



Subject:	Notice of Motion – Motion to Support Endometriosis Patients
Date:	22nd May, 2025
Reporting Officer:	Nora Largey, City Solicitor/Director of Legal and Civic Services
Contact Officer:	Jim Hanna, Democratic Services and Governance Manager

Restricted Reports

Is this report restricted?

Yes

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No

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Please indicate the description, as listed in Schedule 6, of the exempt information by virtue of which the council has deemed this report restricted.

Insert number

☐

1. Information relating to any individual
2. Information likely to reveal the identity of an individual
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the council holding that information)
4. Information in connection with any labour relations matter
5. Information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained
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
7. Information on any action in relation to the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime

If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?

After Committee Decision

After Council Decision

Sometime in the future

Never

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in

Is the decision eligible for Call-in?

Yes

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No

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1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	To consider the Notice of Motion received for the Annual meeting of the Council on 2nd June, 2025 in relation to a Motion to Support Endometriosis Patients.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	<p>Members are asked to note that, in accordance with Standing Orders, Notices of Motion which commit the Council to expenditure or falls within the remit of a particular Committee must be referred to the appropriate committee for consideration and report.</p> <p>At this time Members are only asked to note that the Notice of Motion has been received and that a subsequent report will be brought to Committee, if that Committee so agrees, outlining a detailed consideration of the Notice of Motion and the potential costs implications.</p> <p>The Committee is asked to note that this motion will be referred on the first instance to the People and Communities Committee.</p>
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>The Committee will be aware that Standing Orders 13 (m) to (r), as agreed by the Council at its meeting on 4th October, are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (m) <i>The Standards and Business Committee will have delegated authority to adopt or reject Notices of Motion. The Lord Mayor will indicate at the Council meeting those Notices of Motion that have been considered by the Standards and Business Committee and whether such Notices of Motion were rejected or adopted. In either case, the proposer only may speak on the issue at Council.</i> (n) <i>The Standards and Business Committee will refer all Notices of Motion directly to a standing committee when the matter to which the Notice of Motion refers falls within the remit of that committee. At Council, the Lord Mayor will indicate that the Notice of Motion was received and referred. There will be no speakers on such Notices of Motion at Council.</i> (o) <i>The Standards and Business Committee will refer Notices of Motion for consideration by full Council when the Notice of Motion relates to a strategic or constitutional matter.</i> (p) <i>The Standards and Business Committee will not have the power to amend the wording of any Notice of Motion that is being referred to the full Council for debate.</i> (q) <i>Any amendments to Notice of Motions to be proposed at the Council are to be furnished at least one day in advance of going to the full Council and will be circulated to Party Group Leaders in advance of the Council meeting.</i>

<p>3.2</p>	<p>(r) <i>In referring any matter to the full Council, the Standards and Business Committee may determine to restrict contributions to the debate in relation to any Notice of Motion to one per political party. At the Council meeting, the Lord Mayor will clearly indicate if the restriction applies.</i></p> <p>The following motion has been received:</p> <p><u>Motion to support Endometriosis Patients</u></p> <p>“Council notes that 1 in 10 women suffer from endometriosis: the second most common gynaecological condition.</p> <p>Endometriosis is a chronic and life changing condition.</p> <p>Despite this, waiting times for endometriosis treatment in the North has been labelled ‘shocking’ by Endometriosis UK.</p> <p>Women often have to wait years for an NHS diagnosis and can be waiting up to 7 years for life changing surgery.</p> <p>The Department of Health figures show that the total number of women waiting for a gynaecology outpatient appointment here has more than double in seven years, yet the north remains the only part of the UK and Ireland without a specialist endometriosis centre available through the public health service.</p> <p>Those unable to afford private care are forced to wait years for NHS treatment, enduring avoidable pain that inhibits their quality of life.</p> <p>Council will write to the Belfast Health Trust and the Health Minister to outline these concerns and request urgent investment to bolster NHS support and reduce waiting times for endometriosis patients.</p> <p>Council also notes the wider lack of awareness around endometriosis and other female health related illnesses.</p> <p>Council therefore commits to organising a public workshop in Belfast City Hall to help end the stigma around endometriosis.</p> <p>Council will invite statutory health bodies, women's health campaign groups, elected members, Council staff and members of the public to attend and participate in this event, to raise awareness, and build support for patients of this illness.”</p> <p>Proposer: Councillor Michael Collins</p> <p>Seconder: Councillor Áine Groogan</p>
<p>3.3</p>	<p>The motion calls upon the Council to write to the Belfast Health Trust and the Minister for Health to outline these concerns and request urgent investment to bolster NHS support and reduce waiting times for endometriosis patients. It also calls on the Council organise a workshop in the City Hall which would have resource implications. The People and Communities Committee is responsible for developing and delivering programmes, events</p>

	and activities to promote health, safety and wellbeing at a local level and the motion will therefore be referred to that Committee.
3.4	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
3.5	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>None.</p>
4.0	Documents Attached
	None.