



<b>Subject:</b>	Correspondence – Sunday Opening Hours
<b>Date:</b>	8th September, 2021
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Alistair Reid, Strategic Director of Place and Economy
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Eilish McGoldrick , Democratic Services Officer

<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>Sometime 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/Summary of Main Issues</b>
1.1	To note the correspondence received regarding Sunday Opening Hours.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
2.1	The Committee is asked to note the correspondence as set out in the report.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
	<b><u>Key Issues</u></b>
3.1	At its meeting on 9th June, Members of the Committee recommended that, in accordance with the Council decision of 4th May, the Chief Executive exercises her delegated authority to

<p>3.2</p> <p>3.3</p> <p>3.4</p> <p>3.5</p>	<p>approve the request from city business organisations to extend the current approach to Sunday opening for large retailers until 5th September, 2021</p> <p>The Committee will recall that, at the Council meeting on 1st July, it was agreed that the minute of the meeting of 9th June, under the heading “Sunday Opening Hours” was amended to provide “That the current extended Sunday trading hours are not brought back to the Committee for further extension beyond 5th September, 2021. And that the Council acknowledges the full range of challenges facing retail in the city, write to The Executive Office requesting an urgent meeting of the High Streets Task Force.</p> <p>Accordingly, Democratic Services wrote to the Junior Ministers who convene the Task Force (Appendix 1) and a response was received from the Department for Communities on their behalf (Appendix 2).</p> <p>The Department note that it was content to add the issue to the agenda for the Task Force’s next plenary meeting once a date for it has been confirmed.</p> <p>Subsequently, in relation to this issue, correspondence has also been received from the Belfast Chamber (Appendix 3) to request that the Council reconsiders its previous decision not to extend its permission for early Sunday trading hours by larger retailers.</p> <p><b><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></b></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p> <p><b><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></b></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
<p><b>4.0</b></p>	<p><b>Appendices - Documents Attached</b></p>
	<p>Appendix 1 – CGR Letter to Junior Minister 140721  Appendix 2 – DfC Response 160721  Appendix 3 – Letter to A. Reid from Belfast Chamber 230821</p>