

**Democratic Services Section
Chief Executive's Department
Belfast City Council
City Hall
Belfast
BT1 5GS**



**Belfast
City Council**

19th August, 2019

MEETING OF BREXIT COMMITTEE

Dear Alderman/Councillor,

The above-named Committee will meet in the Lavery Room - City Hall on Thursday, 22nd August, 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. **Update on Day 1 Preparedness (Pages 1 - 6)**
3. **Brexit Committee Workplan (Pages 7 - 10)**
4. **Visit to Brussels for Open Week of Regions and Cities (Pages 11 - 16)**
5. **Update on EU Settlement Scheme Information Session (Pages 17 - 20)**
6. **North South Collaboration Mapping Exercise Report (Pages 21 - 32)**

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Subject:	Update on Brexit Day 1 preparedness
Date:	22 August 2019
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director City & Neighbourhood Services John Walsh, City Solicitor / Director of Legal and Civic Services
Contact Officer:	Kim Walsh, Business, Research & Development Manager, City & Neighbourhood Services.

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
	The purpose of this report is to outline for Members work that is currently being undertaken in relation to the Council's Brexit Day 1 preparedness.
2.0	Recommendations
	Members are asked to note this update.
3.0	Main report
	<u>Key Issues</u>

Members are reminded that that the previous Committee had been provided with regular updates on the work that is ongoing in relation to identifying potential Day 1 service implications in relation to Brexit. Members will be aware that there is ongoing uncertainty around the outcome and timings around the exit from the EU, therefore Officers are currently preparing for the possibility of a 'no deal' scenario on 31st October and any disruption that may or may not occur in the period leading up to and after it.

Work previously undertaken

Members are advised that in the period prior to the potential exit on the 29th March the following actions were undertaken:

- 1) The Council's critical **services completed Brexit Resilience Measures templates** to identify the potential impact that Brexit may have on service delivery over the six week period after exit from the EU and the necessary resilience measures that need to be taken before the exit date.
- 2) Responsible **officers reviewed and updated their Business Continuity Plans** ensuring that it deals with service delivery post Brexit, and have communicated it to relevant staff.

A process was also in place whereby **emergency planning** staff provided situational reporting and daily position statements to the Council's senior management team on critical services. A process for internal situational reporting was developed and critical services were asked to email the report to the Emergency Co-ordination Centre (ECC) each morning in order to allow Emergency Planning to collate the information and escalate any emerging issues. Collated information was then sent to the reporting points on a daily basis and where appropriate forwarded to Chief Officers, Heads of Services, Corporate Communications and Elected Members.

Members are advised that this process went live w/c 25th March and reporting took place for several days, however due to the change of the exit date from 29th March and uncertainty around the timings of the exit, it was decided by the NICS that daily reporting was not required at this point and that the frequency of reporting would be kept under review as the situation evolves. Members should note that this period of reporting was a good test of the reporting arrangements and officers are confident that the process works and can be activated as required.

Planned activities

The Council's critical services are currently refreshing the Brexit Resilience Measures templates that they had previously completed to take account of the planned exit date of 31st October and to also consider normal 'winter pressures'. These templates will identify

the potential impact that Brexit may have on service delivery over the six week period after exit from the EU and the necessary resilience measures that need to be taken before the exit date to ensure that the Council continues to deliver key services. Officers are currently scheduling an internal officer workshop for mid to end of September specifically with the purpose of updating / refreshing the templates, and considering wider implications based on the most up to date information we have.

Members should also note that emergency planning staff are working with partners and arrangements exist across Northern Ireland to respond to emergencies and ensure that the support provided to the public is co-ordinated. In Belfast the agencies use the Belfast Emergency Preparedness Group to undertake planning to enable this response.

Belfast Emergency Preparedness Group members will be meeting before and after EU Exit to ensure all agencies can raise concerns if these arise. Normal emergency planning arrangements will be available to respond to emergencies if required. These are the same processes employed for any large unexpected event that may impact on the city and, as a result, are already tried and tested. This may be as a result of a civil contingencies issue such as severe weather or if there is an EU Exit related issue which leads to a significant threat or significant cumulative impacts arising, which necessitate a locally co-ordinated response. The Emergency Co-ordination Centre in City Hall will be on standby to activate if required. Refresher training for staff who may be asked to work in the centre was undertaken in the period up to the previous exit date in March. The Council will establish an internal information hub in the period prior to the exit date and will maintain shared situational awareness across all Council departments/functions. This will include any potential business continuity issues, concerns which need escalated to central government or rising tide issues which could lead to an emergency activation being required.

Work has also been ongoing in several areas around preparations for Brexit including liaising with central government departments and working on civil contingency planning with other relevant partners. Central government departments are developing plans to prevent and mitigate any potential impacts of EU Exit. The Executive Office is leading this work across the NI Civil Service and is establishing co-ordination arrangements to ensure that any potential issues can be identified and addressed as quickly as possible. These arrangements will be established prior to EU Exit and continue until required but will be scaled up/down as needed. Belfast City Council works with a wide range of departments to deliver normal services. The Council will link with the central government co-ordination arrangements to discuss and escalate any issues which arise in relation to EU Exit.

As Members are aware the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE) have developed a risk register that consists of 16 main council level risks that need to be considered in light of Brexit. Each risk has an associated outline action plan for councils to consider in preparing for the risk. The risk register also deals with possible impacts post Day 1 and to the wider Council area and not just the organisation. Officers are currently working on updating the risk register and continue to participate in SOLACE's Brexit Task and Finish Group.

Food Safety and Port Health

Members are reminded that there are potential implications on food businesses and the Council's Food Safety and Port Health Regulatory functions. For example, Brexit may affect local food producers/exporters and importers. Consequently, the Council's Port Health Unit have been working closely with DEFRA, DAERA, the Food Standards Agency and local importers to develop and roll out a new UK IT system for the pre-notification of import of high risk food to replace the existing EU TRACES system which may no longer be available in the event of a no deal exit. We have also gathered and analysed data to estimate and prepare for additional checks that may be required for transited products (imported foods travelling through the EU destined for the UK)

In a no deal scenario every export consignment of animal origin destined for the EU may require certification to demonstrate it meets the necessary health requirements. Whilst this is primarily a DAERA responsibility, Council Environmental Health Officers (EHOs) may certify fish and eggs. There are currently ongoing discussions between SOLACE and DAERA around the option of Councils undertaking this work and DAERA are considering how this work may be funded. We have been assisting DAERA by contacting businesses to establish their certification requirements and developing procedures to enable businesses to apply to Councils for certification where possible. We have been working closely with DAERA and the FSA to support the arrangement and delivery of workshops for potentially affected businesses. We have been taking the opportunity to signpost businesses to government advice and to support them to understand the potential changes and how to prepare for a no deal Brexit. Guidance for the food industry has been provided on the Council's website.

We are providing additional training for the Council's EHOs (both inland and at the Port) on the new IT systems and processes and to ensure we have sufficient trained officers to deliver the additional services required when the UK exits the EU.

	<p>Members are advised that Officers from Emergency Planning and Food Safety and Port Health Regulatory functions will be in attendance at this meeting to provide updates on the work that they are undertaking in relation to Brexit Day 1 Preparedness.</p>
	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>There are no financial implications relating to this report but the work that is being undertaken to further define potential Day 1 impacts, risks and mitigations may have financial and resource implications and these will be reported to the relevant committees as required. It is likely that there will be direct costs associated with preparing for Brexit e.g. in relation to civil contingency planning and potential requirements for additional staff and where possible these will be claimed back from central government.</p> <p>Members should note that the Council has not included an increase in its recurrent budgets because of the uncertainty around Brexit, however, if one-off costs are to be incurred these will be financed through Council's general reserves.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>There are no implications relating to this report.</p>
	<p>Appendices</p>
	<p>None</p>

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Subject:	Brexit Committee Workplan
Date:	22 August 2019
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director City & Neighbourhood Services John Walsh, City Solicitor / Director of Legal and Civic Services
Contact Officer:	Kim Walsh, Business, Research & Development Manager, City & Neighbourhood Services.

Restricted Reports	
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If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
	The purpose of this report is to provide the Committee with a draft workplan for their consideration. It is proposed that the draft workplan covers the period up to the exit date of 31 st October and that it is revisited after this date when it is likely that the situation around EU exit will be clearer.
2.0	Recommendations
	Members are asked to agree the workplan as outlined in this report, subject to any additions or amendments Committee may request.

3.0	Main report
	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>Members are reminded that at its meeting in June it requested that a draft workplan be submitted to this meeting for their consideration and that 'in terms of the impact of Brexit upon Workers/Human Rights and on the environment, agreed that the following be invited to attend a future meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representatives of Trades Unions • Representatives of environmental organisations; • Dr. Mary Dobbs – Queen’s University; • Professor Colin Harvey – Queen’s University; and • Dr. Daniel Holder – CAJ. <p>The Committee also agreed that the Local Government Auditor be invited to attend a future meeting in order to discuss the section within the Local Government Auditors Report 2019 referring to local government preparations for leaving the European Union.</p> <p>A request has also been made by the Chair to invite a representative from the Department of Economy to update the Committee on the recently published data paper on Northern Ireland’s trade and investment under ‘no deal’ as part of the Northern Ireland Civil Service’s work on EU Exit.</p> <p>Members are also advised that Officers have met with representatives from the Office of the Northern Ireland Executive in Brussels and that their Director, Andrew Elliott has offered to attend the Committee meeting in September to update Members on the programme of work that the Office is currently undertaking. Members are reminded that Andrew and his team were helpful in identifying people to meet and providing contact details during the organisation of the previous visit to Brussels.</p> <p>Officers have now contacted the various people as outlined above to determine their availability to attend Committee and their responses are outlined in the table below. Subject to Committee agreeing the proposed speakers list, Officers will confirm these dates.</p>

Brexit Committee	Attendees	Organisation
September	Prof. Colin Harvey & Daniel Holder, Deputy Director	QUB & CAJ
	Andrew Elliot, Director	NI Executive Office in Brussels
	Shane Murphy, Head of Analytical Services	Dept for the Economy
October	Sean Kelly, Development Manager to co-ordinate forum leads	Northern Ireland Environment Link (NIEL)
	Dr. Mary Dobbs	QUB
Has agreed to attend Committee but date not yet agreed	Owen Reidy, Assistant General Secretary	Northern Ireland Committee - ICTU
Awaiting a response	Pamela McCreedy Chief Operating Officer and Local Government Auditor	NI Audit Office

Members are also advised that a request was sent to Party Group Leaders seeking any additional speakers they wished to add to the list and to date none have been received.

In addition to the above speakers it is proposed that in the period up to 31st October, the following reports are brought to Committee for consideration:

Report Title	Areas covered	Committee date
Update on Day 1 preparedness	Council preparations to ensure business continuity for its critical services	Recommendation that this is a standing item
Update on legislative alignment	Report on the various European Directives and legislation governing the work of the Council	September
Update on eastern economic corridor	Report on the work that is ongoing in relation to the development of this	September
Update on medium term planning	The potential impact on the City of Brexit in the medium term and support that may be required	October
Update on EU Settlement Scheme – Information sessions	Update on the holding of information sessions on	October

	Update on QUB research	Report on the work currently being undertaken by QUB in relation to future relations with the EU	TBD when the report becomes available
<p>As Members will be aware information in relation to EU exit is continually becoming available. If any relevant information is released in the period up to the 31st October reports on this will be brought to Committee. Members may also have specific issues that they would like to request, through Committee, that a report be produced and these can be added to the workplan as required.</p> <p>Given that there is ongoing uncertainty around the outcome and timings of the exit from the EU, it is proposed that the workplan is revisited after 31st October, when it is likely that the situation around EU exit will be clearer and this is brought to the November Committee meeting for consideration.</p>			
<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>There are no specific financial or resource implications relating to this report but there may be implications related to specific papers and these will be outlined in the relevant report.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>There are no equality or good relations implications relating to this report.</p>			
<p>Appendices</p>			
<p>None</p>			



Subject:	European Week of Regions & Cities 7-10th October 2019
Date:	22 August 2019
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director City & Neighbourhood Services John Walsh, City Solicitor / Director of Legal and Civic Services
Contact Officer:	Kim Walsh, Business, Research & Development Manager, City & Neighbourhood Services.

Restricted Reports	
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After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	<p>Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues</p> <p>At the September 2018 meeting of this Committee it was agreed that an all-Party delegation from the Council would undertake a visit to Brussels to engage with EU officials. Consequently, Members undertook a visit to Brussels from 28th to 30th January 2019. An update on the outcomes of that trip was provided to Committee on 14th Feb 2019. The delegation consisted of the Lord Mayor, Councillors Walsh and Lyons and two officers. The budget for the last visit was approximately £3,300.</p> <p>Members have since voiced their interest in arranging a further visit in light of ongoing Brexit developments. The upcoming European Week of Regions & Cities 7-10th October</p>
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	<p>2019 has been identified as a potential opportunity for a second visit of the Brexit Committee to Brussels.</p> <p>As the Brexit Committee has no allocated budget, the Strategic Policy and Resources committee would need to approve any budget for a second visit.</p>
2.0	Recommendations
	<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree whether a visit to Brussels should be arranged and whether it should coincide with the European Week of Regions & Cities 7-10th October 2019. <p>If a visit is agreed Committee are asked to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree who should undertake the visit eg an all-party group (possibly 8 Members) or representatives such as the Chair and Deputy Chair plus officer support. • Agree to officers asking the SP&R committee for a suitable budget.
3.0	Main report
	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>At the September 2018 meeting of this Committee it was agreed that an all-Party delegation from the Council would undertake a visit to Brussels to engage with EU officials. After the Belfast City Council's Commissioner for Resilience met with the Head of the NI Executive Office whilst attending the EU Week of Regions in Cities in 2018, an outline agenda for a Members' visit to Brussels was proposed.</p> <p>The visit took place in January 2019. During the visit, members met with a range of officials and politicians including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrew Elliot, Head of Office, NI Executive Office in Brussels; • Nina Obermaier, Adviser to Taskforce 50 • Hermione Gough, Director for UK-EU Partnership at the UK's Permanent Representation to the European Union • Mr. Dieter Cavalleri Minister in charge of Parliamentary Affairs and Brexit at the Mission of Switzerland to the EU • Micheal Ó Conchuir, Secretary General European Alliance Group – European Committee of the Regions • David Brück & Amal Kaoua Deputy Directors Brexit Unit, Permanent Representation of Ireland to the EU • The 3 Northern Ireland MEPs - Diane Dodds MEP, Martina Anderson MEP and Jim Nicholson MEP

- Mairead McGuinness MEP, Vice President of the European Parliament and an Irish MEP from Midlands-North-West Constituency
- Matt Carthy MEP, Irish MEP from Midlands-North-West Constituency
- Gabriele Zimmer MEP who sits on the European Parliament's Brexit Steering Group

A key theme within all the discussions was that it was important that views from all the different perspectives in Belfast and the wider region were presented in Brussels and that ongoing engagement would be welcomed.

Members have since voiced their interest in undertaking a follow up visit to Brussels. During a meeting with Officers, Mr Neal Gartland, the new Deputy Director for Europe and International Hub of the Office of the Northern Ireland Executive Brussels, mentioned the upcoming European Week of Regions & Cities 7-10th October 2019. During this, the NI office, in conjunction with other devolved administrations, would be holding an Open Week event. It was suggested that this might be a suitable time for a further visit of the Brexit Committee.

Andrew Elliott, the European Division Director and Head of the Office of the Northern Ireland Executive in Brussels, is due to present to Committee in September and this provides an opportunity to discuss more detail about a potential trip.

Although MEPs have no official duties during the EU Week of Regions and Cities, and hence may not be in attendance, elected members and officers of city and regional councils from across the EU, plus the EU Commission and Regional offices will all be present. As such, the event provides an opportunity to network and see how other regions are managing Brexit, and to discuss future relationships and opportunities within Europe.

Financial & Resource Implications

The previous visit proposed a budget of £1000 per delegate based on return flights plus two nights' accommodation and cost of meals and transport. The final cost for three members and two officers was approximately £3,300. Due to increased demand for flights and accommodation during the EU Week of Regions and Cities, it is likely that costs will be slightly higher than this.

Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment

None

4.0	Appendices
	Appendix 1 - Introduction to the European Week of Regions & Cities 7-10th October 2019

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Appendix – Introduction to the European Week of Regions & Cities 7-10th October 2019

The following text has been taken from the EU website: <https://europa.eu/regions-and-cities/>

About

The European Week of Regions and Cities is an annual four-day event during which cities and regions showcase their capacity to create growth and jobs, implement European Union cohesion policy, and prove the importance of the local and regional level for good European governance.

The event has become a European networking platform for experts in regional and local development. Exchange of good practice in economic development and social inclusion, cross-border cooperation, public-private partnerships, regional innovation and community-led local development have become some of its many topics. It welcomes some 6.000 participants in October each year (local, regional, national and European decision-makers and experts) for more than 100 workshops and debates, exhibitions and networking opportunities.

Who can participate?

The European Week of Regions and Cities and its workshops, debates and networking activities are addressed to:

- members of the European Committee of the Regions, members of the European Parliament and national, regional and local politicians
- **European, national, regional and local government officials and** experts in the field of managing and evaluating cohesion policy programmes
- representatives of private companies, financial institutions and European and national associations
- journalists from European, national, regional and local media outlets
- researchers, PhD or masters students and practitioners in the field of European regional and urban policy

Who can be event partner?

The European Week of Regions and Cities is co-organised by the European Commission's Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy (DG REGIO) and the European Committee of the Regions (CoR). Other European institutions, European regions and cities in regional partnerships, and European associations can also become event partners.

Programme

- Monday 7/10 2:30-4:30 pm : Opening Session , European Parliament's hemicycle. 5:30 pm : Citizens' Dialogue, the Square. 7:00 pm onwards: Opening reception with Atlantic regional tasting, Square Agora Village
- Tuesday 8/10 7:30 pm: Political reception, European Committee of the Regions. 8:00 pm onwards : Regions' evening with Mediterranean regional tasting, Square Agora Village
- Wednesday 9/10 6:30 pm: Partners' reception, the Square . 8:00 pm: REGIOSTARS Ceremony, the Square Followed by reception with Central regional tasting, Square Agora Village
- Thursday 10/10 2:00 pm: Closing Ceremony, the Square.

Main sessions

There are over 300 sessions with topics including Regions and cities, pillars of the EU's future, Regional governance, competitiveness and social integration, Better evidence on cross-border regions and INTERREG impacts, etc. For full details please see the website:

https://europa.eu/regions-and-cities/programme/sessions_en

Master Class

As part of the 17th European Week of Regions and Cities, the 7th Master Class on EU Cohesion Policy will be held for 30 PhD students and early-career researchers in the field of regional and urban policy.

The University

The University workshops present new research on regional and urban development. They foster an exchange of views and testing of new academic concepts in the field of regional and urban policies between academics, practitioners, EU officials and other interested participants. The University facilitates the creation of networking links between students, academics, EU institutions and regional partners and raises awareness of EU cohesion policy among students and young researchers.

Sessions opened for registrations are:

#EURegionsWeek UNIVERSITY: Territorialising EU Cohesion Policy to bring it closer to citizens

#EURegionsWeek UNIVERSITY: Shrinking Rural Regions and Spatial Justice

#EURegionsWeek UNIVERSITY: Co-creation of Public Services: Challenges and Opportunities in Theory and Practice

#EURegionsWeek UNIVERSITY: Circular Economy Transitions in European Regions and Cities

#EURegionsWeek UNIVERSITY: Transforming cities into arenas for healthy ageing

#EURegionsWeek UNIVERSITY: Global Talents, Immigration Policy and Regional Innovation

#EURegionsWeek UNIVERSITY: Citizen Entrepreneurship: Towards involvement, inclusion and integration of citizens in entrepreneurial Europe

#EURegionsWeek UNIVERSITY: The importance of networks in regional economic smart specialisation policies

#EURegionsWeek UNIVERSITY: The regional socio-economic impact of the 4th industrial revolution

#EURegionsWeek UNIVERSITY: Maximising the Contribution of Universities to Regional Innovation – Lessons and Toolkits for Policymaking



Subject:	Update on the EU Settlement Scheme – information session
Date:	22 August 2019
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director City & Neighbourhood Services John Walsh, City Solicitor / Director of Legal and Civic Services
Contact Officer:	Kim Walsh, Business, Research & Development Manager, City & Neighbourhood Services.

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Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
	The purpose of this report is to update Members on the information session in relation to the EU Settlement Scheme.
2.0	Recommendations
	Members are asked to note the update provided.
3.0	Main report
	<u>Key Issues</u>

The EU Settlement Scheme enables EEA and Swiss citizens living in the UK, and their family members, to obtain the UK immigration status they will require to live, work and study in the UK after 30 June 2021 (or after 31 December 2020 if there is a no deal exit). The Home Office run regular teleconferences with Local Authorities across the UK to update them on the scheme and Officers participate in these calls and disseminate relevant information as required. The last teleconference was held in July 2019 and the purpose of this was to provide an update on the number of applications that had been received and processed. A total of 10,500 applications have been received from Northern Ireland and detailed statistics can be obtained at <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/eu-settlement-scheme-statistics-june-2019>

Members should note that the statistics are only currently available at a regional level but that the Home Office is looking at the option of providing them at a Local Authority Level. We will update Members if this breakdown does become available.

An update was also provided on the organisations who had received funding from the Home Office funding scheme. In Northern Ireland these are Advice NI and a consortium made up of the Law Centre and STEP Dungannon. Information on their projects and the support they are providing can be obtained from the following websites:

<https://www.adviceni.net/eu-settlement-scheme>

<https://www.strongertogetherni.org/stronger-together-partnership-eu-settlement-scheme-support-project/>

Members are reminded that a report was brought to the January 2019 meeting of this Committee outlining plans for an information session on the EU Settlement Scheme in City Hall, which had been requested by the Committee in December 2018. It was agreed that local organisations who successfully obtain funding from the Home Office funding scheme to allow them to support EU citizens to apply to the Scheme, be invited to provide the information at the session. Members are advised that officers have made contact with the organisations that were awarded funding from the Home Office funding scheme. Their suggestion is that in the first instance a session be held with organisations who work with potentially affected citizens, as well as consulates and employers so that they can disseminate the information as widely as possible. This session would then be followed up with a session targeted at potentially affected individuals. Officers will continue to work with these funded organisations to organise these events and we have not yet confirmed when the events will take place. Information about the events will be disseminated through the Council's usual communications channels and an invite will be sent to all Members.

	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>To deliver the Information Session(s) will require the use of the City Hall and a small budget to cover tea and coffee which will come out of existing resources.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>There are no implications relating to this report but Officers will ensure that equality implications are considered in the organisation of the information sessions.</p>
	<p>Appendices</p>
	<p>None</p>

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Subject:	'Mapping exercise' document examining North-South cooperation on the island of Ireland
Date:	22 August 2019
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director City & Neighbourhood Services John Walsh, City Solicitor / Director of Legal and Civic Services
Contact Officer:	Kim Walsh, Business, Research & Development Manager, City & Neighbourhood Services.

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Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
	At its meeting on the 20 th June, the Committee noted that it would, at its next meeting, receive a report on the outcome of a mapping exercise which had, following a Freedom of Information request, been published recently by the Brexit Select Committee, highlighting areas of joint co-operation on the island of Ireland which would be impacted by Brexit. The report also highlights the main findings of the mapping exercise for Members' consideration.
2.0	Recommendations
	The Committee is asked to note the report.

3.0	<p>Main report</p> <p><u>Key issues</u></p> <p>On 20th June 2019, the Committee on Exiting the European Union published a UK Government document, on North-South cooperation, that had been prepared in September 2017. The scoping exercise, that informed the document, was undertaken by the UK Government, Northern Ireland Civil Service, European Commission and Government of Ireland. The scoping exercise focused on six areas: agriculture, environment, transport, health, tourism, and education. Each of these had sub-categories and so the full review covered a wide range of cooperation areas though it was recognised that not all areas would be captured.</p> <p>The purpose of the mapping exercise was to chart the range of formal and informal cooperation that existed with a view to maintaining North-South cooperation following the UK's withdrawal from the EU. As it was a scoping document there was no overall summary or conclusion. Instead, the document was intended to form the basis of discussion.</p> <p>However, the final document does provide significant detail and outlines 142 areas of cooperation. For each of these areas, information is provided as to the extent that they are underpinned by the Good Friday Agreement or existing EU legal and policy frameworks. Of the 142 areas, 54 were classified as directly linked, 42 as partially linked, and 46 as not linked. The report was written before development of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018, which aims to retain most existing EU law in UK law after exit day by creating a new body of retained EU law.</p> <p>Officers have reviewed the 142 areas of collaboration and identified those that seem of most relevance to Council. That is, in terms of whether the collaborations directly reference Belfast, or local government, or involve areas where the Council has statutory responsibilities.</p> <p>The scoping document is available online here: https://www.parliament.uk/documents/commons-committees/Exiting-the-European-Union/17-19/Correspondence/UK%20Government%20scoping%20document%20(1).pdf</p> <p>The main webpage is available here: https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/exiting-the-european-union-committee/news-parliament-2017/mapping-exercise-documents-published-17-19/</p>
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	<p>A technical document was also produced, which provided further background on the scoping exercise and legal background. It is available here: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/762820/Technical_note- North-South_cooperation_mapping_exercise_2 .pdf</p>
	<p><u>Key points from the scoping document</u></p> <p>Further detail on all the points listed in this document is attached as appendix1.</p> <p>The items listed below specifically mention Belfast include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 All-Island Congenital Heart Disease Network - classified as “partially underpinned or linked” to the Good Friday Agreement or existing EU legal and policy frameworks. • 19 Cross-border Enterprise Rail Service - classified as “directly underpinned or linked” to the Good Friday Agreement or existing EU legal and policy frameworks. <p>Items listed that specifically mention councils (in general) and local government include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 51 Spatial Planning - classified as “not underpinned by or linked.” • 112 Cooperation beyond NSMC (local councils) - classified as “not underpinned by or linked.” • 111 All-Island Local Authority Programme - classified as “not underpinned by or linked.” • 112 Local authority led cross-border engagement - classified as “not underpinned by or linked.”
	<p>Other items listed with direct relevance to Council functions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 Food Safety Promotion Board - classified as “partially underpinned by or linked.” • 30 Cooperation on checks on third country products of animal origin, including fish products and bivalve molluscs - classified as “directly underpinned by or linked.” • 8 Tourism - classified as “partially underpinned by or linked.” • 1 Special EU Programmes Body - classified as “directly underpinned by or linked.” • 43 PEACE IV programme - classified as “directly underpinned by or linked.” • 44 INTERREG funding - classified as “directly underpinned by or linked.” <p>Other activities listed include cross border areas, infrastructure, environment, health, education, enforcement, trade/Business, transport and cultural.</p>
	<p>Officers will continue to monitor outputs from the Committee on Exiting the European Union in relation to cross-border collaborations affecting the Council. The results from the scoping exercise will also feed into Council’s ongoing Day 1 readiness work.</p>
	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>There are no specific financial or resource implications relating to this report.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>There are no equality or good relations implications relating to this report.</p>

4.0	Appendices
	Appendix 1 - North South Collaboration Mapping Exercise

Appendix 1 – ‘Mapping exercise’ document examining North-South cooperation on the island of Ireland

The following text is quoted directly from the scoping document:

[https://www.parliament.uk/documents/commons-committees/Exiting-the-European-Union/17-19/Correspondence/UK%20Government%20scoping%20document%20\(1\).pdf](https://www.parliament.uk/documents/commons-committees/Exiting-the-European-Union/17-19/Correspondence/UK%20Government%20scoping%20document%20(1).pdf)

Items listed in the scoping document that specifically mention Belfast are shown below.

10 All-Island Congenital Heart Disease Network: “The Network facilitates collaboration between healthcare providers in Northern Ireland and Ireland to ensure that vulnerable children receive treatment on the island of Ireland. The Network has a single surgical centre in Dublin and a specialist children’s cardiology centre in Belfast, supported by cardiology expertise in local hospitals and an all-island academic programme which is under development.”

The project is classified as “Partially underpinned or linked.”

The EU legal basis is “EU Directive 2005/36/EC on the mutual recognition of professional qualifications (MRPQ). Together with Protocol (No 20) on the application of certain aspects of Article 26 of the Treaty of the Functioning of the European Union to the United Kingdom and to Ireland.”

The UK legal base comments are “Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland done at Belfast on 10 April 1998 and Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland establishing a North/South Ministerial Council, done at Dublin on 8 March 1999. Common Travel Area to allow doctors and clinicians to move freely across the border (the formalised legal status of the CTA is provided for by the Ireland Act 1949, s 2(1) and the Immigration Act 1971, s 1(3)). The Network was established following intergovernmental agreement between Northern Ireland and Ireland Health Ministers in 2014. A Framework Document outlines the model for the implementation and operation of the Network by a Network Board which is overseen by the two health departments. Cooperation is underpinned by Service Level Agreements between commissioner and provider organisations in Northern Ireland and Ireland.”

19 Cross-border Enterprise Rail Service: There is a working agreement between Northern Ireland Railways and Iarnród Éireann to jointly operate the cross-border Enterprise Rail Service between Belfast Central and Dublin Connolly. This involves agreed sharing of revenue and costs.

The project is classified as “Directly underpinned by or linked.”

The EU legal basis is “Safety: Directive 2004/49/EC (to be repealed in 2019/20 by Directive 2016/798/EU); Interoperability: Directive 2008/57/EC (to be repealed in 2019/20 by Directive 2016/797/EU); Train driving licenses and certificates: Directive 2007/58/EC; Market access including operator licensing: Directive 2012/34/EU (to be amended pre-Exit by Directive 2016/2370); Franchising, procurement, state aid rules: EU Regulation 1370/2007 (to be amended pre-Exit by EU Regulation 2016/2338); Passenger rights: EU Regulation 1371/2007. The Common Travel Area arrangements are recognised in Protocol (No 20) on

the application of certain aspects of Article 26 of the Treaty of the Functioning of the European Union to the United Kingdom and to Ireland.

The UK legal base comments are “Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland done at Belfast on 10 April 1998 and Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland establishing a North/South Ministerial Council, done at Dublin on 8 March 1999. Common Travel Area (the formalised legal status is provided for by the Ireland Act 1949, s 2(1) and the Immigration Act 1971, s 1(3)).

Items listed that specifically mention councils (in general) and local government include:

51 Spatial Planning: “Department for Infrastructure (NI) work cooperatively with colleagues in the Department of Housing Planning Community and Local Government (Ireland) to ensure alignment of respective spatial strategies and to identify shared issues, opportunities and challenges in relation to spatial planning. This work takes various forms including Northern Ireland representation on the National Planning Framework Advisory Group (Ireland); the joint publication of the non-statutory “Framework for cooperation;” joint support for the North West Strategic Growth Partnership and the establishment of a Cross Border Forum for local Council officials involved in taking forward Development Plans.”

The project is classified as “Not underpinned by or linked.”

The EU legal basis is blank.

The UK legal base comments are “Informal arrangements.”

112 Cooperation beyond NSMC (local councils): “Formal and informal engagement between local City & District Councils in Northern Ireland and County Councils in Ireland, both at a political Councillor level and an official/operational level. They provide strategic support on key cross-border regional development issues which relate to sustainability, competitiveness, and social cohesion”

The project is classified as “Not underpinned by or linked.”

The EU legal basis is blank.

The UK legal base comments are “Informal arrangements and collaboration.”

111 All-Island Local Authority Programme: “Joint funding by Department for Communities (Northern Ireland) and Ireland to support the delivery by cooperation Ireland of the All Island Local Authority Programme. The Programme has provided leadership and practical cooperation between local government in Northern Ireland and Ireland, through joint projects, seminars and the production of research publications as well as the facilitation of networking within local government in both jurisdictions.”

The project is classified as “Not underpinned by or linked.”

The EU legal basis is blank.

The UK legal base comments are “Informal arrangements and collaboration.”

112 Local authority led cross-border engagement: “Formal and informal engagement between local City & District Councils in Northern Ireland and County Councils in Ireland, both at a political Councillor level and an official/operational level. They provide strategic support on key cross-border regional development issues which relate to sustainability, competitiveness, and social cohesion.”

The project is classified as “Not underpinned by or linked.”

The EU legal basis is blank.

The UK legal base comments are blank.

Other items listed with direct relevance to Council functions include:

3 Food Safety Promotion Board: “Established by the Implementation Bodies treaty between the UK and Ireland, which is given legal effect in domestic law either side of the border. FSPB is a North-South Implementation Body operating under the auspices of the North-South Ministerial Council. It is accountable to NSMC and is jointly sponsored by the Department of Health, Ireland, and the Department of Health, Northern Ireland.”

The project is classified as “Partially underpinned by or linked.”

The EU legal basis says “The Board itself is underpinned by a Treaty binding on the UK and Irish Governments, rather than an EU legal framework. Some of the Board's initiatives are not directly related to EU law (such as cooperation to tackle childhood obesity), but more broadly food safety is closely linked to relevant EU regulations and frameworks, particularly EU Regulation 178/2002 on General Food law.”

The UK legal base comments are “Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland done at Belfast on 10 April 1998; Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland establishing Implementation Bodies, done at Dublin on 8 March 1999; Exchange of Letters dated 8 March 1999 constituting a supplementary Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland concerning the Interpretation of Certain Terms of the Implementation Bodies Agreement signed at Dublin on 8 March 1999; Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland establishing a North/South Ministerial Council, done at Dublin on 8 March 1999.”

30 Cooperation on checks on third country products of animal origin, including fish products and bivalve molluscs: “Normal business exchange of information between the authorities in Northern Ireland with the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAM) and liaison regarding relevant consignments of products of animal origin. (This area also link to the 'avoiding a hard border' objective).”

The project is classified as “Directly underpinned by or linked.”

The EU legal basis is “Regulation 882/2004/EC Council Directive 97/78/EC and Commission decision 94/360/EC.”

The UK legal base comments are “Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland done at Belfast on 10 April 1998 and Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland establishing a North/South

Ministerial Council, done at Dublin on 8 March 1999. Trade in Animal and Related Products Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2011 (TARP regulations). These Regulations provide enforcement authorities with means of enforcing EU legislation laying down controls on imports of animal products from third countries.”

8 Tourism: “Tourism has been identified by the NSMC as one of the priority areas of cross-border cooperation under the Good Friday Agreement. Although not formally a crossborder implementation body under the GFA, Tourism Ireland is a limited company with a board of Directors appointed by the NSMC and is responsible for marketing the island of Ireland in Great Britain and overseas as a tourism destination and to support Northern Ireland to realise its tourism potential. The company takes policy direction from the NSMC and is funded jointly by the Irish Government Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport and the Northern Ireland Executive Department for the Economy.”

The project is classified as “Partially underpinned by or linked.”

The EU legal basis is “The CTA is recognised in Protocol (No 20) on the application of certain aspects of Article 26 of the Treaty of the Functioning of the European Union to the United Kingdom and to Ireland”.

The UK legal base comments are “Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland done at Belfast on 10 April 1998 and Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland establishing a North/South Ministerial Council, done at Dublin on 8 March 1999. The Common Travel Area and free movement across borders within the CTA enables tourism to be addressed on an all island basis. It facilitates joint promotion of tourism and UK-Ireland visa initiatives for some non-EEA nationals (the formalised legal status of the CTA is provided for by the Ireland Act 1949, s 2(1) and the Immigration Act 1971, s 1(3)).”

1 Special EU Programmes Body: “Established by the Implementation Bodies treaty between the UK and Ireland, which is given legal effect in domestic law either side of the border. Responsible for the implementation of the EU’s PEACE IV and INTERREG VA Programmes”. The North-South Ministerial Council makes decisions on policies and actions to be implemented by the SEUPB.”

The project is classified as “Directly underpinned by or linked.”

The EU legal basis is “The Common Provisions Regulation (EU Regulation 2013/1303); European Territorial Cooperation (ETC) Regulation (EU Regulation 2013/1299).”

The UK legal base comments are “Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland done at Belfast on 10 April 1998; Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland establishing Implementation Bodies, done at Dublin on 8 March 1999; Exchange of Letters dated 8 March 1999 constituting a supplementary Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland concerning the Interpretation of Certain Terms of the Implementation Bodies Agreement signed at Dublin on 8 March 1999; Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland establishing a North/South Ministerial Council, done at Dublin on 8 March 1999.”

43 PEACE IV programme: “Current funding programme covers, on a cross-border basis, Shared Education, Children & Young People, Shared Spaces and Services and Building Positive Relations. The content of the PEACE IV programme was agreed by the Northern Ireland Executive and Irish Government through the NSMC, and the European Commission.”

The project is classified as “Directly underpinned by or linked.”

The EU legal basis is “Managed by Special EU Programmes Body and accompanying EU regulation - The Common Provisions Regulation (EU Regulation 2013/1303); ETC Regulation (EU Regulation 2013/1299).”

The UK legal base comments are “Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland done at Belfast on 10 April 1998; Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland establishing Implementation Bodies, done at Dublin on 8 March 1999; Exchange of Letters dated 8 March 1999 constituting a supplementary Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland concerning the Interpretation of Certain Terms of the Implementation Bodies Agreement signed at Dublin on 8 March 1999; Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland establishing a North/South Ministerial Council, done at Dublin on 8 March 1999.”

44 INTERREG funding: “Current funding programme covers, on a cross-border basis, Research & Innovation (SMEs and Health & Life Sciences and Renewable Energy), Health, Environment and Sustainable Transport (€240m). INTERREG VA funding can be allocated to Northern Ireland, the border counties of Ireland and western areas of Scotland. It is also 15% match funded by the Northern Ireland Executive and Irish Government. The SEUPB acts as a Managing Authority for INTERREG VA funding.”

The project is classified as “Directly underpinned by or linked.”

The EU legal basis is “Managed by Special EU Programmes Body and accompanying EU regulation - The Common Provisions Regulation (EU Regulation 2013/1303); ETC Regulation (EU Regulation 2013/1299). The Common Provisions Regulation identifies a framework of 11 thematic objectives that are designed to contribute towards the EU 2020 targets.”

The UK legal base comments are “Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland done at Belfast on 10 April 1998; Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland establishing Implementation Bodies, done at Dublin on 8 March 1999; Exchange of Letters dated 8 March 1999 constituting a supplementary Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland concerning the Interpretation of Certain Terms of the Implementation Bodies Agreement signed at Dublin on 8 March 1999; Agreement between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of Ireland establishing a North/South Ministerial Council, done at Dublin on 8 March 1999.”

Other activities listed include:

- **Cross border areas** – cross border loughs and waterways, water pollution and water catchment, water quality and regulation, road networks, obstacles to cross border

mobility, cross-border working group on fire services, and North West Gateway Initiative / North West Development Fund.

- **Infrastructure** – Capital infrastructure projects (infrastructure/transport projects), single electricity market, natural gas, mobile [phone] roaming, subsea cables, provision of mapping data, and geodetic network.
- **Environment** - Waste management, repatriation of waste and cross-border movement of waste including hazardous materials, environmental protection reporting and research, Common Agricultural Policy, plant health and regulatory checks, transmissible spongiform encephalopathies, animal health and welfare working groups, North South working group on veterinary medicines, Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, fish health and aquaculture, EU Leader cooperation, cross-border cooperation to manage salmon stocks, North South fisheries liaison group, eel stocks on the Erne, habitats and bird directives and associated monitoring, biodiversity, flood risk management, River Basin Management, Lough Erne water levels, Air quality, strategic environmental assessment, forest management, matters relating to radiation, Northern Ireland Water / Irish Water knowledge sharing, all-Ireland pollinator plan, Irish Naturalists Journal, wildfire initiatives, all-Ireland fracking, chemicals regulation, invasive alien species, control of epizootic diseases, DAERA/DAFM Equine Liaison Group, Equine Industry Strategy, veterinary public health and trade meetings, regulation and enforcement of animal health and welfare, landscape monitoring, all-Ireland marsh fritillary, research funding with Ireland on agri-food, farm safety, engagement and information exchange at official level between DAERA and DAFM, Voisinage agreement, checks on live animals and products of animal origin, and Checks on food not of animal origin.
- **Health** - North West Cancer Centre, Cooperation and Working Together (CAWT), child protection, addressing alcohol misuse, major emergencies and A&E planning cooperation, Tuberculosis (TB) Brucellosis (BR) Working Group, mutual recognition of professional qualifications for doctors and clinicians, organs and tissues, Public health, controlled drugs licensing, access to nursery, primary, post-primary and special schools, movement of medicines, devices and other healthcare goods.
- **Education** - Teacher qualifications and professional development, Middletown Centre for Autism, North South Education and Training Standards Committee, educational underachievement, cooperation on inspection matters, cross-border development – academic partnerships – agriculture, Higher and further education in agriculture, food, equine and horticulture disciplines, Libraries Northern Ireland North/South activities, and National Museums Northern Ireland North-South collaboration.
- **Enforcement** - Benefit fraud cross-border, cross-border police cooperation, cross-border secondments and eligibility for posts in policing, fuel fraud, cooperation on criminal justice matters, tackling organised crime and drugs, Independent Reporting Commission, data sharing and operational cooperation on customs matters, relief from safety and security summary declarations, mutual recognition of AEOs, market surveillance for goods, VAT - information sharing, excise fraud, checks on IPR, import licensing controls, export licensing controls, checks on civil explosives, firearms, and offensive weapons.
- **Trade/Business** – Intertrade Ireland, HR policy, Dairy International Trade Working Group, EURES Cross Border Partnership, INVEST Northern Ireland and Enterprise Ireland cooperation, and all Island Public Procurement.
- **Transport** – Commercial vehicle roadworthiness enforcement, vehicle and driver safety checks, road safety - departmental cooperation, cross-border taxis, cabotage, motor insurance, driver and vehicle licensing, international (cross-border) Authorisations for bus and coach services, HGV levy, ferries, all Ireland free travel scheme for senior citizens, transit of goods, road haulage, and international obligations on the carriage of dangerous goods.
- **Cultural** – Irish and Ulster Scots language, Irish language broadcasting, National Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee, Arts Council of Northern Ireland and

Arts Council / An Chomhairle Ealaíon North-South Touring and Dissemination Scheme, sport collaboration, and cultural goods (national treasures).

- **Other** - Public Service reform, Independent Commission for the Location of Victims' Remains, Joint Committee of Representatives of the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission and the 'Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission' (formerly the Irish Human Rights Commission), Statistics (CSO & NISRA), and non-commercial movement of Pets.

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