



Subject:	Notice of Motion: Vital Role of Trees
Date:	4th February, 2025
Reporting Officer:	Barry Flynn, Committee Services Officer
Contact Officer:	As above.

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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 or Summary of main Issues
1.1	To consider a motion entitled the <i>Vital Role of Trees</i> which was referred to the People and Communities Committee.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is requested to consider the motion and to take such action thereon as may be determined.
3.0	Main report
3.1	At the meeting of the Standards and Business Committee, held on 7th January, the following motion, which was proposed by Councillor Abernethy and seconded by Councillor Maghie, was, in accordance with Standing Order 13 (f), referred to the Committee for consideration:

	<p><i>The Vital Role of Trees</i></p> <p><i>“This Council recognises the vital role of trees in enhancing the health and well-being of people and communities, addressing climate change, and supporting biodiversity; commits to raising awareness among residents about these benefits and to actively support efforts to plant and protect the right trees in the right places and for the right reasons, ensuring that everyone can share in the benefits trees provide; and, will commit to exploring how we can educate and raise awareness of trees, the role they play in all our lives across Belfast.”</i></p> <p>3.2 In considering the motion, for contextual purposes, the Committee will be aware that, at its meeting on 12th September, 2023, it had approved the Belfast Tree Strategy, which would encompass a 10-year period ending in 2033. That strategy was adopted by the Council at its meeting on 4th October. A link to the strategy is appended to the report for the Committee’s information.</p> <p>3.3 <u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None.</p> <p>3.4 <u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
4.0	Appendix/Link attached
	The Belfast Tree Strategy 2023 to 2033.