

SECTION 2

STANDING COMMITTEES

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36 The following shall be the Standing Committees of the Council:

- (a) Strategic Policy and Resources
- (b) City Growth and Regeneration
- (c) People and Communities
- (d) Licensing
- (e) Planning
- (f) **Belfast Waterfront and Ulster Hall Ltd Shareholders' Committee**

DUTIES OF COMMITTEES

37 The Standing Committees shall be responsible to the Council for the matters described hereunder and shall control the various Departments which carry out the functions of the Council, that is to say

(a) Strategic Policy and Resources Committee

The Strategic Policy and Resources Committee will be responsible for setting the strategic direction of the Council through the development of its corporate plan and other key corporate and cross cutting strategies and policies. It will also ensure effective use of resources and value for money for ratepayers, and oversee the Council's relationship with a number of key agencies and partners.

This includes:-

- working with partners to lead the development of the community plan
- Supporting the development, implementation and monitoring of the Physical Investment Strategy
- Developing and implementing the organisation's Good Relations & Equality Strategies
- Allocating resources based on the corporate and city priorities
- Managing and monitoring performance against the achievement of the council objectives and those agreed in the community plan
- Developing the council's finance strategy and all matters relating to its implementation including; all revenue and capital financing and borrowing, the annual revenue and capital budgets and the rate to be levied, monitoring of financial performance
- Developing the council's organisational development strategy and all matters relating to its implementation including; governance and organisation structures, organisational improvement initiatives, member and officer capacity building and monitoring of organisational performance
- Developing the internal strategies to ensure the smooth running of the council including; asset management, procurement, grants, human resources, ,diversity, communications and accommodation

- Managing and maintaining the corporate land bank and city assets, including the City Hall
- Agreeing the Local Development Plan with the Planning Committee
- Overseeing the delivery of the internal council services listed below;

Human Resources; Corporate Communications; Legal Services; Democratic Services; Corporate Policy and Strategic Planning; Finance and Performance; Digital Services and Audit Governance and Risk Services. Property and Projects will also report on Procurement; Contract Management; Programme Management; Estates Unit and Facilities Management . Good relations will also be the responsibility of this committee.

(b) City Growth and Regeneration Committee

The City Growth and Regeneration Committee will be responsible for the development and implementation of strategies, policies, programmes and projects directed to the regeneration and growth of the city in the context of the outcomes agreed in the community and corporate plans and other corporate strategy.

This includes:-

- Influencing and contributing to regional regeneration and growth strategies and activities
- Developing and implementing city-wide economic strategies and policies
- Managing and maximising the impact of major physical developments in the city
- Coordinating and promoting major city wide events
- Sourcing and providing support to attract and utilise European and other grants which contribute to the growth of the city
- Providing support for economic development initiatives
- Supporting the development of culture, heritage and the arts
- Working with other agencies to promote Belfast as a key investment and tourism opportunity
- Developing programmes and actions to support local businesses and attract inward investment
- Managing the Council's markets and maximising their benefit to the city
- Influencing and contributing to strategies and policies affecting skills, employability, transportation and energy in the City
- Overseeing the delivery of the following services

Economic Development, Urban Development, Tourism, Culture and Arts, European and International Relations, **Waterfront and Ulster Halls**, City Markets, City Events, Belfast Castle, Malone House, Belfast Zoo and the transferring car parks

(c) People and Communities Committee

The People and Communities Committee will be responsible for the development and implementation of strategies, policies, programmes and projects aimed at improving life at a local level in the context of the outcomes agreed in the community and corporate plans and other corporate strategy. This includes

- Developing and delivering programmes, events and activities to promote health, safety and well being at a local level
- Administering and enforcing the Council's powers and duties under the Public Health Acts and all environmental health and building related legislation and regulations
- Securing and providing adequate provision for the recycling, treatment and disposal of commercial and domestic waste including bulky waste and the collection and disposal of abandoned motor vehicles.
- Exercising the Council's powers for improving local environmental quality in relation to housing legislation, Managing controlled waste, emergency planning and community safety and anti-social behaviour, clean neighbourhoods and other environmental or regulatory issues not falling within the remit of any other Committee.
- Managing, maintaining and maximising the benefit of the Council's parks, pitches, playgrounds and other public spaces as well as community centres and other indoor facilities
- Developing and implementing activities to ensure the delivery of corporate strategies and initiatives in respect of the promotion of health and physical activity, environmental protection, community safety and other such areas under the domain of this Committee.
- Overseeing the delivery of the Council's frontline services and associated community assets including;
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Environmental Services; Cleansing; Waste Management; Parks and Cemeteries service (excluding zoo, Malone House and Belfast Castle), Neighbourhood and Development Services; Community Services, Community Safety and Emergency Planning.

(d) Licensing Committee

The Licensing Committee shall be responsible for the consideration of all matters pertaining to policy and legislation in relation to licensing issues. The Licensing Committee shall have delegated authority for determining the following matters:

- (i) The Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1985

Entertainment Licences

Applications for the grant of outdoor licences

Applications for the grant, renewal, transfer or variation of licences where objections are received
Suspension and revocation of licences
Applications for a waiver to permit entertainment involving striptease or nudity.

Sex Establishments

Applications for the grant of licences
Applications for the renewal, transfer or variation of licences
Revocation of licences

- (ii) The Betting, Gaming, Lotteries and Amusements (Northern Ireland) Order 1985 (as amended by the Betting and Gaming (Northern Ireland) Order 2004).

Applications for the grant of amusement and pleasure permits
Applications for the renewal of amusement permits where adverse representations have been made
Registration of Societies in relation to the running of lotteries.

- (iii) Street Trading Act (Northern Ireland) 2001

Designation of streets or part thereof
Applications for the grant of licences
Applications for the renewal, transfer or variation of licences where objections are received
Revocation of licences
Setting of licence fees

- (iv) administration of the provisions of the Licensing (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 and the Registration of Clubs (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 relating to entertainments and liquor licensing in licensed premises and registered clubs.
- (v) such other licensing matters as the Director of Health and Environmental Services considers appropriate to be addressed by the Licensing Committee.

Whilst the Committee has full delegated authority in relation to licensing decisions it may reconsider any decision referred to it by the Director of Health and Environmental Services in consultation with the Director of Legal Services.

(e) Planning Committee

The Planning Committee shall be responsible for all the Council's planning functions, excepting those matters which are expressly delegated to officers or reserved to full Council.

Specific responsibilities include:

- Exercising the Council's powers and duties in relation to local planning policies, plan strategies, the statement of community involvement and any other development plan documents in conjunction with the Strategic Policy and Resource Committee who will consider all of the said policies and plans to ensure that they are consistent with the broader strategic objectives of the Council;
- Reconsideration of local planning policies, plan strategies, the statement of community involvement and any other development plan documents in respect of which the Strategic

Policy and Resource Committee considers to be inconsistent with the broader strategic objectives of the Council;

- Deciding applications for planning permission and whether to impose any condition, limitation or other restriction on an approval, consent, licence or permission;
- Revoking, amending, modifying or varying any approval, consent, licence or permission;
- Determining any matters related to the exercise of permitted development rights as set out in the Planning (General Development) Order (NI) 1993 or any other legislation relating to such rights;
- Exercising the Council's powers and duties in relation to development control;
- Determining applications for the display of advertisements and whether to impose any condition, limitation or other restriction on such advertisements;
- Determining applications for planning permission or consents for listed buildings and exercising any related powers and duties; including the revocation or modification of such a consent;
- Exercising the Council's powers in relation to the preservation of trees;
- Dealing with any other planning related matter that a meeting of Council or any other Committee considers appropriate to be referred to the Planning Committee;
- Responding to consultations on local planning policies, plan strategies the statement of community involvement and any other development plan documents in adjoining authorities;
- Responding to consultations issued by the Department of Social Development, or any other Department, in relation to planning matters;
- Responding to consultations in relation to regionally significant or major applications to be determined by the Department of Social Development

(f) Belfast Waterfront and Ulster Hall Ltd Shareholders' Committee

The Belfast Waterfront and Ulster Hall Ltd Shareholders' Committee will make the decisions required by the Shareholders' Agreement and ensure that the Company complies with the contract for the operation of the Belfast Waterfront and Ulster Halls. This includes

- Holding the Belfast Waterfront & Ulster Hall Ltd Chairperson and Managing Director to account on contract and business performance issues;
- Scrutinising the quarterly finance and performance reports, ensuring a social and financial return on the Council's and other funders' investments;
- Controlling and make decisions on reserved matters on behalf of the shareholders, as set out in the Shareholders' Agreement (*e.g. authorising the company to take out a loan*);
- Authorising the annual business plan, ensuring alignment with Council's economic, social and environmental objectives;

- Agreeing and monitoring performance framework targets, including decreasing dependency on Council subsidy;
- Agreeing distributions of available profits in relation to its shareholdings;
- Recommending the appointment of the Chairperson and non-executive Directors to the Board of the BWUH Ltd and agreeing remuneration;
- Acting in the interests of the shareholders in the removal of non-executive Director/s, where there is evidence of under-performance or failure to comply with legal duties;
- Considering business improvement requests for investment in the Council's assets, for recommendation to Strategic Policy and Resources Committee or agreement under delegated authority.

In practice, the Committee will be responsible for:

- Agreeing the annual business plan;
- Agreeing the annual financial plan, in line with the budget allocation from the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee;
- Setting performance targets and monitoring quarterly reports;
- Agreeing any amendments to the Council's specification at review periods;
- Authorising any capital investment proposals which enhance the asset portfolio of the Council;
- Agreeing in-year service improvement plans (*in the scenario where there is under-performance*) ;
- Agreeing distribution of surpluses/reduced deficits

MEMBERSHIP OF STANDING COMMITTEES

38 The membership of the Standing Committees shall be made in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 2 to the 2014 Act.

QUORUM

39 The quorum of every Committee shall be five, with the exception of the Planning Committee and the Belfast Waterfront and Ulster Hall Ltd Shareholders' Committee where the quorum shall be four.