



<b>Subject:</b>	Response received from Department for Communities re Notice of Motion – Anti-Poverty Strategy
<b>Date:</b>	21st June, 2024
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Nora Largey, City Solicitor/Director of Legal and Civic Services
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Jim Hanna, Democratic Services and Governance Manager

<b>Restricted Reports</b>									
<b>Is this report restricted?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>								
<p><b>Please indicate the description, as listed in Schedule 6, of the exempt information by virtue of which the council has deemed this report restricted.</b></p> <p>Insert number <input type="checkbox"/></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Information relating to any individual</li> <li>2. Information likely to reveal the identity of an individual</li> <li>3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the council holding that information)</li> <li>4. Information in connection with any labour relations matter</li> <li>5. Information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained</li> <li>6. Information showing that the council proposes to (a) to give a notice imposing restrictions on a person; or (b) to make an order or direction</li> <li>7. Information on any action in relation to the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime</li> </ol>									
<p><b>If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?</b></p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 70%;"><b>After Committee Decision</b></td> <td style="width: 30%;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>After Council Decision</b></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Sometime in the future</b></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Never</b></td> <td><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>		<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"/>
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<b>Never</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>								

<b>Call-in</b>
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Is the decision eligible for Call-in?

Yes

No

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues</b>
1.1	To note the correspondence received from Department for Communities.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</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>
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.1	The Committee will recall that, at the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee meeting held on 19th April, 2024, it was agreed to write to the Minister for Communities requesting that the Anti-Poverty Strategy be brought forward as quickly as possible.
3.2	The Committee is advised that a response has been received from Mr. Carl Savage, Deputy Director Central Policy Division, Department for Communities.
3.3	<p>In his response he advises “<i>Minister Lyons is committed to delivering long-term, sustainable solutions to poverty in all its forms for our communities right across Northern Ireland and ensuring the best possible future for those suffering socio-economic disadvantage.</i></p> <p><i>The Minister will be engaging with his Executive colleagues over the coming weeks and months to identify and implement effective and sustainable actions that will address the issues faced by all living in poverty within Northern Ireland.</i></p> <p><i>The intention is for a draft Anti-Poverty Strategy to be brought to the Executive as soon as possible, taking account of the current delivery environment and Executive and Ministerial priorities.</i></p> <p><i>Final decisions on the content and implementation of the Anti-Poverty Strategy will be subject to Executive agreement.”</i></p>
3.4	Members will note that officers will continue to work with colleagues from DfC to seek to maximise the draw-down of available funding to support those affected by the cost-of-living crisis through the Hardship Programme. We will also continue to raise awareness and create referral pathways to existing support services which may be available through the annual publication of the cost-of-living guide.

	<b><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></b>
3.5	None associated with this report.
	<b><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></b>
3.6	None associated with this report.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Appendices – Documents Attached</b>
	Appendix 1 – Response from Department for Communities.