



Subject:	Correspondence received from the Department for Infrastructure - Translink Night-Time Provision of Services
Date:	7th August, 2024
Reporting Officer:	Cathy Reynolds, Director of City Regeneration and Development
Contact Officer:	Eilish McGoldrick, Democratic Services and Governance Coordinator

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Please indicate the description, as listed in Schedule 6, of the exempt information by virtue of which the council has deemed this report restricted.	
Insert number <input type="checkbox"/>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Information relating to any individual2. Information likely to reveal the identity of an individual3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the council holding that information)4. Information in connection with any labour relations matter5. Information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained6. Information showing that the council proposes to (a) to give a notice imposing restrictions on a person; or (b) to make an order or direction7. Information on any action in relation to the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime	
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sometime 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/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	To consider the correspondence received from the Department for Infrastructure in response to the Council's letter in relation to Translink Night-Time Provision of Services.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is asked to note the correspondence as set out in the report and to consider if any further action is necessary.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.2	At its meeting in April, Belfast City Council's City Growth and Regeneration Committee was provided with an update in relation to two motions which had called for the provision of public transport night-time services.
3.3	It was reported to the Committee that, as part of the process to refresh the Belfast Agenda, Translink and DfI had engaged through the Community Planning structures to advocate an extension of the night-time provision of its Metro and Glider bus services. The recently launched Belfast Agenda action plans included an agreed action to: "Expand the timetable with a greater service in the evenings and funding for the provision of night-time services."
3.4	In October 2023, the Committee had also previously received an update on the Motions in relation to extending night-time provision of services and the setting up a free public transport initiative on certain days and evenings in the run up to Christmas 2023. It was reported that Belfast City Council had engaged with Translink and a range of stakeholders through the "Connectivity, Active and Sustainable Travel" (CAST) sub group (co-chaired by Translink and Sustrans) which also had an action to "Expand the timetable with a greater service in the evenings and funding for the provision of night-time services", with Translink as the convening lead.
3.5	The Committee was informed that Council officers had engaged specifically with Translink on this Motion and given the current budget constraints, no commitment on free public transport initiatives could be given at this time.
3.6	Subsequently, Belfast City Council, at a meeting of Council on 7th May agreed that the Council would write to DfI to request that consideration be given to the funding of the provision of public transport nighttime services.

3.7	<p>Accordingly, a response has been received from the office of the Minister for Infrastructure John O’Dowd MLA, in relation to the matters raised. (Appendix 1).</p> <p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
4.0	Appendices - Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 – DfI Response