



Subject:	Notice of Motion – National Famine Memorial Day
Date:	26th September, 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 2nd October in relation to National Famine Memorial Day.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is asked to consider the motion and agree to either adopt the motion, refer it for debate at the Council meeting (with or without restrictions) or reject the motion.

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="363 667 1514 835">(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="387 869 1514 969">(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 1003 1514 1070">(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 1104 1514 1205">(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 1238 1514 1373">(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>
3.2	<p data-bbox="316 1417 842 1440">The following motion has been received:</p> <p data-bbox="316 1473 746 1507"><u>National Famine Memorial Day</u></p> <p data-bbox="316 1541 1514 1809">“This Council recognises the tragic and historic impact of the Great Famine/An Gorta Mór, which affected the entire island between 1845 to 1852 and resulted in the death of nearly one million people and the forced emigration of at least a further one million. As the island’s second largest city, Belfast and its citizens were directly affected by the Famine through death and emigration of people from all backgrounds who lived both here and in surrounding towns and countryside. Alongside these tragic events, various citizens led relief efforts in Belfast, across Ulster and across Ireland, saving men women and children from death by starvation.</p> <p data-bbox="316 1843 1514 2040">As a first step to a regular remembrance of the tragedy and events of the Great Famine, this Council will write to the Minister at the Department of Tourism, Arts, Culture, Gaeltacht, Sport & Media to request that Belfast hosts the National Famine Memorial Day, which takes place every May, in 2024. This will be only the second time the event is held in Northern Ireland, and the first time it is held in Ireland’s second city and can play an important role in commemorating the tragic events of that period.”</p>

<p>3.3</p> <p>3.4</p> <p>3.5</p>	<p>Proposer: Councillor Whyte</p> <p>Seconder: Councillor Doherty</p> <p>The motion calls upon the Council to write to the Minister at the Department of Tourism, Arts, Culture, Gaeltacht, Sport & Media to request that Belfast hosts the National Famine Memorial Day in May 2024 - the Committee can either adopt the motion, refer it for debate at the Council meeting (with or without restrictions) or reject the motion.</p> <p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>None.</p>
<p>4.0</p>	<p>Documents Attached</p>
	<p>None.</p>