



Subject:	Notice of Motion – Urban Wildflower Meadows
Date:	29th August, 2023
Reporting Officer:	Nora Largey, Interim City Solicitor/Director of Legal and Civic Services
Contact Officer:	Jim Hanna, Senior Democratic Services Officer

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sometime in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	To consider the Notice of Motion received for the meeting of the Council on 4th September in relation to Urban Wildflower Meadows.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is asked to note that the motion will be referred to the People and Communities Committee.

3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p data-bbox="316 304 472 331"><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p data-bbox="316 365 1514 432">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"> <li data-bbox="363 465 1514 633">(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> <li data-bbox="363 656 1514 824">(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> <li data-bbox="387 846 1514 947">(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> <li data-bbox="387 969 1514 1037">(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> <li data-bbox="387 1059 1514 1160">(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> <li data-bbox="387 1182 1514 1328">(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 data-bbox="204 1361 842 1395">3.2 The following motion has been received:</p> <p data-bbox="316 1429 699 1462"><u>Urban Wildflower Meadows</u></p> <p data-bbox="316 1496 1514 1664">“This Council reaffirms its commitment to enhancing our city's ecological credentials. Therefore, this Council is dedicated to a pilot project that will aim to identify one site for wildflower cultivation in each quadrant of the city. These sites must adhere to one of the following criteria: a) Owned by the Council itself, b) Owned by another Government Department, or c) Currently unadopted.</p> <p data-bbox="316 1697 1514 1765">The precise locations for these pilot projects will be presented for discussion during the inaugural convening of the area working groups.</p> <p data-bbox="316 1798 1514 1899">This Council comprehends the benefits that Urban Wildflower Meadows can bring to our city, ranging from reduced maintenance to supporting our climate change ambitions, and ultimately leading to Belfast becoming a more biodiverse city.”</p> <p data-bbox="316 1933 847 1966">Proposer: Councillor Ronan McLaughlin</p> <p data-bbox="316 2000 783 2033">Seconder: Councillor Michael Long</p>

3.3	The motion calls upon the Council to write to undertake a pilot projects for wildflower cultivation in each quadrant of the city. The motion will be referred to the People and Communities Committee which is responsible for maximising the benefit of the Council's parks, pitches, playgrounds and other public spaces as well as biodiversity issues.
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 / Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None.</p>
4.0	Documents Attached
	None.