



Subject:	Plastic Promise and Belfast City Council Single-Use Plastic Policy
Date:	7 June 2022
Reporting Officer:	Cathy Matthews Operations Director, Resources and Fleet
Contact Officer:	John McConnell City Services Manager Resources and Fleet

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
1.1	To present to Committee, a proposal to sign the <i>Live Here Love Here</i> “Plastic Promise” and the draft Belfast City Council Promise.
1.2	To notify the Committee of Resources and Fleet’s application to the Climate Fund, to develop a Single-Use Plastic Policy for Belfast City Council.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Approve the request for Belfast City Council to sign up to <i>the Live Here Love Here</i> “Plastic Promise”.- Agree Belfast City Council’s commitment to reducing single use plastic under it’s “Plastic Promise”

	- Note the funding application to develop a Single-Use Plastic Policy for Belfast City Council.
3.0	Main report
	<u>Key Issues</u>
	Plastic Promise
3.1	Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful (KNIB) deliver the <i>Live Here Love Here</i> campaign which is Northern Ireland's largest civic pride programme. This campaign promotes positive environmental action at an individual and local level and brings about improvements, such as cleaner streets, less dog fouling and graffiti, more biodiversity and better use of unused spaces across communities in Northern Ireland. It not only helps the environment but also improves physical health and comes with overwhelming social benefits.
3.2	The Live Here Love Here campaign encourages people to “do one small thing to help make a big difference”. Projects range from community clean-ups across streets, beaches and open spaces to planting schemes and media campaigns. One project in particular, the “Plastic Promise” encourages individuals, community groups and organisations to make a commitment to reduce their use of pointless plastic.
3.3	KNIB recently approached Belfast City Council to make a commitment to reduce our plastic footprint by signing up to the Plastic Promise. All other councils in Northern Ireland have also agreed to sign up to the pledge and to outline their commitments to reduce unnecessary plastic - in particular single-use plastic (SUP). This information will be shared on the Live Here Love Here website and also promoted through KNIB’s public media campaigns.
3.4	KNIB have proposed a press launch, to take place over summer 2022, promoting Northern Ireland wide Council support of the Plastic Promise.
3.5	Committee is requested to agree to the proposal for Belfast City Council to sign up to the Plastic Promise.
3.6	Attached as Appendix I is a draft declaration of the work we are already involved with in our quest to reduce single use plastic across the Council. It also outlines our commitment to further reduce our use of single use items and unnecessary plastic.

3.7	<p>Committee is requested to review and agree the commitments proposed under Belfast City Council's Plastic Promise. (Attached as Appendix I)</p>
<p>Single Use Plastic Policy for Belfast City Council</p>	
3.8	<p>In parallel to the Plastic Promise, we have also applied to the Council's Climate Fund to help produce a Single-Use Plastic Policy for Belfast City Council. We are developing a Strategic Outline Case, which summarises the approach and requests funding.</p>
3.9	<p>This proposal also supports previous Notices of Motions and Committee reports on the issue of single-use items. For example, at the SP&R Committee meeting in January 2018, Councillor McReynolds requested the Council consider the impact of disposable coffee cups on council sites. Also, at the SP&R Committee meeting in June 2018, Members considered and agreed a range of measures relating to single-use plastics. The Committee agreed that consideration be given during the rate-setting process to providing a dedicated resource to take this matter forward.</p>
3.10	<p>We welcome the launch of the Climate Fund and the opportunity to apply to the programme to progress the Council's proposals relating to single-use plastic and other single-use items.</p>
3.11	<p>Committee is requested to note our application to the Climate Fund, to develop a Single-Use Plastic Policy for Belfast City Council.</p>
3.12	<p>A further report on the development of the policy will be presented to Committee at a later date.</p>
<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p>	
3.13	<p>There are no Financial implications in Signing up to the Plastic Promise. The application to the Climate Fund programme is expected to be in the region of £10,000.</p>
<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications /Rural Needs Assessments</u></p>	
3.14	<p>None identified at this stage.</p>
<p><u>Abbreviations</u></p>	
3.15	<p>CNS – City and Neighbourhood Services</p>

	KNIB – Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful SUP – Single Use Plastic
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	Appendix I – Belfast City Council’s Plastic Promise