



<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Notice of Motion – Community Orchards</b>
<b>Date:</b>	7th October, 2025
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	David Sales, Strategic Director of City & Neighbourhood Services
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Barry Flynn, Committee Services Officer.

**Restricted Report**

Is this report restricted?

Yes

☐

No

☒

**Call-in**

Is the decision eligible for Call-in?

Yes

☒

No

☐

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues</b>
1.1	To draw the Committee's attention to a Motion on Community Orchards which the Standards and Business Committee referred to the Committee on 23rd September.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
2.1	The Committee is requested to consider the motion and to take such action thereon as may be determined.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	The following motion, which had been moved by Councillor Bower and seconded by the High Sheriff (Councillor McAteer) was referred to the Committee for its consideration:
3.2	<p><b><u>Community Orchards</u></b></p> <p>“This Council recognises the wide-ranging social, environmental, and economic benefits of community orchards, including increased access to fresh fruit, the promotion of local food resilience, the enhancement of green spaces, improved mental and physical wellbeing, and stronger community cohesion. It acknowledges that community orchards contribute to climate resilience through increased biodiversity, carbon sequestration, and natural cooling effects in urban areas. It also notes that community orchards offer valuable opportunities for intergenerational learning, volunteering, and environmental education, particularly in areas where green space and access to nature are limited.</p> <p>This motion is requesting that this council commits to supporting the creation and maintenance of community orchards across the city through partnerships with residents, schools, and local organisations. Council will take part in identifying underused or neglected public land that could be repurposed for community orchard use. This would require commitment to some expenditure for planting, equipment, and training necessary to establish new orchards in identified areas. Council would also encourage and support</p>

<p>4.0</p> <p>5.0</p>	<p>community-led management of orchards and provide resources and guidance to support their long-term sustainability.”</p> <p><b><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></b></p> <p>None at this stage as there is no commitment to proceed with the Notice of Motion.</p> <p><b><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></b></p> <p>This 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>
-----------------------	--