



<b>Subject:</b>	Response received from Department for Infrastructure re Living With Water (LWW)
<b>Date:</b>	19th April, 2024
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Nora Largey, Interim City Solicitor/Director of Legal and Civic Services
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Jim Hanna, Democratic Services and Governance Manager

<b>Restricted Reports</b>	
<b>Is this report restricted?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Please indicate the description, as listed in Schedule 6, of the exempt information by virtue of which the council has deemed this report restricted.</b>	
Insert number <input type="checkbox"/>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Information relating to any individual</li><li>2. Information likely to reveal the identity of an individual</li><li>3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the council holding that information)</li><li>4. Information in connection with any labour relations matter</li><li>5. Information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained</li><li>6. Information showing that the council proposes to (a) to give a notice imposing restrictions on a person; or (b) to make an order or direction</li><li>7. Information on any action in relation to the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime</li></ol>	
<b>If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?</b>	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sometime in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<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 note the correspondence received from the Permanent Secretary, Department for Infrastructure.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	The Committee is asked to note the correspondence as set out in the report.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main report</b>
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.1	The Committee will recall that, at the Strategic Policy and Resources meeting held on 19th January, 2024, it was agreed to write to Dr. Denis McMahon, Permanent Secretary, Department for Infrastructure, inviting him to a future meeting of the Committee to discuss the review of the Strategic Drainage Infrastructure Plan for Belfast.
3.2	The Committee is advised that a response has been received from the Permanent Secretary.
3.3	In his response he advises that Department officials are continuing to engage with stakeholders to gather views and comments which will inform the recommendations within the review report, and he understands Simon Richardson, Director of the Living with Water Programme, will be providing further presentations to a number of other Belfast City Council Committees. A major contributing factor to the review recommendations will be the outcome of the Utility Regulator's Mid-Term Review of NI Water's PC21 Business Plan. The publication of this has been delayed and is expected in June, so the LWW review will conclude after this.
3.4	At this stage there is no significant update that can be provided over and above the information provided at the January Committee meeting. Any further comments, to be considered as part of the LWW review, can be provided through the Belfast City Council representative on the LWW Board, and would be greatly welcomed.
3.5	Since the presentation at the Committee meeting on 19th January, Ministers have returned to the NI Executive and Mr John O'Dowd MLA has taken up the post of Minister for Infrastructure. The Minister will consider the recommendations within the LWW Review Report and decide on the most appropriate way forward.
3.6	<b><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></b> None associated with this report.

3.7	<b><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></b> None associated with this report.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Appendices – Documents Attached</b>
	Appendix 1 – Response from Department for Infrastructure