

Public Document Pack

**Democratic Services Section
Chief Executive's Department
Belfast City Council
City Hall
Belfast
BT1 5GS**



**Belfast
City Council**

17th August, 2017

MEETING OF STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Dear Alderman/Councillor,

The above-named Committee will meet in the Lavery Room - City Hall on Friday, 18th August, 2017 at 9.30 am, for the transaction of the business noted below.

You are requested to attend.

Yours faithfully,

SUZANNE WYLIE

Chief Executive

AGENDA:

1. Routine Matters

- (a) Apologies
- (b) Minutes
- (c) Declarations of Interest

2. Restricted Items

- (a) Development of the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan 2018/19 - 2020/21 and the Rate Setting Process for 2018/19 (Pages 1 - 4)
- (b) Proposed re-structuring/transfer of the Fleet Management Unit (Pages 5 - 16)
- (c) Happy Christmas and Nollaig Shona Signage – City Hall (Pages 17 - 22)
- (d) Asset Management (Pages 23 - 26)

3. **Strategic Issues/Belfast Agenda**

- (a) Addressing Inequalities through Lifelong Learning - Belfast Strategic Partnership Application to UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities (BSP) (Pages 27 - 64)

4. **Physical Programme and Asset Management**

- (a) Capital Programme Update – Proposed movements/additions (Pages 65 - 70)
- (b) Leisure Transformation Programme: Assets Update (Pages 71 - 76)
- (c) Area Working Update (Pages 77 - 106)

5. **Finance, Procurement and Performance**

- (a) Financial Reporting – Quarter 1 2017/18 (Pages 107 - 126)
- (b) Efficiency Programme 2018/19 – 2019/20 (Pages 127 - 130)
- (c) Contracts for Award Update (Pages 131 - 138)

6. **Equality and Good Relations**

- (a) Shared City Partnership (Pages 139 - 158)

7. **Operational Issues**

- (a) European Local Democracy Week - EurVoice 2017 (Pages 159 - 162)
- (b) Minutes of Historic Working Group (Pages 163 - 168)
- (c) Minutes of Budget and Transformation Panel (Pages 169 - 172)
- (d) Minutes of active Belfast Board Ltd (Pages 173 - 176)
- (e) Requests for use of the City Hall and the provision of Hospitality (Pages 177 - 180)
- (f) Belfast Rapid Transit Vehicle launch (Pages 181 - 182)

8. **Issues Raise in Advance by Members**

- (a) Council Photograph - Alderman Browne to raise

9. **Notices of Motion**

- (a) Notice of Motion - Cladding and High Rise Buildings (Pages 183 - 188)

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

By virtue of paragraph(s) 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 6
of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

By virtue of paragraph(s) 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 6
of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6
of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6
of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6
of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank



Subject:	Addressing Inequalities through Lifelong Learning – Belfast Strategic Partnership Application to UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities (BSP)
Date:	18 August 2017
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Director of City & Neighbourhood Services & Donal Durkan, Director of Development
Contact Officer:	Andrew Steenson, Project Development Senior Officer & Ruth Rea, Assistant Economic Development Manager

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"/>
Some time 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 or Summary of Main Issues
1.1	<p>The purpose of this report is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Update members on work undertaken to date to support the development of Belfast as a Learning City; - Provide background information on the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities; and - Seek endorsement to submit a proposal, for Belfast to join the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities, as part of the city's efforts to grow the economy, reduce inequalities and create opportunities for all.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Note the information provided; and

	- Agree to Belfast joining the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities. An application to join the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities will require the signature of the Lord Mayor.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>Across the city health, education and economic inequalities continue to impact and restrict the potential of many people and communities. Notably this is most evident in life expectancy levels with those who are most deprived expected to have a lower life expectancy of up to 10 years. Action to address such inequalities requires collaborative approaches across a range of determinants including education, employment, community living and access to services and opportunities.</p>
3.2	<p>The Belfast Agenda recognises that ‘working and <i>learning</i>’ is vital to economic, social and environmental well-being by supporting the economy, building good relations, empowering people to reach their potential and developing a more inclusive society. The principles of learning are fundamental to tackling some of Belfast’s persistent societal-inequalities such as health, educational attainment and well-being. The inclusive growth focus of the Belfast Agenda is about improving the economy and ensuring the benefits of this are felt by everyone across the city, leaving no one behind. To tackle inequalities and ensure individuals can reap the benefits of economic growth, a joined up approach will be required across a range of stakeholders. Learning is one mechanism through which inequalities can be addressed and individual’s life prospects can be improved. It can help improve well-being by developing emotional resilience, create access to more and better jobs through skills development and support educational attainment across all ages. Reflecting the importance of learning it has a key role in the four priority themes of the Belfast Agenda: Growing the Economy, Living Here, Working & Learning and City Development. Targets and key work streams focused upon the importance of learning have been reflected across the Belfast Agenda.</p>
3.3	<p>Belfast Strategic Partnership (BSP) have identified Lifelong Learning as one of its five strategic priorities to address life inequalities, recognising the connection between educational attainment, learning opportunities and life inequalities, and the extent to which family, community and environmental influences impact learning opportunities, particularly within population groups facing the highest level of deprivation.</p>
3.4	<p>To take this strategic priority forward, BSP established a Lifelong Learning group, which includes representation from a range of statutory and community stakeholders including Council, Belfast Health and Social Care Trust, Education Authority, Catholic Controlled Maintained Schools, Queen’s University Belfast, Ashton Community Trust, Belfast</p>

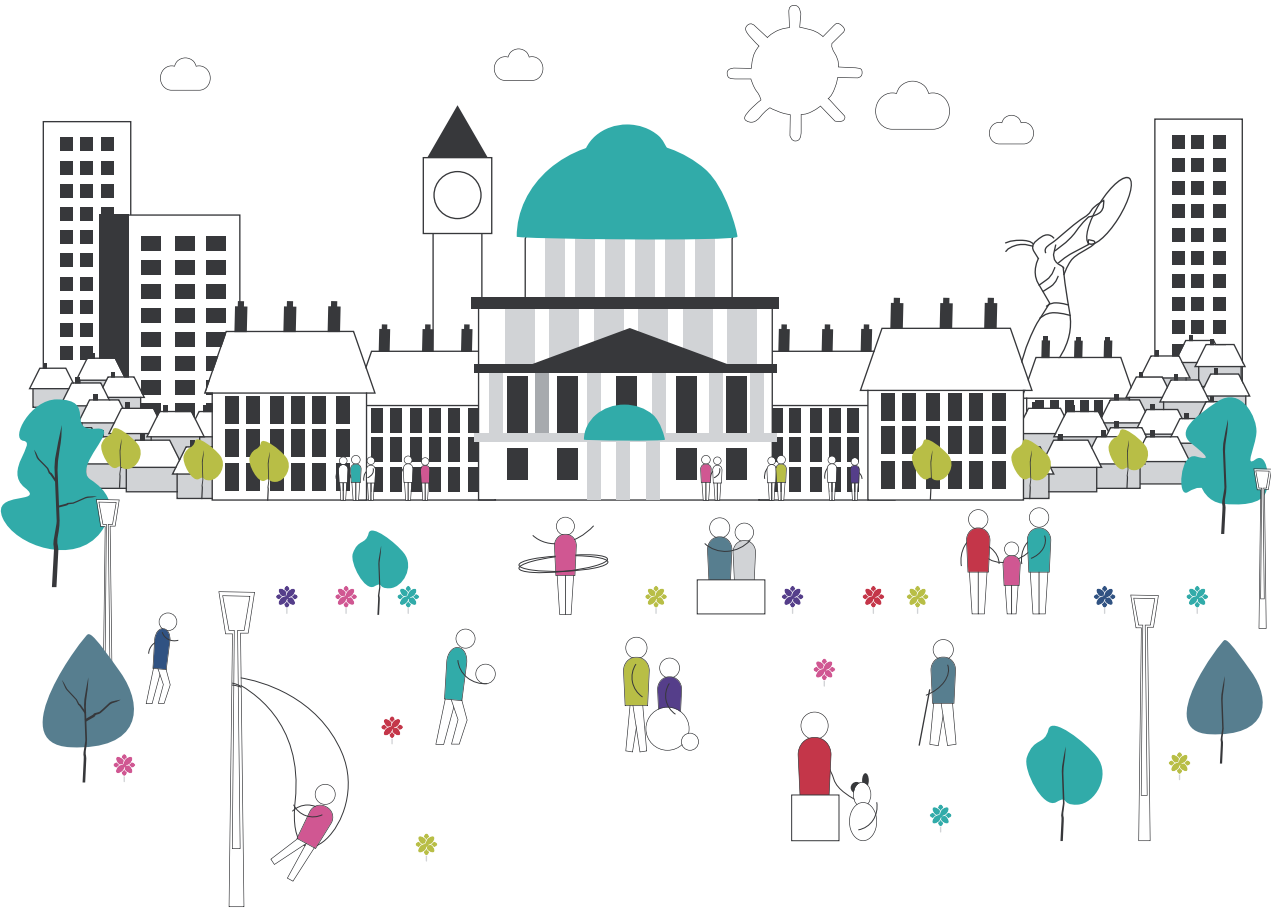
	<p>Metropolitan College, GEMS NI, Department for the Economy and Department for Communities. The focus for this group is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - advocate for strategic approaches which maximise the role and potential of lifelong learning in addressing life inequalities in Belfast; - encourage innovation in lifelong learning practice through developing flagship examples and using BSP to influence change.
3.5	<p>In February 2015, BSP launched the 'Belfast a Learning City' strategic document, including a Learning Charter for Belfast, (see appendix 1) which sets out a vision of Belfast where learning is used as a positive force to expand and enhance life chances for all citizens in Belfast. The aim of the publication was to ensure that all Belfast citizens have equal access to learning opportunities, creating conditions for a better quality of life for everyone in the city.</p>
3.6	<p>'Belfast a Learning City' is based on the EU definition of learning, recognising the breadth of learning activity across personal, social, civic and employment related reasons for learning. The Lifelong Learning Group also developed the following four key messages to promote a broader understanding and awareness of the wider benefits of learning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Learning through education: Learning is the foundation for life. Education and training give us opportunities to shape our future. - Learning for and in work: Learning creates routes to work. It generates opportunities, develops our careers and strengthens our communities and city. - Learning for life: Learning changes our lives for the better. Everyday there is the chance to learn something new. - Learning to live together: Learning brings us together. It develops respect and understanding about and within our communities.
3.7	<p>The BSP has identified an opportunity to further the work of the Life Long Learning Group and to develop Belfast's status as a Learning City by becoming a member of the UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning (UIL) Global Network of Learning Cities (GNLC). UIL is a non-profit international institute, it undertakes research, capacity building, networking and publication of lifelong learning with a focus on adult and continuing education, literacy and non formal basic education.</p>
3.8	<p>Developed to promote lifelong learning in urban communities UIL sets out six areas of focus which reflect the major building blocks of a learning city. It includes key features for each of these areas and possible indicators on progress. The six areas of focus are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inclusive learning in the education system; - Revitalised learning in families and communities

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Effective learning for and in the workplace - Extended use of modern learning technologies - Enhances quality and excellence in learning - A vibrant culture of learning throughout life
3.9	<p>The benefits associated with being a member of the GNLC include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Being part of a dynamic network</i> - Connecting with other learning cities with common interests, tackling similar issues and envisioning similar development agendas and links to a network of experts and professionals specializing in the field of lifelong learning for sustainable development; - <i>Receiving guidance and support</i> - Accessing tools and strategies for developing learning cities, insights into best practice from the latest research and practice; - <i>City recognition</i> – Belfast would enjoy global recognition of its efforts to create a learning city and showcase the good practice that exists in the city. In addition Belfast would have the opportunity to apply for the biennial UNESCO Learning City Award in 2018.
3.10	<p>Cities which have embraced the concept of <i>Lifelong Learning for All</i> have seen significant improvements in terms of public health, economic growth, reduction in crime and increases in democratic participation. Current membership includes only 2 cities in Great Britain (Bristol and Swansea) and 2 in Republic of Ireland (Cork and Limerick); therefore Belfast would be the first city in the region to become a member.</p>
3.11	<p>An application to join the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities (GNLC) cannot proceed without the support of Council. Once the Council confirms its support for the application, the following steps will be undertaken by BSP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Complete the application form for submission to Council to be signed by the Lord Mayor; (appendix 2) - Join the UNESCO GNLC; there are no fees for joining nor obligations on length of membership. - Refocus the role and remit of the Lifelong Learning Group in the context of a revised action plan for developing a learning city; - Develop a Learning City Plan to create a framework for collective action incorporating existing initiatives and key actions to use learning to address inequalities.
3.12	<p>It is a requirement of UNESCO that the Learning City Plan must align to the following themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Individual empowerment and social cohesion - Economic development and cultural prosperity

	<p>- Sustainable development</p> <p>Currently many organisations in the city contribute to these outcomes, it is therefore expected that rather than create a suite of new initiatives the plan will encompass existing activity of BSP co-sponsors and its stakeholders. The creation of a Learning City Plan will provide a means through which to better connect this work up and facilitate more collaboration and cooperation in the city. The Learning City Plan will also align to the outcomes of the Belfast Agenda and key city priorities, including employment, inclusive growth and enhanced collaborative synergies across partners, including links to 'Making Life Better – 10 year Public Health Strategy' and the new Draft Programme for Government.</p>
3.13	<p>The BSP through its relevant structures including the Executive Programme Group (EPG) and the Lifelong Learning Group will lead the completion of the UNESCO application, development of the Learning City Plan and its management. BSP's co-sponsors Belfast City Council, Public Health Agency (PHA) and Belfast Health and Social Care Trust (BHSCT) will be required to contribute towards the development of the Learning City Plan through existing activities. Examples of the work currently being undertaken by BSP's co-sponsors to be featured in the Learning Plan are included within Appendix 3.</p>
3.14	<p>All partners within BSP's Lifelong Learning group have indicated their willingness to contribute relevant organisational actions to the Learning City Plan. An example of this is the Department of the Economy's development of the Unique Learner Number which will allow tracking of learners across different providers and across their lifespan.</p>
3.15	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>There are no financial or resource implications attached to this report. The application process, development of the Learning City Plan including its management will be led by staff within the Belfast Health Development Unit. Under current working arrangements for BSP, Belfast Health and Social Care Trust continue to provide staff resource (1 FTE Project Development Officer) which currently supports this area of work. Further support is also provided by the PHA to support the activities of the Lifelong Learning Group.</p>
3.16	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>There are no equality or good relations implications attached to this report. Any future Learning City Plan would be developed in consultation with the Equality & Diversity Officers.</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	<p>Appendix 1: Belfast a Learning City (BSP)</p> <p>Appendix 2: UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities application form</p> <p>Appendix 3: BSP Co-sponsors examples of existing activity</p>

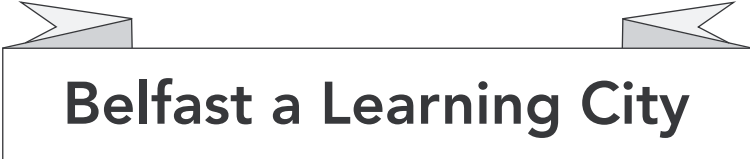
Belfast a Learning City

A Learning Charter for Belfast

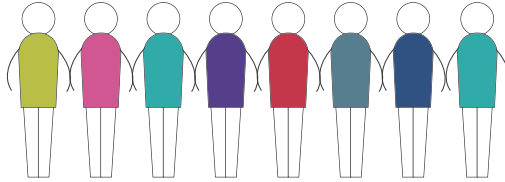


Putting people at the heart of learning



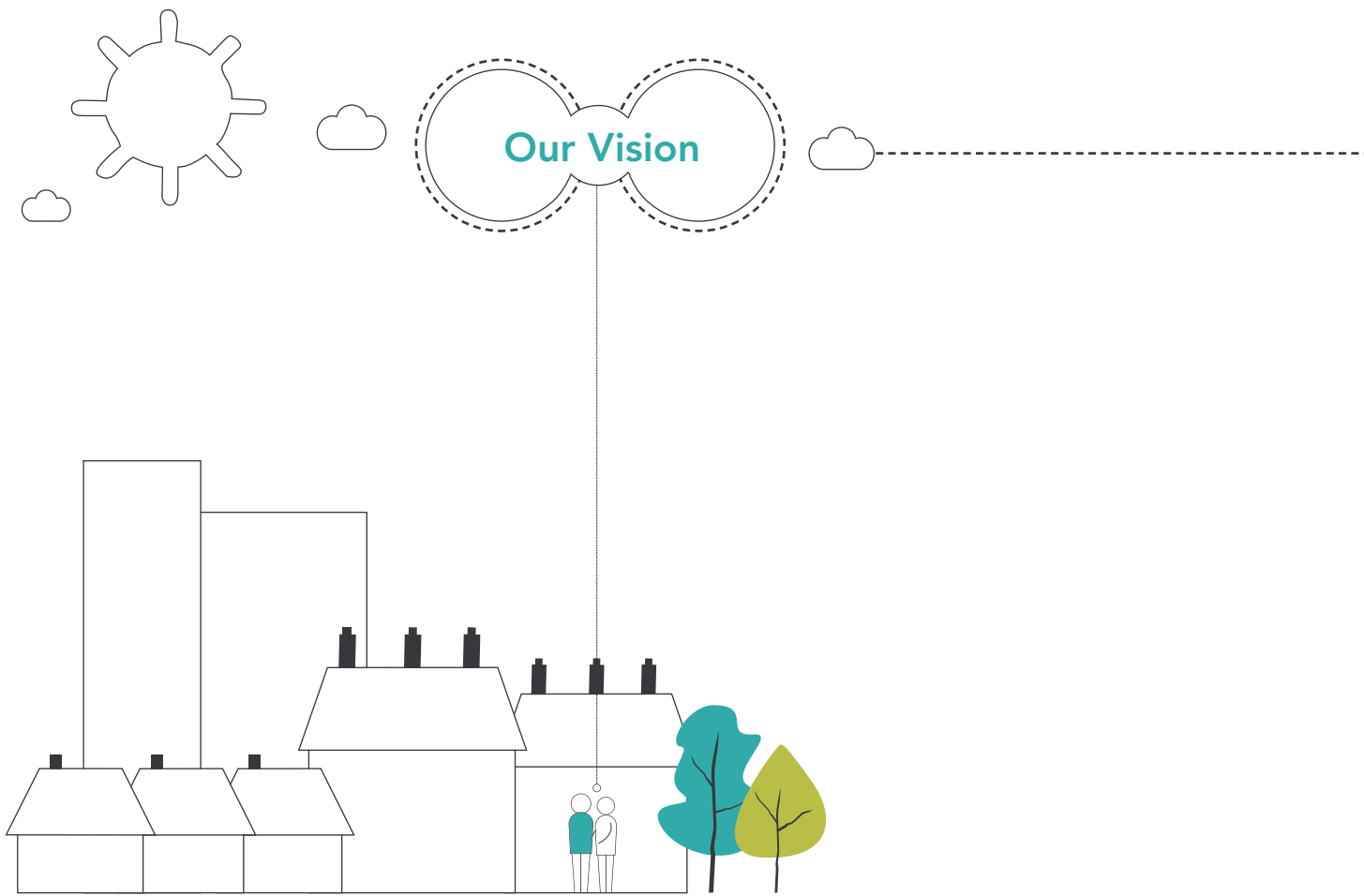


Belfast a Learning City



A Learning Charter for Belfast
Putting people at the heart of learning





Belfast is a city where learning is valued in all its forms and promoted as a force for improved personal, social, civic and economic change in the city.

All citizens of Belfast have equal access to Lifelong Learning opportunities, creating conditions for a better quality of life for everyone in the city.



Contents

Foreword by Belfast Strategic Partnership Co-Chairs	5
Introduction by the Chairperson of the Lifelong Learning Thematic Group	6
Lifelong Learning Thematic Group: Key areas of work	8
A Strategic Framework for Lifelong Learning in Belfast	9
The Learning Charter for Belfast	12
Belfast Works - a key demonstration of the Learning Charter in practice	14
Communications Plan	16
Research	17
Making a Difference	17
Leadership and Governance	18
Links across the Belfast Strategic Partnership	19
Appendices	22
Appendix 1: Belfast Strategic Partnership (BSP)	23
Appendix 2: BSP – Central Priority	24
Contact Details	25

"...all learning activity undertaken throughout life with the aim of improving knowledge, skills and competence within a personal, civic, social and/or employment related perspective."



Foreword by Belfast Strategic Partnership Co-Chairs

As Belfast Strategic Partnership (BSP) Co-Chairs we are delighted to launch this strategy document 'Belfast a Learning City, produced by the BSP's Lifelong Learning Thematic Group.

We believe Lifelong Learning plays a powerful role in creating a more equal, just and inclusive society and we endorse the vision of Belfast as a Learning City for all citizens.

Learning is much more than a route to employment, and it is significant that this strategy is built on the EU definition of learning which is:

"...all learning activity undertaken throughout life with the aim of improving knowledge, skills and competence within a personal, civic, social and/or employment related perspective."

Lifelong Learning can transform cities and citizens in many ways. Cities with a strong learning imperative have proven to be more successful in economic, social and cultural terms. Learning helps harness and foster a stronger sense of belonging for citizens in Belfast, and builds community cohesion. It fosters ownership and loyalty to the city itself.

We endorse the vision of Belfast as a Learning City for citizens of all ages and from all social and cultural backgrounds. We wish to raise the aspirations of citizens and in particular those of our citizens who face multiple barriers in accessing learning, whether these are caused by poor health, lack of confidence, childcare access, poor support networks, or through poverty, racism, prejudice and discrimination. Lifelong Learning needs to be tailored to the needs of all.

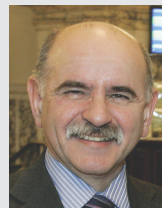
In raising aspirations, by removing barriers and increasing opportunities for learning we will also build and strengthen resilience within the city, a key goal across all BSP work.

We welcome the development of the Learning Charter which underpins the aspirations and actions needed to develop Belfast as a Learning City.

We will ask our partners in BSP to sign up to this Charter and thereby commit to a set of guiding principles and actions which will establish Belfast as a city with a strong and vibrant culture of learning.

We will build on the partnerships that exist across the city, and we will harness our collective knowledge, experience, skills, creativity and resources to achieve our vision.

Everyone will have a part to play.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eddie Rooney'.

Dr Eddie Rooney

Chief Executive Officer
Public Health Agency
Co-Chair, Belfast Strategic Partnership



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Suzanne Wylie'.

Suzanne Wylie

Chief Executive Officer
Belfast City Council
Co-Chair, Belfast Strategic Partnership



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael McBride'.

Dr Michael McBride

Chief Executive Officer
Belfast Health and Social Care Trust
Co-Chair, Belfast Strategic Partnership

Introduction

Lifelong Learning Thematic Group

It is my pleasure on behalf of the Belfast Strategic Partnership's (BSP's) Lifelong Learning Thematic Group to introduce 'Belfast a Learning City' in which we set out our vision of Belfast where learning is used as a positive force to expand and enhance life chances for all citizens of all ages in Belfast.

We believe that Belfast already has the key elements to become a centre of learning excellence and this strategy and BSP have a crucial role to play in creating the conditions needed to make this a reality.

We recognise the importance of addressing economic disadvantage through learning developments both in accessing the labour market and as a mechanism for progression at the workplace, but equally we champion learning as a tool for life to increase citizens confidence, resilience and sense of belonging, and to strengthen community cohesion across the city. A BSP 'Have Your Say Belfast' 2012 survey indicated that 23% of respondents identified the need to have greater levels of confidence in order to help them feel better about themselves.

There are significant challenges to the implementation of this strategy, we know that there are many good examples of quality learning opportunities across the city and we know that a significant proportion of the Belfast population is not reaping the rewards of what Belfast's learning environment has to offer; there are deep and persistent inequalities in the city and many areas have experienced high levels of poverty and stubborn deprivation with little or no change over the last number of decades.

From work carried out by the Lifelong Learning Thematic Group and other BSP thematic areas, we also know that:

- There is a commitment by central government to Lifelong Learning across seven government departments and 20 separate strategies, all contained in the current Programme for Government but no single focus to harness those efforts and align them to Lifelong Learning objectives and targets for the city.
- There is a wide range of programmes and initiatives in operation across Belfast but no shared outcomes. Also, inconsistencies in the collection of monitoring information make it impossible to conclusively map Lifelong Learning provision, uptake of services and therefore to measure collective impact across the city.
- Almost a fifth of Belfast residents have no qualifications and projections indicate that 50% of future jobs will require degree level or higher qualifications, yet many graduates are currently under-employed in low level jobs. This skills mismatch needs to be addressed for Belfast both to remain a key economic driver for the region and to reduce inequality across the city.

Based on our work and research, we believe that we can better address the needs of Belfast citizens and deliver better outcomes for the city through a targeted, focused and collaborative approach to Lifelong Learning.

A key demonstration of this approach will be the establishment of the Learning Charter for Belfast, which will be a working testament to planning agreed approaches across the city involving all key stakeholders.

We also call for a new strategic alliance to be formed to agree shared outcomes and establish a 'Belfast Works' approach as a key example of how the Learning Charter can work in practice. This new approach will entail a targeted citywide employability and personal support programme for those groups experiencing multiple barriers in accessing the labour market.

We believe this new strategic and joined up approach will positively impact upon the health inequalities that are being experienced by a significant proportion of the Belfast population.

'Belfast a Learning City' can shape a positive proactive agenda for change in tackling inequality across the city and can act as a catalyst across central government lines and demonstrably shine as an example of strategic collaborative planning for the region and wider afield.

We encourage you all to help shape 'Belfast a Learning City' and sign up to the Learning Charter. Share this with your colleagues, friends and other organisations, who can help build a better future for Belfast. Your active support is invaluable.

Finally I would like to thank my fellow Thematic Group members for their dedication and commitment to the work of the Lifelong Learning strand of the Belfast Strategic Partnership and look forward to your continued involvement.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D Power". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Danny Power

Chairperson
Belfast Strategic Partnership
Lifelong Learning Thematic Group

Lifelong Learning Thematic Group

Over a two year period we have identified four key areas of work as our focus to ensuring we realise the vision of 'Belfast a Learning City'.

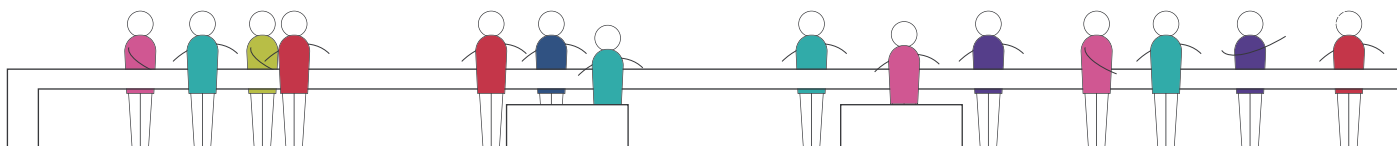
key areas of work

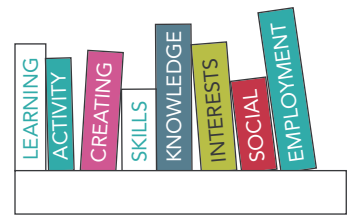
To develop a Strategic Framework for Lifelong Learning in Belfast with underpinning values, ethics and principles.

To use the Strategic Framework to develop the Learning Charter for Belfast, which sets out the objectives and related actions needed to establish Belfast as a Learning City.

To develop 'Belfast Works' as a key demonstration of how the Learning Charter can work in practice - a targeted citywide employability and personal support programme for those groups experiencing multiple barriers in accessing the labour market.

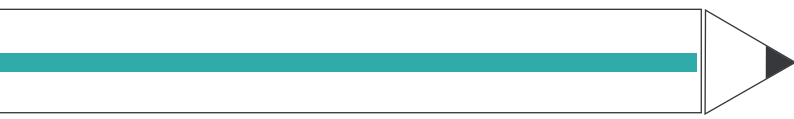
To develop a Communications Plan with clear, consistent and positive messages, which will support and promote Belfast as a Learning City and highlight the importance of Lifelong Learning for all citizens of Belfast.





A Strategic Framework for Lifelong Learning in Belfast

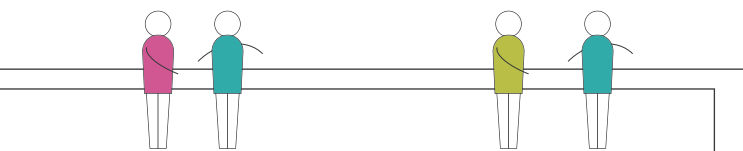
We have developed a Strategic Framework for Lifelong Learning in Belfast based on the EU definition of Lifelong Learning which is



This EU definition also provides us with the following values, ethics and principles that underpin the Strategic Framework:

- Valuing all forms of learning
- Creating a learning culture
- Facilitating access to learning opportunities
- Acquiring and updating all kinds of abilities, interests, knowledge and qualifications
- Striving for excellence
- Partnership working
- Insight into the demand for learning
- Adequate resourcing.

"...all learning activity undertaken throughout life with the aim of improving knowledge, skills and competence within a personal, civic, social and/or employment related perspective."



Strategic Objectives

- 1 To create a learning culture for the city of Belfast that recognises and values all forms of learning
- 2 To develop an inclusive, innovative and strategic approach to Lifelong Learning through partnership working, which maximises the reach and impact of all available resources
- 3 To promote collaborative working between key stakeholders to ensure equality of access to Lifelong Learning opportunities and to inform excellence in the design and development of Lifelong Learning provision
- 4 To realign current and future skills provision with Northern Ireland's economic needs.

These objectives form the pillars of the Learning Charter, set out below, and are the key drivers for 'Belfast a Learning City'.

Changing the way we work together

Our partners in BSP have endorsed 'Belfast a Learning City' and have committed to its vision and guiding principles. All partners are needed to make the vision a reality, both individually through organisational activities, and collectively through enhanced cooperation and collaboration, **"...changing the way we work together"** as outlined in the BSP mission. A demonstration of this commitment will be signing up to the Learning Charter for Belfast.



Matching skills with economic needs

Accessibility and excellence in provision



The Learning Charter for Belfast

This Learning Charter has been drawn up to ensure that all organisations involved in delivering Lifelong Learning across the city can sign up to a set of guiding principles and related actions to establish Belfast as a Learning City.

Through collaboration, all organisations in the city which provide opportunities for learning can maximise the investment they make and promote Belfast as a Learning City for all.

The Learning Charter sets out the basis for this collaboration, with a set of key principles and related actions which underpin a learning culture, and we ask organisations to pledge their commitment to the key principles and related actions set out below.

The Learning Charter will provide an opportunity to create a binding agreement for key partners and providers across Belfast, with clear principles for provision, engagement, access, and commitment to:

Creating clear pathways for entry and progression routes for learners

Creating easier access for learners at all levels and across all ages

Promoting best practice in Lifelong Learning, fostering connectivity, debate and knowledge sharing

Influencing policy and practice

Addressing economic disadvantage through advocating for the Living Wage and creation of real jobs.

We are committed to signing up to the following guiding principles and related actions.

1 Creating a learning culture for the city of Belfast that recognises and values all forms of learning

- Ensuring learning is for all citizens of all age groups, with equality of access and availability across the city
- Creating and adopting a common brand and messaging around learning in the city
- Recognising and promoting all forms of learning within our organisations
- Developing and supporting local learning ambassadors
- Disseminating information and good practice case studies to increase effective learning
- Developing a set of shared frameworks on pathways to learning
- Promoting resilience through Lifelong Learning.

2 Developing an inclusive, innovative and strategic approach to Lifelong Learning through partnership working which maximises the reach and impact of all available resources

- Developing and participating in a Belfast Learning City Forum which values mutual respect and meaningful collaboration
- Developing and updating website information on Lifelong Learning opportunities in Belfast
- Using available research and highlighting any gaps
- Promoting where technology can enhance Lifelong Learning
- Sharing research and other evidence in a central e-library for Belfast.

3 Promoting collaborative working between key stakeholders that ensures equality of access to Lifelong Learning opportunities and informs excellence in the design and development of Lifelong Learning provision

- Identifying, developing and working towards shared quality standards
- Increasing diversity among learners, promoting inclusion
- Ensuring that support for transition stages for learners is built into learning provision
- Creating listening and reflection loops with learners to shape and enhance our services
- Engaging with learners to increase and refine responses to their needs
- Promoting best practice in Lifelong Learning
- Fostering connectivity, debate and knowledge sharing.

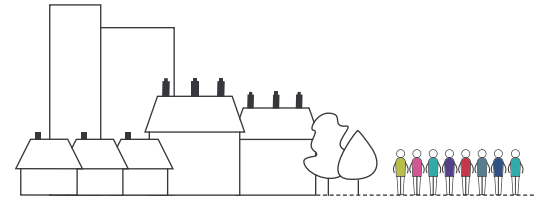
4 Realigning current and future skills with Northern Ireland’s economic needs

- Contributing effectively to the economic and social success of the city
- Listening to employers on their needs for recruitment and in work support
- Addressing the needs of those with no or low skills or qualifications
- Assisting the under-employed to achieve their potential
- Sharing targets and outcomes
- Connecting with and influencing government and the private sector on the specific needs of Belfast
- Promoting continued workplace learning and upskilling
- Connecting with and influencing educators on current and future Northern Ireland economic needs
- Advocating for the Living Wage and the creation of real jobs.

Signed	Organisation/ On behalf of	Date
--------	-------------------------------	------

I/We endorse and commit to the above and herewith will undertake to actively participate in helping to make Belfast a Learning City for all.

Belfast Works – a Key Demonstration of the Learning Charter in Practice



We aim to develop a new and innovative approach to addressing the employability and skills needs of those groups experiencing multiple barriers in accessing the labour market in Belfast, within a supportive non-threatening context.

The Lifelong Learning Thematic Group considered the Glasgow Works model as a potential model for application in Belfast. The group investigated the development of Glasgow Works to gain an overview and an analysis of its strategic and operational structures and key lessons for possible application in Belfast.

The key learning summary from Glasgow Works highlighted:

- A new step change approach to funding, coordinating and prioritising is essential
- This approach is not just about employment but pathways for those in priority groups (e.g. Black and Minority Ethnic groups, over 50s, young people, long-term unemployed)
- An emphasis on Lifelong Learning, skills and personal circumstances with a more flexible, coordinated and person centred approach
- City targets are essential along with subdivision to area targets and specific group targets
- Robust central monitoring and tracking
- Coordination, buy-in and collaboration across sectors and agencies and from strategic to local delivery
- A key concentration on health
- A specific concentration on engagement with employers.

There will be four distinct elements:

- Direct employment
- Placements provided
- A continuum of distinct entry points and progression routes
- Social and personal support programmes / interventions.

We aim to secure commitment for:

- Belfast City Council to lead on an Integrated Economic Strategy, and an Employability and Skills Strategy for Belfast, and to incorporate the Belfast Works component within these strategies
- BSP partners to provide placements and employment opportunities for the specific target groups in the Belfast Works initiative
- Ensuring that target groups are involved in developing the Belfast Works initiative in Belfast
- A new partnership between health and employability services.

Four Distinct Elements

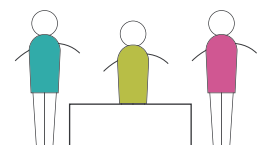
Direct
employment

Placements
provided

A continuum
of distinct entry
points and
progression
routes

Social and
personal support
programmes /
interventions

"My teacher was like a mentor to me. She gave me confidence to do something different and taught me the importance of not limiting my aspirations, no matter where you come from."



A Communications Plan

We aim to develop a Communications Plan with clear, consistent and positive messages, which will support and promote 'Belfast a Learning City' and highlight the importance of Lifelong Learning for all citizens of Belfast.

The plan will support us to:

- Raise awareness of 'Belfast a Learning City' and the Learning Charter with all stakeholder groups
- Communicate and promote positive coverage of Lifelong Learning information on a regular basis
- Communicate and promote Lifelong Learning developments to the Northern Ireland Assembly and all relevant Departments.

Key messages for Lifelong Learning:

Addressing life inequalities: the importance of ensuring access to Lifelong Learning opportunities for all citizens of Belfast and at all life stages. The need for BSP to act as a champion for addressing barriers and to lobby for change.

Economic: the prospects for the economic future of Belfast are at a crucial juncture. Without the much-needed investment and crucial work carried out by Lifelong Learning, another generation could be lost in Belfast, and by implication to Northern Ireland. This would also result in a huge impact on the wider Belfast and Northern Ireland economies, which can ill-afford to let an area of this size and population fail economically.

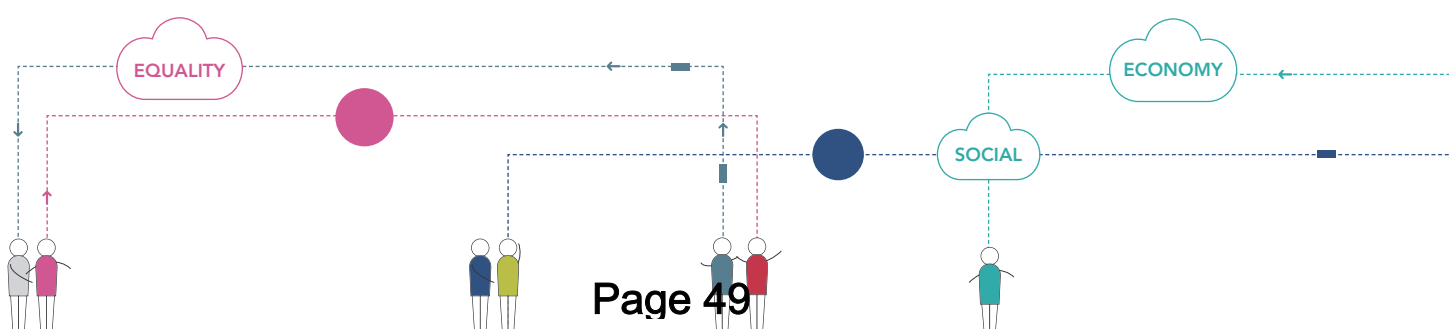
Long-term dividends from investment: relatively small investment now will result in considerable savings to the public purse in the medium to long-term. We emphasise the 'value for money' argument and the economic imperative to do things differently, particularly in relation to skills development.

Social Inclusion: Belfast bore a heavy burden of violence and social and economic deprivation in the Troubles. Legacies of economic disadvantage, social exclusion and marginalised groups and communities need to be addressed.

Increase Emotional Resilience and improve quality of life: the importance of understanding and valuing learning which provides tools for life, supports personal growth, self confidence, self-esteem and strengthens personal and social support networks. Emotional Resilience refers to an individual's ability to adapt to stressful situations or crises that may have occurred in the past, present or into the future.

Programme for Government: many of the priorities laid out in the Northern Ireland Assembly's Programme for Government can be addressed through 'Belfast a Learning City' and the Learning Charter.

A tool for social change: the transformative power of Lifelong Learning for individual citizens and communities cannot be overestimated. It will also promote active and inclusive citizenship.



Research

In order to add to what we know about Lifelong Learning in Belfast, we will need to take forward the following areas of research:

Ongoing work in identifying the key gaps and needs in Lifelong Learning, and mechanisms for monitoring progress, in areas such as:

- The barriers and multiple barriers experienced by those groups/communities with a poor uptake of Lifelong Learning opportunities
- Best practice examples of overcoming these barriers
- The current and future work 'lean' for skills and employment needs in Belfast
- The current and future support needs of those experiencing multiple barriers in accessing the labour market in Belfast.

We will work with a wide range of government departments who have a portfolio for Lifelong Learning. We will also work with local community based providers to ensure provision is appropriate to the needs of our target groups, and to lobby for resources and support for community based provision.

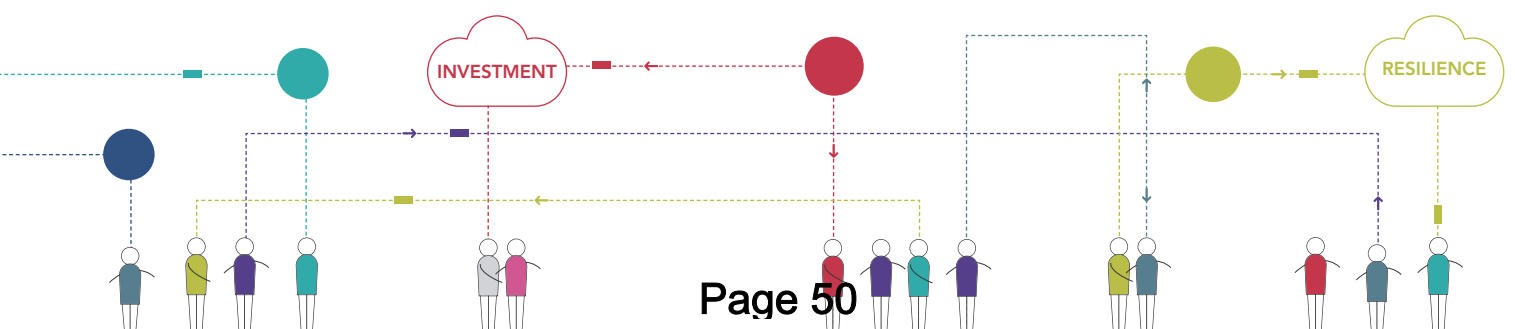
"Taking part is helping me fight my depression."

Making a Difference

We will know we are making a difference by measuring the following improvements:

- More people feeling that they are treated with respect and dignity in education, employment, skills and personal development environments
- Increased uptake and retention rates for targeted initiatives, with more visible access and progression services
- Increased feelings of a locus of control in learning environments by more disadvantaged and marginalised groups
- A reduction in the current levels of worklessness among specific target groups in Belfast
- Increased feelings of belonging for citizens within local communities and in Belfast as a city
- Increased Emotional Resilience for citizens of Belfast.

"I have complex physical and mental health problems but since I joined the project I've been able to look outside myself, help others, be creative and have a better social life!"



Leadership and governance arrangements for 'Belfast a Learning City' will be provided by Belfast Strategic Partnership.

The Lifelong Learning Thematic Group will coordinate related actions against specific timescales with agreed resources.

Its members are drawn from the following organisations:

- Ashton Community Trust
- Belfast City Council
- Belfast Education and Library Board
- Belfast Health and Social Care Trust
- Belfast Metropolitan College
- Council for Catholic Maintained Schools
- Department for Employment and Learning
- Department for Social Development
- Gems NI
- Healthy Ageing Strategic Partnership
- North Belfast Partnership Board
- Queen's University Belfast
- The Frank Gillen Centre

The Belfast Health Development Unit provides support to the Lifelong Learning Thematic Group through a Lead Officer and additional support as needed.

The membership of the Lifelong Learning Thematic Group is reviewed on an annual basis, in line with the Terms of Reference for the group.

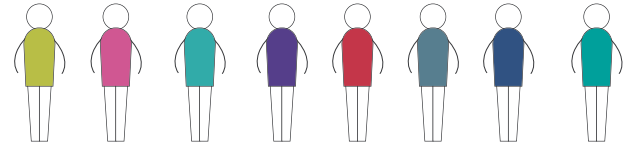


"After I retired I took up several classes, which helped my personal development. Thanks to computer classes I'm one up on my grandchildren when it comes to computers!"

Links with Belfast Strategic Partnership (BSP) Thematic Areas and Cross-Cutting Themes

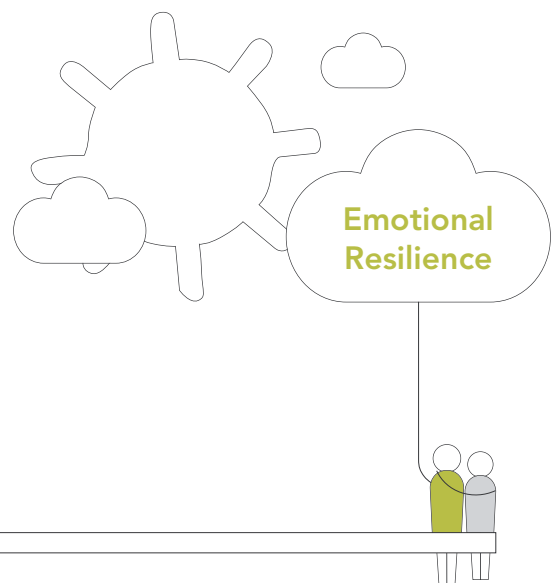
The (BSP) has identified Emotional Resilience as the thread that connects all of its areas of work. Emotional Resilience is defined as an ability to adapt to stressful situations or crises. To support this approach we have identified how 'Belfast a Learning City' supports and enhances Emotional Resilience, and how it links with other BSP areas of work:

- 'Belfast a Learning City' promotes the importance of learning as a tool for life and highlights how learning can be used to improve the quality of life for marginalised, vulnerable and disadvantaged individuals and groups in Belfast thus supporting the BSP Emotional Resilience Strategy.
- 'Belfast a Learning City' promotes a person centred approach to learning and this will take into account individual and family support needs to ensure maximum engagement in learning situations. Elements of Belfast Works will include building confidence and self-esteem. This approach supports the BSP Emotional Resilience Strategy.
- 'Belfast a Learning City' puts people at the heart of learning and sets out to create accessible, welcoming, respectful and supportive learning environments. This approach will support the BSP Emotional Resilience Strategy by increasing learners' sense of ownership, responsibility, enjoyment and sense of control in their learning process.
- 'Belfast a Learning City' is Age-friendly and for all life stages; it will link with the Age – friendly Belfast Plan to ensure we work to meet the needs of older people as a specific target group.



- 'Belfast a Learning City' promotes the need for more opportunities for disadvantaged marginalised groups to participate in Lifelong Learning opportunities. Therefore it will contribute to enhancing community capacity, civic participation and social inclusion agendas.
- 'Belfast a Learning City' will lobby to ensure the Living Wage is part of the Belfast Works initiative and therefore supports the BSP agenda to tackle poverty.
- The 'Belfast Works' approach includes a citywide strategy, which will offer participants opportunities to travel to different areas of the city. This supports the vision and aim of the Belfast Active Travel Action Plan to connect people and places across the city in a realistic, affordable and more accessible manner for all.

"Flexibility on stopping and starting when I had my first child helped me when I might have given up on a career."



Belfast a Learning City

Engaging with people as active partners in learning

Harnessing learners' assets and life experiences in the learning environment

Listening and acting on learners' feedback and experiences

Respecting the different ways of learning

Supporting learning in safe, accessible learning environments

Maintaining learners' optimum levels of physical, emotional and mental wellbeing



Including learners' views in our plans

Providing high quality and responsive services

Respecting the different cultures within our society

Providing opportunities for learners to shape our services

Helping partners understand learners' needs

Supporting learners with the challenges of formal learning





Appendices

Appendix 1: Belfast Strategic Partnership

Belfast Strategic Partnership

The Belfast Strategic Partnership (BSP) was established by the Public Health Agency (PHA), Belfast City Council (BCC) and Belfast Health and Social Care Trust (BHSCT) to provide a collaborative approach in addressing life inequalities in Belfast.

The BSP is led by the three Chief Executive Officers and has representation from a wide range of organisations, including the community, statutory, voluntary and private sectors.

The aim of the BSP is ***“to champion and lead the case for tackling life inequalities across all communities in the Belfast area.”***

Belfast Health Development Unit

The Belfast Health Development Unit (BH DU) supports and drives the work of the BSP and will support the delivery of the Framework for Action.

Vision

‘All people and communities in Belfast can confidently expect to have access to the opportunities and resources they need to live longer, healthier lives.’

Mission

‘To reduce life inequalities and improve the health and wellbeing of people in Belfast by changing the way we work together. We do this by jointly harnessing the enthusiasm, efficiency and experience of our stakeholders to seek health and wellbeing gains in ways that we cannot do by working alone.’

Purpose

- To shape the future health and wellbeing priorities for Belfast
- To foster and take advantage of strategic opportunities to achieve better health outcomes
- To work together on areas where we can achieve the most impact
- To inform and influence future policy development
- To focus on the prevention of ill-health
- To develop and deliver an overarching health and wellbeing action plan for the city.

Key Principles

To successfully reduce inequality and address the wider determinants of health we must:

- Maximise our combined impact by working better together
- Be accountable to others based on the results of our work
- Base our decisions and actions on evidence and learning from others
- Be open to innovative approaches and be prepared to work differently
- Encourage the active involvement of all stakeholders and strengthen relationships
- Build on the success of existing partnerships and programmes of work
- Engage with communities and seek to contribute to Community Planning
- Make effective use of our collective resources through better joint planning and priority setting
- Drive Equity in Health and Wellbeing through all of our policies
- Share our learning to change the way the public sector works.

Appendix 2: Belfast Strategic Partnership - Central Priority

The central priority of the Belfast Strategic Partnership is to strengthen the emotional wellbeing and resilience of individuals and communities in Belfast. Emotional Resilience refers to an individual's ability to adapt to stressful situations or crises that may have occurred in the past, present or into the future.

Belfast Works is one of Belfast Strategic Partnership's Key Demonstration Projects, contributing to the building of Emotional Resilience. See Diagram 1 below.

Diagram 1: Key demonstration projects - contribution to Emotional Resilience





**Making life better,
together**
Belfast Strategic Partnership

Focusing on Life Inequalities

The Belfast Strategic Partnership is committed to making information as accessible as possible and to promoting meaningful engagement. Requests for this publication in another format or language will be considered.

**For further information on
this publication please contact:**

Dolores Atkinson
Project Development Outreach Officer
Belfast Health Development Unit
5th Floor
9 Lanyon Place
Belfast, BT1 3LP.

**Email: Dolores.atkinson@bhdu.org
Tel: 028 9050 2073
www.makinglifebettertogether.com**

Putting people at the heart of learning

Published by Belfast Strategic Partnership: 02/15

Membership application for the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities (GNLC)

Part 1 (to be filled in by the city)

Your city

Name of city:

Country:

Official city website: _____

Mayor

Ms Mr

Full name (surname, first name):

Exact official title: _____

Contact person for the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities

Ms Mr

Full name (surname, first name):

Exact official title:

Organization (if other than municipality):

Postal address:

Postcode:

Telephone number (including country code):

Fax number (including country code):

Email address:

Language of communication: English French

The City of _____ hereby applies to join the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities. With this application, the city pledges to support the objectives and activities of the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities by adopting its key documents, the [Beijing Declaration on Building Learning Cities](#) and the [Key Features of Learning Cities](#).

Date:

Mayor's signature and official stamp: _____

Your city profile

Please note that the information you provide will be displayed on the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities website (learningcities.uil.unesco.org) once your city's application has been processed by the UNESCO GNLC Coordination Team.

	Data	Year
Population of your city		
Area of your city (in square kilometres)		
GDP per capita in your city (in US dollars)		
GDP per capita in your country (in US dollars)		
Average number of years of schooling in your city		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Men 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women 		

What is your motivation for adopting the learning city concept?

Please describe your city's social context and motivation for becoming a learning city (max. 200 words).

How does your city implement or plan to implement the learning city concept?

Please give an introduction to your city's actions and provide links to available reports or additional information (max. 200 words).

Your interests and expertise

What challenges do you face in your city?

Please rate the degree of the challenges you face in your city on a scale from 1–5, where 1 = no challenge and 5 = substantial challenge	1	2	3	4	5
Individual empowerment and social cohesion					
Economic development and cultural prosperity					
Sustainability					
Others (please specify):					

In which areas would you like support and in which areas is your city a pioneer?

Please tick the appropriate box.	The city would like support	The city is a pioneer
Inclusive learning in the education system	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Learning in families and communities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Learning in the workplace	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Extensive use of modern learning technologies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Creating a widespread culture of learning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improving governance and participation of all stakeholders	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Boosting resource mobilization and utilization	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Others (please specify):	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Part 2 (to be filled in by the National Commission for UNESCO)

The National Commission for UNESCO in _____ hereby endorses the application of the City of _____ to become a member of the Global Network of Learning Cities.

Name of the representative of the National Commission for UNESCO:

.....
Signature and date:

Thank you for your application.

Please note:

1. Once your city has completed Part 1 of this form, please email it to the **National Commission for UNESCO in your country and send a copy to the Coordination Team of the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities at UIL (learningcities@unesco.org)**. For the National Commissions' contact information, please visit the **[Database of National Commissions for UNESCO](#)**.
2. Once the **National Commission for UNESCO** has endorsed your membership by signing the application (Part 2), it will forward the complete application to the Coordination Team of the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities at UIL (learningcities@unesco.org) and send a copy to you.
3. Cities wishing to provide an initial voluntary contribution to support the activities of the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities should contact the Coordination Team of the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities at UIL by email or by post.

UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning

Coordination Team of the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities

Feldbrunnenstrasse 58, 20148 Hamburg, Germany

Tel: +49 (0)40 44 80 41 11 Fax: +49 (0)40 410 77 23

Email: learningcities@unesco.org

Website: <http://learningcities.uil.unesco.org>

Appendix 3: Examples of activity undertaken by BSP co-sponsors to be featured in Lifelong Learning Plan

Belfast City Council

- Hospitality Employment Academy

As part of the Belfast Employability Pathway Model we've developed a new employability programme to help unemployed residents across the city to develop the necessary skills needed to gain employment opportunities within the hospitality sector. The academy includes a two week intensive training programme to give participants the skills they need to access a range of entry level positions within the hospitality sector. In addition to developing new skills participants are matched to employment opportunities and as a minimum are guaranteed interviews with employers with job opportunities available. The success of this model has resulted in the Council developing similar models for a range of sectors including the construction, healthcare, retail sector amongst others.
- Support for Employability Projects

Presently the Council supports five European Social Fund (ESF) employability projects and two other match funded employability projects which aim to increase workforce skills primarily targeting those furthest removed from the labour market. Interventions include job clinics, legal and debt advice as well as work placements, into-work support and skills development. The outcomes of these projects are focused upon progression into employment, self-employment and/or further training. Through these projects approximately 3,000 individuals are engaged per with around 800 progressing into employment annually.
- Outreach Activities

Delivery of sport-focused outreach pilots, delivered by Sport Changes Life and Active Communities Network. These early engagement interventions primarily target young people and school children at risk of disengaging with formal education, training and/or employment. The focus of these programmes is primarily to support individuals to become positively engaged and address personal barriers with the aim of getting them to progress towards positive destinations through education, employment and/or volunteering – and possibly referring on to other support interventions
- Entrepreneurship Support

Through enterprise outreach activities, the Go For It and Go Social programme the Council is supporting Belfast residents to develop the aspiration and skills required to start a new business or social enterprise. Open to all residents across the city the programmes of support are free to access and include a menu of provision to support individuals develop new business ideas and take the steps towards starting a business.
- Super Connected Communities

Through the IT hubs projects opportunities exist for Belfast residents to develop their IT skills across a number of venues across the city. Through a Saturday IT club young people aged 8-15 years old are given the opportunity to learn how to code, build apps, games and Lego Minecraft.
- Waste Education & Recycling Programmes

Through the Council's Waste Management Team workshops are delivered to help educate and entertain pupils about litter and the impact it has on the world around them.

Public Health Agency

- Healthwise programme

To introduce people who are inactive to regular physical activity in a friendly, comfortable and safe environment. Targeted support for those at risk of cardiovascular disease, those with mild to moderate levels of anxiety, stress, depression, and diabetes. The project involves multi partners in Belfast including PHA, GP's and 13 Leisure/Health and wellbeing centres

The expected outcomes of the project are as follows:

- Better quality of life and increased life expectancy for target groups
- Reduction in weight
- Reduced blood pressure
- Reduction in stress and anxiety
- Increased emotional resilience
- Improved health and well being

Belfast Health and Social Care Trust (BHSCT)

- Cook It! programmes

A practical nutrition education programme aimed at encouraging those cooking on a **limited budget** to enhance their cooking skills and learn more about a balanced diet. It is delivered in local communities and those trained then go on to deliver the programme to their own group. This programme has been further adapted for particular groups including those with disabilities, those with health issues and families on low incomes:

- "I can Cook it!" for groups of adults with mild to moderate learning disabilities who want to enhance their cooking skills and are interested in healthier eating, especially where cost is a consideration.
- "Choose to lose" is community based, peer support, weight loss programme for adults designed to be delivered in a group setting in order to empower overweight/obese participants to achieve and maintain a healthy weight.
- "Food Values" - a food budgeting programme which aims to make healthier food choices more accessible on a limited budget. The programme focuses on food shopping, better budgeting and experience of cooking low cost nutritional meals
- Dig it and eat it! A community-based fruit, vegetable and herb growing programme. It aims to help participants (adults or children) grow their own produce and learn about a healthy lifestyle at the same time.

The expected outcomes of the project are to support healthier eating and healthier lifestyles for target groups including families living on limited budgets. The delivery partnership for the programme includes the BHSCT and community partners.

- The Give and Take Scheme

This is a ring fenced employment initiative implemented by human resources at the BHSCT which supports young people into paid work. It is designed to offer concrete opportunities to assist young people leaving care to prepare for and engage in work. This includes opportunities for tours, work tasters, extended work placements, training and employment chances, young people leaving care are matched to these. This improves the culture of education, employment and training and makes sure that there is a steady flow of information and signposting to those working with young people and enhances the roles of social workers and personal advisers. The organisation "Include Youth" is a key partner in this initiative.



Subject:	Capital Programme Update – Proposed movements/additions
Date:	18 th August 2017
Reporting Officer:	Gerry Millar, Director of Finance and Resources Ronan Cregan, Deputy Chief Executive
Contact Officer:	Sinead Grimes, Programme Office Manager

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"/>
Some time 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 or Summary of main Issues
1.1	The Council’s Capital Programme is a rolling programme of investment which either improves existing Council facilities or provides new facilities. This report outlines for Members proposed movements on the programme and proposed additions.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	Members are asked to – Capital Programme - Project Movements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ agree that the following projects are moved to Stage 3- Committed –Schemes at tender

preparation stage and agree that the necessary procurement processes (including the invitation of tenders and/or the use of appropriate 'framework' arrangements) be initiated as required with contracts to be awarded on the basis of most economically advantageous tender received and full commitment to deliver–

- **City Hall West Wing - Outdoor Space including the Cenotaph – Upgrade and Enhancements** (see 3.4) – with a **maximum budget of £200,000** to be allocated to ensure easier access for disabled and elderly veterans - the Director of Finance & Resources has confirmed that this is within the affordability limits of the Council.
Members are advised that an investment decision on this project must be taken in August 2017 in order to allow for the works to be started after the 2017 Remembrance Sunday and completed in time for the Somme Commemoration in July 2018. Upgrading the cenotaph has special significance next year to marks the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I
- **IT Programme - Bereavement Services System** (see 3.6) - with a **maximum budget of £50,000** to be allocated - the Director of Finance & Resources has confirmed that this is within the affordability limits of the Council.
- agree that the following projects are added as **Stage 1 – Emerging Projects**
 - **Relocation of the Dunbar Link Cleansing Depot** (see 3.9) – following the decision to acquire Commission House in January 2017 this will allow the options for the wider Dunbar site to be worked up including the options for the relocation of the current cleansing depot. Members are asked to note that this does not constitute an investment decision nor a decision to close the depot at the current time and that Members will be kept up to date on the options
 - **Hammer Development Playground** (see 3.11) - In May Committee approved a negotiated financial settlement of £250,000 from the NIHE in relation to the replacement of Tudor Place Playground and it is **recommended that this project is now added to the Capital Programme to be funded by the ring-fenced financial settlement from the NIHE**

Capital Programme – Project Updates

- note the update in respect of the Belfast Streets Ahead 3 project as outlined in 3.12 below which has implications for the Council’s Cathedral Gardens project which is currently at Stage 2- Uncommitted on the programme

3.0

Main report

Key Issues

Proposed movements on/additions to the Capital Programme

3.3 Members have previously agreed that **all** capital projects must go through a **3 Stage process** where decisions on which projects progress are taken by SP&R. Members are asked to agree to the following movements as summarised below

Project	Overview	Stage
City Hall Outdoor Space including the Cenotaph and Memorial Gardens	Upgrade and Enhancements to facilitate access to the site Maximum of £200,000 to be allocated	Move to Stage 3- Committed
IT Programme – Bereavement Services System	Purchase of a new Bereavement Services System to replace the current 3 systems Maximum of £50,000 to be allocated	Move to Stage 3- Committed
Dunbar Link Depot Relocation	To examine the options in relation to the proposed relocation of Dunbar Link	Add as an Emerging Project
Hammer Development Playground	Upgrade and development of a new playground at the Hammer (to be funded from the ringfenced settlement from the NIHE in respect of Tudor Place)	Add as an Emerging Project

Move to Stage 3 – Committed

3.4 **City Hall West Wing - Outdoor Space including the Cenotaph and Memorial Gardens – Upgrade and Enhancements** –The project involves the enhancement and refurbishment of the existing Cenotaph and Memorial Gardens in the West area of the City Hall to help facilitate greater access for disabled and less mobile clients/visitors. There are two major events held during each year at the Cenotaph - the Somme Commemoration and Remembrance Sunday. These events take place in July and November respectively and are well attended by Elected Members and other VIPs and there is significant media coverage around these. Over the years veterans who participate in these services are becoming older and access is proving to become more difficult given the difference in site levels currently in existence within the Cenotaph area and Members will be aware that a number of complaints have been received by the Council in respect of lack of accessibility. The proposed upgrade works are therefore focused on enhancing accessibility to the site together with overall upgrades and include:

- Provision of two permanent ramps allowing better access to the Memorial Garden and the Cenotaph
- Maintenance and upgrade works including additional lighting, repainting of railings, specialist cleaning to the Cenotaph Memorial and repointing to all paving
- Provision of accessible access to Korean War Memorial directly from Memorial Gardens

Members are asked to note that 2018 sees a number of significant commemorative events in

the 'Decade of Centenaries' one of which being the 100th anniversary of the end of the World War I. A date which has particular significance and will attract considerable media coverage. **Members are asked to note that if the works on this project are to be completed in time for the Somme Commemoration in July 2018 then an investment decision on this project must be taken at the August Committee as works must begin in January 2018.**

3.5 It is now recommended that this project is progressed to Stage 3- Committed on the Capital Programme and the Director of Finance & Resources has recommended that a **maximum of £200,000 be allocated to this project** and has confirmed that this is within the affordability limits of the Council.

3.6 **IT Programme – Bereavement Services System** – The Bereavement Services, Cemeteries and Crematorium Central Office is responsible for the booking of all burials and cremations in the Council. At the moment the Service uses three separate systems to manage the processes around Cemeteries Management which are no longer fit for purpose and do not provide an effective or efficient way of managing the service. It has therefore been identified that there is a requirement for an effective information management system which will -

- Provide an accurate and efficient booking system, decreasing the risk of double booking, and safeguarding the Council's reputation;
- Provide a link to corporate financial systems, to ensure effective financial governance;
- Produce statistical information to departmental and corporate KPI's;
- Reduce reliance on manual processes and documentation, freeing officer time for the wider Bereavement Strategy;
- Provide the potential to develop service enhancements in relation to activities including online opportunities, memorial safety, tree burials etc. emerging from the Bereavement Strategy

The proposed new system will provide one integrated solution which would deliver the above functionality with the addition of online functionality to deliver service enhancement opportunities.

3.7 It is now recommended that this project is progressed to Stage 3- Committed on the Capital Programme and the Director of Finance & Resources has recommended that a **maximum of £50,000 be allocated to this project** and has confirmed that this is within the affordability limits of the Council.

3.8 Committee is further asked to **agree that the necessary procurement processes** (including the invitation of tenders and/or the use of appropriate 'framework' arrangements) for the two projects above be initiated with contracts to be awarded on the basis of most economically advantageous tenders received and full commitment to deliver

Add as Stage 1 – Emerging Project

- 3.9 **Proposed relocation of Dunbar Link Cleansing Depot** – Members will recall that in January 2017 they agreed the purchase of Commission House and that this is currently progressing. At the time Members were advised that Commission House was located in close proximity to the Council’s Dunbar Link Cleansing Depot and Council public car park located opposite the depot. **The depot and car park sites and the adjoining lands in private ownership, together with the Commission House site, could potentially provide a key city centre regeneration opportunity in this part of the city**, subject to the satisfactory relocation of the cleansing depot site. In addition Members were further advised that between the car park and the depot is Dunbar Street, an adopted road, which primarily serves only the car park and the block of properties (4 no. buildings) within which the cleansing depot is located, but that consideration could be giving to the abandonment of this small stretch of road in order to provide a larger regeneration site. Some initial discussions have taken place with the owner of the 2 adjoining sites with a view to potential redevelopment of the combined lands comprising the Council’s depot and car park sites and the privately owned sites.
- 3.10 **It is therefore recommended that the proposed relocation of the Dunbar Link Cleansing Depot is added to the Capital Programme which will allow the options in relation to the future of the site to be worked up.** This would include the car park site. Members are asked to note that this **does not constitute an investment decision or a decision to close and re-locate either Dunbar Link or the car-park** and that Members will be kept up to date in respect of the proposed options which emerge. It is recognised that Dunbar Link is still a working location and the car-park is in operation as a parking facility. Therefore the Property & Projects Department will also work closely with the City & Neighbourhoods Department and the City Centre Team in progressing options for the site.
- 3.11 **Hammer Development Playground** – In May Committee approved a negotiated financial settlement of £250,000 from the Northern Ireland Housing Executive in relation to an Agreement dated 7th August, 2000 for the replacement of Tudor Place Playground and approved proposals for this capital receipt to be ring-fenced for the provision of a new playground at the Hammer. **It is recommended that this project is now added to the Capital Programme to be funded by the ring-fenced financial settlement from the NIHE.**
- Project Updates**
- 3.12 **Cathedral Gardens** – In January 2016 the SP&R Committee endorsed their commitment to the redevelopment of Cathedral Gardens as part of Phase 3 of the Streets Ahead project (BSA3) and agree in principle to ringfence an allocation (up to a maximum of £5m) as part of this subject to final confirmation of the costs and a commitment from DfC for the delivery of

	<p>Streets Ahead 3. This project is currently a Stage 2- Uncommitted scheme on the capital programme pending confirmation from DFC on the project. Members are asked to note that the Council has recently received notification from DfC that given the continued uncertainty in respect of budgets in central government that the current procurement process for BSA3 is being terminated and that a new process will not commence until there is certainty around the budget position. The City Growth and Regeneration Committee this month expressed real concern about this decision by the Department for Communities and agreed to write to them asking that they reconsider this position. If they do not reconsider it is recommended that the redevelopment of Cathedral Gardens is held as a Stage 2 project pending confirmation of BSA3 being taken forward. Members will recall that it had been agreed that the Buoys would be relocated as part of the redevelopment and it is recommended that this still progresses.</p>
3.13	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p><i>Financial</i> –The Director of Finance and Resources has confirmed that the City Hall West Wing - Outdoor Space including the Cenotaph and Memorial Gardens – Upgrade and Enhancements and the IT Programme – Bereavement Services System projects which are recommended to move to Stage 3 (see 3.5 and 3.7) are within the affordability limits</p> <p>Costs for the other projects will be worked up as part of the Stage Approval process and brought back to Committee for further discussion before any decision to invest.</p> <p><i>Resources</i> – Resources from Property & Projects and appropriate departments in working up proposals in conjunction with groups.</p>
3.14	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p><i>City Hall West Wing - Outdoor Space including the Cenotaph and Memorial Gardens – Upgrade and Enhancements</i> – this project has been equality screened and has been screened out</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	None



Subject:	Leisure Transformation Programme: Assets Update
Date:	18 th August 2017
Reporting Officer:	Ronan Cregan, Deputy Chief Executive Gerry Millar, Director of Property & Projects
Contact Officer:	Sinead Grimes, Programme Office Manager

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"/>
Some time 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 or Summary of main Issues
1.1	This report updates Members on the development and implementation of the £105m leisure assets capital programme.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to note the contents of this report and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programme level budget – Avoniel and Templemore – note the update in respect of the current project estimates for Avoniel and Templemore as at 3.4-3.6 below and

approve the reallocation of £4m from Avoniel project towards the Templemore project providing an overall budget of £12m for Templemore and £8m for Avoniel (the previous agreed budgets being Templemore £8m and Avoniel £12m). Members are asked to note that this has no implications for the overall leisure budget which remains within the overall limit of £105m

- **Templemore** – approve the acquisition of the adjacent former hospital site from the Department for Communities at a nominal sum and on such other terms as agreed by the Director of Property and Projects and Town Solicitor in order to facilitate the development of the new Templemore (see 3.10 below)
- **Andersonstown** – note that the planning application for Andersonstown is due to be considered at the Planning Committee on 15th August and Members will be verbally updated at the meeting on 18th August

3.0 Main report

Programme level

Design cost budgets – Templemore and Avoniel

3.1 Members will also be aware that an overall affordability limit of £105m has been agreed for the Leisure Transformation Programme and in April 2015 Committee agreed the notional cost design limits for each of the projects under the Programme as below. It was also agreed that these projects would be phased as laid out in below.

CENTRE	DESIGN COST LIMIT	PHASE
Olympia	£19m	Phase 1A
Andersonstown	£25m	Phase 1B
Robinson	£20m	Phase 1B
Brook	£15m	Phase 1B
Avoniel	£12m	Phase 2
Templemore	£8m	Phase 2
Girdwood	£6m	Phase 2

3.2 A set of principles underpinning the leisure transformation programme has previously been agreed by Committee (see Appendix 1). As part of this Members agreed the need to develop a city wide strategy with a USP per centre that will encourage people to travel to centres from across the city and further afield. Given this Committee, in April 2016, agreed a USP strategy for the Programme as outlined below which was designed to ensure that **the city has a unique offering in terms of its leisure provision and minimises any duplication of provision ensuring both balanced investment and value for money.** It was noted by Committee at this stage that further work was to be carried out in respect of the USP for Girdwood and this work is continuing.

CENTRE	USP
Olympia	Sports Village

Andersonstown	Family fun leisure water
Brook	Outdoor Centre of Excellence
Robinson	Aquatic Centre
Avoniel	Outdoor Centre of Excellence
Templemore	Spa and heritage

3.3 In terms of the Phase 2 projects (Avoniel and Templemore) officers have continued to work these up since this time on the basis of the agreed USPs and the high level facilities mixes as agreed.

CENTRE	Facilities Mix
Templemore Spa and heritage USP	Heritage Lottery Funding sought Renovation of the existing building and new extension to include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 23m existing pool • 25m 6 lane pool with partial moveable floor • 150 pool spectator seating capacity • Extensive spa • Heritage & Interpretation offering • 80 station fitness suite
Avoniel Outdoor centre of excellence USP	Proposed to become a dry facility only with wet provision to be focused at Robinson and Templemore <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 covered 5-a-side pitches • 3 outdoor 5-a-side pitches • 3G football pitch • 4 team and 2 official changing • Multi-purpose and function room • Studios

3.4 Members will be aware that Templemore Baths is a listed building which is in a generally poor state of repair. The project is also proposing an extension to the existing centre on lands adjacent to the current site. Since the initial cost design limit was set in April 2015 officers have been progressing discussions with HLF in relation to securing funding to help renovate the existing building and in October 2016 Members were advised that the Council had been successful in its Round 1 application under HLF's Enterprise scheme and had received a development grant of £380,000 to work up detailed proposal for the project. This has now been progressed and the estimated project costs, which have been agreed with HLF, for Templemore are £17m with a contribution of £5m from HLF. This is primarily due to the costs in relation to restoring and conserving the current listed building. **Therefore, this assumes a Council contribution of £12m. Based on the agreed design cost limit as above of £8m this leaves a deficit of £4m.**

3.5 Also in April 2015, Members agreed a budget of £12 million for Avoniel. However, **based on the current stage 2 designs for Avoniel, the total cost is estimated to be £8m, which leaves an excess of £4m.**

3.6 The SP&R Committee is therefore asked to **approve the reallocation of £4m from Avoniel towards the Templemore project. This would provide a budget of £12m for**

Templemore and £8m for Avoniel. Members are asked to note that this has no implications for the overall leisure budget which remains within the overall limit of £105m

- 3.7 Members are asked to note that is proposed to undertake consultation on both the Templemore and Avoniel projects in tandem later in the Autumn and that updates on the design and proposed consultation dates will be taken into the East AWG prior to this.

Programme Level – Social and Community Benefit Clauses

- 3.8 Members have previously been advised that there is a significant opportunity with the scale of the leisure investment to leverage additional benefits by procuring this as an overarching programme of work and that **Heron Bros Ltd. have been appointed as the contractor for the delivery of the facilities at Andersonstown, Robinson and Brook.** In line with the Council's 'Social Clause Policy' Heron Brothers are required to deliver the contract in such a way so as to maximise the social, economic and environmental benefits for Belfast through training & employment opportunities and, where practical, using local suppliers.

- 3.9 As part of this Members will be aware that a 'Supply Chain Event' Event took place on 26th June in the City Hall to inform companies, suppliers and contractors (small, medium and large) of the process Heron Brothers will undertake to assess and select their suppliers as part of their contract and the various opportunities this will present to local businesses. This was followed up by another event on 10th August which took place in the new Olympia. Members are asked to note that there was extremely high levels of interest in both of these events with over 100 participants at the event in June and 150 participants from 105 companies demonstrating the significance of this contract for suppliers. These contacts will be followed up as the contract progresses.

Project level

Templemore

- 3.10 As outlined above the proposals for the development of new leisure facilities at Templemore Baths incorporate adjacent land owned by Department for Communities (DfC). This former hospital site lies to the south of Templemore Baths and comprises a cleared site extending to approximately 0.8 acres. The site had been expected to transfer to the Council under the transfer of regeneration as part of Local Government Reorganisation. As this did not occur, officers have been in discussions with DfC regarding acquisition of the site. Under Stormont Regulation and Government Property Act (Northern Ireland), 1933, DfC may transfer land to a local authority at a nominal price if it will result in its development, improvement or general benefit. Members are accordingly asked to **approve the acquisition of this site at a nominal sum and on such other terms as agreed by the Director of Property and**

	<p>Projects and Town Solicitor.</p> <p>Andersonstown</p>
3.11	<p>Members are asked to note that the application for the new Andersonstown is due to be considered by the Planning Committee at its meeting on 15th August and that the Committee will be verbally updated on the recommendation of the Planning Committee at the meeting on 18th. The SP&R Committee is asked to note that any changes to the design after planning approval is recommended will have both a cost implication and a programme implication. It is therefore recommended that ‘design freeze’ is now implemented for all the Phase 1B projects.</p>
3.12	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>Financial – The design costs limits for each centre were agreed by Committee in April 2015 as part of the overall £105m – there is no additional money available for leisure. The recommendation in relation to the Templemore/Avoniel budgets is a reallocation within this agreed £105m.</p>
3.13	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>There are no direct equality implications</p>
4.0	<p>Appendices – Documents Attached</p>
	<p>None</p>

This page is intentionally left blank



Subject:	Area Working Update
Date:	18 th August 2018
Reporting Officer:	Gerry Millar; Director of Property & Projects
Contact Officer:	Sinead Grimes; Programme Office Manager

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"/>
Some time 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 or Summary of main Issues
1.1	To update Members on a number of area related issues for Members' consideration.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <p>AWG minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • approve the most recent round of Area Working Group (AWG) Minutes (<i>West – 26th June; North – 29th June and East – 27th June and 3rd Aug</i>) as attached at Appendix 1. <p>Belfast Investment Fund</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • approve the recommendations from the East AWG as laid out at 3.4 below in respect of the ringfenced BIF allocation for Outer East (£2m)

3.0	<p>Main report</p> <p><u>KEY ISSUES</u></p> <p>AREA WORKING GROUP UPDATES</p> <p>3.1 Members agreed in June 2016 that the Area Working Group minutes would be taken into the SP&R Committee for approval going forward in line with the Council’s commitment to openness and transparency and to ensure a consistent approach with other Member-led Working Groups. Members are asked to approve the most recent round of AWG Minutes (<i>West – 26th June; North – 29th June and East – 27th June and 3rd Aug</i>) as attached at Appendix 1.</p> <p>BELFAST INVESTMENT FUND</p> <p>3.2 In January 2016, as part of the rates setting process, it was agreed that £5m would be ringfenced to support BIF projects in the areas of Lisburn and Castlereagh which transferred across under LGR with the monies to be shared equally as these areas had not had an opportunity to have any BIF projects considered and that in keeping with other BIF projects that it would be the role of the AWGs to consider emerging BIF proposals in these areas and recommend projects to the SP&R Committee in its role as the investment decision maker.</p> <p>3.3 Members noted in March 2016 that the allocation for Outer East fell across two AWGs (South and East as residents transferred into the Balmoral (South), Lisnasharragh (East) and Orminston (East) DEAs). The total that transferred into these areas was just over 25,000 with approx 1/5 of these transferring into Balmoral (South) and the remainder transferring into the East DEAs. In terms of the £2.5million available for Outer East this equated to £500,000 for South and £2million for East and this allocation was agreed by Members.</p> <p>3.4 EAST AWG - The East AWG at its meeting on 3rd August 2017, made the following recommendations for the consideration of the SP&R Committee in relation to this ringfenced BIF allocation. These projects are all at Stage 1 so it is recommended that these are progressed the next Stage and taken through the process.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="240 1480 1481 1845"> <thead> <tr> <th>Project</th> <th>Ringfenced BIF amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>TAGIT Boxing Club</td> <td>£434,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Branial Church</td> <td>£390,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hanwood Centre</td> <td>£396,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lisnasharragh Community Schools project,</td> <td>£398,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Castlereagh Presbyterian Church</td> <td>£382,000</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>3.5 FINANCIAL & RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial – £2m ringfenced BIF allocation for Outer East • Resource - Officers time to deliver projects. 	Project	Ringfenced BIF amount	TAGIT Boxing Club	£434,000	Branial Church	£390,000	Hanwood Centre	£396,000	Lisnasharragh Community Schools project,	£398,000	Castlereagh Presbyterian Church	£382,000
Project	Ringfenced BIF amount												
TAGIT Boxing Club	£434,000												
Branial Church	£390,000												
Hanwood Centre	£396,000												
Lisnasharragh Community Schools project,	£398,000												
Castlereagh Presbyterian Church	£382,000												

	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u>
3.6	No implications
4.0	Appendices – Documents attached
	Appendix 1 – Minutes of the Area Working Groups

This page is intentionally left blank

West Belfast Area Working Group

Monday, 26th June, 2017

MEETING OF WEST BELFAST AREA WORKING GROUP

Members present: Councillor Magennis (Chairperson);
Alderman Kingston;
Councillors, Attwood, Austin, Bunting, Corr,
Collins, Garrett, Heading, Hutchinson, McConville,
O'Hara and Walsh.

In attendance: Mr. G. Millar, Director Property and Projects;
Mr. G. Dickson, Policy and Performance Analyst; and
Mrs. S. Steele, Democratic Services Officer.

Election of Chairperson

It was proposed by Councillor O'Hara, seconded by Councillor Hutchinson and agreed that Councillor Magennis would remain as the Chairperson for the period to end on the date of the Annual meeting of the Council in 2018.

Apologies

Apologies were reported on behalf of Councillors Attwood, Carson, Groves, Hutchinson, McConville, McVeigh and Walsh.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 25th May were agreed as an accurate record of proceedings.

Declarations of Interest

Councillor Corr declared an interest in agenda item 5. V in that he was a Board Member of the Corrigan Village Regeneration Project.

Outstanding Actions – Decision Tracker

The Director of Property and Projects explained that the Decision Tracker document had been emailed to Members before the meeting and provided the Working Group with a brief overview of actions taken since the last meeting held on 25th May.

Noted.

Translink – Transport Hub

The Area Working Group welcomed Mr. C. Conway, Chief Executive, Translink, and Mr. L. McComb, Project Director, Transport Hub, to the meeting.

Mr. Conway presented an overview of the proposed plans for the new Transport Hub for Belfast. He advised the Members that significant public consultation had been undertaken over the last 18 months with various stakeholders and community groups regarding the proposals for the Hub. The Area Working Group was advised that a full Planning Application for the proposal had been submitted on 15th June, 2017.

Mr. McComb presented the masterplan vision of the Transport Hub to the Committee and outlined that it would act as a major gateway to the City. The Members were advised that it would be four or five storeys high with two main entrances on Durham Street and the Grosvenor Road. He reported that there would be ample wayfinding signage within and around the Hub, with pedestrian routes and cycle ways travelling through it and with clear links to the Belfast Rapid Transit system on the Grosvenor Road. The Members were also advised that there would be clear signage for the two major hospitals and universities. He reported that the Hub would connect through the mall into the business district of the Linen Quarter, and would also connect into Sandy Row.

Following a query from a Member, the Project Director advised the Committee that his team was working closely with the Strategic Investment Board in relation to the Buy Social clause, in order to incorporate apprentices and 'new starts' into the development of the Hub. He also reported that they were hoping to create over 400 construction jobs and long term sources of employment.

The Chairperson thanked the representatives for their presentation and they retired from the meeting.

Presentation – St John's GAC

The Chairperson welcomed Mr. K Gough from St John's GAC to the meeting.

Mr. Gough provided the Members with background information on St John's GAC and its work and involvement at Corrigan Park. He outlined that this outreach work was not solely in respect of Gaelic games and he highlighted the diverse range of opportunities that it also made available to the local community, for example, Pilates, Rambling, Outreach Coaching Programmes and a Health Promotion Day.

The representative proceeded to outline St John's proposal for the re-development of the pitch, which included the provision of tiered seating which he advised would:

- make the ground more suitable for hosting high level matches;
- increase spectator capacity from 2,674 to 6,000;
- provide a high spec event location in one of the most deprived areas in Belfast; and
- offer a more diverse range of sports – handball, racquet sports and bowls and a minor games area for children.

The representative advised the Working Group that it was envisaged that the finished project would help support government policies and initiatives through health benefits, neighbourhood renewal, social inclusion and the promotion of a cohesive and socially inclusive society.

The Chairperson thanked the representatives for attending and for the excellent work that they undertook with the local community and they retired from the room.

The Working Group noted that no funding was available at present but agreed to consider the project should any funding become available in the future

Presentation – New Life City Church

The Chairperson welcomed Mr. Jack McKee, representing the New Life City Church, to the meeting.

Mr. McKee provided the Members with an update on the background of the proposal for the New Life City Church. He advised that the Centre was seeking financial support from the Council towards the capital costs of its building as well as programme and salary costs to develop the cross community and personal development programmes to people from all communities.

The representative advised that the Centre had recently submitted an application for Peace IV funding but this had been unsuccessful. He reported that, at the feedback meeting with the SEUPB, it had been suggested that the representatives make contact with Belfast City Council to ascertain if funding would be available through the Council.

The Director of Property and Project advised that the Council had submitted a bid to the value of £14.5 million to the SEUPB for delivery of projects under the Peace IV Programme but no confirmation of this funding had been received. He added that any funding provided would include work on the themes of shared space, children and young people and building positive relationships. He stated that there was no grant programme within the plan but there would be the opportunity for organisations to deliver elements of the programme. However, it was unlikely that the Peace IV programme would provide the opportunity for individual groups to bid for individual programmes.

Mr. McKee drew the Members' attention to the vast range of opportunities made available to people from all communities at the New Life City Church which included 5 a-side- football, snooker, roller skating, pool, basketball, badminton, netball, indoor hockey, table tennis, darts, bowls, keep fit, weights and bouncy castle.

Several Members thanked Mr. McKee for the excellent work undertaken at this Centre and within the local community.

The representative concluded the presentation by stating that he was aware that there was currently no funding available but he asked the Working Group to consider this project should any additional funding become available.

The Chairperson thanked the representative for attending and he retired from the room.

The Working Group noted that no funding was available at present but agreed to consider funding should additional funds become available. It was further agreed that the

Director of Property and Projects would clarify the current situation regarding the SEUPB funding application.

LIF Update

The Director of Property and Projects provided an update on the status of those projects which had yet to be completed under LIF1, together with those which had been approved recently for funding under LIF2.

He reported that, through the original LIF1 allocation, the Members of the former West and Shankill AWGs had supported 24 projects, to date, through the full allocation of £1,617,500. Of the 24 projects, 23 projects (totalling over £1.1 million of LIF investment) had been completed and the remaining one was at delivery stage.

He continued that, when the second phase of the LIF had been agreed, £1,200,000 was allocated to the West AWG. To date, a total of 17 new projects had been agreed for in principle support, as well as additional support to two LIF 1 projects. Of the 17 projects, 3 were preparing for due diligence, 3 were currently going through due diligence or had recently passed due diligence and were awaiting contracts to be drawn up, 5 were at the pre-construction stage, 3 were currently on the ground being delivered and 3 projects had been completed.

The Director of Property and Projects concluded by drawing the Members' attention to the list of all 41 projects which highlighted the projects where there had been significant progress.

Date of Next Meeting

The Working Group noted that the next meeting would take place on Thursday, 24th August at 4.30 p.m.

Chairperson

East Belfast Area Working Group

Tuesday, 27th June, 2017

MEETING OF EAST BELFAST AREA WORKING GROUP

Members present: Alderman Haire (Chairperson);
The Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Copeland;
Aldermen McGimpsey, Rodgers and Sandford; and
Councillors Dorrian, Graham, Howard, Hussey,
Johnston, Kyle, Milne, Mullan, Newton,
O'Donnell and O'Neill.

In attendance: Mr. R. Cregan, Deputy Chief Executive;
Mr. G. Millar, Director of Property and Projects;
Mr. N. Grimshaw, Director of City and Neighbourhood
Services; and
Mrs L. McLornan, Democratic Services Officer.

Election of Chairperson

The Area Working Group noted that it was required to elect a Chairperson for the coming year.

Moved by Alderman Rodgers,
Seconded by Alderman Sandford and

Resolved – that Alderman Haire be elected to serve as
Chairperson to the East Belfast Area Working Group.

Apologies

Apologies for inability to attend were reported from Councillors Armitage and Long.

Minutes

The Working Group agreed that the minutes of the meeting of 4th May, 2017, were an accurate record of proceedings.

Declarations of Interest

Alderman Sandford declared an interest in Item 2, Belfast Investment Fund (Outer East), in that he was on the Board of Cregagh Primary School which was seeking funding for a joint schools project and he left the room for the discussion on the Item.

Belfast Investment Fund (Outer East)

(Mr. F. Smith, Project Sponsor Officer, attended in connection with this item)

(Alderman Sandford left the room for the duration of the discussion on the Lisnasharragh Community Schools Project)

The Director of Property and Projects advised the Working group that Mr. J. Gilchrist, Strategic Investment Board (SIB) was in attendance and he was admitted to the meeting.

The Project Sponsor Officer reminded the Area Working Group that the Council had engaged the Strategic Investment Board (SIB) to assist with the process of assessing the following six projects which were seeking support through the Outer East Belfast Investment Fund (BIF):

1. TAGIT boxing club;
2. Braniel Church;
3. Castlereagh Presbyterian Church;
4. Hanwood Centre;
5. Tullycarnet Community Support Services (TCSS); and
6. Lisnasharragh Community Schools Project Cluster.

Mr. Gilchrist advised the Working Group that the assessment had looked at each project in terms of its expected outcomes in relation to the aims of the Belfast Agenda and also its state of readiness for investment in terms of feasibility, affordability, deliverability and long term sustainability potential.

The Project Sponsor Officer outlined the findings of the review for each of the six proposed projects to the Working Group. He reported that each of the project promoters had been consulted and that site visits had been undertaken to inform the review.

The Director reminded the Area Working Group that there was a total budget of £2million for capital projects in the Outer East and that all six projects could not therefore be funded.

A Member stated that a private partnership had pulled out of supporting the Tullycarnet Community Support Services project which put it in jeopardy.

After discussion, the Working Group agreed that the following five projects be progressed to Stage 2 and that a report be submitted to a future meeting providing a more detailed update on the financial requirements for each of the projects:

1. TAGIT boxing club;
2. Braniel Church;
3. Castlereagh Presbyterian Church;
4. Hanwood Centre; and
5. Lisnasharragh Community Schools Project Cluster.

Local Investment Fund

The Director of Property and Projects reminded the Working Group that, through the Local Investment Fund (LIF 1), it had committed its initial allocation of £1,127,500 to eight projects and he reported that the Phase 2 allocation of £1,200,000 had been

allocated towards a further 12 projects. He advised the Members that 7 of the 8 projects of LIF1 had been completed.

He reported that the Westbourne Presbyterian Community Church (Titanic People) project, which had received funding through the Social Investment Fund (SIF) from The Executive Office, was at the second stage of design team procurement. He reported that, of the phase 2 allocation, all projects had passed through the due diligence stage, where 5 projects were at stage 3 (pre-construction) and the remaining 7 projects were at stage 4 (delivery).

The Members noted that there was a total of £54,009 of LIF funding to be re-allocated.

The Working group noted the update.

Leisure Transformation Programme: Avoniel and Templemore Baths Update

The Committee considered the undernoted report:

“1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Members with an update on the current status of the projects to develop new leisure facilities at Avoniel and Templemore Baths. Members are asked to:

- 1. Review the stage 2 designs for Avoniel and consider the proposed approach in taking forward design development within the context of the IFA’s Regional Hub Proposal and inclusion of the play centres services as outlined in section 3;**
- 2. Note the progress and current status in respect of the Templemore Baths Restoration Project as outlined in section 4;**
- 3. Note the current budget position in relation to both projects and agree to make a recommendation to the SP&R Committee for the reallocation of £4m from Avoniel towards the Templemore Baths project;**
- 4. Note the proposed next steps, including the intention to consult and engage around both projects in Autumn 2017 with a more detailed plan to be brought back to Members in advance of consultation taking place;**

2.0 Background

Members will recall that in April 2016, following endorsement by the East Area Working Group, the Strategic Policy & Resources Committee agreed the vision for both Avoniel as a ‘dry’ outdoor centre of excellence and Templemore as a spa and heritage facility (subject to a successful application to the Heritage Lottery Fund). The initial facility mixes agreed by Members at that time are attached at Appendix 1, which are

aligned with the overall USP strategy that Members have agreed for the city.

Members will also be aware that an overall affordability limit of £105m has been agreed for the Leisure Transformation Programme. In April 2015, Committee agreed the notional cost design limits for Avoniel (£12m) and Templemore (£8m).

3.0 Avoniel

Based on the initial vision agreed by Members in April 2016 officers have developed designs for Avoniel in collaboration with the Integrated Consultancy Team and GLL. The designs are attached at Appendix 2 for Members consideration. These are in line with Members decision to develop an outdoor centre of excellence at this site, with 'wet' leisure provision in the east of the city being offered at the Robinson Centre and Templemore Baths.

Due to the nature of the design and in an effort to maximise the benefits offered by the investment, officers have consulted with the IFA to seek their views on the designs for Avoniel.

IFA Regional Hub Proposal

The IFA Football Foundation and IFA Player Development team are very interested in the development at Avoniel, indicating they would like to make it an Official Regional Hub. They intend on opening their first Regional Hub at the National Stadium and Olympia in September 2017 and are currently in discussions with GLL around the introduction of this. Their intention would then be to roll this out to Avoniel once it is redeveloped, which is likely to be post 2020.

This feedback is not captured in the stage 2 designs but, subject to approval from Members, officers will continue to engage with the IFA during the stage 3 design development process to explore this potential strategic opportunity further.

Play Centre Relocation

In November 2016, Members were informed that agreement in principle had been reached with the EA and agreed to proceed with the disposal of land. In addition, Members agreed that the capital receipt of £316,659 would be ring fenced for the interim and permanent re-location of play services in the area.

Following engagement with Members around the interim relocation of the play centre, officers have reached agreement with the Exchange Church for the centre's summer scheme activities. In addition, a rental agreement has also been reached with GLL for use of the main hall at the existing

Avoniel Leisure Centre for term-time activities until the centre closes and a long term solution has been found.

The East AWG were informed in March that the Education Authority had agreed 'in principle' to relocating the play centre within the school site, subject to approval from their Board. However, this option will come with a significant capital cost resulting in much of the capital receipt from the sale of land being paid back to the EA.

Members are therefore asked to consider progressing the design of the new pavilion at Avoniel so that it caters for the play centres services, children's birthday parties and other functions. This would avoid any capital cost being paid to the Education Authority and would add to the offer provided from the new Avoniel facility.

Based on the approach outlined above this could potentially provide three clear themes in terms of the offer Avoniel:

- 1. Casual football bookings and programming provided by GLL;**
- 2. Community football programmes and academies being provided by the IFA; and**
- 3. Provision of the play services from the first floor in a room which would be compatible for children's parties and other events.**

4.0 Templemore

Members will be aware that in January 2017 the Heritage Lottery Fund provided the Council with formal permission to start the project to restore and extend Templemore Baths as part of an estimated £17m project. Officers are now progressing tasks as part of the project's development phase to support a round 2 application to HLF, which is currently programmed to be submitted in Spring 2018.

Our proposal is to restore the existing building to its former glory and develop an extension on the adjacent former hospital site. In summary our plans include the following:

- 1. Retain the original entrances to ensure the historic legibility of the building retains its importance and provide roughly 30% of the building for interpretation;**
- 2. Develop a spa facility within the existing building and retain the existing pool;**
- 3. Develop a new 25m, 6 lane pool and an 80 station gym on the adjacent hospital site;**
- 4. Develop a café which will operate from the courtyard in the middle of the existing building and offer other enterprise opportunities from the former caretakers house;**

5. Retain as much as possible of the original fabric and features of the existing building.

A procurement process is underway to appoint physical and interpretive design teams to support the development of the project, with both teams anticipated to be in place by August 2017.

Concept designs in line with the agreed facilities mix and the HLF application will be brought to Members following the appointment of the consultancy team.

Members will be aware that in February 2017, the SP&R Committee agreed that a service delivery contract approach is taken forward with the Users Trust for the long term management and operation of the new facility. Furthermore, it was agreed that the Users Trust would be integrated within the governance for the project. TUT are now represented on both the Project Delivery Group and Project Board, with meetings occurring monthly. TUT have input into the project's development through these groups, which reports into the wider LTP Board in line with the governance arrangements already in place for Andersonstown, the Robinson Centre and Brook Activity Centre.

The East AWG agreed in February to fund technical assistance to act on the Users Trust's behalf with the costs met from the Leisure Mobilisation Budget. Officers, in collaboration with the Users Trust, have identified the following roles which will be required to support them throughout the project:

1. Intelligent Client/Leisure Consultant – to act on the Users Trust's behalf in respect of design development and feed into these discussions from an operational perspective
2. Business Planning Function – this role will support the Users Trust in developing a new business model and financial plan which enables them to sustainably manage the new facility and achieve the required outcomes and benefits

5.0 Current Budget Position

The estimated project costs, which have been agreed with HLF, for Templemore are £17m with a contribution of £5m from HLF. Therefore, this assumes a Council contribution of £12m

In April 2015, Members agreed a budget of £8 million for Templemore, which leaves a deficit of £4m

Also in April 2015, Members agreed a budget of £12 million for Avoniel. However, based on the current stage 2 designs for

Avoniel, the total cost is estimated to be £8m, which leaves an excess of £4m for the Avoniel project.

The East AWG is asked to consider making a recommendation to the SP&R Committee for the reallocation of £4m from Avoniel towards the Templemore project. This would provide a budget of £12m for Templemore and £8m for Avoniel.

6.0 Social & Community Benefit Clauses

As members will be aware Heron Brothers have been appointed as the contractor for the delivery of the Robinson Centre, Andersonstown Leisure Centre and Brook Activity Centre.

Officers from P&P and Economic Development are currently working with Heron Brothers on a Social Responsibility Plan which will be implemented during contract delivery. It is envisaged that the plan will include the following:

- Creation of 3,120 employment weeks (up to 36 jobs)
- Construction Employment Academy for long term unemployed
- Engagement with employment/training organisations
- Interview Days
- Job Fairs (east and west)
- Meet the Buyer events
- Schools Engagement
- Sports Development
- Health Interventions
- Community Engagement Initiatives

A number of local community initiatives are also being proposed and it is envisaged that Heron Brothers will be invited to a special meeting of the east Area Working Group in the near future to discuss the detail of this plan further.

In line with the Council's 'Social Clause Policy' Heron Brothers are required to deliver this contract in such a way as to maximise the social, economic and environmental benefits for Belfast and its people through training and employment opportunities and, where practical, using local suppliers for goods and services.

7.0 Wider Context of investment in east Belfast

Members will be aware that in addition to the leisure investments at the Robinson Centre, Avoniel and Templemore Baths there are a number of other sport & leisure related projects that have been recently completed or currently being taken forward through the Council's Physical Programme. This includes:

Project	Facilities	Current Status
Cherryvale Playing Fields	New pitch & Pavilion	Tender preparation stage
Dixon Playing Fields	New pavilion	Completed
King George V Playing Fields	New pitch provision	Stage 2 – uncommitted
Victoria Park	New pavilion	Completed
H&W Welders (Blanchflower)	New pitch & pavilion	Stage 3 – committed

A map outlining the full Physical Programme for east Belfast is attached at Appendix 3.

8.0 Recommendation

Members of the East AWG are asked to:

- 1. Consider the proposed approach in respect of taking forward the design development for the Avoniel project;**
- 2. Note the current budget position in relation to both projects and agree to make a recommendation to the SP&R Committee for the reallocation of £4m from Avoniel towards the Templemore Baths project;**
- 3. Note the proposed next steps, including the intention to consult and engage around both projects in Autumn 2017 with a more detailed plan to be brought back to Members in advance of consultation taking place.”**

During discussion on the Irish Football Association’s proposal to have a Regional Hub at Avoniel, and whether the IFA would be making a financial contribution towards the leisure facilities, the Director of Property and Projects confirmed that the discussions were at a very early stage. The Director of City and Neighbourhood Services advised the Members that the proposals from the IFA were for the introduction of programmes for young people as opposed to capital alterations to the Council’s leisure facilities.

A Member requested that officers ensured that the IFA placed its proposals in writing for the Council’s consideration.

The Working Group noted the recommendations within the report.

Belfast Bikes EastSide Urban Village

(Ms. S. Kalke, Project Sponsor Officer, attended in connection with this item)

The Working Group considered the undernoted report:

“1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 To update Members about progress regarding additional docking stations of the Belfast Bikes in East Belfast requested and funded by Urban Villages**

2.0 Background

- 2.1** The Coca Cola Zero Belfast Bike scheme has been operational since April 2015. The capital costs of Phase 1 (city centre, Titanic and university area) were funded by the DRD Active Travel Scheme (with contributions from TQ Ltd and QUB for the stations in Titanic Quarter and Queens University area).
- 2.2** A six-year contract is in place with NSL for the operation and maintenance of the scheme and the scheme is sponsored by Coca Cola for 3 years. Income is also generated through annual and casual membership and user charges.
- 2.3** Belfast Bikes has proved extremely popular and the Council has received numerous requests for expansion. They offer the opportunities to work in partnership and secure funding from other bodies for the scheme to expand beyond its original boundaries. At the SP&R Committee meeting in June 2015 SP&R Members therefore requested that officers explore options for expansion.
- 2.4** Funding has also been secured from the Department for Communities to install stations in a number of communities as part of the Building Successful Communities programme; namely two at Lower Shankill & Brown Square, two at Lower Oldpark and two at Lower Falls. With the exception of Carlisle Circus all the other stations are complete. Revenue funding for the first year of operation is also in place. SP&R Committee approved to cover the remaining years of revenue costs (£26,057 per year).

A Letter of Offer has been received from the Urban Villages Programme for the capital funding of four stations in East Belfast including the revenue implications for the first year of operation.

- 2.5** These four stations will be strategically located in the east of the city, will improve connectivity in this part of the city and add to the tourism offer of East Belfast. One of the stations is located (and already built) at CS Lewis Square and forms a functional improvement of the newly developed Connswater Community Greenway.

Currently officers exploring potential locations for two new docking stations in the Urban Villages area of East Belfast (CS Lewis Square is already constructed and another area at the Skainos building is already identified).

Essential criteria for identifying suitable locations include:

Supporting Network - Docking stations should be part of a supporting strategic network with each station between 300 to 500 metres apart.

Sustainable growth - Docking stations should ideally be located in areas of high footfall that generate activity during the day and evening to ensure that the areas will generate sufficient subscriptions/income and can be operationally managed within the context of the wider scheme.

- 2.6 Experience from the scheme so far indicates that issues of vandalism arise in areas that do not have regular usage and surveillance.**

We would like to involve adjacent community groups in the planning to ensure the right selection of sites in terms of practicality and acceptance.

3 Some key facts and benefits achieved so far

3.1

- **Launched 27 April 2015**
- **41 docking stations now LIVE**
- **Fast approaching 500,000 journeys, with 211,000 in 2016 alone!**
- **Membership – 5.2k annual and 6k casual**
- **Top stations – Odyssey, Titanic and Central Station**

3.2 Benefits achieved:

- **Increased number of cyclists**
- **Increased support of tourism events**
- **Improved activity levels**
- **Increased level of investment in cycling (leveraged funding)**
- **Improved connectivity in the City Centre**
- **Additional choice of mode of transport**
- **Affordability of short distance trips**
- **Increased number of tourists cycling**
- **Improved city green credentials**
- **Improved image of Belfast**

4 Recommendation

- 4.1 Members are asked to note the update of the Belfast Bikes expansion in East Belfast and to give considerations of potential locations for docking stations.”**

In response to a Member's question regarding the recent increase in anti-social behaviour and damage to the bikes, the Project Sponsor Officer explained that the operators were working to repair the damaged bikes. She highlighted that the new docking stations should be in areas of high footfall to prevent anti-social behaviour and also reported that bikes were being taken away in the evenings from those areas which had seen a high rate of vandalism to the bikes.

During discussion, a Member stated that there were no bikes at the C. S. Lewis Square docking station at lunchtime last week. The Project Sponsor Officer explained that, while the operators travelled around the city to redistribute the bikes amongst the various docking stations, that docking station was likely to be empty given that many people used the bikes to cycle into the city centre in the morning and that the station would gradually fill again as people travelled out of the city towards the end of the day.

A number of Members made the following suggestions for the placement of docking stations for the Belfast Bikes within the East Urban Village, for the consideration of Urban Villages:

- Titanic Quarter Station;
- Connswater Shopping Centre;
- Avoniel; and
- Ballyhackamore/bottom of Belmont Road (to tie in with Belfast Rapid Transit Routes)

The Members agreed to provide any further suggestions to the Project Sponsor Officer.

Belfast Investment Fund – Bloomfield Community Association

The Working Group considered the undernoted report:

“1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Members with an update on the current status of a Belfast Investment Fund project with Bloomfield Community Association and to seek Members opinions on how to address a £178,000 budget shortfall issue.

2.0 Background

BIF-13 Bloomfield Community Association is one of a number of proposed BIF projects in the east of the city. The project proposal is to develop a fit for purpose community facility to meet the needs of BCA at their current premises on Hyndford Street and future-proof BCA’s current role / infrastructure within the community. This would include demolition and rebuilding to include community space, office facilities, multi-use hall and disability access.

Members will be aware that the project was agreed as a stage 3 – committed project by the SP&R Committee in September 2016 and an in principle commitment of £440k was allocated to the project. However, it was noted that this was pending the outcome of an Economic Appraisal and confirmation of costs, and that this would be brought back to the East AWG and Committee for consideration.

The East AWG have three other committed BIF projects as below:

Willowfield Parish Halls	£560,000	Completed – officially opened at the end of May
H&W Welders	£2,370,000	Progressing
Strand Cinema	£1,800,000	Requires match funding which has not yet been secured

There is £330k left under the BIF allocation for the East AWG – it had previously been discussed that this would be held as a contingency for the agreed BIF projects

3.0 Key Issues

Bloomfield Community Association is a stage 3 committed project with an allocated budget of £440,000, agreed at SP&R in September 2016.

An Economic Appraisal has been carried out by RSM which identified 3 options:

1. Do nothing
2. New build (small scale) – anticipated costs are £339,000
3. New build (medium scale) – anticipated costs are £618,000

The EA deemed option 3 to be the sustainable and preferred option, however, this leaves a shortfall of £178,000.

Potential options for the East AWG to consider are as follows:

1. Proceed on the basis of option 2 which is estimated to cost £339,000 – this is essentially a like for like replacement of the current building and will not meet the needs of BCA. The group do not want to proceed with this option.
2. Allocate funding from the BIF allocation. However, members should note that this would use a significant amount of the contingency budget which may have an impact on other projects
3. Seek funding from other sources – BCA had sought funding previously but were unsuccessful. Opportunities may be improved now that committed Council funding is in place. Initial conversations have been held with DfC and they have expressed support for the project, the EA suggests that this could be a potential source of funding if agreement could be reached with them.

4.0 Recommendation

Members of the East AWG are asked to consider the content of this report and agree a preferred way forward in respect of the budget shortfall for the project.”

The Working Group agreed that officers would engage with the group and that a report be submitted to the next meeting with a breakdown of the required costs for the project.

Alleygates Update

A Member requested that an update on the Alleygates scheme for the east of the City be provided at a future meeting of the Area Working Group.

Any Other Business

Bonfire Update

The Deputy Chief Executive advised the Members that officers would not be taking any further actions in respect of bonfires until political direction was clarified.

Chairperson

North Belfast Area Working Group

Thursday, 29th June, 2017

NORTH BELFAST AREA WORKING GROUP

Members present: Councillor McCabe (Chairperson);
Aldermen Convery, L. Patterson and Spence;
Councillors Campbell, Corr Johnston,
and Magee.

In attendance: Mr. N. Grimshaw, Director of City and
Neighbourhood Services;
Ms. E. Black, Policy and Business Development Officer;
Mr. G. Dickson, Policy Analyst; and
Miss E. McGoldrick, Democratic Services Officer.

Election of Chairperson

The Area Working Group noted that it was required to elect a Chairperson for the coming year.

Moved by Alderman Spence,
Seconded by Alderman Convery and

Resolved – that Councillor McCabe be elected to serve as
Chairperson to the North Belfast Area Working Group until June, 2018.

Apologies

Apologies were reported on behalf of the Lord Mayor, Councillor McAllister,
Alderman McKee and Councillor Clarke.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 30th May were agreed as an accurate record of
proceedings.

Declaration of Interest

No declarations of interest were reported.

Decision Tracker

With the permission of the Chairperson, the Policy Analyst tabled the Decision Tracker document and provided the Working Group with a brief overview of actions since the last meeting held on 30th May.

Alexandra Park Update

With the permission of the Chairperson, the Policy and Business Development Officer tabled a report regarding the Council led engagement process and stakeholder efforts to develop a plan for Alexandra Park.

The Working Group was reminded that:

- In December 2015, the People and Communities Committee had agreed to complete a consultation exercise on an outdoor classroom proposal for Alexandra Park and gather feedback on the development of the park;
- In October 2016, following initial engagement by an independent consultant, Members agreed an enhanced engagement process with all stakeholders to progress the proposal and a general plan for the park; and
- This led to an '*Alexandra Park Working Group*' for the participants of the engagement process, which was facilitated from January – June, 2017, of which Members had been routinely updated on its progress.

It was reported that, initially, there had been stakeholder consensus to work together on a regeneration plan to develop '*a park for everyone*', however, the Policy and Business Development Officer advised that a critical point had been reached in June where the '*Alexandra Park Working Group*' and its efforts to pursue an Alexandra Park Regeneration Plan had come to an end as agreement had not been met regarding a draft plan for the future of the park.

She highlighted that the issues to consider in continuing the process included legacy matters, such as regeneration, governance, resilience and good relations and operational management.

During discussion, the Working Group raised questions regarding which stakeholders had been involved in the engagement process and the potential links the future plan for the park might have to the wider regeneration taking place in the area.

The Director of City and Neighbourhood Services suggested that North Belfast Park Management team continue to build engagement with the stakeholders in order to formalise governance and a park management plan, and their operational work should remain in place.

After discussion, the Working Group agreed to recommend to the People and Communities Committee that the North Belfast Park Management Team continue to engage with the stakeholders of Alexandra Park.

Future Agenda Items

The Working Group also noted the following future deputations and agenda items:

- Information sessions on Inner North Belfast Projects;
- Belfast Hills;
- Zoo Update;
- Harbour Commissioner Update;
- York Street Interchange Update;
- Update on the work of the support services/youth workers implemented by the DPCSP; and
- Ulster University – Outreach Programmes

Date of Next Meeting

The Working Group noted that the date of the next meeting would be Tuesday, 29th August, 2017.

Chairperson

East Belfast Area Working Group

Thursday, 3rd August, 2017

MEETING OF EAST BELFAST AREA WORKING GROUP

Members present: The High Sheriff of Belfast, Alderman Haire (Chairperson); Aldermen McGimpsey, Rodgers and Sandford; and Councillors Dorrian, Hussey, Kyle, Long, Newton, O'Donnell and O'Neill.

In attendance: Mr. G. Millar, Director of Property and Projects; Mrs. R. Crozier, Assistant Director; Mrs L. McLornan, Democratic Services Officer.

Apologies

Apologies for inability to attend were reported from the Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Copeland, and Councillors Graham, Howard, Johnston, McReynolds, Milne and Mullan.

Minutes

The Working Group agreed that the minutes of the meeting of 27th June, 2017, were an accurate record of proceedings.

Declarations of Interest

Alderman Sandford declared an interest in Item 2, Belfast Investment Fund (Outer East), in that he was on the Board of Cregagh Primary School which was seeking funding for a joint schools project and he left the room during the discussion on the Item.

Outer East Belfast Investment Fund

The Director of Property and Projects reminded the Working Group that, at its meeting on 27th June, it had agreed that the following five projects would progress to Stage 2:

1. TAGIT Boxing Club;
2. Braniel Church
3. Castlereagh Presbyterian Church;
4. Hanwood Centre; and
5. Lisnasharragh Community Schools Project cluster.

He explained to the Members that there was a total of £2million for capital projects in the Outer East area and that costs for the five projects were still over budget. He reported that officers had been working with each of the projects to determine the costs,

particularly in relation to V.A.T. and the proposed delivery mechanism. He reported further, that the costs were also being tested internally by the Council's Project Management Unit to ensure that each project was both affordable and within budget.

The Director of Property and Projects advised the Working Group that, in order to progress the projects, TAGIT, Braniel Church, Hanwood Centre and the Lisnasharragh Schools projects be provided with funding totalling their revised costs, and that the remainder be allocated towards the Castlereagh Presbyterian Church project, given that that request had been received at a later date. He also outlined that this would provide each project with roughly the same amount.

After discussion, the Working Group agreed that the five projects be allocated the following amounts through the Outer East Belfast Investment Fund:

- TAGIT Boxing Club, £434,000;
- Braniel Church, £390,000;
- Hanwood Centre, £396,000;
- Lisnasharragh Community Schools project, £398,000; and
- Castlereagh Presbyterian Church, £382,000.

Belfast Investment Fund – Bloomfield Community Association

The Members were reminded that the project was agreed as a Stage 3 committed project by the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee in September 2016, with an in-principle commitment of £440,000 allocated to the project. However, it was noted that this agreement was pending the outcome of an Economic Appraisal and the confirmation of costs, and that this would be brought back to the Working Group, and the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee, for consideration.

The Members were reminded also that, at its previous meeting on 27th June, it had agreed that officers would engage with the Bloomfield Community Association to ascertain a breakdown of the required costs for the project.

The Director of Property and Projects outlined a number of options to the Working Group and, after discussion, the Working Group agreed to give the organisation six months to attract partnership funding for the current shortfall which had been identified in the Economic Appraisal, and that officers would engage with the Association to provide advice on other possible funding streams.

The Working Group also agreed to receive an update on the Lagan Village Youth and Community Group at the next meeting.

Local Investment Fund

The Director of Property and Projects advised the Members that there was no substantial progress to report on the Local Investment Fund projects and that an update report would be submitted to the next meeting.

The Working Group noted that briefings for all Members on the capital programme would take place later in the month.

Correspondence from East Belfast F.C.

The Assistant Director advised the Members that a report would be considered by the People and Communities Committee the following week in relation to a request from East Belfast F.C. for a temporary hospitality room to be placed on Council-owned land.

In response to a Member's question, the Assistant Director agreed to provide the previous quarterly reports for the seven playing fields which had Partner Agreements with the Council.

The Working Group was also advised that correspondence had been received from the East Belfast Football Club, requesting an opportunity to present its capital development plans to redevelop Inverary Park.

The Working Group acceded to the request to present its redevelopment plans to the Working Group and agreed that the club be invited to attend the next meeting.

Alleygates

The Working Group noted that an update on alleygates would be submitted to the next meeting.

Date of Next Meeting

The Working Group noted that the next meeting would take place on Thursday, 7th September at 5.00p.m.

Chairperson

This page is intentionally left blank



Subject:	Financial Reporting – Quarter 1 2017/18
Date:	18 August 2017
Reporting Officer:	Ronan Cregan; Director of Finance and Resources
Contact Officer:	Mark McBride, Head of Finance and Performance

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"/>
Some time 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 or Summary of main Issues
1.1	This report presents the Quarter 1 financial position for the Council including a forecast of the year end outturn. It includes a reporting pack which contains a summary of the financial indicators and an executive summary (Appendix 1). It also provides a more detailed explanation of each of the relevant indicators and the forecast outturn for the year.
1.2	The Departmental year end forecast is a net year end under spend of £1.15m which represents a variance of 0.8% of the annual net expenditure budget. The District Rate forecast by the Land and Property Service (LPS) is a favourable outturn of £893k. It should be noted that this forecast is provided at a very early stage in the financial year and Council Officers will be working with LPS to scrutinise the rate forecast before an updated position is presented to

	Committee at Quarter 2.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the report and, given that the forecast outturn is based at an early stage in the financial year, agree that no in year budget reallocations should be considered until the Quarter 2 position is presented to the Committee in November 2017.
3.0	Main report
	Current and Forecast Financial Position 2017/18
3.1	The financial position for Quarter 1 is a net departmental under-spend of £1.23m (3.4%). The forecast year-end departmental position is an under-spend of £1.15m (0.8%), which is well within the acceptable variance limit of 3%.
3.2	The departmental underspend arises mainly from below budget employee and supplies expenditure due to staff vacancies, staff turnover and additional income. This has helped offset budgetary pressures within Waste Management and Facilities Management.
	Rates Finalisation
3.3	The Quarter 1 forecast from LPS is a favourable overall outturn of £893k. As noted above this is an early stage forecast and officers will be meeting with LPS to review the income and losses and to scrutinise the drivers to the year-end forecast prior to the Quarter 2 reporting period.
	Capital Projects
3.4	Planned capital expenditure for 2017/18 approved as part of the capital programme is £36.5m with forecast expenditure for the year of £36.81m.
3.5	The Summary Dashboard on Page 2 of the attached performance report summarises forecast expenditure on other capital programme including Non-Recurring Projects (£730k), Feasibility Fund (£34k) and projects in the new boundary areas (£685k).
3.6	Committed expenditure approved by the Committee on Belfast Investment Fund projects is £17.02m, with a further £4.96m committed on LIF 1 projects and £3.90m on LIF 2 projects.
	Capital Financing
3.7	The summary dashboard has also been updated to provide analysis of the annual capital financing budget. Actual capital financing expenditure is forecast to be on budget by the year end.
	Forecast Reserves Position
3.8	The balance of general reserves is forecast to increase from £13.35m to £15.39m at the year end. This increase is based on the forecast departmental underspend and the favourable

	settlement forecast from LPS. An updated position will be brought to Committee in Quarter 2.
3.9	The planned expenditure from specified reserves is forecast to reduce the specified reserve balances to £1.35m at the year end.
3.10	<u>Finance and Resource Implications</u> The Departmental position at Quarter 1 together with the forecast year end Council position is detailed within the report. It is recommended that no budget reallocations are considered until Quarter 2 given that the current forecast is based at an early stage in the financial year.
3.11	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u> None.
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 - Quarter 1 Performance Report

This page is intentionally left blank


























Strategic Policy and Resources Committee

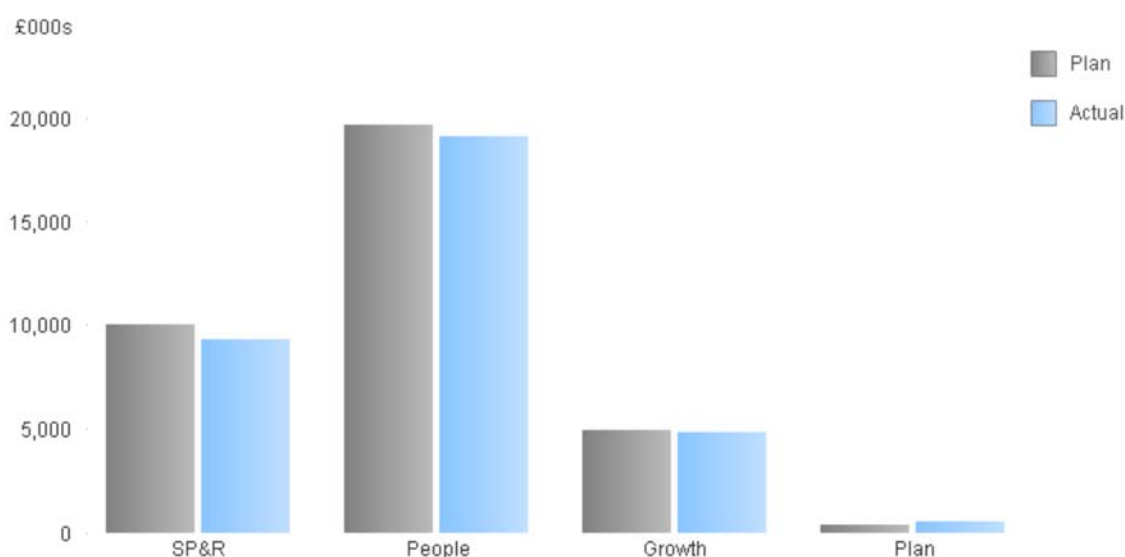
Quarterly Finance Report

Report Period: Quarter 1, 2017/18

Dashboard - Quarter 1, 2017/18

Revenue Section							Page	
Committee	YTD	YTD Var £000s	Var %	Forecast	Forecast Var £000s	Var %		
Strategic Policy and Resources		(684)	(6.9)%		(174)	(0.4)%	3, 4	
People and Communities		(562)	(2.8)%		(455)	(0.6)%		
City Growth and Regeneration		(128)	(2.6)%		(461)	(2.9)%		
Planning Committee		141	33.7%		(61)	(4.2)%		
Total		(1,234)	(3.5)%		(1,151)	(0.9)%		
Rate Income Variance					(893)		5	
Reserves Statement								
Reserves	Opening Balance £000s	YTD Movement £000s	Balance £000s	Forecast £000s				
General	13,355	0	13,355	15,399			6-7	
Specified	7,635	(8)	7,627	1,355				
Total	20,989	(8)	20,982	16,754				
Capital Section							Page	
Capital Programmes	YTD	Expenditure Limit £000s	Actual Expend. £000s	Balance to go £000s	Forecast	Forecast Expend. £000s	Forecast Var £000s	
Annual Capital Programme		36,480	2,527	33,953		36,811	331	8-9
Feasibility		250	13	237		34	(216)	10-11
LGR New Boundary		954	20	934		685	(269)	
LTP Efficiencies		0	0	0		0	0	
Non-Recurring Projects		730	190	540		730	0	
Capital Funds	YTD	Fund Limit £000s	Committed £000s	Balance Remaining £000s	Actual Expend. £000s			
Belfast Investment		28,200	17,020	11,180	896			12-13
LIF 1		5,000	4,956	44	3,914			14-15
LIF 2		4,000	3,901	99	1,458			
Capital Financing Section								
Capital Finance	Plan £000s	Forecast £000s	Forecast Var £000s					
Transferring Loans	677	677	0				16	
LTP Efficiencies	1,871	1,871	0					
Leisure - New BCC	2,000	2,000	0					
Leisure Transformation Financing	3,230	3,230	0					
Investment Programme	10,974	10,974	0					
Total	18,752	18,752	0					

Committee Net Revenue Expenditure: Year to Date Position



The Quarter 1 position for Belfast City Council is an underspend of £1.23m or 3.5% of the total budget.

The **Strategic Policy and Resources Committee** is under spent by £684k, which is 6.9% of the Committee budget.

The net under spend comprises of £200k in the corporate pensions budget, due to the timing of employer's contribution payments and £208k in Corporate Priorities due to the lead in time for invest to save projects. The remaining underspend is due to delays in filling posts in Chief Executive's, Finance and Resources and the City Regeneration Departments.

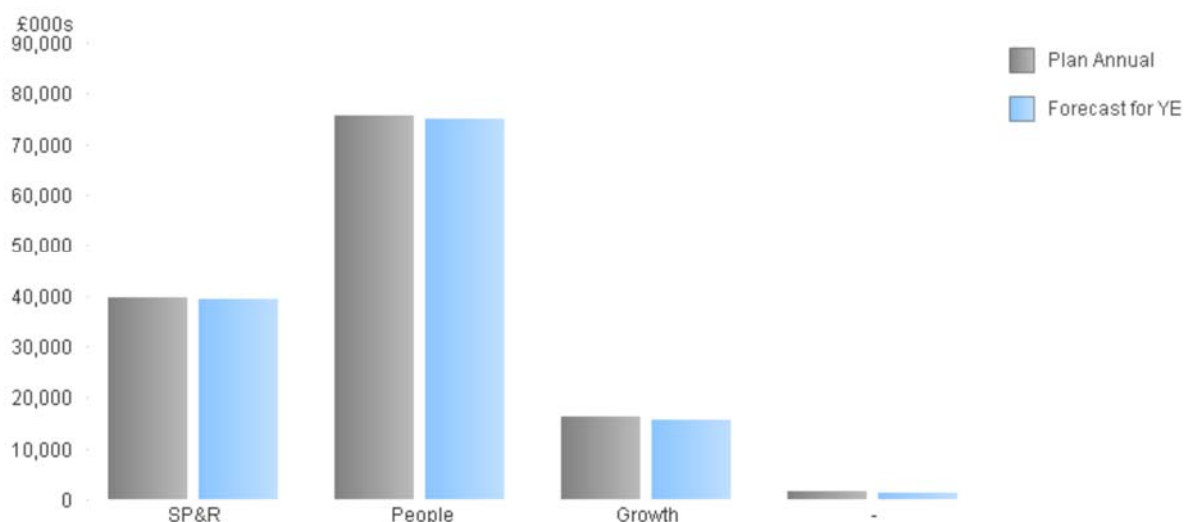
The **People and Communities Committee** is under spent by **£562k**, which represents **2.8%** of the Committee budget.

The position is mainly due to processing and profiling issues in Community Services of £146k which will be addressed in Quarter 2, vacant posts and delays in work programmes in Parks and Cemeteries of £176k and Neighbourhood and Development of £198k which have offset uncontrollable contract cost increases in Waste Management of £61k.

The **City Growth and Regeneration Committee** budget is under spent by £128k, or 2.6% mainly due to delays in filling vacant posts. Additional income from Off Street Car Parking of £26k was offset by reduced income of £24k at the Zoo.

The **Planning Committee** is overspent by £141k (33.7%) at the end of Quarter 1. The overspend position has arisen as a result of on-going pre application discussions resulting in the delay of £109k of planning fee income which is anticipated to be received in the next quarter and an under recovery of **Building Control** income in Quarter 1 which will be recovered in subsequent months.

Committee Net Revenue Expenditure: Forecast for Year End



The Quarter 1 year-end forecast position for Belfast City Council is an underspend of £1.15m or 0.9% of the total budget.

The **Strategic Policy and Resources Committee** has a forecast under spend of £174k or 0.4% of the Committee's budget. Employee underspends in Finance and Resources are the main driver to this forecast.

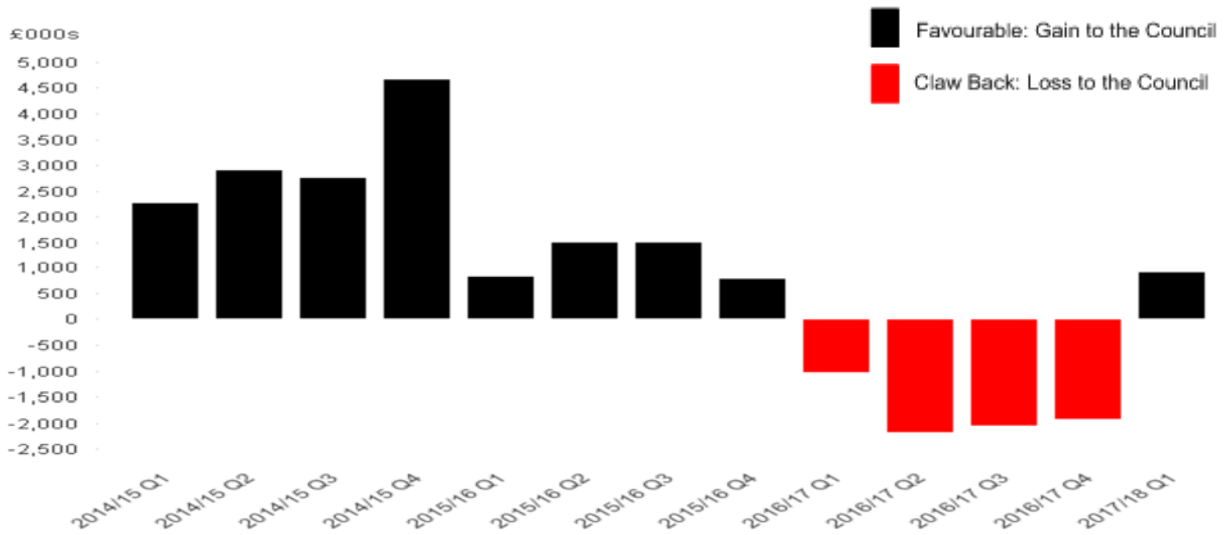
The **People and Communities Committee** is forecasting an under spend of £455k or 0.6% of the Committee's net budget. The main drivers for the forecast underspend are increased income and efficiencies in commercial waste of £74k, lower insurance premiums in Leisure Services £40k, additional income and vacant posts in Parks and Cemeteries £140k, Environmental Health £143k and Neighbourhood and Development Services £130k. The underspends will help mitigate against the anticipated overspend of £174k in Waste Management due to increased uncontrollable costs for waste disposal contracts.

The **City Growth and Regeneration Committee** budget is under spent by £461k, or 2.9% of its budgeted net expenditure at the year end. The main drivers are an underspend of £300k in the Economic Initiatives and International Development Service as delays in procurement processes will result in underspends in employee and programme costs. Vacant posts in Directorate will generate £66k of savings and additional Off Street Car Parking income is forecast to be £160k. The Zoo is forecast to be overspent by £55k at the year-end due to shop and catering commission income not performing as well as planned.

Additional income to Building Control from the Department of Finance together with the Planning Service forecasting a balanced budget, means that the **Planning Committee** is forecast to be £61k below budget by the year end.

District Rate Forecast Variance for Year End

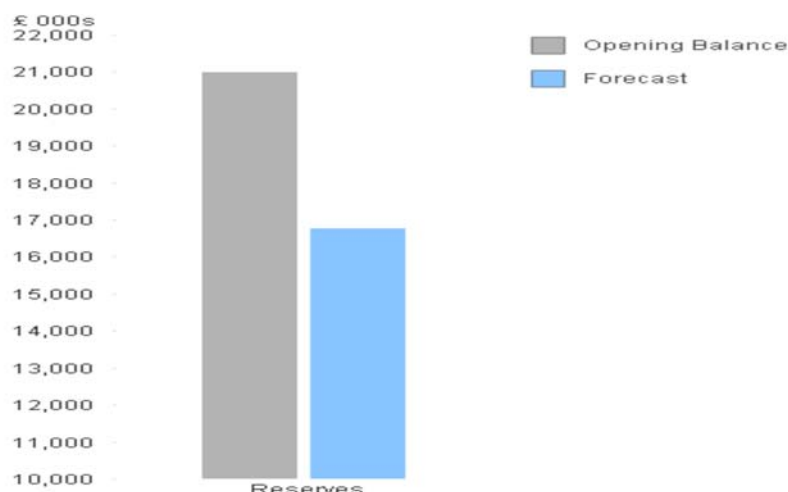
The chart below shows the rate income as received from Land and Property Services (LPS) in previous years, the quarterly forecast for recent years, and for the current year the forecast is updated each quarter.



The District Rate year end outturn, as forecast by LPS at Quarter 1 is a positive settlement of £893k. This reflects a positive APP settlement of £1.174m and a clawback of £281k for the derated grant.

Officers will continue to work with LPS to monitor performance.

Forecast movement on reserves



The Council's total reserves balance at 31/03/2017 was £20.99m. This included specified balances of £7.6m.

The balance of general reserves is forecast to increase from £13.4m to £15.4m at the year end. This increase is based on the favourable quarter 1 rates forecast from LPS, which Council officers will review and scrutinise with LPS during quarter 2. The application of specified reserves and the funding of voluntary redundancy and pension costs will result in a forecast specified reserves balance of £1.4m at the year end, meaning forecast total reserves of £16.8m.

Note :Specified reserves balances at the end of Quarter 1 are

Specified Reserve	Balance at P3
Area Pilots (Divis)	2,954
City Brand	100,000
Linguistic Diversity	25,000
Planning Legal Costs	187,500
Property Dilapidation	500,000
VR and Actuarial	1,186,516
Car Parking	75,000
Security	100,000
City of Culture (Major events)	500,000
Pipe Bands 17/18	39,976
Community Grants	294,000
Advice / Tribunal Service	50,000
Boxing Strategy	45,000
Stadia (Olympia) Community Benefit	258,432
Fuel Contingency	250,000
Non Recurrent	1,996,529
Belfast Agenda	2,016,340
Total	7,627,248

Forecast movement on reserves statement

Committee	Plan YTD £000s	Actuals YTD £000s	Variance YTD £000s	% Variance	Annual Plan 2017/2018 £000s	Forecast for Y/E at P3 £000s	Forecast Variance £000s	% Variance
Strategic Policy and Resources	9,985	9,301	(684)	(6.9)%	39,601	39,427	(174)	(0.4)%
People and Communities	19,719	19,157	(562)	(2.8)%	75,562	75,106	(455)	(0.6)%
City Growth and Regeneration	4,956	4,828	(128)	(2.6)%	16,167	15,706	(461)	(2.9)%
Planning Committee	418	559	141	33.7%	1,449	1,388	(61)	(4.2)%
Total	35,079	33,845	(1,234)	(3.5)%	132,778	131,627	(1,151)	(0.9)%

Capital financing

0

Specified reserves movements

-6,280

Year end departmental forecast

1,151

Rates Finalisation

893

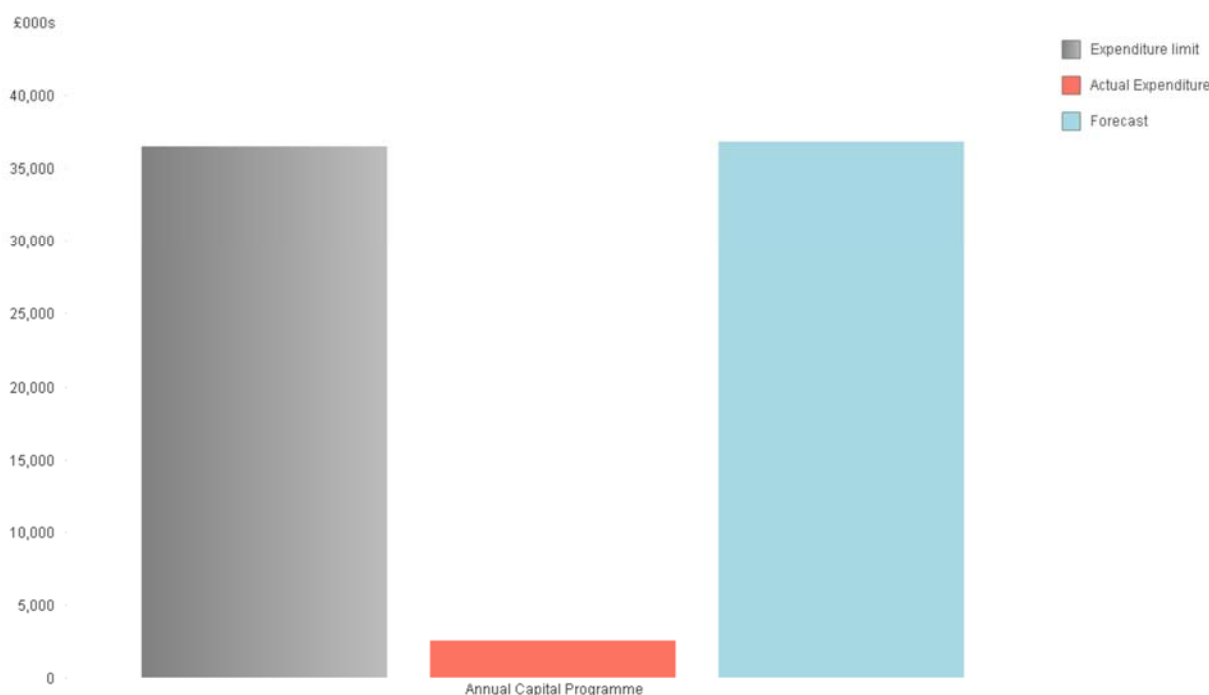
Forecast movement on reserves for current year

-4,236

Analysis of forecast reserves balance

Opening balance reserves	20,989
Movement in reserves	<u>-4,236</u>
Total Reserves	<u>16,754</u>
Forecast specified reserves closing balance	<u>1,355</u>
Forecast general reserves closing balance	<u>15,399</u>

Annual Capital Programme



Annual Capital Programme

The Strategic Policy & Resources Committee, 24 March 2017, agreed a programme of net expenditure for 2016/17 of £36.48m. This includes expenditure on committed projects, £36.28m and uncommitted projects, £198k.

In the three months to 30 June 2017 the Council has incurred net expenditure of £2.5m. Forecast outturn for the year was £36.81m.

Expenditure for the year on Stage 3 Committed projects and Stage 2 is outlined below:

Stage 3: Committed Projects

The Council has incurred £2.5m expenditure on the committed projects. The main areas of expenditure are:

- LTP - Olympia Regeneration - £571k
- Tropical Ravine - £559k
- LTP Andersonstown Regeneration – £287k
- LTP Robinson's Centre -£232k
- Pitches Strategy - £130k

Stage 2 Projects

The Council has incurred £3k expenditure on uncommitted projects to 30 June 2017. There was a programme of expenditure of £198k for uncommitted projects until 31 March 2018. However, these schemes will only move to tender stage upon approval from the Strategic Policy & Resources Committee and Council.

External Funding

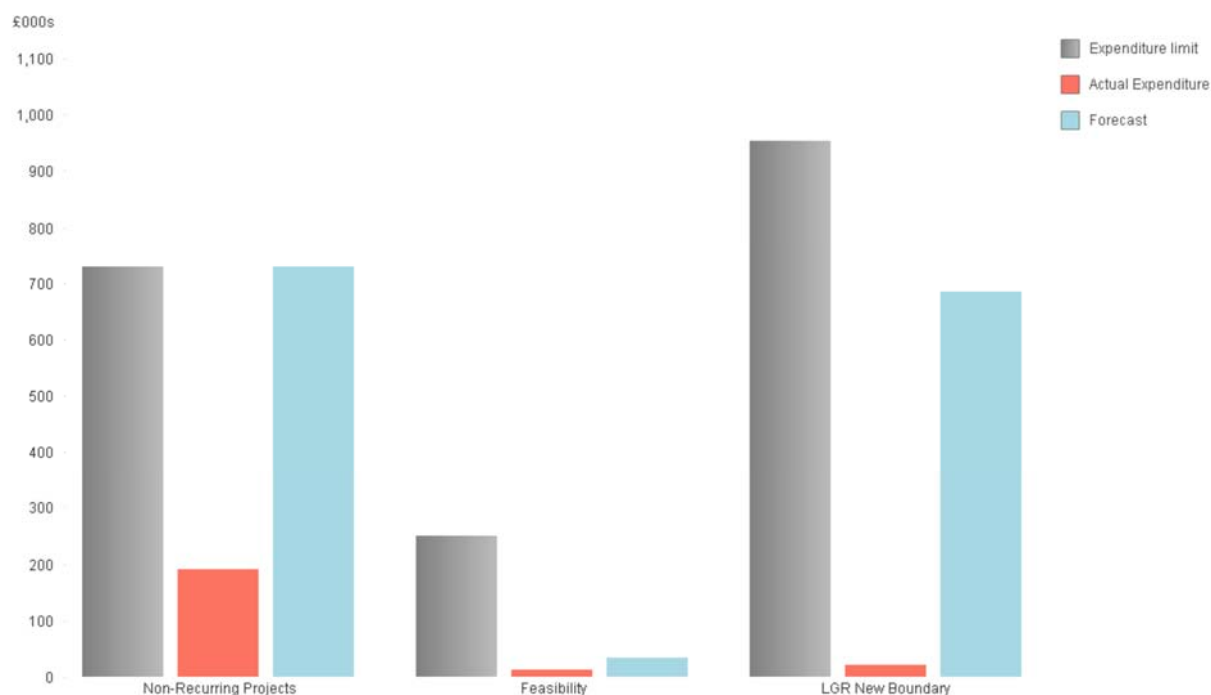
The 2017/18 Capital Programme includes 18 projects that are part funded by external organisations.

In the 3 months to 30 June 2017, the Council has claimed/received £624k from these external

fundes. The main areas of funding are:

- Connswater Community Greenway - £141k
- Super-connected Belfast - £226k
- Tropical Ravine – £255k

Other Capital Programmes



Other Capital Programmes

Feasibility

£250k from the capital financing budget has been ring-fenced to provide a Feasibility Fund in 2017/18

The Feasibility Fund enables initial feasibility work to be undertaken on proposed projects to bring them to a point where Members can decide if they should be progressed. The fund can be used for Local Investment Fund, Capital Programme or Belfast Investment Fund proposals.

As at 30 June 2017, the Council has committed £34k to the feasibility fund with £13k of this having been paid out. £9k relates to the Capital Programme Feasibility, £4k relates to BIF Feasibility.

Leisure - New Boundary

The Strategic Policy & Resources Committee, 24 March 2017, agreed a programme of net expenditure for 2016/17 of £954k for investment in the leisure estate in the new boundary area. The Council has incurred £20k on these projects to 30 June 2017.

The main areas of expenditure were:

Location	£
Prince Regent Road Depot	14.5k
Playground Replacements	5k
Lisburn Bridge Repairs	0.5k

Non-Recurring Capital Projects

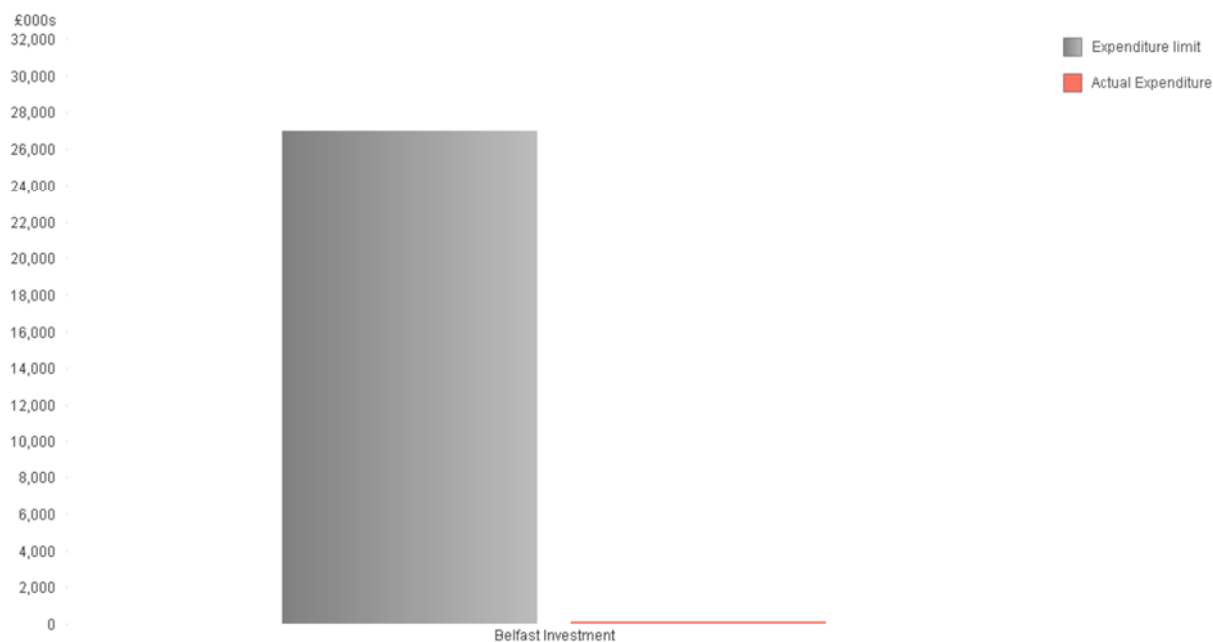
A planned programme of works amounting to £730k had been agreed for 2017/18.

The Council has incurred £190k of expenditure on non-recurring projects as at 30 June 2017.

The main areas of forecasted expenditure are:

Location	Work needed	£
CWB Works	Preparation works	127k
Zoo	(Sea Lions Enclosure)	120k
Girdwood	Toilets & New Access	65k
Various Pitches	Drainage	125k
Knocknagoney Park	Lighting	50k

Belfast Investment



Belfast Investment Fund

The Council has established a Belfast Investment Fund (BIF) which is designed to support partnership projects across the city. The Strategic Policy & Resources Committee on 24 April 2015 agreed that there is £22m available under BIF and to ensure that there is balanced investment across the four city quadrants in terms of the overall allocation.

As part of the rates setting process in January 2016 an additional £5m was allocated to BIF, bringing the total to £27m. On 22 March 2016, it was agreed to allocate this additional funding proportionately across Outer West and Outer East.

At SP&R Committee on 23 September 2016 an additional £1.2m was allocated to projects in the Shankill area of the Court District Electoral Area.

As at 30 June 2017, there are twelve committed projects totalling £17.02m investment. The Council has incurred £851k expenditure on these projects to 30 June 2017.

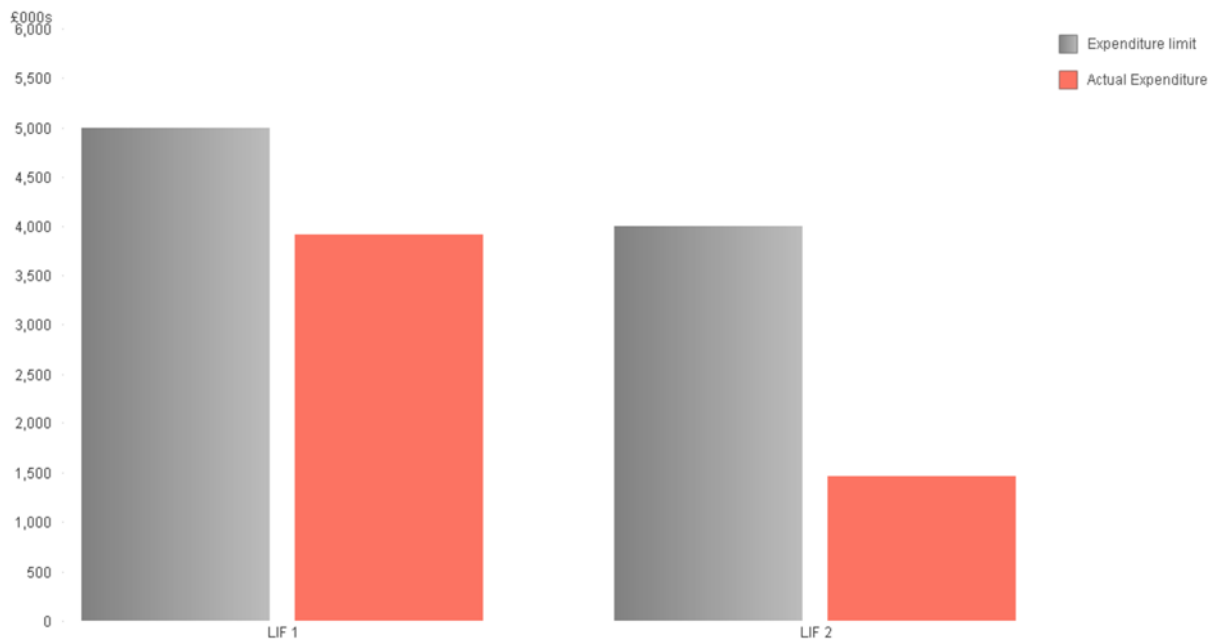
There are also five uncommitted projects, with £4.55m allocated. To date £45k has been spent on these.

In addition there are twenty one emerging projects, with £5.25m allocated. These projects will only become committed projects upon approval from the Strategic Policy & Resources Committee and Council.

The BIF contributions for each of the committed projects are:

Project	BIF Contribution £
Cancer Lifeline	650,000
Grace Women's Centre	1,600,000
Lagan Gateway at Stranmillis	2,150,000
Lanyon Tunnels	1,300,000
Bredagh GAC	700,000
Willowfield Parish Church	560,000
H&W Welders Club	2,370,000
Bloomfield Community Association	440,000
Strand Cinema	1,800,000
Lionra Uladh (Raidió Fáilte)	950,000
Davitts GAC	1,000,000
St Comgall's	3,500,000

Local Investment Funds (LIF 1 and LIF 2)



Local Investment Fund

LIF 1

An integral part of the Investment Programme was the establishment of a £5m Local Investment Fund (LIF) which was designed to support the delivery of key local regeneration projects in neighbourhoods and as a means for Members to connect with local communities in their area. This was in preparation for their formal role in community planning under the Reform of Local Government.

As at 30 June 2017, 71 projects worth £4.96m have been approved in principle, with 66 projects approved through the Council's rigorous due-diligence process.

Funding worth £3.92m has been paid out to 58 groups across the Council area, including North Belfast Women's Initiative & Support Project, Donegall Pass Community Forum, Mountpottinger Methodist Church, Glor Na Mona, and Ballygomartin Presbyterian Church.

Due-diligence work is continuing on the other projects which have been approved in principle and officers are working closely with the groups to ensure all necessary information is being forwarded to the Council.

LIF 2

Given the success of the original LIF it was agreed at Shadow SP&R in March 2015 that a LIF 2 would be established and £4m will be allocated to AWGs for this on a proportional basis as below:

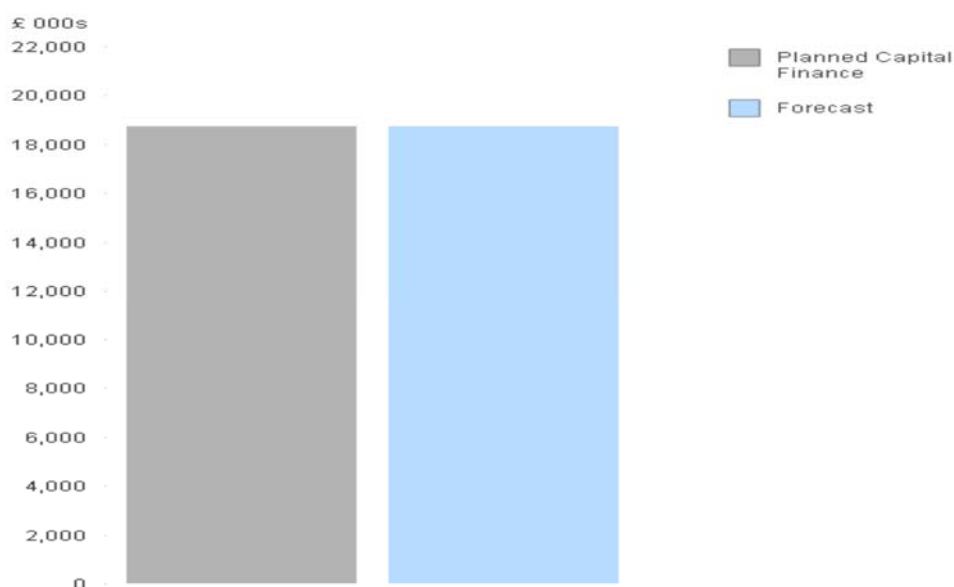
Area	LIF Allocation £
North	800,000
South	800,000
East	1,200,000
West	1,200,000

As at 30 June 2017, 59 projects worth £3.9m have been approved in principle, with 44 projects approved through the Council's rigorous due-diligence process.

Funding worth £1.46m has been paid out to 22 groups as at 30 June 2017.

Central Finance: Capital Finance Forecast for Year End

The Capital Finances are the monies required to support the capital expenditure in the current year and previous years.



The Capital Financing Budget for 2017/18 has been set at £18.75m to meet the financing cost of the Council's Capital Programme.

The forecast for this budget is to breakeven, with the monies being used to finance five main areas of expenditure, namely:-

- Recurring financing costs of existing and transferred loans
- Financing costs of committed schemes
- Financing costs of uncommitted schemes
- Feasibility work
- Non recurring schemes



Subject:	Efficiency Programme 2018/19 – 2019/20
Date:	18 August 2017
Reporting Officer:	Ronan Cregan, Director of Finance and Resources
Contact Officer:	Mark McBride, Head of Finance and Performance

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"/>
Some time 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 or Summary of main Issues
1.1	To provide an update to Members on the development of the efficiency programme to support the delivery of the savings targets of £2.5m and additional income of £0.5m for 2018/19 – 2019/20.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note the update on the efficiency programme and to agree to include this agenda item as part of the Party Group Briefings in August.
3.0	Main report
3.1	The Council has already delivered over £20m of recurring cash savings. These have been used to minimise the burden on the ratepayer and to support capital investment in leisure and office accommodation. This means, however, to deliver further savings, is a greater challenge with longer delivery

	times. For this reason, officers have been working with IESE, a not for profit local government support organisation with expertise in delivering efficiency savings, to complete a detailed revenue analysis and forensic testing of commercial income / expenditure opportunities.
3.2	This work was completed at the end of July and the initial findings and recommendations have been prepared outlining the key areas where expenditure savings and additional income should be focused to deliver the efficiency savings targets for 2018/19 – 2019/20.
3.3	A brief summary of the proposed areas of focus is included in the following paragraphs. It is proposed that detailed Party Group Briefings on the work to be undertaken in each area would take place over the coming weeks.
3.4	Bulky Household Waste Collection: The collection of bulky household waste will cost the council £460k in 2017/18. There is no charge for this service, whereas a number of other councils in Northern Ireland currently levy a collection charge.
3.5	Commercial Waste: The commercial waste service is planned to make a surplus towards council overheads of around £600k in 2017/18. There may be scope to grow the contribution from this service in future years.
3.6	Pest Control: The provision of the pest control service is planned to cost the council £287k in 2017/18. Belfast is the only council in Northern Ireland which delivers this service direct to its residents free of charge.
3.7	North Foreshore: The film studio operation on the north foreshore has now been established and will generate income growth of approximately £160k to be included in the 2018/19 revenue estimates.
3.8	Hospitality: The Committee decision to remove the provision of hospitality for City Hall events will provide further savings of £14k to be included in the 2018/19 revenue estimates.
3.9	Sponsorship / Events: There is scope to increase the income potential for sponsorship and charging for events in the City through a collective commercial approach to these activities.
3.10	Council Tourism Venues: A more commercial approach to the operation of Belfast Zoo, Belfast Castle, Malone House and St George's Market, would provide potential to reduce the operating deficit for these facilities.
3.11	Fleet Management: Implementation of the revised structures in the fleet management unit could improve effectiveness of the operations and generate savings of £200k approx. in 2018/19.
3.12	Catering: A review of income generation in the provision of catering in the City Hall and the CWB is currently being conducted.
3.13	Bike Scheme: A briefing on the review of the Bike Scheme has already been provided to Members and a further report will be brought back to Committee.
3.14	Procurement: The implementation of a strategic approach to procurement contracts and spend management will provide the opportunity to maximise contract savings.

3.15	Agency and Overtime: The level of overtime worked and use of agency staff are still issues for the organisation. These two key cost drivers cannot be tackled without addressing productivity issues and service redesign. The bulk of overtime and agency costs are incurred by the City and Neighbourhood Services Department and a reduction in these costs is included in the objectives of the department's improvement programme.
3.16	Customer Focus / Corporate Support Models: The use of technology and review of channels and processes for the provision of customer interfaces and support to front line services could release efficiency savings. A business case for this approach is currently being prepared.
3.17	Advertising: A collective commercial approach to the procurement of advertising and the maximisation of income for advertising on council assets could reduce council spend and generate additional income.
3.18	Voluntary Redundancy: The VR programme in support of the new organisational structures will generate cash efficiency savings.
	Next Steps
3.19	More detail on each of these areas will be provided to Members at the August Party Group Briefings. Further reports with specific saving recommendations will be brought to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee from September onwards.
	<u>Financial and Resource Implications</u>
3.20	Savings from the efficiency programme will be incorporated in the revenue estimates as part of the rate setting process.
	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u>
3.21	There are no equality implications with this report.
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	None

This page is intentionally left blank



Subject:	Contracts for Award
Date:	18 August 2017
Reporting Officer:	Ronan Cregan, Deputy Chief Executive and Director Finance and Resources Gerry Millar, Director of Property and Projects
Contact Officer:	Valerie Cupples, Procurement Manager

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"/>
Some time 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
1.1	The purpose of this report is to: 1. Seek approval from Members to the advancement and award of the tenders as outlined in Appendix 1 in accordance with the Scheme of Delegation.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to: 1. Approve in principle the public advertisement and acceptance of tenders as listed in Appendix 1 - Table 1 , through the Council's electronic procurement systems. Members are advised that these tenders will only be advertised when they have gone through the Council's internal governance process which includes demonstrating a strategic alignment with the Belfast Agenda 2. Grant delegated authority to the appropriate Director, and allow extensions where contracts are under review as per Appendix 1 - Table 2 .

	<p>3. Approve the award of contract outlined in Appendix 1 - Table 3, which has been carried out by Arc21 on behalf of the Council.</p> <p>4. Note contracts which have been awarded in the last quarter, as listed in Appendix 1 - Table 4.</p> <p>5. Approve the procurement of executive search via the quotation process to assist the Council in the recruitment and selection of its new Operational Director posts in the newly created Place and Economy Department.</p>
3.0	Main report
3.1	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>Section 2.5 of the Council's Scheme of Delegation outlines that under Standing Order 60(a) any contract that exceeds the statutory amount (currently £30,000) needs to be made under the Corporate Seal. Under Standing Order 51(b) the Corporate Seal can only be affixed when there is a resolution of the Council.</p> <p>3.2 In June, the main tenders that were required to ensure the business as usual functions of the organisation were agreed by SP&R committee. However, on the proposed Programme of Tenders, there were a range of strategic tenders which were not approved at this stage.</p> <p>3.3 Outstanding tenders are submitted for approval in Appendix 1 - Table 1. Members should note that they are being asked to approve these tenders in principal, after which they will progress through the internal governance process, demonstrating a strategic alignment with the Belfast Agenda. Members are asked to note that this will prevent any undue delays to tenders being advertised once they have been through the internal due diligence process.</p> <p>3.4 As part of this process, Departments have also provided assurance that appropriate resources are available within their departments in order to effectively administer and management any contract(s).</p> <p>3.5 In accordance with Standing Orders these tenders shall comply with the relevant requirements of national legislation and European directives and be overseen by Corporate Procurement Services.</p> <p>3.6 This report relates to corporate as well as departmental supplies and services only. The procurement of services and works contracts relating to the capital procurement is dealt with under the Capital Programme reports in accordance with the approved stage approval process.</p> <p>3.7 The Council has a strategic partnership with ARC 21 who manage tender opportunities on our behalf. These tender opportunities are subject to Council acceptance of bids as per</p>

	Appendix 1 - Table 3.
3.8	In March 2017 the Audit Panel recommended that to ensure transparency and keep members updated with council business that members are notified on a quarterly basis of contracts that have been awarded. This relates to supplies and service contracts only (Appendix 1 - Table 4)
3.9	In April 2017, Committee agreed to recruit three new Operational Director posts in the newly created Place and Economy Department. In order to ensure there are strong and competent applicant fields for these job roles, it is recommended that targeted and timely proactive executive search is undertaken.
3.9	<u>Financial & Resource Implications</u> The financial resources for these contracts will be met within the current departmental budgets and the proposed departmental estimates process which are taken forward through the rate setting process.
3.10	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u> No specific equality or good relations implications
4.0	Appendices - Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 – Table 1 - Schedule of Tenders for consideration Table 2 - Contracts for Extension Table 3 - Tenders Awarded by ARC 21 on behalf of the Council Table 4 - Contracts Awarded May – July 2017

This page is intentionally left blank

APPENDIX 1 - TABLE 1 - SCHEDULE OF TENDERS FOR CONSIDERATION

NEW TENDERS

Title of tender	Senior Responsible Officer	Proposed contract duration
Supply and Erection of street nameplates	Phil Williams	1 year with option for a further 2 years
Framework for hire of ancillary equipment	Donal Durkin	1 year with option for a further 3 years
Strengthening the Cultural Sector: Resilience Building Investment Programme	Donal Durkin	1 year with option to renew for a further 1 year
Resourceful procurement support	Donal Durkin	3 years
Employability Outreach Activity Project	Donal Durkin	3 years with option for further 1 year
Business/Education Partnership	Donal Durkin	3 years with option for further 1 year
Sector specific Strategy Development	Donal Durkin	1 year
Developing Local Tourism Infrastructure	Donal Durkin	1 year
Digitisation of Building Control Records	Phil Williams	1 year with option to renew for a further 3 years
Older Persons Home Safety and Repair Service	Nigel Grimshaw	1 year with option to renew
Communicating Community Safety 'Where is your child tonight'	Nigel Grimshaw	1 year with option to renew
Supply and Delivery of Child Home Safety Equipment	Nigel Grimshaw	1 year with option to renew
Community Safety Youth Services to address Antisocial Behaviour	Nigel Grimshaw	1 year with option to renew
Community Safety Services to address Substance mis-use	Nigel Grimshaw	1 year with option to renew
Community Safety Services to address Hate Crime and Fear of Hate Crime;	Nigel Grimshaw	1 year with option to renew
Community Safety Services to address Domestic Violence	Nigel Grimshaw	1 year with option to renew
Community Safety Services for Safeguarding Vulnerable People	Nigel Grimshaw	1 year with option to renew
Safer Belfast Programme Equipment and Promotional works	Nigel Grimshaw	1 year with option to renew
Staging of Funfair at Boucher Road	Nigel Grimshaw	2 years with option for a further 2 years
Provision of Fun Day entertainments call-off framework	Nigel Grimshaw	2 years with option for a further 2 years
Mobile Catering in Parks sites	Nigel Grimshaw	2 years with option for a further 2 years
Maintenance and removal of hanging baskets (Belfast in Bloom)	Nigel Grimshaw	1 year with option for a further 2 years
Supply and delivery of forcing and bedding bulbs	Nigel Grimshaw	1 year with option for a further 2 years
Supply and delivery of Parks seats (including memorialisation)	Nigel Grimshaw	1 year with option for a further 3 years

Supply and Delivery of Padlocks and Keys	Nigel Grimshaw	1 year with option for a further 3 years
Service to control invasive species	Nigel Grimshaw	1 year with option for a further 2 years
Supply, Erection and Dismantling of Marquees for Council Events	Donal Durkin	1 year with option for a further 3 years
Supply Delivery & Installation of signage for City & Neighbourhood Department	Nigel Grimshaw	1 year with option for a further 3 years
Supply & delivery of Timber	Gerry Millar	1 year with option for a further 2 years
Supply & Delivery Grounds Maintenance Plant & Equipment	Nigel Grimshaw	1 year with option for a further 3 years
Maintenance & repair of grounds Maintenance Equipment	Nigel Grimshaw	1 year with option for a further 3 years
Administration and Delivery of First-Aid Training	Ronan Cregan	1 year with option for a further 3 years
Supply & Delivery of Promotional Items	Gerry Millar	1 year with option for a further 3 years
Provision of medical and first-aid requirements for Council Events	Donal Durkin	1 year with option for a further 3 years
Food concession supplier	Donal Durkin	1 year with option for a further 3 years
Provision of Young Tree Maintenance Services	Nigel Grimshaw	1 year with option for a further 4 years
Hire of grounds maintenance equipment with and without operator	Nigel Grimshaw	1 year with option for a further 3 years
Maintenance and Repair of Grounds Maintenance Equipment	Nigel Grimshaw	1 year with option for a further 4 years
Supply and Delivery of Sand, Topsoil and Sand Soil mix	Nigel Grimshaw	1 year with option for a further 2 years
Supply and Delivery of quality Fertilisers, Pesticides, Grass Seed and Line Marking	Nigel Grimshaw	1 year with option for a further 2 years
Enterprise Support	Donal Durkin	3 years with option for a further 1 year
Fleet Oils, Lubricants and Coolant.	Gerry Millar	1 year with option for a further 3 years
General fleet maintenance, fabrication and welding services	Gerry Millar	1 year with option for a further 3 years
Fleet Stores Consumable Products	Gerry Millar	1 year with option for a further 3 years
Supply & delivery of 2. No Excavators	Gerry Millar	1 year with option for a further 2 years
IT Security Services	Ronan Cregan	1 year with option for further 2 years
Provision of Route Optimisation Consultancy & associated Software	Ronan Cregan	3 years
CCIF - Evaluation of Supplier	Nuala Gallagher	1 year
Belfast Story Site Acquisition Strategy	Nuala Gallagher	1 year
Belfast Story: Economic Appraisal and Design	Nuala Gallagher	1 year
Blackstaff Square - planning and design	Nuala Gallagher	1 year with option for further 1 year
City Centre Living – Consumer Advice	Nuala Gallagher	1 year
Inner North-West - Planning and Design	Nuala Gallagher	18 months

Infrastructure Strategy – Consultancy Advice	Nuala Gallagher	1 year
Car Park and Assets Strategy	Nuala Gallagher	1 year
Provision of City Animation	Nuala Gallagher	1 year
Delivery of Marketing Support	Nuala Gallagher	1 year
Regeneration Engagement - Technical Support	Nuala Gallagher	1 year
Masterplan – Bankmore Link	Nuala Gallagher	1 year
Masterplan – Corporation Street	Nuala Gallagher	1 year

TABLE 2 - CONTRACTS FOR EXTENSION

Title of tender	Director Responsible	Proposed extension
Tender for supply of Bottled / Mains Fed Water	Gerry Millar	Month to month extension until new contract in place

TABLE 3 - TENDERS AWARDED BY ARC21 ON BEHALF OF THE COUNCIL

Title of tender	Senior Responsible Officer	Proposed contract duration
Tender for the Supply and Delivery of Caddy Liners	Nigel Grimshaw	12 months with the option to renew up to a further 12 months

TABLE 4 - CONTRACTS AWARDED MAY –JULY 2017

Title	Director	Duration	Successful Contractor
Hire of Vehicles up to and including 7.5 GVW	Gerry Millar	2 years (+1year)	Lot 1: Corrigan's Vehicles Hire Ltd, Blackstaff Way, Kennedy Way Industrial Estate, Belfast BT11 9AP
Hire of Vehicles up to and including 7.5 GVW	Gerry Millar	2 years (+1year)	Lot 2 R D Mechanical Services Ltd 7 McKinney Rd, Newtownabbey BT36 4PE
Hire of Vehicles up to and including 7.5 GVW	Gerry Millar	2 years (+1year)	Lot 3 Stewart Commercials, 11 Springfarm Industrial Estate, Antrim BT41 4NZ
Provision of Minibus/Coach Service	Gerry Millar	1year (+3years)	Belfast Bus Company Unit 1, Bayview Industrial Estate Belfast, Northern Ireland, BT3 9JP
Supply and Delivery of Plastic Sacks	Gerry Millar	1year (+2year)	Cromwell Polythene Ltd Orion Building, Seafox Court, Sherburn Enterprise Park, Leeds LS25 6PL

Supply, Fitting and Maintenance Fire Extinguishers	Gerry Millar	Aug 2017- July 2020	1 st Klass Fire Protection 49 Chippendale Avenue BT20 4PX Bangor
Provision of Porterage Service	Gerry Millar	3years (+2 years)	Delivery Services Westlink Enterprise Centre, Distillery St, Belfast BT12 5BG
Provision of Occupational Health Physician	Ronan Cregan	1year (+1year)	Mr. Tony McGread OHRD Ltd, Princes House, 44-46 Princes Street, Belfast , Antrim BT1 3FP
Provision of Employee Counselling Service	Ronan Cregan	1year (+1year)	Apheideo Associates Ltd Premier Business Centre 20 Adelaide Street, Belfast BT2 8GD
Instillation of Metal Fencing	Gerry Millar	1 year (+2years)	NK Fencing Ltd 40 Trailcock Rd, Carrickfergus BT38 7NU



Subject:	Shared City Partnership Meeting – 8 August 2017
Date:	18 August 2017
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Director of City & Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Margaret Higgins, Senior Good Relations 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"/>
Some time 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 or Summary of main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to report to committee on the key issues discussed at the Shared City Partnership meeting held on 8 August 2017.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	That the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee approve the minutes from the Shared City Partnership Meeting held on 8 August 2017 including the following recommendations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note the contents of the update on the Bonfire and Cultural Expression programme, including the recommendation that the NIHE Shared City

	<p>Partnership Member should sit on the programme review panel.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note that TEO funding for the district council Good Relations Programme and Planned Interventions Programme have now been received from the Executive Office and approve the recommended reallocation of an additional £10,000 to grant aid funding. • Approve the recommendation that support of up to £1,300 be allocated to Clifton House to assist with the delivery of the four events linked to key dates and themes in the Decade of Centenaries. • Note the update on the response to Council’s 2017/18 bid for funding through T:BUC/Shared Future funds for an interfaces programme and the change to the stretch goal in the Belfast Agenda in relation to interfaces. • Note the proposed event to be held on 21st September to mark the 2017 International Day of Peace and approve the recommendation to provide £1,200 to install the ‘Everyday Objects Transformed by the Conflict’ exhibition in the foyer of the Girdwood Community Hub during community relations and cultural diversity week.
3.0	Main report
<p>3.1</p> <p>3.2</p> <p>3.3</p>	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>The Shared City Partnership is a Working Group of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee which consists of Elected members and representatives from various sectors across the city. The minutes from the Partnership are brought before the Committee for approval on a monthly basis.</p> <p>The key issues on the agenda at the August meeting were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Update on Bonfire and Cultural Expression Programme 2017 2. TEO funding update 3. Decade of centenaries 4. Update on Interface working 5. Update on International Day of Peace 6. Peace IV - verbal update <p>More details regarding the above issues and recommendations are included in the minutes of the meeting on 8 August attached to this report.</p>

3.4	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>Resources to deliver all activity approved for delivery at the meeting are available within existing budgets. Members should note that the TEO decision not to provide an additional resource to support interface working may have an impact on the delivery of the Interfaces programme.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p>
3.5	<p>The recommendations of the Partnership promote the work of the Council in promoting good relations and will enhance equality and good relations impacts.</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 - Copy of the minutes of the Shared City Partnership of 8 August 2017.

This page is intentionally left blank

SHARED CITY PARTNERSHIP

MONDAY, 7th AUGUST, 2017

MEETING OF SHARED CITY PARTNERSHIP

Members present: Councillor Kyle (Chairperson);
Councillors Attwood,
Johnston and Nicholl.

External Members: Mr. S. Brennan, Voluntary/Community Sector;
Mrs. A. Chada, Voluntary/Community Sector;
Mr. K. Gibson, Church of Ireland;
Mrs. G. Duggan, Belfast City Centre Management; and
Mr. P. Scott, Catholic Church.

In attendance: Mrs. R. Crozier, Assistant Director;
Mrs. M. Higgins, Senior Good Relations Officer; and
Mrs. S. Steele, Democratic Services Officer.

Apologies

Apologies were reported on behalf of Alderman Sandford and Mrs. O. Barron, Mr. P. Mackel, Mrs. M. Marken and Mr. M. O'Donnell.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 13th June were taken as read and signed as correct.

Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were reported.

Update on the Bonfire and Cultural Expression Programme 2017

The Partnership considered the following report:

“1.0 Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues

1.1 The purpose of this report is to update Members on the delivery of the 2017 Bonfire and Cultural Expression Programme to include a list of all groups who were approved for funding through the 2017 Programme. A full list of participants is available on modern.gov. The first section of the monitoring and evaluation report is available on modern.gov.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 The Partnership is requested to recommend to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee (SP&R) that they note the contents of this report including the list of groups who received funding through the 2017 Programme and the findings from the monitoring and evaluation report. Members are requested to nominate an independent member of the Partnership to sit on the Review Panel this year and to recommend this nomination to SP&R.

3.0 Main report

3.1 Key Issues

A total of 31 groups took part in the programme this year, 35 groups had initially applied, 2 groups withdrew their application to the programme and in a further two cases the offer of funding was withdrawn. This represented a reduction of one in the number of groups linked to July events who participated last year. In 2015, the figure was 44.

3.2 This year, 9 bonfire beacons were provided for groups, an additional request was received from one other site but the location was not suitable for a beacon. 10 bonfire beacons were provided in 2016. A breakdown of participating groups is presented below:

- Sites linked to a traditional bonfire – 16 (52%)
- Sites using bonfire beacons – 9 (29%)
- Sites having a community event rather than a traditional bonfire – 6 (19%)

3.3 The 2017 programme adopted an incentivised approach to support groups to meet the aims of the framework in relation to positive cultural expression, particularly in relation to the collection of materials, burning of tyres and burning of any items such as flags, emblems, election posters and items of clothing. J Byrne was appointed - through an open quotation exercise – to carry out monitoring and evaluation of the programme which included visits to all participating sites on 10 and 11 July.

3.4 Members may be aware that at the full council meeting on 3 July it was agreed that *'an investigation and full review, led by the Chief Executive, with independent input, would be undertaken into the issue of the collection and storage of bonfire material and the future approach to bonfires across the city'*.

In light of this, the full contents of the monitoring and evaluation report cannot be tabled at the Shared City

Partnership meeting on 7 August as they may prejudice the outcome of the ongoing investigation. It is expected that the investigation will be concluded by 22 September and the full detail of the evaluation report can be issued at that stage. J Byrne will attend the Partnership meeting to provide an overview of his report at that point.

3.5 However, in order to allow for the ongoing delivery of the programme the first section of the report which relates directly to participating sites can be released and it available on modern.gov.

- the majority of sites on the programme were well maintained and met the aims of the framework
- the majority of sites on the programme were not fully constructed by 10 July
- prior to 8.30pm on 11 July no sites on the programme had any paramilitary displays
- prior to 8.30pm on 11 July three sites, Cluan Place, Dunmurry and Gray's Lane had tyres on the bonfire
- prior to 8.30pm on 11 July four sites, Cluan Place, Cregagh, Dunmurry and Suffolk had items such as flags, emblems and election posters on the bonfire.

Members will note that the report observations do not extend beyond 8.30pm on 11 July, this is due to health and safety and child protection considerations.

3.6 Groups linked to all sites for whom no issues have been identified will be eligible to apply for a further £500 to support the delivery of activity from September 2017 and March 2018 that develops community engagement and awareness on issues of positive cultural expression. Officers will update on this element in due course.

3.7 Groups representing the four sites where issues were identified through the monitoring and evaluation report will be invited to attend a meeting with the review panel on 5 September. As previously agreed the chair, vice chair and an independent member of the Shared City Partnership will sit on this panel. In previous years the independent member from the Partnership who was nominated to sit on the panel represented NIHE. Members are requested to nominate an independent member of the Partnership to sit on the panel this year.

This year it was agreed that an independent assessor would be appointed to attend the panel meeting. Their role will be to:

- Provide a challenge function and independent advice to the review panel in relation to the issues that groups face in trying to meet the aims of the programme
- Make observations on the decision making process to ensure that it is robust and takes a consistent, fair approach to all sites

3.8 At the May meeting of the Shared City Partnership members requested that officers should develop an approach to capture positive stories about the 2017 Bonfire and Cultural Expression programme. A meeting with officers and elected members took place on 15 June where a number of approaches to highlight positive work were suggested. However, the external environment in relation to media coverage was such that it was agreed that it would not be possible to deliver the work at that time. The Council did receive media calls in relation to the use of bonfire beacons and officers responded to these.

3.9 Members may recall that the programme included support for four cultural networks in north, south, east and west Belfast as an attempt to support groups involved in bonfires and cultural expression to develop greater capacity and engagement. The programme is open to those groups involved in the bonfire programme, but not limited to them.

The turn-out for the Network meetings has been lower than expected and possible reasons that have been identified are; groups now have their own engagement with other agencies and do not need council to facilitate this; many groups meet each other through other area community networks; some groups do not want to engage with the programme or the cultural networks due to issues around penalties and negative perceptions about the council approach

3.10 However, participants did see a value in being part of a process of engagement with the Council. Whilst recognizing there will be a need to consider all bonfire management arrangements in light of the investigation in due course, officers recommend at this time that the approach should be adapted to develop a city-wide cultural development programme for all bonfire and other cultural organisations that will involve 4 events in City Hall on the broad themes listed below:

- October 2017: Best Practice Recognition Event; to acknowledge and recognize the work that volunteers play in delivering events within communities on 11 July

**Shared City Partnership,
Monday, 7th August, 2017**

- **November 2017: Funding masterclass; to support communities in applying for funding for their summer events**
- **January 2018: Training event**
- **March 2018: Engagement event with the bonfire interagency group on good practice in bonfire management and invite the media**

Financial & Resource Implications

All activity that is referenced in this report will be delivered through existing budgets.

Good Relations Implications

The Bonfire and Cultural Expression Programme aims to promote the positive celebration of culture which will have a positive impact on good relations.”

The Senior Good Relations Officer advised the Members that a more detailed report on the Bonfire Programme would be brought to a future meeting of the Partnership following the outcome of the Investigation. (N.B. The investigation will look at all sites in particular those most problematic ones, and the action to be taken going forward, and also the need to set up a series of meetings with other partners on how to approach these issues in future years.)

In response to a Member’s question, the Senior Good Relations Officer confirmed that, to date, this year no external photographs or information in relation to alleged breaches of the programme guidance in relation to sites linked to the programme had been received by officers.

Several Members highlighted that whilst there had been much negative publicity around some of the bonfires there had been no publicity around any of the positive stories.

The Senior Good Relations Officer advised that a meeting had taken place on 15th June between officers and Elected Members where a number of approaches to highlight ‘positive good news stories’ had been suggested, however, unfortunately the external environment in relation to media coverage had resulted in it not being possible to deliver this work at this time. The officer added that approaches to promote positive stories would be considered on an ongoing basis, this will include four city wide network events to capture best practice and build capacity

Following a query from a Member, it was agreed that the Best Practice Recognition event that was scheduled to be held in October would be held in September, it was further agreed:

- that the Northern Ireland Housing Executive representative on the Shared City Partnership would be asked if they would be willing to sit on the 2017 appeals panel; and

**Shared City Partnership,
Monday, 7th August, 2017**

- agreed that the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee be asked to note the list of groups who had received funding through the 2017 Bonfire and Cultural Expression Programme, as detailed below:

2017 Bonfire and Cultural Expression Programme – List of participants

	Applicant Name	Location/Detail	Activity and Funding Award
1.	Sunningdale Community Centre	Ballysillan Road (Beacon)	£1250 – Community Festival
2.	The HUBB	Shore Road	£1250 – Community Festival
3.	Twadell Woodvale Residents Association	Woodvale Park	£1250 – Community Festival
4.	Wheatfield Action Group	Ballysillan Road (Beacon)	£1250 – Community Festival
5.	Whitecity Community Development Association	Whitecity Play Park (Beacon)	£1250 – Community Festival
6.	Whitecity on behalf of Graymount Residents	Grays Lane / Shore Road	£500 – Community Festival
7.	Dunmurry Community Association	Dunmurry Car Park	£1250 – Community Festival
8.	Milltown Community Forum	Milltown Road / Milltown Hill	£1250 – Community

**Shared City Partnership,
Monday, 7th August, 2017**

			Festival
9.	South Belfast Malecare	Roden / Milner Street	£1250 – Community Festival
10.	Suffolk Community Forum	Kells Avenue or Carnanmore Park	£1250 – Community Festival
11.	Village Festival Committee	Kitchener Street	£1250 – Community Festival
12.	Bapaume / Picardy Avenue residents	Bapaume / Picardy Avenue (Beacon)	£1250 – Community Festival
13.	Cluan Place / Stormont Street	Cluan Place	£1250 – Community Festival
14.	Connswater Community & Leisure Services limited	Ballymacarrett Walkway	£1250 – Community Festival
15.	Connswater Women's Group	Frome Street (Beacon)	£1250 – Community Festival
16.	Cosy Historical & Cultural Society	Woodstock Road	£1250 – Community Festival
17.	Diamond Project - Charter N.I.	Lord Street (Beacon)	£1250 – Community Festival

**Shared City Partnership,
Monday, 7th August, 2017**

18.	East Belfast Alternatives	Ravenhill / London Street	£1250 – Community Festival
19.	Eastside Women's Group – Charter N.I.	Tamar Street	£1250 – Community Festival
20.	Lower Beersbridge / Willowfield Residents Association	Tamery Pass	£1250 – Community Festival
21.	Tullycarnett Action Group Initiative Trust (TAGIT)	Ardcarn Green	£1250 – Community Festival
22.	Tullycarnett Action Group Initiative Trust (TAGIT)	Kinross Avenue	£1250 - Community Festival
23.	Tullycarnett Action Group Initiative Trust (TAGIT)	Tullycarnet Library - Granton Heights (Beacon)	£1250 - Community Festival
24.	Templemore Action Group - Charter N.I.	Templemore Avenue	£1250 – Community Festival
25.	Cregagh Community Association	Cregagh Green	£1250 – Community Festival
26.	Browns Square Development Association	Melbourne Street (Beacon)	£1250 – Community Festival
27.	Highfield Residents Association	Highgate Terrace (Beacon)	£1250 – Community

**Shared City Partnership,
Monday, 7th August, 2017**

			Festival
28.	West Belfast Athletic & Cultural Society	Northumberland Street	£1250 – Community Festival
29.	Lower Oldpark Community Association	Beechnut Street	£1250 – Community Festival
30.	Belfast City Mission	Island Street	£1250 – Community Festival
31.	Clarawood Community Association	Clarawood shops	£1250 – Community Festival

TEO Funding Update

The Senior Good Relations Officer reminded the Partnership that District Councils had been identified within the Together: Building a United Community Strategy as a key delivery agent. She outlined that this delivery was through the District Council's Good Relations Strategic Programme (DCGRP) which was 75% funded by The Executive Office (TEO).

She reported that Action Plans were based on an audit of good relations issues and needs within the Council area. The Good Relations Unit had completed an audit of its good relations needs in January 2017. She reminded the Members that the Action Plans had to be aligned with the Government Strategy Together; Building a United Community, under the following key priority areas:

- Children and Young people;
- Our Shared Community;
- Our Safe Community; and
- Our Cultural Expression;

She advised that a Letter of Offer for the Belfast City Council's Good Relations Programme had been received from the TEO. This detailed that a £510,000 contribution had been allocated from the TEO, this would result in a contribution of £171,000 from Belfast City Council, given that it contributed 25% to support delivery of the plan. This allocation is already included within departmental budgets.

**Shared City Partnership,
Monday, 7th August, 2017**

She explained that the award was in line with the draft action plan for the Programme which had been submitted to TEO in February 2017. The total value of the plan was £680,000 and all identified projects would therefore be delivered. The officer asked the Partnership to approve an additional £10,000 to support the good relations small grants programme. She advised that details in relation to Tranche 2 of the projects approved for funding through the Good Relations small grants programme would be brought to a later meeting of the Partnership when they had been assessed.

The Partnership were also asked to note that the Council had, on 14th July, received a Letter of Offer for the Planned Interventions Funding Programme 2017/18 (Summer Intervention Funding). This fund provides support for diversionary activities at times of heightened tensions and the Council administer it on behalf of TEO. The Members were reminded that these awards had been made to community and voluntary organisations in March 2017 and the Letter of Offer had provided £75,330 in support of the Programme which equated to the amount that had been allocated.

The Partnership agreed to recommend to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee that they approve the recommended reallocation of £10,000 to grant aid funding.

Decade of Centenaries

The Partnership was reminded that there was an ongoing stream of work in relation to the Decade of Centenaries with the anniversaries of a number of significant events currently being commemorated.

The Senior Good Relations Officer advised that Partnership that the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee, at its meeting on 24th March, had agreed that the Council would collaborate with other organisations who were delivering events marking the hundredth anniversary of Messines. The officer reported that £5,000, which had been included within the Good Relations Action Plan, had been set aside to support four events which had been delivered by the 36th Ulster Division Memorial Association and the Fellowship of the Messines Association. The Partnership were asked to note that, to date, of the £5,000 allocated, £3,700 had been spent.

The officer advised that a request had been received from Clifton House seeking assistance with a series of evening events which would be held at the beginning of 2018, which she detailed as follows:

- From Home Rule to the Somme 1913 – 1916: Carson's Army and Redmond's Volunteers;
- The North Began – Northern narratives of the Easter Rising;
- Ireland, Ulster and the Battles of Messines, 1917; and
- The Decade of Centenaries – A Panel Discussion.

The officer detailed that Clifton House estimated that these four events would cost in the region of £4,000 to run and it was suggested that the remaining allocation in the current Action Plan could be used to support the events.

**Shared City Partnership,
Monday, 7th August, 2017**

At the request of a Member, it was agreed that a report would be submitted to the next meeting of the Partnership which would outline a wider programme of proposed activities and give consideration to an event highlighting the work of the Pacifist and Suffragette movements.

The Partnership also agreed to recommend to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee that support of up to £1,300 be allocated to Clifton House to assist with the delivery of the four events.

Update on Interface Working

The Partnership considered the undernoted report:

“1.0 Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues

1.1 To update the Partnership on the response to Council’s 2017/18 bid for funding through T:BUC/Shared Future funds and future approaches in relation to this work and to provide an update on issues raised by IFI Peacewalls Programme groups in relation to the Belfast Agenda and proposed Interfaces Programme.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 That the Shared City Partnership recommend to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee that they note the contents of the report and that SP&R approve the recommendation in respect of the Belfast Agenda stretch goal in relation to interfaces.

3.0 Main report

3.1 The Partnership will recall that Council had been invited to submit a request for funding, through the Department of Justice, to the T:BUC/Shared Future funds for 2017/18 to assist with interface working within Council. Council submitted a funding bid totalling £140,000 to include the following:

- **Funding for a dedicated full-time Interfaces Programme Coordinator to deliver on the Interfaces Programme as included in the Council’s Belfast Agenda;**
- **Support to develop engagement that could assist in the delivery of the Shared Spaces and Services element of the PIV Belfast Peace Plan;**
- **Support for the design of the transformation of the interface at Navarra Place.**

- 3.2 Council has been advised by DoJ that The Executive Office has taken a decision not to fund any of the three Councils that had been invited to apply for funding to support interface working in those district Council areas. TEO reports that the Shared Future funds are over-subscribed and that Councils have access to alternative areas of funding to deliver on interface working - including Peace IV.**
- 3.3 The Director of City and Neighbourhood Services is meeting with senior officials at DoJ and TEO in the near future to discuss the funding decision in more detail and explore options for accessing further funds. Council does not at present have access to any other funds to develop the work that was outlined in the application in relation to Navarra Place and Springfield dam.**
- 3.4 Members will recall that in April they asked officers to develop an Interfaces programme and report back on the content of this programme. Development of this work was due to be undertaken through the Interfaces Programme Coordinator, this post was to be funded through the DoJ Shared Future funding. This work will now have to be undertaken through existing resources. A meeting of the internal Interface officer group is scheduled for 10 August, this group will consider what resource can be made available to develop the Interface Programme.**
- 3.5 On 20th June Council attended an IFI Peacewalls Programme event that was used as an opportunity to seek feedback from key stakeholders on the Interfaces Programme as outlined in the Belfast Agenda. The main issues raised included:**
- The current target in relation to interfaces in the Belfast Agenda 'Make progress towards reducing the number of interface barriers' is considered to be vague; however there was concern about setting a specific target as this may result in the target being the focus rather than the work.**
 - It is too narrow to measure progress solely in terms of removal of barriers, it should also measure 'softening' (attitudinal change; building community confidence; creating conditions), reducing and reclassification.**
 - It is important to recognise that every peace wall/interface is different and to highlight progress to date**
 - Investment has a key role to play in this process – addressing economic, health, deprivation issues to improve the lives of people living in interface areas.**
 - Increase and encourage shared facilities/space. (There is a need to agree a definition of 'shared space').**

- 3.6** The final version of the Belfast Agenda is being agreed and members are asked to recommend that the current stretch goal be changed to read: ' *Support communities to make progress towards reducing the number of interface barriers*'. This change reflects the feedback from the IFI Peacewalls event and from the Shared City Partnership Interfaces workshop in February 2017.

At the event the need for council support for each of the IFI funded Interface groups was identified as a priority. Groups are currently developing their annual action plans which they will send to Council for information.

- 3.7** Officers are meeting with IFI to explore ways in which the links between the IFI Peacewalls Programme and the support that Council provides for Interface communities can be more complementary and agree an approach where resources from both organisations which support interventions at interfaces can be aligned. Members are asked to note this recommended approach and provide any relevant feedback.
- 3.8** Members will note that the Good Relations Action Plan includes direct support for projects in interface areas through the Shared Space Programme (BCC8) and Interface Projects (BCC9). Officers will seek expressions of interest from groups working in interface areas to allocate the resources aligned to these two projects. This will include groups funded through the IFI Peacewalls programme as well as organisations operating in interface areas.
- 3.9** Members should also note that the criteria for the small grant programme is weighted to support projects that are being delivered in interface areas and that many other projects in the plan will target the involvement of groups who are based close to interfaces. This approach was endorsed through the good relations audit that was completed in January and identified the need to prioritise interventions at interface areas.

3.10 Financial & Resource Implications

Members should note the implications of the decision by TEO not to award any Shared Future funds to Council to deliver on the proposed Interfaces Programme as referred to in the Belfast Agenda. All other activity referenced in the report can be delivered with existing resources.

3.11 Equality or Good Relations Implications

**Shared City Partnership,
Monday, 7th August, 2017**

Work on interfaces and barrier removal was highlighted as a priority in the 2017 Good Relations audit and is also part of the DGRP. Work in this area will promote equality and good relations by addressing issues of segregation.”

The Partnership adopted the recommendation and noted the need for further discussion with TEO and DoJ to ensure that Council could access resources to support the transformation of interfaces.

Update on International Day of Peace

The Partnership was reminded that, at its meeting on 12th June, it had agreed that officers would explore the possibility of hosting a joint event with the Health Trust and the Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE) to mark the 2017 International Day of Peace to reaffirm the commitment of the three organisations in supporting good relations across the city.

The Senior Good Relations Officer advised that it was proposed that this event would be held on the morning of 21st September at the Girdwood Centre, with the Chief Executive of the Health Trust, the Lord Mayor and the Chief Executive from the NIHE all in attendance. She stated that further details and an invite to Members of the Shared City Partnership would be circulated in due course.

The officer also reported that, in order to enhance the shared space at Girdwood during community relations week and to highlight the theme for this year, officers were seeking approval for the Council to cover the costs of installing the ‘Everyday Objects Transformed by the Conflict’ exhibition in the foyer of the Girdwood Community Hub over community relations and cultural diversity week. She advised that the exhibition includes many views and experiences of the recent conflict in Northern Ireland through a range of loaned objects and their accompanying labels, all written in the words of those who owned them. The cost for the installation of the exhibition would be approximately £1,200 which included the transportation, installation and hire for a week.

The Partnership was also asked to note that, as part of the Good Relations Unit Programme of activity, the following events were being held:

- 21st September – Irish Cultural and Linguistic Experience (a facilitated visit to Culturlann would provide an opportunity for participants to visit a space that they may not have visited and would enable them to sample Irish Culture, the history of the language and the rich heritage in the Gaeltacht quarter); and
- 28th September – a facilitated visit to Clifton Street Orange Hall (this visit would provide participants with the opportunity to have a guided tour of the 130 year building as well as providing an insight into the history and traditions of the Orange Order and an exploration of the artefacts that add to the story of the institution).

A Member stated that, whilst he welcomed the organisation of this event and appreciated there were many other events already planned for this day, he felt that the Council should undertake wider promotion of International Day of Peace within Belfast.

**Shared City Partnership,
Monday, 7th August, 2017**

Detailed discussion ensued, following which it was agreed that a report would be submitted to a future meeting of the Partnership which would contain options on how to mark the 2018 International Day of Peace and would include a business case, given that there was currently limited funding for such an event through the good relations action plan.

The Partnership agreed to recommend to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee that they note the arrangements for the proposed event to be held on 21st September to mark the 2017 International Day of Peace and also that they approve the resource allocation of approximately £1,200 to install the exhibition in the foyer of the Girdwood Community Hub during community relations and cultural diversity week.

Peace IV Update

The Senior Good Relations Officer provided the Partnership with an update on the Peace IV Programme. Following further communication from SEUPB officers had been advised that the Joint Steering Committee was scheduled to meet in September to consider the Belfast Local Action Plan bid and that senior officers were meeting with SEUPB officials to highlight the need for confirmation of funding as soon as possible.

Chairperson

This page is intentionally left blank



Subject:	European Local Democracy Week – EurVoice 2017 Event
Date:	Friday, 18th August, 2017
Reporting Officer:	Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager
Contact Officer:	Eilish McGoldrick, 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"/>
Some time 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 or Summary of main Issues
1.1	European Local Democracy Week (ELDW) is an annual event held each October. The overarching purpose of ELDW is to promote a better involvement of citizens in public life, enhance transparency of local government mechanisms and improve social cohesion, in particular among young people and disadvantaged groups.
1.2	For the past five years, the Council has organised and delivered ‘EurVoice’ events which have allowed pupils from Secondary Schools, members of the Council’s Youth Forum, representatives of the European Youth Parliament and participants from Community Groups in the City to interact with their local Councillors on issues affecting the youth of today. Following the success of EurVoice to date, it is felt that it would be worth organising another

1.3	engaging event for 2017, where both young people and Councillors could meet to discuss the relevant issues which face the young citizens of our City.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>Members are asked to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree to the hosting of the EurVoice 2017 event as outlined in the report.
3.0	Main report
3.1	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>Launched in 2007 to foster citizen participation and promote democracy at the level closest to the citizens, the European Local Democracy Week (ELDW) celebrates its 10th anniversary this year and encourages local and regional authorities of Europe and their associations to organise participatory events to celebrate local democracy, as a shared value.</p>
3.2	<p>EurVoice is a unique community outreach programme designed to engage and empower young people. The purpose of EurVoice is to provide a platform and framework for young people to take ownership of their own opinions and place in society, to express their views to people in authority, and to discover their own importance in shaping the future. The nature of the event serves to influence and encourage the role young people could potentially have in local democracy decision-making.</p>
3.3	<p>These events have proven to be very successful and feedback from the Schools, Community Groups and from the Councillors has been very positive. Participants felt that last year's event was a diverse way to meet with other young people from across the city and get a sense of, and discuss, mutually important and relevant issues.</p>
3.4	<p>If approved, the EurVoice 2017 event will take place in the Great Hall in October, from 11.30 am to 3.30 p.m. and will target Belfast City Council schools and youth organisations.</p> <p>A series of activities are planned including;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participating in a mock voting exercise; • Facilitated workshop on issues affecting young people, including decision-making skills, debate preparation and presenting their ideas to the Members for feedback; and • Finishing with a panel Q&A session with Members of Council <p>The participation of Elected Members is crucial to the success of the event to assist in</p>

3.5	<p>achieving the outlined aims as well as breaking down barriers between young citizens, the Council and its Members.</p> <p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>A project steering group has been set up to organise the event comprising of officers from Democratic Services, Community Services and the European Unit as well as external organisations which include the European Commission Office of Northern Ireland and the European Youth Parliament.</p> <p>It is expected that the event will cost approximately £600 which will include MC and IT provision. Provision for the cost of the event has been made within the Chief Executive's Departmental revenue estimates.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>None</p>
3.6	
3.7	
3.8	
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	None

This page is intentionally left blank

MEETING OF HISTORIC WORKING GROUP

Thursday, 3rd August, 2017

Members present: Councillor Heading (Chairperson);
Councillors Dudgeon, Hargey, Kyle,
and McReynolds.

In attendance: Mr. S. McCrory, Democratic Services Manager;
Mrs. C. Mullen, Tourism Cultural Heritage and Arts
Development Manager;
Mr. R. Heslip, Tourism Cultural Heritage
and Arts Development Officer; and
Ms. E. McGoldrick, Democratic Services Officer.

Election of Chairperson

Moved by Councillor Hargey,
Seconded by Councillor McReynolds and

Resolved – that Councillor Heading be elected to serve as
Chairperson to the Historic Working Group.

Apologies

No apologies were reported.

Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were reported.

Draft Terms of Reference

The Working Group considered the following draft Terms of Reference as
outlined in the minutes of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee on 24th
March, 2017:

“Establishment of Historic Working Group

*The Committee was reminded that, as part of the review of the
Diversity Working Group, it had been agreed that that group would
be replaced by a Historic Working Group to priorities historic events
and related issues. That would mean a move away from a Good
Relations focus, with Good Relations primarily being discussed by
Party Leaders and the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.*

*Draft terms of reference had been developed for the working
group and these are set out as follows:*

**Meeting of Historic Working Group,
Thursday, 3rd August, 2017**

- *to consider how the Council can maximise and promote the historic richness of legacies and assets of Belfast;*
- *to develop a long term plan to celebrate, promote and commemorate our historic assets and events;*
- *to apply the agreed core set of principles established to commemorate any events;*
- *to advise on the detailed decade of centenaries programme once agreed via Party Leaders and Strategic Policy and Resources Committee; and*
- *to make recommendations to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee regarding the issues above.*

It was proposed that the membership of the Historic Working Group would comprise of one nominee from each of the six main political parties.

The Committee approved the proposed terms of reference and the membership of the Historic Working Group.”

During discussion, the Tourism Cultural Heritage and Arts Development Officer explained that the Decade Round Table was a non-decision-making body set up by the Community Relations Council and Heritage Lottery Fund which met quarterly in order to think critically about the decade and how it should be marked. He advised that attendees included academics, historians, cultural and heritage agencies and organisations, departments, and non-governmental organisations.

He reported that the Decade Round Table was currently reviewing its principles for marking commemorations, which included widening its remit for a longer period. However, with permission of the Chairperson, he tabled copies of the Council's current principles for marking anniversaries and highlighted that they were considered to be robust.

After discussion, the Working Group agreed to the Terms of Reference as outlined in the report and that the Working Group be kept up to date with the Decade Round Table's review of its principles.

The Working Group also noted that a Good Relations Officer might be invited to attend meetings of the Working Group, if required.

**Discussion on external expertise and potential partnerships with
Organisations**

The Tourism Cultural Heritage and Arts Development Officer suggested that it may be helpful if the Working Group had access to external historical expertise in an

**Meeting of Historic Working Group,
Thursday, 3rd August, 2017**

advisory capacity, such as the Ulster Commemorative Society for Irish History Studies. He advised that they would be in a position to provide expert advice as well as suggest specific events relevant to Belfast over a long period of history.

During discussion, the issue of budget allocation was highlighted and it was pointed out that no specific budget had been allocated to the Working Group. Any proposal that would require a budget would be agreed by the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee. It was also suggested that research for possible future events to commemorate should go beyond academia and explore other perspectives such as local historians and community connections. A Member also highlighted the importance of reviewing all events not just the larger, more prominent ones, together with those likely to attract tourism.

The Working Group agreed that a report be submitted to the next meeting regarding a list of potential historical events that could be commemorated over the next few years and the Group would forward any events they wish to be included in this list for discussion to Democratic Services.

European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018

The Tourism Cultural Heritage and Arts Development Officer provided an overview of the report regarding the background of the European Year of Cultural Heritage, 2018.

He informed the Group that in 2015, the European Parliament designated 2018 as European Cultural Heritage Year, conscious that it marked both the 400th anniversary of the start of the Thirty Years War and the centenary of the end of World War I.

He advised that a national co-ordinator had been appointed from the British Council and the Republic of Ireland had appointed a person to a similar role from the Heritage Council. He informed the Working Group that the aim of the Heritage Year was to:

- Promote social cohesion through highlighting cultural diversity , dialogue and heritage education;
- Support cultural and creative industries , promoting sustainable tourism to generate long-term employment;
- Promote cultural heritage abroad, exporting and monetising expertise; and
- Promote the value of cultural heritage in conflict zones.

He reminded the Working Group the Council was making a bid to become joint European Capital of Culture in 2023 and that engagement with the existing European cultural programmes would be seen as supporting this bid and demonstrating cultural capacity in the city. He suggested that Heritage Week, coordinated by The Heritage Council in the Republic of Ireland, was a good example of how to promote a broad programme of heritage events for tourists and citizens and that events connecting with new communities that had settled in Belfast could also be a considered.

**Meeting of Historic Working Group,
Thursday, 3rd August, 2017**

The Tourism Cultural Heritage and Arts Development Manager advised that Tourism NI had expressed an interest in the tourism potential of a possible programme of events for the European Year of Cultural Heritage, 2018 and discussions would take place over the coming months.

The Working Group noted the contents of the report and agreed that a report be submitted to a future meeting regarding an update on officer discussions with Tourism NI and potential funding streams together with information on what type of events could be considered and how proposals the Council had already received in this regard could be encompassed in the European Year of Cultural Heritage, 2018.

**Blitz War Memorial (Cllr. Dudgeon to Raise) and
Winifred Carney Statue (Cllr. Hargey to Raise)**

The Working Group agreed to consider the two aforementioned items together.

Councillor Dudgeon reminded the Working Group that he had originally proposed a Belfast Blitz Memorial - 75th Anniversary Commemoration as a Notice of Motion and it had subsequently been referred to the Diversity Working Group by the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee at its meeting on 22nd May, 2015. He provided an overview of the discussion that had taken place in the former Diversity Working Group since then. He highlighted that, at the last Diversity Working Group held on 9th June, 2016, it had been reported that information had been received from the Northern Ireland War Memorial Committee, in that it believed that a full size memorial was required and they would be prepared to fund 50 - 75% of the total cost of the project with a cap of £100,000 with Council or another body funding the remainder.

He suggested that the development of a Blitz Memorial should be reactivated in the form of a scoping exercise to provide options regarding the type of monument and possible locations for a Blitz Memorial in the city.

Councillor Hargey advised the Group that a request for the Winifred Carney Statue from the Northern Ireland Committee of the Irish Congress of Trade Unions (ICTUNI), had also been discussed at the Diversity Working Group in the form of life size bronze in the grounds of City Hall, however, this had also not been taken forward. She suggested that there were possible funding constraints for any new memorial and no additional commemorative artefacts should be brought forward until it had been discussed by the Party Leaders, as previously agreed.

During discussion, the Democratic Services Manager advised the Group that both of the items had been deferred by the Diversity Working Group, at its meeting on 9th June, 2016, to allow a series of discussions to take place by Party Groups regarding a review of the grounds of the City Hall. He highlighted that as this decision had included both of these items as part of that discussion, it would be inappropriate to supersede this decision until such discussions had taken place.

During further discussion, the Working Group raised concerns regarding the forthcoming Cenotaph access works, other potential memorial and commemorative

**Meeting of Historic Working Group,
Thursday, 3rd August, 2017**

proposals, the resources available for such artefacts, and the pending review of the City Hall Grounds.

After discussion, the Working Group agreed to recommend to the Party Group Leaders' Forum to progress its discussion on the review of the grounds of the City Hall, in particular the Blitz War Memorial and Winifred Carney Statue proposals, at its next meeting. It also agreed that the draft booklet on the City Hall Ground Monuments would be circulated to the Group.

Schedule of Meetings

The Working Group agreed that its meetings would be held on the following dates, at 12.30pm, for the remainder of 2017, if required:

- Thursday, 7th September;
- Thursday, 5th October;
- Thursday, 2nd November; and
- Thursday, 7th December.

Additional Item – Archive access of Previous Belfast City Councillors

With the permission of the Chairperson, Councillor Dudgeon advised the Working Group that he had received numerous requests for information regarding previous Members of Council, such as their years of service and party affiliation. He suggested that a database with this information could be published online for Members of the public to access.

During discussion, it was noted that the Council had previously produced a booklet and exhibition celebrating Women in the Council and held a successful launch event. The Group noted that this type of event could also be considered if the database was established.

The Working Group agreed that advice should be taken from the Records Manager on the potential for this database and a report be submitted to a future meeting in this regard, to include resource implications and availability of the historical data required.

This page is intentionally left blank

Minutes of Budget and Transformation Panel Meeting 10 August 2017

Attendance

Members:

Councillor Deirdre Hargey (Chair),
Councillor Tim Attwood
Councillor Billy Hutchinson
Councillor Michael Long
Councillor Jim McVeigh
Councillor Lee Reynolds
Alderman Jim Rodgers (for Alderman D Browne)

Apologies: Alderman Browne

Officers:

Suzanne Wylie, Chief Executive
Ronan Cregan, Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Finance and Resources
Gerry Millar, Director of Property and Projects
John Walsh, City Solicitor
Mark McBride, Head of Finance and Performance
Phil Williams, Director of Planning and Place (for item 6)
Emer Husbands, Strategic Performance Manager (secretariat)

1. Finance Update

a. Quarter 1 Finance 2017/18

The Deputy Chief Executive circulated a report on the quarter 1 finance position which would be presented to the August SP&R Committee. Given that the forecast outturn is based at an early stage in the financial year, he recommended that no in year budget reallocations should be considered until the Quarter 2 position is presented to the Committee in November 2017. Members discussed the need to begin to develop priority areas for possible re-allocation of non-recurrent spend. They also highlighted the need to support communities to develop feasibility studies for possible projects, which was becoming more costly and it was agreed that the Director of Property and Projects would prepare a paper on the issues surrounding the costs of preparing capital project applications. In relation to the rate base concern was expressed in relation to half finished buildings that were exempt from paying rates and it was agreed a mapping exercise would be carried out to identify the buildings and possible meanwhile uses for them. This will be lead by the Director of Finance and Resources and Director of City Centre Development.

b. Medium Term Financial Plan

The Deputy Chief Executive provided an update on the assessment of the key financial factors which influence the development of the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan for 2018/19 - 2020/21 and the timetable for the rate setting process for 2018/19. He highlighted that the main uncontrollable cost risk to the Council in the medium term is the impact of externally imposed increases to the Council's pay bill. Work was now commencing on the development of departmental estimates and regular updates and briefings would be provided to members throughout the process.

c. Efficiency Programme

The Deputy Chief Executive outlined to the Panel a number of the proposed areas that have been identified for securing the previously agreed efficiency target for the 2018/19 budget. Party Group Briefings were now scheduled for August to provide members with more detail on each area. This would also form part of the rate setting process.

2. Physical Programme

The Director of Property and Projects provided an update to members on a number of decisions relating to the capital programme that would be presented to August SP&R for decisions. This included the proposed upgrade work to the Cenotaph to improve accessibility and address any health and safety issues. He also discussed the need to make decisions in relation to the Christmas Lighting Signage at the City Hall to enable the installation to take place in advance of the Christmas market.

A recommendation would also be presented on the possible sale of Cregagh Park East and members of the panel highlighted that there had been a lot of discussion with all the local representatives in the DEA and there was agreement that this was the best way forward. The Director of Property and Projects was asked to e-mail all the local representatives to explain to them that this decision was now going to be considered by the SP&R committee on 18th August 2017.

3. European Capital of Culture 2023

The Chief Executive outlined to the Panel the ongoing work on the development of the European Capital of Culture bid with Derry and Strabane District Council and in particular the need to promote and support the bid at national, regional and local level. She reminded them that a second workshop was being held at the beginning of September for members to provide a detailed update on the engagement process and the associated themes for the bid

as well as an overview of programme content. They would discuss the level of financial commitment required and the development of an associated funding strategy.

4. City Region Growth Deal

The Chief Executive provided the Panel with an update on the proposed City Region Growth Deal which has involved further defining the geographic area and the financial modelling around this. A workshop will be planned with members to provide more detail on this with a report to SP&R in September.

5. Belfast Brand

Copies of the new Belfast Brand were circulated and the Chief Executive explained that this would be rolled out over the coming weeks and months. The brand itself has been well received by the key stakeholders and partners in the city who have also agreed to include it in their promotional materials, signage etc.

6. Planning Updates

The Director of Planning and Place outlined to the Panel progress against the key actions in the Planning Improvement Plan, highlighting the reduction in the legacy applications and ongoing work in relation to Section 76. Members welcomed the improvements and discussed the ongoing need to improve customer contact and response times to queries. The Director also informed the panel of the applications that were being presented to the Planning Committee this month.

7. AOB

Party Leaders Forum

The next Party Leaders Forum is scheduled for Thursday 24th August at 10.00 am. A number of items were already on the agenda from the previous meeting and party leaders should contact the CX office if they would like anything additional included. The CX office will circulate the agenda in advance of the meeting.

This page is intentionally left blank

ACTIVE BELFAST LIMITED BOARD

Monday, 7th August, 2017

MEETING OF ACTIVE BELFAST LIMITED BOARD

(Held in the Lavery Room, City Hall)

Attendees

- Directors:** Mr. J. McGuigan (Chairperson)
Councillor Boyle
Councillor Corr
Mr. J. Higgins
Mr. C. Kirkwood
Mr. M. McGarrity
Mr. R. Stewart and
Mr. M. Webster.
- Officers:** Mrs. R. Crozier, Assistant Director,
City and Neighbourhood Services Department;
Mr. N. Munnis, Partnership Manager; and
Mr. H. Downey, Democratic Services Officer.
- GLL:** Mr. G. Holland, Partnership Manager; and
Mr. R. McKenna, Regional Community Sports Manager.

Apologies

Apologies were reported on behalf of Councillor Long, Mr. P. Boyle, Mr. M. Keenan, Mr. N. Mitchell and Mr. G. Kirk (GLL).

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 15th June were approved.

Matters Arising

Charitable Status

The Board noted that the Partnership Manager was working with the Council's Legal Services Section to finalise the report on the potential for seeking charitable status and that it would be submitted to its next meeting.

Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were reported.

Active Belfast Limited Returns to Companies House

The Partnership Manager reminded the Board that, at its meeting on 15th June, it had been provided with an update on the status of those documents which were required to be submitted, on a regular basis, to Companies House in relation to Active Belfast Limited.

He provided a further update and pointed out that the Register of Directors now being held by Companies House reflected fully the current membership of the Board and that it had acknowledged on its website the receipt of the Annual Confirmation Statement for 2017/2018. He reminded the Board further that, on 15th June, it had agreed that a version of the Articles of Association, which had been submitted to Companies House previously and which had been returned to allow for some anomalies to be addressed, should be revised and be re-submitted, on the understanding that a further amendment would be required once the Board had reached a decision on whether or not to apply for charitable status. He circulated an amended version of the document for signature by the Directors and pointed out that it was anticipated that it would be accepted and acknowledged by Companies House prior to the next meeting of the Board.

The Board noted the information which had been provided.

Independent Review of Current Operating Model

The Board was reminded that, at its meeting on 15th June, it had approved the terms of reference for an independent review of the current operating model for leisure provision, which had been commissioned by the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee on 19th May.

The Partnership Manager reported that, following a tendering process, First Point Management and Consultancy Limited had been appointed by the Council to conduct the review, which was due to be completed by the end of September. A three-week consultation process would commence on 7th August and the consultants would, later in the week, be visiting the City to meet with key stakeholders, including the Active Belfast Limited Board, which would have a prominent role to play in the review process. Accordingly, he invited the Board to identify a suitable date on which to meet with the consultants and to agree the extent of its representation at that meeting.

After discussion, the Board agreed that it be represented at the meeting by the Chairperson and by Mr. J. Higgins, with the preferred date being the afternoon of Thursday, 10th August. The Board agreed also that those Directors who were not in attendance be offered the opportunity to attend the meeting and noted that the Partnership Manager would, in advance, forward to Directors the Terms of Reference for the review, together with background information on First Point Management and Consultancy Limited.

Reporting of Active Belfast Limited Performance

The Board was reminded that, at its meeting on 15th June, it had agreed that, in future, quarterly KPI performance reports would be presented to the Board in the third month of the subsequent quarter, with the KPI spreadsheet and accompanying narrative to be circulated to Directors by the middle of the previous month.

The Partnership Manager explained that the revised reporting arrangements would, amongst other things, allow Directors additional time to scrutinise the KPI

spreadsheet and supporting information, in advance of considering the performance report in the following month. He confirmed that staff from the Council and from GLL were in the process of collating and analysing the performance data for the first quarter of 2017/2018, which it was anticipated would be circulated to the Board in the week commencing 14th August. The performance report for that quarter would then be presented to the Board on 18th September.

Noted.

Update on Aquatics Strategy

The Partnership Manager reminded the Board that, at its meeting on 20th April, it had approved an outline plan and proposed timeframe for the delivery of a Belfast-wide Aquatics Strategy.

He reported that the proposed timeframe included provision to undertake an initial four-week consultation exercise with selected key stakeholders around the vision statement and the eight strategic principles which had been formulated by the Aquatics Strategy Working Group and approved by the Board, together with a proposed design format and content headings. He explained that the consultation process should have commenced on 5th May, however, due to technical and operational issues, it had been delayed until 10th July. A total of sixty-seven groups had been invited to respond to the consultation via the Council's Citizen Space online consultation platform, with submissions to be received by 11th August.

He confirmed that it had been necessary to make a number of minor revisions to the initial timeframe for the delivery of the Aquatics Strategy and that those had been reflected in the documentation issued as part of the current pre-consultation process. However, they would have no impact upon the completion of the overall Strategy or its anticipated launch in early 2018.

The Board noted the information which had been provided.

Other Business

GLL Update

Mr. Holland informed the Board that a voluntary redundancy exercise, which had been undertaken recently across all GLL-managed facilities to coincide with the temporary closure of the Andersonstown Leisure Centre, had now been completed. In total, fifty staff had been granted redundancy, including seventeen from Andersonstown Leisure Centre. The remaining staff in that Centre had since been transferred to other facilities.

He added that the new leisure facility in Castle Lane was scheduled to open in November and that details of its official opening would be circulated to the Board, once finalised.

The Board noted the information which had been provided.

Date of Next Meeting

The Board noted that its next meeting would take place at 4.30 p.m. on Monday, 18th September, with the venue to be confirmed in due course.

Chairperson



Subject:	Requests for use of the City Hall and the provision of Hospitality
Date:	18 th August 2017
Reporting Officer:	Gerry Millar, Director of Property & Projects
Contact Officer:	George Wright, Head of Facilities Management

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"/>
Some time 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 or Summary of main Issues
1.1	Members will be aware that the Committee, at its meeting of 6 th January 2017, agreed to modify the criteria governing access to the City Hall function rooms for external organizations. The Committee also agreed to the implementation of hire charges for some categories of function, and also revised the approach to the provision of civic hospitality for functions on foot of the agreed efficiency programme. Some modifications to this approach were then agreed at the Committee’s meeting of 24 th March 2017 and 23 rd June 2017.
1.2	The attached schedule contains the recommended approach in respect of each of the requests received up to August 2017 which appear to comply with the criteria previously established by the Committee and are recommended for approval.

1.3	The schedule mostly covers applications for functions in 2017, however a number of function requests due to be held in 2018 and 2019 have also been included, in order to provide certainty to the organizers of these events and allow them to begin their event planning.
1.4	It should be noted that a request from the Ulster University Science Festival has been recommended for approval on the basis that the once-in-three-years rule is applied to it. There are no other recommended applications of this rule this month.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approve the recommendations made in respect of applications received up to August 2017 as set out in Appendix 1 attached to this report.
3.0	Main report
3.1	<u>Key Issues</u> The existing revised criteria and scale of charges have been applied to the various requests received and the recommendations herein are offered to the Committee on this basis.
3.2	<u>Financial & Resource Implications</u> The implementation of charging for external functions has now commenced, in line with the Committee's decisions in the matter. As can be seen from the chart at Appendix 1, of the 15 applications before the Committee this month 7 will attract charges under the new arrangements, producing income of £2,440 .
3.3	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u> There are no direct good relations or equality implications arising from this report.
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 - Schedule of Function requests received up to August 2017

AUGUST 2017 FUNCTION APPLICATIONS

NAME OF ORGANIZATION	FUNCTION DATE	FUNCTION DESCRIPTION	CRITERIA MET	ROOM CHARGE	HOSPITALITY OFFERED	CIVIC HQ RECOMMEND
2017 EVENTS						
Wandsworth Community Association	18 Sept 2017	Reception followed by Awards Ceremony and dinner. Queens Awards for Voluntary Service being presented by Lord Lieutenant. Attending – Approx. 80	Yes – C & D	No charge (charity)	Yes Wine reception up to £500 max (community group evening event)	Allow No charge Wine reception
Homecoming Event	6 Oct 2017	4 course dinner followed by entertainment Attending - 250	Yes – A & B	Yes £300 <i>(not £825 as dinner linked to BCC Sister Cities)</i>	Yes – Wine reception up to £500 max (international guests linked with EDU/BCC)	Allow Charge £300 Wine reception
Family Nurse Partnership	9 Oct 2017	2 hour event with buffet and speeches welcoming International Family Nurses who are in the City for training on Domestic Violence Attending - 45	Yes – A & B	Yes £115	Yes – Wine reception up to £500 max (international guests)	Allow Charge £115 Wine reception
Belfast Recovery College	16 Oct 2017	Formal launch of Belfast Trust Recovery College Attending – 150-200	Yes – A & D	No charge (voluntary)	Yes – Tea/Coffee reception £2 per head	Allow No charge Tea/ coffee reception
Northern Ireland Anti-Bullying Forum	13 Nov 2017	Launch of Anti-Bullying Week and Awards Ceremony Attending - 100	Yes C & D	No charge (charity)	Yes – Tea/Coffee reception £2 per head	Allow No charge Tea/ coffee reception
Polish Educational and Cultural Organisation	19 Nov 2017	Cultural event to celebrate Polish Independence Day Attending 100-150	Yes C & D	No charge (charity)	Yes – Tea/Coffee reception £2 per head	Allow No charge Tea/ coffee reception
2018 EVENTS						
Helplines Network Northern Ireland	6 Feb 2018	Information Day with speeches and presentations to mark NI Helplines Day 2018, Attending 150	Yes C & D	No charge (voluntary)	Yes – Tea/Coffee reception £2 per head	Allow No charge Tea/ coffee reception
Ulster University Science Festival	22 February 2018	Turing Lecture and exhibition as part of the city wide Science Festival. Attending 500	Yes A & B 1 in 3 rule to be applied	Yes £300	No	Allow 1 in 3 rule to be applied Charge £300 No hospitality
Queen's University Belfast Women's	21 May 2018	A talk exploring Women and Leadership followed	Yes A & B	Yes £300	No	Allow Charge £300 No hospitality

AUGUST 2017 FUNCTION APPLICATIONS

Leadership TEDx		by dinner Attending 150-200				
Queen's University Belfast School of Medicine	24 May 2018	Reception to welcome delegates who are attending symposium on Diabetic Eye Disease Attending 150	Yes A & B	Yes £300	Yes – Wine reception up to £500 max (international guests large conference)	Allow Charge £300 Wine reception
Conference Partners International – Belfast Summit	28 May 2018	Welcome Reception For Belfast Summit on Global Food Integrity Attending 700	YES A & B	Yes £300	Yes – Wine reception up to £500 max (international guests large conference)	Allow Charge £300 Wine reception
Driver and Vehicle Agency CIECEA General Assembly	30 May 2018	50 th CIECEA General Assembly 2018 being held in Belfast – Reception, Dinner, Entertainment Attending 200-250	Yes A, B & C	No charge Conference supported by Visit Belfast	Yes – Wine reception up to £500 max (international guests large conference)	Allow No Charge Wine reception
ADRC NI Centre for Public Health, QUB	21 June 2018	Welcome reception, dinner and ceili for delegates attending this 2 day conference in Belfast Attending – 250	Yes – A & B	£825.00 (university not a charity)	Yes – Wine reception up to £500 max (international guests large conference)	Allow Charge £825 Wine reception

2019 EVENTS

Instonians Rugby Club	17 May 2019	Dinner, Speeches and Dance to celebrate centenary of the Club Attending 375	Yes – C & D	No charge (community)	Yes – Wine reception up to £500 max (international guests large conference)	Allow No Charge Wine reception
-----------------------	-------------	--	-------------	-----------------------	---	--------------------------------



Subject:	Belfast Rapid Transit Vehicle launch		
Date:	18 August 2017		
Reporting Officer:	Suzanne Wylie, Chief Executive		
Contact Officer:	Anne Doherty, Planning & Transport Officer, ext 3477		
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"/>	
Some time 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 or Summary of main Issues
1.1	The Committee is advised that an invitation has been received from the Belfast Rapid Transit (BRT) reference group inviting the Lord Mayor to attend the unveiling of the new Belfast Rapid Transit vehicle at the 'Busworld Europe' conference in Kortrijk, Belgium on the 19 th October 2017.
1.2	The 'Busworld Europe' conference is the biggest bus and coach exhibition in Europe and is attended by around 35,000 visitors. The Belgian-based company Van Hool, who were awarded the BRT contract in November 2015, are using the conference to launch and showcase the new vehicle on a European platform.

2.0	Recommendations
2.1	It is recommended that Committee approve attendance of the Lord Major and an officer at the unveiling of the new Belfast Rapid transit vehicle at the 'Busworld Europe' conference and authorise the payment of the appropriate travel and subsistence allowances associated with the trip.
3.0	Main report
3.1	The Council has supported the introduction of Belfast Rapid Transit which should greatly enhance the existing public transport network in Belfast. The pilot BRT network is currently being developed and will link East Belfast, West Belfast and Titanic Quarter via the city centre. Work is currently underway to facilitate future introduction of bus lanes in the east and west of the city. 'Belfast On the Move' provided the enabling measures for rapid transit in the city centre and a new Park & Ride facility at Dunlady Road, Dundonald came into operation in December 2014.
3.2	Van Hool won the contract to supply a fleet of 30 vehicles for the new Belfast system and will be supported locally by Road Trucks Limited of Larne. The new vehicles, known as Exqui.City are currently being built and are scheduled to come into service on the new BRT network in September 2018.
3.3	These high quality rapid transit vehicles should provide a modern, comfortable environment for passengers in terms of space, security and on-board information. The BRT system will also incorporate high quality halts with easy access to vehicles, real time information systems for easier journey planning and off-vehicle ticketing to speed up the boarding process. It is hoped the speed, reliability and comfort of the BRT services will provide an attractive public transport alternative for residents and visitors.
	<u>Financial and Resource Implications</u>
3.4	The cost for travel and accommodation will be approximately £600 and is included within current budgets.
	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u>
3.5	No specific equality or good relations implications.
4.0	Appendices
	None



Subject:	Notice of Motion : Cladding on Flats and High Rise Buildings
Date:	18 th August, 2017
Reporting Officer:	Jim Hanna, Senior Democratic Services Officer, ext 6313
Contact Officer:	Jim Hanna, Senior Democratic Services Officer, ext 6313

Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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 response from the Department of Finance in relation to the Council's Motion on Cladding on Flats and High Rise Buildings.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is asked to note the response and take any such action as may be determined.
3.0	Main Report
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.1	<p>The Council, at its meeting on 3rd July, passed the following motion on Cladding on Flats and High Rise Buildings, which had been proposed by Councillor Attwood and seconded by Councillor Lyons:</p> <p>“This Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • expresses its deepest sympathy to the victims and families of the Kensington fire tragedy; • notes with concern that the cladding used in the refurbishment contributed to the disaster; and

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> notes that it has a statutory duty to enforce the Building Regulations standards, which includes requirements on health, structural stability and fire safety. <p>Accordingly, the Council calls upon the Department of Finance to undertake an immediate review of all fire safety requirements and guidance issued under the Building Regulations (Northern Ireland) Order 1979 to ensure that they are based upon the most recent developments in fire safety design and construction.</p> <p>The Council will provide advice to government, NIHE, housing providers and industry on any changes to the Regulations designed to protect the safety of residents in flats or other high rise buildings and will ensure that any changes to Building Regulations to protect the safety of residents in flats or other high rise buildings are enforced on all new developments or refurbishments across the City.”</p>
3.2	A response has now been received from Mr. P. Wickens, Chief Executive of the Department of Finance’s Enterprise Shared Services section, which is responsible for administering the Buildings Regulations legislation in Northern Ireland. A copy of the response is attached.
3.3	Mr. Wickens has confirmed that the Department of Finance is fully aware of the issues arising from the Grenfell Tower tragedy, has highlighted the Department’s input into a number of guidance letters promoting the appropriate testing of Aluminium Composite Materials and has thanked councils for their co-operation and support in reporting on those tests.
3.4	He points out that the Department of Finance fully recognises its role in ensuring that all aspects of Building Regulations specify the minimum requirements which can be reasonably attained and that it has, since the introduction in 1972 of those Regulations, developed proposals to reflect research carried out on the Government’s behalf by, for example, the Building Research Establishment. He explains that Part E (Fire Safety) of the Building Regulations, which had been updated in 2012, would, following the investigation into the Grenfell Tower tragedy, require further consideration and that Departmental officials had, in the interim, initiated a review of the Technical Booklet which provided guidance on that element of the legislation, with a view to quickly addressing any straightforward amendments to that guidance.
3.5	Mr. Wickens then highlights the extent of the support which the Department of Finance receives from the Northern Ireland Building Regulations Advisory Committee and concludes by pointing out that officials had met with their counterparts within the Building Control Service and by acknowledging the ongoing goodwill and the expertise which has been shared to date.
3.6	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None</p>
3.7	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>None</p>

4.0	Document Attached
	Response from Mr. P. Wickens, Department of Finance

This page is intentionally left blank

Mr Henry Downey
Democratic Services Section
Belfast City Council
Chief Executive's Department
City Hall
BELFAST
BT1 5GS

8th Floor
Goodwood House
44-58 May Street
Belfast BT1 4NN

Tel: 028 9025 4804
email: paul.wickens@finance-ni.gov.uk

Our ref: SCORR-0142-2017

Date: 7 August 2017

Dear Mr Downey

Thank you for your letter of 14 July 2017 to Hugh Widdis highlighting the motion passed by Belfast City Council at its meeting on 3 July on Cladding on Flats and High Rise Buildings. I am replying on behalf of Mr Widdis who is on leave.

I would first assure you that the Department of Finance is fully aware of the issues and concerns raised by the Grenfell Tower tragedy.

The Department has provided detailed input on a number of guidance letters promoting appropriate testing of Aluminium Composite Materials (ACMs) to help replicate UK Government advice to local bodies including District Councils. The Department is grateful for the co-operation and support of Councils in reporting on these investigations.

Belfast City Council's motion calls on the Department to *"undertake an immediate review of all fire safety requirements and guidance issued under the Building Regulations (Northern Ireland) Order 1979 to ensure that they are based upon the most recent developments in fire safety design and construction"*.

The Department fully recognises its role in ensuring that all aspects of Building Regulations specify minimum requirements which in the opinion of the Department can be reasonably attained. Since the introduction of Building Regulations in 1972, the Department has developed proposals to follow up to date research carried out on behalf of the UK Government by bodies such as Building Research Establishment (BRE) and others.

The Department receives support from the Northern Ireland Building Regulations Advisory Committee (NIBRAC) to help ensure proposals suit local circumstances and practices. Consultation with NIBRAC is required for any legislative changes and recruitment to NIBRAC as quickly as possible and by early 2018 at the latest is a key priority for the Department's Building Standards Branch. The expertise gathered will assist in the longer term and more detailed review which will build on lessons learned from the Grenfell tragedy.

Part E (Fire Safety) of the Building Regulations was last updated in October 2012. Work on a further technical uplift involves a detailed and complex range of measures which will now require further consideration arising from investigations into the Grenfell fire. As an interim measure, therefore, officials will undertake a short review of Technical Booklet E (Fire Safety), which provides guidance to the requirements of Part E of the current regulations, with a view to quickly addressing any potentially straightforward amendments to the guidance. This review is underway, after which any policy proposals will be subject to Ministerial consideration and consultation.

I understand that officials have had meetings with Belfast City Council Building Control. The Department greatly values Council Enforcement Officers' views and acknowledges the ongoing goodwill and expertise shared to date.

Yours sincerely

Paul Wickens

PAUL WICKENS
Chief Executive ESS

cc: Hugh Widdis
Desi McDonnell