



Subject:	Review of Active Motions
Date:	20th November, 2020
Reporting Officer:	John Walsh, City Solicitor
Contact Officer:	Christine Robinson, Strategic Policy and Partnership Manager; Geoff Dickson, Strategic Planning and Policy Officer

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"/>
Sometime 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 purpose of this report is to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• seek agreement on the recommendations in relation to each outstanding motion; and• agree proposed future management arrangements for remaining motions.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• approve the proposed recommendation to each motion in appendices 1 – 3; and• agree to the future management arrangements for motions, as outlined in section 3.4
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<u>Background</u> At the SP and R Committee meeting on 25 th October 2019, the following motion was agreed:

“That this Council notes that other Councils produce a monthly status report in relation to Notices of Motion; and agrees that Belfast City Council adopts a similar practice and produces a monthly Notice of Motion Update which will be brought to each full Council Meeting, detailing the following:

1. Date received
2. Motion title
3. Submitted by which Councillor
4. Council meeting date
5. Committee motion is referred to
6. Outcome of committee where a Motion will be debated
7. Month it will be reported back to committee
8. Other action to be taken.”

For reference, since 2016, the Council has agreed over 300 motions and Issues Raised in Advance by Members, of which over 100 are yet to be considered in terms of their resource implications, with typically 15 being agreed at Council each month.

Up to February 2020, there are 101 motions that are still open and have not been reported to Committee as being completed.

3.2 **Review of Existing Motions / Issues**

Over the last number of months, officers have reviewed all 101 motions, up to February 2020, that have not been reported back to Committee as having been closed.

This review includes an update showing their latest position and a recommendation to either close the motion or move it to a live database for future ongoing management.

3.3 **Recommendations for Existing Motions**

Having reviewed all existing motions, appendices 1 – 3 group them in to 3 categories, with recommendations, as follows:

Appendix 1 - Motions which contained an action that has been completed and recommend they are closed.

Number in this category: 39

All motions within this category contained a specific task that has since been complete, but not formally reported back to committee. It is recommended that these motions be closed.

It is worth noting that, when Committee agree to action a motion, there are sometimes additional actions agreed alongside the motion. As these are not technically part of the motion, they are taken forward through normal Committee decision-making processes. The motion can, therefore be closed, but additional actions related to it will continue to be progressed and reported to the committee. These additional actions are not contained in this report, but will be noted in the live database (final column in Appendix 4).

Appendix 2: Motions which have become Council policy and recommend they are closed.

Number in this category: 30

These motions did not contain a specific task that could be complete. Instead, they were more strategic in nature and required changes in Council policy and strategy for long term outcomes. Those listed within this category have all been agreed by Committee and are now either Council policy or are currently being implemented through a Council strategy that is managed by a Standing Committee through the corporate planning process. It is recommended that these motions be closed.

Appendix 3: Motions that are continuing to progress.

Number in this category: 32

These motions are still actively being progressed by officers are not recommended as being complete. The motions contained in this category will be transferred to the live database and will be reported regularly to the relevant Standing Committee.

Of these 32, Councillors are asked to note that there are potential capital cost implications associated with 11 of these motions, should they be approved. These have been highlighted in Appendix 3.

3.4	<p>Future Management Arrangements for Motions</p> <p>A database has been developed that will be used to manage motions moving forward (Appendix 4). The co-ordination of this will be managed between Democratic Services and the Strategy and Policy Team and co-ordinated cross departmentally.</p> <p>The live database, on a quarterly basis, will be filtered by each Committee and brought for noting. A short cover report will be brought to each Committee that will summarise the main issues and make recommendations on which motions will be closed.</p>
3.5	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>There are no additional financial implications required to implement these recommendations.</p>
3.6	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>There are no equality, good relations or rural needs implications contained in this report.</p>
4.0	<p>Documents Attached</p>
	<p>Appendix 1: Motions which contained an action that has been completed and recommend they are closed.</p> <p>Appendix 2: Motions that have become Council policy - recommend they are closed.</p> <p>Appendix 3: Motion that are continuing to progress.</p> <p>Appendix 4: Live Database Template</p>