



Subject:	Motion – A Four-Day Working Week
Date:	24th September, 2021
Reporting Officer:	John Walsh, City Solicitor
Contact Officer:	Jim Hanna, Senior 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"/>
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/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	To bring to Members' attention a motion in relation to a Four Day Working Week, which was referred to the Committee by the Council at its meeting on 1st September.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is requested to consider the motion and, if adopted, agree that a report on how this would be facilitated, resourced and managed be submitted to a future meeting.

3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>The Council, at its meeting on 1st September, considered the following motion which had been proposed by Councillor Garrett and seconded by Councillor Murphy.</p> <p>“Over the course of the Covid-19 pandemic, businesses and workers have re-evaluated and re-assessed the issue of work life balance and productivity.</p> <p>It has been almost 100 years since Trades Unions secured workers the right to a weekend and it is important that, as part of the economic recovery, we consider how we can modernise the working arrangements to the benefit of workers and employers.</p> <p>There are numerous examples from across the world where a four-day working week has been successfully trialled, leading to increases in positivity and an improved work life balance.</p> <p>The latest trial from Iceland has been hailed as an 'overwhelming success', with productivity remaining unchanged or actually going up and the health and wellbeing of workers improving significantly.</p> <p>The Council agrees, therefore, to work alongside Trades Unions and other relevant bodies, to bring forward a plan within twelve months to implement a trial under review within our own Council workforce, based on best international examples and practices elsewhere.</p> <p>The Council agrees also that progress and implementation reports be presented to the Council on a quarterly basis, to support and inform any policies being progressed within the Department for Economy or other relevant bodies elsewhere.”</p> <p>3.2 In accordance with Standing Order 13(f), the Motion was referred without discussion to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.</p> <p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>3.3 None</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>3.4 This motion, if agreed, may have potential equality, good relations and rural needs implications and should be subject to our normal screening process as appropriate.</p>
4.0	Documents Attached
	None