



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Development Committee
Subject:	Notice of Motion – Social Deprivation in Belfast
Date:	19th February, 2013
Reporting Officer:	Mr. Barry Flynn, Democratic Services Officer, ext. 6312
Contact Officer:	As above.

1.0	Relevant Background Information
1.1	<p>At the Council meeting on 4th February, the undernoted Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Corr and seconded by Councillor McVeigh:</p> <p><i>“One of the most significant challenges facing our city is the issue of social deprivation. Across Belfast there are concentrated areas of poverty, health inequalities and long-term unemployment. We must address these scourges as urgently as we would other pressing issues.</i></p> <p><i>Accordingly, the Council agrees to establish and lead both an anti-poverty task force and an anti-poverty forum. The task force should have representation from all political parties on the Council and relevant statutory and voluntary organisations and would work to identify measures that will at last begin to tackle these problems. The forum, working in parallel with the task force, would bring together community representatives from the most deprived communities, anti-poverty organisations, trade union representatives and business leaders etc. to discuss a strategy to tackle poverty and deprivation.</i></p> <p><i>The time has come for Belfast City Councillors to give leadership on these issues and to do everything that we can to address these fundamental inequalities.”</i></p> <p>In accordance with Standing Order 11(e), the Lord Mayor pointed out that the matter would be referred to the Development Committee without debate.</p>

2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is requested to consider the Notion of Motion and take such action thereon as may be determined.