



|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| <b>Subject:</b>           | Responses to Dfl Consultations  |
| <b>Date:</b>              | 06 December 2023  |
| <b>Reporting Officer:</b> | Cathy Reynolds, Director of City Regeneration & Development             |
| <b>Contact Officer:</b>   | Sean Dolan, Senior Development Manager, City Regeneration & Development |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <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>  |
|            | To update Members of the City Growth & Regeneration Committee on ongoing Dfl Consultation work and to agree responses to the various consultations.   |
| <b>2.0</b> | <b>Recommendations</b>  |
| <b>2.1</b> | The Committee is asked to:<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. Note the correspondence received from Dfl as included within Appendices A, B, C, D &amp; E of this report in relation to Montgomery Road, Belmont Church Road, Dunville St, Sorella St, and Suffolk Road.</li><li>ii. Agree the draft responses to the consultation letter in relation to the Montgomery Road Two Way Cycle Lane as included within Appendix A of this report.</li></ul> |

|            |  |
|------------|--|
|            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>iii. Agree the draft responses to the consultation letter in relation to the Belmont Church Road proposed imposition of waiting restrictions as included within Appendix B of this report.</li> <li>iv. Agree the draft responses to the consultation letter in relation to the Dunville Street proposed imposition of waiting restrictions as included within Appendix C of this report.</li> <li>v. Agree the draft responses to the consultation letter in relation to the Sorella St proposed imposition of waiting restrictions as included within Appendix D of this report.</li> <li>vi. Agree the draft responses to the consultation letter in relation to the Suffolk Road proposed imposition of waiting restrictions as included within Appendix E of this report.</li> </ul> |
| <b>3.0</b> | <b>Main report</b>   |
| 3.1        | <p>DfI have issued a number of letters to Council regarding various scheme designs or changes to legislation in relation to waiting restrictions on a number of streets following correspondence from Members. DfI have requested comment from Members prior to bringing these schemes forward. These notices have been shared on the Members portal on receipt. This paper sets out the proposed Council response for agreement by the City Growth and Regeneration Committee.</p> <p><u>Montgomery Road, Belfast – Proposal for Two-way Cycle lane</u></p>   |
| 3.2        | <p>The Council recently received a letter from the Department, as appendix A of this report, outlining the Department's proposed Order The Cycle Routes (Amendment No. 2) Order (Northern Ireland) 2023 and proposed amendment to The Parking Places (Electric Vehicles) Order (Northern Ireland) 2012 in relation to a proposed two-way cycle lane on the Montgomery Road, Belfast, along with authorisation for lengths of the Montgomery Road to be allocated as a parking place for an electric vehicle connected to a charging post.</p>  |
| 3.3        | <p>Officers have considered the Department's proposals, and have drafted a response for approval as included within Appendix A of this report, including the following comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. The Belfast Agenda is the city's community plan and was first published in 2017. We're required under legislation to regularly review our community plan. Following a two-year period of extensive consultation and engagement with city partners,</li> </ul>   |

residents and other stakeholders to get their views, we have updated the Belfast Agenda and action plans to ensure that it reflects the city's current priorities.

As part of the refresh 'Connectivity, Active and Sustainable Travel' (CAST) was identified as a priority area for the city. To thrive, cities must have transportation systems which allow the maximum volume of people to travel, whilst doing the least possible harm to the environment and bringing health benefits for all.

- ii. A Bolder Vision (ABV) is a joint BCC/DfI/DfC initiative that aims to provide a holistic look at the city centre's infrastructure and connectivity with surrounding communities; its streets and places, connecting routes and placemaking and regeneration opportunities from a people and place-based priority.

One of the visioning principles that underpins ABV is Fundamentally changing the centre of Belfast to prioritise integrated walking, cycling and public transport and end the dominance of the car.

- iii. When assessed against the principles of promoting connectivity, engendering and encouraging sustainable and active travel, and working to end the dominance of the private car the proposal for a two way cycle lane along Montgomery Road, Belfast is a small but welcome step.

3.4 We further welcome the proposed segregation of the two-way cycle path from the main carriageway (and parking bays) and footways, thereby greatly reducing the potential for conflict between cyclists and motorists and between cyclists and pedestrians. Segregated cycle paths are critical to ensuring that there will be an inclination towards modal shift from the private car especially for the less competent and less confident cyclists who require such safeguards. Council are hopeful that this scheme can be brought forward for delivery in the near future.

3.5 Proposed Imposition of Waiting Restrictions:

- Belmont Church Road
- Dunville Street
- Sorella Street
- Suffolk Road

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| 3.6        | The Department has issued a number of letters, as included within Appendices B, C, D & E) to Belfast City Council in recent weeks seeking agreement to commence the preparation of necessary legislation to implement waiting restrictions at the above listed streets. Enclosed with each of the letters proposing waiting restrictions are accompanying plans detailing the proposed layout, distances and duration of the waiting restrictions.   |
| 3.7        | The proposals have in each case been prompted following requests from a local representative in each of the areas citing concerns about traffic progression, congestion and/or traffic management issues.  |
| 3.8        | Officers have considered each of the proposed waiting restrictions and agree that the introduction of the proposed waiting restrictions are likely to improve traffic progression, reduce congestion and contribute positively to traffic management in the affected areas.  |
| 3.9        | Moreover, in a number of cases, including at Dunville Park officers are of the view that the proposed introduction of new 'At any time' waiting restrictions will also improve pedestrian safety and reduce the occurrence of inconsiderate parking that can impede and inhibit sightlines for road users accessing or egressing Dunville Park car park. The new restrictions could also serve to discourage non-residential parking in neighbourhood streets such as Sorella Street and reduced traffic and vehicular manoeuvring along neighbourhood streets would improve residents' safety as well as reduced emissions. |
| 3.10       | Given the timeframes for the consultation responses, and pending comments from the December meeting of the CG&R Committee it is proposed to issue the consultation responses as attached to this paper as draft subject to Council ratification in January 2024.   |
| <b>4.0</b> | <b>Finance &amp; Resource Implications</b>   |
|            | There are no finance or resource implications associated with this report  |
| <b>5.0</b> | <b>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</b>  |
|            | There are no Equality or Good Relation Implications/Rural Needs Assessment requirements associated with this report  |
| <b>6.0</b> | <b>Appendices</b>  |
|            | Appendix A1 – Consultation letter from Mr McMeekin (Network Traffic, Street Lighting and Transportation - Eastern Division) DfI, Montgomery Road, Belfast – Proposal For Two Way Cycle Lane<br>Appendix A2 – Proposed Montgomery Rd Layout – Sheet 1 of 3  |

Appendix A3 - Proposed Montgomery Rd Layout – Sheet 2 of 3  
Appendix A4 - Proposed Montgomery Rd Layout – Sheet 3 of 3  
Appendix A5 - Draft response to Mr McMeekin (Network Traffic, Street Lighting and Transportation - Eastern Division) Dfl, Montgomery Road, Belfast – Proposal For Two Way Cycle Lane

Appendix B1 – Consultation Letter, Belmont Church Road, Belfast – Proposed Waiting Restriction  
Appendix B2 – Belmont Church Road Layout proposal  
Appendix B3 – Draft Response, Belmont Church Road, Belfast – Proposed Waiting Restriction

Appendix C1 – Consultation Letter, (Network Traffic, Street Lighting and Transportation - Eastern Division) Dfl, Dunville Street, Belfast – Proposed Waiting Restrictions  
Appendix C2 – Dunville Street Layout proposal  
Appendix C3 – Draft Response, (Network Traffic, Street Lighting and Transportation - Eastern Division) Dfl, Dunville Street, Belfast – Proposed Waiting Restrictions

Appendix D1 – Consultation Letter, (Network Traffic, Street Lighting and Transportation - Eastern Division) Dfl, Sorella Street, Belfast – Proposed Waiting Restrictions  
Appendix D2 – Sorella Street Layout proposal  
Appendix D3 – Draft Response, (Network Traffic, Street Lighting and Transportation - Eastern Division) Dfl, Sorella Street, Belfast – Proposed Waiting Restrictions

Appendix E1 – Consultation Letter, (Network Traffic, Street Lighting and Transportation - Eastern Division) Dfl, Suffolk Road, Belfast – Proposed Waiting Restriction  
Appendix E2 – Suffolk Road Layout proposal  
Appendix E3 – Draft Response, (Network Traffic, Street Lighting and Transportation - Eastern Division) Dfl, Suffolk Road, Belfast – Proposed Waiting Restriction