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| Subject: | Exploratory Drilling in Woodburn Forest |
| Date: | 11th May, 2016 |
| Reporting Officer: | Louise McLornan, Democratic Services Officer |
| Contact Officer: | Louise McLornan, Democratic Services Officer |

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| Is this report restricted? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Is the decision eligible for Call-in? | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |

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| 1.0 | Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues |
| 1.1 | Members will recall that the Council, at its meeting on 1st March, agreed, at the request of Councillor Corr Johnston, that the agenda for the next meeting of the City Growth and Regeneration Committee include an item on the potential risk to some homes in Belfast from contaminated water arising from the exploratory works taking place in Woodburn Forest, Carrickfergus. |
| 1.2 | Members will recall also that the Committee, at its meeting on 9th March, considered the matter and agreed that a letter be sent to NI Water, seeking an assurance that residents of Belfast would not be put at risk by the exploratory drilling operation in Woodburn Forest, requesting clarity from NI Water on the measures which were in place should something go wrong and inviting a representative from the company to attend a future meeting in relation to the issue. |
| 2.0 | Recommendation |
| 2.1 | The Committee is requested to <ul style="list-style-type: none">Note the correspondence from NI Water (Appendix 1) and that the matter will be |

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| | placed on the agenda for a future meeting to which Northern Ireland Water will be invited to attend. |
| 3.0 | Main report |
| 3.1 | A response has now been received from NI Water which sets out the various measures which have been put in place to ensure that there is no risk to the public water supply arising from the exploratory drilling operation and advises that a representative of NI Water would be willing to attend a future meeting of the Committee in order to provide Members with further clarity and reassurance on the issue. |
| 3.2 | A copy of NI Water's correspondence is attached. |
| 3.2 | <u>Financial and Resource Implications</u> There are no financial or resource implications associated with this report. |
| 3.3 | <u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u> None. |
| 4.0 | Document Attached |
| | Appendix 1 – Copy of Response from NI Water |