



<b>Subject:</b>	New contract for publishing planning notices
<b>Date:</b>	17 October 2023
<b>Reporting Officer(s):</b>	Kate Bentley, Director of Planning and Building Control
<b>Contact Officer(s):</b>	Ed Baker, Planning Manager (Development Management)

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

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report or Summary of Main Issues</b>
1.1	To update the Committee on the new contract for publishing planning notices.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
2.1	The Committee is asked to note the report.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
	<u>Background</u>
3.1	Article 8 of the Planning (General Development Procedure) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015 sets out how the Council must publicise planning applications.
3.2	In addition to the requirements to notify neighbours and publish notice of the application on the NI Planning Portal website, Article 8(1)(a) requires the Council to ' <i>publish notice of the application in at least one newspaper circulating in the locality in which the land to which the application relates is situated.</i> '

	<u>Confirmation of new contract for publishing planning notices</u>
3.3	The contract for publishing planning notices in the newspaper was previously fulfilled by the Belfast Telegraph. The contract has come to an end and a new contract has been awarded following a competitive tender exercise. The new contract has been awarded to Mediahuis UK (Belfast Telegraph). The contract is for three years and runs to September 2026, with the option to extend for two further years.
3.4	The procurement process for the new contract was reported to and agreed by the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee (16 <sup>th</sup> June 2023).
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Financial &amp; Resource Implications</b>
4.1	The Planning Service's annual budget for advertising is £40k.
4.2	Expenditure for the year to September 2023 for publishing notices of planning applications was £10,375.82 (planning service budget of £20k at P6), the planning service budget currently has an underspend of 4.6K
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Equality or Good Relations Implications / Rural Needs Assessment</b>
5.1	No adverse impacts identified.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Appendices – Documents Attached</b>
	None