

# Standards and Business Committee

Thursday, 21st November, 2024

## HYBRID MEETING OF THE STANDARDS AND BUSINESS COMMITTEE HELD IN THE LAVERY ROOM AND REMOTELY VIA TEAMS

Members present: Councillor Lawlor (Chairperson) and Aldermen McCullough; and Councillors Bradley, Donnelly, Carson, D. Douglas, Groogan, Kelly, Lyons, Murphy, F. McAteer, McCormick, McDonough-Brown, Nic Bhranair and R. McLaughlin.

In attendance: Ms. N. Largey, City Solicitor and Director of Legal and Civic Services;  
Mr. J. Hanna, Democratic Services and Governance Manager, and  
Mrs. S. Steele, Democratic Services Officer.

### **Apologies**

Apologies were recorded from Councillors de Faoite and Maghie.

### **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of 24th October were taken as read and signed as correct. It was reported that those minutes had been adopted by the Council at its meeting on 4th November.

### **Declarations of Interest**

Councillor Lyons declared an interest in agenda item 2 (a) in that he was employed by a Teachers Trade Union. As there was no discussion, he was not required to leave the meeting.

### **Schedule of Meetings 2025**

The Committee approved the following schedule of meetings for the Standards and Business Committee in 2025 and agreed that all meetings would commence at 5.30 pm:

- Tuesday, 7th January;
- Thursday, 23rd January;
- Thursday, 20th February;
- Tuesday, 25th March;
- Monday, 28th April;
- Thursday, 22nd May;
- Tuesday, 24th June;

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- Thursday, 21st August;
- Tuesday, 23rd September;
- Thursday, 23rd October; and
- Thursday, 20th November.

**Motions**

The Committee considered the following four motions which had been received in advance of the Council's meeting on 2nd December:

**Addressing Educational Inequalities in Belfast**

The Committee agreed that the motion, which had been proposed by Councillor Bell and seconded by Councillor Long, be referred, in the first instance, to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.

**Retail Business in Sandy Row**

The Committee agreed that the motion, which had been proposed by Councillor Kelly and seconded by Councillor R. Brooks, be referred, in the first instance, to the City Growth and Regeneration Committee.

**Armed Forces Covenant**

The Committee agreed that the motion, which had been proposed by Alderman Lawlor and seconded by Alderman McCullough, be referred, in the first instance, to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee

**Removal of Knockbreda Out of Hours Doctors Service**

**Proposal**

Moved by Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor McCormick,  
Seconded by Alderman McCullough,

That the motion be adopted.

On a vote by show of hands, twelve Members voted for the proposal to adopt the motion, with two against and with one no vote it was declared carried.

Accordingly, the Committee agreed that the motion, which had been proposed by the Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor McCormick and seconded by Alderman McCullough, be adopted.

Chairperson