



Subject:	Notifications from statutory bodies
Date:	20 th June 2023
Reporting Officer:	Kate Bentley, Director of Planning & Building Control
Contact Officer:	Keith Sutherland, Planning Manager (Plans & Policy)

Is this report restricted?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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 bring to the attention of the Planning Committee three notifications that have been received from the Department for Infrastructure (DfI) and the Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE) (see Appendices 1-3). The notifications relate to the proposed abandonment of an alleyway to the rear of 92-199 Royal Avenue, the abandonment of a public right of way at Seymour Lane and the extinguishment of a public right of way at the Bullring.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The received consultations do not require a response and it is therefore suggested that the Committee notes this report and the background documentation set out in the appendices.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Since the last Planning Committee the Council has received three notifications from statutory bodies, two of which are from DfI and one from NIHE. The summary of the consultation and conclusion are set out below:
3.2	Proposed abandonment of alleyway to rear of 92-199 Royal Avenue, Belfast, BT1 1DL Received on 2 nd May 2023 this notification from DfI relates to the proposed abandonment under The Roads (NI) Order 1993 of land between Royal Avenue and Kent Street. The abandonment is necessary to facilitate redevelopment of the site identified for the Belfast Stories project, the flagship project within the tourism and regeneration strand of the Belfast Region City Deal.
3.3	Abandonment of Public Rights of Way at Seymour Lane, Belfast Received on 6 th June 2023 this notification from DfI concerns the proposed abandonment under The Roads (NI) Order 1993 of land at Seymour Lane. The area of land to be abandoned forms part of the "Paper Exchange" mixed use, office/retail development approved by the Council in November 2019 (LA04/2019/0909/F). DfI consider that the land to be abandoned is not necessary for road traffic and as such is considered to be surplus to the adopted road network.

3.4	<p>Extinguishment of Public Right of Way – Bullring Pathway Received on 11th May 2023 this notification from NIHE relates to the proposed extinguishment of a public right of way under Article 88D of the Housing (Northern Ireland) Order 1981. The extinguishment will apply to the section of the Bullring path owned by NIHE which runs parallel to the Westlink and is located between Regent Street and the rear of properties at Sherbrook Street.</p>
3.5	<p>The purpose of this extinguishment is to facilitate the disposal of land owned by NIHE and enable environmental improvement works to be undertaken by the Department for Communities. The associated planning application was approved by the Council in May 2021 (LA04/2020/0673/F). The environmental improvement works will enhance access and movement within the site with the existing asphalt pathway, which is the subject of the extinguishment, being improved to provide a shared pathway for pedestrians and cyclists. Connectivity within the site will be further enhanced by the wider environmental scheme that will include the addition of new pedestrian pathways.</p>
3.6	<p>In considering these three notifications consultations were carried out with other services within the Council – City & Neighbourhood Services, Physical Programmes and City Regeneration & Development and there were no concerns raised in relation to any of the three proposals. There is no requirement to respond to the consultation and it is therefore suggested that the Committee notes this report and the background to the proposals.</p>
3.7	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u> There are no resource implications associated with this report.</p>
3.8	<p><u>Equality implications or Good Relations implications / Rural needs assessment</u> None.</p>
4.0	<p>Appendices – Documents Attached</p>
	<p>Appendix 1: Proposed abandonment of alleyway to rear of 92-199 Royal Avenue, Belfast, BT1 1DL Appendix 2: Abandonment of Public Rights of Way at Seymour Lane, Belfast Appendix 3: Extinguishment of Public Right of Way – Bullring Pathway</p>