



Subject:	Motion – Centenary of the Ulster Memorial Tower
Date:	19th November, 2021
Reporting Officer:	John Walsh, City Solicitor and Director of Legal and Civic Services
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 consider retrospective attendance at the Centenary Commemoration of the opening of the Ulster Tower
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	To approve retrospectively the attendance of the Chairperson (or her nominee) at the Centenary Commemoration opening of the Ulster Tower.
3.0	Main Report
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.1	The Council, at its meeting on 1st July, referred the following motion which had been moved by Alderman Kingston and seconded by Councillor Pankhurst to the Committee for consideration.

3.2	<p><i>“This Council notes that this November marks the centenary of the opening of the Ulster Memorial Tower, on 19th November 1921, near Thiepval in France, as a lasting tribute to the men of Ulster who served and who gave their lives during the First World War.</i></p> <p><i>Its position, opposite Thiepval Wood, is a particular reminder of the officers and men of the 36th (Ulster) Division who fell during the Battle of the Somme, and is a specific tribute to the Division’s heroic charge on the opening day of that great offensive.</i></p> <p><i>This Council notes the various historic connections between the Ulster Memorial Tower and Belfast City Council and agrees to include recognition of this connection in our Centenary programme this year.”</i></p>
3.3	<p>At that meeting, the Members of the Committee had agreed to recommend that, in accordance with the Council decision of 4th May, the Chief Executive exercise her delegated authority to adopt the motion and agree that it be referred to the Party Group Leaders for consideration, with a report on how it would be facilitated, resourced and managed to be submitted to a future meeting.</p>
3.4	<p>The matter had been raised at the Party Group Leaders’ Consultative Forum meeting held on 11th November, together with the invitation to the Centenary Commemoration opening, as attached.</p>
3.5	<p>The Group had noted that the invite had been sent to an email account which was no longer accessed.</p>
3.6	<p>There was consensus that the Council should be represented at the event on 18th November and retrospective approval should be sought from the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee to approve the attendance of a Member thereat.</p> <p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p>
3.7	<p>The cost for attendance at the event is £549 plus single person supplement and subsistence.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p>
3.8	<p>None</p>
4.0	Document Attached
	Invite to the Centenary Commemoration of the opening of the Ulster Tower