



## Belfast City Council

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| <b>Report to:</b>         | Development Committee                             |
| <b>Subject:</b>           | <b>Management of Committee Business</b>           |
| <b>Date:</b>              | 12 <sup>th</sup> June, 2012                       |
| <b>Reporting Officer:</b> | Barry Flynn, Democratic Services Officer ext 6310 |
| <b>Contact Officers:</b>  | As above  |

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| <b>1</b> | <b>Relevant Background Information</b>  |
| 1.1      | The Committee will recall that, at its meeting 15 <sup>th</sup> June, 2011, it had agreed, given the amount of business which it was required to consider, that it would meet twice monthly with a commencement time of 5.15 p.m. |

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| <b>2</b> | <b>Key Issues</b>  |
| 2.1      | Whilst the arrangements put in place have been successful, it is evident that the amount of business considered by the Committee had reduced considerably over the past six months. This would suggest that it might be feasible for the Committee to revert back to one meeting per month.  |
| 2.2      | It should be borne in mind that, since the establishment of the Area Working Groups under the Council's Investment Programme, coupled with the formation of the District Policing and Community Safety Partnerships, there is added pressure on Members' time and, accordingly, the Council's schedule of meetings. By reverting to one meeting a month, Members will be afforded time to address constituency matters or attend external meetings. The Committee will, of course, have the option of calling special meetings should the business at hand be deemed of such importance that an extra meeting is deemed necessary. |
| 2.3      | The commencement time for meetings of 5:15 p.m. had been agreed by the Committee in June, 2011 at the suggestion of the Chairman. This time has suited almost all Members and it is notable that the attendance figures for the Committee have been extremely high. It is suggested that the Members might wish to retain the later commencement time of 5:15 p.m.   |
| 2.4      | Should the Committee agree to revert back to one meeting per month, the undernoted dates are suggested commencing in August until the end of 2012:<br><br>Tuesday, 7 <sup>th</sup> August at 5:15 p.m.                      Tuesday, 11 <sup>th</sup> September at 5:15 p.m.<br>Tuesday, 9 <sup>th</sup> October at 5:15 p.m.                      Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> November at 5:15 p.m.<br>Tuesday, 4 <sup>th</sup> December at 5:15 p.m.   |

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| <b>3</b>   | <b>Resource Implications</b>  |
| <b>3.1</b> | There are no additional resource considerations attached to this report |

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| <b>4</b>   | <b>Equality and Good Relations Considerations</b>                               |
| <b>3.2</b> | There are no equality and good relations considerations attached to this report |

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| <b>5</b>   | <b>Recommendations</b>  |
| <b>5.1</b> | The Committee is requested to agree that it meets once per month until the end of 2012 on the dates and times outlined. |

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| <b>6</b>   | <b>Decision Tracking</b> |
| Mr. Barry Flynn, Democratic Services Officer to implement. |                          |