



<b>Subject:</b>	Pre consultation to seek views on the successor strategy to the New Strategic Direction for Alcohol and Drugs Phase 2
<b>Date:</b>	10 September 2019
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director of City & Neighbourhood Services
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Ryan Black, Director of Neighbourhood Services Alison Allen, Neighbourhood Services Manager (West)

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

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues</b>
1.1	There have been significant levels of concern in recent years around alcohol and drug misuse in Belfast and the wider region. More recently, the inter-dependency between alcohol/drugs and mental health/suicide has been recognised and the need for those issues to be considered more effectively together.
1.2	In recognition of this, the Department of Health have initiated a pre consultation on the successor strategy to the New Strategic Direction for Alcohol and Drugs Phase 2.
1.3	At Committee on 6 August 2019, Members asked that given the importance of the issue, an extension should be requested from the Department of Health. The Department of Health have agreed that the pre-consultation period would be extended.

1.4	Following the comments of a number of Members at People and Communities Committee on 6 August 2019, the draft response (Appendix 1) has been updated.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	The Committee is asked to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approve the draft consultation response at Appendix 1.</li> </ul>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main report</b>
3.1	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>The draft consultation response is attached at Appendix 1 for Members consideration.</p>
3.2	<p><u>Financial &amp; Resource Implications</u></p> <p>There are no financial and resource implications for Council at present.</p>
3.3	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>The consultation document confirms that the Department of Health are aware of their equality, good relations and rural needs legal obligations in these matters.</p>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Appendices – Documents Attached</b>
	<p>Appendix 1 Draft Council Response</p> <p>Appendix 2 Consultation Document <a href="https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/consultations/nsd-pre-consultation">https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/consultations/nsd-pre-consultation</a></p> <p>Appendix 3 Summary Report Strategic Discussion November 2017</p>