



<b>Subject:</b>	Responses from Minister of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs and Committee responsible for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs in Northern Ireland Assembly re Notice of Motion – End of Hunting of Mammals with Dogs
<b>Date:</b>	8th March, 2022
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Ryan Black, Director of City and Neighbourhood Services
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Sara Steele, 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 the Notice of Motion re End of Hunting of Mammals with Dogs.
<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>
3.1	<p>The Committee will recall that, at its meeting on 10th January, 2021, it had considered and adopted the following Motion, which had been proposed by Councillor McReynolds and seconded by Councillor McAllister.</p> <p><i>“This Council notes the widespread support across Belfast for the ending of animal cruelty and the improvement of animal welfare; expresses disappointment at the lack of legislative progression on banning the hunting of mammals with dogs in the Northern Ireland Assembly; reaffirms our support for</i></p>

	<p><i>ending this barbaric practice; and agrees to write to DAERA and the Committee for Agriculture and Rural Affairs to show our support for ending the practice of hunting for mammals with dogs.”</i></p>
3.2	<p>Accordingly, Democratic Services wrote to the Minister of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs and a response has been received from him (appendix 1) and a response from the Committee responsible for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs in Northern Ireland Assembly (appendix 2).</p>
3.3	<p><b><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></b></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
3.4	<p><b><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></b></p> <p>This Notice of 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>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Appendices - Documents Attached</b>
	<p>Appendix 1 – Response from Minister of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs</p> <p>Appendix 2 – Response from the Committee responsible for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs in Northern Ireland Assembly</p>