



Subject:	Casement Park – Notice of Opinion
Date:	20th November, 2020
Reporting Officer:	John Walsh – City Solicitor
Contact Officer:	Aidan Thatcher – Director of Planning and Building Control

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 type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update the Committee on the receipt of communication from the Department of Infrastructure (DfI) dated 18th November, 2020 in relation to Casement Park set out in Appendix 1 and agree a response.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to: 1. agree the draft response set out at Appendix 2, confirming that BCC is content for the DfI to proceed and determine the application; and 2. note that this is not subject to Call in
3.0	Main Report

3.1	The Casement Park application (LA04/2017/0474/F) was originally submitted to Belfast City Council, and was subsequently called in by the DfI due to its regional significance.
3.2	The application is at an advanced stage with the DfI, following the Minister of Infrastructure announcing her decision to recommend planning approval for the application on 13 October 2020.
3.3	As the DfI called in the application, it is required to serve a Notice of Opinion on Belfast City Council, which allows the right for the Council to request that the application is determined by another body, such as the Planning Appeals Commission. This is attached at Appendix 1.
3.4	The Council has previously responded to the DfI, as part of the consideration of the planning application, confirming no objections. It is considered that the application has been subject to a full and considered assessment by the DfI and there is no reason for it to be subject to referral to the Planning Appeals Commission.
3.5	The draft response at Appendix 2 confirms that the Council is content for DfI to proceed to determine the application and does not wish to exercise the right afforded.
	<u>Finance and Resource Implications</u>
3.6	None.
	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/ Rural Needs Assessment</u>
3.7	None that have not already been considered by the DfI in their assessment of the application.
4.0	<u>Documents Attached</u>
	Appendix 1 – Letter from DfI Appendix 2 – Draft response to DfI