



Subject:	Future of the City and the Role of the City Centre
Date:	12 th May 2021
Reporting Officer:	Alistair Reid, Strategic Director, Place and Economy Department
Contact Officer:	Cathy Reynolds, Director, City Regeneration & Development

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	To update Members on the pending workshop with Elected Members on the Future of the City and the role of the City Centre.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Members of the Committee are asked to recommend that, in accordance with the Council decision of 4th May, the Chief Executive exercise her delegated authority to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Note the proposed Members Future of the City Workshop scheduled for Tuesday 25th May 2021, and to agree the proposed agenda outline as enclosed at Appendix 1.
3.0	Main report

3.1	In December 2020, CG&R Committee agreed that a workshop would be held for Committee Members and Party Group Leaders to consider the Future of the City in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic and the associated social, economic and environmental challenges.
3.2	In April 2021, the Committee received an update report and presentation on the Council's Future City Centre (FCC) programme. The FCC Programme is linked to the longer term ambitions of the Belfast Agenda and Belfast City Centre Regeneration and Investment Strategy but is also integral to the delivery of the Council's Recovery Programme. It is charting a way forward for diversification of uses, enhanced connectivity, investment and inclusive economic and cultural growth but it is recognised that it needs to remain agile to deal with the ever changing challenges of the city centre. The FCC programme currently has six cross cutting pillars aimed at revitalising the city centre and creating a vibrant shared city centre where people will want to live, work and invest, but also enhancing connectivity with surrounding communities.
3.3	Members will be aware of a number of priority areas of focus for the Council, as set out in the Council's Recovery Framework, including for example, City Deal, Housing Led Regeneration, Resilience, Digital and Innovation, Connectivity and Active Travel, Economic Led Programmes etc.
3.4	Delivering a multi-faceted approach to the recovery of the city centre and surrounding areas, in order to support the recovery and growth of the wider city and region requires the collective effort of city partners. This workshop provides the opportunity to discuss these priorities and to consider the future role of the city centre and arterial route areas in creating investment, jobs and opportunities for the city and its communities.
3.5	Elected Members will have received a notice of the Workshop, which will be held Tuesday 25 th May 2021. Appendix 1 provides a proposed outline of the workshop including the desired outcome.
3.6	<u>Financial & Resource Implications</u> None directly associated with this report.
3.7	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/ Rural Needs Assessment</u> None associated with this report.
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 – Future of the City and the Role of the City Centre – Workshop Agenda