Work is ongoing to secure sponsorship. Belfast at MIPIM 2020 was successfully launched on the 6 September at Belfast Harbour Studios with over 100 people representing private, public and third sectors were in attendance. At the time of writing, £249,000 of private sector sponsorship has been raised from 19 sponsoring organisations including Belfast Harbour Commissioners, Invest NI, Queens University Belfast and Translink.
- 3.31 Plans are underway to develop the 2020 programme. A number of national and international speakers have been approached to participate on panel discussions. HBO and Sky have been approached to provide a high profile Belfast prop to drive stand footfall.
- 3.32 Pinsent Masons and CBRE are hosting a pre-MIPIM Investor Event in London on the 19 November with invites issued to over 50 institutional investors.

#### 3.33 | Finance and Resource Implications

Belfast at MIPIM is delivered as a public private sector sponsorship fund. The total sponsorship target for MIPIM 2020 is £430,000 with £350,000 from private and public sector partners which equates to approximately 80% of total income, and £80,000 from Council. Council funding was previously agreed by the Committee and is contained within existing departmental budget.

- 3.34 Income by way of sponsorship matches expenditure each year. Therefore the more sponsorship that is raised, the more value can be added to the programme. Members are asked to note that at time of writing £249,000 sponsorship income has been secured from public and private partners. As in previous years this is expected to increase significantly.
- 3.35 A report outlining options on the Council's role and contribution to MIPIM 2021 onwards will be brought to Committee in November enabling members to consider how they may wish to take advantage of the opportunities presented by MIPIM in the future.

	Equality, Good Relations and Rural Needs Implications
3.36	None associated with this report.
4.0	Appendices



## Agenda Item 6d



### CITY GROWTH AND REGENERATION COMMITTEE

I	ct:	IABA Request to Realig	n Funding				
Data		9 October 2019					
Date:		9 October 2019					
Repor	ting Officer:	John Greer, Director of	Economic Development				
Conto	et Officer:	Corry Concland City Ex	vonte Manager				
Conta	ct Officer:	Gerry Copeland, City Ev	rents ivianagei				
Restri	cted Reports						
Is this	report restricted?			Yes	N	0	х
11	f YES, when will th	e report become unrest	ricted				
	After Committe	e Decision					
	Alter Committe	C Decision					
	After Council I						
	Sometime in th	e future					
	Never						
Call-in							
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?							
1.0	Purpose of Repo	rt					
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	On the 12 <sup>th</sup> Septe	mber 2018, Members agı		•			
	On the 12 <sup>th</sup> Septe	mber 2018, Members agi ship in the 2019/2020 fi	nancial year, along with	n endo	orsing tha	t Co	ouncil
	On the 12 <sup>th</sup> Septe Boxing Champion Officers would fac	mber 2018, Members ago ship in the 2019/2020 fi ilitate and assist the Irish	nancial year, along with Athletic Boxing Associat	endo	orsing tha ABA) in th	t Co	ouncil aging
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	On the 12 <sup>th</sup> Septe Boxing Champior Officers would fac of the event. Afte it is now clear tha	mber 2018, Members ago ship in the 2019/2020 fi ditate and assist the Irish or a lengthy period of engaths this event cannot be stage	nancial year, along with Athletic Boxing Associat agement between Counc ged within the timeframe	endo tion (IA cil office e. The	orsing than ABA) in the cials and the crefore, the	t Co e st the e IA	ouncil aging IABA, BA is
	On the 12 <sup>th</sup> Septe Boxing Champior Officers would fac of the event. Afte it is now clear that asking Members	mber 2018, Members ago ship in the 2019/2020 fi ilitate and assist the Irish r a lengthy period of enga this event cannot be star to agree to the re-alig	nancial year, along with Athletic Boxing Associate agement between Counciled within the timeframe nament of the Council's	endo tion (I/ cil office . The	orsing that ABA) in the cials and the crefore, the cort, and	t Co e st the the IA	ouncil aging IABA, BA is ancial
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2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<ul> <li>It is recommended that the Committee:</li> <li>Agrees to support the staging of the EUBC schools competition and the transfer of circa £70,000 in this regard, which is part of the 2019/2020 budgets.</li> <li>Noes that the above would be subject to the IABA securing additional support from the Belfast Boxing Strategy, Tourism NI and Sport NI, plus other partners, in order to make up the finance to stage the 2020 European Schoolboys and Schoolgirls Championship.</li> <li>Agrees to a further report to be brought back to Committee in order to update Members on this matter.</li> </ul>
3.0	Main Report
3.1	In March 2018, via a Notice of Motion, the Council agreed that its Officers would engage with the IABA to explore the possibility of bringing the All Ireland Boxing Championships to Belfast. A further report, in September 2018, was presented to Members in which they agreed to that Officers would continue to work with IABA in the staging of the Elite All Ireland Championship in 2019/2020. Despite the best efforts of IABA and Council officials it has not been possible to deliver on this.
3.2	The key issue being the scheduling of the Elite All Ireland competition vis a vis programming dates set by the Amateur International Boxing Association (AIBA) and the International Olympic Committee connected to the qualifying schedule for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics – an issue flagged in September 2018's Committee report.
3.3	Due to this diary programming issue, the IABA have requested that Council support the staging of the 2020 European Schoolboys and Schoolgirls Championship instead. This event is estimated to cost circa £350,000 and if staged would take place over the first two weeks in July or the last two weeks in August of next year.
3.4	This event would attract fighters from 30 nations, with female and male competitors aged 13-14 years old, fighting over 20 weight categories. The IABA estimate the total number of boxers, coaches, support staff and officials to be circa 600, with an need for four hundred bedrooms across a 10 day period. Given the nature of the event, it would be deemed that this event would elevate Belfast's status within the international boxing fraternity and provide a platform for any possible future bids for European or World boxing competitions.
3.5	There are no current existing economic statistics attached to this competition. However, it is estimated, by the IABA, that the EUBC finals would attract a daily audiences of approximately 2,000 people, alongside the competitors/official numbers mentioned above. Given these figures IABA estimate the visitor spend to be around £1.7m. The IABA have also stated that EUBC may welcome a bid from Belfast for the staging of a future European Youth Championship, subject to the schools competition being staged successfully in the city.

Members are reminded that Belfast has previously hosted the AIBA's World Championships in 2001.

- 3.6 Operational Requirements for the European Schoolboys and Schoolgirls Championships
  Key elements required to stage this event are as follows:
  - Venue: Any venue must be able to seat 2,000 plus, be able to operate two competition
    rings in the same area, with adequate space for judges, officials and coaches around the
    ring's aprons. The venue should also have adequate meeting rooms, changing & shower
    facilities, rooms for medical & doping and areas for officials to meet.
  - Warm-up Areas: The venue will need to accommodate dedicated spaces where boxers can prepare for their bouts. Such areas will need to be within the competition venue.
  - Training Venue(s): In addition, there needs to be a training venue(s) which can host up two rings so boxers can prepare while in the host city. These could be facilitated within Belfast clubs.

#### Belfast City Council Boxing Strategy

3.7 In 2012, Belfast City Council created a strategy to assist in the sports development. This strategic vision recognises the important role which amateur boxing plays in the life of Belfast and its working class communities in particular. The document highlighted four key strategic challenges: Pathways to the sport (boxers, coaches and officials); Coach education and development; Club support and development and Governance. A Steering Group was established to develop and oversee the implementation of the Strategy - this included representatives from IABA, Ulster Council, Co Antrim Boxing and Sport NI. This steering group (with the exception of Sport NI) continues to meet to oversee the delivery of the strategy and its related action plans. A contribution of £200,000 per year over 3 years from April 2013 was agreed by the Council to enable the implementation of the strategy's action plans. Due to a delay in recruiting staff the funding was spread over a longer period and this funding ceased on 31st March 2017. The Council agreed to directly fund the Irish Athletic Boxing Association (IABA) to deliver elements of the strategy during the financial year 2017/18. The Strategic Policy & Resources Committee agreed further funding on January 5<sup>th</sup> 2018 of £200,000 for the implementation of the Belfast Boxing Strategy through the IABA and this amount is now included within the City and Neighbourhood Services revenue budgets for the strategy.

#### Finance and Resource Implications

The financial request from IABA is to seek Council's approval to re-align its commitment from Elite All Ireland Championship, £70,000, to the 2020 European Schoolboys and Schoolgirls Championship. The total costs associated with hosting the event in Belfast would between £200,000 and £250,000. At this stage, no other funders have committed to supporting this project, although Tourism NI and Sport NI have been approached in this regard. In addition, IABA would intend to approach the Partner & Strategy Steering Group to seek support.

4.0	Appendices
	& equality by bringing together people from a wide range of backgrounds. There are no perceived Rural Needs implications connected to this project.
3.9	Equality & Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment  The IABA event would be open to all and as such has the potential to promote good relations