



Subject:	Correspondence referred from Planning Committee – Participation and the Practice of Rights (PPR Project)
Date:	8th September, 2021
Reporting Officer:	Alistair Reid, Strategic Director of Place and Economy
Contact Officer:	Eilish McGoldrick, Democratic Services 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"/>
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 requested to consider the correspondence received by the Planning Committee from the PPR project in relation to the Take Back the City (TBTC) coalition.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to note the contents of the report and advise of any further action, if required.
3.0	Main report
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.1	Correspondence has been received from the Participation and the Practice of Rights (PPR Project), providing the Planning Committee with information relating to the Take Back the

	<p>City (TBTC) coalition, which seeks the “development of a prototype community on the site of the former Mackie’s factory in West Belfast.” (see Appendix 1).</p>
3.2	<p>PPR invited the Members of the Planning Committee to attend a walkabout at the Mackie’s site in order to assess the site’s potential for addressing housing need.</p>
3.3	<p>Given the Planning Committee’s potential role in determining any planning applications which may come forward in respect of this site, officers are of the view that it would be inappropriate for Members of the Planning Committee to accept the invitation. At its meeting on 19th August, the Planning Committee subsequently agreed to refer the invitation to the City Growth and Regeneration Committee for consideration, as follows:</p> <p><i>“In accordance with the Council decision of 4th May 2021, the Chief Executive exercised her delegated authority to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>refer the invitation for a walkabout of the former Mackie’s site to the City Growth and Regeneration Committee, given that it would be inappropriate for Members of the Planning Committee to accept the invitation from PPR, who were objectors to a current planning application lodged within that site; and</i> • <i>accept the invitation for Members of the Planning Committee to attend future workshops coordinated by Mr. Hugh Ellis, Policy Director at the Town and Country Planning Association, to explore the key issues in developing social housing in Belfast, on themes such as sustainability, planning, financing and contested spaces, given that they were general and not site specific, and that officers would liaise with the PPR Project and update Members of the Committee with the workshop dates and topics.”</i>
3.4	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None identified.</p>
3.5	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None identified.</p>
4.0	Appendices
	Appendix 1 – Letter from PPR Project to the Planning Committee 300621.