



Subject:	Notice of Motion – Food Allergy Safety in Parks, Play Areas and Leisure Centres
Date:	6th October, 2026
Reporting Officer:	David Sales, Strategic Director of City and Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Barry Flynn, Committee Services Officer

Restricted Report
Is this report restricted? Yes ☐ No ☒

Call-in
Is the decision eligible for Call-in? Yes ☒ No ☐

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	The Standards and Business Committee, at its meeting on 22nd September, referred the following motion to the Committee for consideration.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is requested to consider the motion and, if adopted, a report will be submitted for consideration in due course.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The Committee is requested to consider the following motion, which has been proposed by Councillor Bower and seconded by Councillor McDonough-Brown.
3.2	“This Council recognises that severe food allergies are a major public health issue, affecting many children and adults across Belfast. Belfast City Council is aware that allergen or allergen residue (such as dairy, peanut, or tree nut oils) left on park play equipment and benches can trigger allergic reactions, including in rare cases anaphylaxis, when a child or adult with a severe allergy comes into contact with it. This Council acknowledges public parks and play areas should be safe, accessible, and inclusive spaces for everyone, including those with allergies. This motion builds on the UK’s first National Allergy Strategy, launched in April 2026, which calls for a whole-society approach to allergy awareness - extending that principle to everyday outdoor spaces. Therefore, Belfast City Council resolves to: 1. Introduce a dedicated Food Allergy Awareness Campaign across all Belfast City Council managed parks, play areas, and leisure centres, including brief allergy-awareness guidance for park services and leisure centre staff; 2. Design and install clear, child-friendly signage at park entrances and play areas, encouraging park users to: • Wash or wipe hands after eating and before using shared play equipment. • Consume food in designated picnic areas rather than on or around play equipment. • Immediately dispose of all food waste in the bins provided. 3. Ensure adequate waste bin placement near play areas and park entrances/exits to facilitate safe disposal of food waste and packaging; 4. Provide anaphylaxis awareness training for leisure centre staff, including recognition of symptoms and safe use of adrenaline auto-injectors (EpiPens/Jext), and review whether Council-managed leisure centres should hold spare adrenaline auto-injectors for emergency use, in line with the legal provisions already used by schools; and 5. Report back to Committee within six months on implementation, including signage rollout, bin placement, and leisure centre staff training.”
4.0	<u>Financial and Resource Implications</u> N/A
5.0	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u> N/A

