



Subject:	Dog-friendly Badging Scheme
Date:	9 October 2018
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director of City and Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Siobhan Toland, Director of City Services

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	The Committee is reminded that, following a Notice of Motion at the request of Councillor McDonough-Brown, the Council agreed to investigate the introduction of an opt-in badging scheme which would indicate which premises in Belfast were dog-friendly. Subsequently an outline proposal was considered by Committee on 5 th December 2017 and it was agreed that officers should progress as proposed. It was agreed an update report would be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee. The purpose of this report is to update Members on the scheme which has been developed in collaboration with Tourism NI and Visit Belfast.

2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consider the content of this report and note the work that has been undertaken.
3.0	Main report
	<u>Website development:</u>
3.1	<p>A new section on the Council's website has been developed to promote and provide information on the dog friendly scheme for businesses, residents and visitors to the city.</p> <p>https://www.belfastcity.gov.uk/dogfriendlybelfast</p>
3.2	<p>The webpages provide a link to the dog control pages already established on the Council's website regarding responsible dog ownership. The webpages also provide advice for businesses, including guidance regarding food safety legislation, hygiene advice and an example of best practice from an established Belfast dog friendly restaurant.</p>
3.3	<p>The page also provides links to two websites that maintain up to date lists of dog friendly facilities:</p>
3.4	<p>Visit Belfast's website has a Dog Friendly Pubs section, which includes a list of pubs and restaurants that are dog friendly. Visit Belfast have confirmed that they will continue to add Belfast premises to this list.</p> <p>https://www.visitbelfast.com/eat-drink/discover/pubs-clubs/collections/dog-friendly-pubs</p>
3.5	<p>Tourism Northern Ireland (TNI) consumer website has two areas covering Dog Friendly Pubs & Restaurants. One is as part of a blog article that was produced a year ago. TNI have confirmed that they will add Belfast premises to this list.</p> <p>https://www.discovernorthernireland.com/about-northern-ireland/pet-friendly/dog-friendly-pubs-and-restaurants/</p>
3.6	<p>The second area is part of TNI's general tourism product listings under Pubs & Restaurants where the premises can have a Dogs Accepted Inside facility and symbol in the web entry. TNI have again confirmed that that they will add Belfast premises to this list.</p>

	<p>https://www.discovernorthernireland.com/things-to-do/food-and-drink/food-and-drink/</p> <p><u>Badging scheme:</u></p>
3.7	<p>The second facet of the proposed scheme was to consider the design, production and distribution of appropriate and agreed branded badges for display at the participating premises. This work has been completed.</p>
3.8	<p>Belfast City Council has designed and produced ‘we are dog friendly’ window stickers. Visit Belfast have agreed to stock the stickers in the Visit Belfast Welcome Centre, where they will be available for distribution to dog friendly businesses. It should be noted this is purely a display of information badge facility. There is no regulation of this required or appropriate by the Council. The Council’s role is to assist by producing a display sticker which businesses may use.</p>
	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p>
3.9	<p>Some resources, from existing departmental budgets, were required to design and produce the scheme’s badges.</p>
	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Impact Assessment</u></p>
3.10	<p>No implications.</p>
4.0	Appendices
	<p>Example of the ‘we are dog friendly’ window sticker</p>