

BELFAST CITY COUNCIL

SUMMONS TO ATTEND THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

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

Notice is hereby given that the monthly meeting of the Council will be held in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Belfast on Monday, 4th November, 2019 at 6.00 p.m., for the transaction of the following business:

1. Summons
2. Apologies
3. Declarations of Interest
4. Minutes of the Council (Pages 1 - 22)
5. Official Announcements
6. Strategic Policy and Resources Committee (Pages 23 - 58)
 - a) Motion - Economic Future Planning (Pages 59 - 60)

In light of the legal opinion received, to adopt the minute of the meeting of 20th September, under the heading "Motion – Economic Future Planning, which was called in

7. People and Communities Committee (Pages 61 - 96)
8. City Growth and Regeneration Committee (Pages 97 - 152)
9. Planning Committee (Pages 153 - 176)
10. Belfast Waterfront and Ulster Hall Ltd. Shareholders' Committee (Pages 177 - 180)
11. Brexit Committee (Pages 181 - 194)
12. Notices of Motion

a) Alcohol Misuse

Proposed by Councillor Kyle,
Seconded by Councillor Lyons,

“Alcohol misuse has been described by Belfast Coroner Joe McCrisken as the biggest health problem in Northern Ireland. Over the past decade the number of alcohol-related deaths has increased by almost 50% and 12,000 people are admitted to hospital each year with alcohol-related problems.

Evidence indicates that Minimum Unit Pricing of alcohol is the most effective way to reduce alcohol-related harm.

This Council calls for legislation to introduce Minimum Unit Pricing and, to that end, will seek a meeting with the Permanent Secretary, Department of Health.”

(To be debated by the Council)

b) Arrest and Imprisonment of Catalanian Political Leaders

Proposed by Councillor Matt Collins,
Seconded by Councillor Ferguson,

"This Council notes with great concern the recent arrest and imprisonment of Catalanian political leaders and wishes to extend its solidarity to Catalan citizens living in Belfast.

The Council opposes these arrests and demands that the Spanish authorities end violence and criminalisation directed at the peaceful Catalan struggle for justice and immediately rescind jail sentences imposed by the Spanish Supreme Court on Catalan representatives.

The Council calls also on the European Union to end its complicity with the Spanish government's violent repression, denial of democratic rights and imprisonment of Catalan leaders.

Accordingly, the Council agrees to write to the Spanish government and to the European Union to relay this position."

(To be debated by the Council)

c) Ban on Hunting with Dogs and use of Snares

Proposed by Councillor Flynn,
Seconded by Councillor McKeown,

“This Council notes with concern that hunting with dogs remains legal in Northern Ireland and is still used in the barbaric practice of pursuing and killing live animals. It further notes that snares are still being used to capture and kill wildlife.

The Council believes that the selling and use of snares for capturing or killing animals should be banned outright and agrees that legislation should be brought forward to ban hunting with dogs in Northern Ireland. It therefore resolves to write to the Permanent Secretary, Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, outlining these concerns and requesting that preparatory work be undertaken to enable the relevant laws to be changed to reflect this.”

(To be debated by the Council)

d) Reshaping Breast Assessment Services

Proposed by Councillor Ferguson,
Seconded by Councillor Michael Collins,

“This Council notes with grave concern the public consultation ‘Reshaping Breast Assessment Services’, the first draft report of which is due in the coming weeks.

It notes also that the plans contained within the consultation could lead to the closure of two breast clinic services, including the centre at the Belfast City Hospital, and that the closure of a local, highly effective centre would have a devastating impact on women in surrounding communities who rely on this lifesaving service. In particular, detrimental and discriminatory impact would be felt by those who cannot travel further for treatment because of age, economic, physical or mental health reasons.

Accordingly, the Council agrees to write to the Department for Health and to the Secretary of State adding its input to the consultation responses, stating that it recognises the incredibly high level of care and the ground breaking work in the Belfast Breast Screening Centre.

Also, the Council agrees, within the correspondence, to object in the strongest terms to the suggestion that this vital service could be lost from the Belfast City Hospital and to the suggestion that any reduction in Breast Screening Services could be made across the region, and requests an urgent cross-Party meeting with the Permanent Secretary, Department of Health, to discuss the issue.”

(To be debated by the Council)

e) "Parenting in the Picture" Campaign

Proposed by Councillor Mulholland,
Seconded by Councillor Smyth,

"Following on from the 20th year of Parenting Week, this Council recognises the vital importance of parents to society.

Furthermore, it notes with concern that 82% of parents indicated in the most recent "Big Parenting Survey", that they felt that parents do not receive enough support.

In order to bring attention to and in an attempt to redress this, the Council formally supports Parenting NI's "Parenting in the Picture" campaign and pledges to work towards implementing the promises and commitments contained in this campaign.

To do this, the Council commits to conducting an audit of the existing initiatives which it delivers to support parents, with a view to working with the voluntary and community sector, as well as other partners, to explore if such initiatives may be improved, as well as seeking to bring forward new programmes to support our parents."

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

f) Unregulated Car Washes

Proposed by Councillor Newton,
Seconded by Councillor Graham,

“This Council expresses concern about unregulated car washes and calls for a detailed report to be prepared on the number of unregulated car washes across Belfast. The necessary investigation and production of the report to be led by Council officers and to involve experienced staff from all relevant statutory bodies, in particular, the Police Service of Northern Ireland. The Council requests that the report cover all aspects of unregulated car washes, including potential human trafficking, employee contracts and wages, environmental and health and safety issues.”

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

g) Nutrition Support for Children in Out-of-Hours School Clubs

Proposed by Councillor Black,
Seconded by Councillor McAteer,

“Practical healthy eating, supported by positive influence around lifelong food choices, improves children’s wellbeing in physical and mental terms, including their ability to concentrate and learn.

Good nutrition is essential for children to grow properly, do their best in school and be healthy and happy in the future. (Education Authority).

A World Health Organisation commission has described childhood obesity as a ‘growing epidemic’. Department of Health survey statistics indicate that 25% of children in this region are deemed to be overweight or obese. The estimated costs of healthcare attached to weight problems are around £450 million, representing 2.8% of total healthcare expenditure.

Small changes across a range of arenas can help to turn the tide. Implementing healthy snack choices, as part of the daily routine, significantly increases the capacity of positive choices becoming embedded, ultimately, resulting in wider savings to the health sector.

Belfast City Council supports a range of services and programmes for children, including Summer Schemes and Out-of-Hours School Clubs in areas facing disadvantage and food poverty.

Such spaces provide daily opportunities for children to undertake physical activity, learning and play. It is worth noting the capacity for such spaces to further improve the health of children via the provision of small healthy snacks.

It is within this Council’s gift to contribute to the improvement of quality of daily life for children and to cement children’s positive relationship with food and nutrition.

Accordingly, the Council agrees that a report, looking at clubs located in areas of disadvantage and the potential for such spaces to incorporate healthy snacks, as part of out of school hours provision during both term and non-term time, be prepared.”

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

h) Action on Avoidable Winter Deaths

Proposed by Councillor McAteer,
Seconded by Councillor Black,

“In December last year, the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) published Excess Winter Mortality figures for the period 2017/18, which revealed the second highest recorded number of excess winter deaths in the north of Ireland since data began in 1974/75. Furthermore, these shocking statistics recorded that the number of excess winter deaths in the north had more than doubled since 2015.

The 2017/18 statistics record that 1,500 people died, who were classed as Excess Winter Deaths, and, of these, 22% or 320 people were from the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust. These deaths are avoidable winter deaths and even one is too many. Unfortunately, it is our citizens aged over 65 who are most affected, particularly those vulnerable elderly people aged 85+.

The increase in winter deaths is widely understood to be down to the flu and spells of very cold weather, yet these deaths are avoidable. A combination of high energy prices, fuel poverty, ill health, low income and poor housing can make winter a dangerous time for many older people.

As we await the NISRA figures for 2018/19 and approach the upcoming winter, this Council will do all in its power to effectively act on avoidable winter deaths. The Council welcomes the joined up multi-sectoral approach that will focus on preventing avoidable winter deaths through Belfast's Community Planning Process and agrees to convene and facilitate a meeting of Belfast's community, voluntary and social enterprise agencies which focus on protecting and supporting older vulnerable people, to identify, develop and support innovative programmes that can be deployed and co-ordinated to prevent avoidable deaths in our city over the upcoming winter.”

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

i) Management of Communal Areas and Open Space in Developments

Proposed by Councillor Murphy,
Seconded by Councillor Beattie,

“This Council is concerned by the impact on new and long term homeowners of property management fees for the upkeep of open spaces and communal areas in housing estates.

We recognise that the Council has a role to play in this through the planning process and call upon it to develop a framework around the management of open space and communal areas and explore the possibility of how we can regulate the property management sector.

We further call upon the Council to engage with relevant parties such as the Law Society in the carrying out of this work.”

(To be referred without discussion to the Planning Committee)

j) New Year Event

Proposed by Councillor Pankhurst,
Seconded by Councillor Verner,

"This Council notes the huge success of our Hallowe'en Monster Mash event.

As a regional capital city, the Council agrees to hold on an annual basis a similar event to celebrate the New Year. The event will appeal to all our citizens and visitors, enhancing the appeal of Belfast as a welcoming and diverse city."

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

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Suzanne Wylie". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'S' and a decorative flourish at the end.

Chief Executive