



**Democratic Services Section
Legal and Civic Services Department
Belfast City Council
City Hall
Belfast
BT1 5GS**

8th October, 2019

MEETING OF PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

Dear Alderman/Councillor,

The above-named Committee will meet in the Lavery Room - City Hall on Tuesday, 8th October, 2019 at 5.15 pm, 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

Variation of Minute

That the minutes of the meeting of 10th September are taken as read and signed as correct, subject to the variation to the minute under the heading 'Request for the hire of Botanic Gardens for a series of music events' to note that it was:

Moved by Councillor D. Baker
Seconded by Councillor McLaughlin and

Resolved - That the Committee agrees to grant authority to Aiken Promotions' for the use of the great lawn at Botanic Gardens for a series of music events with attendances under 5,000 persons in the year 2020, to include set up and take down, and that a report would be submitted for the Committee's consideration in relation to any promoter who was seeking to use the Council's Parks for similar events in future years."

- (c) Declarations of Interest

2. **Matters referred back from Council / Motions**

- (a) Alley-Gating Programme (Pages 1 - 2)
- (b) Anti-Social Behaviour - Holylands Area (Pages 3 - 6)

3. **Committee/Strategic Issues**

- (a) Waste Collection Update (Pages 7 - 14)
- (b) Local Air Quality Management Update for Belfast (Pages 15 - 22)
- (c) Committee Planning Workshop - Feedback (Pages 23 - 52)

4. **Operational Issues**

- (a) Street Naming (Pages 53 - 54)
- (b) Update on Grass Cutting at sites not owned by Belfast City Council (Pages 55 - 58)
- (c) Feasibility of Funding for Cloth Nappy Scheme (Pages 59 - 62)
- (d) Request for the Use of Lower Botanic Gardens - City of Belfast Grand Black Chapter (Pages 63 - 66)
- (e) Combined Report - Request for the Use of Parks (Pages 67 - 70)
- (f) Request to Plant Trees as part of Queen's Commonwealth Tree Canopy Project (Pages 71 - 74)
- (g) DAERA Consultation on Invasive Alien Species (IAS) in NI (Pages 75 - 80)
- (h) Association of Port Health Authorities (APHA) Membership (Pages 81 - 84)
- (i) Solace/Waste Forum Update (Pages 85 - 90)
- (j) Strategic Cemeteries and Crematorium Development Update (Pages 91 - 102)

5. **Issues Raised in Advance by Members**

- (a) Use and Condition of Council Pavilions - Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor McReynolds, to raise
- (b) Porta-Cabin at Wedderburn Park - Councillor Graham to raise (Pages 103 - 104)
- (c) Update on the Pilot Extending Opening Hours in Council Parks - Councillor M. Kelly to raise

This page is intentionally left blank



| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Subject: | Motion – Alley-Gating Programme |
| Date: | 8th October, 2019 |
| Reporting Officer: | Louise McLornan, Democratic Services Officer |
| Contact Officer: | Louise McLornan, 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/Summary of Main Issues |
| 1.1 | To bring to the Committee’s attention a Motion regarding the Alley-Gating Programme, which will be presented to the Council at its meeting on 1st October. |
| 2.0 | Recommendation |
| 2.1 | The Committee is requested to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider the Motion and take such action thereon as may be determined. |
| 3.0 | Main Report |
| 3.1 | <u>Key Issues</u> The following motion regarding the Alley-Gating Programme, which will be proposed by Councillor Brooks, and seconded by Councillor M. Kelly, will be presented to the Council at its meeting on 1st October: |

| | |
|-----|--|
| 3.2 | <p>“This Council will undertake a review of the effectiveness of its alley-gating programme to date, and look to build delivery partnerships with other agencies, should internal funding not be available to gate those areas still on waiting list”.</p> <p>In accordance with Standing Order 13(f), the Motion was referred without discussion to the People and Communities Committee.</p> |
| 3.3 | <p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None.</p> |
| 3.4 | <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>None.</p> |
| 4.0 | <p>Appendices - Documents Attached</p> |
| | <p>None</p> |



| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Subject: | Notice of Motion – Addressing Anti-Social Behaviour in the Holylands Area |
| Date: | 8 October 2019 |
| Reporting Officer: | Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director, City & Neighbourhood Services |
| Contact Officer: | Stephen Leonard, Neighbourhood Services 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/Summary of Main Issues |
| 1.1 | To bring to the Committee’s attention a Notice of Motion regarding addressing Anti-Social Behaviour in the Holylands and the surrounding areas, which was discussed at the Council meeting on 1st October. |
| 1.2 | <p>The following motion regarding Anti-Social Behaviour in the Holylands and surrounding area, which was proposed by Councillor Groogan, and seconded by Councillor McKeown,:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“This Council condemns the persistent and serious anti-social behaviour that residents of the Holylands and the surrounding area endure throughout the year due to the high numbers of HMOs that exist there.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">This council will review its policy for dealing with all aspects of anti-social behaviour in the Holylands area, particularly around on-street drinking, noise and littering and bring forward an action plan for tackling the ongoing problems experienced in this area.</p> |

| | |
|------------|---|
| 1.3 | <p>This council also notes the worryingly high levels of crime in a small, densely populated area of this city and commits to working with statutory partners to bring back CCTV units to the area as one of the means to tackle this issue."</p> <p>In accordance with Standing Order 13(f), the Motion was referred without discussion to the People and Communities Committee</p> |
| 2.0 | Recommendation |
| 2.1 | <p>The Committee is requested to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider the Motion and take such action thereon as may be determined. |
| 3.0 | Main Report |
| 3.1 | <p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>Freshers' 2019 Update</p> <p>Our night time noise service was operational as usual, 7 days a week from 2000 – 0400. All complaints from the Holylands were prioritised during the fresher's period.</p> <p>Safer Neighbourhood Officers and Alcohol Enforcement Officers were committed to the Holyland / Wider University Area Sunday – Thursday between 15th and 26th September. Hours of operation were 1600 – 2200 on Sunday and 1400 – 2200 Monday – Thursday. They were proactively patrolling the area to reduce / prevent anti-social behaviour and keeping people safe.</p> <p>South Belfast Anti-social behaviour officer carried out joint visits with the universities and followed up on problem premises and public complaints.</p> <p>Our cleansing and cleansing enforcement teams operated as normal with any issues / areas for attention being passed on by community safety. Our night time cleansing service also assisted with reducing excessive litter within the area.</p> <p>Our entertainments licensing team proactively engaged with bars and clubs regarding their plans for the period and reminding them of their responsibilities. Premises of concern where flagged up with the team and joint visits did take place with the PSNI.</p> <p>Figures for the Freshers' Period are being finalised and a meeting has been called by the PSNI to sign off on these for this year.</p> <p>Background to existing role and actions from the Learning City Interagency Group</p> <p>The Holylands Interagency Group (now Learning City Interagency Group) was formed in 2005. Since 2009 the Council has chaired this group and it consists of a range of statutory partners committed to working in partnership to tackle the problems associated with large number of students living in the City. The Chair of PACT (Partners and Communities Together) represents local residents on this group. The group also included a representative from the Landlord Association for Northern Ireland (LANI) and the National Union of Students.</p> <p>In 2012 the Council and other statutory partners adopted the Holyland & Wider University Area Strategic Study. The plan recognised that the problems in the area were not just down to one agency and that in order to realise the improvements identified in the report it needed ownership and commitment from all the stakeholders in the area. Since then partners have worked together and integrated services on the ground in order to make a difference in the area. The short to medium term recommendations in the report have been achieved. The long-term recommendations will be progressed through our local</p> |

development plan and our Community Plan 'The Belfast Agenda'. A summary of these achievements is outlined below.

- Council developed a Framework for Student Housing in the city in 2014, which has been incorporated into Supplementary Planning Guidance. The Supplementary Planning Guidance sets the strategic context and agenda for student housing in the city, articulating the need for more purpose built student accommodation and will monitor and maintain an up to date assessment of current supply and future demand for student accommodation.
- Council continues to work with partners to assess the viability of purpose built student accommodation, requirements, and options for public sector to support delivery.
- The Local Development Plan sets the strategic context and agenda for student housing in the city. A report on Preferred Options Paper consultation was published on 26 July 2017 and the consultation on the draft plan strategy has just closed.
- The then 'DSD' (The Department for Social Development) now 'DfC' (The Department for Communities) was approached to consider the potential for implementing recommendations in relation to introducing a 'new homes from old places' initiative in the area, namely to identify a housing association that would acquire properties and make these available to single households. DSD advised that this was not a feasible option due to lack of demand from potential tenants, and the high costs of acquiring/converting properties. Through the Local Development Plan's strategic theme of "shaping a liveable place" development to enhance the health and wellbeing of communities, neighbourhoods and place will be promoted. Furthermore, the Belfast Agenda's strategic priority "living here" focuses on making life better for all our residents.
- Council worked with the former Holyland Interagency Group to review the PACT structure and implement a new neighbourhood management approach for the area. A revised PACT structure was agreed and has been in operation since 2014. The Learning City Interagency Group continues to work closely with PACT.

3.9

Every year partners deliver a range of projects in the area in addition to the work of all the relevant enforcement agencies. In 2017/18 partners delivered the following in the area:

- Through continued, effective partnership working with the higher education institutions across the city, procedures to manage student behaviours have been introduced which include induction and disciplinary procedures.
- Reviewed the effectiveness of legislation and byelaws, relevant to addressing antisocial behaviour. On 17 April 2018, Department of Justice launched an eight week public consultation to review the current criminal legislation framework to tackle anti-social behaviour, including on-street drinking. A corporate Council response was prepared in relation to this consultation which was presented to Committee on 5 June 2018.
- Several physical and environmental improvement projects have been delivered or are in the process of being delivered which include:
 - (i) graffiti removal and re-imaging using the Probation Board NI graffiti bus in addition to Council's graffiti team;
 - (ii) tree planting through the Local Investment Fund;
 - (iii) scoping the regeneration of the area known as "Horsey Hill" to develop a corridor to link local green spaces;
 - (iv) capacity support to assist the delivery of community led projects;

| | |
|------------|--|
| | <p>(v) community clean-ups; and (vi) A South Belfast circular economy project is being considered to encourage recycling rates.</p> <p>Challenges and Next Steps</p> <p>3.10 Partner agencies provide services and numerous initiatives and projects in the area to assist in addressing the impacts on the levels of antisocial behaviour whilst acknowledging that there is always more to be done. The Learning City Interagency Group looks at good practice for new ways to tackle the issues encountered and are committed to continue to work together to integrate services on the ground in a way that is responsive to what makes a difference to local people in an area. This motion highlights a number of options to address problems in the area.</p> <p>3.11 As described above, both the Council and our partner agencies recognise that key challenges remain which may require future legislative and policy change, including the identification of resources to support these. Some of the key areas highlighted during the Council discussion were the need for increased partnership agency response on the street, a need to review the powers of seizure around on-street drinking, how effective our powers are in addressing noise nuisance, and considering how opportunities presented by the new Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) Licensing scheme can be utilised in order to address antisocial behaviour whilst recognising that any changes in the latter will require some time to implement in real terms.</p> <p>3.12 The Chief Executive will shortly be convening a meeting with senior representatives of the PSNI and Vice Chancellors of both Ulster University and Queens University Belfast to consider what further can be done. Community stakeholders will also be invited to attend this meeting.</p> <p>3.13 It is also anticipated that a special meeting of the People and Communities is convened to allow the relevant community stakeholders to raise their concerns – requests have already been received by a number of partners.</p> <p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u> None related to this report.</p> <p><u>Equality, Rural Needs or Good Relations Implications</u> None.</p> |
| 4.0 | Appendices - Documents Attached |
| | None |



| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Subject: | Waste Collection Update |
| Date: | 8 th October 2019 |
| Reporting Officer: | Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director City & Neighbourhood Service Department |
| Contact Officer: | Siobhan Toland, Director City Services John McConnell, City Services Manager (Resources & Fleet) |

| | |
|--|---|
| 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>To provide an update on Waste Collection issues, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> progress on actions included in the high level Waste Collection Improvement Plan, including the domestic and commercial efficiency reviews; issues around missed bins city wide and proposed actions to address problem areas; information in relation to the 'wheelie box' pilot launch; organic waste collections and the impact on operations. |
| 2.0 | Recommendations |
| 2.1 | <p>The Committee is asked to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the progress in relation to the performance improvements within the Waste Collection Improvement Plan to date, and recognise the ongoing work along with associated timescales. |

| | |
|------------|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Endorse the procurement of a review of our Fleet needs, to help inform a fit for purpose sustainable Fleet Strategy which is aligned to the corporate ambitions of the Council. Relevant out workings of this review will be shared with the Working Group on Climate Crisis. • Note the planned actions around addressing the issues of missed collections across the city, the upcoming kerbside wheelie box pilot scheme and the impact of increased tonnages of organic waste in 2019. |
| 3.0 | Main Report |
| | <p>Key Issues</p> <p>3.1 Waste Collection Improvement Plan As outlined in the report of 4th December 2018 the Logistics Manager and his team have continued to focus on the waste improvement action plan. In terms of domestic collections, all domestic operational crews have gone through a challenge process, whereby individual productivity on a daily basis has been discussed and improvement plans agreed where necessary. This will now become a normal function of efficiency management whereby performance will be challenged on a regular basis.</p> <p>3.2 In terms of commercial collections the data collection exercise has been carried out and plans are currently being formed as to how this can be best taken forward. In recent years, however, there has been a fall in revenue for the Council from commercial waste collections, arising from more competition, loss of business to regional contracts and an increase in the provision of free or reduced rate services to churches, charities and educational establishments. There are concerns that this could at some stage undermine the economic feasibility of this service and work is underway to see whether there is value in developing an alternative model.</p> <p>3.3 To underpin these initiatives and to drive through continuous improvement, there is still a requirement to keep under review the levels of resources for the Waste Collection service and this will be considered under the City Service Fleet and Resource Transition Programme and estimating processes etc.</p> <p>3.4 Missed Bin Collections Turning to the issue of missed bins, this item has received increased scrutiny over the past two years as the new Resources & Fleet City Service, has been established and throughout the summer of 2019 in particular. One of the priorities in Waste Collection is</p> |

| | |
|-----|--|
| | <p>to ensure that the number of missed bins are kept to a minimum. It is worth reminding members that on average we collect approximately 154,000 bins a week, so the percentage of missed bins is less than 0.5% although we appreciate the impact even this has on people.</p> |
| 3.5 | <p>Recently, the number of missed collections has increased as a result of several factors, the main one being restricted access to streets due to parked cars. Although difficult to quantify, Waste Collection believes this to be a mix of residents parking in their own streets and commuters parking just off main arterial routes and then using public transport to continue their journeys to and from work.</p> |
| 3.6 | <p>The number of missed bins reported to the Council's Call Centre spiked over and following the July holiday period, and although Waste Collection has strived to reduce this as quickly as possible, this has not been resolved quickly enough, mainly due to resources being diverted to cope with the increased demands for compostable waste collections outlined below. (See 3.11 to 3.17). Latest figures suggest that levels are now reducing towards the previous year's figures.</p> |
| 3.7 | <p>There is a continual emphasis on ensuring that the service is capable of maximising first time collection rates. To counteract the increasing levels of missed bins, a "Task Force" made up of the Waste Collection Manager and two Assistant Managers has been set up to consider alternatives to address the levels of missed bins being experienced. Several approaches have been identified, and being implemented or will be explored as part of the Improvement Plan, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raising awareness with squads about missed bins using the data - core staff have been instructed to make every effort to get bins emptied "first time, every time" but, should this not be possible, to promptly communicate difficulties. • "If the lorry can't get to the bin, can the bin get to the lorry?" Council Health & Safety officers are working with Waste Collection to consider the frequency and distances involved to bring bins from agreed collection points to the vehicle, whether there is a recommended "maximum distance" an operator can be asked to pull a bin. This remains a work in progress as there is no definitive HSE, Waste Industry Safety and Health Forum (WISH) or other guidance on this and individual risk assessments would be required taking into account road conditions, length of travel, weight of bins, etc. This would be a major undertaking to achieve, and the effects on route efficiency also need to be understood. • What would be the cost of additional staff to offset the above and reduce operator fatigue to provide longer pulls? |

| | |
|------|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selective targeting (e.g. missed Assisted Lifts) as a priority – discussions are underway with the individual crews on how best to introduce a new system of recording missed assisted lifts. • Better use of ICT with the first draft of “heat maps” being used to identify difficult areas but this is dependent upon access to critical staff members or additional technical support. • Feasibility of introducing a second Restricted Access (RA) Squad to target known inaccessible streets although this would require additional resourcing. • Longer-term, amending the fleet to have a better fit-for-purpose (i.e. procuring narrow body and/or 18T refuse collection vehicles; an initial step has been taken to order 8 x 26T narrow body RCVs which are due to delivered in April/May 2020. These should be capable of accessing narrow streets more easily and positively impact upon missed bins). • Close dialogue is maintained with Road Service regarding the installation of double-yellow lines and enforcement, and higher level discussions have been held about adopting alternative approaches – such as red or blue lines, clearway zones etc, but these have been deferred pending reestablishment of the Assembly. This is an action raised previously at committee and we will write to the Department for Infrastructure formally to update them on these challenges, the impacts, and seek to get support and action from them on how to address. |
| 3.8 | <p>All of the above work and our work around the Departmental transition and improvement project for Resources and Fleet Services, is underpinned by the Corporate Customer Improvement Programme. This work is ongoing and further reports will be presented at future meetings.</p> |
| 3.9 | <p><u>Development of a Fleet Strategy</u></p> <p>Due to the ongoing technological advances and interest to have a cleaner and greener fleet, balanced with a need to look at the types of vehicles we require in the future, that meet operational delivery plans based on the Waste Framework, it is recommended that we comprehensively review our Fleet needs to help inform a fit for purpose, sustainable Fleet Strategy, which is aligned to the corporate ambitions of the Council and will be of wider benefit to the City.</p> |
| 3.10 | <p>Although we have internal expertise around fleet management and the future needs under the waste framework, there is recognition that there is a need for some specialist knowledge. It is proposed that the Council will need to procure additional external support to assist us in developing a future proofed Fleet Strategy which reflects current</p> |

market trends, evolving technological advancements and meeting legislative requirements, assessing the economic impacts and options for introducing the strategy from the existing to a future need for Belfast City Council. We will be procuring this service as soon as possible from within existing budgets.

3.11

Organic Waste Collections

Over the previous two years, the tonnage of food/compostable waste generated over the summer for the last two years increases by 50% and 62% respectively, compared to the following winter months, as shown in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Domestic Organic Weights – Summer V Winter

| | 2017 Spring & Summer 04/17 to 09/17 | 2018 Spring & Summer 04/18 to 09/18 | 2019 Spring & Summer 04/19 to 09/19¹ |
|---------------------------|--|--|--|
| Total Shipped at Glenside | 12020 Tonnes | 12199 Tonnes | 12866 Tonnes |
| | Autumn & Winter 10/17 to 03/18 | Autumn & Winter 10/18 to 03/19 | |
| Total Shipped at Glenside | 7403 Tonnes | 8114 Tonnes | |

3.12

The current wet and warm summer of 2019, combined with food waste, has resulted in the highest month on month recorded figures to date, with an expectation of tonnages for the six summer months March to September 2019 to be in the region of 12866 Tonnes. See Appendix 1 – ‘Organic waste tonnages 2017-2019’.

3.13

Typically, due to the additional weight in individual bins during the summer, bins take longer to load, and lorries fill at a faster rate, requiring a second ship. This has meant utilising the existing finite resources to work additional hours to support service delivery. This in itself has a further knock on effect on services and logistics planning and therefore there have been impacts on the service’s ability to react to pressures in retrieving missed bins in good time on the other waste streams. As a result of the increased tonnages, during this year’s summer months much of the organic waste collection routes have not always been completed within normal working hours, and this has placed a heavy demand on additional working arrangements. For example, in the months April – September 2019, a total of 12,866 Tonnes of domestic organic waste

¹ Last two weeks Sept 19 estimated

| | |
|------|--|
| | <p>(brown bins) has been collected. Nominal capacity for this waste stream is approximately 9,555 tonnes for the comparable period. This will require reviewing our working arrangements and our existing waste policies.</p> |
| 3.14 | <p>Recognising the pressures that the increased tonnages are placing on the service and the likelihood that the tonnage presented is likely to continue to increase year on year, the Waste Collection team are currently exploring options on how to maximise resource availability going forward into next year, and as part of the Resources and Fleet Transition Programme, proposals may be brought forward in relation to this as part of the estimating process for 2020/2021.</p> |
| | <p>Kerbside Wheelie Box Pilot</p> |
| 3.15 | <p>Members will recall the update provided at last months' meeting of this committee regarding the Pilot. The Kerbside Wheelie Box Pilot is due to commence on 30th September, 2019. Capital funding of £622k has been received from DAERA to acquire two vehicles and all associated bins and materials for the project.</p> |
| 3.16 | <p>The scheme will increase the capacity of collections for recyclable materials by providing a weekly collection service whilst encouraging residents to recycle more with the provision of a smaller black bin. New bins have been delivered to residents throughout September 2019 and an intensive communications campaign has been undertaken. This has included door knocking, leafleting and will continue post project launch with roadshows and staff on the ground answering queries.</p> <p>It should be noted that there will be an increased requirement for an additional squad to deliver the kerbside box pilot, due to the increased segregation of waste at source (kerbside), and the fact that this trial will deliver a weekly rather than a fortnightly service to residents. These costs, however, are partially mitigated as the proposed area is on the pilot purple box glass collection scheme, with partial resources transferred from this activity to the wheelie-box scheme. In addition, we expect that income from the improved quality of the materials and increased landfill diversion will help offset the additional operating costs. It is expected therefore that the pilot will be nett cost neutral, assessment of this will be kept under review.</p> |
| 3.17 | <p>As part of the wheelie box pilot, data will be gathered to evaluate whether the envisaged outcomes are being realised. It is proposed that reviews of initial data will take place after 6 weeks and then after three months. Resources and Fleet would propose to present these initial findings to the P&C Committee at a date soon thereafter.</p> |

| | |
|------|---|
| 3.18 | <p><u>Financial / Resource Implications</u></p> <p>Consultancy support for the Fleet Strategy will be provided from within existing budgets. Any future route optimisation rebalancing exercises and asset implications arising from the implementation of the Waste Framework may however result in financial and resource implications at a future date.</p> |
| 3.19 | <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>At this time there are no equality, good relations or rural needs assessment implications associated with this report.</p> |
| 4.0 | <p>Appendices – Documents Attached</p> |
| | <p>Appendix 1 - Organic waste tonnages 2017-2019</p> |

This page is intentionally left blank



| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Subject: | Local Air Quality Management Update for Belfast. |
| Date: | 8 th October 2019 |
| Reporting Officer: | Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director of City and Neighbourhood Services |
| Contact Officer: | Siobhan Toland, Director of City Services Alastair Curran, Scientific Unit 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>At the People and Communities Committee meeting of 6th August 2019, a Member advanced a Notice of Motion concerning ambient air quality for the city. Actions arising from the Notice of Motion included that the council would agree to engage formally with the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) and the Department for Infrastructure (DfI) on areas of concern and to produce reports on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhancing monitoring and reporting of air pollution, including recommended limits in line with the more stringent World Health Organisation Standards; and • Introducing a Clean Air Zone in Belfast, in line with UK Government Guidance. |

| | |
|------------|---|
| 1.2 | This report serves to provide an interim response to the Committee in respect of enhancing the council's current monitoring and reporting of air pollution and regarding the introduction of a Clean Air Zone (CAZ) for Belfast. This interim report has been provided as an update on monitoring and CAZs and in advance of any direct engagement with DAERA or DfI. |
| 2.0 | Recommendations |
| 2.1 | <p>The Committee is asked to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider the contents of the report and to agree that recommendations regarding the adoption of WHO air quality standards and Clean Air Zone / Low Emission Zone legislation should be formally provided to DAERA and DfI as part of the council's consultation response to the forthcoming DAERA Air Quality Strategy for Northern Ireland. |
| 3.0 | Main report |
| 3.1 | <p><u>Key Issues.</u></p> <p>Current national statutory obligations in respect of ambient air quality management are broadly established through the requirements of Directive 2008/50/EC on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe as well as the 4th Daughter Directive. The 2008 Directive includes detailed requirements for ambient air quality monitoring, monitoring locations and reference monitoring methodologies for sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, oxides of nitrogen, carbon monoxide, benzene, particulate matter (both PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} fractions), lead and ozone. Limit values for these pollutants have been established with regard to World Health Organisation standards, guidelines and programmes.</p> |
| 3.2 | <p>The numerous European ambient air quality management requirements have been transcribed into Northern Ireland legislation via Part III of the Environment (Northern Ireland) Order 2002, the Air Quality Standards Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2010 and supporting statutory policy and guidance. Part III of the Environment (NI) Order 2002 places a duty upon councils to periodically review and assess ambient air quality within their districts in order to determine the likelihood of achieving national air quality objectives by relevant compliance dates. These national objectives are broadly analogous to the various EC limit values detailed within the 2008 Directive. The council conducted its first review and assessment of ambient air quality for the city in 2003 and as a consequence, declared four Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA) in 2004 for exceedences of nitrogen dioxide and particulate matter objectives. These AQMAs were all declared around arterial road transport routes into and out of the city and source apportionment subsequently revealed that the exceedences were principally connected with road transport emissions. Since this first review and assessment, the council has developed a series of Air Quality</p> |

Action Plans with partner organisations including DfI, Translink, the Freight Transport Association, the Road Haulage Association and Sustrans. Members will be aware that DfI has responsibility for public transport, roads, road improvement schemes and active travel, etc. The council has also completed a series of further review and assessments, updating and screening assessments and progress reports in order to monitor progress towards achieving the air quality objectives. Particulate matter concentrations have declined over recent years to the extent that only pollutant of present concern is nitrogen dioxide.

3.3 In order to accurately measure compliance with the objectives for nitrogen dioxide, the council has installed a series of real time analysers across the city within our AQMAs and within the city centre at Lombard Street. These real time monitoring sites have been located so as to comply with the requirements of European legislation and the government's local air quality management technical guidance (LAQM.TG(16)). The Lombard Street monitoring site is classified as an urban background site and is therefore not influenced significantly by any single source or road, but rather by the integrated contribution from all sources upwind of the site. This site therefore provides an indication of the underlying levels of air pollution to which residents and workers within the city centre are likely to be exposed. The other monitoring sites for nitrogen dioxide are located within our AQMAs at the Ormeau Road, Upper Newtownards Road, Stockmans Lane and Roden Street. These sites are classified as roadside and are therefore representative of 'worst case' nitrogen dioxide concentrations. It should be noted however, that nitrogen dioxide concentrations are known to drop of rapidly with distance from the kerbside.

3.4 These automatic monitors are augmented by a series of around 60 nitrogen dioxide diffusion tubes located at relevant receptor locations across the city. Diffusion tubes are passive samplers consisting of small plastic tubes containing a chemical reagent to absorb the nitrogen dioxide directly from the air. Due to their size, diffusion tubes can be located on the façades of homes and can therefore provide an assessment of nitrogen dioxide concentrations where people live. Automatic analysers have to be located within a special air conditioned enclosure and can therefore only be installed in limited locations. Moreover, diffusion tubes typically cost around £10 per tube whereas a nitrogen dioxide automatic analyser and enclosure may cost upwards of £20,000 to install. Current locations of our diffusion tubes and automatic analysers are summarised in the council's 2019 Progress [Report](#) that has recently been technically appraised and accepted by DAERA. As advised previously, all of our diffusion tubes and automatic analysers have been located so as to

| | |
|-----|--|
| | take account of the government's Local Air Quality Management Technical Guidance (LAQM.TG(16)). |
| 3.5 | LAQM.TG(16) highlights that most local authorities have progressively adapted their monitoring strategy in accordance with air quality issues specific to their administrative area. Defra has also advised that over the years, many local authorities have relocated kerbside monitoring sites to roadside or other sites relevant to public exposure. Monitoring networks have also been progressively extended to identify all potential hot spots, whilst a number of sites have been moved elsewhere or closed in areas where data showed continued compliance. Defra has therefore concluded that the existing monitoring network for most local authorities has been appropriately adapted to respond to all LAQM requirements. |
| 3.6 | Members are advised that this adaption approach has been applied to the council's ambient air quality monitoring. It is considered therefore that the current locations of the automatic analysers are appropriate to assess nitrogen dioxide concentrations within the AQMAs. Additional nitrogen dioxide monitoring data is provided through the use of diffusion tubes both within and outside of the AQMAs. The locations of existing diffusion tubes and the need for additional monitoring are periodically reviewed in light of monitoring data, emerging monitoring trends and any significant changes in road transport conditions across the city. |
| 3.7 | Members are also advised that the cost of the council's air quality monitoring is presently partly funded via the DAERA local air quality management grant. Monitoring not complying with the government's technical requirements would be unlikely to be funded by DAERA and the purchase, installation, ongoing operation and maintenance costs of additional monitoring equipment would likely have to be fully borne by the council. |
| 3.8 | The Notice of Motion also makes mention of the application of more stringent WHO limits. It should be noted that the WHO published air quality guidelines for particulate matter, ozone, nitrogen dioxide and sulphur dioxide via a 2005 global update. The WHO has stated that the 2005 update represents the most current assessment of air pollution health effects, based on an expert evaluation of the scientific evidence. For nitrogen dioxide, the WHO has proposed a 200 $\mu\text{g}\text{m}^{-3}$ 1-hour mean and a 40 $\mu\text{g}\text{m}^{-3}$ annual mean; equivalent in concentration to European and national air quality standards. WHO has also recommended a 24-hour mean of 20 $\mu\text{g}\text{m}^{-3}$ and a 10-minute mean of 500 $\mu\text{g}\text{m}^{-3}$ for sulphur dioxide |

| | |
|------|---|
| | <p>whereas the UK and EC have applied a 15 minute mean of 266 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$, a 1-hour mean of 350 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ and a 24-hour mean of 125 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ for sulphur dioxide. There have been no exceedances of any sulphur dioxide standards in Belfast since before 2000.</p> |
| 3.9 | <p>The WHO has also advanced an annual mean of 20 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ and a 24-hour mean of 50 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$, assessed as the 99th percentile for PM₁₀ whereas the EC and UK have adopted a 40 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ annual mean and a 24-hour mean of 50 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ assessed as the 90.4th percentile. Annual mean PM₁₀ concentrations measured at the Belfast Centre and Stockmans Lane sites during 2018 were 16 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ and 15 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ respectively. For PM_{2.5}, the WHO has recommended an annual mean of 10 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ and a 24-hour mean of 25 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$, assessed as the 99th percentile. For PM_{2.5}, the UK has adopted an annual target of 25 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ to be achieved by 2020, although this target has not been included by DEARA within council air quality management obligations. However, it is understood that the forthcoming UK Environment Bill 2019 will enshrine World Health Organisation (WHO) limits for particulate matter in UK law. It should however, be noted that Belfast City Council monitors PM_{2.5} concentrations at the Belfast Centre Lombard Street site. In 2018, the PM_{2.5} annual mean was 10 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$ and the maximum daily mean was 39 $\mu\text{g}\cdot\text{m}^{-3}$. PM_{2.5} concentrations at Stockmans Lane are likely to be similar.</p> |
| 3.10 | <p>In the UK, it has been agreed that responsibility for meeting air quality limit values has been devolved to the national administrations in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Accordingly, it is understood that DAERA will shortly consult upon a Northern Ireland specific Air Quality Strategy. As part of that consultation process, the council will have the opportunity to provide a detailed consultation response, including recommendations for enhanced air quality standards and monitoring, in fulfilment of the requirements of the Notice of Motion.</p> |
| 3.11 | <p>In May 2017, government published the Clean Air Zone Framework for England. Whilst this framework applies only in England, similar Low Emission Zone legislation has been introduced in Scotland. Clean Air Zones (CAZs) are designed to deliver immediate action to improve air quality and health with support for cities to grow whilst delivering sustained reductions in pollution and a transition towards a low emission economy. Where the most persistent pollution problems exist, CAZs enable control to be introduced to encourage only the cleanest vehicles to operate within the CAZ. There are two types of CAZ; (i) non-charging – a defined geographic area used as a focus for improving air quality where actions include the use of non-charged based access restrictions such as setting minimum</p> |

| | |
|------|---|
| | <p>emission standards, better land use planning, better traffic management, better fleet procurement, working with businesses to recognise and incentivise action and accelerating the transition towards a low carbon economy and accelerating the uptake of Ultra-Low Emission Vehicles; and (ii) charging – zones where, in addition to the above measures, vehicle owners are required to pay a charge to enter, or move within, a zone if they are driving a vehicle that does not meet the particular standard for their vehicle type within that zone.</p> |
| 3.12 | <p>Within Belfast, the current principal area of concern for nitrogen dioxide remains the M1 Motorway and A12 Westlink corridor to include areas around the Stockmans Lane roundabout and York Street. Members will be aware that this route forms part of the Regional Strategic Transport Network, connecting the M1 Motorway to the M2 and M3 motorways and that DfI has published plans to significantly re-engineer the York Street Interchange to ease congestion.</p> |
| 3.13 | <p>Where CAZs or LEZs have been introduced in other cities, they have typically either excluded or charged vehicles to enter, based upon the cleanliness of their tailpipe emissions. It is considered that before a CAZ or LEZ could be justified for the M1 Motorway and A12 Westlink corridor, a detailed analysis of the composition of vehicles using the strategic network corridor would have to be undertaken in order to determine whether elevated nitrogen dioxide pollution levels are due to a particular type or Euro class of vehicle or simply due to overall vehicle numbers using this part of the Regional Strategic Transport Network. Moreover, the impact of any vehicle controls to be applied to the M1 Motorway / A12 Westlink corridor would have to be carefully considered in terms of the continuing functionality of the strategic network and in order to ensure that such controls did not simply encourage vehicles to divert through adjacent residential neighbourhoods or through other areas of the city. As highlighted earlier within this report, it is understood that DAERA will shortly consult upon a Northern Ireland specific Air Quality Strategy. It is considered that this consultation exercise will provide an opportunity for the Council to make recommendations to DAERA concerning the need for Clean Air Zone / Low Emission Zone provisions for Belfast and Northern Ireland.</p> |
| 3.14 | <p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>There would be procurement, operational and maintenance costs, as well as staff cost, if the council were to increase its ambient air quality monitoring across the city. As no such</p> |

| | |
|------------|--|
| 3.15 | <p>financial provisions exist within current budgets, monies to cover these additional costs would likely have to be generated from ongoing efficiencies within existing budgets.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications / Rural Needs Assessments</u></p> <p>None.</p> |
| 4.0 | Appendices – Documents Attached |
| | None. |

This page is intentionally left blank



| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Subject: | Committee Planning Workshop - feedback |
| Date: | 08 October 2019 |
| Reporting Officer: | Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director City & Neighbourhood Services |
| Contact Officer: | Ryan Black, Director Neighbourhood Services, City & Neighbourhood Services Siobhan Toland, Director City Services, City & Neighbourhood Services |

| | |
|---|---|
| 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 provides a summary of feedback from the People & Communities Committee Planning workshop held on 10 September 2019. |
| 2.0 | Recommendations |
| 2.1 | The Committee is asked to note the report and agree to a draft Committee Plan being brought for consideration and agreement to Committee at a future date. |
| 3.0 | Main report |
| 3.1 | Members will recall that a Committee Planning workshop was held on 10 September 2019. |

| | |
|-----|--|
| | <p>The Strategic Director of City & Neighbourhood Services delivered an introductory presentation (see Appendix 1) outlining :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – An overview of draft council Corporate Plan 2019-23 – The opportunities and challenges facing the city and council – Emerging priorities for the council – Summary of the terms of reference of the committee – Brief description of the City & Neighbourhood Services – Detailed presentation of two of the committee’s key priorities within the Corporate Plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Neighbourhood Regeneration ○ Waste & resourceful Belfast <p>Members were provided with a workshop pack containing further information about the committee, the City & neighbourhood Services Department and previous achievements. (see Appendix 2)</p> <p>Following the presentation Members held a discussion to consider two questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – What are the priorities that need more or less attention or are new priorities? – Over the next three years, what areas of work need more focus and perhaps resource? |
| 3.2 | <p>The feedback from members was collated (see Appendix 3) and a summary is listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Strong emphasis on the need to prioritise climate mitigation and environmental factors including renewable energy. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Importance of addressing issues and the need to set targets. ○ Suggestion to reflect this importance in reports and decision making (eg including a sustainability impact section in committee reports). ○ Climate Crisis working group minutes to be presented to P&C Committee monthly. ○ Specific mention of electrification of fleet and the need to take into account infrastructure, costs, targets. ○ Future proofing BCC buildings & facilities. – Development of an anti-poverty strategy. – Importance of protecting neighbourhood renewal funding for communities & other funding allocation focus to be on areas of deprivation. – Emphasis on outcomes and monitoring impact: |

| | |
|-----|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ensuring plans have appropriate targets and outcomes. ○ enabling closer alignment to the Belfast Agenda. ○ to support effectiveness of AWGs. ○ to help fulfil potential of assets eg community centres. – Members request to be more involved in priority setting. – Emphasis on collaboration with others - council cannot do all on its own: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ across council departments (especially planning in terms of climate issues). ○ with NI Assembly Departments (including consideration of shared contracts to reduce costs and minimise duplication). ○ with communities – ‘working with’ not ‘doing to.’ ○ importance of the Belfast Agenda and Community Planning. – Changes in council can be challenging and have an impact on staff but also there are opportunities for creative approaches to better meet our customer needs eg. providing targeted advice in recycle centres; operating more flexible opening hours at recycling centres; street cleansing dealing with weeds; increased use of appropriate SLAs etc. – Focus on Belfast becoming a greener city in terms of use of park, open spaces, wilding. – Concern about lack of space and facilities regarding cemeteries and crematorium. – Concern regarding growth of HMO areas and the need to support communities and mitigate impact. – Closer working with relevant partners to address health inequalities and improve quality of life. – Funding allocations to disability groups to take into consideration higher associated costs eg. specific transport, suitable facilities etc. – Prioritisation of adequate services for children and young people and also older people. |
| 3.3 | <p>Next steps</p> <p>It is proposed that officers draft a more detailed Committee Plan taking into account the feedback from the committee workshop and the relevant priorities from within the Corporate Plan and bring this back to Committee for consideration and agreement.</p> |
| 3.4 | <p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>There are no financial or resource implications directly relating to this report.</p> |

| | |
|------------|---|
| | <u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u> There are no implications directly relating to this report |
| 4.0 | Appendices |
| | Appendix 1 - Presentation slides 10 September 2019 Appendix 2 - Member Workshop pack Appendix 3 - Feedback from the Committee Planning workshop |

People and Communities Committee

Committee Planning Workshop
10 September 2019

Page 27



Belfast
City Council

Agenda

Page 28

1. Welcome and Overview

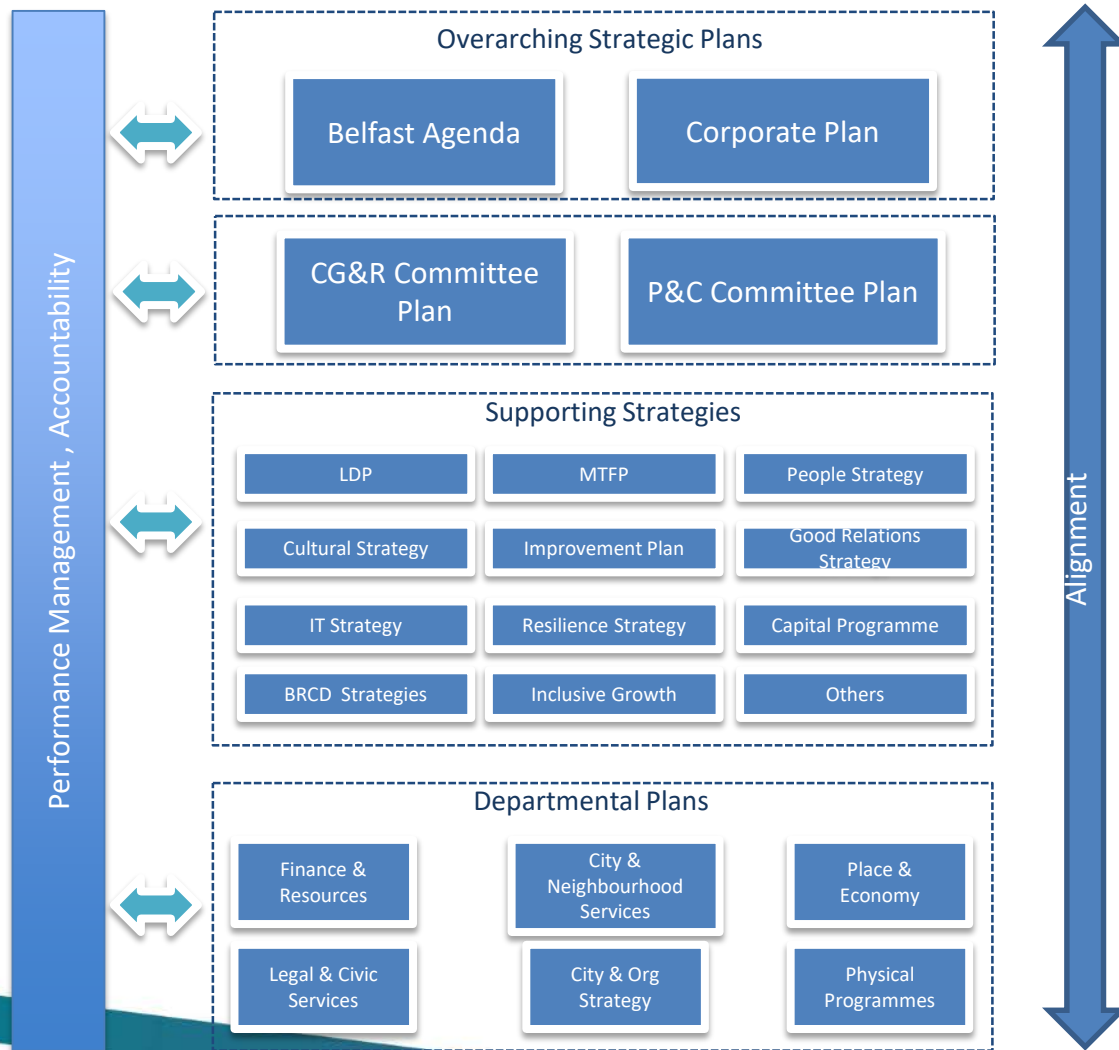
- Overview of corporate plan
- Role of Committee
- Ongoing/emerging priorities

2. Roundtable Discussion

3. Next Steps



Strategic Planning Framework



What is the Corporate Plan?



Why it's important

- Articulation of political direction in to deliverable priorities for Council term
- Sets ambitious priorities that drive real change in Belfast
- Determines resource allocation for the life of the Council term and beyond



Governance of corporate plan

- Managed through SP&R Committee
- Individual priorities in corporate plan managed through other Standing Committees
- Cascades in to individual committee and departmental plans, fixing the allocation of departmental resources



Rate setting process

- The priorities agreed in corporate plan enable an understanding of resource requirements and is the reference point for rate setting process



Opportunities & Challenges



7,322 people in Housing Stress



18.8% working age population have no qualifications



NI Assembly suspended since January 2017



Climate:

58% of the working population travel to work by car or van

Page 31



Belfast economy grew by 1.8% over the last 2 years



Brexit



6.5% unemployment rate



30.7% of the working age population were economically inactive



Council Current Financial Situation

BAU, Rate Base, Growth, Efficiency Programme, Reserves, Balanced Budget



Belfast
City Council

Emerging Priorities

New priorities that are at concept or development stage that will have significant resource and organisational change implications.

- Customer Focus Programme
- Inclusive Growth Strategy
- Sustainable Development and Resilience
- Innovation and Growth Commission
- Cultural Strategy
- Belfast Dublin Economic Corridor
- Neighbourhood regeneration
- Waste & Resourceful Belfast



TOR: People & Communities Committee



City & Neighbourhoods Dept

- Key staff
- Budget & services
- Funding
- Achievements

Page 34



Belfast
City Council

P&C Committee priorities

CROSS CUTTING PRIORITIES

- Deliver the **Belfast Region City Deal**
- Publish the **Belfast Spatial Planning Framework**
- Develop and implement the city's **Cultural Strategy**
- Build better **partnership working** to deliver **Belfast Agenda** outcomes
- Continue to deliver a **physical programme** that brings about better economic, social and environmental conditions for Belfast
 - Implement the **Inclusive Growth Strategy** to ensure everyone benefits through enhanced social value policies
 - Implement the **Good Relations Strategy**
- Develop a medium term **city finance plan** to support delivery
 - Deliver **excellent, value for money services**

- Develop a **city growth plan** through the City Growth & Innovation Commission
- Drive economic growth through **£350 million investment in digital innovation projects**
- Progress the **digital innovation strategy**
- Increase **tourism** spend by developing new products and the Belfast Story
- Encourage **business start-ups**
- Support **indigenous business growth**
- Provide the environment to support **inward investment**
- Promote and **market the city internationally** for investment
- Maximise the economic benefit of the Belfast-Dublin Economic Corridor

- Develop **integrated services** at a local level
- Develop **neighbourhood regeneration plans**
- Build and open **five new leisure centres**
- Work with **partners to maximise** the housing development opportunities
- Continue to build our **community capacity**

- Help to **address educational underachievement**
- Support residents to **access employment** through initiatives such as Belfast Workplace
- Provide **upskilling opportunities**



- **Resilience Strategy** to reduce strategic risks for the city
- City wide focus on **climate adaption and mitigation**
- **Urban waste & the circular economy**
- Improve urban **air quality**
- Develop an **energy transition plan**
- Support and encourage a switch to more sustainable transport

- Continue to implement the **City Centre Regeneration & Investment Strategy**
- Continue to support solutions for the required city **infrastructure**
- Facilitate and enable **city wide regeneration**
- Continue to develop the **Destination Hub**
- Make the city more easily **connected**

Emerging priority: Neighbourhood regeneration

- Scope & agree our definition of neighbourhood working and align with the refocusing of Area Working Groups;
- Develop an evidence baseline for areas to inform area planning opportunities;
- Design a new model of neighbourhood working, with teams which are better integrated, flexible and responsive.
 - Review the Council 'community Provision' offer
 - Commence Implementation of our Open Space & Street Scene project (integrating street cleansing & parks operations);
 - Review front line regulatory and enforcement services
- Develop 5 transformational, place based regeneration programmes in local areas across N,S,E & W Belfast.

Page 36



Emerging priority: Neighbourhood regeneration

Current status

- Officers are preparing a position for Members to consider the critical issues on what this work is; what it is called for integrated service delivery in neighbourhoods.
- AWG/ Member workshop being planned to shape the way forward in the months ahead.
- Second phase of community provision being scoped.

Next steps

- Developing our approach to area / neighbourhood working & refreshing the governance arrangement for AWG.
- Resources need considered for this continuous improvement alongside the review of community provision.
- Maximise our partnership working in creating better joined up working and improved community outcomes.



Emerging priority: Waste & Resourceful Belfast

- Successful cities manage the impact of growth and ensure that it does not limit the quality of life of future generations.
- Waste management is a key risk in the resilience of the city.
- Manage urban waste to create a quality materials product to support jobs via a circular economy. As a result we wish to develop waste management arrangements for a resourceful Belfast.



Emerging priority: Waste & Resourceful Belfast

Current status

- Propose new waste collection arrangements under the 10 Year Waste Framework Strategy;
- Test new collection arrangements for around 5,500 households (September 2019);
- Prepare a Fleet Strategy for the Council's vehicles;
- Through the Resourceful Belfast programme maximise economic potential by creating social enterprises;
- **Urban waste and the Circular Economy:** We will develop a strategy which will ensure waste is managed effectively and investigate the economic potential of the circular economy to increase skills, jobs and growth.

Next steps

- Critical factors moving forward are managing the key targets and costs to support the waste framework roll out and cultural change to supporting a circular economy .
- Fleet resourcing and future planning – assessing and feeding into capital program.
- Keeping eye to Brexit impacts and NI Infrastructure gaps in waste management



Committee Member Discussion

Pages 40

- What are the priorities that need more or less attention or are new priorities?
- Over the next three years, what areas of work need more focus and perhaps resource?



Belfast
City Council

Next steps

- Summary report of workshop
- Timetable of reporting on key priorities



This page is intentionally left blank

People & Communities Committee

Planning workshop

10 September 2019



People & Communities Committee

Planning workshop

AGENDA

| | |
|--|---------------------------|
| <p>1. Welcome and Overview – (20 minutes)</p> <p>1.1.Format/approach</p> <p>1.2.Introduction/Context</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Overview of Corporate Plan– Role of Committee– Main areas of work already signed off for this year 2019/20– Emerging Priorities | <p>6:20 – 6:40 pm</p> |
| <p>2. Round table discussions – (40 minutes)</p> <p>2.1.Looking forward and discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">– What are the priorities that need more or less attention or are new priorities– Over the next three years, what areas of work need more focus and perhaps resource? | <p>6.40 – 7.20 pm</p> |



People & Communities Committee – Terms of Reference

The People and Communities Committee is responsible for the development and implementation of strategies, policies, programmes and projects aimed at improving life at a local level in the context of the outcomes agreed in the community and corporate plans and other corporate strategy. This includes:

- Developing and delivering programmes, events and activities to promote health, safety and well-being at a local level
- Administering and enforcing the Council's powers and duties under the Public Health Acts and all environmental health and building related legislation and regulations
- Securing and providing adequate provision for the recycling, treatment and disposal of commercial and domestic waste including bulky waste and the collection and disposal of abandoned motor vehicles.
- Exercising the Council's powers for improving local environmental quality in relation to housing legislation, managing controlled waste, emergency planning and community safety and anti-social behaviour, clean neighbourhoods and other environmental or regulatory issues not falling within the remit of any other Committee.
- Managing, maintaining and maximising the benefit of the Council's parks, pitches, playgrounds and other public spaces as well as community centres and other indoor facilities
- Developing and implementing activities to ensure the delivery of corporate strategies and initiatives in respect of the promotion of health and physical activity, environmental protection, community safety and other such areas under the domain of this Committee
- Overseeing the delivery of the Council's frontline services and associated community assets including:

Environmental Services; Cleansing; Waste Management; Parks and Cemeteries service (excluding zoo, Malone House and Belfast Castle), Neighbourhood and Development Services; Community Services, Community Safety and Emergency Planning.



People & Communities Committee – Responsibilities

| Corporate Plan Priorities | |
|--|--|
| Living Here | Key Deliverables |
| Develop integrated services at a local level | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commence implementation of our Open Spaces and Streetscene project (integrating street cleansing and parks operations.) • Review of regulatory and enforcement services • Review the Council <i>community provision</i> offer through the commissioned programme of research and identified recommendations for change. |
| Develop neighbourhood regeneration plans | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop five transformational place based regeneration programmes in local areas across north, south, east and west Belfast. |
| Build and open five new leisure centres | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Open the new £25 million Andersonstown, £15 million Brook and the £20 million Lisnasharragh Leisure Centres. ▪ Commence construction of the new £8 million Avoniel and £17m restoration of Templemore Baths which has received £5m of support from the HLF. We will also continue to progress plans for a new facility at Girdwood. ▪ Create 75 new employment opportunities in our new centres at Andersonstown, Brook and Lisnasharragh. ▪ Work with GLL to develop mobilisation plans for the opening of the three new centres. ▪ Develop our Sports Development Framework, in collaboration with our Leisure Partners (GLL), to enhance the delivery of sport and leisure opportunities & outcomes and create pathways to improved health & wellbeing. |
| Continue to build our community capacity | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work in partnership with local communities and provide physical investment, resource support and funding to enhance community capacity |
| Resilience & Sustainability | Key Deliverables |
| Urban waste and the circular economy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Propose new waste collection arrangements under the 10 Year Waste Framework Strategy. • Test new collection arrangements for around 5,500 households (September 2019). • Undertake Phase 2 of the “No Food Waste” campaign. • Complete route optimization exercises for domestic and commercial waste. • Prepare a Fleet Strategy for the Council's vehicles. • Through Resourceful Belfast maximise economic potential through the creation of social enterprises. • Develop a waste acceptance policy at the Council's Household Recycling Centres & CA sites. • Undertake a feasibility study for development of the Duncrue Complex for fit-for-purpose waste facilities. |
| Improve urban air quality | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of the Air Quality action plan to support emerging target to lower carbon emissions for the city. |
| Organisational Priorities | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the organisation supports community development through community capacity building and increased community engagement. | |
| Improvement Plan Objectives | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will increase the levels of household recycling and reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill. • We will support people to lead healthier more active lives | |
| Corporate Risks | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste Management: failure to manage the city's waste against targets in an affordable manner. • Neighbourhood Area Plans: if we do not develop / agree Area Plans then our resources may not be aligned to the needs of the community | |



People

Key Contacts

| | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <p>Nigel Grimshaw Siobhan Toland Ryan Black</p> | <p>Strategic Director of City and Neighbourhood Services Director of City Services Director of Neighbourhood Services</p> | <p>Valerie Brown Tim Walker Kelly Gilliland Stephen Leonard Cate Taggart Alison Allen</p> | <p>City Services Manager - Regulatory City Services Manager – Resources and Fleet Neighbourhood Services Manager – North Belfast Neighbourhood Services Manager – South Belfast Neighbourhood Services Manager – East Belfast Neighbourhood Services Manager – West Belfast</p> |
|--|---|--|--|

Budget

- To plan and deliver services in 2019-2020 the People and Communities Committee is responsible for a budget of £80.5 million net. The budget is allocated as follows:

| Service | £000s |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| Cleansing | 18,414 |
| Community Services | 6,825 |
| Environmental Health CN | 6,477 |
| Leisure Centres | 8,513 |
| Neighbourhood and Development | 3,920 |
| Parks and Cemetery Services | 9,382 |
| CN Business Support | 3,709 |
| Vehicles | 2,130 |
| Waste Management | 21,132 |

External Funding

- We received and are currently delivering **£14.5 million** of Peace IV funding.
- In 2018/19 we received £6 million in external grants from other government bodies eg.
- Provided over £5 million funding for community, community safety, active and good relations activities for example:
 - Funding awards for over 170 projects for Good Relations, St Patrick's Day, 21 Summer Intervention awards and Bonfire & Cultural Expression.
 - £3 million of community provision to 279 groups.
 - Part funded advice services returning £31 million benefit maximisation in 17/18.
 - Part fund a Citywide Tribunal Service
 - Manages Policing & Community Safety Partnerships, their activities and small grants
 - Supports a family friendly Belfast



Committee Achievements 2018-2019 - highlights

- Acquired responsibility for the regional Houses of Multiple Occupancy (HMO) Licencing Scheme from 1 April 2019 (6,000 licensable HMOs.)
- Joined UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities.
- Provided a 24/7 on-call emergency response service.
- Provided over £5 million funding for community, community safety, active and Good Relations programmes.
- Enabled over 3 million participants and visitors to our community programmes and centres.
- Worked with over 550 groups and organisations to deliver our neighbourhood offer such as active, sports, community, community safety, older and young people etc.
- Managed and delivered the City of Belfast Crematorium as a regional service.
- Further progress on Phase 1B of the Leisure Transformation Programme and opening of the new £60 million worth of assets in Lisnasharragh Leisure Centre and Brook Leisure Centre (November 2019) and Andersonstown Leisure Centre (April 2020.)
- Diverted 106,986 tonnes of waste from landfill.
- Cleaned 276,510 miles (445,000km) of streets
- Welcomed 842,800 visitors to recycling centres.
- Achieved 20 Green flag standard awards for parks.
- Successfully developed the historical Tropical Ravine
- Transition and Improvement Programme is underway within the Department and includes the Open Spaces and Streetscene, Regulatory, Waste and Community Provision work streams for Continuous Improvement.



City and Neighbourhood Services Department (Continued)

Service Achievements

The City and Neighbourhood Services Department is moving to an area management model for service delivery in north, south, east and west of the city. There is a citywide services model in place for Resources and Fleet as well as Regulatory Services.

City Services (2018-2019)

City bereavement services and regional City of Belfast Crematorium

- Alongside managing cemeteries, maintain accurate burial records from 1869 and the five historical closed cemeteries of Knock, Balmoral, Clifton Street, Shankill and Friars Bush.

Housing

- Acquired responsibility for the regional Houses of Multiple Occupancy (HMO) Licencing Scheme from 1 April 2019 (6,000 licensable HMOs.)

Waste

- Recycled 65,000 tonnes of waste; recycled almost 44% of household waste; diverted 106,986 tonnes of waste from landfill; received 842,800 visitors to our recycling centres.

Environmental Health and Regulatory Services

- Responded to 1,740 night-time noise service requests, 1,105 animal welfare calls and 5,700 pest control requests.
- Investigated 2,689 litter and waste incidents, issuing 1,801 fixed penalty notices.
- Issued 2,500 fixed penalty notices for litter and dog offences.
- Carried out 2,580 food safety inspections.
- Cleaned 278,510 miles (445,000km) of streets.
- Supported 150 community clean-ups.
- Delivered 1,304 free home safety checks.
- Issued 380 entertainment licences.
- Carried out 187 entertainment inspections.
- Undertook on street alcohol enforcement operations.

Emergency Planning

- Responded to 26 emergency incidents such as security alerts, flooding, wind storms, gas leaks and the fire at Bank Buildings

Neighbourhood Services (2018-2019)

Developed programmes for participation, engagement and empowerment in neighbourhoods and communities that has led to:

- 3 million+ participants and visitors to our community programmes, centres and sites.
- 2 million+ leisure centre visitors (throughput.)
- 134,000 people attended outdoor leisure activities in parks & open spaces.
- 48 nominations for the Older Volunteer Awards.
- Distribution of over £5 million grant funding for community, community safety and active programmes.

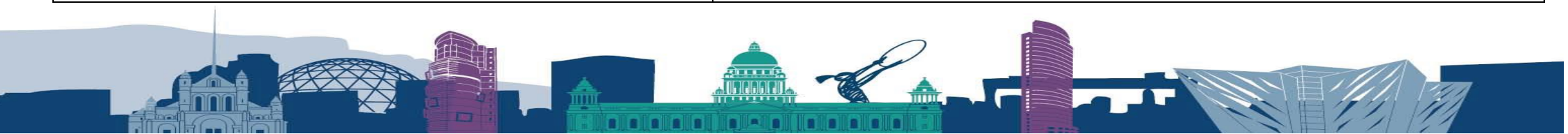
To do this we delivered:

- Summer schemes.
- Good relations programmes including *Our Diverse city* project.
- Support for Sport grant aid.
- Physical activity referrals via Healthwise (812); cardiac rehabilitation (153); cancer rehabilitation (86).
- *Take Five* wellbeing toolkit.
- Belfast Festival of Learning.
- Belfast Youth Forum 2018-2020.
- Council's Play team.
- Traveller Liaison officer post.
- *Every Body Active* programme.
- Age-friendly Belfast Plan 2018 -2021.
- *Beelicious* programme and other biodiversity training & events.
- Consumer advice.

Through a range of events and activities including:

- Summer Rose Fair; Autumn Fair; fun days; summer fun days; primary schools cross-country; music in the parks.
- Use of parks and open spaces for park runs and Belfast Marathon etc.
- Community centre annual programme of events.
- Celebrate Positive Ageing Month.
- Hosting Greater Belfast Seniors Forum and their six local fora.
- Four Good Relations grant aided programmes supporting a total of 170 projects e.g. 52 St Patrick's Day Celebration Grants; 28 Bonfire and Cultural Expression project awards.
- Delivery of eleven projects in the Peace IV Belfast Local Action Plan.

Page 49



| Service Achievements | |
|---------------------------|---|
| City Services (2018-2019) | Neighbourhood Services (2018-2019) |
| | <p>Programmes were delivered in partnership with various organisations and groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Over 550 community groups and organisations.• Led smart city SBRI 'Amazing spaces: Smart places' competition to discover how technology may address antisocial behavior and open space management.• Joined UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities.• Partnership working e.g. Belfast Strategic Partnership; Policing and Community Safety Partnerships; Shared City Partnership; Arc 21; five Belfast advice consortia.• Stadia Community Benefits Initiative with IFA and GAA.• Belfast Emergency Preparedness Group Partnership with 80+ organisations.• Invested in our Emergency Co-ordination Centre.• Sustainable development and networking.• 20 green flag standard parks.• Successfully developed the historical Tropical Ravine. |



APPENDIX 3 Collated member Feedback: People and Communities – Committee Planning 10 September 2019

| Member | Comments |
|-------------|---|
| Cllr Baker | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keen to look at closer working with Planning to ensure decisions are taken with consideration given to green/renewable energy, emissions and environmental factors. Council have target to use electric vehicles for waste collection by 2030 but do we have the infrastructure eg charge points? Targets for waste but also for other areas |
| Cllr Black | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suggested a comprehensive review of existing physical infrastructure of independent centres to ensure facilities are used and funds are allocated appropriately – eg installation of footfall monitoring systems at BCC centres to monitor usage/review funding if centres are not used to their potential. Facilities Management Agreements – should include repair responsibilities Review new IFA legislation given the sizeable impact on BCC facilities especially upgrade of pitches Enhance environmental improvements by adapting/futureproofing BCC facilities and resources Although funding programmes need to be open and transparent it would be useful to also have fluidity to ensure provision for new and emerging issues in the current Committee/Council term Ring-fencing Neighbourhood Renewal funding for areas of deprivation Not forcing change to meet a centrally driven theme when local groups and projects are working well Community planning should be needs-led and not centrally driven Tender management – mitigate risk of losing quality local providers and support for smaller groups |
| Cllr Cobain | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental issues, including fleet management as a significant strain on BCC budgets – suggested consideration is given to looking at rate relief. Rates may need to rise however important to ‘sell’ anticipated improvements to ratepayers. Important to set targets regarding energy that is not dependent on fossil fuels but yet is affordable. |
| Cllr Corr | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognised climate as a priority in this council term. Outlined concerns regarding bureaucracy and numerous plans which don’t appear to achieve measured outcomes Suggested that there is a lack of understanding of the importance of the Belfast Agenda and that Members need to have a better understanding of the plan and increased awareness of outcomes in order to align priorities eg. proactively working to address health inequalities. AWGs could lack effectiveness without money available for capital builds/projects but need to focus on outcomes Closer alignment with government departments is required – many Notices of Motion do not fall within the remit of the Council, but in the absence of the NI Assembly, Council is the only forum to move these issues forward at present Suggested increased involvement for Members in setting priorities aligned to the Belfast Agenda. Focus on regeneration in collaboration with communities, not ‘to communities’ as will not work |

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Cllr Verner | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition that BCC cannot carry sole responsibility for all issues in regard to improving the quality of life for citizens, but BCC should be working with others to lead on the needs of its people • Community Planning is hugely important– everyone has a role to play in achieving good quality of life for all; working with the Departments as have identified outcomes. • CNS Transition and Improvement Plan – significant change and risk of front line staff feeling discontent/undervalued – important to manage this carefully. |
| Cllr Kyle | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerns regarding Neighbourhood Renewal – hugely important for communities and serious difficulties could arise in the absence of funding. Brexit also poses risks for poorer communities. • Recognised positive work undertaken by BCC community centres and the significant increase in the use of parks and green spaces eg fun days, park runs etc – need to ensure this good work continues ensuring the greening and wilding of the city – Belfast benefits from being a greener city. • Suggested merit in the production of an Anti-Poverty Strategy |
| Cllr Magee | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggested a review of shared contracts with DRD, DfI, Housing Executive etc – cited an example in the New Lodge (Victoria Barracks) where three agencies clean one small piece of ground which is an obvious and unnecessary duplication of efforts and increases the carbon footprint. Are there opportunities for cost saving? Can staff be encouraged to come up with ideas? For example, is there an opportunity to have street cleaners spray weeds etc if appropriate equipment was provided? • Recycling facilities – suggested longer opening hours to facilitate daytime/weekend workers, and encouraging yard operatives to provide more assistance in terms of recycling advice to encourage customers to increase their recycling. |
| Cllr McLaughlin | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggested that an inclusive health strategy targeting areas of deprivation is required to improve quality of life and address health inequalities– new centres alone are not enough, as no measure of how health has improved for those in that area. BCC need to work closely with others to address these issues. • Consideration required when allocating funding to disability groups as associated costs (transport, suitable facilities) etc can be substantially higher |
| Cllr de Faoite | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Echoed Cllr Cobain’s concerns in relation to mitigating climate crisis cost impacts – suggested sustainability impact assessments should form part of any Committee reports and decision making process on these issues going forward identifying cost implications. • Suggested Climate Crisis minutes are presented to P&C Committee on a monthly basis as well as to SP&R Committee • Provision of adequate services for both children & young people, and the elderly should be priorities going forward – making Belfast a CYP-friendly city (linked to proposed Resilience Strategy) • Outlined concerns regarding cemeteries and crematorium use - limited spaces and facilities available. • Echoed Cllr Kyle’s suggestion for an Anti-Poverty Strategy • Concerns re impact of large numbers of HMOs in South and East Belfast – BCC need to support these communities, and mitigate the impact of the Ulster University on the North and West of the city. BCC should strive to ensure development is mixed to provide best outcomes and avoid a duplication of the issues caused by HMOs in the Holylands. |



| | |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Subject: | Proposal for naming new streets |
| Date: | 8 th October 2019 |
| Reporting Officer: | Ian Harper, Building Control Manager |
| Contact Officer: | Roisin Adams, Business Coordinator |

| | |
|---|---|
| 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 consider applications for the naming of new streets in the City. |
| 2.0 | Recommendations |
| 2.1 | <p>Based on the information presented, the Committee is required to make a recommendation in respect of applications for naming new streets in the City. The Committee may either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant the applications, or • Refuse the applications and request that the applicants submit other names for consideration. |

| 3.0 | Main report | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|---|------------------|----------|-----------|----------------|---------------------|------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|
| 3.1 | <p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>The power for the Council to name streets is contained in Article 11 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (NI) Order 1995.</p> | | | | | | | | | |
| 3.2 | <p>Members are asked to consider the following applications for naming new streets in the City. The application particulars are in order and the Royal Mail has no objections to the proposed names. The proposed new names are not contained in the Council's Streets Register and do not duplicate existing approved street names in the City.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="333 629 1399 855"> <thead> <tr> <th>Proposed Name</th> <th>Location</th> <th>Applicant</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Northview Lane</td> <td>Off Northview, BT15</td> <td>Mayfair Homes NI</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Finaghy Park Gardens</td> <td>Off Finaghy Park Central, BT10</td> <td>Alskea Ltd</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | Proposed Name | Location | Applicant | Northview Lane | Off Northview, BT15 | Mayfair Homes NI | Finaghy Park Gardens | Off Finaghy Park Central, BT10 | Alskea Ltd |
| Proposed Name | Location | Applicant | | | | | | | | |
| Northview Lane | Off Northview, BT15 | Mayfair Homes NI | | | | | | | | |
| Finaghy Park Gardens | Off Finaghy Park Central, BT10 | Alskea Ltd | | | | | | | | |
| 3.3 | <p>Mayfair Homes, have proposed Northview Lane, as their first choice and Northview Park as the third choice as the new street is accessed directly off Northview. The developer has proposed McArts Lane for the second choice as the new street will have a view of McArts Fort, which is the remains of a hilltop fort.</p> | | | | | | | | | |
| 3.4 | <p>Alskea have proposed Finaghy Park Gardens and Finaghy Park Lane as their first and second choice as the new street is located off Finaghy Park Central. The suffix "Park Gardens" relates to the parkland and trees associated with the site. Whitefield Park Gardens has been proposed as the third choice as the contractor has carried out research into the area and he has advised that 'Finaghy' is derived from old Irish and translates to 'White Field'</p> | | | | | | | | | |
| 3.5 | <p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>There are no Financial, Human Resources, Assets and other implications in this report.</p> | | | | | | | | | |
| 3.6 | <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>There are no direct Equality implications.</p> | | | | | | | | | |
| 4.0 | Appendices | | | | | | | | | |
| | None | | | | | | | | | |



| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Subject: | Update on grass cutting at sites not owned by Belfast City Council |
| Date: | 8 th October 2019 |
| Reporting Officer: | Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director of City & Neighbourhood Services |
| Contact Officer: | Stephen Leonard, Neighbourhood Services Manager, CNS Department |

| | |
|--|---|
| 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 will recall an update paper presented at the meeting on 4 th June 2019. |
| 1.2 | After discussion, the Committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted the continued actions which were being undertaken as part of the ongoing review of grass cutting arrangements at sites not owned by the Council; |

| | |
|------------|---|
| 1.3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed that a further report in relation to the review of grass cutting arrangements would be submitted to a future meeting, and • Agreed to the inclusion of a site at McKinstry Road within the grass cutting arrangements that the Council currently operated with the Department for Infrastructure and Transport NI. <p>This report provides an update for Members and outlines recent work undertaken by officers regarding the potential for sponsorship of roundabouts and verges, in partnership with the Department for Infrastructure and Transport NI.</p> |
| 2.0 | Recommendations |
| 2.1 | <p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • note the update information regarding grass cutting at sites not owned by Belfast City Council, and • if Members are content with the initial proposals regarding sponsorship, to endorse officers taking this work forward, with view to a report being brought to the Committee with full details. |
| 3.0 | Main report |
| 3.1 | <p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>Members will recall from the June 2019 report that since 2016/2017, the Council has supplemented grass cutting arrangements for the Department for Infrastructure and Transport NI, by providing five cuts per annum at the following sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michael Ferguson roundabout; • Kingsway Embankment, Dunmurry; • Knock dual Carriageway, and • Cregagh Road with Knock dual carriageway. |
| 3.2 | <p>Members will further be aware that the maintenance of these sites requires financial resources via the departmental budgets.</p> |

| | |
|------------|---|
| 3.3 | In order to identify opportunities for the Council to help defray these costs, officers have undertaken preliminary research into opportunities to generate income via a sponsorship scheme. |
| 3.4 | As well as an opportunity to generate additional external funds to supplement existing maintenance budgets, sponsorship schemes can improve the appearance of roundabouts, improve the image of Belfast as a vibrant location for businesses and community groups, and promote the range of businesses already located locally. |
| 3.5 | Such schemes are widely used by other Councils, and a number of models for identifying suitable sites, including roundabouts and verges, and initiating such sponsorship schemes, including procurement options, are available. Officers have also met colleagues in the DfI Roads Service, whose Eastern Division work in partnership with Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council to implement a sponsorship scheme in their council area. |
| 3.6 | It is intended that with further benchmarking, and discussion with DfI Roads Service, a suitable scheme will be identified that could be applied in Belfast. Such a sponsorship scheme will need to be considered in the context of the wider, ongoing corporate initiative to develop a commercial framework and strategy, and officers will ensure that as the potential scheme develops, it will be reviewed by the Council's Commercial Working Group and Commercial Panel. Furthermore, officers will continue to engage with DfI in order to maximise the allocation of its resources with the Belfast City Council area. |
| 3.7 | <p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>The development of a sponsorship scheme for roundabouts and verges provides an opportunity to generate additional external funds to supplement existing maintenance budgets.</p> |
| 3.8 | <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>There are no equality, good relations or rural needs implications associated with this report.</p> |
| 4.0 | Appendices |
| | None |

This page is intentionally left blank



| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Subject: | Feasibility of funding for Cloth Nappy Scheme |
| Date: | 8 th October 2019 |
| Reporting Officer: | Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director of City & Neighbourhood Services Siobhan Toland, Director of City Services |
| Contact Officer: | Alison Allen, Neighbourhood Services 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 | At Committee on 6 August 2019, Committee agreed that officers would submit a report to a future meeting which would consider the feasibility of the Council providing one additional cloth nappy kit for use by Belfast City Council ratepayers. |
| 1.2 | This report outlines the options available to council to facilitate this request in order to address the current eight week waiting list to access the service within Belfast. |
| 2.0 | Recommendations |
| 2.1 | The Committee is asked to; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve the establishment of a supplementary agreement with the existing service provider, which will allow the Council to supply an additional cloth nappy kit to the company to be used solely for the benefit of Belfast residents. |

| | |
|------------|--|
| 3.0 | Main report |
| | <p data-bbox="272 226 421 255"><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p data-bbox="165 293 1445 421">3.1 The Council has been funding a cloth nappy scheme for four years allowing parents the opportunity to trial the use of cloth nappies and then provide a refund scheme should they wish to continue once the trial has finished.</p> <p data-bbox="165 495 975 524">3.2 The scheme is a two stage process as outlined below</p> <ul data-bbox="325 598 1465 1032" style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="325 598 1465 725">• Stage 1- parents contact the council expressing a desire to trial cloth nappies. The Councils' service provider will provide a free trial pack to the family (valued at £32). The Council pays this money directly to the service provider. <li data-bbox="325 799 1465 1032">• Stage 2 – After trialling the nappies, should the family wish to continue with the their use, they can receive a £30 refund insofar as they can prove they have spent over £50 on purchasing cloth nappies, normally by supplying an invoice to the council for verification. It is possible for families to avail of the £30 refund without having to have gone through stage 1. <p data-bbox="165 1106 1445 1234">3.3 The scheme has proved very popular which has resulted in Belfast families having to wait between eight to ten weeks to access the trial outlined in stage 1 and the offer is limited to one child per household.</p> <p data-bbox="165 1279 1430 1518">3.4 Members requested that Officers would explore ways to reduce the waiting times by purchasing an additional trial pack and this has been discussed with the service provider and Council Legal Services. Following the free trial, each kit is returned and reissued to another family, having an additional kit in circulation would therefore alleviate the waiting times.</p> <p data-bbox="165 1570 1453 1756">3.5 It is therefore recommended that a supplementary agreement is put in place with the service provider would include a clause stating that if the council provides direct support in the form of additional Nappy Trial Kit (estimated value £400 per kit) that this should be used exclusively for the benefit of Belfast families.</p> |

| | |
|------------|--|
| | <u>Financial & Resource Implications</u> |
| 3.6 | The provision of a trial nappy kit would cost approximately £400. This would be additional to the year running cost of £3,000 for the maintenance of the Cloth Nappy Scheme. |
| | <u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u> |
| 3.7 | There are no equality or good relations or rural need implication in the provision of the service. |
| 4.0 | Appendices – Documents Attached |
| | None |

This page is intentionally left blank



| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Subject: | Request for the use of Lower Botanic Gardens by the City of Belfast Grand Black Chapter |
| Date: | 8 th October 2019 |
| Reporting Officer: | Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director of City and Neighbourhoods Department |
| Contact Officer: | Ryan Black, Director of City and Neighbourhoods Department. Stephen Leonard, Neighbourhood Services Manager, South Belfast |

| | |
|---|---|
| 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 | City Council Officers have received a request for the City of Belfast Grand Black Chapter to have a family fun day event and a short religious service in lower Botanic Gardens, adjacent to Stranmillis embankment on 28 August 2021 between 12 noon - 6.00pm, following a parade from City Hall to Botanic Gardens. |
| 1.2 | Members are reminded that on 4 June 2019, a Committee report was provided, outlining a request from City of Belfast Grand Black Chapter to facilitate the passing through Botanic |

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| <p>1.3</p> <p>1.4</p> | <p>Gardens of this parade on 28 August 2021 from City Hall. This parade is to mark the centenary of the formation of Northern Ireland.</p> <p>The parade will pass a number of buildings with a significant relevance to the Centenary, including City Hall, Ulster Hall and Union Theological College, Botanic Avenue, which was the building used for the newly formed Northern Ireland Parliament between 1921 -1932 while Stormont was being built.</p> <p>This Committee, on 4 June 2019, provided approval for this parade to pass through Botanic Gardens on 28 August 2021 and the decision was ratified by Council at its meeting on 1st July 2019.</p> |
| <p>2.0</p> | <p><u>Recommendation</u></p> |
| <p>2.1</p> | <p>Committee is requested to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide approval for the City of Belfast Grand Black Chapter to hold an event in Lower Botanic Gardens on 28 August 2021, subject to and on condition that the requestor; • resolves all operational issues to the Council's satisfaction and ; • An appropriate legal agreement is completed, to be prepared by the City Solicitor • The promoter meets all the statutory requirements of the Planning and Building Control Service including the terms and conditions of the Park's Entertainment Licence |
| <p>3.0</p> | <p>Main report</p> |
| <p>3.1</p> <p>3.2</p> | <p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>Since the 4 June 2019, Officers have received a request for the City of Belfast Grand Black Chapter to include a family fun day event in Lower Botanic Gardens, adjacent to Stranmillis Embankment on 28 August 2021 between 12 noon - 7.00pm, following a parade from City Hall to Botanic Gardens. The parade has already received Committee and Council approval. See appendix A (People and Communities Committee 4 June 2019, agenda 7i)</p> <p>The event will include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Markets stalls • Food vendors • Inflatables • Religious service • Stewarding • Fun rides |

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>3.3</p> <p>3.4</p> <p>3.5</p> <p>3.6</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Live music. <p>There will be no sale of alcohol at this event.</p> <p>The organisers are anticipating a figure of 5000 participants during the event. It will be a requirement of the License agreement that the organisers liaise with Queens University PE centre and local communities to minimise any impact the event may incur in the surrounding area.</p> <p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>There may be a requirement to have additional staff on site to facilitate this event and if so then costs will be charged to the event organiser. The requester will also be required to provide a £15,000.00 reinstatement bond.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessments</u></p> <p>No equality or Good Relations implications have been identified, however, this is being monitored on an ongoing basis</p> |
| <p>4.0</p> | <p>Documents Attached</p> |
| | <p>None.</p> |

This page is intentionally left blank



| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Subject: | Requests for The Use of Falls Park, Victoria Park & CS Lewis Square |
| Date: | 8 th October 2019 |
| Reporting Officer: | Ryan Black, Director of Neighbourhood Services |
| Contact Officer: | Alison Allen, Neighbourhood Services 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 seek approval from Members to host events in our parks, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request for Both Lives Matter to hold a 'Both Lives Matter Demonstration' at Falls Park on Sunday 13 October 2019. • Request for MACS NI to hold a Sleep Out event at Victoria Park on Thursday 14 November 2019. • Request for Street Soccer NI to hold a Sleep Out event at CS Lewis Square on Friday 24 January 2019. |

| | |
|------------|--|
| | Both Sleep Out events will take place outside normal park opening hours and will require the closure of part of the facility. |
| 2.0 | Recommendations |
| 2.1 | <p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant authority for these events to take place at these locations by these organisations; • Grant authority for any subsequent, annual charity Sleep Out events at these locations by these organisations; and • Authorise the Strategic Director of City and Neighbourhood Services to approve the ‘Both Lives Matter Demonstration’ under the Council scheme of delegation, due to the late application with the event taking place before the Committee decision can be ratified at the November meeting of Council; • For each event. grant authority to the Strategic Director of City and Neighbourhood Services subject to satisfactory terms being agreed and on condition that the Event Organiser: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • completes the appropriate Event Management Plans; • resolves all operational issues to the Council’s satisfaction; • meets all statutory requirements including Public Liability Insurance cover, Health and Safety, and licensing responsibilities; and • shall consult with adjoining public bodies and local communities, as necessary. |
| 3.0 | Main report |
| 3.1 | <p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request for Both Lives Matter to hold a ‘Both Lives Matter Demonstration’ at Falls Park. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A request has been received week commencing 23rd September 2019 from Both Lives Matter to hold a ‘Both Lives Matter Demonstration’ at Falls Park on Sunday 13 October 2019 from 3 - 6pm |

- Both Lives Matter has four primary aims: to reframe the abortion debate in Northern Ireland and beyond; to advocate for better care in pregnancy crisis; to create a life-affirming culture that values each woman and her unborn child; and to safeguard the current law which protects both women and unborn children.
- The purpose of the event is to have a cross-community, inter-generational, peaceful protest march against the proposed imposition of liberalised abortion laws on Northern Ireland. There will be no charge to participants.

- **Request for MACS NI to hold a Sleep Out event at Victoria Park in the Connswater Community Greenway Marquee.**

- A request has been received from MACS NI, an organisation that provides a range of support services for children and young people in Northern Ireland who haven't had a fair deal in relation to housing, homelessness, mental health and participation, to hold a Sleep Out event at Victoria Park on Thursday 14 November 2019 in the Connswater Community Greenway marquee. Set up of the event will take place at 2pm and it will be dismantled by 10am on Friday 15 November 2019.
- MACS NI is part of a national campaign with other charities across the UK to end homelessness. This Sleep Out event will raise awareness and funds for vulnerable young people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.
- The event will not have an admission charge, registration will be done on site and online. The charity will be collecting donations during the event.
- The event will include food vendors, live music and street entertainment. The event organiser will provide marquees/gazebos, stewards, toilets and will arrange pitch hire and electricity for their event.

- **Request for Street Soccer NI to hold a Sleep Out event at CS Lewis Square.**

- A request has been received from Street Soccer NI to hold a Sleep Out event at CS Lewis Square on Friday 24 January 2020. Set up of the event will take place at 5pm and it will be dismantled by 12 noon on Saturday 25 January 2020.
- Street Soccer NI tackles homelessness through providing employment and housing support, built around football activities and working with some of our societies' most excluded and vulnerable people. This event will raise awareness of homelessness by getting participants to experience sleeping out, whilst raising sponsorship for the charity.

| | |
|------------|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The event will have an admission charge of £20 and registration will be completed online. The charity will be collecting donations during the event. ○ The event will include football matches and the event organiser will provide marquees/ gazebos and toilets. Caterers will provide breakfast in the morning, for participants. |
| 3.2 | <p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>There are no financial or resource implications.</p> |
| 3.3 | <p><u>Asset and Other Implications</u></p> <p>Council Officers will liaise with the organisers in relation to the potential environmental impact of these events.</p> |
| 3.4 | <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>Equality and Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment will be considered by Officers for each of the events in line with the Council processes.</p> |
| 4.0 | Appendices – Documents Attached |
| | None |



| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Subject: | Request to plant trees as part of the Queen’s Commonwealth Tree Canopy Project – future policy for such requests |
| Date: | 8 th October 2019 |
| Reporting Officer: | Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director of City & Neighbourhood Services Department |
| Contact Officer: | Ryan Black, Director of City and Neighbourhood Services |

| | |
|--|---|
| 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 | At the People and Communities Committee meeting on 12 th February 2019, the Committee was informed of a request received by Officers from Emma Little Pengelly MP to plant 5 small trees on Council land as part of the Queens Commonwealth Tree Canopy Project in March 2019 was discussed. The Committee agreed to defer consideration of the matter to enable a report to be submitted to a future meeting which would detail any policy for such requests. |
| 1.2 | At its meeting on 4th June 2019, the People and Communities Committee agreed the proposed policy position for future tree planting requests within Parks and Open Spaces, |

| | |
|------------|--|
| 1.3 | <p>which marked significant occasions and events, and to defer consideration of a request submitted by Emma Little Pengelly MP, to plant five small trees to mark Her Majesty the Queens' Commonwealth Tree Canopy Project, for discussion at the Party Group Leaders meeting.</p> <p>At the meeting of the Party Group Leaders on 26th September 2019, it was agreed that the request submitted by Emma Little Pengelly MP be resubmitted to the People and Communities meeting for consideration.</p> |
| 2.0 | Recommendations |
| 2.1 | <p>The Committee is asked to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • accede to the request submitted by Emma Little Pengelly MP, to plant five small trees to mark Her Majesty the Queens Commonwealth Tree Canopy Project. |
| 3.0 | Main report |
| 3.1 | <p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>Officers received a request from Emma Little Pengelly MP to plant five small trees on Council land as part of Her Majesty the Queens Commonwealth Tree Canopy Project back in March 2019. The Committee agreed to defer consideration of the matter to enable a report to be submitted to a future meeting which would detail any policy for such requests.</p> |
| 3.2 | <p>At its meeting on 4th June 2019, the Committee approved the proposed policy and deferred its decision to accede to Emma Little Pengelly's request for discussion at a future meeting of the Party Group Leaders' Forum. The request was discussed by the Forum at its meeting on 26th September 2019 where it was decided that it would be further presented to the People and Communities Committee for consideration.</p> |
| 3.3 | <p>Officers within City and Neighbourhood Services will access each tree planting request received by individuals or external organisations and ensure any tree planting request fits into existing tree management plans within Council properties and make recommendations to Committee.</p> |
| 3.4 | <p>Permission for tree planting requests may be granted by the People and Communities Committee based on a request by request basis with the assistance of any supporting Arboricultural information put forward by Council Officers.</p> |

| | |
|------------|---|
| 3.5 | <u>Financial & Resource Implications</u> There are no Financial or Human Resource implications other than officer time. |
| 3.6 | <u>Equality or Good Relations Implications /Rural Needs Assessments</u> There are no known equality or good relation issues associated with this report. |
| 4.0 | Appendices – Documents Attached |
| | None. |

This page is intentionally left blank



| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Subject: | DEARA Consultation on Invasive Alien Species (IAS) in Northern Ireland |
| Date: | 8 th October 2019 |
| Reporting Officer: | Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director of City and Neighbourhood Services |
| Contact Officer: | Orla Maguire, Biodiversity 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 make Members aware of the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) consultation in relation to the Management measures for widely spread Invasive Alien Species (IAS) in Northern Ireland and to seek Members' approval of the Council's draft response. The consultation response closes on 23 rd October 2019. |
| 2.0 | Recommendations |
| 2.1 | Members are asked to; |

| | |
|------------|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> consider the draft response as set out in Appendix 1 and approve its submission to DAERA, subject to any comments or amendment provided, with the proviso that the response is subject to full Council approval at its meeting on 4th November 2019. |
| 3.0 | Main report |
| 3.1 | <p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>On the 11th September 2019, DAERA launched a six week consultation in relation to the <i>Management measures for widely spread Invasive Alien Species (IAS) in Northern Ireland</i>". The purpose of this consultation is to obtain views on the management measures being considered by DAERA for species of Union concern which are widely spread in Northern Ireland. The consultation document is available at https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/consultations.</p> |
| 3.2 | <p>Regulation (EU) No. 1143/2014 on the prevention and management of the introduction and spread of invasive alien species came into force on 1 January 2015. It imposes strict restrictions on a list of species known as 'species of Union concern'. These are species whose potential adverse impacts across the European Union are such that concerted action across Europe is required. The restrictions mean that (subject to certain defences, or exemptions through permits or licences) species of Union concern cannot be imported into the EU, kept, bred, transported, placed on the market, used or exchanged, allowed to reproduce, grown or cultivated, or released into the environment. There are currently 66 species on the Union list: 30 animals and 36 plants.</p> |
| 3.3 | <p>Ten species of Union concern that have been identified as being widely spread in Northern Ireland. For these widely spread species, the Regulation requires effective management measures to be put in place, so that their impact on biodiversity, the related ecosystem services and, where applicable, human health or the economy are minimised. Management measures consist of lethal or non-lethal physical, chemical or biological actions aimed at the eradication, population control or containment of a population of widely spread species.</p> |
| 3.4 | <p>The 10 species identified are</p> <p><u>Plants</u></p> <p>Nuttall's waterweed (<i>Elodea nuttallii</i>), Chilean rhubarb (<i>Gunnera tinctoria</i>), Giant hogweed (<i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i>), Himalayan balsam (<i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>),</p> |

| | |
|--|--|
| | <p>Curly waterweed (<i>Lagarosiphon major</i>), American skunk cabbage (<i>Lysichiton americanus</i>), Parrot's feather (<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i>).</p> <p><u>Animals</u></p> <p>Grey squirrel (<i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>), all subspecies of (<i>Trachemys scripta</i>) otherwise known as "slider terrapins" & New Zealand Flatworm (<i>Arturdendvus triangulates</i>)</p> <p>3.5 Belfast City Council in principle, supports the management measures focussed on reducing the impact that the 10 widely spread species of Union concern have on native biodiversity and ecosystem services as well as their wider socio-economic impacts.</p> <p>3.6 The Council welcomes a strategic approach but considers that it is not possible to provide specific comments as the document outlines a range of options/approaches such as control to eradication for the 10 species listed. Naturally management measures will depend on the local circumstances however BCC considers clarification is needed at the local level to identify impacts and costs for each of the listed species.</p> <p>3.7 A copy of the draft response is included as Appendix 1 but in summary the council suggests the following should be completed to assist with the implementation of this legislation and to maximise efforts to control IAS across NI.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special criteria should be developed to determine the approach taken ie control or eradication at a local level. It is not possible to comment on specific species given that criteria has not been provided to assess the level or type of action/approach likely to be taken for each species. In addition is DAERA the Competent Authority which determines the approach? • The criteria should be unambiguous and evidence based to ensure consistent approaches across NI. • Monitoring of actions should also be undertaken to ascertain effectiveness and plan for future action. • The resource implication for Council and other land owners would need to be determined and subsequently resourced. Funding should be provided to key stakeholders to enable additional action on the control of IAS. • The provision of advice and guidance is essential. Currently there is a lack of guidance from the Department on control options. Costed Case studies and best |
|--|--|

| | |
|------------|---|
| | <p>practice should be developed to enable effective action. This is particularly relevant for the widespread aquatic species listed.</p> |
| 3.8 | <p>BCC would welcome further engagement with DAERA to clarify and assess specific implications of this legislation for Belfast.</p> |
| 3.9 | <p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>There are none with this report. However, dependent on the approach/level of action deemed necessary by DAERA there may be limited or significant resource implications for the council.</p> |
| 3.10 | <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>There are none with this report.</p> |
| 4.0 | Appendices |
| | <p>Appendix 1 – Draft Consultation Response on “Management measures for widely spread Invasive Alien Species (IAS) in Northern Ireland”.</p> |

Belfast City Council Response to Management measures for widely spread Invasive Alien Species (IAS) in Northern Ireland

Introduction

Belfast City Council (BCC) welcomes the opportunity to comment on the management measures being considered by DAERA for species of Union concern which are widely spread in Northern Ireland pursuant to Article 19 of Regulation (EU) No. 1143/2014.

Protection of biodiversity is key to Council policies including the Belfast Local Biodiversity Plan and the Local Development Plan. Biodiversity provides numerous ecosystem services such as water purification, carbon storage and flood protection. Many of these services are under threat.

Invasive Alien Species are widely acknowledged as the second biggest threat to biodiversity loss worldwide. This threat is likely to increase in the future unless robust action is taken at all levels to control the introduction and establishment of these species and address those already introduced. The impacts of IAS are far reaching from disrupting ecosystem services to threatening economic interests. Consequently the Council would welcome additional legislation and action on the control of IAS, supported by the appropriate identification of additional resources.

Comments on Consultation Document

Belfast City Council in principle, supports the management measures focussed on reducing the impact that the 10 widely spread species of Union concern have on native biodiversity and ecosystem services as well as their wider socio-economic impacts.

The Council welcomes a strategic approach but considers it is not possible to provide specific comments as the document outlines a range of options/approaches such as control or eradication for the 10 species listed. Naturally management measures will depend on the local circumstances however BCC considers clarification is needed at the local level to identify impacts and costs for each of the listed species.

The council suggests the following should be completed to assist with the implementation of this legislation and to maximise efforts to control IAS across NI.

- Criteria should be developed to determine the approach taken ie control or eradication at a local level. It is not possible to comment on specific species given that criteria has not been provided to assess the level or type of action/approach likely to be taken for each species. In addition is DAERA the Competent Authority which determines the approach?
- The criteria should be unambiguous and evidence based to ensure consistent approaches across NI.
- Monitoring of actions should also be undertaken to ascertain effectiveness and plan for future action.
- Funding should be provided to key stakeholders to enable additional action on the control of IAS.
- The provision of advice and guidance is essential. Currently there is a lack of guidance from the Department on control options. Costed case studies and best practice should be developed to enable effective action. This is particularly relevant for the widespread aquatic species listed.

BCC would welcome further engagement with DAERA to clarify and assess specific implications of this legislation for Belfast.

This page is intentionally left blank



| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Subject: | Association of Port Health Authorities |
| Date: | 8 October 2019 |
| Reporting Officer: | Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director City & Neighbourhood Services |
| Contact Officer: | Damian Connolly- City Protection 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 type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |

| | |
|------------|---|
| 1.0 | Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues |
| 1.1 | Councillor Heading was nominated by the Council to the Board of the Association of Port Health Authorities (APHA). His term on the board is due to end at the AGM on the 7 th November 2019 and APHA are currently seeking nominations for the next two year term. |
| 1.2 | Members are asked to note the nomination of Cllr Heading to the Executive Board for a further 2 year term. |

| | |
|------------|---|
| 2.0 | Recommendations |
| 2.1 | <p>Members are asked to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> note the nomination of Cllr Heading to the Association of Board Health Authorities Executive Board for a further two year term of office and authorise the expenditure associated with his attendance at Board meetings. |
| 3.0 | Main report |
| 3.1 | <p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>The Association of Port Health Authorities (APHA) is a UK wide organisation representing the interests of Local Authorities and Port Health Authorities which have responsibilities for public, animal and environmental health controls at sea and airports.</p> |
| 3.2 | <p>Belfast City Council, is a corporate member of the Association and previously Councillor Jeffrey Dudgeon was nominated by the Council on to the APHA Executive Board.</p> <p>Following the Local Government elections in 2019 it was agreed, using the Saint Lague methodology, that Councillor Brian Heading would replace Cllr Dudgeon on the Board.</p> |
| 3.3 | <p>The APHA Executive Board is comprised of eight regional representatives; the term of office is for two years but, in order to ensure continuity, half of the posts are appointed each year at the AGM, which, this year, is on the 7th November.</p> |
| 3.4 | <p>Cllr Heading's term in office is due to end at the AGM on the 7th November and APHA are currently seeking nominations from Northern Ireland members.</p> |
| 3.5 | <p>It should be noted that, whilst appointments to the Board are sought every two years, the Council's policy on appointments to outside bodies is for the Council term. Therefore, in adhering to those principles, the Committee is asked to note Cllr Heading's reappointment to the Board for a new term.</p> |
| 3.6 | <p>Board meetings are normally held three times per annum at the offices of the Association in Walbrook Wharf, London and normally last approximately three hours.</p> |
| 3.7 | <p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>The anticipated costs are travel and subsistence and these are provided for within existing budget allocation</p> |

| | |
|------------|---|
| 3.8 | <u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u> None |
| 4.0 | Appendices – Documents attached |
| | None |

This page is intentionally left blank



| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Subject: | SoLACE/Waste Forum Update |
| Date: | 8 October 2019 |
| Reporting Officer: | Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director of City & Neighbourhood Services |
| Contact Officer: | Siobhan Toland, Director of City Services John McConnell, City Services Manager (Resources & Fleet) |

| | |
|---|---|
| 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 progress made by SoLACE in conjunction with a Waste Forum made up of TAG (NI) officers, supported by NILGA, in assessing councils needs in terms of collaborating on waste and related Services. This a work in progress, but it is important that Members are aware of this emergent collective approach being undertaken by the 11 councils. |
| 2.0 | Recommendations |
| 2.1 | The Committee is asked to note; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the update and agree to the resource recommendations. |

| | |
|------------|--|
| 3.0 | Main report |
| 3.1 | <p>Background</p> <p>Prior to the RPA (Review of Public Administration) in 2015, the councils were organised into three voluntary Waste Management Groups;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. arc21 (11 x councils) 2. NWRWVG (North West Region Waste Management Group) (7 x councils) 3. SWaMP2008 (Southern Waste Management Partnership) (8 x councils) |
| 3.2 | <p>Each group operated through a Joint Committee, albeit on a slightly different basis whereby arc21 and SWaMP2008 were incorporated corporate bodies, whilst the NWRWVG was unincorporated. SWaMP2008 was dissolved in 2015. Arc21 can award contracts as a separate entity and hold assets, while SWaMP2008 did not enter into direct contract award. Similarly, the NWRWVG facilitated joint procurement across its councils (with Derry City Council as lead council), third-party contract awards were made through the individual councils.</p> |
| 3.3 | <p>The principle objective of the three Groups was to work collectively for their partner councils and others to develop three Waste Management Plans and deliver the various recycling and landfill diversion targets set out in European and domestic legislation.</p> |
| 3.4 | <p>Since RPA the picture has fragmented. Currently, there are two Waste Management Groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ arc21 representing Belfast City, Ards & North Down, Mid & East Antrim, Antrim & Newtownabbey, Newry Mourne & Down and Lisburn & Castlereagh City ➤ NWRWVG representing Derry City & Strabane and Causeway & Glens |
| 3.5 | <p>The three remaining councils (Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon, Fermanagh & Omagh and Mid Ulster), sometimes referred to “<i>NI Othe</i>”, are not part of any Waste Management Group although they have worked together and produced a Joint Waste Management Plan.</p> |
| 3.6 | <p>These arrangements, however, are not seen as sustainable in the longer term. As a consequence, SoLACE NI (Society of Local Authority Chief Executives) requested that through the Technical Advisors Group (NI) (Local Government Technical Advisors Group), the councils review the current set-up with a view to making proposals for future arrangements. TAG subsequently established a Waste Forum. The timing is apt as reviews of DAERA’s “<i>Delivering Resource Efficiency - Northern Ireland Waste Management Strategy</i>” and councils’ Waste Management Plans are scheduled for the near</p> |

| | |
|------|--|
| | <p>future. Organisational changes within the Waste Management Groups also reinforce the need for a strategic review of current arrangements.</p> |
| 3.7 | <p>Given the increasing demands on councils to improve recycling quantity and quality to deliver government targets, develop the Circular Economy, while reducing dependency on landfill, achieving these goals would be enhanced through greater collaboration between councils.</p> |
| 3.8 | <p>Members should be aware that NI councils spend in the region of 25-35% of their revenue budget on waste and related environmental services.</p> |
| 3.9 | <p>Main Report</p> <p>Following on from a workshop involving both Chief Executives and senior officers from the eleven Councils in October 2018, TAG (NI) were requested to take forward a Strategic Review of the current arrangements for collaboration between councils for waste and related services.</p> |
| 3.10 | <p>Following the establishment of the Waste Forum drawing upon senior officer representation from the eleven councils, a specification was developed and agreed for an independent organisation to undertake a review the current arrangements and develop options for potential future structures and governance arrangements (see Appendix 1).</p> |
| 3.11 | <p>At its September 2019 meeting, the Specification was signed off by SoLACE NI. Given the need to engage an experienced organisation to carry out this review, it was agreed that the Strategic Investment Board (SIB) should be appointed to undertake this work as they have the necessary skills and experience having worked with many councils and the Waste Management Groups, and are public sector providers.</p> |
| 3.12 | <p>SIB's engagement is carried out in accordance with and for the purposes described in The Strategic Investment & Regeneration of Sites (NI) Order 2003 – namely the exercise of strategic investment functions in relation to the Executive and bodies carrying out major investment projects.</p> |
| 3.13 | <p>Members should be aware that the review officially commenced with a workshop on 13 September. It is anticipated that the final report will be available in early 2020 and,</p> |

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| <p>3.14</p> <p>3.15</p> | <p>following approval by SoLACE NI, the outcome will be reported to councils for their consideration.</p> <p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>The fee to support the delivery of the SIB report will be approximately £2,200 per council. This is being supported as part of our waste framework development and within existing budgets. There will also be officer time required to support the process and through the Waste Forum.</p> <p><u>Equality / Good Relations Implications / Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None</p> |
| <p>4.0</p> | <p>Appendices – Documents attached</p> |
| | <p>Appendix 1: Outline Specification for a Strategic Review of NI Council Waste Management Arrangements</p> |

APPENDIX 1

Outline Specification for a Strategic Review of NI Council Waste Management Arrangements

Objective

The Objective of this Review is to provide the Council Waste Forum with recommendations for SoLACE NI regarding improving collaboration of the current waste related services' management arrangements between the eleven Councils in Northern Ireland and how these could be structured to enable enhanced service delivery and efficiencies in the future.

An important aspect of the Review will be to make proposals in relation to both the operational management arrangements across the eleven Councils, and the preferred Governance framework which could support these. In addition, the range of services that could fall within the scope of such arrangements. The following non-exclusive list provides an indication of what could be included within the scope of mutual collaboration between the Councils;

- Health and Safety
- Waste management planning
- Procurement facilitation
- Contract management services
- Awareness & Communications
- Representation/Consultation Responses
- Providing policy advice
- Operating waste facilities

As a consequence, and in line with the formal/informal structures that currently exist across the eleven Councils, a NI Council Waste Forum has been established with senior officer representatives from each Council to contribute to the review. There is consensus within the Waste Forum that increased collaboration is essential to deliver "joined up" waste management services across the Councils. The Forum has been considering the most appropriate mechanism to carry out such a review with the recommendation being that this is best performed objectively by a third party.

The Specification therefore represented the enabling document for a fee proposal to deliver the review from the Strategic Investment Board.

Input

The Key Inputs are embodied in the people currently involved in the management of waste related services for the eleven Councils, the current Waste Management Groups, the Council Chief Executives, through SoLACE NI, NILGA and the NIEA/DAERA as the regulator.

Processes

1. Following the project initiation meeting and desktop review of available literature, the following information should be included in the fee proposal:
2. A desktop review of the current governance arrangements across Councils and examples of successful alternative operational structures and governance arrangements.
3. An initial Workshop with the key Council Officers (Council Waste Forum) to develop SWOT and PESTEL analysis to inform both the current position and consider the benefits and areas for improvement of the existing arrangements from the Councils which will inform any preferred option.

4. Individual structured and confidential Interviews with the key stakeholders to ascertain their views both at a personal and organisational level.
5. Develop a range of Options with a preferred option based on the application of an objective scoring methodology across a range of selection criteria.
6. A further Workshop with the Council Waste Forum to consider the options and agree the list and weightings of the option selection criteria.
7. Present the Draft Report to the Council Waste Forum and allow time for any final revisions in relation to the Final Report.

Output

1. The principle output will be a report identifying the most appropriate inter-Council working arrangements to deliver enhanced collaboration between the Councils. The options appraisal, including consideration of the status quo, should achieve the stated Objective as set out in 1.1 above.
2. The report should also include proposals in relation to the scope of the services that could be included in any preferred option management arrangements.
3. Furthermore, based on the preferred option, the report should recommend appropriate Governance models to enable delivery of increased/enhanced collaboration between Councils.

Members should be further aware that Councils will be required to revise and review their Waste Management Plans in 2020. As noted above there are currently three Waste Management Plans covering the 11 NI District Councils. There are clearly benefits both in terms of procuring the necessary consultancy support and developing common approaches to achieving the future recycling and landfill diversion targets in producing a Joint Waste Management Plan between the 11 Councils. The Plan would contain both Common Sections and be tailored to the pre-requisites of individual Councils. The process of preparing the Joint Plan would in itself represent a high level of Council collaboration.

In addition, there are ongoing opportunities involving groups of Councils on a project by project basis for further collaboration even in the short term. For example; in terms of education and awareness there exists an ideal opportunity to increase and improve the consistency and impact of the 'message' with the public.



| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Subject: | Update on Strategic Cemetery and Crematorium Development |
| Date: | 8 th October 2019 |
| Reporting Officer: | Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director of City and Neighbourhood Services |
| Contact Officer: | Siobhan Toland, Director of City Services |

| | |
|--|---|
| 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 |
| | The purpose of this report is update committee on the key issues discussed at the Strategic Cemeteries and Crematorium Development Working Group meetings held on 21 st August and 2 nd October 2019 |
| 2.0 | Recommendations |
| | That the People and Communities Committee:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Approve the minutes and the recommendations from the Strategic Cemeteries and Crematorium Development Working Group meetings held on 21st August and 2nd October 2019. |

3.0**Key Issues**Introduction to Bereavement Services

New members were given an overview of Bereavement Services. It was noted that the crematorium a regional service, makes provision for almost one third of all those bereaved in NI. It was further noted that £18m capital has been committed for a proposed new crematorium, and that there is an active expression of interest to acquire new burial land for North and West Belfast. The new memorial for 7,160 babies in City Cemetery has been well received. The Council maintains around 360,000 burial records for nine cemeteries and there is growing public interest in genealogical and historical investigation, including tours.

Memorial Tree Replacement

The Council has not had available land to support the continued provision of memorial trees and this ceased in October 2017. A 30 year scheme had provided 13,000 memorial trees in Roselawn.

Members of the Working Group agreed, subject to Committee approval, to move to a reactive replacement, whereby a tree is only replaced after a direct request from the owner. This will not impact on tree safety inspections nor on tree surgery for reasons of safety.

Update on New Crematorium Development

Members were given a verbal update on progress and they requested that this is made a standing agenda item for the Working Group.

Report on Knock Burial Ground

Members were informed of the historical significance of Knock Burial Ground. The site has a significant number of historic graves and headstones, however the grounds are locked and access control is by request given the site layout and complex challenges around ensuring health and safety for users. To date families and small groups of visitors have been facilitated by staff to access the site. Members were updated that due to recent requests to take bus tours onto the site, a safety review was conducted. A number of health and safety challenges noted would mean substantial investment would be required. As an interim safety measure, Members were advised that visits would be limited to five persons including a tour guide.

Recognition of Success

| | |
|-----|---|
| | The Chairperson on behalf of the Working Group wished to express his thanks to the members of the Focus Group who worked to create the memorial for The Baby Haven at the City Cemetery and that a letter of gratitude be sent to each of the Focus Group members in recognition of their huge contribution. The Chairperson also expressed his thanks to all the officers who worked on the Baby Haven memorial. |
| 4.0 | Financial & Resource Implications |
| 4.0 | None |
| 5.0 | Equality or Good Relations Implication / Rural Needs Assessment |
| | None |
| 4.0 | Appendices |
| | Minutes of the Working Group on 21 st August and 2 nd October 2019 |

This page is intentionally left blank

**STRATEGIC CEMETERIES AND CREMATORIUM
DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP**

Minutes of Meeting of 21st August, 2019

Members Present: The High Sheriff of Belfast, Alderman Sandford;
Alderman Rodgers and
Councillors Matthew Collins, Corr and
Mulholland.

In Attendance: Mrs. S. Toland, Director of City and Neighbourhood
Services;
Mr. M. Patterson, Bereavement Services Manager;
Mrs. C. Sullivan, Policy and Business Development
Officer; and
Mr. G. Graham, Democratic Services Assistant.

Election of Chairperson

Nominations were sought to fill the vacant position of Chairperson and it was:

Moved by Alderman Sandford
Seconded by Alderman Rodgers and

Resolved – that Councillor Corr be appointed to the position of
Chairperson for the period ended June, 2020.

Councillor Corr accepted the appointment and thanked the Members for their
nomination.

(Councillor Corr in the Chair.)

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 19th March, 2019 were taken as read and signed
as correct.

Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were reported.

Introduction to Bereavement Services

The Director of City and Neighbourhood Services provided the Working Group
with an update on the background and role of the Bereavement Services Section and the
link back to the People and Communities Committee. She outlined the key roles of the
Working Group including, amongst other things, the provision of strategic direction and
input into the city's framework for cemetery and crematorium development.

The Members were advised that Belfast City Council was the burial board for
Belfast with responsibility for nine cemeteries including the province's only crematorium.
She highlighted the mortality rates and the increasing pressure to accommodate the
current number of cremations which were far in excess of those that the crematorium was
originally intended to accommodate.

New Crematorium and Cemetery

The Working Group was advised of the progress made to date in the development of new crematorium facilities at Roselawn including the proposal of a new two chapel crematorium to meet the increasing demand associated with future cremation requirements. The Members were advised that a project management team had been appointed to oversee the project which would report back to the next meeting of the Crematorium Development Project Board on 22nd August, 2019. The Bereavement Services Manager advised the Working Group that the Council was undertaking a search for new burial land and that a requested Expression of Interest (E.O.I.) assessment had been undertaken to identify new burial ground which would meet the future burial requirements of North and West Belfast. It was reported that once the submissions received had been subjected to the E.O.I. process, Members of the Working Group would be kept informed with regular updates in regard to the progress made.

Memorial Safety

The Members were advised that a Memorial Management Policy, including a safety inspection programme, had been introduced in 2016 and updated in March, 2019. The Director reported that the Council was responsible for the safety of in excess of 130,000 memorials and monuments within its cemeteries.

Plotbox

The Bereavement Services Manager informed the Working Group that it was in the process currently of introducing a new computerised system to manage all burials, cremations and ancillary services. He referred to the success of that computerised system and of the potential benefits for Bereavement Services once the system had been introduced.

City Cemetery – Heritage Lottery Fund Project

The Working Group was informed that the City Cemetery was the resting place for a number of important historical figures in the city of Belfast, including central vaults, Victorian fountains and a Jewish cemetery and a large number of war graves. The Bereavement Services Manager stated that the Council was working with the Heritage Lottery Fund to enhance the built heritage of the City Cemetery to include improved accessibility to the site while protecting the cemetery for future generations.

The Baby Haven

The Bereavement Services Manager provided the Working Group with an update on the background to the design and installation of a memorial in remembrance of over 7,000 babies buried in the City Cemetery. He reported that landscaping work at the burial site would commence in the near future with an unveiling ceremony scheduled to take place on 12th September, 2019.

Heritage Sites/ War Memorials/ Burial Records

The Members were informed that the City Council had responsibility for five closed graveyards which had historical significance and that there existed important war memorials in both Dundonald and the City Cemetery, the latter being the largest 'war cemetery' in Ireland. In regard to burial records, the Bereavement Services Manager reported that there was currently 360,000 burial records in respect of Dundonald Cemetery, the City Cemetery and Roselawn Cemetery which were accessible online and at the Central Bereavement Office.

In response to a question from a Member in respect of tours being undertaken at the various cemeteries, owned by the Council and the charging mechanism for undertaking such tours, the Bereavement Services Manager stated that the Council's Events Policy allowed for charges to be applied, but that this was not yet in place for cemeteries. It was reported that, at present, tour operators were being managed through the Council's Outdoor Spaces and Active Living process in order to ensure the adequacy of operators risk assessments and provision of public liability insurance. The Working Group suggested that it might be appropriate for officers to investigate the possibility of undertaking a registration system to allow tour operators to use City Council cemetery facilities. A Member referred to the tourism possibilities associated with allowing greater public access to the Council's graveyard sites, given the historical significance associated with many of the gravestones contained therein. The Members were advised of the need to keep some graveyards locked because of the danger to life associated with large unstable and unsafe headstones within the confines of the graveyards. The Director agreed that she would bring back a report in the matter to a future meeting of the Working Group.

A Member raised the issue of the maintenance at Dundonald Cemetery in particular the frequency of the grass cutting at the site and also in relation to the accidental car damage caused to the entrance pillar and gates. In response, the Bereavement Services Manager stated that additional staff had been allocated to maintain the cemetery and assured the Members that the insurance claim in respect of the entrance pillar and gates had been completed and that the repair work was due to be completed by September 2019.

A Member highlighted the capital works undertaken at Roselawn Cemetery in respect of the installation of the new water supply and requested that officers, on behalf of the Working Group, to thank the staff and cemetery operatives at Roselawn for their diligence and hard work. The Members expressed their concern in the delay associated with the construction of the new two chapel crematorium at Roselawn and the associated planning application. In response, the Director stated that she would be meeting with staff from Property and Projects to discuss those concerns. She stated further that she would report back to the Working Group in the matter, and would provide an update in regard to the planning application.

A Member raised a further question in respect of memorial safety and the fact that memorials were still being banded. The Member asked if memorials could be laid flat as a suitable alternative to the banding process. In response, the Bereavement Services Manager stated that although the Council Policy allowed that memorials could be laid flat, there had been problems when that option was applied to modern lawn memorials and agreed to report back in the matter to the next meeting of the Working Group. Several Members asked if the construction of a columbarium might be considered at the City Cemetery. Members were informed that the use of a columbarium had not proved popular as a means of disposal of cremated remains but agreed to look at the possibility of other forms of remembrance, given that tree planting for cremated remains was no longer permitted at Roselawn. Members raised the topic of the recent vandalism in the City Cemetery which had resulted in damage to a number of headstones. The Working Group stressed the need for greater community engagement in an endeavour to eliminate the damage by vandals to headstones at the City Cemetery

The Director in response to a question from a Member of the Working Group in respect of the introduction of C.C.T.V. at the City Cemetery highlighted the considerable cost associated with that option and the shortcomings of the operational effectiveness of undertaking that course of action. She referred to a previous report and decision made on the installation of C.C.T.V. recording equipment.

The Working Group noted the information which had been provided and thanked the officers for their detailed information in respect of the work of Bereavement Services.

Date of Future Meetings

The Working Group agreed its schedule of meetings covering the period ended December 2020 and agreed further that its next meeting would be held on Wednesday, 2nd October at 4.30 p.m.

Chairperson

**STRATEGIC CEMETERIES AND CREMATORIUM
DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP**

Minutes of Meeting of 2nd October, 2019

Members Present: Councillor Corr, Chairperson,
The High Sheriff of Belfast, Alderman Sandford; and
Alderman Rodgers.

In Attendance: Mrs. S. Toland, Director of City and Neighbourhood
Services;
Mr. M. Patterson, Bereavement Services Manager;
Mrs. C. Sullivan, Policy and Business Development
Officer; and
Mr. G. Graham, Democratic Services Assistant.

Apologies

Apologies for inability to attend were reported from Councillors Groogan, Kyle and Mulholland.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 21st August, 2019 were taken as read and signed as correct.

Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were reported.

Report on Memorial Tree Replacement

The Bereavement Services Manager provided the Working Group with an update on the background to the memorial tree scheme at Roselawn Cemetery which had been introduced in 1977. The scheme ran for 30 years with the sale of 13,000 trees. He reported that owing to a lack of space it had been agreed by the People and Communities Committee in 2017 that, no new memorial trees could be released.

Currently the Council runs a proactive replacement programme for memorial trees. These are inspected annually and every year around 400 are proactively replaced with new saplings. The Members were provided with a summary of the resources required to maintain this rate of replacement including the operational difficulties. The Working Group was informed that over the previous four years, £23,478 had been spent on new saplings alone. The Bereavement Services Manager pointed out that every year 30-40 families make requests to have memorial trees replaced. Members were asked to consider the option that memorial trees are only replaced when the owner makes a request and it is verified that the original tree has died. He reported that the resources taken up by the current programme could be redirected to other priority areas within Roselawn.

The Working Group accepted the recommendations to cease the proactive replacement of memorial trees. However, Members raised the lack of options available to the public to have a permanent memorial for family members who are cremated. It was requested that officers investigate what other Councils provide for such memorials. The Director agreed that she would bring back a report to a future meeting of the Working Group providing a range of options for the disposal of cremated remains.

Proposed Crematorium Development

A Member requested that the Working Group be provided with regular updates on the progress being made in the planning application for the new crematorium facility at Roselawn. The Director gave a verbal update. The Director agreed that the new crematorium development would be a standing item on the agenda of this Working Group.

Report on Knock Burial Ground

The Bereavement Services Manager informed the Working Group of the historical significance attached to Knock Burial Ground. The Members were informed that all the site has been taken with historic graves and there are no new ones. It contains memorial structures dated back to 1600s. The site is permanently locked due to safety concerns from the natural topography of the land and the existence of both unstable ground and unsafe headstones. There are surface and tripping hazards throughout and there are no paths. Council Staff continue to facilitate small numbers of family and historical investigators to visit.

The Members were advised that the Council has received a number of applications for bus tours onto the site. The Bereavement Services Manager explained the concerns that the site is not suitable in its current condition to accommodate large numbers –even from the point of somewhere to stand.

The Bereavement Services Manager provided the Working Group with a number of options which might be considered to facilitate the tour requests including, undertaking discussion with the Department for Infrastructure (D.f.I.) to plan an access ramp at the front gate of the site. It might also be possible to create a safe area within the site and fence it off. Members were reminded that such works are capital schemes and would require the necessary consultation and permissions. The Bereavement Services Manager asked for Members support for a control measure that in the interim, visits to the site should be restricted to five persons including a tour guide whilst officers begin to explore with the Working Group, managing tourism requests across our sites. In the interim period, the Working Group was advised that the burial ground should remain closed and would be opened only on a case-by-case basis until such times as further options are available.

Noted.

Report on Notice of Motion by Alderman Copeland Re: Anti-Social Behaviour in the City Cemetery

The Director addressed the recent Notice of Motion by Alderman Copeland in relation to anti-social behaviour at City Cemetery. She reported that the Neighbourhood Services Manager would draft a report which would be presented to the People and Communities Committee, outlining a range of measures which would address the concerns raised by in the Notice of Motion and by Members in general.

Memorial Maintenance

A Member requested if the Director could arrange for the Thiepval and American war memorials sites to be tidied prior to the annual Remembrance Day Commemoration Service.

In response, the Director agreed that she would investigate the possibility of these actions.

Recognition of Success

The Chairperson on behalf of the Working Group wished to express his thanks to the members of the Focus Group who had worked together with officers to create the memorial for The Baby Haven at the City Cemetery, and requested that a letter of gratitude be formally sent to each of the Focus Group members in recognition of their huge contribution. The Director stated that she was happy to do so. The Chairperson also expressed his thanks to all staff involved.

Date of Next Meeting

The Working Group agreed that its next meeting be held on Wednesday, 20th November at 4.30 pm.

Chairperson

This page is intentionally left blank

Agenda Item 5b

Finaghy Football Club

[REDACTED]

Erinvale

Finaghy

Belfast

BT10 0FW

25th September 2019

Parks & Leisure

Belfast City Council

Belfast

Dear Sirs

Wedderburn Park

We are writing to request permission for a Portacabin at Wedderburn Park. With the hope of entering into a lease agreement with BCC

This Portacabin would be fully funded by our own Club, Finaghy FC & insured by us.

We would hope that BCC would work with us and help us arrange utilities ie drainage, water & electricity.

The Portacabin is 20 ft by 10 ft and will only be used between the hours of 11am – 6pm on Home Game Match Days for serving tea, refreshments, storing equipment, kit washing and committee & team meetings. We are open to allow groups of the community to avail of these facilities also should the need arise or demand be there.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]

Chairman

[REDACTED]

This page is intentionally left blank