



Subject:	Contact NI – Request to Present to Committee
Date:	9th May 2017
Reporting Officer:	Sara Steele, Democratic Services Officer
Contact Officer:	Sara Steele, Democratic Services Officer

Restricted Reports

Is this report restricted?

Yes

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No

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If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?

After Committee Decision

After Council Decision

Some time in the future

Never

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Call-in

Is the decision eligible for Call-in?

Yes

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No

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1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	To consider a request from Contact NI to attend a meeting of the Committee to present on its campaign call for a Suicide Prevention Bill.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to; <ul style="list-style-type: none">Consider whether it would wish to invite Contact NI to present at a future meeting.

3.0	Main report
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.1	Contact NI is Northern Ireland's independent counselling service which is raising awareness of the values of professional counselling for people of all ages. It currently provides the Lifeline Service, Northern Ireland's Regional 24/7 Crisis Helpline, and Face to Face counselling services which are staffed by fully trained counsellors, under licence to the Public Health Agency.
3.2	It is proposed that the presentation will provide the Committee with detail in respect of Contact NI's campaign call for a Suicide Prevention Bill for Northern Ireland based on a zero suicide approach. Contact NI believe that a change in the law is the only way to facilitate unhindered continuity of care at crisis point. Legislation that will work to replace current pessimism for the preventability of suicide, with the international 2014 World Health declaration that suicide is a preventable harm.
3.3	The presentation will allow the Members to consider the range of measure that Contact NI have already taken in respect of its campaign call for a suicide Prevention Bill for Northern Ireland and will provide the opportunity to raise any issues within the presentation directly with the representatives attending the Committee.
3.4	<u>Financial & Resource Implications</u> None
	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u>
3.5	None
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	None