

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



**Belfast
City Council**

16th February, 2023

MEETING OF THE STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Dear Alderman/Councillor,

The above-named Committee will meet in the Lavery Room and remotely via Microsoft Teams on Friday, 17th February, 2023 at 9.30 a.m., for the transaction of the business noted below.

You are requested to attend.

Yours faithfully,

John Walsh

Chief Executive

AGENDA:

1. Routine Matters

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

2. Restricted Items

- (a) Financial Reporting – Quarter 3 2022/23 (Pages 1 - 20)
- (b) Update on Northern Ireland Council Strategic Waste Management Arrangements (Pages 21 - 70)
- (c) Update on City and Neighbourhood Services Establishment (Pages 71 - 74)
- (d) Entrepreneurship Support Service (Pages 75 - 82)
- (e) Quarterly Update on Organisational Reviews and Change Programme (Pages 83 - 90)

- (f) Fuel Poverty Hardship Fund (Pages 91 - 94)
- (g) Asset Management (Pages 95 - 108)
- (h) Levelling Up Fund – Lessons Learned (Pages 109 - 130)
- (i) Consultancy Cost to Ratepayers - April 2019 to October 2022 (Pages 131 - 138)
- (j) Summer Community Diversionary Festival Programme - Request to hold a Special Committee Meeting (Pages 139 - 140)

3. Matters referred back from Council/Motions

- (a) Motion – Winter Outdoor Preparedness Strategy (Pages 141 - 142)
- (b) Quarterly Update on Motions (Pages 143 - 164)

4. Belfast Agenda/Strategic Issues

- (a) Council Improvement Objectives 2023-24 (Pages 165 - 174)
- (b) IT Equipment Package for Members (Pages 175 - 178)
- (c) Update on Dual-Language Street Signs (Pages 179 - 186)

5. Physical Programme and Asset Management

- (a) Update on Area Working Groups (Pages 187 - 198)
- (b) Asset Management (Pages 199 - 230)

6. Finance, Procurement and Performance

- (a) Update on Contracts (Pages 231 - 238)
- (b) Update on the Waiving of Building Regulation Inspection Fees for Applications including Insulation (Pages 239 - 240)

7. Equality and Good Relations

- (a) Equality and Diversity: Disability Action Plan 2022-2025 (Pages 241 - 274)
- (b) Minutes of the Meeting of the Shared City Partnership (Pages 275 - 298)
- (c) Seachtain na Gaeilge/Irish Language Week 2023 (Pages 299 - 302)

8. Operational Issues

- (a) Late Requests for the use of Belfast Parks for Events (Pages 303 - 306)
- (b) Minutes of the Meeting of the Party Group Leaders' Consultative Forum (Pages 307 - 310)

- (c) Minutes of the Meeting of the Castle, Cavehill, Zoo and North Foreshore Steering Group (Pages 311 - 312)
- (d) Requests for use of the City Hall and the Provision of Hospitality (Pages 313 - 316)
- (e) Requests for the use of the City Hall Grounds for Various Events in 2023 (Pages 317 - 320)
- (f) Request for the use of the City Hall Grounds – Belfast Photo Festival Photographic Exhibition (Pages 321 - 334)
- (g) Minutes of the Meeting of the All-Party Working Group on the City Centre (Pages 335 - 338)
- (h) The Coronation of Their Majesties The King and The Queen Consort (Pages 339 - 342)
- (i) Minutes of the Meeting of the Social Policy Working Group (Pages 343 - 348)

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Subject:	Motion – Winter Outdoor Preparedness Strategy
Date:	17th February, 2023
Reporting Officer:	Nora Largey, Interim City Solicitor/Director of Legal and Civic Services
Contact Officer:	Jim Hanna, Senior Democratic Services Officer

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

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

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
	To bring to Members' attention a motion on a Winter Outdoor Preparedness Strategy, which the Standards and Business Committee, at its meeting on 24th January, referred to this Committee.
2.0	Recommendation
	The Committee is asked to consider the motion.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>The Standards and Business Committee, at its meeting on 24th January, considered the following motion which had been received for submission to the Council on 1st February:</p>

Winter Outdoor Preparedness Strategy

“This Council:

- i. notes that the recent spate of icy cold weather in December 2022, which left streets frozen over for days, exposed how poorly prepared the Council is to ensure safe walking, wheeling and cycling across the City; and
- ii. notes that other councils have certain measures in place which this Council currently does not, including gritting town centres and high streets and working in conjunction with the Department for Infrastructure to provide additional grit and white salt for use by the council, residents and local businesses.

The Council will work with key stakeholders to put together a funded winter outdoor preparedness strategy and action plan, including a gritting policy, for the City, to be operational by Quarter 3 of the 2023/2024 financial year.”

Proposer - Councillor McMullan

Seconder - Councillor Long

Financial and Resource Implications

None at this stage.

Equality or Good Relations Implications / Rural Needs Assessment

This motion, if agreed, may have potential equality, good relations and rural needs implications and should be subject to our normal screening process as appropriate

Documents Attached

None



Subject:	Quarterly Update on Motions
Date:	17th Feb 2023
Reporting Officer:	Nora Largey, City Solicitor and Director of Legal and Civic Services
Contact Officer:	Geoff Dickson, Strategic Policy Lead Officer Jim Hanna, Senior Democratic Services Officer Clare Hutchinson, Strategic Planning and Policy Officer

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of Main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to update Committee on the progress of all motions for which this Committee is responsible for.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. note the updates on all motion for which the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee is responsible for; and ii. agree to the closure of motions 1, 2, 3, 16, 34, 56, 67, 83, 114, 130, 148, 149, 156, 157, 176, 178, 179, 181, 192, 194, 200, 201, 204, 206, 212, 214, 219, 222, 229, 233, 233, 234, 268, 271, 272, 281 as referenced in the attached appendix and paragraph 3.4 below.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p><u>Background</u></p> <p>At the Committee meeting on 25th October 2019, the following motion was agreed:</p> <p>“That this Council notes that other councils produce a monthly status report in relation to motions and agrees that Belfast City Council adopts a similar practice and produces a monthly update on motions which will be brought to each full Council Meeting, detailing the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Date received 2. Motion title 3. Submitted by which Councillor 4. Council meeting date 5. Committee the motion is referred to

3.2	<p>6. Outcome of Committee where the motion will be debated</p> <p>7. Month it will be reported back to committee</p> <p>8. Other action to be taken.”</p> <p>Following a review exercise, a new database containing all motions and Issues Raised in Advance at Committee was created and quarterly reporting to Committee commenced in March, 2021. Attached is the latest quarterly update showing all active motions and Issues Raised in Advance which the SP and R Committee is responsible for.</p>
3.3	<p>Closure of Motions and Issues Raised in Advance</p> <p>At the Committee meeting on 20th November 2020, it was agreed that motions could be closed for one of two reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • motions which contained an action(s) that has been completed; and • motions which have become Council policy.
3.4	<p>The Committee are asked to agree that the following 36 motions are now closed:</p> <p>Category 1 Recommended Closures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stained Glass Window – Health Service (Ref no 1) – This motion called for the Council to agree to the installation of a stained-glass window in the City Hall to commemorate and celebrate the contribution that those working in the Health Service have made to the lives of the citizens of our city. It has been agreed that this will be progressed by the Installations Working Group. Therefore, it is recommended that this motion is now closed. • Stained Glass Window – Explosives Ordnance Disposal Company (Ref no 2) – This motion called for the Council to agree to the installation of a stained-glass window in the City Hall to acknowledge the work of the Explosives Ordnance Disposal Company, Royal Army Ordnance Corps. It has been agreed that this will be progressed by the Installations Working Group. Therefore, it is recommended that this motion is now closed.

- **Fire Brigade Union (Ref no 3)** – This motion called for the Council to erect a suitable monument in City Hall or it's grounds in recognition of the service of the Fire Service and the 100th anniversary of the Fire Brigades Union. It has been agreed that this will be progressed by the Installations Working Group. Therefore, it is recommended that this motion is now closed.
- **SEND Act and Out of School Hours Provision (Ref no 16)** – This motion called for the Council to arrange a cross party delegation meeting with the Department of Education, Education Authority, Belfast Health and Social Care Trust and Out of School Hours Service providers to review resource challenges, share experiences, measure demand and explore best fit options of support to enable all children and young people to reach their highest aspirations. This meeting was delayed due to the 2019 local government elections and the Covid-19 pandemic but is now currently being arranged via video call. Therefore, it is recommended that this motion is now closed.
- **Unregulated Car Washes (Ref no 34)** – This motion called for a report to be prepared on the number of unregulated car washes across Belfast. The Council has no responsibility for regulating or licensing hand car washes and valet services. Responsibility for Health and Safety at such car washes lies with the HSENI. The NI Environment Agency has responsibility for enforcing the requirements of the Water (NI) Order 1999 and has advised Council officers that, in line with guidance, it would recommend that vehicle washes are connected to mains sewer where possible and a suitable treatment system would be required. The NIEA currently doesn't have any vehicle wash sites in Belfast on their books which hold a consent to discharge. Further enquiries with the NIEA, HSENI and PSNI has not determined that the relevant data can be sourced from elsewhere. Therefore, it is recommended that this motion is now closed.
- **Public Sector Pay (Ref no 56)** – This motion called for the Council to write to the Minister of Finance to ask him to implement fair pay for civil servants and to the British Secretary of State asking that the British Government fully funds its commitments contained within the New Decade, New Approach agreement. This action is now complete and, therefore, it is recommended that this motion is now closed

- **Review of Hate Crime Legislation in NI (Ref no 67)** – This motion called for the Council to write a letter to Judge Desmond Marrinan, as part of his ongoing review of hate crime legislation in Northern Ireland expressing support for the inclusion of misogyny as a standalone offence and as a category of hate crime, recognising crimes targeted at women including trans women as hate crimes based on misogyny. This action has been completed and, therefore, it is recommended that this motion is now closed.
- **Frederick Douglass Statute (Ref no 83)** – This motion called for a letter be sent to the Department for Communities requesting it to consider the installation in Rosemary Street of a statue in remembrance of Frederick Douglass, a slavery abolitionist. The Committee agreed that this work would be progressed by Installations Working Group. Therefore, it is recommended that this motion is now closed.
- **Pay Increase for Health Workers (Ref no 114)** – This motion related to the 2020 pay increase which has been settled and it is recommended that this motion is now closed.
- **Closure of Ulster Bank (Ref no 130)** – This motion called on the Council to write to relevant MPs requesting an all-party meeting about NatWest's proposals to close Ulster Bank. Responses from MPs were logged November 20, however, implementation of closures commenced. It is recommended that this motion is now closed.
- **Uplift on Universal Credit (Ref no 148)** – This motion called on the Council to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer requesting it maintain the £20 uplift on Universal Credit in April 2021 and extend the £20 uplift to all legacy benefits. Responses were noted by the Committee on 19.02.21 stating that the Government rejected calls to uplift and it is now recommended that this motion is closed.
- **Black Lives Matters Demonstration (Ref no 149)**– This motion was in relation to calling on having all penalty notices rescinded and prosecutions against Black Lives Matter activists relating to 6th June protests abandoned. This motion was resolved when the PSNI dropped the charges and it is recommended that this is now closed.
- **Child Poverty Task Force (Ref 156)** – This motion called on the Council to write to the Minister for Communities to convene a child poverty task force. The response was noted by the Committee on 19.03.21 outlining that there were no current plans

to establish such a task force but that the council would be consulted on in relation to other future linked work. It is therefore recommended that this motion is now closed.

- **Student Support (Ref no 157)** – This motion requested communication with university accommodation providers and private landlords who had not provided rent waivers to do so immediately, and release affected students from private rental contracts without penalty. In addition, a letter was to be sent to Department for the Economy and Department of Finance requesting the development and funding of a Student Support Grant for all full time third level students. The requested letters were sent on 21.12.20 and responses received from the Economy Minister and, as this related to student support during the Covid 19 pandemic, it is recommended that this motion is now closed.
- **Mater Hospital Services (Ref no 176)** – This motion requested a meeting with Cathy Jack and the Minister for Health Robin Swann MLA to discuss plans for the future of the Mater, after Covid-19. The motion related to the provision of services during the pandemic. This was resolved, with services returning to normal from November 2022, and it is recommended that this motion is now closed.
- **Pay Rise for Public Sector Workers (Ref no 178)** – This motion requested that a letter be sent to the British Government asking it to review its budget allocation to the Executive and to stress to them the need for multi-year budgets with adequate resources to fund pay increases to our health and social care and public sector staff. This issue has since been settled and it is recommended that this motion is now closed.
- **Statue of Mary Ann McCracken (Ref no 179)** – This motion called on the Council to install a statue of Mary Ann McCracken in the grounds of the City Hall. The Committee approved the installation of the statue and this work is being taken forward by the Installations Working Group. It is, therefore, recommended that this motion is now closed.
- **War Years Remembered (Ref 181)** – This motion called on the Council to engage with War Years Remembered to help find a solution to their current difficulties including a possible relocation to Belfast. The Culture and Tourism team engaged with War Years Remembered and signposted to possible funding schemes. War

Years Remembered indicated that they will get back in touch if they require any further assistance. It is, therefore, recommended that this motion is now closed.

- **Marking the Centenary of the Ulster Memorial Tower (Ref no 194)** – This motion called for the Council to note the various historic connections between the Ulster Memorial Tower and Belfast City Council and agree to include recognition of this connection in their Centenary programme. The Committee granted retrospective approval for a Member to attend the Centenary Commemoration of the opening of the Ulster Memorial Tower in France on 18th November and authorised the payment of the associated costs. Therefore, it is recommended that this motion is now closed.
- **Triple Lock Guarantee (Ref no 200)** – This motion asked for a letter to be sent to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, requesting him to honour the “Triple Lock Guarantee”. The response from HM Treasury was noted by the Committee on 19.11.21 and it is recommended that this motion is now closed.
- **NHS Pay (Ref no 201)** – This motion asked for communication to be sent to the Health Minister, Robin Swann, calling upon him to refuse to bring forward the 3% pay offer, urging him, alongside the First and Deputy First Ministers, to lobby the British Government to award a substantial offer and asking him to bring forward proposals on safe staffing. The response from the Minister of Health was noted by the Committee on 19.11.21 and this motion is now recommended for closure.
- **Universal Credit (Ref 204)** – This motion called on the Council to write to the Minister for Communities to uphold the uplift for the remainder of the financial year and to write to the Prime Minister to recommend he reconsider the removal of the uplift. Responses were received from the two Ministers and we are still awaiting a response from the Prime Minister, therefore, it is recommended that this motion is now closed.
- **Adopt a Kiosk Scheme (Ref no 212)** – This motion called for the Council to prepare a report on the feasibility of joining BT’s Adopt a Kiosk scheme, outlining the options open to the Council for the removal of the kiosks, should a decision be taken not to proceed. Officers have reviewed the BT Adopt a Kiosk scheme and have received advice from BT that whilst the old ‘red phone boxes’ can be utilised in a number of ways, modern phone boxes can only be adapted to accommodate a heart defibrillator. Whilst BCC are unable to provide a dedicated resource to identify potential sites across the city for the repurposing of phone kiosks to house

defibrillators, or to meet the potential costs associated with installation and maintenance of defibrillators, officers will be happy to direct community groups to BT and the range of organisations' who provide funding for community defibrillators. It is recommended that this motion is now closed.

- **Rent Controls (Ref 214)** – This motion called for the Executive to bring forward a rent control scheme for the city. The response was noted by the Committee on 21.12.21 in relation to future plans to be brought forward and it is, therefore, recommended that this motion is now closed.
- **Publication of information on Members' attendance at meetings (Ref no 219)** – This motion requested that the Council, commencing in April 2022, would publish on an annual basis details of Members' attendance at meetings of the Council, Committees and Working Groups, as well as attendances for each year since the commencement of the current Council term. This action was implemented in April 2022 and it is recommended that this motion is now closed.
- **Insulation inspection and the provision of insulation (Ref 222)** – This motion called for the Council to write to the Minister for Communities requesting a review of the affordable warmth scheme. The response was noted by the Committee on 21.01.22 and it, is therefore, recommended that this motion is now closed.
- **Pay Rise for Leisure Workers (Ref no 229)** – This motion called for the Council to meet GLL management and trade union representatives to discuss the feasibility of supporting the joint pay claim submitted by Unite the Union and NIPSA, calling for a 11.75% increase for Belfast City Council terms and conditions members and a 15.75% increase for Castlereagh Borough terms and conditions members, to address retrospective pay legacy issues. An update was provided to the Committee in September 22 and GLL continues to meet regularly with staff, the Trade Unions, and party representatives/Elected Members, on a range of issues. It is proposed that this motion is now closed.
- **Proposed Closure of Regina Coeli House (Ref no 233)** – This motion called for communication to the Department of Communities' Minister and the NIHE to meet with the owners and management Committee of Regina Coeli hostel to discuss the withdrawal of this service. Letters were issued to all mentioned within the motion on 25.01.22. The Regina House facility was closed last year and it is, therefore, recommended that this motion is now closed.

- **Irish Sea Border Checks (Ref 234)** – This motion authorised the Council's City Solicitor to commence legal proceedings to compel the Minister and the British Government to comply with protocol requirements, subject to any current derogations in the grace period. The Judicial Review was successful and a response was noted by the Committee in December 2022. It is now recommended that this motion is closed.
- **Suspension of Government Debt Recovery for those in receipt of benefits and universal credit (Ref no 268)** – This motion called upon the Council to write to the Department of Communities' Minister requesting the immediate suspension of government debt recovery for those in receipt of benefits and universal credit. The response from the Department of Communities was noted by the Committee on 21.10.22 and it proposed that this motion is now closed.
- **Freedom of the City and County Borough of Belfast (Ref no 271)** – This motion called for the Council to confer the Freedom of the City and County Borough of Belfast on healthcare workers and those who worked on the frontline during the Covid-19 pandemic. This was granted and an event took place on the evening of 25th August and, therefore, it recommended that this motion is now closed.
- **Devolution of Local Transport Powers (Ref 272)** – This motion called on the Council to liaise with relevant personnel and organisations to discuss the devolution of key powers. This motion was declared lost and it is, therefore, recommended that this motion is now closed.
- **Christmas Tree Charity Collection (Ref no 281)** – This motion called for the Council to place a collection box beside the Christmas tree in the City Hall and for any funds raised to be channeled through the Lord Mayor's office for distribution to appropriate charities in the city. This was actioned and it is recommended that this motion is now closed.

Category 2 Recommended Closures:

- **Paid Leave for Miscarriage (Ref no 192)** – This motion called upon the Council to bring forward compassionate, fair, and progressive proposals for bereavement leave to provide leave for miscarriage and stillbirth so employees who have been impacted do not have to use sick or annual holiday leave. Through the consultation process with the Trade Unions, enhanced provisions were agreed at JNCC on 15th December 2022, including treating miscarriage as a bereavement and offering 10 days' bereavement leave on full pay to employees who suffer a miscarriage as a day one right and offering 3 days' bereavement leave to an employee who is the partner/surrogate parents for someone who has had a miscarriage. These changes have been implemented as of 01.02.23 and it is now recommended that this motion is closed.
- **Parental Bereavement Pay and Leave (Ref no 206)** – This motion called upon the Council to undertake a review of its bereavement policy, in conjunction with the unions, that sought to establish 2 weeks statutory bereavement leave and pay for all Council workers in line with the Coalition for Bereaved Workers "Call to Action" document. Through the consultation process with the Trade Unions, enhanced provisions were agreed at JNCC, 15 December 2022, including awarding 10 consecutive days' bereavement leave, not solely in the case of a child under 18, including the case of still birth for the partner, or the death of a close relative or for those who have sole responsibility for the funeral arrangements; award 10 consecutive days' full pay, as a day one right with no qualifying service required and award 1 days paid leave to attend the funeral of an extended family member. These changes have been implemented as of 01.02.23 and it is recommended that this motion is now closed.
- **Fertility Treatment Leave (Ref no 233)** – This motion called for the Council to implement a new leave provision for staff, which caters for those who need leave for fertility treatment and offers the same protections as sick leave. Through the consultation process with the Trade Unions, enhanced provisions were agreed at JNCC, 15 December 2022, including awarding 10 days full paid leave following any unsuccessful IVF treatment to employees who have undergone IVF treatment, as a day one right in addition to the paid time off for medical appointments that already exists and offering 3 days' leave to an employee who is the partner/surrogate parents

	for someone who had unsuccessful IVF treatment. These changes have been implemented as of 01.02.23 and it is recommended that this motion is now closed.
3.5	<u>Financial and Resource Implications</u> There are no additional financial implications required to implement these recommendations.
3.6	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u> There are no equality, good relations or rural needs implications contained in this report.
4.0	Document Attached
	Motions Live Database – Strategic Policy and Resources Committee

Notice of Motion – Live Database

Belfast

Ref	Type	Date of Council Meeting	Motion (including hyperlinks)	Proposed by	Referral route	Committee	Agreed actions (agreed decisions from committee/ Council)	Lead officer	Lead Department	Status	Status Update
1	Notice of Motion	03/05/2016	Stained Glass Window – Health Service	CLlr Mullan	Referred to Diversity Working Group	SP&R		J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Recommendation Close	Proposal being taken forward through the Installations working Group
2	Notice of Motion	02/05/2017	Stained Glass Window – 321 Explosives Ordnance Disposal Company	CLlr Graham	Referred to SP&R	SP&R	Referred to SP&R	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Recommendation Close	Proposal being taken forward through the Installations working Group
3	Notice of Motion	01/06/2017	Fire Brigades Union	CLlr McVeigh	Referred to SP&R	SP&R	Referred to SP&R	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Recommendation Close	Proposal being taken forward through the Installations working Group
7	notice of Motion	09/04/2018	Childcare Strategy	CLlr O'Hara	Referred to SP&R	SP&R		J Tully	City & Organisational Strategy	Ongoing	A child care strategy that is for Belfast alone would not be operational and outside the remit of the Council. The Council continues to engage with key central government departments and agencies through community planning and other structures to help improve the education and social outcomes for children and young people. The Education Minister recently confirmed (7th Sep 2022) the continued commitment to developing an integrated Early Learning and Childcare Strategy for NI with March 2023 as the anticipated date for the draft of the strategy and costed action plan which will be subject to NI Executive consideration. Council officers will engage with Depts and seek to input into this process and advocate the need to accelerate the finalisation and implementation of the regional strategy
16	Notice of Motion	04/03/2019	SEND Act and Out of School Hours Provision	CLlr Black	Debated and passed	SP&R		J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Recommendation Close	Meeting was delayed due to the 2019 local government elections then the Covid-19 pandemic. Currently being arranged via video call.
23	Notice of Motion	01/07/2019	Removal of Banners and Paramilitary Flags in Belfast	CLlr Beattie	Debated and passed	SP&R		J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	<p>Consultation delayed due to Covid-19. Since the decision by SP & R in 2019, the FICT report commissioned by The Executive was published which covers similar issues. Extensive consultation was undertaken between 2016 – 19 on this and the contents of this report have the agreement of the 5 main political parties represented on the Commission</p> <p>Report to be brought to CMT and potentially Party Group Leaders for discussion on way forward.</p>

24	Notice of Motion	01/07/2019	Webcasting of Committee Meetings	Cllr Nicholl	Referred to SP&R	SP&R		J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Report prepared for PLCF then delayed due to Covid-19 pandemic. To be rescheduled when appropriate.
25	Issue Raised in Advance	23/08/2019	Abortion Imagery	Cllr Groogan		SP&R	Motion referred to SP&R	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Work is ongoing on the development of new city amenities byelaws which would try to address a number of issues in relation to good governance in the city centre including the display of promotional literature or material without a permit from the Council. The Council will need to seek approval for the draft byelaw from the Department for Communities.
34	Notice of Motion	04/11/2019	Unregulated Car Washes	Cllr Newton	Referred to SP&R	SP&R	No further action required	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Recommendation Close	<p>CLOSE AND REMOVE</p> <p>BCC have no responsibility for regulating or licensing hand car washes and valet services. Responsibility for Health and Safety at such car washes lies with the HSENI.</p> <p>The NI Environment Agency has responsibility for enforcing the requirements of the Water (Northern Ireland) Order 1999. It is an offence under the Water Order to discharge or deposit, whether knowingly or otherwise, any poisonous, noxious or polluting matter so that it enters a waterway or underground stratum.</p> <p>Officers in Legal Services have written to the NIEA requesting any available data on the number of unregulated car washes in Belfast. The NIEA have advised that in line with guidance they would recommend that vehicle washes are connected to the mains sewer where possible. They anticipate such a facility would be available in Belfast. Should a consent be the only solution, a suitable treatment system would be required. The NIEA currently don't have any Vehicle wash sites in Belfast, on their books which hold a consent to discharge.</p> <p>Further enquiries with the NIEA, HSENI and PSNI has not determined that he relevant data can be sourced from elsewhere. Agreed with Cllr Newton that the Motion now be Closed.</p>
35	Notice of Motion	02/12/2019	Prestrian Animation	Cllr Garrett	Referred to SP&R	SP&R		J Greer	Place & Economy	Ongoing	Officers have continued to engage with various groups. However, the Inclusive Mobility and Transport Advisory Committee (IMTAC) have recommended that colourful crossings should not be used. Officers are continuing to engage with relevant partners to source alternative proposals.
49	Notice of Motion	03/02/2020	Market Gardens and Urban Farming	Cllr de Faoite	Straight to Committee	SP&R		J Tully	City & Organisational Strategy	Ongoing	The Climate Team are currently recommending the Sustainable Food Places partnership in Belfast, as well as engaging with organisations, such as Social Farms and Gardens NI, in relation to existing land which may be suitable for community food based initiatives. Developments in this area could potentially include urban farm and/or market garden establishment, though there are no existing plans at this stage. Members will be kept updated.

50	Notice of Motion	03/02/2020	Belfast Zoo	Cllr Maskey	Straight to Committee	SP&R		J Greer	Place & Economy	Ongoing	Dec 22 Summary: Major works have commenced on the new lion/big cat enclosure, due Easter 2023, providing an attractive experience for the start of the zoo's peak season. Annual seasonal events, such as Boo at the Zoo and Wildlife Wonderland, have returned to their pre-Covid format for the first time, with Boo at the Zoo performing particularly well. Following pandemic suspension, the zoo relaunched the popular 'Junior Keeper for a Day' experience in November, generating £5k in sales in its first month and very positive participant feedback. Refurbishment works are currently ongoing at the vacant Hazelwood House. A physical survey on the Bellevue Steps has been completed, with a report expected to help determine potential future refurbishment and/or usage. The Floral Hall physical survey is ongoing. CGR Cttee approved the first ever zoo hosted 'fun run' in March 2023 to be delivered by an external sports body, with a proportion of the registration fee going to the zoo. Following the successful installation of two large murals on-site in Spring 2022 and an Elmer the Elephant sculpture, an organisation has been appointed to develop an art trail throughout the zoo. The Council's Assets Team continue to work on a detailed action plan with timelines and potential funding opportunities.
51	Notice of Motion	03/02/2020	Growth Deal	Cllr Beattie	Straight to Committee	SP&R		R Cregan	Finance & Resources	Ongoing	To be progressed as resources become available.
55	Notice of Motion	03/02/2020	Drug Task Force	Cllr McCusker	Debated at Council	SP&R	Letters to be sent to Ministers for Health, Justice and Communities	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	To be progressed as resources become available.
56	Notice of Motion	03/02/2020	Public Sector Pay	Cllr Matt Collins	Debated at Council	SP&R	Letter to be sent to Minister for Finance	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Recommendation Close	Action completed
67	Notice of Motion	02/03/2020	Review of Hate Crime Legislation in Northern Ireland - Inclusion of Misogyny as a standalone offence	Cllr Groogan	Debated at Council	SP&R	Council will invite representatives of the Raise Your Voice project to deliver training for Members	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Recommendation Close	Action completed
73	Issue Raised in Advance	19/06/2020	Race Equality Champion for Belfast City Council	Cllr Nicholl		SP&R		J Tully	City & Organisational Strategy	Ongoing	The Director of City and Organisational Strategy is the CMT nominated Executive Sponsor for Race and is overseeing the development of a Race Action Plan. A draft plan covering three strands of work: Workforce, Access to services and Civic Leadership has been developed and further engagement and consultation with all stakeholders is planned for January to March 2023 with the aim of agreeing a three year plan 23/24 to 25/26.

74	issue Raised in Advance	19/06/2020	Disabled People and Older People	CLlr McMullan		SP&R		N Largey	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	The draft Age Friendly plan 22-26 is scheduled to be presented to SP&R in September 22 before going out to public consultation in October 22. The plan outlines actions that will contribute to relevant aims in the Belfast Agenda, accessibility is explicitly mentioned in the report with proposed actions to address this issue. The emerging priorities include Infrastructure – helping people ‘get out and about’ and Social inclusion, promoting connections both themes will promote increased accessibility. Work will continue with the Council’s internal Reference Group on Older People and officers have secured funding for a Council Age Friendly Co-ordinator, the recruitment process for this post will commence in the Autumn. It is therefore proposed that this Motion is now closed. 10.01.23 Part one of this motion in relation to older people and inclusivity is now recommended for closure due to the above update. However there are further actions and updates to be gained in relation to accessibility and inclusivity with regards to disabled people and in a wider sense. Therefore this motion has been left as on-going until these further updates have been obtained.
78	Notice of Motion	01/07/2020	Suicide Awareness Training	CLlr Michelle Kelly	Straight to Committee	SP&R		J Tully	City & Organisational Strategy	Ongoing	A number of short courses developed by the Mersey Care Trust Foundation on suicide Awareness have been promoted to staff and elected members and are available on a continuous basis to all staff via our Health and Wellbeing Support page on our staff intranet. A number of council staff have attended Mental Health First Aid training. The establishment of a network of mental health first aiders / wellbeing champions has been included in the draft revised Health and Wellbeing Strategy action plan. It is anticipated that the revised three year strategy and action plan will be agreed by April 23.
83	issue Raised in Advance	31/07/2020	Frederick Douglass Statue	CLlr Beattie		SP&R	letter to be sent to Department for Communities	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Recommendation Close	Proposal being taken forward through the Installations working Group
93	issue Raised in Advance	21/08/2020	Video and Web Streaming of Council Committee Meetings	CLlr McReynolds		SP&R	The Committee also noted that an update report would be submitted to a future Committee with respect to the continuation of live streaming after the pandemic	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	To be progressed as resources become available.
98	Notice of Motion	01/09/2020	Procurement Policy - Living Wage	CLlr Murphy	Straight to Committee	SP&R	Referred to SP&R	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	The Council's Procurement Policy is being updated as part of the overall review of Social Value Procurement - including consideration of the real living wage. A public consultation on the draft policy is running until Tuesday 14 December 2021.
108	issue Raised in Advance	18/09/2020	Application to Ulster History Circle for a blue plaque - Olaudah Equiano	CLlr McMullan		SP&R	report to come back to SP&R Committee	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Nominations to Ulster History Circle closed during pandemic. Report to go back to Committee and letter to be sent seeking application for blue plaque.

114	Notice of Motion	01/10/2020	Pay Increase for Health Workers	Cllr Michael Collins	Debated at Council	SP&R	The Council will invite local representatives of health and social care trade unions to speak about their pay, staffing demands and the challenges they face working in the health service	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Recommendation Close	This motion was related to the 2020 pay increase which has been settled.
130	Notice of Motion	02/11/2020	Closure of Ulster Bank	Cllr Heading	Debated at Council	SP&R	Letters sent. Awaiting response from Ministers	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Recommendation Close	Responses from MP's logged Nov 20. However implementation of closures commenced in September 2002. Motion should not be closed.
131	Notice of Motion	02/11/2020	Sealing of the Records of Mother and Baby Homes	Cllr Michael Collins	Debated at Council	SP&R	Letters sent. Awaiting response from Irish Gov. Exec response received.	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Response from Irish Gov still outstanding - 06/09/21
138	Notice of Motion	07/12/2020	World Environment Day	Cllr Garrett	Straight to Committee	SP&R	Report to come back to SP&R Committee	J Tully	City & Organisational Strategy	Ongoing	The Climate team will discuss potential awareness raising content for World Environment Day on 5th June 2023 with Officers across relevant Council Departments and update Members accordingly.
139	Notice of Motion	07/12/2020	Establishment of an External Independent Review of Educational Provision	Cllr McReynolds	Debated at Council	SP&R		J Tully	City & Organisational Strategy	Ongoing	Dept of Education appointed an Independent Panel to undertake a deep rooted review of the education system in NI and the council will input into this process as it moves forward. The Dept of Education has recently published for consultation (20th Sep to 15th Nov 2022) its corporate plan " Every Child Matters 2023 - 2030". SP&R Committee agreed a Council response on 18th November (endorsed by Full Council) which had been submitted. Council officers continue to work with colleagues from Dept of Education and the Education Authority in bringing forward the refreshed Belfast Agenda and focus for the next four years.
148	Notice of Motion	07/01/2021	Uplift on Universal Credit	Cllr Heading	Debated at Council	SP&R	reported to SP&R on 19/02/21	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Recommendation Close	Response from HM Treasury noted by SP&R 19/2/21 - Further letter issued 10/3/21. Response noted by SP&R, Government rejected calls to uplift. Motion should now be closed.
149	Notice of Motion	07/01/2021	Black Lives Matters Demonstrations	Cllr Matt Collins	Debated at Council	SP&R	reported to SP&R on 19/02/21	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Recommendation Close	Referred back to S P and R by Council on 1/3/21 - letters also to be issued. Resolved when the PSNI dropped the charges. Motion should now be closed.
156	Notice of Motion	01/02/2021	Child Poverty Task Force	Cllr McCusker	Debated at Council	SP&R	Response received - Sent to SPR team for issue.	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Recommendation Close	Response from Minister for Communities presented to S P and R 19/3/21. No plans by Dept to establish a Child Poverty Task Force, but council to be consulted on future work including Anti Poverty Strategy, etc.
157	Notice of Motion	01/02/2021	Student Support	Cllr de Faoite	Debated at Council	SP&R	Response received - Sent to SPR team for issue.	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Recommendation Close	Letters sent 21/12/20 and response received from Economy Minister. This motion related to student support during the Covid-19 pandemic and can therefore now be closed.
162	Notice of Motion	01/03/2021	Real Living Wage Foundation Accrediation	Cllr McLaughlin	Straight to Committee	SP&R		J Tully	City & Organisational Strategy	Ongoing	The Council had submitted its application to the Real Living Foundation in December 2022 to become the first council in NI to become a 'Real Living Wage Employer'. A decision on the application is expected in early January 2023.
163	Notice of Motion	01/03/2021	Application Fees in the private rented sector	Cllr Flynn	Debated at Council	SP&R	Council agrees to write to the Minister for Communities and the Minister of Finance, outlining concerns above and pledging council's support for the regulation of the private rented sector.	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	To be progressed as resources become available.

167	Notice of Motion	01/04/2021	Violence against Women and Girs	Notice of Motion	Straight to Committee	SP&R		J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	To be progressed as resources become available
168	Notice of Motion	01/04/2021	Legislation to Tackle the Third Party Sale of Pups	Councillor Newton	Debated at Council	SP&R		J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Letters sent 22/4/21 - further motion to Council on 1/11/21
169	Notice of Motion	01/04/2021	Mullaghglass Landfill Site - Legal Action	Councillor Baker	Debated at Council	SP&R		J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Legal proceedings remain ongoing. It is likely to be some time before the matter concludes.
171	Notice of Motion	01/04/2021	10 Per Cent Pay Increase for Council Workers	Councillor Matt Collins	Debated at Council	SP&R		J Tully	City & Organisational Strategy	Ongoing	The NJC pay award for 2022-23, was agreed and finalised November 2022 in accordance with the NJC's Constitution. There is no provision for local pay deals to be reached unless a council has chosen to opt out of the national bargaining machinery. Management have met with Trade Union representatives from each locally recognised Trade Union, and Council agreed to award 2 x COL payments of £750 gross to all staff except for Chief Officers. Following extensive discussions, management and the Trade Unions have agreed an interim pay and grading structure effective from 1 Sep 2022 for NJC and Craft employees. The interim structure includes the removal of the first SCP in each grade, except for PO12 and the addition of 1 SCP to the top of each grade, except for PO12 .All employees will progress by 1 increment with effect from 1 September 2022 with the exception of those employees at the top of PO12. From 1 April 2023, normal processes for incremental progression will apply.
176	Notice of Motion	04/05/2021	Mater Hospital Services	Cllr Ferguson	Debated at Council	SP&R		J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Recommendation Close	This motion related to provision of services during the pandemic - this was resolved with services returning to normal from November 2022. The motion can therefore be closed.
178	Notice of Motion	04/05/2021	Motion - Pay Rise for Public Sector Workers	Cllr Michael Collins	Debated at Council	SP&R		J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Recommendation Close	This motion related to the pay rise for public sector workers which has since been settled. The motion can therefore be closed.
179	Notice of Motion	04/05/2021	Statue of Mary Ann McCracken	Cllr Long	Straight to Committee	SP&R	Was considered further in the report later in the meeting on installations in the City Hall/City Hall Grounds	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Recommendation Close	Committee approved the installation of a statue, the final form of which would be submitted to the Committee in due course for approval, as part of the Capital Programme (12/05/21). This motion is being dealt with by the Installations Working Group along with the other memorials and should therefore be closed.

181	Notice of Motion	04/05/2021	War Years Remembered	ClIr Pankhurst	Straight to Committee	SP&R		J Greer	Place & Economy	Recommendation Close	The Culture and Tourism teams have continued to engage with War Years Remembered (WYR). As previously reported officers signposted WYR to potential support including National Lottery Heritage Funding and the Council's Vacant to Vibrant Pilot Capital Grant Scheme. We have not yet heard if the National Lottery Heritage Grant process will be appropriate. Whilst WYR have engaged with the Vacant to Vibrant Pilot Capital Grant Scheme it is recognised this would not be the panacea and any application would be subject to meeting the approved eligibility criteria. WYR have said they will contact us again if they need any further guidance.
187	Notice of Motion	01/06/2021	Local Government Pension Scheme – Responsible Investment Strategy	ClIr Murphy	Debated at Council	SP&R	Write to NILGOSC	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Letter sent 2/7/21. Meeting with NILGOSC requested by S P and R 20/8/21 - to be arranged
189	Notice of Motion	01/06/2021	PEACE IV to PEACE PLUS Programmes	ClIr Kyle	Debated at Council	SP&R	Write to TEO and SEUPB	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Letters sent 2/7/21. Response received from SEUPB 20/7/21 - TEO yet to respond
192	Notice of Motion	01/07/2021	Paid Leave for Miscarriage	ClIr M Kelly	Straight to Committee	SP&R		J Tully	City & Organisational Strategy	Recommendation Close	On 19 August 2022, SP&R Committee agreed that the Council consult with the Trade Unions on proposed paid leave for miscarriage. Through the consultation process with the Trade Unions, the following more favorable enhanced provisions were agreed at JNCC, 15 December 2022. •Treat miscarriage as a bereavement and offer 10 days' bereavement leave on full pay to employees who suffer a miscarriage as a day one right. •Offer 3 days' bereavement leave to an employee who is the partner/surrogate parents for someone who had a miscarriage. This has been ill be implemented as of 1 February 2023
194	Notice of Motion	01/07/2021	Marking the Centenary of the Ulster Memorial Tower	Ald Kingston	Straight to Committee	SP&R		J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Recommendation Close	SP&R Committee granted retrospective approval for a Member to attend the Centenary Commemoration of the opening of the Ulster Memorial Tower in France on 18th November and authorised the payment of the associated costs.
195	Notice of Motion	01/07/2021	Chat Bench and Tackling Loneliness	ClIr Howard	Straight to Committee	SP&R		S Grimes	Physical Programmes	Ongoing	<i>[No change from previous update].</i> To be progressed as resources become available. The NoM is wider than just physical projects.
196	Notice of Motion	01/09/2021	A Changing Places Toilets Policy for Belfast City Council	ClIr McMullan	Straight to Committee	SP&R		S Grimes	Physical Programmes	Ongoing	Draft policy to be presented to next meeting of Disability Working Group
197	Notice of Motion	01/09/2021	The Rights of Nature	ClIr Smyth	Straight to Committee	SP&R		J Tully	City & Organisational Strategy	Ongoing	The Climate team will discuss options to raise awareness on the Rights of Nature with Officers across relevant Council departments and update Members accordingly
198	Notice of Motion	01/09/2021	Bonfire Procedures	ClIr Beattie	Straight to Committee	SP&R		J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	To be implemented pending discussion at September SP&R Committee.
199	Notice of Motion	01/09/2021	Four-Day Working Week	ClIr Garrett	Straight to Committee	SP&R		J Tully	City & Organisational Strategy	Ongoing	Management are currently developing proposals on how a 4 day working week may be trialled within the Council.
200	Notice of Motion	01/09/2021	Triple Lock Guarantee	Ald Copeland	Debated at Council	SP&R	Write to Chancellor of Exchequer	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Recommendation Close	Response from HM Treasury noted by S P and R on 19/11/21. This motion can now be closed.

201	Notice of Motion	01/09/2021	NHS Pay	Cllr Matt Collins	Debated at Council	SP&R	Write to Health Minister	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Recommendation Close	Response from Minister of Health noted by S P and R on 19/11/21. This motion can now be closed.
203	Notice of Motion	04/10/2021	Electric Charging Points	Ald Dorrian	Debated at Council	SP&R	Write to Minister for Infrastructure Members to receive a report from officers	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Responses from Ministers being considered by officers
204	Notice of Motion	04/10/2021	Universal Credit	Cllr Heading	Debated at Council	SP&R	Write to Prime Minister, Min. for Communities and Min. for Finance	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Recommendation Close	Responses received from 2 Ministers, awaiting PM response. Can now be closed as was in relation to temporary uplift of Universal Credit.
206	Notice of Motion	04/10/2021	Parental Bereavement Leave and Pay	Cllr Matt Collins	Straight to Committee	SP&R		J Tully	City & Organisational Strategy	Recommendation Close	On 19 August 2022, SP&R Committee agreed that the Council consult with the Trade Unions on proposed enhanced parental bereavement leave and pay. Through the consultation process with the Trade Unions, the following more favorable enhanced provisions were agreed at JNCC, 15 December 2022. •Award 10 consecutive days' bereavement leave, not solely in the case of a child under 18, including the case of still birth for the partner, or the death of a close relative or for those who have sole responsibility for the funeral arrangements. •Award 10 consecutive days' full pay, not statutory pay, as a day one right with no qualifying service required. •Award 1 days paid leave to attend the funeral of an extended family member This has been implemented as of 1 February 2023
209	Notice of Motion	04/10/2021	Environmentally Sustainable Event Spaces	Cllr Garrett	Straight to Committee	SP&R		S Grimes	Physical Programmes	Ongoing	To be progressed as resources become available. A feasibility proposal to investigate Solar PV across the council estate as clean energy power source is being looked at. The Solar PV feasibility roll out is programme for 2023/24, under the BCC Climate Fund programme.
210	Notice of Motion	04/10/2021	Staff on Temporary Contracts	Cllr McLaughlin	Straight to Committee	SP&R		J Tully	City & Organisational Strategy	Ongoing	A report to January's SP&R Committee provides an update on the opinion received on the notice of motion regarding temporary staff from Senior Counsel, the Local Government Staff Commission and the Equality Commission NI and outlines the steps taken to reduce the reliance on temporary contracts and agency assignees.

212	Issue Raised in Advance	24/09/2021	Adopt a Kiosk Scheme	Cllr. Garrett	Issue Raised in Advance	SP&R		D Sales	City & Neighbourhood Services	Recommendation Close	Officers have reviewed the BT Adopt a Kiosk scheme and have received advice from BT whilst the old 'red phone boxes' can be utilised in a number of ways (usually in village/rural settings), that modern phone boxes can only be adapted to accommodate a heart defibrillator. Whilst BCC are unable to provide a dedicated resource to identify potential sites across the city for the repurposing of phone kiosks to house defibrillators, or to meet the potential costs associated with installation and maintenance of defibrillators, officers will be happy to direct community groups to BT and the range of organisations who provide funding for community defibrillators. BT have their own policy for the removal of payphones, which is based on evidence of usage and reasonable need. Under Universal Service obligations set by Ofcom, BT must provide public payphones to meet the reasonable needs of end users, but can remove a payphone if there is another within 400 metres. Applications for removal of phone boxes are made directly to BT, who will assess against set criteria.
213	Notice of Motion	01/11/2021	Community Sector Terms and Conditions	Cllr Bunting	Debated at Council	SP&R	Write to Minister for Communities	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Letter sent 16th November 2021
214	Notice of Motion	01/11/2021	Rent Controls	Cllr O'Hara	Debated at Council	SP&R	Write to NI Executive	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Recommendation Close	30/11/12 - response received from DfC - report went to SP and R in December 2021. Mr Polley, DfC outlined future plans including Private Tenancies Bill and consultation on Intermediate Rent scheme and advised that first homes would be built under the scheme in 2023
215	Notice of Motion	01/11/2021	Regulation of AirBnBs	Cllr McKeown	Debated at Council	SP&R	Write to NI Executive	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Letter sent 16th November 2021
219	Issue Raised in Advance	19/11/2021	Publication of Information on Members' Attendance at meetings	Cllr O'Hara	Issue Raised in Advance	SP&R		J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Recommendation Close	This was implemented in April 2022 and the motion can therefore be closed.
222	Notice of Motion	01/12/2021	Insulation Inspection and the Provision of Insulation	Cllr Heading	Debated at Council	SP&R		J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Recommendation Close	Letter sent to DfC Minister 15/12/21 - Response to S P and R 21/1/22
225	Issue Raised in Advance	17/12/2021	City Centre Built Heritage	Cllr Murphy	Issue Raised in Advance	SP&R		C Reynolds	Place & Economy	Ongoing	Work continues to progress a report for consideration at Committee.
228	Notice of Motion - referred by S&B Committee	10/01/2022	Playing Pitches in Belfast	Cllr Brooks	Straight to Committee	SP&R		D Sales	City & Neighbourhood Services	Ongoing	Further to some initial scoping work; the consultation on the Physical Activity and Sports Development Strategy is underway. Strategic Leisure Limited was appointed to support council in the production of the strategy which commenced in September 2022 with initial stakeholder and project board meetings. A survey has been made available online and will close on 6 January 2023. As part of the strategy development, it is anticipated that a mapping exercise will be carried out across the Council area. This exercise will be identifying current provision, instances of duplication and opportunities for partnership investment and partnership delivery in physical activity and sport. A first draft of the strategy will be produced for further consultation by the end of February 2023.

229	Notice of Motion - referred by S&B Committee	10/01/2022	Pay Rise for Leisure Workers	Cllr Ferguson	Straight to Committee	SP&R		D Sales	City & Neighbourhood Services	Recommendation Close	Update provided to SP&R Committee in Sept 22. GLL continues to meet regularly with staff, the Trade Unions, and party representatives/elected members, on a range of issues. It is proposed that this Motion is now closed.
233	Notice of Motion	17/01/2022	Proposed closure of Regina Coeli House	Councillor McCusker	Debated at Special Council	SP&R	Call for multi agency meeting	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Recommendation Close	Letters issued to all organisations mentioned within the motion on 25/01/22. The Regina House facility was closed last year. This motion can now be closed.
233	Issue Raised in Advance	22/10/2021	Fertility Treatment Leave	Councillor Murphy	Issue Raised in Advance	SP&R		J Tully	City & Organisational Strategy	Recommendation Close	On 19 August 2022, SP&R Committee agreed that the Council consult with the Trade Unions on proposed fertility treatment leave. Through the consultation process with the Trade Unions, the following more favorable enhanced provisions were agreed at JNCC, 15 December 2022. Award 10 days full paid leave following any unsuccessful IVF treatment to employees who have undergone IVF treatment, as a day one right in addition to the paid time off for medical appointments that already exists Offer 3 days' leave to an employee who is the partner/surrogate parents for someone who had unsuccessful IVF treatment. This has been implemented as of 1 February 2023
234	Notice of Motion	07/02/2022	Irish Sea Border Checks	Cllr McLaughlin	Debated at Special Council	SP&R		J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Recommendation Close	The Judicial Review was successful. A verbal update was given to SP&R in December 2022.
235	Notice of Motion - referred by S&B Committee	22/02/2022	Energy Price Crises	Cllr Smyth	Straight to Committee	SP&R		J Tully/ Debbie Caldwell	City & Organisational Strategy	Ongoing	
237	Notice of Motion - referred by S&B Committee	22/02/2022	Belfast Citywide Tribunal Service	Cllr Ferguson	straight to Committee	SP&R		D Sales	City & Neighbourhood Services	Ongoing	Officers continue to work with BCTS to carry out due diligence in relation to this award. 50% of the award has been paid and officers are meeting with BCTS on an ongoing basis to secure the required information. September Council approved that a review of Council support for advice services be undertaken, this has been delayed due to other emerging priorities including administration of the Hardship Fund Voucher Scheme. Officers will bring an update in relation to 22/23 and 23/24 funding for the service in March/April.
239	Notice of Motion	01/03/2022	Mountainview Centre	Cllr Matt Collins	Debated at Council	SP&R		D Sales	City & Neighbourhood Services	Ongoing	Letters issued following call in - responses received from Ministers for Finance and Education and the EA - to be presented to SP&R Committee on 15/4/22 (Minister for Communities acknowledged correspondence but no response received as of 08/04/22).

243	Notice of Motion	14/03/2022	Cost of Living	Cllr. Garrett	Debated at Special Council	SP&R	Present proposal to create a citywide hardship fund	J Tully	City & Organisational Strategy	Ongoing	The Council agreed a £1million Fuel Hardship Fund and that the fund would be administered by nine partner organisations across the city based on agreed eligibility criteria and on a first-come first-served basis. Work is on-going to consider what role and additional support can be provided by Council – as requested in the NOM - in the context of the financial pressures and uncontrollable costs facing the council. Further reports will be brought to Committee as relevant.
247	Notice of Motion	04/04/2022	City of Sanctuary	Cllr. Kyle	Debated at Council	SP&R		D Sales	City & Neighbourhood Services	Ongoing	Council has agreed that the Council should develop a Race Action Plan and officers across Council are developing associated actions. The Director of Organisational Development has been nominated as the Executive Sponsor for the Plan. A number of initiatives are also being supported through the Good Relations Action Plan and Shared City Partnership. The development of appropriate interventions is also included in the draft Belfast Agenda Refresh. An update on the development of the Race Equality Action Plan will be brought to SP & R in January 2023. Research commissioned by BCC,BHSCT & PHA on the inequalities experienced by Black, Asian, Minority Ethnic & Traveller people was launched on 1st December. Findings from this report will inform work going forward.
257	Issue Raised in Advance	17/06/2022	City Cemetery - Bi-lingual Signage	Cllr Beattie	Issue Raised in Advance	SP&R		S Grimes	Physical Programmes	Ongoing	City Cemetery works progressing. Work is underway to deal with the requests of this NOM. Further dual language work (site signage, app, videos etc) is underway and engagement with Irish language groups is ongoing and will remain so until all dual language works are completed.
264	Issue Raised in Advance	19/08/2022	Electric Vehicle Charging Points Strategy	Cllr Long	Issue Raised in Advance	SP&R		J Tully	City & Organisational Strategy	Ongoing	Please see response to 152 - (This issue is regulated by the Parking Order which has its limitations . The Climate team will investigate the feasibility of a pilot scheme with colleagues in CNS, Physical Programmes and CR&D and will report back to Cttee. The Climate Team are commissioning work on an EV infrastructure strategy to identify ways to use council owned land to support EV charging infrastructure. EVI update report is on the agenda for the C&CR Oct Cttee to update Members on a range of EV/EVI items. Members will be engaged as part of the development of the Belfast EV strategy)
266	Notice of Motion	23/08/2022	GLL and Trade Unions	Cllr Ferguson	Agreed at Committee	SP&R	CX to convene meeting	J Walsh	Chief Executives	Ongoing	Wrote to GLL cc'd CX's office - CD UPDATE: Response received and presented to September SP&R (CXs Office arranging TU Mtg)- CD
268	Notice of Motion	23/08/2022	Suspension of Government Debt Recovery for those in receipt of Benefits and Universal Credit	Cllr Matt Collins	Agreed at Committee	SP&R	Write to DfC	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Recommendation Close	Response from DfC noted by the S P and R Committee on 21/10/22. This motion can therefore now be closed.
269	Notice of Motion	23/08/2022	Support for Striking Communication Workers Union	Cllr Michael Collins	Agreed at Committee	SP&R	Write to BT/Openreach/Royal Mail & arrange an all party delegation with CWU reps.	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Wrote to BT etc. and arranging APD - Response received on behalf of BT and Open Reach 15/9
271	Notice of Motion	25/08/2022	Freedom of the City and County Borough of Belfast	Cllr Carson	Debated at Special Council	SP&R		N Largey	Legal & Civic Services	Recommendation Close	Council agreed to confer the Freedom of the City and County Borough of Belfast on healthcare workers and those who worked tirelessly on the frontline. Event took place on evening of 25 August.

272	Notice of Motion	01/09/2022	Devolution of Local Transport Powers	Cllr O'Hara	Debated at Council	SP&R	motion fell.	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Recommendation Close	Motion declared lost
280	issue Raised in Advance	21/10/2022	Fuel Poverty Hardship Fund	Cllr Flynn	Issue Raised in Advance	SP&R		D Sales	City & Neighbourhood Services	Ongoing	This scheme is now operational. Members agreed to administer through 9 Strategic partners with set eligibility to access the scheme. All partners will be processing applications for support by 9th January
281	issue Raised in Advance	21/10/2022	Christmas Tree Charity Collection	Cllr McKeown	Issue Raised in Advance	SP&R		N Largey	Legal & Civic Services	Recommendation Close	Action implemented
283	Issue Raised in Advance	18/11/2022	Memorial to Baroness May B	Cllr Murray	Issue Raised in Advance	SP&R		S Grimes	Physical Programmes	Ongoing	Discussed at the City Hall/City Hall Grounds Installations Working Group on December 2022. To be included as an Emerging Project on the Capital Programme for approval by the SP&R Committee.
284	Issue Raised in Advance	18/11/2022	Use of the Ceremony Room, City Hall	Cllr Michelle Kelly	Issue Raised in Advance	SP&R		S Grimes	Physical Programmes	Ongoing	<i>[No change from previous update]</i> . A report on the potential reinstatement of the Ceremony Room to be submitted to a future Committee meeting.
292	Notice of Motion	19/03/2021	Council to become an Autism Impact Champion	Cllr McMullan	Straight to Committee	SP&R		N Largey	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Equality and Diversity Unit have included 'becoming an Autism NI Impact Champion' as an action measure in the new Disability Action Plan 2022-25
Total			87						87		



Subject:	Council Improvement Objectives 2023-24
Date:	17th February, 2023
Reporting Officer:	John Tully, Director of City and Organisational Strategy
Contact Officers:	Patricia Flynn, Strategic Policy and Planning Officer

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

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To present to the Committee the draft corporate improvement objectives for 2023-24 and to seek approval for these to be issued for public consultation, in line with our statutory performance duty obligations.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is asked to agree the draft improvement objectives for 2023-24 and, subject to any amendments, approve their issue for public consultation in line with statutory guidance. The proposed improvement objectives for 2023-24 are as follows:

	<table><tr><td>Our Services and Facilities</td></tr><tr><td>Maintain and where appropriate improve resident satisfaction with the council and the services and facilities that we provide</td></tr><tr><td>Our Communities</td></tr><tr><td>Improve our local areas and enhance how we engage and support residents so everyone can enjoy good quality of life.</td></tr><tr><td>Our Economy</td></tr><tr><td>Help small businesses, including social enterprises and co-operatives, to develop and grow, and by doing so, help create opportunities for local jobs and employment.</td></tr><tr><td>Our Environment</td></tr><tr><td>Help tackle climate change, protect our environment, and improve the sustainability of Belfast.</td></tr><tr><td>Our City</td></tr><tr><td>Revitalise our city and help it to innovate in an inclusive and sustainable way.</td></tr></table>	Our Services and Facilities	Maintain and where appropriate improve resident satisfaction with the council and the services and facilities that we provide	Our Communities	Improve our local areas and enhance how we engage and support residents so everyone can enjoy good quality of life.	Our Economy	Help small businesses, including social enterprises and co-operatives, to develop and grow, and by doing so, help create opportunities for local jobs and employment.	Our Environment	Help tackle climate change, protect our environment, and improve the sustainability of Belfast.	Our City	Revitalise our city and help it to innovate in an inclusive and sustainable way.
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Our Economy											
Help small businesses, including social enterprises and co-operatives, to develop and grow, and by doing so, help create opportunities for local jobs and employment.											
Our Environment											
Help tackle climate change, protect our environment, and improve the sustainability of Belfast.											
Our City											
Revitalise our city and help it to innovate in an inclusive and sustainable way.											
3.0	Key Issues										
3.1	We have a statutory duty to agree improvement objectives and produce an annual improvement plan, which must be published by 30th June each year. The Improvement plan does not represent everything that council plans to do, but instead focuses on a smaller set of key improvement priorities, as informed by resident priorities and evidenced by need.										
3.2	Since 2021-22, we have grouped our improvements objectives under the headings of: Our Services, Our Communities, Our Economy, Our Environment, and Our City. This framework provides a balanced approach to selecting improvements that resonates with our residents. We have therefore retained this format for the year ahead. However, this year, we have also sought to make the improvement plan more user-friendly, streamlining the language and focusing on outward facing council activity to create a clearer alignment between our improvement aims, actions and indicators. Members should note that our longer term strategic or partnership improvement work will continue to be monitored through the corporate plan or Belfast Agenda.										
3.3	During the public consultation, we will work with departments to develop detailed actions, milestones and performance indicators and factor in public feedback. Indicative areas of activity have been included for illustration and are attached.										
	Next Steps										
3.4	Councils are legally required to consult on their improvement objectives and to publish an Improvement Plan by 30 th June each year. Subject to approval, we will issue the improvement										

	<p>objectives for public consultation via our on-line engagement platform for a period of 8 weeks. During this time, we will work with departments to develop detailed actions, milestones and performance indicators and update as needed based on public feedback. This improvement activity will be reflected within the Corporate Plan, committee plans or other strategic programmes, thereby ensuring that improvement is embedded within our planning and delivery processes. A final report and draft improvement plan will be brought to the SP and R Committee for ratification and publication in June.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>SP and R – Draft Improvement Objectives for consultation</td><td>17th Feb 2023</td></tr> <tr> <td>Improvement Objectives: 8-week consultation</td><td>Mar - Apr 2023</td></tr> <tr> <td>Services refine actions and PIs</td><td>Mar - May 2023</td></tr> <tr> <td>S P R Committee approves the Improvement Plan for online publication</td><td>June 2023</td></tr> <tr> <td>Publish Improvement Plan</td><td>By 30th June, 2023</td></tr> </table> <p><u>Financial and Resources Implications</u></p> <p>3.5 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. Improvement actions are programmed within normal business planning.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>3.6 There are no equality or rural need implications arising directly from this report.</p> <p>4.0 Documents Attached</p> <p>Review of Corporate Improvement Objectives and Indicative Actions: 2023-24</p>	SP and R – Draft Improvement Objectives for consultation	17th Feb 2023	Improvement Objectives: 8-week consultation	Mar - Apr 2023	Services refine actions and PIs	Mar - May 2023	S P R Committee approves the Improvement Plan for online publication	June 2023	Publish Improvement Plan	By 30 th June, 2023
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Review of Corporate Improvement Objectives 2023-24

Our services and facilities			
<i>What we want to achieve</i>	<i>Why are we focusing on this</i>	<i>What we will do</i>	<i>How we will measure performance</i>
<p>Maintain and where appropriate improve resident satisfaction with the council and the services and facilities that we provide</p> <p>*Note: increasing levels of satisfaction in a cost-of-living crisis will be difficult; therefore maintaining these levels represents good performance.</p>	<p>Residents have consistently told us that they want our improvement plan to focus on improving the services we deliver and the facilities we provide. Each year we identify key actions that will help us improve our services and facilities. Improving customer care and investing in our leisure facilities are ongoing commitments. However, this year, after listening to our residents, we have also targeted cleanliness issues within our improvement actions.</p>	<p>Improve our customer care practices by continuing to implement our customer focus programme</p> <p>Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of key services, focusing this year on clean and green activity.</p> <p>Upgrade and improve our Leisure facilities by continuing to implement our Leisure Transformation Programme</p>	<p>Percentage of residents who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - are satisfied with Belfast City Council - agree that BCC provides good customer service - agree that BCC provides good value for money - agree that is easy to contact the council or access services - agree their local area is clean and attractive - are satisfied with sports and leisure facilities in their local area

Our communities

<i>What we want to achieve</i>	<i>Why are we focusing on this</i>	<i>What we will do</i>	<i>How we will measure performance</i>
<p>Improve our local areas and enhance how we engage and support residents so everyone can enjoy good quality of life.</p>	<p>Our residents have emphasised that our improvement plan must support local people and improve local neighbourhoods. This year, in response to citizen engagement, we are continuing to focus on physically improving our neighbourhoods; parks and playgrounds, and on encouraging physical activity.</p> <p>Feedback from the Belfast Agenda and the results from our regular resident survey also show that we need to become better at engaging our communities and local people. central to this is widening participation and building capacity.</p> <p>This year, one of the biggest challenges facing our citizens is the cost-of-living crisis. In recognition of this, our improvement plan now includes actions deigned to help support our residents, especially those</p>	<p>Improve the physical condition of local neighbourhoods through the Neighbourhood Regeneration Fund</p> <p>Improve our parks and playgrounds (maintaining Green Flag accreditations and carrying out local upgrades)</p> <p>Develop a physical Activity and Sports Strategy</p> <p>Continue to enhance and improve how we engage and involve our residents by piloting Participatory Budgeting and undertaking outreach to seldom heard voices.</p> <p>Support the Belfast Youth Council to identify key priorities and actions for taking forward in 2023/24</p> <p>Utilise our community networks to support our residents, especially those most vulnerable, through the cost-of-living crisis.</p> <p>Develop framework for provision of council services to help address cost-of-living crisis and to help connect residents to advice and support</p>	<p>Percentage of residents who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - are satisfied with their local area a place to live - agree that their local area has good quality parks and green space - agree council consults and listens to the views of local residents - agree that council shows good leadership - use council parks at least monthly <p>Number of Parks and Green Spaces with Green Flag accreditation</p> <p>Number of registered participants on Your Say Belfast and responses to consultations per annum</p> <p>PB - Number of applications received.</p> <p>Public participation levels</p> <p>Number of residents accessing online cost-of-living support and advice</p> <p>Number of residents who visit the network of Warm and Welcome Spaces</p>

	most vulnerable, through the cost-of-living crisis	Undertake a review of BCC/DfC-funded advice services Sustain and extend the Warm & Welcome Spaces programme	
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Our economy

<i>What we want to achieve</i>	<i>Why are we focusing on this</i>	<i>What we will do</i>	<i>How we will measure performance</i>
Help small businesses, including social enterprises and co-operatives, to develop and grow, and by doing so help create opportunities for local jobs and employment.	Creating better jobs and supporting local businesses and entrepreneurs have been key priority for our residents since the first Belfast Conversation in 2015. Our improvement plan has therefore always included actions designed to support local prosperity and employment. Last year, we also included activity aimed at supporting social enterprises and cooperatives. This reflects the priorities of residents and our vision of inclusive growth, where all people share in the success of the city.	Deliver support through our local business start-up programmes Deliver the 'Go for it' programme for start-up support for 2023-2024 Help mobilise and deliver the new enterprise support service	Number of jobs promoted through the Go For It programme Business start-up and growth activity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of business plans developed - Number of participants/businesses supported

Our environment			
<i>What we want to achieve</i>	<i>Why are we focusing on this</i>	<i>What we will do</i>	<i>How we will measure performance</i>
<p>Help tackle climate change, protect our environment and improve the sustainability of Belfast</p>	<p>In October 2019, Council declared a climate emergency in Belfast. Given the significant challenges facing our environment and the behavioural changes needed, we believe our improvement plan must for include actions aimed at protecting our environment. Most of our residents agree.</p> <p>Our focus this year is on ensuring that we have appropriate strategies, policies, and initiatives in place that will enable us to support climate actin and protect our natural resources.</p>	<p>Help tackle climate change by developing and implementing a BCC Climate Plan.</p> <p>This will be supported by actions to address biodiversity and “green” our fleet</p> <p>Continue to protect our environment by developing a BCC tree strategy, and by continuing to roll out the One Million Trees programme</p> <p>Increase the level of recycling across the city and reduce our reliance on landfill (waste and recycling actions)</p>	<p>Percentage of residents who agree that Belfast is environmentally friendly</p> <p>Indicators relating to number of trees. Tress planted linked to the Belfast Tree Strategy and One Million Trees programme</p> <p>Amount(tonnage) of biodegradable BCC collected waste that is landfilled</p> <p>% of household waste collected that is sent for recycling</p> <p>Amount (tonnage) of BCC collected municipal waste arisings</p>
Our city			
<i>What we want to achieve</i>	<i>Why are we focusing on this</i>	<i>What we will do</i>	<i>How we will measure performance</i>
<p>Revitalise our city and help it to innovate in an inclusive and sustainable way.</p>	<p>Adapted from our 2020 Recovery Plan, we now use this theme as way to identify and prioritise improvement activity that will benefit the city collectively in the longer term.</p>	<p>Revitalise and support our city centre by continuing to implement the Vacant to Vibrant City Centre Capital Grant Scheme</p> <p>Improve public spaces and greenways across the city: City Cathedral Gardens,</p>	<p>Percentage of residents who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - are satisfied with Belfast as a place to live - agree the city centre is vibrant and attractive, with lots going on

	<p>Improvement priorities under this theme include revitalising our city centre, enhancing digital and urban innovation, and improving the greenways and public spaces across the city. These strategic, city development projects will contribute to our other improvement priorities such as helping to grow our economy, enhancing our environment or supporting our communities. supporting digital innovation.</p>	<p>Forth Meadow, Lagan Gateway and Marrowbone Millennium Park</p> <p>Encourage digital innovation across the city by continuing to deliver the Smart District programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - City SME Challenge Programme - Citizen Office for Digital Innovation programme - Smart District Innovation Hub 	<p>Percentage of residents who: agree that Belfast:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - is easy to get about - has good infrastructure <p>Number of SMEs/companies directly engaged in the Smart District programme</p>
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Subject:	IT Equipment Package for Members
Date:	17th February, 2023
Reporting Officer:	Paul Gribben, Head of Digital Services
Contact Officer:	Paul Gribben, Head of Digital 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"/>
Sometime in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	This report outlines the recommended IT Equipment package which will be refreshed for Members following the local government elections in May 2023.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. note that the new IT Equipment package will consist of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a Windows Hybrid device: Dell Latitude 5330 2 in 1 (or equivalent), 1 Bluetooth touch pen (if required), and laptop case; and • a Smartphone: Either an Apple iPhone 11 64GB or a Samsung Galaxy A53

	<p>ii. note that the current devices and smart phones used by Members will be redistributed and reused by Council officers where possible; and</p> <p>iii. endorse the recommendation that personal printers are no longer provided for home use.</p>
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>Following the last Council election in May 2019, IT equipment package for Members was refreshed. Members were provided with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a Windows Hybrid device: Dell Latitude 7390, 1 Bluetooth touch pen (if required), and laptop case; • either an iPhone XS or a Samsung Galaxy S9; and • a wireless printer for home use (if requested)
3.2	Digital Services has standardised on the Dell Latitude 5430 as the laptop device of choice for mobile users. To ensure consistency of support for Members, Digital Services is recommending that all Members be supplied with a similar laptop device but in a 2 in 1 hybrid version (Dell Latitude 5330 2 in 1).
3.3	Digital Services is also recommending either an Apple iPhone 11 64GB or a Samsung Galaxy A53. Where new mobile phones are required, they will be replaced to cover the full term of office. Some Members will already have received the recommended new equipment and will not require replacement kit.
3.4	All mobile phones will be enrolled in Intune mobile device management software which will help to securely protect Council data.
3.5	Digital Services continues to promote a more sustainable approach to print management in an attempt to reduce our environmental impact. This is achieved through the use of print management software that makes printing more cost efficient and by reducing paper waste. We do this through smart printing features, nudges that change user behaviour, and flexible print policies that promote doubled sided printing and the reduction of expensive colour printing. New Multi-Function Printers are being installed in each of the Party rooms to provide a more cost effective and secure printing service for all Parties.
3.6	Members are the last group of users who are provided with personal printers. Personal printers are much more expensive to operate and support. The use of Microsoft365 productivity apps

	and a move to more electronic ways of working over lockdown has delivered a significant reduction in printing costs and a move away from paper-based processes. We are recommending the removal of personal printers from the elected Members IT Equipment package.
3.7	<p>Digital Services is recommending the following implementation plan for the new IT Equipment package.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May/June 2023 – Members who are new to the Council will be prioritised for the receipt of the IT Equipment Package • May/June 2023 - Digital Services will then work with those Members who have not been re-elected to collect their equipment, facilitate data transfer and to allow the transfer of mobile phone numbers to a personal account. See 3.6 below. • June/July 2023 – Remaining Members will be invited to scheduled workshops where staff from Digital Services will facilitate the delivery of the new IT Equipment package. This will require: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The transfer of information between devices ○ Laptops and smart phones to be returned to Digital Services for reuse (on supply of new devices) ○ Registration of the new device on the Council's Wi-Fi network ○ An overview of the features of the new devices ○ Collection of the old smartphone, sim-swap, activation of new smartphone and transfer of data
3.8	<p>For Members who are not re-elected the following actions must be taken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Windows accounts and Council email addresses will remain active for 2 weeks to allow Members to put in place alternative arrangements, • BCC accounts will then be disabled, • Digital Services will facilitate data transfer of personal data to removable media e.g. memory stick, during this period.
3.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A PAC code will be provided to allow Members to transfer their mobile phone number to a personal mobile phone contract • After 2 weeks, the BCC phone contract will be terminated.

	<u>Financial and Resource Implications</u>
3.10	To remain within existing budget limits and to ensure good management of the Council's centralised IT Equipment and mobile phone budgets, the Dell laptops and smart phones currently being used by Members will be redistributed and reused where possible.
3.11	<u>Next Steps</u> The roll out of the new ICT Equipment Package will begin in May 2023 for new Members and completed for existing members in June/July. An installation schedule will be drawn up with Officers from Democratic Services. Several options for training will be available including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Familiarisation on handover of equipment • Scheduled drop-in clinics • 1-2-1 sessions
3.12	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u> None
4.0	Documents Attached
	None



Subject:	Update on Dual-Language Street Signs
Date:	17th February, 2023
Reporting Officer:	Kate Bentley, Director of Planning and Building Control Nora Largey, City Solicitor and Director of Legal and Civic Services
Contact Officer:	Ian Harper, Building Control 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"/>
Sometime in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of main Issues
1.1	At the Committee meeting on 20th January, it was agreed that a report would be brought to the meeting in February providing an update on dual language street signs applications.
1.2	<p>The report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provides an overview of applications and current status; • outlines the stages in the process; and • outlines the ongoing work in relation to applications within the City centre.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. note the contents of the report; and ii. agree the process to be applied to City centre applications.

3.0	Main Report
	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>Applicants and Current Status</p>
3.1	Following approval by the Council of the revised Dual Language Streets Signs Policy on 4th July 2022, the Building Control Service received over 500 requests for dual language street signs.
3.2	These emailed requests had to be responded to individually, many of which did not contain the required information to validate and process the application. For example, requests which did not include the name of the street or the applicant's full address.
3.3	Further emails were sent to applicants requesting the required information. While many responded and provided the information, some did not, and the applications were closed. In writing to confirm the closing of these applications, a further period of time was given to provide the information. All the action above took some time to complete and proved to be much more resource intensive than envisaged. It also involved contacting a limited number of applicants more than once.
3.4	The Council's application form went live on 9th September, available on the website through an online form, or via email, by post or in person. Any requests received after that date must be through that formal application form and applicants are advised of this where they have made requests by other means. The reason for this is that the form sets out the required information for a valid application and ensures that all relevant information is provided at the outset. This is in line with other application processes, and with GDPR requirements for the collection and use of data.
3.5	As of 6th February 2023, the Service has received 611 requests under the new policy. Some streets have had multiple applications made. Following the aforementioned validation exercise to obtain the requisite missing information, 162 applications proved to be invalid leaving 449 applications to be taken through the process currently. Applications are being processed in batches, in the order received. In relation to the 449 live applications the validity of the applicant is being determined as each batch is processed so it may be the case that the Service discover further invalid applications as processing proceeds. In addition, it can be confirmed the 449 applications involves 352 unique streets.

	Stages of the Application Process
	<u>Validation</u>
3.6	<p>Once an application is being processed, checks are carried out to ensure the applicant is an occupier of the street. This must be done by attending the Electoral Office for residential applications, which make up the majority of the applications received.</p>
	<u>Implementation of the initial assessment process</u>
3.7	<p>The initial assessment process, on the grounds of equality and good relations, as described in the public consultation and the EQIA in relation to the policy, was finalised in September and is now being applied to all applications.</p>
3.8	<p>This initial assessment is high-level and intended to identify any potential equality or good relations issues. Such assessment is in the context of the considerations set out in the EQIA which accompanied the Policy which set out the various protections in place for minority languages, together with Equality Commission advice that the use of Irish in signage is, in their opinion, a neutral act and that the use of minority languages, particularly Irish and Ulster Scots for common or official purposes would normally or objectively be considered to be a neutral act that would not be discriminatory.</p>
3.9	<p>Where adverse impacts on the grounds of equality or good relations are identified as part of this initial assessment the applications will be referred to Committee for direction.</p>
	<u>Elected Member Notification</u>
3.10	<p>The most recent notification to Members was issued on 26th January. These lists of applications for streets will be issued via Democratic Services as batches are being processed. The purpose of this notification is solely to allow Members to raise equality or good relations concerns in respect of a particular application. Those concerns must be forwarded to the Director of Planning & Building Control who will, in consultation with the City Solicitor, determine whether the issues raised warrant referral of the application to Committee before a survey takes place.</p>
	<u>Electoral Office</u>
3.11	<p>Appointments to view files at the Electoral Office have been booked in advance. While these are used to validate that the applicant is an occupier of the street, they are also used to confirm the occupants of the street who will be surveyed.</p>

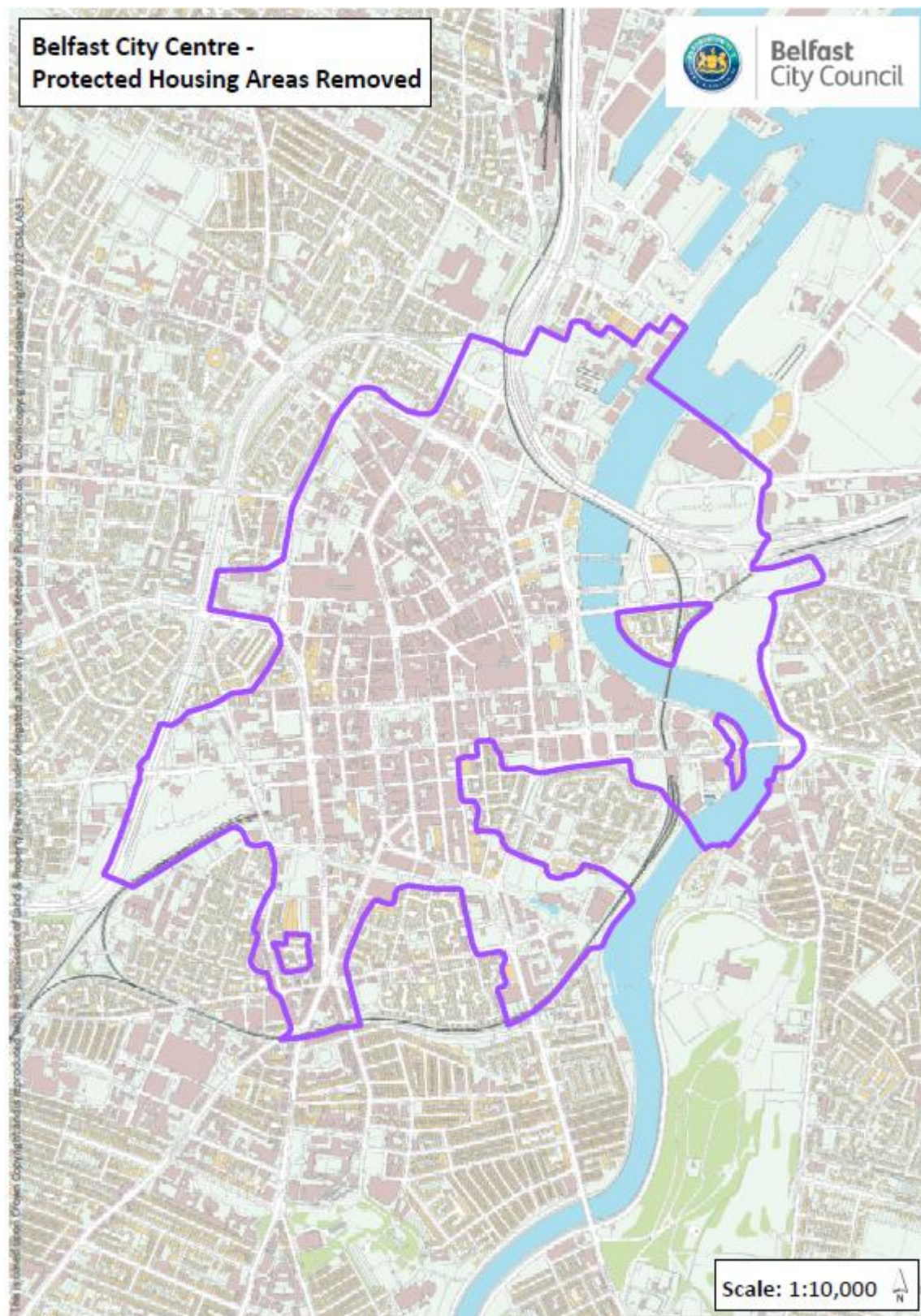
3.12	<p><u>Survey Preparation and Issue</u></p> <p>The issuing of surveys is dependent on the previous stages being undertaken, but the time taken is also determined by the number of properties and occupiers, with some streets involving hundreds of surveys. Surveys are issued with a unique identifier, to ensure they can be tracked, and with a prepaid envelope for return. Results are collated against each application as returned, and the final results provided for the committee report. Occupiers are given 30 days to respond to the survey.</p>
3.13	<p><u>Committee Report</u></p> <p>Committee reports will be presented for all applications where the 15% threshold of occupiers in favour of the erection of dual language street sign has been met. The report will include all the results from the surveys, and any findings from the equality and good relations assessment.</p>
3.14	<p><u>Erection of Signs</u></p> <p>Following ratification of the Committee decision, erection of the relevant sign will take around 4-6 weeks depending upon the availability of the contract.</p>
3.15	<p>Current Position</p> <p>As outlined at last month's Committee meeting, the first completed application was taken to the People and Communities Committee earlier this month. 5 applications are currently out for survey, with the anticipation that they can be brought to March or April P and C Committee. To date, 6 streets have been surveyed with a total of 707 residents being surveyed. With the further Elected Member notification and initial assessments carried out this will result in more applications being brought to Committee in the months ahead.</p>
3.16	<p>City Centre Applications</p> <p>The EQIA carried out in respect of the Policy states that "any decision relating to the erection of a second nameplate in the city centre (business core) will, in addition to the current policy considerations and the survey of occupiers, be subject to a wider public consultation to reflect the community of users."</p>
3.17	<p>Officers have considered a number of options but believe that, from a consistency perspective, it would be appropriate to use the City Centre Boundary as set out in the draft</p>

	BMAP, excluding the protected housing areas. A map outlining the proposed city centre boundary for the purposes of this Policy is attached.
3.18	<p>Officers would also propose that where an application is received for the city centre, that will be subject to public advertisement in accordance with the Council's policy on placing public adverts. This will be in addition to the survey of the residents of the street. Committee is asked to approve the proposed city centre boundary and the proposed method of wider public consultation for applications in this area.</p> <p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p>
3.19	<p>In December, three additional staff members were recruited on a temporary basis to deal with the volume of applications received. However, as two of these posts were from within the existing team, the process for backfilling and covering their duties is still ongoing. While they are being trained and are processing dual language street sign applications, there are also other duties in their substantive posts to be undertaken. When they are fully released to their new roles and training completed, this will allow for an increase in the number of applications being processed.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p>
3.20	<p>The process for carrying out initial assessments on the ground of equality and good relations is in place. Where adverse impacts are identified, a further screening will take place and finding presented to Members. This work has been developed working with colleagues in our Equality and Diversity Unit together with an external consultant.</p>
4.0	Documents Attached
	Proposed City Centre Boundary

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Proposed City Centre Boundary

BMAP boundary excluding residential areas



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Subject:	Update on Area Working Groups
Date:	17th February, 2023
Reporting Officer:	Sinead Grimes, Director of Physical Programmes
Contact Officer:	Shauna Murtagh, Programme 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 ask the Committee to approve the minutes of the most recent AWG meetings.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is asked to approve the minutes of the <i>South Belfast AWG</i> of 30th January and the <i>East Belfast AWG</i> of 31st January, as attached.
3.0	Main Report
	<u>KEY ISSUES</u>
3.1	Area Working Group Minutes Members agreed in June 2016 that the minutes of meetings of the Area Working Groups would be presented to the SP and R Committee for approval going forward, in line with the Council's

	<p>commitment to openness and transparency and to ensure a consistent approach with other Member-led Working Groups.</p> <p>The Working Group is asked to approve the most recent AWG minutes as attached.</p>
3.2	<p>Project Updates</p> <p><i>South Belfast AWG</i></p> <p>The Working Group made the following recommendation to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Linfield FC/ Boys Brigade and Belvoir FC - that the BIF proposal which includes Phase 1 - <i>replacement of Belvoir FC's grass football pitch, including car parking resurfacing and widening access lane</i> is decoupled from the wider masterplan and to note that any future phases will be taken forward separately by Linfield FC and Boys Brigade. <p><i>East Belfast AWG</i></p> <p>The Working Group made the following recommendation to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Expansion of Belfast Bikes Scheme 2022/23 - in the first instance, that the new docking station be located at Upper Newtownards Road/ Astoria Gardens (option 2), subject to agreement with landowners and local businesses, and that the Upper Newtownards Road/Sandown Road Carpark (option 3) be the reserve option for the area if the approval for option 2 is not forthcoming. <p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p>
3.3	<p>None</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/ Rural Needs Assessment</u></p>
3.4	<p>None</p>
4.0	<p>Documents Attached</p>
	<p>Minutes of the meetings of the South Belfast and the East Belfast Area Working Groups</p>

South Belfast Area Working Group

Monday, 30th January, 2023

SPECIAL MEETING OF SOUTH BELFAST AREA WORKING GROUP

HELD REMOTELY VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

Members present: Councillor Bunting (Chairperson); and
Councillors Groogan, T. Kelly, Lyons,
McAteer, McKeown, Murray and Spratt.

In attendance: Mr. M. Doherty, Project Manager;
Ms. M. T. McGivern, Project Sponsor Officer; and
Mr. H. Downey, Democratic Services Officer.

Apologies

An apology was reported on behalf of Councillor Gormley.

Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were reported.

Linfield FC/Boys Brigade and Belvoir FC BIF Project

The Working Group considered the following report:

1. Introduction

The Working Group will be aware that Linfield FC/ Boys Brigade and Belvoir FC were awarded £250,000 from the Belfast Investment Fund (BIF) by the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee on 18th November 2016, following a recommendation by the South AWG. Since that time, officers have been working closely with the Group to bring the project forward. At its meeting on 28th November 2022, the Working Group agreed that a report be presented to a special meeting in January addressing in greater detail a request from Belvoir Football Club for the BIF proposal, which includes Phase 1, to be decoupled from the wider masterplan.

2. Recommendations

The Working Group is requested to:

- i. note the project update provided on Linfield FC/ Boys Brigade and Belvoir FC; and

- ii. agree to recommend to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee that the BIF proposal which includes Phase 1 is decoupled from the wider masterplan and note that any future phases will be taken forward separately by Linfield FC and Boys Brigade.

3. Background

Overview

The Working Group will recall that the Linfield FC/ Boys Brigade and Belvoir FC (BIF33) project was one of the projects that the Council had agreed, in principle, to provide funding up to a maximum of £250,000 as part of the Belfast Investment Fund. The proposed project was highlighted by Linfield FC, Belfast Boys Brigade and Belvoir FC. These groups came together around developing a site at Belvoir Park into a new state of the art training complex to foster the development of football and other sporting activities within the Boys Brigade, as well as to enhance skills and performance pathways for Linfield Youth Academy Players and Belvoir FC.

The Community Sports Hub Project was added as a *Stage 1 – Emerging* Project under BIF in November 2016. Specifically, the South AWG agreed to ring fence £250,000 (from its additional outer South BIF allocation) towards the first phase of the community hub project i.e. the cost of upgrading Belvoir FC's pitch to be met in full and the remaining allocated towards the construction of the 3G pitch.

In May 2017, as per the recommendation from the South Belfast AWG, the S P and R Committee agreed to a re-scoped first Phase of the project to be delivered with £250,000 ring-fenced BIF – i.e. replacement of Belvoir FC's grass football pitch (currently leased from NIHE) with excess funds to go towards the widening of the access lane and resurfacing of the existing car park. The purpose of this scope change was to allow optimise its opportunity for delivery by creating a stand-alone phase that did not require the requirement of securing match funding to proceed with the first phase.

Project Description

The overall Community Sports Complex scheme is aimed at delivering mutual benefit to the local community, the Boy's Brigade, Belvoir FC and Linfield FC and is spread over 5 phases. The masterplan that includes the BIF project received Planning approval in 2020 for the upgrading of playing fields to include 2 new 3G pitch surfaces and 1 grass pitch, floodlights, fencing, dug outs, 1No. 200-seater stand, toilet

blocks, turnstiles, additional car parking and associated ground works. Details are provided in the attached appendix.

The Masterplan includes the following Phases;

- Phase 1 - Priority A (BIF Project proposal) – replacement of Belvoir FC's grass football pitch, incl. car parking resurfacing and widening access lane;
- Phase 1 – Priority B - Full size floodlit grass pitch and full size flood lit 3G pitch (with dugouts, goals and 200 seater spectator stand); and
- Phases 2 – 5: A small 9 aside 3G pitch; a full size, flood lit, academy grass pitch; a cross fit area and 8 lane sprint track; and a full size Indoor 3G Soccer arena.

The BIF project relates to Phase 1 only. All subsequent phases are intended to be delivered by Linfield FC and Boys Brigade.

Phase 1 – BIF Proposal:

The main beneficiary of the first phase (BIF project proposal) is Belvoir FC. The business plan sets out the project's delivery priorities to be 'Phase 1 - Priority A (BIF Project proposal) – replacement of Belvoir FC's grass football pitch, including car parking resurfacing and widening access lane'. Although Belvoir FC will have primacy of use during football season the pitch will be available for wider community use as part of the Belvoir Community Sports Complex. The improved car parking and laneway will meet the needs of wider users of the site.

The quantifiable objectives of the BIF project are:

- the upgrade of a poor quality grass pitch and establishment as home ground for Belvoir FC;
- increased use of pitch at this location in response to improved condition (drainage etc) and accessibility;
- improved perception of the area in response to physical regeneration; and
- the establishment of new ownership and management arrangements for the pitch that protect Belvoir FC's long-term use of the facility.

The project will:

- **provide a high quality grass pitch for Belvoir FC to use as a permanent, dedicated home football ground providing much needed services to its members and residents across the Belvoir estate and wider community;**
- **provide parking provision for users of new grass pitch as well as existing and proposed new facilities on wider sporting hub site; and**
- **create healthier and more active people and local communities through the improved sporting provision in the Belvoir area.**

3. Key Issues

The BIF project proposal focuses on the first phase of the overall sporting hub alone (i.e. replacement pitch for Belvoir FC). £250,000 BIF funding is ring fenced for delivery of phase 1 subject to Due Diligence. Completion of Due Diligence requires clarification of land ownership and confirmation that all necessary approvals are in place and this information remains outstanding.

Belvoir FC's existing pitch is owned by NIHE and an area for car-parking and road widening is owned by Boys Brigade. NIHE had an arrangement in place whereby they leased the lands on a rolling one-year lease to Belvoir Football Club. As part of the Due Diligence stage, the Council has advised NIHE that:

- **a condition of funding would be the organisation (incl. Belvoir FC) having security of tenure for the land being redeveloped, and that in this instance a 25-year lease is required; and**
- **a lease should be drawn in wide enough terms to allow Belvoir FC to share the use of the new pitch with Linfield FC and the Boys Brigade.**

In order to be able to pass through the Due Diligence process, the Council requires a lease granted to Belvoir Community Sports Complex or the Boys Brigade. The Boys Brigade had agreed with NIHE that they would purchase the lands, then they would lease the lands to Belvoir Community Sports Complex who would in turn then lease the lands to Belvoir Football Club. However, as this has taken considerable time to happen with a number of issues regarding the different parties with the transfer of land, the option for NIHE to transfer lands to the Council and for Belvoir FC to take forward the project is currently being explored as the

preferable option. NIHE is receptive to transferring the land directly to Belfast City Council who would then provide a lease to Belvoir FC. The BIF project can be taken forward in advance of the remainder of the wider masterplan.

The Working Group is asked to agree to recommend to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee that the BIF proposal which, includes Phase 1, is decoupled from the wider masterplan, and note that any future phases will be taken forward separately by Linfield FC and Boys Brigade.

The Working Group adopted the recommendations.

Request to Present - Queen's University

The Working Group agreed to receive at a future meeting a presentation from representatives of Queen's University's School of Natural and Built Environment's StreetSpace project on an innovative spatial plan for Botanic Avenue, Donegall Pass and the Holyland area.

Chairperson

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East Belfast Area Working Group

Tuesday, 31st January, 2023

HYBRID MEETING OF EAST BELFAST AREA WORKING GROUP

Members present: Councillor Long (Chairperson);
Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor M. Kelly;
The High Sherriff, Councillor Kyle;
Aldermen Copeland, Dorrian, Haire and Rodgers;
Councillors Bower, Douglas, Flynn, Howard,
Maghie, McMullan, Newton and Smyth.

In attendance: Ms. S. Grimes, Director of Physical Programmes;
Ms. S. Kalke, Project Sponsor;
Mr. F. Grant, Assets Development Manager; and
Ms. E. McGoldrick, Democratic Services Officer.

Apologies

No apologies were reported.

Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were reported.

Expansion of Belfast Bikes Scheme 2022/23

The Working Group was reminded that, at the City Growth and Regeneration Committee on 9th June, 2021, it had been agreed to proceed with 15 docking stations as part of the expansion proposal of the Belfast Bikes Scheme. An investment of approximately £525,000 was required, based on cost estimates from previous network expansions. At the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee on 18th June, 2021, it had been agreed that £500,000 be invested in the expansion proposal.

The Assets Development Manager explained that eight stations would be installed in the upcoming phase, which should be completed by 31st March, 2023, with seven stations to follow in the next phase the following year (2023/24).

He highlighted that the following areas had previously been agreed by the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee, with the final locations of each docking station to be agreed through the Area Working Groups:

- North: Yorkgate and Shore Road;
- West: St Mary's College and Shankill Road;
- South: Lisburn Road and Malone Road; and
- East: Castlereagh Road, Upper Newtownards Road.

He reminded the Working Group that, at its last meeting, the location on the Castlereagh Road docking station had been agreed, however, in relation to the Upper Newtownards Road area options, it had been agreed that a site visit be arranged to view the proposed sites, together with the suggested options at Sandown Road and Bloomfield Collegiate/Astoria Gardens.

He advised that the site visit had taken place on 19th January. During discussion at the site visit, the previously suggested location at Eastleigh Street was deemed unsuitable due to safety concerns.

He provided an overview of the following remaining locations for consideration:

- Option 1 – Upper Newtownards Road/North Road; Strandtown;
- Option 2 – Upper Newtownards Road/Astoria Gardens; and
- Option 3 – Upper Newtownards Road/Sandown Rd Carpark.

During discussion, the Project Sponsor provided further information on the implementation process, and the requirement to liaise with landowners and businesses, depending on which option was taken forward.

Proposal

Moved by Councillor McMullan,
Seconded by Councillor Maghie,

The Working Group agrees that the new docking station be located at Upper Newtownards Road/Sandown Rd Carpark (option 3).

On a vote, five Members voted for the proposal and ten against and it was declared lost.

Further Proposal

Moved by the High Sherriff, Councillor Kyle,
Seconded by Councillor Flynn,

Resolved - The Working Group agrees that, in the first instance, the new docking station be located at Upper Newtownards Road/ Astoria Gardens (option 2), subject to agreement with landowners and local businesses, and that the Upper Newtownards Road/Sandown Rd Carpark (option 3) be the reserve option for the area if the approval for option 2 is not forthcoming.

Physical Programme Update (Verbal Update)

The Director of Physical Programmes informed the Working Group that the Levelling Up bid for the Strand Arts Centre which had been led by the Council had been successful. She highlighted that the Council had only just received confirmation of the award of funding and was due to meet with the Levelling Up Team and that an update report would be brought to a future Area Working Group meeting.

She also reminded the Working Group that a site visit had been scheduled for the Templemore Site on Tuesday, 7th February to liaise and discuss issues with local residents.

The Director of Physical Programmes advised that a request had been received from the Eastside Partnership in relation to a Feasibility Study for Newtownards Road 2030. She noted that there were a number of Council assets in the area, including CS Lewis Square, Connswater Community Greenway, Tamar Street etc. She advised that the Partnership had asked the Council, NIHE and the Department for Communities for a contribution towards the Feasibility Study, and that, if agreed, the Council's contribution could come from the existing Physical Programmes budget.

The Working Group noted the update and, given the Council assets in the area, agreed to the request from Eastside Partnership for the Council to contribute to the feasibility study for Newtownards Road 2030.

Chairperson

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<p>Subject:</p>	<p>Asset Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Carrick Hill Community Centre – Lease with Carrick Hill Residents Association ii) Sally Gardens Community Centre – Lease to Poleglass Community Association iii) Sally Gardens Community Centre – Licence with Celtic Boys Football Club iv) Falls Park - Licence with Belfast Celtic Football Club v) Forth Meadow Community Greenway – Lease with Northern Ireland Housing Executive vi) Forth Meadow Community Greenway – Lease with Invest NI vii) Forth Meadow Community Greenway – Licence with Braidwater Homes / Coredale viii) Brook Playing Fields – Agreement with Phoenix Natural Gas Limited ix) Reverend Robert Bradford Memorial Park – Licence with Bluehouse Development Ltd. x) Botanic Gardens (Lower Section) – Licence Agreement with Queen’s University Belfast xi) Cromac Street Car Park – Licence with Northern Ireland Housing Executive xii) City of Belfast Playing Fields – Licence to Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council xiii) Smithfield Market – Update on Units Letting
<p>Date:</p>	<p>17th February, 2023</p>
<p>Reporting Officer:</p>	<p>Sinead Grimes, Director of Physical Programmes</p>
<p>Contact Officer:</p>	<p>Pamela Davison, Estates Manager</p>

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 After Council Decision Sometime in the future Never	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <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	The purpose of this report is to seek approval from the Committee on asset related disposal, acquisition, and estates matters.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Carrick Hill Community Centre – Lease with Carrick Hill Residents Association <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - approve the surrender of the current ground Lease at Carrick Hill Community Centre, subsequent transfer of ownership of the asset to Belfast City Council and a new lease back to Carrick Hill Residents Association. ii) Sally Gardens Community Centre – Lease to Poleglass Community Association <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - approve a new lease with Poleglass Community Association iii) Sally Gardens Community Centre – Licence with Celtic Boys Football Club <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - approve the grant of a licence to Celtic Boys Football Club for a secure storage container at the Sally Gardens sports complex. iv) Falls Park – Licence with Belfast Celtic Football Club <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - approve the grant of a licence to Belfast Celtic Football Club for a secure storage container in Falls Park.

	<p>v) Forth Meadow Community Greenway – Lease with Northern Ireland Housing Executive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - approve entering into a lease with Northern Ireland Housing Executive for c. 4 sq m of land situated at the junction of Ballgomartin Road and Cairnmartin Road to install an illuminated sign as part of the Forth Meadow Community Greenway project. <p>vi) Forth Meadow Community Greenway – Lease with Invest NI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - approve entering into a lease with Invest NI of c. 16 sq m of land situated at Forthriver Business Park to install a public art sculpture as part of the Forth Meadow Community Greenway project. <p>vii) Forth Meadow Community Greenway – Licence with Braidwater Homes/ Coredale</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - approve entering into a licence with Braidwater Homes / Coredale to use part of their land at West Circular Road for the construction of part of the Forth Meadow Community Greenway project. <p>viii) Brook Playing Fields – Agreement with Phoenix Natural Gas Limited</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - approve of a Gas Connection Application Agreement with Phoenix Natural Gas Limited <p>ix) Reverend Robert Bradford Memorial Park - Licence with Bluehouse Development Ltd.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - approve the grant of a Licence Agreement to Bluehouse Development Ltd. <p>x) Botanic Gardens (Lower Section) – Licence Agreement with QUB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - approve the grant of a Licence Agreement to Queen's University Belfast (QUB) <p>xi) City of Belfast Playing Fields – Licence to Antrim and Newtownabbey BC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - approve the licence of two small plots of land of c. 3 sq m situated at the entrance gates to City of Belfast Playing Fields to Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council to enable the placing of 2no. sandbag bins. <p>xii) Cromac Street Car Park – Licence with Northern Ireland Housing Executive</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - approve the renewal of a Licence agreement from the Northern Ireland Housing <p>xiii) Smithfield Market – Update on Letting of Units</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - note the recent lettings at Smithfield Market approved under delegated authority to Director of Physical Programmes.
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3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p data-bbox="276 230 1425 264">i) Carrick Hill Community Centre – Lease with Carrick Hill Residents Association</p> <p data-bbox="276 286 432 320"><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p data-bbox="276 342 1473 925">At its meeting on 8th December 2020 the People and Communities Committee granted approval to the proposed transfer to the Council of ownership of the community centre building at Carrick Hill and a subsequent leaseback arrangement for the community centre building via the Council's model for Independently Managed Centres, subject to reaching agreement with Carrick Hill Residents Association ("CRA") in relation to detailed lease terms. Approval is sought to surrender current lease dated 4th September 1997 for the ground. Approval is also sought for the transfer of ownership of the community centre building from CRA to BCC at nil consideration. LPS have assessed the rent for the community centre at £10,800 per annum. In line with that charged at other centre's managed via the Council's Independently Managed Centre's model the group will receive their grant "net of rent" which is in line with the approval from SP&R Committee on 22nd April 2016. A map showing Carrick Hill Community Centre is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.</p> <p data-bbox="276 947 804 981"><u>Financial and Resources Implications</u></p> <p data-bbox="276 1003 1473 1193">LPS Valuation of premises - £10,800 per annum, subject to 5 yearly rent reviews in line with the Retail Price Index (RPI). Carrick Hill Community Centre will become an Independently Managed Centre with the allocated grant to be paid "net of rent". Legal Services shall act on the instructions of the Estates Management Unit.</p> <p data-bbox="276 1216 1220 1249"><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p data-bbox="276 1272 703 1305">None associated with this report.</p>
3.2	<p data-bbox="276 1350 1457 1384">ii) Sally Gardens Community Centre – Lease to Poleglass Community Association</p> <p data-bbox="276 1406 432 1440"><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p data-bbox="276 1462 1473 1948">The Sally Gardens Community Centre is currently held by Poleglass Community Association (PCA) under a 10-year lease from 20th December 2016 initially at a peppercorn rent. The Executive Office, under the Urban Villages Initiative, have proposed a project to enhance the existing community centre to include a gym and changing rooms attached to the existing buildings. The extension of the existing facility will replace a disused external soft play area at the building gable. At its meeting on 23rd October 2020 the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee granted approval to the surrender of the existing lease and grant of a new 25-year Lease to PCA to include the existing Community Centre and proposed extension of the existing facility which is being funded by Urban Villages. The approval noted that the "rental income is to be assessed by the Estates Management Unit and taken back to Committee for</p>

	<p>approval". Land and Property Services ("LPS") have since provided a valuation of the subject property with the benefit of the proposed side extension, to be somewhere in the region of £33,000 per annum. Sally Gardens Community Centre is an Independently Managed Centre which allows the allocated grant to be paid "net of rent". A map showing the Community Centre and proposed side extension is attached as Appendix 2 to this report.</p> <p><u>Financial and Resources Implications</u></p> <p>LPS Valuation of premises is £33,000 per annum. Sally Gardens Community Centre will remain an Independently Managed Centre with the allocated grant to be paid "net of rent". Legal Services shall act on the instructions of the Estates Management Unit.</p> <p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
3.3	<p>iii) Sally Gardens Community Centre – Licence with Celtic Boys Football Club</p> <p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>At its meeting in December 2022, the People and Communities Committee approved an application from Celtic Boys Football Club to install a storage container in the sports complex adjoining the Sally Gardens Community Centre. Recent incidents of vandalism have resulted in damage to the club's equipment and the installation of a container will provide a secure storage facility and prevent further damage to equipment and players personal belongings. The container will be used exclusively by the club at agreed times and for storage purposes only. No mains services are to be provided and the container will be maintained and insured by the club. Approval is sought for delegated authority for the Director of Physical Programmes and Director of Neighbourhood Services to agree terms of the licence including final site area and location.</p> <p><u>Financial and Resources Implications</u></p> <p>The licence will be subject to a nominal rent and Legal Services will act upon the instructions of the Estates Management Unit.</p> <p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
3.4	<p>iv) Falls Park – Licence with Belfast Celtic Football Club</p> <p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>At its meeting in December 2022, the People and Communities Committee approved an application from Belfast Celtic Football Club to install a storage container in Falls Park. Recent incidents of vandalism have resulted in damage to the club's equipment and the installation of a container will provide a secure storage facility and prevent further damage to</p>

	<p>equipment and players personal belongings. The container will be used exclusively by the club at agreed times and for storage purposes only. No mains services are to be provided and the container will be maintained and insured by the club. Approval is sought for delegated authority for the Director of Physical Programmes and Director of Neighbourhood Services to agree terms of the licence including final site area and location.</p> <p><u>Financial and Resources Implications</u></p> <p>The licence will be subject to a nominal rent and Legal Services will act upon the instructions of the Estates Management Unit.</p> <p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
3.5	<p>v) Forth Meadow Community Greenway – Lease with NIHE</p> <p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>As part of Forth Meadow Community Greenway Project, the Council is proposing installig an illuminated sign at the junction of the Ballygomartin Road and the Cairnmartin Road, to highlight the entrance to that section of the greenway. This will require leasing c.4 sq m of land from NI Housing Executive (NIHE). A site map showing the location of the land required is attached as Appendix 3. Subject to NIHE’s internal approvals, NIHE is prepared to lease the land to the Council for a term of 25 years at nil rent. The terms of the lease will be agreed by the Estates Management Unit and Legal Services.</p> <p><u>Financial and Resources Implications</u></p> <p>No financial implications. Legal Services shall act on the instructions of the Estates Management Unit.</p> <p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
3.6	<p>vi) Forth Meadow Community Greenway – Lease with Invest NI</p> <p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>As part of Forth Meadow Community Greenway Project, the Council is proposing installing a public artwork sculpture at the entrance roundabout to Forth River Business Park off the Springfield Road. This will require leasing c.16 sq m of land from Invest NI. A site map showing the location of the land required is attached as Appendix 4. Invest NI has agreed to lease the land to BCC for a term of 50 years at nil rent. The terms of the lease will be agreed by the Estates Management Unit and Legal Services.</p>

	<p><u>Financial and Resources Implications</u></p> <p>No financial implications. Legal Services shall act on the instructions of the Estates Management Unit.</p> <p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
3.7	<p>vii) Forth Meadow Community Greenway – Licence with Braidwater Homes / Coredale</p> <p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>Part of the Forth Meadow Community Greenway is proposed to be situated on a small part of land owned by Braidwater Homes / Coredale. A site map showing the location of the land required is attached as Appendix 5. Braidwater Homes / Coredale has agreed in principle to licence the land to the Council for the construction of the Greenway. Approval is sought to enter into a licence with Braidwater Homes / Coredale to facilitate the completion of Section 2 of the Greenway.</p> <p><u>Financial and Resources Implications</u></p> <p>Legal Services shall act on the instructions of the Estates Management Unit.</p> <p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
3.8	<p>viii) Brook Playing Fields – Agreement with Phoenix Natural Gas Limited</p> <p>Phoenix Natural Gas Limited (PNG) have requested access to replace a Gas Pressure Reduction Facility (GPRF) presently on Council lands at Brook Playing Fields Site. A new Gas Connection Application Agreement with an agreed right of access over Council lands will be entered into between PNG Ltd & the Council. The GPRF shall be located in the area coloured yellow on the map attached at Appendix 6 and access to the equipment shall be solely over the lands coloured blue.</p> <p><u>Financial and Resources Implications</u></p> <p>No financial implications. Legal Services shall act on the instructions of the Estates Management Unit.</p> <p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None associated with this report</p>

3.9	<p>ix) Reverend Robert Bradford Memorial Park - Licence with Bluehouse Development Ltd</p> <p>Bluehouse Development Ltd is constructing an apartment block containing 23 apartments on a site adjacent to Reverend Robert Bradford Memorial Park / Donegall Pass Community Centre and have requested access to, and use of, a small portion of Council lands to ensure development works can be conducted safely for a period of 6 months from 25th March 2023 up to and including 24th September 2023 with a 4-week contingency period in the event of programme delays. The Licence will also include crane oversailing rights and cover the period from 8th August 2022 up to and including 31st December 2023. Bluehouse Development Ltd may extend their right to the crane oversailing by a further 3 months in the event of construction delays. See map attached at Appendix 7.</p> <p><u>Financial and Resources Implications</u></p> <p>Legal Services shall act on the instructions of the Estates Management Unit. A licence fee of £500+VAT for first four weeks then £100+VAT per each week thereafter plus a crane oversailing fee of £1,800+VAT has been agreed with Bluehouse Development Ltd.</p> <p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
3.10	<p>x) Botanic Gardens (Lower Section) – Licence Agreement with QUB</p> <p>Queen's University Belfast (QUB) have requested access to and use of a portion of Council land at Botanic Gardens (Lower Section) in connection with the Council's Upsurge Project. QUB have requested a licence agreement from 25th February 2023 up to and including 31st September 2026 then month to month thereafter up to a maximum of 6 further months. The licence fee will be nominal as QUB are partnering with the Council in the delivery of the Upsurge Project. See map attached at Appendix 8 showing the location of the proposed licence area at Botanic Gardens (Lower Section) and temporary route of access.</p> <p><u>Financial and Resources Implications</u></p> <p>Legal Services shall act on the instructions of the Estates Management Unit.</p> <p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
3.11	<p>xi) Cromac Street Car Park – Licence renewal with NIHE</p> <p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>As part of the Transfer of Functions legislation for off-street car parking from DRD, the car park at Cromac Street transferred to Council on 01 April 2015. This car park is owned by the Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE) and has been held by Council under Licence</p>

	<p>since the transfer date. The current Licence from NIHE was for a term of 1 year and expired on 31/03/2021. Council are currently holding over. NIHE are willing to renew the Licence for a further term of 3 years up to 31/03/2024. Land & Property Services (LPS) have provided a valuation of £44,784 for the Licence Fee for the initial year ending 31/03/2022 which is based on a percentage of the actual income the car park generated in the previous year. LPS have proposed a fee of £48,000 pa for the following two years, to be paid annually in advance and reconciled at the end of the Licence term to a percentage of the actual income generated. Council will retain all revenue generated from its operation of the car park. Both NIHE and Council will have a mutual break option given the car park may become available to acquire. See map at Appendix 9.</p> <p><u>Financial and Resources Implications</u></p> <p>Licence fee for first year £44,784 pa. The Licence will be drafted by NIHE and Councils Legal Services shall act on the instructions of the Estate Management Unit.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications / Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
3.12	<p>xii) City of Belfast Playing Fields – Licence to Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council</p> <p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council (ANBC) have requested consent from the Council to place 2 no. sandbag bins adjacent to the entrance gates to City of Belfast Playing Fields to enable a supply of sandbags to be available to the general public. If approved by Members, ANBC has agreed to enter into a short-term agreement with the Council with terms to be agreed by the Estates Management Unit & Legal Services. A site map showing the proposed location of the sandbag bins is attached at Appendix 10.</p> <p><u>Financial and Resources Implications</u></p> <p>No financial implications. Legal Services shall act on the instructions of the Estates Management Unit.</p> <p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
	<p>xiii) Smithfield Market – Units Letting Update</p> <p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>The Committee is asked to note recent lettings and rental terms of Units at Smithfield Market as agreed under the delegated authority granted to the Director of Physical Programmes.</p>

The Council's Scheme of Delegation provides for retrospective reporting of lettings at Smithfield Market.

Unit 3 - Smithfield Market

Tenant – Ryan Barnes

Unit size – 136 sq ft

Use – Sale of clothing and sportswear

Rent - £200 per month plus rates.

Term – Tenancy Agreement for six months and monthly thereafter commencing 19th December 2022.

Unit 5/6 - Smithfield Market

Tenant – Alan Taylor

Unit size – 996 sq ft

Use – Sale of Comic books, novels, pop culture memorabilia and beverages

Rent - £850 per month plus rates.

Term – Tenancy Agreement for six months and monthly thereafter commencing 1st December 2019.

Unit 16 - Smithfield Market

Tenant – Christine Boyles

Unit size – 462 sq ft

Use – Hairdressers

Rent - £500 per month plus rates.

Term – Tenancy Agreement for six months and monthly thereafter commencing 16th November 2022.

Unit 17/18 - Smithfield Market

Tenant – Michael Bates

Unit size – 996 sq ft

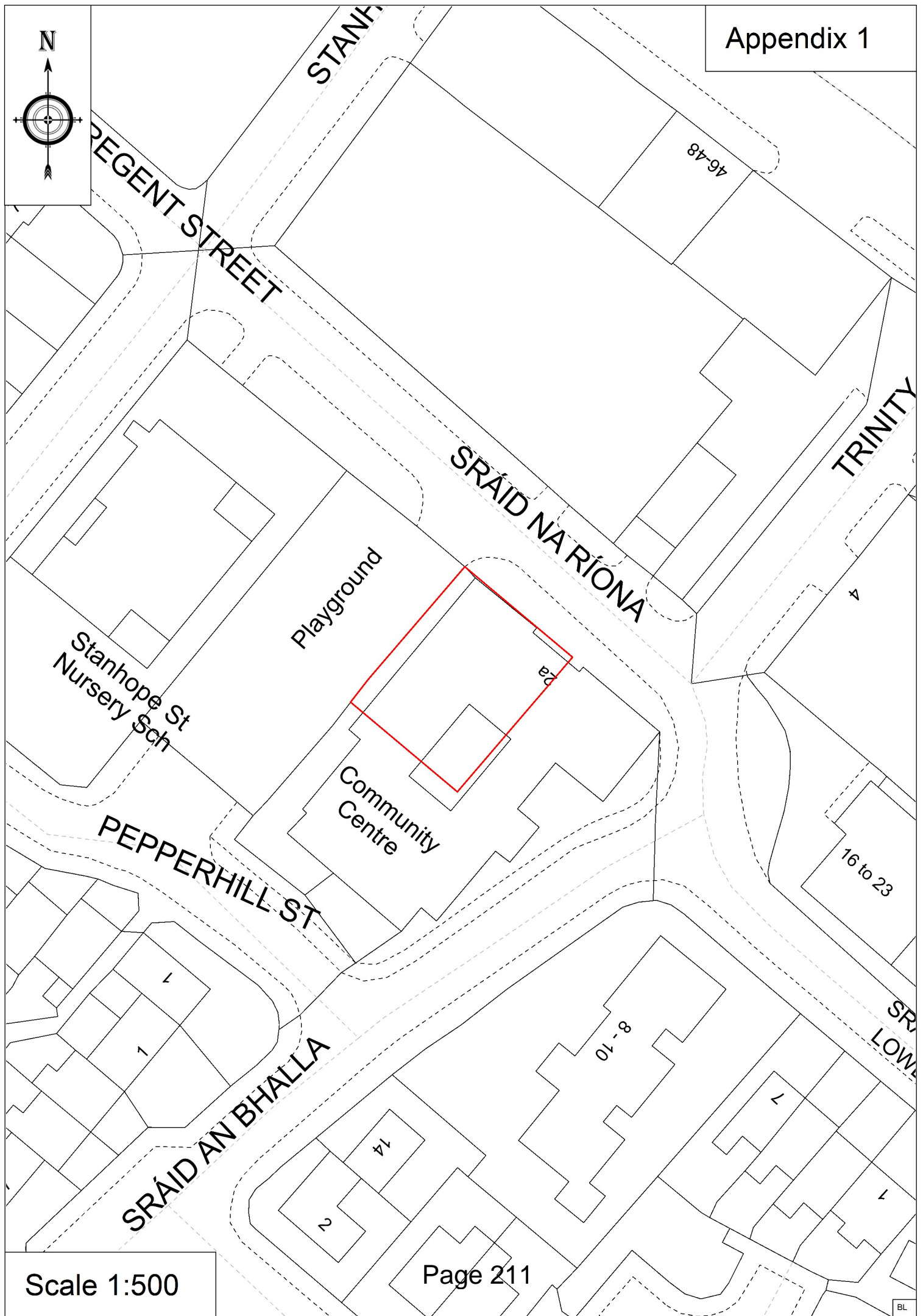
Use – Sale of second-hand musical instruments, records, CD's and cassettes

Rent - £900 per month plus rates.

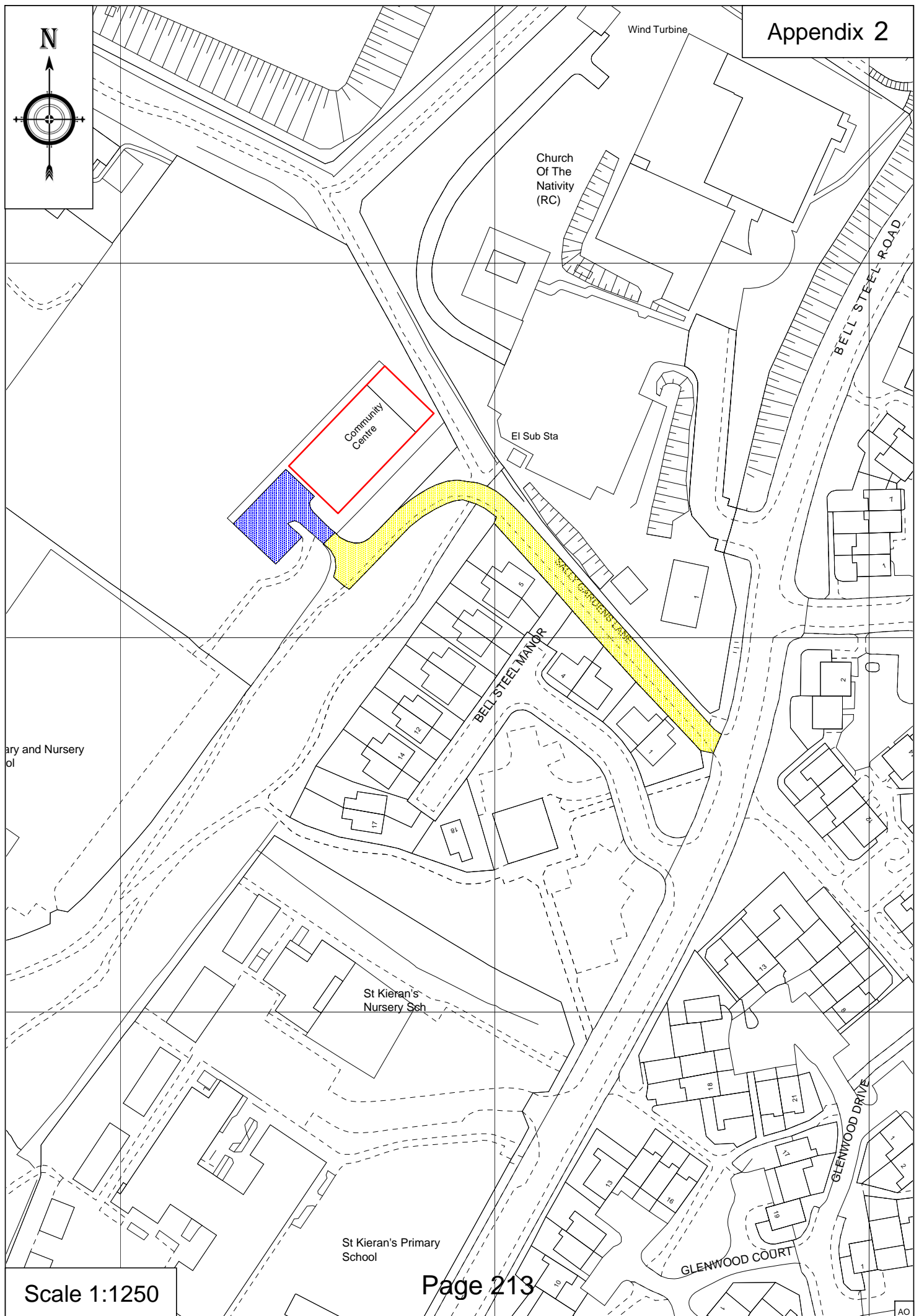
Term – Tenancy Agreement for six months and monthly thereafter commencing 17th January 2023.

	<p><u>Unit 22 - Smithfield Market</u></p> <p>Tenant – Joe Gilmartin</p> <p>Unit size – 150 sq ft</p> <p>Use – Sale of records, CD's and DVD's</p> <p>Rent - £225 per month plus rates.</p> <p>Term – Tenancy Agreement for six months and monthly thereafter commencing 1st June 2021.</p> <p><u>Unit 23 - Smithfield Market</u></p> <p>Tenant – Daniel Kerr</p> <p>Unit size – 150 sq ft</p> <p>Use – Sale of Paint & Art Supplies</p> <p>Rent - £235 per month plus rates.</p> <p>Term – Tenancy Agreement for six months and monthly thereafter commencing 1st October 2022.</p> <p>Unit 34 is currently the only vacant unit within Smithfield Market.</p> <p><u>Financial and Resources Implications</u></p> <p>The current rental income for Smithfield equates to £158,220 per annum.</p> <p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
4.0	Documents Attached
	<p>Appendix 1 – Map showing Carrick Hill Community Centre</p> <p>Appendix 2 – Map showing Sally Gardens Community Centre and Proposed Side Extension</p> <p>Appendix 3 – Map showing portion of land required for illuminated sign at Forth River Business Park</p> <p>Appendix 4 - Map showing portion of land required for public artwork sculpture at Ballygomartin / Cairnmartin Road</p> <p>Appendix 5 – Map showing portion of land required for the Forthmeadow Community Greenway from Braidwater Homes / Coredale lands</p> <p>Appendix 6 – Map showing equipment location and route of access at Brook Activity Centre Playing Fields.</p>

	<p>Appendix 7 – Map showing works areas, route of access and tower crane intrusion zone at Reverend Robert Bradford Memorial Park / Donegall Pass CC.</p> <p>Appendix 8 – Map showing the location of the licence area in connection with the Upsurge Project at Botanic Gardens (Lower Section) and temporary route of access.</p> <p>Appendix 9 – Map showing Cromac Street Car Park.</p> <p>Appendix 10 – Map showing location of sandbag bins at City of Belfast Playing Fields</p>
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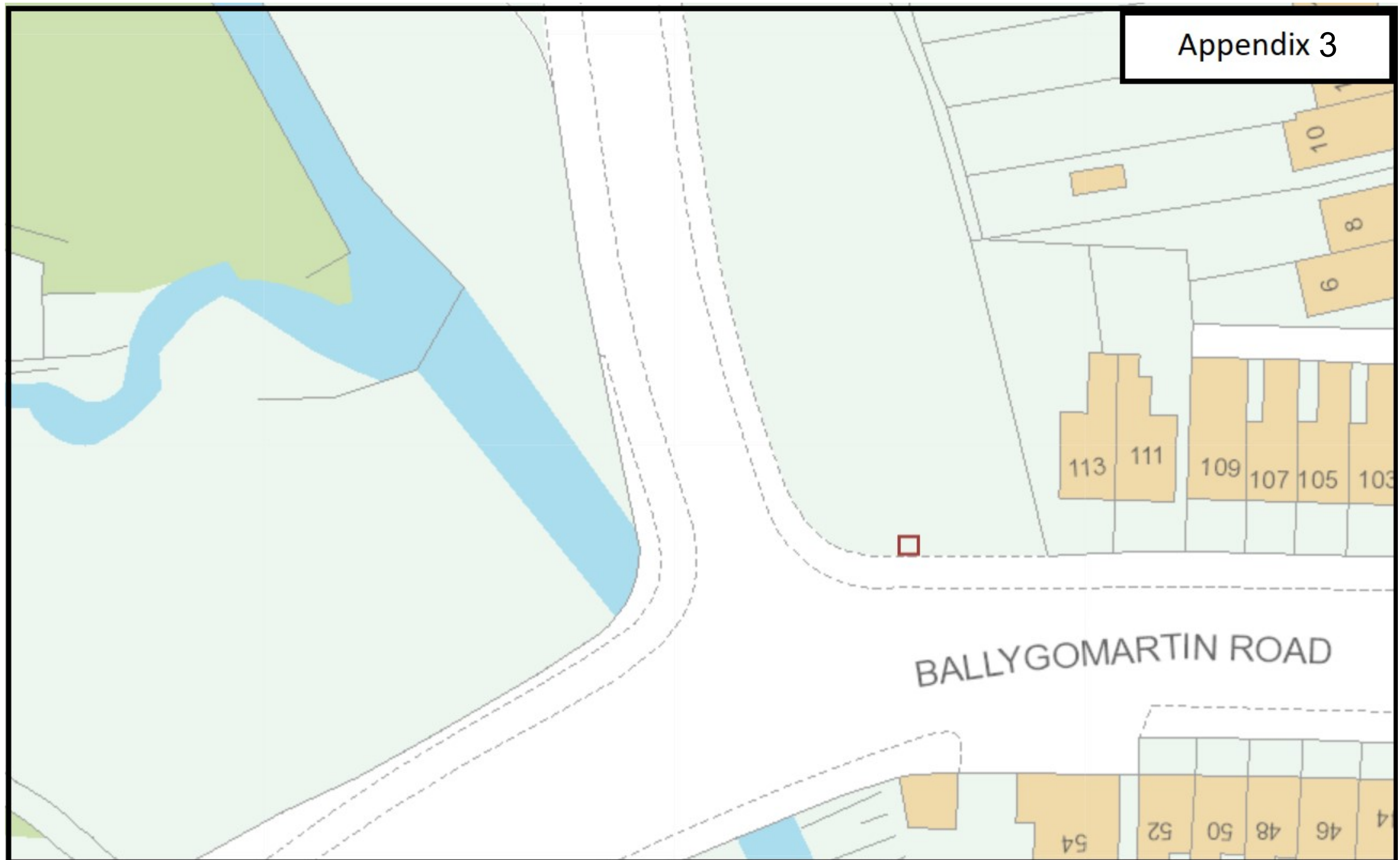


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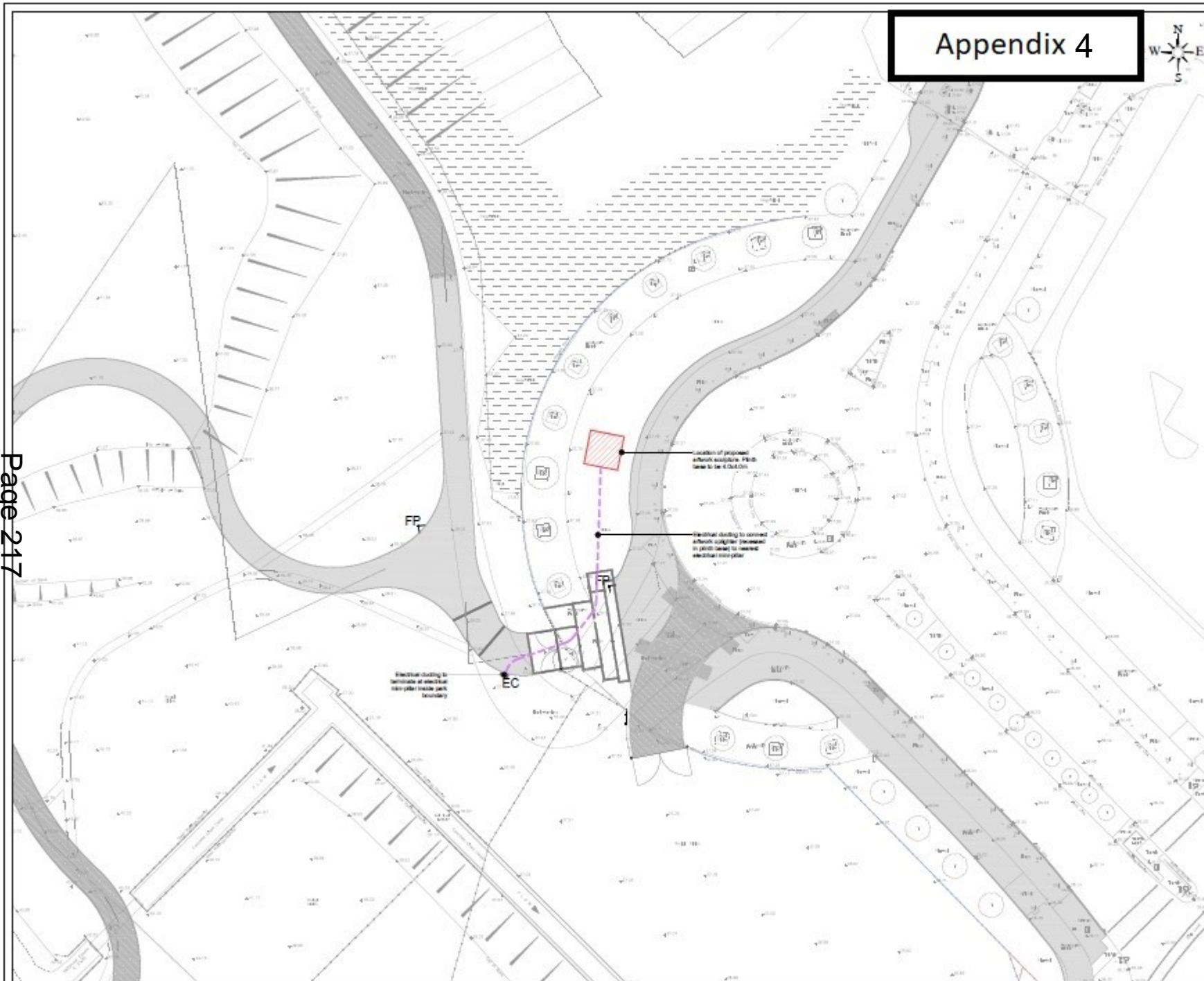


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Appendix 3



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Appendix 4

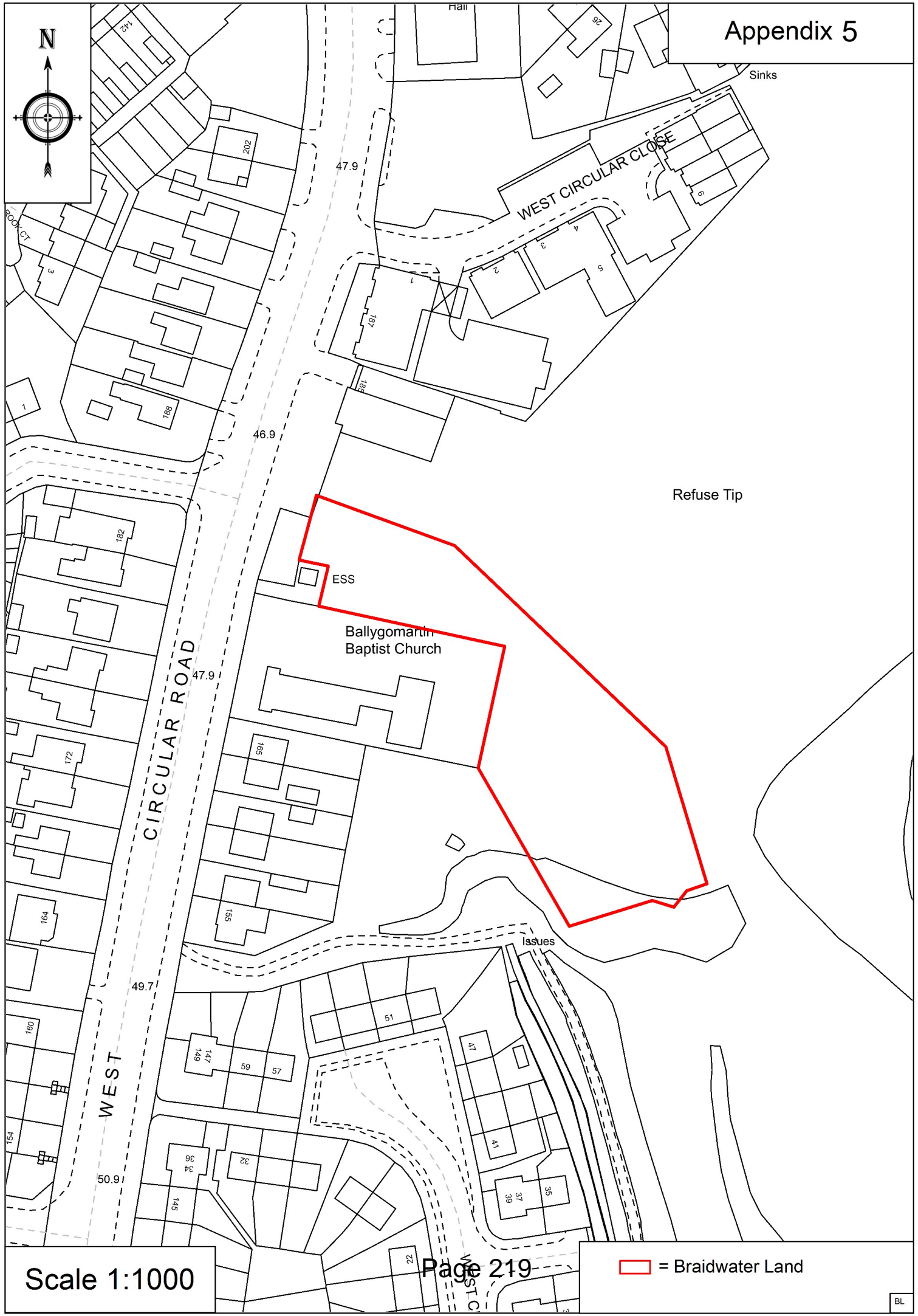


LEGEND

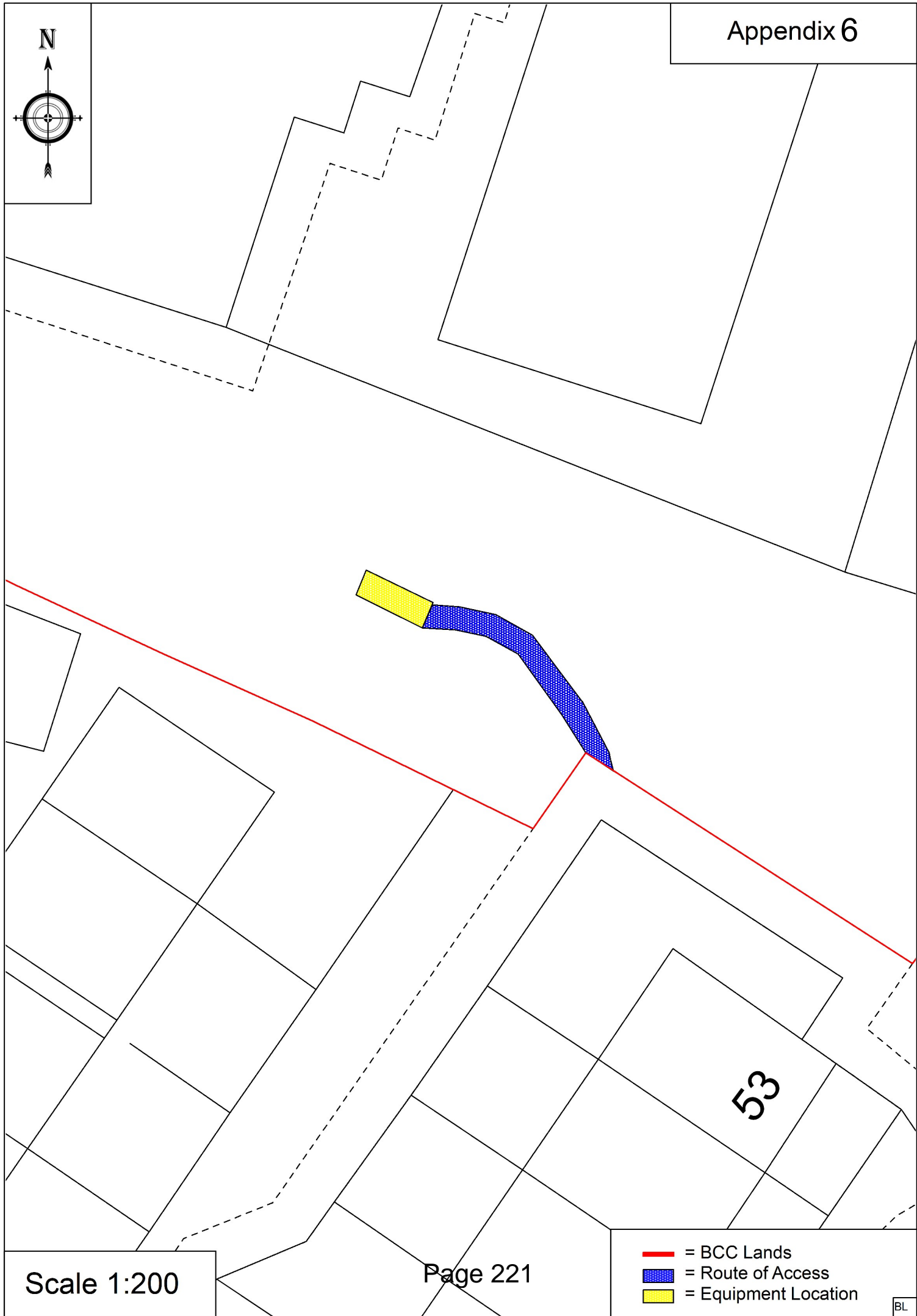
- Plan location of proposed artwork sculpture
- Proposed electrical ducting to supply recessed uplighter in artwork plinth

Rev	Date	Description	Rev	Date	App																																																						
<div>Number</div> <div></div> <div>The Shared Spaces Reconnecting Open Spaces project has been supported by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Planning, managed by the Open Spaces Programme Unit (OSPU)</div> <div></div> <div>Shared Spaces Programme Unit</div> <div><div>Project Manager/Lead Engineer</div><div></div><div>William Design Ltd 10 Longway Road 475 Castleway Road Belfast, BT7 1BS T: 028 9050 0000 F: 028 9072 1111 www.williamdesign.co.uk info@williamdesign.co.uk</div></div> <div><div>Structural Engineer</div><div></div><div></div></div> <tr><td>Drawn</td><td>GMA</td><td>Checked</td><td>GMA</td><td>Approved</td><td>WB</td></tr> <tr><td>Date</td><td>28/11/22</td><td>Date</td><td>28/11/22</td><td>Date</td><td>28/11/22</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="6">Client: BELFAST CITY COUNCIL</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="6">Project: SHARED SPACES RECONNECTING OPEN SPACES PROJECT</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="6">Drawing: WP2 - ARTWORK SCULPTURE AT INVEST NI LOCATION PLAN</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="6">Scale: 1:200 @ A1</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">Project No: ED103</td><td colspan="2">Drawing No: 02-143</td><td colspan="2">Revision: -</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="6">All dimensions are in millimetres. Figure dimensions are to face. In preference to verbal dimensions. Dimensions to be checked on site. © 2022 William Design Ltd</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="6">CONSTRUCTION</td></tr>						Drawn	GMA	Checked	GMA	Approved	WB	Date	28/11/22	Date	28/11/22	Date	28/11/22	Client: BELFAST CITY COUNCIL						Project: SHARED SPACES RECONNECTING OPEN SPACES PROJECT						Drawing: WP2 - ARTWORK SCULPTURE AT INVEST NI LOCATION PLAN						Scale: 1:200 @ A1						Project No: ED103		Drawing No: 02-143		Revision: -		All dimensions are in millimetres. Figure dimensions are to face. In preference to verbal dimensions. Dimensions to be checked on site. © 2022 William Design Ltd						CONSTRUCTION					
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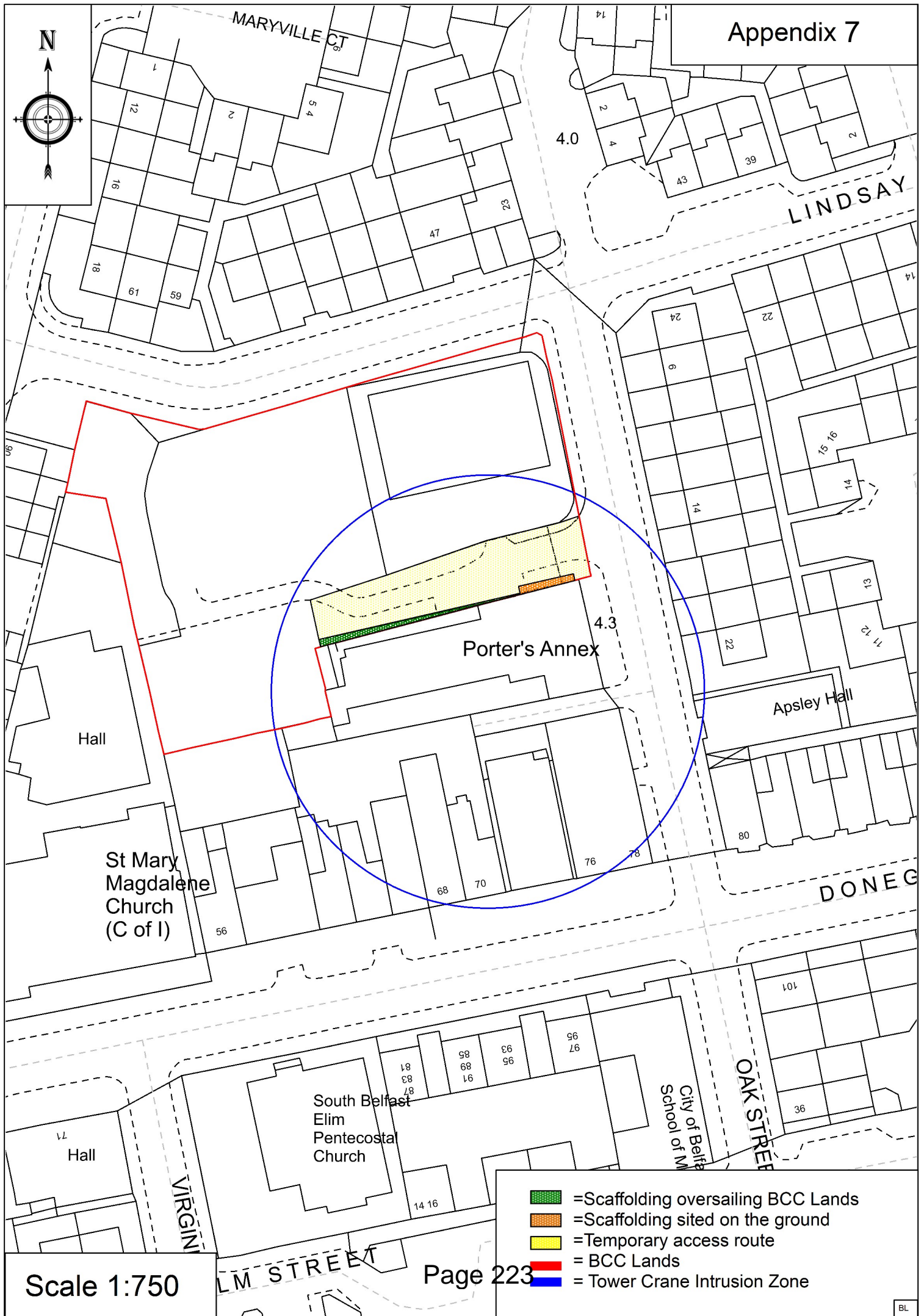
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Scale 1:200

-  = BCC Lands
-  = Route of Access
-  = Equipment Location

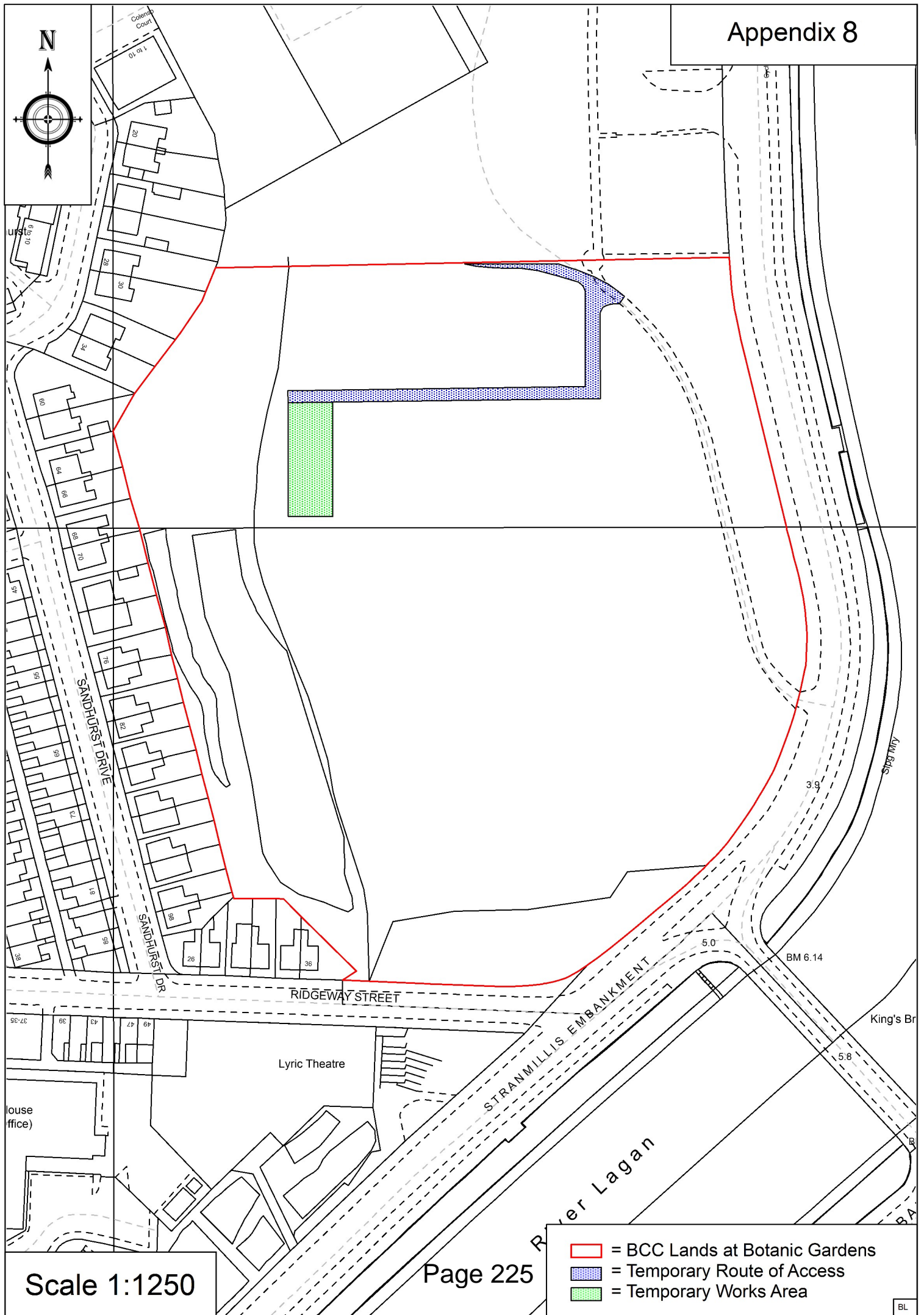
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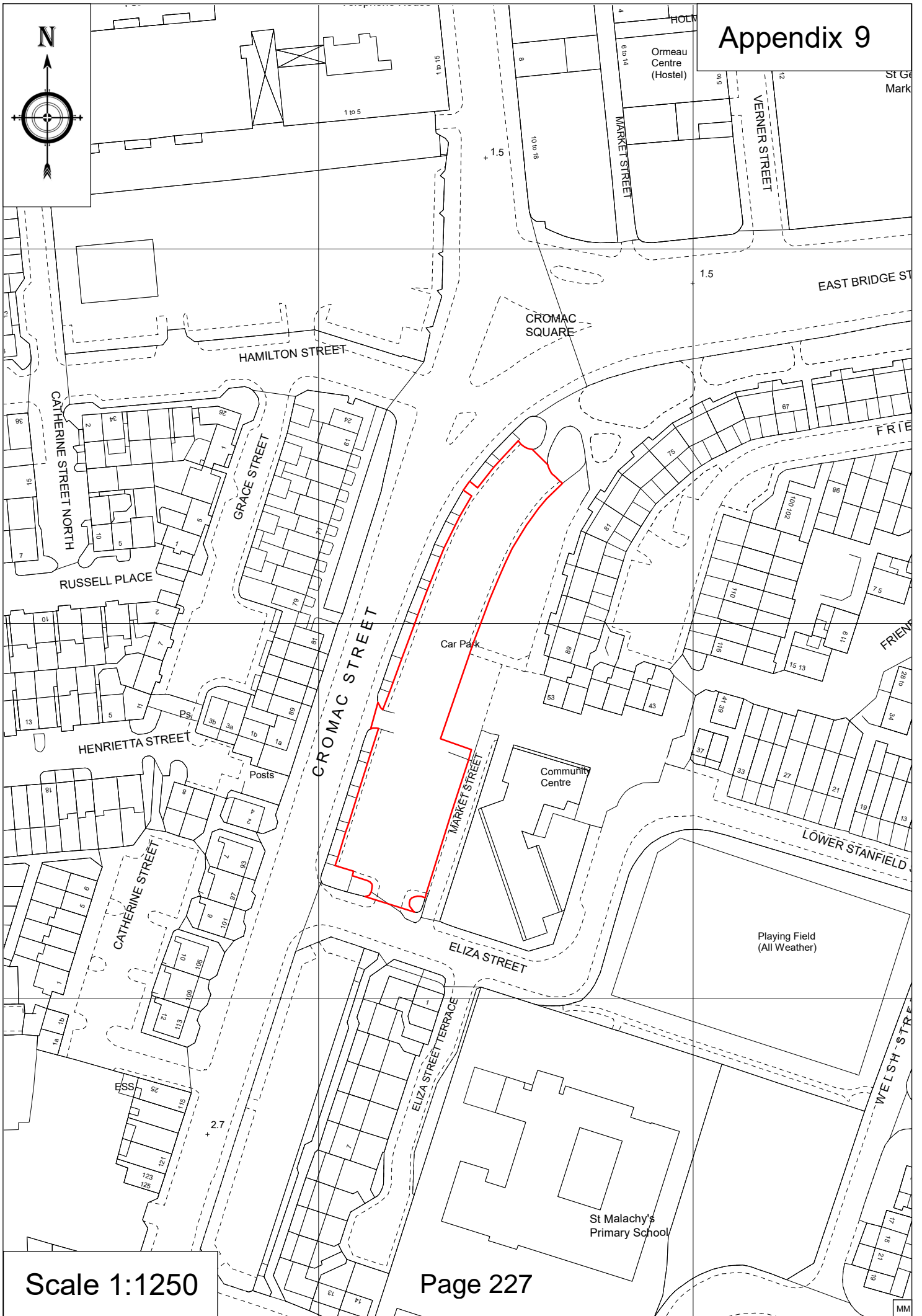
Scale 1:750

- = Scaffolding oversailing BCC Lands
- = Scaffolding sited on the ground
- = Temporary access route
- = BCC Lands
- = Tower Crane Intrusion Zone

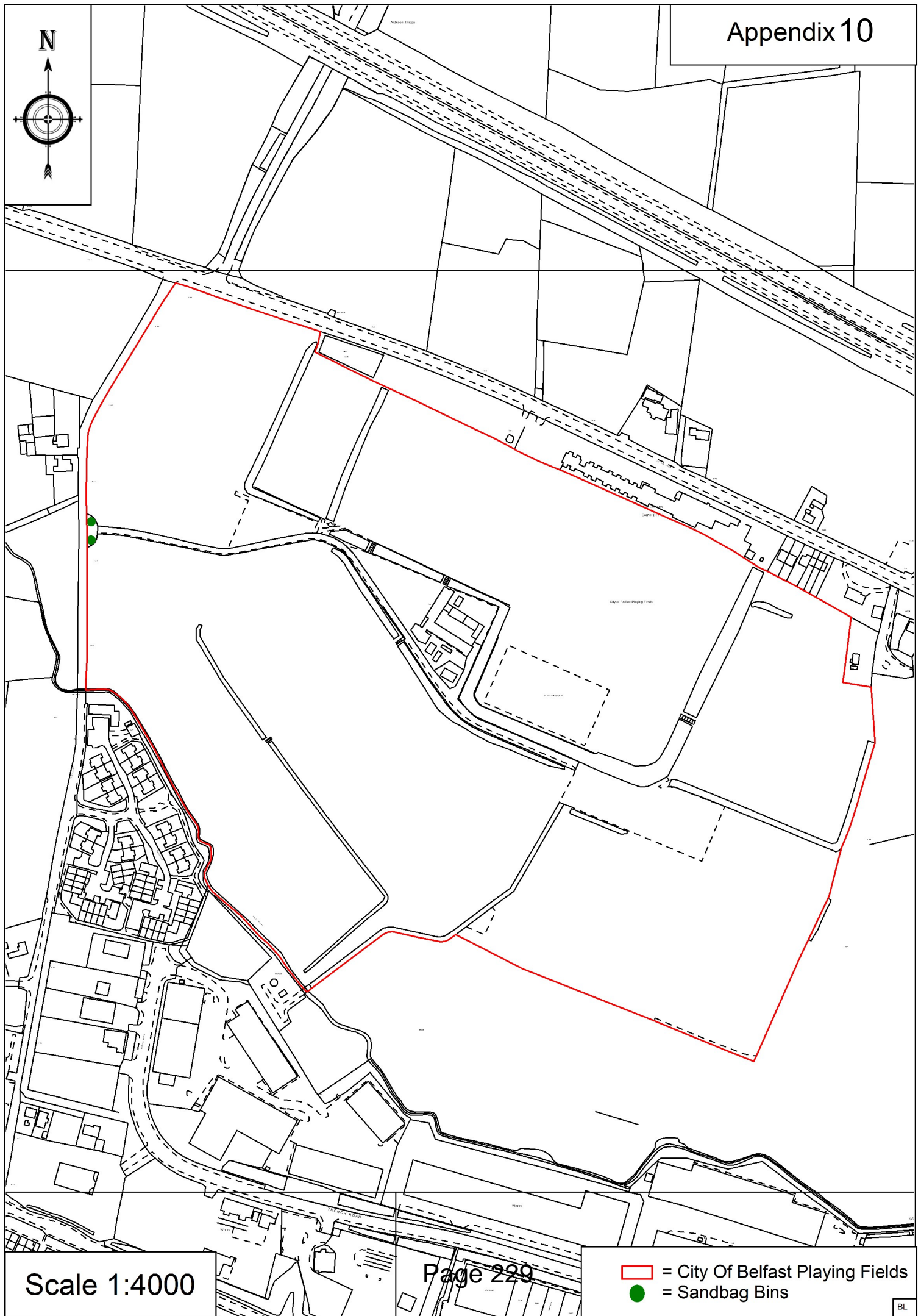
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Scale 1:4000

 = City Of Belfast Playing Fields
 = Sandbag Bins

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Belfast
City Council

Subject:	Update on Contracts
Date:	17th February, 2023
Reporting Officer:	Noleen Bohill, Head of Commercial and Procurement Services
Contact Officer:	Noleen Bohill, Head of Commercial and Procurement 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"/>
Sometime in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	<p>The purpose of this report is to ask the Committee to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. approve tenders and Single Tender Actions (STA) over £30,000; and ii. note contract modifications to contract term and retrospective Single Tender Actions (STAs)
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • approve the public advertisement of tenders, as per Standing Order 37a detailed in Appendix 1 (Table 1); • approve the award of STAs, in line with Standing Order 55 exceptions as detailed in Appendix 1 (Table 2); • approve the modification of the contract, as per Standing Order 37a detailed in Appendix 1 (Table 3); and

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> note the award of retrospective STAs, in line with Standing Order 55 exceptions as detailed in Appendix 1 (Table 4)
3.0	Main Report
	<u>Competitive Tenders</u>
3.1	Section 2.5 of the Scheme of Delegation states that Chief Officers have delegated authority to authorise a contract for the procurement of goods, services or works over the statutory limit of £30,000 following a tender exercise where the council has approved the invitation to tender.
3.2	Standing Order 60(a) states that any contract which exceeds the statutory amount (currently £30,000) shall be made under the Corporate Seal. Under Standing Order 51(b) the Corporate Seal can only be affixed when there is a resolution of the Council.
3.3	Standing Order 54 states that every contract shall comply with the relevant requirements of national and European legislation.
	<u>Single Tender Actions (STAs)</u>
3.4	<p>The following STAs are being submitted for approval:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a contract for £140,000, for up to 18 months, awarded to Clear Channel for advertising at bus stops. Advertising council initiatives to the citizens of Belfast and areas of Northern Ireland as required. Clear Channel is the only company that provides advertising at bus stops in Northern Ireland; a contract for £140,000, for up to 18 months, awarded to Global Outdoor for bus internal and external advertising. Advertise council initiatives to the citizens of Belfast and in areas of Northern Ireland as required. Global Outdoor is the only company to provide advertising on Metro and Ulsterbus buses in Northern Ireland; a contract for £60,313, for up to 1 year, awarded to Softworks for continued use of the Clockwise system. Continued use of current system required until replacement of system is implemented. (In progress under the HR/Payroll/T&A Project); and a contract for £73,745, for up to 4 years, awarded to East Suffolk Council for the continued used of the Port Health Interactive Live Information System (PHILIS). Developed by Suffolk Coastal District Council and which has become the industrial standard for Port Health imported food system. No other supplier exist for a digitised food import system. (Fully Funded).

3.5	<p>The following retrospective STAs were awarded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a contract for £46,000, for up to 7 months, awarded to MCS Recruitment, for requirement for 2 x Business Support Officers in HR. The existing contracted provider for T1792 Provision of Temporary Agency Resources: Matrix SCM has confirmed that it is unable to fulfil this required role within the contractually agreed time period; and • a contract for £56,000, for up to 12 months, awarded to Digital Catapult NI for T2357 - the delivery of a creative digital capacity building programme. Previously approved by CMT in October 22 and retrospectively by the Committee in November 2022 for £50,000, for up to 6 months. It is being resubmitted as the contract value and duration was underestimated and have been corrected. <p><u>Modification to Contract Term</u></p>
3.6	<p>The following contract terms were modified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 2 month extension for contract T2056 - Peace IV - Delivery of TechConnects – a cross community peace building programme for children and young people using digital technology (Lot 3 - Young People (aged 17-24 years)). The value of the contract remains as per the original contract. An extension is requested to 31st March 2023 to allow the project to be fully completed. The 3 month contract extension was previously approved by the Committee in October 22 to cover 1st November 2022 to 31st January, 2023. The contract extension has been approved by the Shared City Partnership and PEACE IV Programme Board in December/January 2022; • a 3 month extension and additional £20,000 for contract T1878 - supply and installation of wet pour repairs. Work is underway to complete the tender documents and advertise the new tender but additional time is required to ensure continuity of service whilst tender is evaluated and awarded; • a 3 month extension and additional £8,625 for contract T1935 - supply and erection of street nameplates. Work is underway to complete the tender documents and advertise the new tender but additional time is required to ensure continuity of service whilst tender is evaluated and awarded; and • a 3 month extension and additional £20,000 for contract T1760 - supply and delivery of general cleaning products and consumables. Work is underway to complete the tender documents and advertise the new tender but additional time is required to ensure continuity of service whilst tender is evaluated and awarded.

	Financial and Resource Implications
3.7	The financial resources for these contracts are within approved corporate or Departmental budgets
	Equality or Good Relations Implications / Rural Needs Assessment
3.8	None
4.0	Document Attached
	Appendix 1 Table 1 - Competitive Tenders Table 2 - Single Tender Actions Table 3 - Modification to Contract Table 4 - Retrospective Single Tender Actions

Table 1: Competitive Tenders

Title of Tender	Proposed Contract Duration	Estimated Total Contract Value	SRO	Short description of goods / services
Deployment of ambient air quality sensor system at Botanic Gardens Belfast (Fully funded)	Up to 34 months	£60,000	D Caldwell	Required as part of the delivery for Horizon 2020 UPSURGE project
Supply and erection of street nameplates	Up to 4 years	£138,000	K Bentley	To supply and erect street nameplates within Belfast
Feasibility study of a Belfast District Heating Initiative and options in relation to energy use, project development and financing	Up to 12 weeks	£60,000	D Caldwell	External expertise required to provide advice and recommendations on a District Heating initiative for Belfast
Supply of mobile column vehicle hoists	Up to 3 years	£40,000	C Matthews	Replacing static 26t ramp recently decommissioned due to unavailability of parts (ramp was 30 years old)
Provision of in-depth technical research and guidance to help Digital Services advance the initiatives/projects that support execution of the IT strategy	Up to 2 years	£45,400	P Gribben	Service required to provided use of proven reference architecture, receive organisation-specific guidance, leverage industry best practices, and enable Digital Services to stay current with changing markets and technologies
Provision of a reusable period waste scheme	Up to 3 years	£141,000	D Sales	Agreed by Council following on from a very successful pilot scheme for individuals ordering similar products online
Fleet Replacement programme 23/24 (purchase/ lease of vehicles during FY)	Up to 1 year	£2.2m	C Matthews	To cover replacement vehicles purchased/ leased during 2023/24 financial year from the annual allocated capital budget considered and approved by the Oversight Board.

Appendix 1

<p>NI Entrepreneurship Support Service 'NIESS' Framework A</p> <p>(Framework value across all 11 councils and using external funding)</p>	Up to 4 years	Up to £26m	J Greer	<p>BCC will act as lead council on behalf of all 11 local authorities to develop and manage the Northern Ireland Enterprise Support Service. The service aims to provide a set of connected Entrepreneurship Support Services where individuals, entrepreneurs or businesses can access a continuum of support to meet their needs, aligned with the relevant stage of their enterprise.</p> <p>This Framework A will include lots to reflect the geographical and service delivery requirements of councils across the region.</p>
<p>NIESS Framework B1</p> <p>(Framework value across all 11 councils and using external funding)</p>	Up to 4 years	Up to £6m	J Greer	<p>As with Framework A; however Framework B1 will include a range of subject matter specialisms with a less focus on organisational capacity (as required with Framework A). This framework will be targeted at SMEs and specialist service providers.</p>
<p>NIESS Framework B2</p> <p>(Framework value across all 11 councils and using external funding)</p>	Up to 4 years	Up to £6m	J Greer	<p>Similar to Framework B1 above but will cover a different range of specialist areas for SMEs and specialist service providers to apply for.</p>

Table 2: Single Tender Actions

Title	Duration	Total Value	SRO	Description	Supplier
Advertising at bus stops	18 months	£140,000	L Caldwell	Advertising council initiatives to the citizens of Belfast and areas of Northern Ireland as required. Clear Channel is the only company that provides advertising at bus stops in Northern Ireland	Clear Channel
Bus internal and external advertising	18 months	£140,000	L Caldwell	Advertise council initiatives to the citizens of Belfast and in areas of Northern Ireland as required. Global Outdoor is the only	Global Outdoor

Appendix 1

				company to provide advertising on Metro and Ulsterbus buses in Northern Ireland	
Clockwise system	Up to 1 year	£60,313	P Gribben	Continued use of current system required until replacement of system is implemented. (In progress under the HR/Payroll/T&A Project)	Softworks
Port Health Interactive Live Information System (PHILIS) (Fully funded)	Up to 4 years	£73,745	P Gribben	Developed by Suffolk Coastal District Council and which has become the industrial standard for Port Health imported food system. No other supplier exists for a Digitised Food Import System	East Suffolk Council

Table 3: Modification to Contract

Title of Contract	Duration	Modification	SRO	Description	Supplier
2056 - Peace IV - Delivery of TechConnects – a cross community peace building programme for children & young people using digital technology Lot 3 - Young People (aged 17-24 years)	Up to 29 months	Additional 2 months	D Sales	An extension is requested to 31 March 2023 to allow the project to be completed.	Belfast Metropolitan College
T1878 - Supply and installation of wet pour repairs	Up to 4 years	Addition 3 months and £20,000	D Sales	Work is underway to complete the tender documents and advertise the new tender but additional time is required to ensure continuity of service whilst tender is evaluated and awarded.	Play and Leisure Services Ltd
T1935 - Supply and erection of street nameplates	Up to 4 years	Additional 3 months and £8,625	J Greer	Work is underway to complete the tender documents and advertise the new tender but additional time is required to ensure continuity of service whilst tender is evaluated and awarded.	Traffic Signs and Equipment Ltd

Appendix 1

T1760 - Supply and delivery of general cleaning products and consumables	Up to 5 years	Additional 3 months and £20,000	S Grimes	Work is underway to complete the tender documents and advertise the new tender but additional time is required to ensure continuity of service whilst tender is evaluated and awarded.	Bunzl McLaughlin and Interclean
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Table 4: Retrospective Single Tender Actions

Title of Contract	Duration	Value	SRO	Description	Supplier
Requirement for 2 x Business Support Officers for HR (SO2)	Up to 7 months	£46,000	S Toland	The existing contracted provider for T1792 Provision of Temporary Agency Resources: Matrix SCM have confirmed they are unable to fulfil the required roles of Business Support Officer (HR) within the contractually agreed time period.	MCS Recruitment
T2357 - Delivery of a creative digital capacity building programme	Up to 12 months	£56,000	J Greer	Previously approved by CMT in October 22 and retrospectively by SP&R in November 22. It is being resubmitted as the contract value and duration was underestimated and have been corrected. Previously approved for £50k and 6 months.	Digital Catapult NI



Subject:	Update on the Waiving of Building Regulation Inspection Fees for Applications including Insulation
Date:	17th February, 2023
Reporting Officer:	Kate Bentley, Director of Planning and Building Control
Contact Officer:	Ian Harper, Building Control 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"/>
Sometime in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	<p>The purpose of the report is to update The Committee on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. the implementation for the waiving of Building Regulation inspection fees for those applications involving loft insulation which are not part of funded schemes or maintenance contracts; and ii. the timeline of the exercise.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • note the implementation process which has been discussed and agreed with Legal Services and Audit and Risk Services; and • note the timeline commencing from 1st December 2022 and to be reviewed after a period of 6 months.

3.0	Main Report
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.1	The Committee agreed, at its meeting on 8th November, to waive Building Regulation inspection fees for those applications involving installation of insulation which were not part of funded schemes or maintenance contracts.
3.2	The waiving of fees will be implemented from the date of Council ratification on 1st December, 2022 until 31st May, 2023 subject to review.
3.3	The Building Control Service will identify qualifying applications from 1st December, 2022 and will engage with applicants if their application is considered eligible. The applicant will be required to complete and return a declaration confirming they are personally paying for the insulation work and their application is not part of a funded scheme which includes the payment of the fee.
3.4	On receipt of the signed declaration, the refund will be processed, following the normal process.
3.5	This process has been discussed with Audit Governance and Risk Services and Legal Service, both of which are satisfied with the approach being taken.
3.6	An update report will be presented to the Committee in June.
	<u>Financial and Resource Implications</u>
3.7	Based upon the analysis carried out for the four-year period that was presented to the Committee on 8th November, it is estimated that, on average, £81,000 of fees have been paid per year in relation to insulation. If fees were to be waived for a determined period, the loss in fee income could be assumed to be a pro rata value of this annual estimate.
	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u>
3.8	There are no direct Equality, Good Relations or Rural Needs implications.
4.0	Documents Attached
	None



Subject:	Equality and Diversity: Disability Action Plan 2022-2025
Date:	17th February, 2023
Reporting Officer:	Nora Largey, Interim City Solicitor/Director of Legal and Civic Services
Contact Officer:	Sarah Williams, Governance and Compliance 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"/>
Sometime in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to present for approval the Disability Action Plan for 2022-25, following public consultation.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is asked to approve the Disability Action Plan 2022-25.

3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p><u>Background</u></p> <p>The Council is subject to a several different duties in relation to disability. As both a service provider and employer it must be compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1995 which outlines measures aimed at ending the discrimination faced by many disabled people. It gives disabled people rights in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • employment • access to goods, facilities and services, including transport • the management, buying or renting of property • education.
3.2	<p>The Council, as a designated public authority, is also subject to two further inter-related duties under Sections 49A and 49B of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995. Section 49A places a duty on designated public authorities to have due regard to the need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote positive attitudes towards disabled persons and • Encourage participation by disabled persons in public life
3.3	<p>Section 49B places a duty on each designated public authority to prepare a Disability Action Plan outlining how it proposes to fulfil the Section 49A duty.</p>
3.4	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>Following a disability mapping exercise carried out last year across the organisation, the Equality and Diversity Unit developed a new draft Disability Action Plan 2022-25 which was brought to Strategic Policy and Resources Committee last year and issued for a 12-week public consultation.</p>
3.5	<p>The final Disability Action Plan document had no subsequent amendments from feedback received from the public consultation and is attached. It had been planned to bring this to the Disability Working Group before bringing for final approval to Committee, however, the last meeting of the Disability Working Group was cancelled due to it being inquorate.</p>
3.6	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>All costs related to this action plan will be met from existing budgets.</p>

3.7	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>The Disability Action Plan supports the Council's equality, good relations and rural needs duties.</p>
4.0	Document Attached
	Disability Action Plan 2022 – 25

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Disability Discrimination Order (Northern Ireland) 2006

Disability Action Plan

Belfast City Council 2022 - 2025

This Disability Action Plan can be obtained from Belfast City Council in alternative formats, including large print, Braille, audio cassette, computer disk, easy read, sign language format and plain language. You can also download it from our website. Our website is accessible (we work towards level AA of the W3C Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 1.0). The council will also consider requests to produce this document in other languages. If you require the document in these or other formats please contact the Equality and Diversity Unit on (028) 9032 0202 or equality@belfastcity.gov.uk

Foreword

As the democratically elected body representing the people of Belfast, it's important for us to be conscious of the Disability Discrimination Act 1998 when carrying out our functions and providing civic leadership.

This Disability Action Plan is an important document which reaffirms Belfast City Council's commitment to fulfilling our statutory obligations in compliance with Section 49A of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (as amended by the Disability Discrimination (NI) Order 2006) which places new duties on public authorities to:

- promote positive attitudes towards disabled people
- encourage participation by disabled people in public life.

The council's Disability Action Plan (hereinafter referred to as 'the Plan') sets out how we propose to positively meet these new duties.

The council exists to serve the people of Belfast and to provide civic leadership on issues of concern to the people who live and work in the city.

We will ensure that all councillors and council employees are aware of the DDO disability duties. We will take the lead to ensure that the necessary resources are made available for preparing councillors and employees to deliver the actions set out in this Plan. We wish to ensure that the Disability Action Plan is implemented effectively in the true spirit of our commitment to the DDO duties.

Lord Mayor

Chief Executive

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1. Introduction

1.1 Section 49A of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (as amended by the Disability Discrimination (NI) Order 2006) requires us, in carrying out our functions, to:

- promote positive attitudes towards disabled people; and
- encourage participation by disabled people in public life.

Under Section 49B of the DDA 1995, Belfast City Council is also required to submit to the Equality Commission a **Disability Action Plan** showing how it proposes to fulfil these duties in relation to its functions.

1.2 Belfast City Council is committed to the fulfilment of these disability duties in all parts of our organisation and have set out how we intend to do this in our Disability Action Plan.

We will allocate all necessary resources (in terms of people, time and money) in order to implement effectively this Plan and where appropriate, build objectives and targets relating to the disability duties into corporate and annual operating plans.

We will also put appropriate internal arrangements in place to ensure that the disability duties are complied with and this Disability Action Plan effectively implemented. We will ensure the effective communication of the Plan to staff and provide all necessary training and guidance for staff on the disability duties and the implementation of the Plan.

We confirm our commitment to submitting an annual report to the Equality Commission on the implementation of this Plan as well as carrying out a three yearly review of this Plan.

We are committed to consulting with disabled people when implementing and reviewing the council's disability plans.

- 1.3 We will undertake a planned programme of communication and training on the disability duties for all staff and councillors. This training will coincide with our induction training, refresher training and councillor training on disability. Training timescales are evidenced in the Plan.

Responsibility for implementing, reviewing and evaluating the Plan and the point of contact within Belfast City Council will be:

Equality & Diversity Unit

Address: Room 117, City Hall, Belfast, BT1 5GS

Telephone number: (028) 9032 0202

Email: equality@belfastcity.gov.uk

SignVideo: <http://www.belfastcity.gov.uk/contact/ContactUs.aspx>

Website: www.belfastcity.gov.uk

- 1.4 We confirm our commitment to submitting an annual progress report on the implementation of this plan to the Equality Commission and carrying out a three-year review of this Plan, or plans submitted to the Equality Commission over the three year review period.

A copy of the Plan, our annual progress to the Equality Commission and our three year review of this Plan will be made available on our website www.belfastcity.gov.uk

2. Our role and function

- 2.1 Outlined below is the range of functions of Belfast City Council. We perform a number of key roles for Belfast, including:
- a civic leadership and community planning role agreeing a vision for Belfast and its people and working in collaboration with partners and others to invest for the future and ensure a better quality of life for all our citizens;
 - the direct provision of a number of services and facilities;
 - the promotion and protection of our built and natural environment;
 - the promotion of the arts, tourism, community and economic development, equality and good relations;

- regulating and licensing certain activities relating to environmental health, consumer protection and public safety;
- local planning functions;
- representation on a number of bodies and boards;
- consulting on issues relating to functions conducted by other government bodies and agencies on issues such as planning, water, roads and housing.

2.2 In performing the above roles we provide:

- facilities for recreational, social and cultural activities including leisure centres, community centres, parks, open spaces and playgrounds, sports grounds and places of entertainment;
- street cleansing services;
- waste collection and disposal services;
- cemeteries and crematorium;
- registration of births, deaths and marriages;
- programme support and grant aid for—the arts, good relations, community development and the promotion of local tourism and economic development;
- administration and regulation of matters relating to environmental health, such as public health and safety, food safety, building control, noise pollution and consumer protection;
- licensing and regulation of street trading, places of entertainment, amusement centres, sex establishments, lotteries, cinemas and petroleum stations;
- planning development and enforcement and local development planning;
- off-street parking (except Park and Ride); and
- the making and regulation of bye-laws.

2.3 To enable us to provide these services and to perform our other functions, we must levy an annual rate (district rates). We also obtain funding through:

- various grants, mostly provided by the Department for Communities (DfC)
- government grants
- fees and charges for certain services
- loans

We have the power to:

- acquire and dispose of land;
- borrow money;
- employ staff;
- procure goods and services;
- as well as a general power of competence.

2.4 We have adopted a wide range of policies to support and implement the above statutory functions and provision of services and facilities.

3. Public life positions

3.1 The council does not have direct control over public life positions, however we do have people from various sections of the community sitting on council groups, for example:

- Good Relations Partnership;
- Equality Consultative Forum;
- Friends of Botanic and Falls Parks;
- Friends of Belfast Zoo;
- Families of the Waterworks;
- Cave Hill Conservation Group;
- Youth Forum;
- Belfast Policing & Community Safety Partnership;
- District PCSPs;
- BCC Migrants' Forum;
- Disability Advisory Panel;
- Sign Language Users Forum.

4. Commitment to the effective implementation of the Disability Action Plan

4.1 We are committed to the effective implementation of all aspects of the Plan in all parts of the organisation. Overall responsibility for determining policy on how this will be achieved lies with our councillors. Day-to-day responsibility for carrying out the policy lies with the Equality and Diversity Unit, who reports through the Governance & Compliance Manager, to the Corporate Management Team who are ultimately responsible for the oversight and implementation of administrative arrangements to ensure that the council complies with our disability duties.

4.2 As part of its planning process, Belfast City Council will build objectives, set targets and monitoring related to the disability duties into corporate and business plans.

4.3 Progress on meeting the objectives of the Plan, including those relating to the disability duties, will be monitored and reported at the most senior level within the organisation. The Equality and Diversity Unit will ensure the Plan will be monitored and reported annually. All Disability Action Plan reports will proceed through the council reporting mechanisms and to Corporate Management Team.

4.4 We will include a formal progress report on meeting the objectives in our annual report to the Equality Commission, which is submitted through the standard Committee reporting procedure.

5. Internal arrangements

5.1 We have 60 councillors elected for a four year period. They currently meet monthly in full session and more frequently in committees. The principal committees under Belfast City Council are:

- Strategic Policy and Resources Committee;
- City Growth & Regeneration Committee;
- People & Communities Committee;
- Planning Committee;
- Licensing Committee;

- Climate and City Resilience Committee and
- Belfast Waterfront & Ulster Hall Shareholders' Committee.

A range of council departments and working groups support these committees.

- 5.2 The Chief Executive oversees the work of the departments through the Corporate Management Team.
- 5.3 The Chief Executive is responsible for the delivery of the strategic direction set by the council and through the Corporate Management Team has oversight of the management of services and the longer term planning and allocation of resources.
- 5.4 Statutory responsibility for the effective implementation of the Disability Duty lies with the council.
- 5.4.1 The Chief Executive and the Corporate Management Team are responsible for ensuring that the council's decisions are implemented and for overseeing administrative arrangements to make sure the Plan is implemented effectively.
- 5.4.2 The Equality and Diversity Unit will support this work and act as our main point of contact. Currently, the Equality and Diversity Unit can be contacted at this address:

Legal and Civic Services Department,
 Equality and Diversity Unit,
 City Hall,
 Belfast, BT1 5GS
 Telephone: (028) 90 320202
 Text phone number: (028) 9027 0405
 Email: equality@belfastcity.gov.uk
 Website: www.belfastcity.gov.uk

- 5.4.3 The Equality and Diversity Unit will report regularly to the Governance & Compliance Manager and regular progress reports are sent to the Corporate Management Team and the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.
- 5.4.4 We place great importance on disability issues and have established an Equality and Diversity Network. This two level structure incorporates a strategic and operational group. The network addresses key equality, diversity and inclusion issues on a regular basis providing leadership and direction.

6. Annual report

- 6.1 Belfast City Council will submit an annual report on the implementation of its Plan. The annual report will be included as part of Belfast City Council's Annual Report to the Equality Commission on the implementation of our Equality Scheme but will also be available as a stand-alone document.
- 6.2 Our website is accessible (we work towards level AA of the W3C Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 1.0).

7. Three-year review

- 7.1 We will carry out a three-year review of the Plan in accordance with guidelines from the Equality Commission for Northern Ireland.

8. Measures to promote positive attitudes towards disabled people and encourage the participation of disabled people in public life

Promote positive attitudes towards disabled people

- A range of equality and disability training programmes;
- Induction programmes;
- Recruitment & selection training;
- Disability awareness training;
- Developing our website;

- Workplace policies and reasonable adjustments;
- Targeted recruitment policies;
- Accessibility policies;
- Equality screening exercises.

Encourage the participation of disabled people in public life

- Workplace policies;
- Recruitment policies;
- Accessibility policies;
- Policy screening;
- AccessAble Project;
- Equality Consultative Forum and other stakeholder groups.

For further details of the full range of measures previously undertaken by the council, contact the Equality and Diversity Unit.

9. Action measures

- 9.1 Belfast City Council has detailed the measures it intends to take in order to implement the disability duties. Full details of these are given in the Action Plan (See Appendix 1).

10. Timescale for the implementation of the action measures

- 10.1 The Action Plan at Appendix 1 outlines the actions and the timescales for the implementation of the action measures we intend to take in order to promote positive attitudes towards disabled people and to encourage the participation of disabled people in public life. This timetable outlines the actions, which Belfast City Council will take until March 2025.

11. Performance indicators or targets

- 11.1 Belfast City Council is committed to monitoring and reviewing policies and practices to ensure that disability equality duties are being met. Monitoring the progress of this Plan is a significant element of achieving that.
- 11.2 As part of this process, the annual review of the Plan will contribute towards the monitoring and review process and assist in drafting appropriate targets and performance indicators for the next period, whilst reporting on the achievement, or otherwise, of those set for the current period of the annual review.

12. How the Disability Action Plan will be published

- 12.1 Following submission to the Equality Commission for Northern Ireland, this Plan will be available by contacting the Equality & Diversity Unit.
- 12.2 Belfast City Council will communicate the Plan appropriately. The Plan will be produced in clear print and plain language and will be available in alternative formats upon request.
- 12.3 The Plan will be promoted through meeting directly with disability organisations and representative groups.
- 12.4 We will follow the guidelines set out by the council's accessible communications guide.

Appendix 1

Disability Action Plan 2022 – 2025

Strategic priority	Outcomes	Action Measures	Timescale	Responsibility	Performance Indicators
Strategic Priority 1 Encouraging the participation of disabled people in public life	Feedback encouraged from disabled people and their representative groups in how we can encourage greater participation by disabled people in public life and we can prove that we act on this feedback	Review membership of Equality Consultative Forum (ECF) and increase representation of disabled people and representing organisations	2023	Equality & Diversity Unit	New ECF Terms of Reference established % attendance at each meeting from cross section of disability organisations/individuals % of staff/members who understand purpose of the ECF and find it useful Effective feedback mechanism established, and used by members
	Feedback encouraged from disabled people and their representative groups in how we can encourage greater participation by disabled people in public life and we can prove that we act on this feedback	Arrange a minimum of 3 Forum meetings per year and additional meetings as required	Every year	Equality & Diversity Unit	Minimum of 3 Forum meetings held
	Improved opportunities for disabled people to engage with and influence policy makers	Carry out a targeted consultation to identify the potential impact of living in a rural area for those with a disability within the council area	2025	Equality & Diversity Unit	Report on the key findings and make recommendations as appropriate

Improved opportunities for disabled people to engage with and influence policy makers	The Disability Advisory Panel (DAP) to attend and participate in consultation processes	Every year	Equality & Diversity Unit	4 projects per year to receive advice and guidance from the DAP Number of changes made to policies/services as a result of their input
Improved opportunities for disabled people to engage with and influence policy makers	The Disability Advisory Panel to provide advice and guidance on various capital projects	Every year	Equality & Diversity Unit	A reduction in disability related complaints by 10% each year Disability Advisory Panel to meet at least 3 times per year
Improved opportunities for disabled people to engage with and influence policy makers	Discussion on the proposed development of a corporate disability communications policy based on advice from the Disability Advisory Forum and relevant stakeholders	2023	Equality & Diversity Unit Marketing & Corporate Communications	A corporate disability communications policy in place
Improved opportunities for Sign Language Users to engage with and influence policy makers and to educate employees	The Sign Language Users Forum to attend and participate in consultation processes	Every year	Equality & Diversity Unit	4 projects per year to receive advice and guidance from the Sign Language Users Forum Number of changes made to policies/services as a result of their input
Improved opportunities for Sign Language Users to engage with and influence policy makers and to educate employees	The Sign Language Users Forum to provide advice and guidance on various capital projects	Every year	Equality & Diversity Unit	Sign Language Users Forum to meet at least 2 times per year
Improved opportunities for Sign Language Users to engage with and influence policy makers and to educate employees	Discussion on the proposed development of a corporate Sign Language policy based	2023	Equality & Diversity Unit	A corporate Sign Language policy in place

		<p>attend VCSE (Voluntary Community Social Enterprise groups) Panel meetings.</p> <p>The VCSE Panel to be refreshed. We will ensure that the recruitment process is accessible to sector representatives with a disability and in addition, consideration will be given to engaging the sector as part of the VCSE Citywide network to ensure that the views of people with a disability are included as part of the community planning process.</p> <p>The Disability Advisory Panel will be asked to provide advice when required.</p>	2024		<p>Inclusion of representatives with a disability in the VCSE Panel</p>
			Every year		Disability Advisory Panel to provide advice when required.
	Disabled people are provided with appropriate support to enhance employability and obtain employment	The Disability Staff Network to provide support on future action planning	Every year	Human Resources	Disability Staff Network to meet at least 3 times a year

	Disabled people are provided with appropriate support to enhance employability and obtain employment	Identify opportunities to ring-fence certain BCC posts to long-term unemployed, including those with a disability and ensure any pre-recruitment and training programme caters for any reasonable adjustments	As and when opportunities arise	Human Resources	Consider suitability of campaigns for pre-recruitment and training programmes Ring-fence 20% of places available on pre-recruitment and training programmes to people with disabilities
	Disabled people are provided with appropriate support to enhance employability and obtain employment	Review recruitment process in respect of adjustments provided to applicants with autism and learning difficulties	2023	Human Resources	Types and number of recruitment and selection process changes successfully implemented
	Disabled people are provided with appropriate support to enhance employability and obtain employment	Consider all requests for reasonable adjustments as part of the selection process	Every year	Human Resources	% of reasonable adjustments requested, considered and provided
	Disabled people have the opportunity to find out about the range of job opportunities available and are provided with appropriate support to enhance employability and obtain employment	Participate in careers/employability activity targeted towards disabled people i.e. careers fairs, mock interviews, site visits, employability talks	Every year	Human Resources	Attend 4 events a year. This will be dependent on a full lifting of restrictions
	Disabled people have the opportunity to participate in work experience	Facilitate at least 30 work experience placements for people with disabilities Participate in annual job shadowing initiative promoted by NIUSE (internal)	Every year	Human Resources	30 placement opportunities facilitated, including three via the job shadowing initiative. This will be dependent on a full lifting of restrictions

Develop the capacity of the organisation to support staff with disabilities	Provide ongoing advice and support to employees in relation to reasonable adjustment requirements	Every year	Human Resources All Departments	Monitor number of reasonable adjustments requests and those subsequently provided Create database of types of reasonable adjustments made
Disabled people are provided with appropriate support to enhance employability and obtain employment	Identify opportunities to ring-fence certain BCC posts to long-term unemployed, including those with a disability and ensure any pre-recruitment and training programme caters for any reasonable adjustments	As and when opportunities arise	Human Resources	Consider suitability of campaigns for pre-recruitment and training programmes Ring-fence 20% of places available on pre-recruitment and training programmes to people with disabilities
Develop the capacity of the organisation to support staff with disabilities	Conduct a voluntary monitoring exercise and investigate how disclosure in declaring a disability can be encouraged	2023	Human Resources	Publish results from investigation /voluntary monitoring and make recommendations as appropriate
Disabled people who are considering starting a business are supported	Work with disability organisations to develop targeted outreach to encourage and support disabled people to consider enterprise and start a business.	Every year	Place and Economy	Number of events, attendees at events and referrals to business support

	Programmes and activities are promoted to persons with a disability through suitable mediums	Engage with under-represented groups via umbrella organisations to raise awareness of enterprise supports and put in place mechanisms to support disabled people access support programmes designed to help them start a business	Every year	Place and Economy	Hold 2 meetings per year minimum with representative bodies/stakeholder groups
	Disabled people are supported to access employability initiatives	Work with disability support organisations to address barriers to access to council interventions and increase engagement by those with disabilities. Provide specific adaptations/support to enable participants to take part in council employability initiatives	Every year Every year	Place and Economy	Number of yearly engagements held with disability organisations to promote new employment initiatives, mentoring support and work placements. Number of engagements with disabled people. 6 monthly retrospective measurement of participant numbers on disability focused employment initiatives
	Disabled people have appropriate support so that they can participate in the cultural life of the city on an equal basis	Deliver the Inspiring Communities theme which identifies disabled people as a priority area and removing barriers to participation to ensure all sections of the community engage with high quality culture, arts and heritage	Every year	Place and Economy	Deliver small capital enhancement projects that will increase access for disabled people to quality cultural product and experiences

	Improved opportunities for disabled people to engage with and influence policy makers	Consult and engage with Disability Advisory Panel in relation to the physical programme/ capital projects of the council	Every year	Physical Programmes	Number of changes made to policies/services as a result of their input
	Disabled people have appropriate support so that they can participate in the cultural life of the city on an equal basis	Review the temporary pavement café licensing scheme and associated guidance with a particular focus on its impact on disabled people and considering opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity	2022	Place and Economy	Level of complaints related to access uses at licensed Pavement Cafés
	City centre retailers are encouraged to support accessibility for disabled people	Engage with city stakeholders to put in place mechanisms to encourage businesses to support accessibility for disabled people.	Every year	Place and Economy	Number of stakeholders engaged/activities delivered.

Strategic priority	Outcomes	Action Measures	Year	Responsibility	Performance Indicators
Strategic Priority 2 Promoting positive attitudes towards Disabled People	Public attitudes to disabled people are more positive and negative attitudes are challenged	Facilitate biennial event on a current theme linked to council priorities e.g., International Day for People with Disabilities and Sign Language Week Evaluate feedback and develop an action plan to improve disability initiatives, where appropriate	Every year	Equality & Diversity Unit Human Resources	1 event held with external/internal press and communications Attendance by a wide range of relevant organisations and disabled people Feedback used to improve further events and future policies/initiatives
	Public attitudes to disabled people are more positive and negative attitudes are challenged	Effective partnership working with the British Deaf Association	Every year	Equality & Diversity Unit	Implement actions listed in the BSL and ISL Charter Action Plan in partnership with the British Deaf Association
	Disabled people can participate fully in all activities facilitated by the council and are encouraged to do so	Raise awareness of council's Disability Event Plan	Every year	Equality & Diversity Unit All departments	Number of completed event action plans received
	Disabled people have appropriate support so that they can participate in the cultural life of the city on an equal basis	Consult with internal staff and stakeholders to explore the introduction of appropriate communication tools for people with learning disabilities at customer centres e.g. City Hall, Belfast Zoo.	2025	Equality & Diversity Unit Human Resources Customer Focus	Number of communication tools for people with learning disabilities at customer centres. Deliver a JAM Card training programme for front-line staff Become an Autism NI Impact Champion

				Facilities Management	
	Disabled people have appropriate support so that they can participate in the cultural life of the city on an equal basis	Liaise with AccessAble to monitor provision of App for people with disabilities accessing facilities and services in the City of Belfast	Every year	Equality & Diversity Unit	Increased satisfaction accessing facilities and services in the City of Belfast
	Sign Language Users are aware of the availability of accessible communication and make use of it	Improve accessibility in contacting and communication for Sign Language Users	Every year	Equality & Diversity Unit Customer Hub Facilities Management GLL Marketing & Corporate Communications City & Neighbourhood Services	Deliver a Sign Language Video Relay Service and Video Remote Interpreting Service. VRS on website and VRI at Cecil Ward Building, Belfast Zoo, City Hall, Tropical Ravine and at all Belfast Leisure Centres Ensure a continued Sign Language Users App is available at all leisure centre reception points (via electronic tablet). Continue to ensure relevant GLL staff in each centre have been trained in the use and promotion of the service.
	Sign Language Users are aware of the availability of accessible information and make use of it	Develop an approach to translated Sign Language “welcome” information at identified council venues liaising with relevant departments on the installation and	2023	Equality & Diversity Unit Marketing & Corporate Communications	Installation of new screens in place providing information translated in Sign Language.

		procurement of new screens.		Physical Programmes	
	Sign Language Users are aware of the availability of accessible information and make use of it	To provide a clear description on website and City Matters of what services are available in Sign Languages to members of the public. This includes how to request documents/forms in Sign Language, how to request an interpreter/translator and how to call the council using SignVideo Relay Service.	2022	Equality & Diversity Unit Marketing & Corporate Communications Customer Focus	Accessible material is provided in Sign Language.
	Sign Language Users are aware of the availability of accessible information and make use of it	To expand the provision of Sign Language translation on popular pages on the website.	2024	Equality & Diversity Unit Marketing & Corporate Communications	Sign Language translated videos provided on popular pages on the website.
	Disabled people are aware of accessible communication within the council	To support departments in the consideration of accessibility to Council documents, services and facilities from a disability perspective	Every year	Equality & Diversity Unit Marketing & Corporate Communications	Several identified BCC online material and electronic documents to be produced in accessible formats

	Disabled people are aware of the availability of accessible information and make use of it	Increased provision of an accessible City Matters magazine for disabled people	Every year	Marketing & Corporate Communications	Audio version of each quarterly City Matters magazine produced
	Disabled people are aware of the availability of accessible information and make use of it	To promote Disability Communications tools on social media and the council internal and external websites.	Every year	Marketing & Corporate Communications	Several disability related articles to be shared on social media and the council's internal and external websites
	Disabled people are aware of how council services can support them Promotion of positive attitudes towards disabled people	Provide information to disabled people on aspects of council services which specifically affect them through a minimum of 4 articles per year in City Matters; minimum of 2 targeted information leaflets per year; accessible information on the council website Include articles related to disability and ensure photography of disabled people is included	Every year Every year	Equality & Diversity Unit Marketing & Corporate Communications	% of images in printed documents featuring positive images of disabled people Number of documents provided in alternative formats % of people who found the information relevant and useful assessed by appropriate evaluation tool

	Staff will be engaged, and awareness will be raised about particular disabilities	Include disability related information in staff e-briefings, staff newsletters/ magazines, staff meetings, email, intranet, internet (internal) Develop an annual disability awareness calendar and deliver associated awareness raising/ communication	Every year Every year	Human Resources Equality & Diversity Unit	% of internal communications documents which featured disability related information Calendar in place and awareness delivered
	A physical Customer Hub will be in place to offer 'digital assist' support	Ensure that digital platforms benefit all customers with a disability and disability stakeholders, including through assisting user with webform training and provision of computer facilities for public use where possible	Every year	Customer Focus	People with a disability will have access to a point –of- service supported on-line resource within the Hub.
	Council increases the level of inclusive/accessible communications so that disabled people can access information as independently as possible and make informed choices	Develop an approach to signage across Council facilities liaising with relevant departments on the installation and procurement of new Disability signage e.g., braille, tactile maps.	2024	Equality & Diversity Unit Physical Programmes Marketing & Corporate Communications	Accessible signage in place across Council facilities

Awareness of disability and the disability duties when compiling policies and making decisions will be increased	Deliver equality screening training based on an analysis of priority areas and job roles	Every year	Equality & Diversity Unit	100% of priority one and priority two staff identified are trained Increased understanding and use of appropriate screening tools and methodology assessed by audit of screenings carried out and staff feedback
Develop the capacity of the organisation to support people with disabilities, focusing on communication	Provision of Sign Language courses for employees	2023/24	Human Resources Equality & Diversity Unit	1 BSL course 12 employees (2 from each Department) to be able to communicate in Sign Language
Develop the capacity of the organisation to support people with disabilities, focusing on communication	Provision of specific targeted course to employees	Every year	Human Resources	Deliver 2 tailor made disability courses to employees
Develop the capacity of staff to ensure awareness of the legal obligations in relation to employment and service delivery	Roll-out Diversity Awareness training programmes for council employees: continue delivery of disability equality awareness training. continue to seek nominations from staff with disabilities to provide specific awareness raising session around disability. continue providing access to diversity e-learning programme.	Every year	Human Resources	Deliver 12 disability awareness training sessions to managers and employees Deliver 12 diversity awareness training sessions to managers and employees All new staff to attend training within 6 months of commencing employment

		continue delivery of classroom-based diversity training. identify and target awareness raising sessions on specific areas of disability; incorporate equality and diversity module into Tier 3 Training	2023		All Tier 3 Managers to attend Equality and Diversity module
	Develop the capacity of Members to ensure awareness of the legal obligations in relation to employment and service delivery	Include disability awareness sessions for Members in the Members Training Programme and include Disability Action Plan in the members Induction Programme Upload the Disability Action Plan to the Members Portal	2023 2022	Human Resources	Communicate outcomes of research and plan next steps if applicable Disability Action Plan uploaded to the Members Portal
	The capacity of staff/ volunteers will be increased to help them manage their own emotional health and well-being	Provide emotional health and wellbeing awareness training for staff (internal)	Every year	Human Resources	Deliver at least 4 Positive Mental Health training sessions % of staff who found the training useful
	The capacity of staff/ volunteers will be increased to help them manage their own emotional health and well-being	Provide training for managers in managing stress and mental health issues (internal)	Every year	Human Resources	Deliver 4 stress awareness training sessions % of staff who found the training useful
	Staff will be engaged, and awareness will be raised about health and wellbeing initiatives	Maintain dedicated health and well-being	Every year	Human Resources	Include monthly updates on Interlink

		page on Interlink (internal)		Marketing & Corporate Communications	
	Promotion of positive attitudes towards disabled people	Printed documents and brand campaigns to feature positive images of disabled people	Every year	Marketing & Corporate Communications	% of documents/campaigns which feature positive images of disabled people
	Improve awareness of disabled toilet facilities for people with disabilities	To promote and review disabled toilet access and engage with disability groups to encourage wider use	Every year	City & Neighbourhood Services	Report on the review of existing process and the number of stakeholder organisations engaged for 22/23. We have accessible changing and toilet facilities in all leisure centres
	Improve accessibility to Changing Places facilities across the City	To promote the Changing Places facilities across the City and review the existing process	Every year		Continue to increase choice of available Changing Places facilities across the city, now available in 5 leisure centres.
		To provide information and training (where necessary) to front-line staff about RADAR key, including its use and how to apply for it	Every year		Ensuring a continuing presence of Changing Places facilities are available on BCC and Changing Places website. We work with age friendly Belfast/community services, to promote the distribution of Radar Keys, with details all on the website. Also, with regards to the training of front-line staff, it will be part of the Hub knowledge base
	Improve social inclusion for people with disabilities	To provide more accessible and inclusive play facilities across the city.	Every year		Ensure the annual Playground Improvement Programme (PIP) provides more accessible and inclusive play facilities across the city. Existing sites are refurbished under the programme and will include a greater range of inclusive equipment. We are now planning for PIP 2022-23 which

					will deliver similar outcomes in terms of inclusive playground design
	Improve accessibility within shared spaces programmes	To deliver a physical programme under the PIV Shared Spaces and Services Theme	2023	City & Neighbourhood Services Physical Programmes	Construction of the Forth Meadow Community Greenway is estimated to be completed in 2022/23
	Persons with a disability are able to attend and fully engage in events and programmes delivered by council	Ensure that the Inclusive Events Checklist is completed for all events that are being held in council facilities	Every year	All Departments	% large events held with an inclusive events checklist completed
	Promotion of positive attitudes towards disabled people	Organise specialist training/workshop for Project Sponsors/Project Managers/APMs regarding the relevant DDA issues on capital build scheme	2024	Physical Programmes	Deliver one training session and further sessions if required % of staff who found the training useful



Subject:	Minutes of the Meeting of the Shared City Partnership
Date:	17th February, 2023
Reporting Officer:	David Sales, Director of Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Stevie Lavery, Programme Manager, David Robinson, Good Relations Unit and Debbie McKinney, PEACE IV

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

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

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of main Issues
1.1	To inform the Committee of the key issues discussed at the Shared City Partnership meeting held on 6th February and present the minutes for approval.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is requested to approve the minutes and recommendations from the Shared City Partnership Meeting held on 6th February 2023, including:
2.2	<p><u>PEACEPLUS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To note the high-level feedback from the Phase 1 Engagement stage, provide feedback and agree to issue the final report to stakeholders (PEACEPLUS – Phase 1 Engagement Report) in advance of a public meeting on 27th February at 2.00 p.m. in the City Hall

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the key milestones for Stage 2 development of the local action plan; and the updated timelines for Stage 2 which included an updated position from SEUPB that applications for the programme will open in April 2023.
2.3	<u>PEACE IV</u>
2.4	CYP Theme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To note the key project updates relating to: <p>CYP1 Tech Connects – Afterschool’s and Tech Camps (Giga) project closure is being progressed based on achievement of 119% of Lot 1 and 90% of Lot 2.</p> <p>CYP5 NIHE</p> <p>the anticipated level of achievement, the additional mitigations proposed and the next steps of discussions with SEUPB.</p>
2.5	SSS Theme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To note the approved project extension to 28th February 2023 with a 10% budget uplift for the Youth Civic Education contract with Youth Link.
2.6	BPR Theme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To note key project updates relating to: <p>BPR 1 - NIHE- Cross Community Area Networks level of achievement as outlined in the positional paper and the mitigations proposed to address under delivery.</p> <p>BPR6 - St Comgall’s - following further cross-community consultation, the amended Education Resources have been submitted. The resources will be considered by the Programme Board via previously agreed delegated authority.</p>
2.7	<u>GOOD RELATIONS</u> <p>Segregation and the Environment Research</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To note the report and the actions being taken to implement the recommendations in the research, including the provision already made within the previously agreed Good Relations Action Plan. To agree to publish and disseminate the report, Segregation and the Environment, after further internal and external engagement has taken place.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>The Shared City Partnership is a Working Group of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee consisting of Elected members and representatives from various sectors across the city. The minutes from the Partnership meeting are brought before the Committee for approval on a monthly basis.</p>
3.2	<p>The key issues on the agenda at the February 2023 meeting were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PEACE PLUS Update on the Development of the Local Community Peace Action Plan PEACE IV -Update on Secretariat PEACEV IV - Update on CYP Theme PEACE IV - Update on SSS Theme PEACE IV Update on BPR Theme Good Relations Segregation and the Environment Research <p>More details regarding the above issues and recommendations are included in the minutes of the meeting attached in Appendix 1.</p>
3.3	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>All financial implications are covered through existing budgets</p>
3.4	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>The recommendations of the Partnership promote the work of the Council in promoting good relations and will enhance equality and good relations impacts.</p>
4.0	Documents Attached
	<p>Appendix 1 - Minutes of the meeting of 6th February</p> <p>Appendix 2 - PEACEPLUS Stage 1 Engagement Report here</p>

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SHARED CITY PARTNERSHIP

Monday 6th February, 2023

MEETING OF SHARED CITY PARTNERSHIP HELD REMOTELY VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

Members present: Councillor Kyle (Chairperson);
Councillors McCullough, McMullan and O'Hara.

External Members: Ms. J. Irwin, Community Relations Council;
Ms. B. Arthurs, Community and Voluntary Sector;
Ms. A. Tohill, Good Relations, TEO; and
Superintendent Ford, PSNI;
Mr. A. Hannaway, NIHE;
Ms. O. Barron, Belfast Trust
Mr. M. McBride, Education Authority;
Ms. G. Duggan, Belfast City Centre Management;
Mr. P. Anderson, Department for Communities; and
Ms. A. M. White, British Red Cross.

In attendance: Ms. D. McKinney, PEACE IV Programme Manager;
Ms. N. Lane, Neighbourhood Services Manager;
Mr. D. Robinson, Good Relations Officer;
Mr. S. Lavery, Programme Manager
Ms. T. Hogg, Blu Zebra;
Ms. M. Curran, Locus Management; and
Ms. V. Smyth, Democratic Services Officer.

Apologies

Apologies were received on behalf of Ms. A. Roberts, Mr. S. Hamilton and Mr. J. Donnelly.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 9th January, 2023 were taken as read and signed as correct.

Declarations of Interest

Ms. B. Arthurs declared an interest in item 3(d) Peace IV Updates – BPR 5 Roma Projects.

Mr. A. Hannaway declared an interest in items 3(a) CYP5 Networks and (3d) – BPR 1 Cross Community Area Networks (CCAN).

Ms. A. Tohill declared an interest in items 2 PeacePlus and 3 Peace IV Updates.

PEACEPLUS

The Programme Manager provided Members with an update on recent activity with regards to the development of the PEACE PLUS 1.1. Co-designed Local

Community Peace Action Plan for Belfast. He welcomed Blu Zebra and Locus Management to the meeting who updated the Members on the following:

- Stage 1 report;
- Key actions for Stage 2 Development of the Local Action Plan;

The Members were advised that a Stage 1 final draft report had been completed and the report was currently being edited by the Council's Corporate Communications.

Ms. M. Curran, Locus Management, presented an overview of key findings and high-level feedback in relation to the overall key issues and challenges Identified which included: -

- The negative impact of poverty and deprivation;
- Perceived class and cultural differences;
- Disengaged young people;
- Dealing with trauma related issues;
- Mental health and wellbeing;
- The ease of access to and the impact of drugs on local communities;
- Impact of racism and increase in racist hate crime; and
- Criminality and criminal gangs.

High-Level Geographical Based Prioritised Issues and Challenges

- Negative impact of poverty and deprivation;
- Lack of understanding of and respect for others of different cultural backgrounds, religious beliefs, political views or ethnic backgrounds; and
- Disengaged Youth.

High-Level Thematic Based Prioritised Issues and Challenges

- Negative impact of poverty and deprivation;
- Lack of hope, ambition, and personal aspiration within our community; and
- Social segregation

Emerging Concept Proposals for Peace Plus Investment

Stage 1 engagement had resulted in a long list of potential initiatives for consideration for PEACEPLUS 1.1 investment. A summary of high-level concept proposals which was presented in the report is outlined below

Theme 1: Community Regeneration and Transformation

- Small scale investment in communities, including those with low capacity / community infrastructure, areas not previously engaged in Peace - community gardens, greenspaces, alleyway schemes, walkways, environmental enhancements, buildings / facilities, dereliction, shared spaces. Potential to align with a community capacity building programme.

- Regeneration/Creation/Extension of Green Open Spaces including Parks, Greenways, and wider green spaces,
- Embrace the river - strengthening connections from the city centre its surrounding communities – enhancing connectivity across and around the River Lagan.
- Focus on creating a liveable city centre – green space, play areas, outdoor living, safe space, vibrant public shared and inclusive spaces.
- Reimagining of derelict sites / buildings;
- Capital investment at Interfaces / Peace Walls;
- Community Hubs;
- Alignment of projects with Peace & Reconciliation capital scheme; and
- Urban sports facilities

Theme 2: Thriving and Peaceful Communities

- Community capacity building and mentoring programme in areas of weak community infrastructure;
- Transformative Leadership Programme (build on Peace IV model) – extend wider than interface areas;
- Single identity work with communities who had not previously engaged / had limited engagement with peace and reconciliation;
- Community arts programme (build on Peace IV model and community good practice) – cross community and intercultural;
- Skills and employability programme to address gaps in provision with a focus on e.g., work placement, resilience, skills, enhanced support, economically inactive, disability employment support;
- Shared spaces animation programme;
- Health and wellbeing programme in disadvantaged areas with a focus on mental health, resilience and addressing issues relating to current economic climate;
- Older people's initiatives addressing health and wellbeing, men's activities, inclusion of LGBT and ethnic minorities, intergenerational activity
- Youth programme(s) building on Peace IV model and focusing on, for example, disengaged youth, leadership, resilience, ambition and aspiration, civic responsibility, mental health, skills, employability, holistic support, LGBTQ, family focused activities, young people with disabilities;
- Sports programme promoting active communities;
- Church led cross community leadership / supporting vulnerable communities' programme; and
- Activities that build on / sustain cross community activity.

Theme 3: Building Respect for All Cultural Identities

- Anti-sectarianism programme;
- Anti-racism programme(s);
- Ethnic minority support programme – language services, employability, entrepreneurship, adult education, school education, youth inclusion and integration with a school's focus, leadership, social integration programme;

- Community festivals / events celebrating multi-cultural diversity;
- Parks - Animation Programme bringing communities together;
- Cultural heritage programme;
- Ex-prisoner programme (employment, family support, health and wellbeing, advocacy services); and
- Cross community confidence building programme / activities at interface areas.

The Members were advised that it was important to caveat that the parameters of PEACEPLUS 1.1 would not enable all issues reported during Stage 1 Engagement to be addressed. The Members were asked to note that:

- Not all issues would be eligible for support under 1.1;
- Some issues might be more appropriate for support under other PEACEPLUS measures and other funding opportunities;
- There was a finite budget which would require prioritisation of spend across 3 thematic areas;
- There was an indicative target of 17,437 participants engaged in PEACEPLUS activity, which would also necessitate prioritising projects that would meet this, and other selection criteria detailed in the SEUPB call document when it was issued; and
- Capital projects need to be realistic, sustainable deliverable, demonstrate value for money and aligned to PEACEPLUS objectives.

Stage 2 Development of the Local Action Plan

Ms. M. Curran informed the Members that work was underway to develop a detailed Stage 2 action plan and presented an update on key indicative milestones.

Timeline	Key Milestone
February 23	Finalise Stage 2 methodology and draft criteria for prioritisation of projects
27th February 23	Public workshop to initiate Stage 2 prioritisation process
March - June 2023	Facilitation of Thematic working groups to develop the action plan
June 23	Public workshop to finalise detailed project concepts
July - August 23	Develop Stage 3 formal plan submission
September / October 23	Action Plan submission
February/March 24	Letter of Offer received
Spring/Summer 24	Delivery of local action plan commences

Public Workshop 27th February, 2pm - 4pm, City Hall

The Members were advised that a public workshop would be held to kick start the Stage 2 process. At this workshop stakeholders would receive feedback on Stage 1 Engagement (and report) and the key steps to develop Stage 2 development of the Local Action plan.

The Members thanked Ms. M. Curran for the work that had been undertaken. Discussion followed and a range of matters were raised, including governance, the Green Agenda, multi-cultural inclusivity, building capacity and managing expectations. A Member raised time and resource challenges for delivery, and another Member spoke about shaping the collaborative process and the anticipated delivery outcomes of the plan. It was agreed that it would be important to include sectarianism as one of the key issues that could be addressed within the plan in the plan.

Members queried any potential conflict of interest if their organisation made an application to another PEACEPLUS investment area and their involvement in Stage 2 Co-design process. It was advised that this should not preclude any involvement in Stage 2 but this could be looked at as the work progresses. The Members were reminded that it was important that SCP members were involved in the Stage 2 co-design process.

The Members noted the contents of the report and:

- Noted the high-level feedback from Stage 1 Engagement and agreed to send the final report out to stakeholders in advance of a public meeting on 27th February at 2.00pm in City Hall;
- Noted the key milestones for Stage 2 development of the local action plan; and
- Noted the updated timelines for Stage 2 which included an updated position from SEUPB that applications for the programme will open in April 2023.

PEACE IV Updates

Secretariat

The Peace IV Programme Manager provided the Members with an update in respect of the Secretariat activity associated with the implementation of the Peace IV Local Action Plan. She advised that progressing closure of projects was the key focus, as well as supporting the delivery of activity for those projects that were continuing to March 2023.

The Members were assured that the closure process was robust and comprised of:

- The submission of a final report by the delivery partner;
- A review of deliverables and evidence of same by the Thematic Project Manager and Programme Manager;
- An On-the-Spot verification site visit (OSV); and
- An inventory checklist of monitoring data.

The Peace IV Programme Manager reported that on completion of all aspects, final project closure was confirmed and payment released.

She advised that On-the-Spot verification visits (OSV) for CYP4 Young Advocates and BPR5 LINCS and ROMA had taken place during January 2023.

Final clarifications were being progressed with CYP3 Transform For Change to enable final closure. The review of the final report for CYP1 Tech Connects delivered by GIGA was also progressing.

Discussions with SEUPB and planning for the Post Project Evaluation stage were also being progressed.

The review of data and discussions to establish the level of achievement and next steps for CYP3 On the Right Track, CYP5 Networks and BPR1 Cross Community Area Networks project had also progressed. Further detail was outlined in the Thematic reports.

Following the submission of the Period 32 claim to SEUPB, over £2.3m was now outstanding from SEUPB dating back to Period 29 February 2022. Concerns regarding this backlog had been highlighted to SEUPB and an indicative timeframe of the end of February 2023 had been provided for the reimbursement of 4 claims. Preparation for the submission of the Period 33 claim was currently underway.

The Partnership agreed to recommend to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee that they note the contents of the report.

Children and Young People

The Partnership considered the undernoted report.

“1.0 Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues

To provide the Shared City Partnership (SCP) with a progress report in respect of the Children and Young People’s (CYP) theme of the PEACE IV Local Action Plan.

2.0 Recommendations

The Partnership is requested to note the contents of the report and related appendices and recommend to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee to:

CYP1 Tech Connects – Afterschool’s and Tech Camps (Giga)

- **note project closure is being progressed based on achievement of 119% of Lot 1 and 90% of Lot 2.**

CYP5 NIHE

- **note the anticipated level of achievement, the additional mitigations proposed and the next steps of discussions with SEUPB.**

3.0 Main Report

Project Updates

3.1 CYP 1-TECH CONNECTS, GIGA Training (Afterschool's and Digital Arts Academies' Camps) (6-11, 12-16 yr. olds)

The final monitoring and evaluation data has been verified and the closure report has been reviewed by officers. The anticipated level of achievement is as below.

Sessions	Original Target	Revised target Business Case	Completed	Variance	% Achieved
Lot 1 - 6-11-Year-Olds	494	400	475	+75	119%
Lot 2 - 12-16-Year-Olds	365	400	358	-42	90%
Total	869	800	833	+33	104%

The on-the-spot verification visit is being arranged to progress the project to final payment and closure.

CYP 1 – TECH CONNECTS, Belfast Metropolitan College (Digital Insights Programme) (17-24 yr. olds)

With the approved project extension to 31 March 2023, Belfast Metropolitan College has scheduled a new cohort to start on 6 February 2023 at Girdwood and is planning sessions to be delivered over w/c 13 February 2023. Additional sessions are also scheduled at Girdwood and E3-Springvale Campus, in March, with 10 registrations hoped for each.

Belfast Metropolitan College is in the process of uploading participant registration details, which once reviewed, will provide up-to-date data on registration, attendance and achievement of target.

Total	104 from a target of 160 104 from a target of 110	56 remaining against original target of 160 6 remaining against target of 110
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3.2 CYP 2 – Playing our Part in the City

Members to note the project is now formally closed.

3.3 CYP3 – On the Right Track – Sports and Personal Change elements

As previously reported the achievement of targets within the remaining timeframe is highly unlikely and as such project closure is being explored.

To maximise the achievement of targets, sports clubs have been contacted regarding participation in Sports Leaders training which is being scheduled for delivery with Active Communities Network (ACN) in February 2023.

Outstanding evidence to confirm participation and ensure all participants are accounted has been identified and liaison with sports clubs on outstanding paperwork is progressing.

Preliminary monitoring data shows 812 registered participants with 581 completing the required 26 hours.

Total	581 from a target of 1260	679 remaining to achieve target figure of 1260. 231 registered but have not achieved hrs of engagement
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3.4 Personal Change – Delivered by Extern

Project closure is progressing with the further On-the-Spot Verification Site Visit scheduled for 31 January 2023.

Total	42 from a target of 42	0 remaining – Progressing to Closure
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3.5 CYP 4 – Cooperation Ireland (Young Advocates)

Project closure is progressing, the On-the-Spot Verification Site Visit took place on 24 January 2023 and further points of clarity are progressing.

3.6 CYP 5 – NIHE Local Area Network Partner Delivery

Discussions with NIHE to confirm the anticipated level of achievement took place on 12 January 2023. A positional paper detailing the target hours attained per participant with suggested mitigations has been submitted by NIHE. The Thematic Manager has conducted a detailed review of the paper and compiled a summary position as outlined in Appendix II NIHE positional paper. This is summarised further below:

CYP Summary of targets reported by NIHE 23.01.23		
	CYP5 Peer	CYP5-Core
Target Participant no:	200	104
No. noted (requires confirmed registered)	310	101
Target Hours	30	100
No. of participants completing achieved 70% or above of engagement hours	101	3
Level of achievement	50%	2.90%

Members are requested to note that additional mitigations proposed by NIHE are to lower the tolerance for achievement of contact hours to 60%. This will result in increased outputs for Core Participants by 13 (7 associated with the participant

transfer and 6 with the reduction in tolerance) and also increase the number of Peer participants by 20, as summarised in the table below:

Additional Mitigations Summary of targets - CYP		
	CYP5 Peer	CYP5-Core
No. of participants completing with mitigations applied – 60% contact hours	121	16
Level of achievement	61%	15.40%

Members previously agreed to delegate authority to the CYP and BPR Thematic Chairs and Programme Manager to review the achievement of target and progress discussions with SEUPB, which is currently underway.

3.7 Financial and Resource Implications

Following submission of the Period 32 claim in December 2022, claims totaling £2m have been submitted to SEUPB, with £1.665m reimbursed to date. As such £340K remains outstanding from SEUPB.

Preparation for the submission of Period 33 claims by 28 February 2023 is now progressing.

3.8 Equality or Good Relations Implications/ Rural Needs Assessment

The draft plan has been equality screened and discussed at the Equality Consultative Forum on 13 May 2015. The Equality Consultative Forum was further consulted on 18 November 2020.”

The Partnership noted the contents of the report.

Shared Spaces and Services

The Peace IV Programme Manager provided the Shared City Partnership with a progress update in respect of the Shared Spaces and Services (SSS) theme of the PEACE IV Local Action Plan. She reported that both the capital and programming elements of the Shared Space and Services theme were continuing to be implemented. Risks associated with delivery were highlighted in RAG Report (Appendix I).

- **Springfield Dam**

The public vote for the naming of the Bridge at Springfield Dam opened via the Council’s website on Wednesday 18th January with the 4 short-listed names for consideration:

1. The Cotty Bridge
2. The Foundry Bridge

3. The Seven Cygnets Bridge
4. The Spring Bridge

Votes can be cast through the link below, until the closing date of 15th February 2023. <https://yoursay.belfastcity.gov.uk/springfield-dam-bridge>

On closure of voting, the naming panel would be advised of the outcome with a further report which would be presented to members in March 2023.

- **PEACE IV Network Scheme – Capital Works**

Works at Section 2 were ongoing and whilst the recent bad weather affected some aspects, completion remains on course for June 2023. Planning permission had been received for works in Section 5 (West Link).

- **Signage**

A Council decision on the language approach for signage was being followed up as a priority, to enable the signage to be produced and installed before June 2023. The Members would be updated on any progress or outcomes.

- **Public Art Pieces**

Preparation for the installation of the flagship art piece was nearing completion with foundation work having been carried out on 17th and 18th January 2023. The long-term lease of the land was progressing with Council's legal team, and it was anticipated that final installation would be in February 2023, with a public unveiling mid-March 2023.

- **Programming**

Implementation of the programming aspects were progressing.

- **Shared History, Heritage and Identity Content / Narratives for Shared Space**

Deliverable targets	Targets achieved
300 individuals	257 recruited
51 narratives (3 narratives x 17 panels)	52 draft narratives
12 contact hours per participant	152 participants (68%) achieved over 10 hours 200 participants (89%) achieved 6 hours+.
Compilation document of all stories	A draft copy submitted for initial review.

As works were in progress in Section 2 (Springvale) and due to commence in Section 5 (West Link), the proposed narratives for information panels in these sections were currently being reviewed.

A draft compendium of the narratives had been submitted by the delivery partner and reviewed by the PEACE IV team. Suggested amendments regarding content, layout and branding were agreed at a meeting on 20th January 2023. A further draft was to be submitted. Completion and submission of the compendium was a key element to progress project closure and to final payment.

- **Resource Allocation**

Single Tender Action requests with the FMCG Volunteer Leads, for the interim coordination of volunteering, had been approved by SEUPB and were now being progressed with the delivery partners.

The quotation for a coordinated programme of activities / events had been issued to 4 competent providers, with a response date of 6th February 2023 and assessment planned for 10th February 2023.

The revised resource allocation support documentation was being reviewed and a call for applications would open for community groups / organisations along the Forth Meadow Community Greenway.

- **Shared Space Volunteer Training**

Deliverable targets	Targets achieved
Sustrans	
30 volunteers (15 Walk & 15 Cycle Leads)	27 recruited across 3 groups
Volunteer Now Enterprise	
15 volunteers (Local Ambassadors)	13 recruited
The Conservation Volunteers	
15 volunteers (Nature Guides)	12 recruited

Following approval of the STAs by SEUPB, the contracts for the interim coordination of volunteering were progressing with the above delivery partners.

Following the site-visit to Oxford Island / Lough Neagh Discovery Centre, with the FMCG Volunteers in November 2022, Shared Space and Services was linking with Sustrans, Volunteer Now and The Conservation Volunteers to plan a second visit to Cloughmills Community Action Team in February 2023.

- **Governance / Management Model**

Following the initial workshops and engagement sessions on the implementation of a suitable management and governance model during the week of 6th to 8th December 2022, the delivery partners visited the site and undertook engagement activities during the week 30th January to 3rd February 2023.

An initial steering group workshop with community stakeholders took place on 31st January 2023 and was followed by further discussions with CNS Senior Managers and Council Officers regarding the resourcing and coordination of activities and services. The Members would be updated on progress of the governance model implementation.

- **Youth Engagement and Civic Education**

Deliverable targets	Targets achieved
400 young people	271 young people registered from Nubia, Blackmountain, Glencairn, Forthspring, St Peters, Ballysillan, Clonard, Corpus Christi,

	GVRT, Holy Trinity, Malone College, St Genevieve's and Belfast Boys Model.
60 contact hours per participants	54 young participants have achieved 60+ contact hours.

The Members were requested to note that the Programme Board had approved a project extension to 28th February 2023 for the Youth Link contract, with a 10% budget uplift, which would bring the project budget to £176,000. This was to enable Youth Link to achieve the deliverable targets,

The project had 271 registered young people who had participated or were participating on the project, with registration documentation of approximately 50 additional young people to be uploaded, bringing the total target number to over 300 young people.

A celebration event with approximately 100 participants (schools and the older age groups) was scheduled for 9 February 2023 in Crumlin Road Gaol.

- **SSS Activities and Animation Programme**

As all the project supported activity had been completed, the project closure process was progressing with a review of the end of project report prior to processing final payment.

- **Financial and Resource Implications**

Following submission of the Period 32 claim in December 2022, claims for the SSS totalling £2.9m had been submitted to SEUPB, with £1.9m reimbursed to date. As such, just over £1m remained outstanding from SEUPB.

Preparation for the submission of Period 33 claims by 28 February 2023 was now progressing.

The Partnership noted the contents of the report and related appendices and recommended to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee to:

- Note the approved project extension to 28th February 2023 with a 10% budget uplift for the Youth Civic Education contract with Youth Link.

Building Positive Relationships

The Partnership considered the undernoted report.

“1.0 Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues

To provide the Shared City Partnership with an update on progress report in respect of the Building Positive Relations (BPR) theme of the PEACE IV Local Action Plan.

2.0 Recommendations

The Partnership is requested to note the contents of the report and related appendices and recommend to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee to:

BPR 1 -NIHE- Cross Community Area Networks

- note the level of achievement as outlined in the positional paper (Appendix III) and the mitigations proposed to address under delivery.

BPR6 St Comgall's

- note that following further cross-community consultation, the amended Education Resources have been submitted. The resources will be considered by the Programme Board via previously agreed delegated authority.

3.0 Main report

Key issues

As members are aware, projects are at various stages of delivery; some projects are completing, whilst activity is continuing with other projects. The status and progress of projects are outlined in Appendix I BPR RAG report.

3.1 BPR1 – Cross Community Area Networks (CCAN)

A meeting was held with NIHE on 12 January 2023 to discuss both BPR and CYP contract deliverables and confirm the final achievement for both projects. Subsequently NIHE has submitted the proposed finishing position for both BPR and CYP elements, as outlined in Appendix II NIHE positional paper. On review of the information provided by the Thematic Manager, a summary position for BPR is outlined below

BPR Summary of targets reported by NIHE 23.01.23		
	BPR 1 Core	BPR1 Peer
Target Participant no:	100	485
No. noted (requires confirmed registered)	173	291
Target Hours	120	26
No. of participants completing achieved 70% or above of engagement hours	26	159
Level of achievement	26%	32.70%

Members are requested to note that additional mitigations proposed by NIHE are

- 70% tolerance on contact hours
- to transfer participants from core group to peer
- merging hours for those that attended both core and peer sessions

This will result in 55 participants being moved to the peer group, with no impact to the achievement of core participants, although it will negatively impact the number of networks established. Applying the mitigations, the BPR position will be revised as summarised in the table below:

Additional Mitigations Summary of targets - BPR		
	BPR1 Peer	BPR1-Core
No. of participants completing with mitigations applied – 70% contact hours	26	214
Level of achievement	26%	44.00%

Members previously agreed to delegate authority to BPR Thematic Chairs and Programme Manager to review the achievement of target and progress discussions with SEUPB, which is currently underway. *As such members are requested to note the positional paper (Appendix III) and the expected level of achievement. The next steps are to discuss with SEUPB the next steps and viability of suggested mitigations.*

Members should also note that the request to extend West Belfast2 CCAN to complete the place shaping concepts was approved in principle, the details submitted by NIHE indicate there is no impact on contractual requirements for the consultants to extend. However, NIHE has advised they cannot commit to the number of participants that will attend these final elements.

3.2 BPR2 – Creative Communities Project

Project progress has been limited due to an unexpected resourcing issue. The position remains as previously cited, that 73 participants have completed 42 hours engagement, with an additional 27 participants due to complete by December 2022, although an update is pending. This will result in 100 participants completing from a reduced target figure of 144.

The new cohorts are agreed and comprise of the Short Strand Women's Group/Walkway Community Association and include participation from the Short Strand After School Club/Bloomfield Community Association, this will see in excess of 60 participants engage in an artistic output for these communities

The quotation for artist facilitator for the Short Strand cohorts has been progressed to SEUPB and Procurement concurrently for approval and pending approval will be released imminently. Members are requested to note that due to the tight timeframe for implementation, the delivery approach will be condensed

to maximise achievement of outputs by March 2023 and includes an overnight residential and 2-day trips.

The draft publications for 4 of the 5 creative clusters have presented by McCadden and are currently being reviewed.

3.3 BPR3 – Transform for Change Project

The project is in the final stages of closure. Data requested from NICVA was submitted on 19 December 2022, comprising of a final end report, partner meeting notes and ILM registrations for 92 participants. Confirmation of participants registered and achieving ILM accreditation is outstanding. NICVA is currently compiling the details, which will expedite the final payment and allow project closure.

S3 Solutions, the external evaluators for the Transform for Change project, submitted their first draft and this has been reviewed by the Thematic Manager. As such a further review meeting was held with S3 on 13th of January to discuss and agree the final version. This is expected by month end.

Target	Status
45 cluster reports	48 submitted
15 case studies	13 submitted
45 TLP courses	42 achieved
634 participants	592 completed

3.4 BPR5 – Supporting Connected Communities, Lincs Traveller and Roma

A celebration event for the three Supporting Connected Communities projects was held in City Hall on Monday 16th January with significant attendances and representation from the projects involved. The exhibition and demonstration of craft works completed was well received along with the speeches and feedback from the project leads. Further details are available via the link detailed below as Appendix III – Supporting Communities links.

3.5 BPR5 - LINCS Project

The LINCS on the spot verification (OSV) visit took place on 17 January 2023. Whilst most elements of the OSV were completed, an additional visit is required to review information and documents stored in a different location. The further OSV meeting is to be scheduled on submission of the final project report, which forms part of the closure process. The closure review of all project evidence by the Peace team is progressing

Target	Status
96 participants – to engage in 68 hrs of engagement	96 participants completed 68 hrs and over

1 Shared learning event per annum	3 achieved
2 Intercultural events per annum	14 achieved

3.6 **BPR5 – Traveller Project - Supporting Connected Communities**

Project activity has completed, and the project is progressing to final closure. An initial closure review has been drafted by the Project Manager and will be finalised along with final project report.

Target	Status
40 participants – Traveller and Settled Communities	32 completed 26 hrs or more 3 completed between 23-25hrs
200 attendees at community events	135 people attended 3 community events and 1 festival.

3.7 **BPR5 – Roma Project - Supporting Connected Communities**

The Roma project on the spot verification took place on 25 January 2023. The initial draft end report has been reviewed and returned with comments for update by the delivery partner. Resubmission will enable the final closure stages to progress. The closure review by the PEACE IV team is compiled, and all data is being verified to support closure and progression of final payment.

3.8 **BPR6 – St. Comgall's**

Members are reminded that potential equality issues associated with the educational materials were highlighted and discussed with the delivery partner. The delivery partner has reviewed and amended the materials and engaged in further cross-community consultation to address the issue. Outline content/ screengrabs of the exhibition material, which will be available online/ on tablet onsite, have also been submitted.

The revised materials have been submitted and are currently being reviewed. As agreed by the Partnership in March 2022 the material will be reviewed and approved by the Programme Board/SEUPB with a further report to members in March 2023.

The project is now progressing to closure with a final celebration event scheduled for 31 January 2023, 12pm, at the St Comgall's building.

Target	Status
20 core young people participants	27 completed target of 33 hrs
20 core adult participants	14 completed reduced target of 32 hrs

3.9 **Cinematography Project**

Filming of suitable opportunities to capture the Belfast Peace Journey is continuing. Filming was completed for the SSS Sculpture Artist in January and clips are being finalised for CYP3 OTRT short story, CYP5 Peer Mentoring and BPR and SSS Thematic Films.

3.10 Financial and Resource Implications

Following submission of the Period 32 claim in December 2022, claims for the BPR totalling £3.3m have been submitted to SEUPB, with £2.4m reimbursed to date. As such £965K remains outstanding from SEUPB.

Preparation for the submission of Period 33 claims by 28 February 2023 is now progressing.

3.11 Equality or Good Relations Implications/ Rural Needs Assessment

The draft plan has been equality screened and discussed at the Equality Consultative Forum on 13 May 2015. The Equality Consultative Forum was further consulted on 18 November 2020.”

The Peace IV Programme Manager agreed to follow up SEUPB claim reimbursements to the NIHE.

The Partnership adopted the recommendations.

Good Relations Update

Segregation and the Environment Research

The Good Relations Officer updated the Members on the research that was undertaken as part of the Good Relations Action Plan on the links between segregation and its impact on the environment and climate change.

The Members were reminded that as part of the Good Relations Action Plan for 2022/23, provision was made for the development of a piece of research to identify the links between segregation within the City and its subsequent impact on the environment and the climate.

In 2020, the Council had published its Resilience Strategy. In it, the Council sought to address the impact of segregation on the City's resilience capability. The full document can be found at: <https://www.belfastcity.gov.uk/Documents/Resilience-Assessment>

The relevant points in the Resilience Strategy to the issue of segregation included:

- The legacy of conflict had manifested in division which continued to directly impact on the city and to undermine its urban resilience;
- There are low levels of trust and elevated levels of residential, educational, physical, and social segregation; and

- Belfast contained the highest number of interface areas in the region with around 97 security barriers and forms of defensive architecture across residential areas in the city.

These points within the Resilience Strategy linked directly with the Good Relations Strategy, agreed by the Partnership in 2019, which highlighted that:

- Many people within our society still think of Belfast in binary terms - of a society made up of 2 communities – which influenced public service decision-making and had accentuated division in our society by duplicating services and hampering the connectivity between people and communities.
- Physical and psychological barriers between communities make travel around parts of the city difficult.

The Resilience Strategy highlighted that Belfast's resilience was weakened because, unlike other cities, it was not a socially cohesive unit. Yet cohesion and integration were critical in a crisis. Furthermore, separation reduced efficiency and wasted resources.

The Good Relations Officer explained that it was not a coincidence that Belfast's Resilience Strategy and its Good Relations Strategy had both prioritised 'connectedness' as a major problem to be solved. If Belfast was to thrive in the face of major challenges now and beyond it must be as a united, socially cohesive city. He added that the draft research report attempted to understand and demonstrate how segregation affects the city. It sought to explore some ideas for reducing segregation or mitigating its effect which in turn would have a positive impact on other policy areas, in this case, the environment, climate targets and improving Good Relations.

Key areas of context identified in the draft report:

- Segregation was loosely defined as those institutions, structures and behaviours, policies and decisions, that divide local communities or that perpetuate division.
- Many areas where people live in Belfast are mainly Protestant or Catholic. Many institutions such as schools were developed in a binary fashion where largely separate school systems separately serviced each of the main religions. Services were often developed in the same way. This process was made worse during the conflict;
- Some of these policy decisions were clear and provide striking examples of reinforcing segregation such as the erection of peace barriers across Belfast especially in the north and west of the city. These were constructed both after the start of The Troubles from the early 1970s and after the Belfast/Good Friday Agreement in 1998;
- Some of these barriers relate to less obvious aspects of public policy and provision that facilitate segregation such as where bus services are provided, housing or the impact of the construction of a major road such as the Westlink;
- This was a process not unique to Belfast or Northern Ireland. Roads and buildings were often regarded elsewhere in the world as a mechanism for separating communities, sometimes on race grounds and at other times socio-economic status;
- In these areas, air and noise pollution were amongst the highest in the city, and areas were vulnerable to climate risk such as flood risk, extreme heat, or lack of green space. A car dominance exists in these

areas despite up to 75% of households in some wards not having access to a car which in itself may represent a climate equity issue; and

- There was a correlation between the location of peace barriers and maps suggesting a relative or proportionate lack of green space. Areas with peace barriers were also the most heavily populated and the most disadvantaged parts of Belfast areas that were most affected by violence during the conflict.

The Good Relations Officer expanded on the following key points of note within the above context as detailed in the report.

1. The Impact of Physical Barriers
2. Housing and Education
3. Mobility
4. Belfast Climate Commission

The draft research identified 6 summary points:

- Policy implementation required agreement from all main political parties, and current political instability inhibits this;
- Duplication was a consequence of a binary approach to provision of services and ongoing tension (or fears) within and between communities results in more public buildings and a distortion of services including bus routes and other service provision;
- The most immediate manifestation of segregation occurred within the most disadvantaged communities in Belfast especially through the location of peace barriers but also in the physical appearance of those parts of the city;
- Environmental justice issues were relevant and contributed to the discussion over segregation. This included access to green space in inner city areas, the impact of roads such as the Westlink, and the engagement of minority communities including people from a minority ethnic background in decision-making on these issues;
- While resilience had been increased and the response to Covid had demonstrated the success of Good Relations initiatives, relationships between communities was still fragile and affected by ongoing political and cultural disputes; and
- The environment may well be an issue of common concern across and within communities, and therefore had the potential to be a focus for good relations projects that span the peace barriers.

The Good Relations Officer informed the Members of the 4 strategic themes emerged from the draft research:

- Recognise and reduce the **Segregation Impediment** caused by duplication, by reducing the carbon footprint of the city, adapting the effects of climate change, and increasing biodiversity;
- Identify where the **Security Architecture** still reflects the grimmest days of conflict, and work to remove or re-wild those locations;
- Identify issues of injustice in communities where the most disadvantaged across all backgrounds have less access to or engagement with the environment; identify where there are communities more vulnerable to

the effects of climate change and seek **Environmental Justice** remedies; and

- Acknowledge the role good relations plays in reducing division, encouraging an end to segregation, and an increase in cohesion and resilience in the city, with impactful **Good Relations** projects on a theme of the environment, climate change, and biodiversity.

This research had already influenced the forthcoming Good Relations Action Plan, with the development of programme BCC6, involving Young People in Civic Engagement and Strategic Priorities. This proposal would see the delivery initiatives that could improve the environment while also contributing to reducing segregation and improving Good Relations. In addition to this, the Good Relations team had been working with the Council's Climate Team to develop plans for other more strategic recommendations. Coupled with this, the joint Chair of the Climate Commission had established a working group under the auspices of Queen's University to look at how to embed Good Relations outcomes into Climate and Environmental action. This group brings together academics, representatives from The Executive Office, the Council and other actors to progress this area.

The Members thanked the Good Relations Officer for his comprehensive summary of the research report which highlighted the links between segregation, Good Relations and the environment.

The Members recommended to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee to note the contents of this report and the actions being taken to implement the recommendations, including provision already made within the previously agreed Good Relations Action Plan as well as further internal and external engagement. In addition, Members recommended to the Strategic Policy and Resources to publish and disseminate the report after further internal and external engagement had taken place.

The Shared City Partnership were advised that the newly appointed Good Relations Manager, Mr. G. McCartney would be taking up post on 1st March 2023 and would be in attendance at the next meeting.

Chairperson



Subject:	Seachtain na Gaeilge/Irish Language Week 2023
Date:	17th February, 2023
Reporting Officer:	Nora Largey, Interim City Solicitor/Director of Legal and Civic Services
Contact Officer:	Sarah Williams, Governance and Compliance 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"/>
Sometime in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee of proposed events in the City Hall to mark Seachtain na Gaeilge in 2023.

2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is asked to note and approve the planned events in the City Hall to mark Seachtain na Gaeilge in 2023.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p><u>Background</u></p> <p>Seachtain na Gaeilge/Irish Language Week is marked every year from 1st till 17th March. Prior to COVID-19, the Council marked this by hosting events for schools in the City Hall. COVID-19 necessitated online events and content in 2021 and 2022. These events were always well attended and the feedback from participants was always excellent.</p>
3.2	The Committee will also be aware that the Council's Culture and Tourism team is currently engaged in the development of a programme to celebrate language and develop a series of events to mark Seachtain na Gaeilge, as part of its Extended Cultural Programme which was initially agreed in February 2022 and more recently by the City Growth and Regeneration Committee on 8th February 2023.
3.3	Officers from the Council's Legal and Civic Services Department are responsible for developing the Council's Language Strategy Action Plan, in consultation with other Departments and are supporting the work being undertaken by colleagues in the Culture and Tourism team. As part of that support, it is proposed to hold at least two events in the City Hall to mark Seachtain na Gaeilge. One of these will incorporate the inaugural meeting of the Council's Irish Language Stakeholders Forum. Officers are currently engaging with stakeholders about this event and a precise date will be confirmed in due course.
3.4	<p>The details of other potential events are still being considered but, in line with the Council's Language Strategy Action Plan will be aimed at bringing the Irish language community into the City Hall, particularly school children. Members will recall the recent successful Ulster Scots events which took place in November 2022.</p> <p>The Committee is asked to note the proposed approach.</p>
3.5	Any events will be met through existing budgets as part of the Language Strategy Action Plan.

4.0	Financial and Resource Implications
	This will be covered by existing budgets.
5.0	Equality, Good Relations or Rural Needs Implications
	These events will support the Council's compliance with equality, good relations and rural needs obligations.
6.0	Appendices N/A

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Subject:	Late Requests for the use of Belfast Parks for Events
Date:	17th February, 2023
Reporting Officer:	David Sales, Director of Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Cate Taggart, 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"/>
Sometime in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	The Committee is asked to note that the Council has received a late request from the Shankill Old Boys Flute Band to host its "Bring Saint Patrick's Day Back to the Shankill" cultural event in Woodvale Park on Saturday 18th March 2023, from 11 a. m. to 3 p.m.
1.2	The Shankill Old Boys Flute Band, along with an additional 30 flute bands, will assemble in Woodvale Park and parade to Lower Shankill Road before returning to Woodvale Park for dispersing. The event will result in some disruption of certain sections of the Park.
1.3	The Committee is also asked to note a request for the use of Botanic Gardens as the location for the "It is different for Mummies" exhibition. The exhibition marks the 25 th Anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement and is described as an act of reparation for future legacy through acknowledgment. This request has had some back and forth to be able to accommodate the

	exhibition at the site on suitable dates and is the reason for this late request to this Committee.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • approve the “Bring St. Patrick’s Day Back to the Shankill” demonstration in Woodvale Park and the “It is different for Mummies” exhibition in Botanic Gardens, subject to the completion of the appropriate Event Management Plans and satisfactory terms being agreed by the Director of Neighbourhood Services and on the condition that the Event Organisers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ resolve all operational issues to the Council’s satisfaction. ○ meet all statutory requirements including Public Liability Insurance cover, Health and Safety, and licensing responsibilities; and ○ consult with adjoining public bodies and local communities as necessary.
2.2	The Committee is asked to note that the above recommendations are taken as a pre-policy position in advance of the Council agreeing a more structured framework and policy for ‘Events’, which is currently being taken forward in conjunction with a cross Council officer team.
3.0	Main Report
	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p><u>Bring St Patrick’s Day back to the Shankill</u></p>
3.1	The Shankill Old Boys Flute Band is a cultural and historical band which has been operating for 4 years. The Shankill Old Boys Flute Band event will be attended by an additional 30 bands and up to 2,000 – 3,000 supporters including the “West Belfast Orange Order” which is supporting the event. The attendees will assemble in Woodvale Park and parade to Lower Shankill Road before returning to Woodvale Park for dispersing. This event is a pilot scheme, with the ambition to deliver a vibrant cultural family Saint Patricks Day event for the local community the following year.
3.2	Organisers estimate that up to 3,000 people could be in attendance. Organisers will provide toilets, first aid cover and stewards for the event. Set up and assembly of bands will commence at 11 a.m., with the main parade leaving at 1.00 p.m. The event will be dismantled, and the site will be clear by 3 p.m.
3.3	The event will result in a period of closure for certain areas of the park to allow for safe set up and derig.

	<u>Is it different for Mummies?</u>
3.4	This exhibition is promoted by Relatives for Justice. It features Evanna Devine's work and is curated by Giada Tagliamonte. The photographs will be exhibited in Botanic Gardens from 1st April to 19th May. Relatives for Justice, which was founded in 1991, is a Belfast based human rights NGO operating across Ireland, providing holistic support services for the bereaved and injured during the conflict.
3.5	A total of 10 to 15 vertical portraits in large formats will be situated in a location within the park that is central with easy access to a wide range of audiences. OSS has agreed a suitable location directly in front of the Tropical Ravine.
3.6	The narrative: The photographer's lens captures moments of the subjects' mundane life, in the intimacy of their family home. Each of the women's loss is intrinsically troubling. Witnessing the murder of their own child, abduction, an explosion taking away all they had up until a fraction of a second prior... Whilst honouring the unbridgeable loss, this exhibition shines a light on profoundly personal stories of courage, strength and the sheer will to keep pacing ahead.
3.7	All images and narrative will be reviewed and approved by the relevant Council Departments prior to installation.
3.8	Belfast Photo Festival which has exhibited in Botanic Gardens for years is providing advice and assisting the Curator with the operational elements of the exhibition.
	<u>Financial and Resource Implications</u>
3.9	There should be no additional costs associated with these requests
	<u>Asset and Other Implications</u>
3.10	Council officers will liaise with Event Organisers and promoters in relation to any potential environmental impact from events.
	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u>
3.11	There are no known implications.
4.0	Documents Attached
	None

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Minutes of Party Group Leaders' Consultative Forum Thursday 9th February 2023

Attendance

Members:

Councillor Ronan McLaughlin (*for Councillor Ciaran Beattie*)

Councillor Michael Long

Councillor Billy Hutchinson

Alderman George Dorrian

Councillor Donal Lyons

Alderman Sonia Copeland

Councillor Mal O'Hara

Apologies: Councillor Fiona Ferguson, Councillor Emmet McDonough-Brown, Councillor Ciaran Beattie

Officers:

John Walsh, Chief Executive

Trevor Wallace, Director of Finance (for Item 1)

John Greer, Director of Economic Development (for Item 2)

Lisa Toland, Senior Manager, Economy (for Item 2)

Nora Largey, Interim City Solicitor/Director of Legal and Civic Services (for Items 3 & 6)

David Sales, Director of Neighbourhood Services (for Items 5 & 6)

Christine Sheridan, Director of Human Resources (for Item 6)

Cathy Matthews Director, Resources and Fleet (for Item 6)

1. Finance Update

The Director of Finance presented the Quarter 3 financial position for 2022-23 which would be presented to members at the February SP&R Committee. He outlined for Members the forecasted underspend for year end and noted that no reallocations would be considered until the year end position is presented to SP&R Committee in June 2023. He advised that Members would be kept updated on any proposed reallocations as they progress.

2. Entrepreneurship Support Service

The Director of Economic Development and the Senior Manager Economy provided an update for Members on the new model for business start-up and growth support which Party Group Leaders had previously been briefed on. The Director outlined for Members the proposed procurement strategy in relation to the programme and Members discussed some of the challenges and risks involved with some of the options previously suggested. He

advised that Legal counsel was being sought in advance of February SP&R Committee. A report on the detail discussed and an update on the legal counsel will be included in the report to February SP&R Committee.

3. Planning Update

The City Solicitor updated the Forum on the live planning applications and informed the Forum of applications that were being presented to the Planning Committee in the coming months.

4. Local Government Conference – 23 February 2023

The Chief Executive provided an update for Members on the upcoming conference hosted by the Northern Ireland Local Government Association (NILGA), which is to be hosted in Omagh on 23rd February 2023. Attendance at the conference for those Members appointed by the Council to NILGA was agreed at December SP&R Committee. Party Group Leaders noted the date and agreed to follow up with those Members appointed or their nominees in relation to attendance.

5. DfC Hardship Fund 2022/2023 – Correspondence

The Director of Neighbourhood Services updated the Forum on recent correspondence received by the Chief Executive from the Department of Communities (DfC) in relation to potential central government funding for a hardship scheme. Members noted that at this stage DfC was seeking feedback from each of the 11 Councils to ascertain if they would be able to put a scheme in place and if so, how they would potentially distribute the proposed funding. The Director stressed that the amount to be allocated to Belfast and the timescales involved in distributing the funding was still to be finalised by DfC. He sought the views of Members on how this potential funding might be administered including alternative options to the recent fuel poverty funds and outlined for Members some options around food poverty. There was a general consensus that given the recent support provided to households for fuel poverty that food poverty may be a more appropriate option, other options were also highlighted by Members. Members also discussed the recent challenges with the administration of the Emergency Fuel Poverty Hardship Fund and agreed that there was a number of existing food poverty delivery models that could potentially distribute the funding, the Director to follow up on capacity of these delivery model options. Further clarity will be

sought from DfC on the allocation for Belfast and further defined delivery timescales and a report will be brought to February SP&R for Members consideration.

6. AOB

Waste Collection – Public Holiday Arrangements – St Patrick’s Day 2023

The Director, Resources and Fleet provided an update for Members on the arrangements being put in place to ensure adequate staffing resources for bin collections for the upcoming next public holiday St Patrick’s Day (Friday 17 March 2023). She outlined the process to date and advised that a further update would be provided for Party Group Leaders week commencing 20 February 2023. In relation to a query raised by a member about subsequent bank holidays the Director of Human Resources advised that this process would commence following the next JNCC meeting in February. The Chief Executive advised that a report will then be presented to March P&C Committee outlining the arrangements to be put in place for the Easter and May bank holidays and members noted a review of arrangements will take place in the Spring.

Request for use of Council Premises

The Director of Neighbourhood Services outlined for Members a proposal to provide the use of a council owned community centre for a local community association due to recent circumstances that had arisen that resulted in the association having no premises at present. He advised that the community centre is currently used for storage purposes only and this can be accommodated elsewhere. A report will be brought to February SP&R Committee for consideration.

Disability Working Group Members

The City Solicitor provided an update for Members on attendance at the Elected Member Disability Working Group which was recently established. The City Solicitor to consider the possibility of an alternative time for the scheduled meetings and Party Group Leaders to follow up within their individual parties in relation to nominations/attendance.

Amalgamation of Fortnightly Payroll

The Director of Human Resources provided a briefing for Members on the consultation process which had concluded in December 2022 with Trade Unions in relation to amalgamating fortnightly payrolls. She outlined the legal advice received on the amalgamation process and the mitigations offered to assist staff who are being impacted as a result of the amalgamation. Members noted that both the Director of Human Resources along with the Director of Finance would meet with those staff affected by the amalgamation.

Illumination Request

The City Solicitor outlined for Members a request received from the Turkish Association of Northern Ireland to illuminate City Hall in light of the recent earthquake. A Member requested that it would also be illuminated for Syria. Both Illuminations were agreed to share our thoughts with people effected in Turkish and Syria earthquake. It was agreed both illuminations would take place on consecutive days as soon as there were available dates in February. it was noted that these requests would be agreed under the City Solicitor's delegated authority.

Waste Update

Councillor Long raised an issue in relation to the problematic parking of vehicles impacting waste collection routes and enforcement issues. The Director Resources and Fleet advised that a special meeting of the People and Communities Committee was due to be held on 22 March to discuss issues around waste collection to which representatives from both the PSNI and Department for Infrastructure would be invited to attend. The Director noted other issues raised by Members to also be considered at the special P&C Committee meeting including a proposed communications plan for consideration of Members.

Castle, Cavehill, Zoo and North Foreshore Steering Group

Monday, 6th February, 2023

CASTLE, CAVEHILL, ZOO AND NORTH FORESHORE STEERING GROUP MINUTES HELD REMOTELY VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

Members present: Councillor Whyte (Chairperson);
Alderman Rodgers; and
Councillors Hutchinson, Maskey,
McCullough, Nelson and O'Hara.

In attendance: Mr. J. Greer, Director of Economic Development;
Mr. A. Ferguson, Senior Development Manager;
Ms. S. Kalke, Project Sponsor; and
Mr. G. Graham, Democratic Services Assistant.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 28th November 2022, were taken as read and signed as correct.

Declarations of Interest

No Declarations of Interest were reported.

Access to the Hills - Presentation from ARUP

In the absence of the representative from ARUP, due to unforeseen personal circumstances, the Project Sponsor provided a brief outline of the project plan to develop improved access to the Belfast Hills.

The Project Sponsor stated that access to the Belfast Hills was a priority issue for the Council which had been supported by a previous motion to the Council highlighting the issue. She referred to the successful bid by the Council to secure funding from the DAERA Environmental Challenge Fund to undertake a feasibility study and deliver a comprehensive delivery plan for both the Belfast and Castlereagh Hills area.

She reported that external consultants (ARUP) had been appointed by the Council to facilitate that process. The Steering Group was informed that the work would be undertaken in two phases, with the first phase comprising a feasibility study in relation to access to the hills, including the identification of the various options around potential routes.

The Project Sponsor referred to a comprehensive stakeholder engagement programme which had been undertaken previously and stated that it was intended to have a further stakeholder workshop in February 2023. The Members were provided with a detailed analysis of the various proposed routes through the hills, which included an analysis of the physical topography associated with the proposed routes.

As part of the analysis ARUP was asked to identify both constraints and opportunities associated with the development of the various routes. The Steering Group was provided with a colour coded scoring matrix which identified those routes which provided the best development opportunities and potential benefits. The Project Sponsor stated that, following the completion of that process, ARUP would be required to provide a concept design for a number of the preferred routes, which would be submitted to DAERA, as part of a request for capital funding to progress the development proposal.

In response to a question from the Chairperson in regard to the timeline associated with the development proposal, the Project Sponsor stated that, after the priority routes had been identified and costed and after the stakeholder workshop had been undertaken, it was proposed that a funding application would be made to DAERA in the next funding round.

In response to a further question from a Member in regard to engagement with private landowners and in particular to ensuring that their livestock was protected, the Project Sponsor stated that to date engagement had taken place with public landowners and that engagement with private landowners to address their concerns would be required as part of the development process.

The Steering Group noted the information which had been provided and requested that a future meeting be arranged at the end of February in conjunction with the Chairperson to enable ARUP to provide a further detailed update on the Belfast Hills development proposal.

Zoo- Work (Verbal Update)

The Director of Economic Development reported that the Zoo continued to perform well and was above the projected five-year average in terms of visitor numbers. He stated that, while revenue had increased by approximately eight percent, operating costs had increased by approximately the same amount.

The Steering Group was informed of the success associated with some of the capital works undertaken, including the lion enclosure, scheduled to be completed by the early Summer of 2023.

The Project Sponsor added that the majority of the health and safety measures at the Zoo had been completed, including the erection of new enclosures and fencing. She stated that there was the potential for a small amount of funding to be secured to develop an art trail within the Zoo which would add to the artwork which had been completed previously.

The Steering Group noted the information provided by the Director and Project Sponsor.

Date of Next Meeting

The Steering Group agreed that its next scheduled meeting would be held on a date, as yet to be arranged, at the end of February 2023.

Chairperson



Belfast
City Council

Subject:	Requests for use of the City Hall and the Provision of Hospitality
Date:	17th February, 2023
Reporting Officer:	Nora Largey, Interim City Solicitor and Director of Legal and Civic Services
Contact Officer:	Aisling Milliken, Functions and Exhibition 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"/>
Sometime in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	This report, together with the attached appendix, contains the recommended approach in respect of each of the requests by external organisations for access to the City Hall function rooms received up to 3rd February, 2023.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is asked to approve the recommendations as set out in the attached appendix.
3.0	Main Report
	<u>Background Information</u>
3.1	<p>The current criteria for use of the function rooms used to review external applications is:</p> <p>Functions permitted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> functions which support other events in the City and which are of demonstrable economic benefit to Belfast whether organised by the Council or not;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • functions which demonstrably enhance the city's image nationally or internationally as a desirable commercial, business or tourist destination; • functions designed to celebrate or commemorate a notable achievement or significant anniversary (25, 50, 100 years) by an organisation or body with close links to the city or province; and • functions organised by recognised local community or voluntary sector groups for non-profit and non-political purposes.
3.2	<p>Functions not permitted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • conferences, meetings, seminars, performances, wedding receptions, private parties or receptions and similar booking requests in the prestige function rooms; • functions, which have as their principal purpose the generation of commercial gain for the organisers. Charity-fundraising functions are managed by the Lord Mayor's Office; • functions which have no compelling links to the council or the city specifically and which could instead use local private sector facilities; • functions which have as their primary purpose the advancement of any political or religious cause or campaign or are otherwise potentially contentious or involve significant reputation risks for the Council; and • functions which involve exceptionally large or disruptive set-ups or pose a real and tangible risk to the fabric of the building or grounds <p><u>Key Issues</u></p>
3.3	The existing revised criteria and scale of charges have been applied to the various requests received and the recommendations herein are offered to the Committee on this basis for approval.
3.4	The attached list covers 5 applications for functions, scheduled for 2023 and 2024.
3.5	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None.</p>
3.6	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications / Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None.</p>
4.0	Documents Attached
	Schedule of function requests received up to 3rd February, 2023.

FEBRUARY 2023 CITY HALL FUNCTION APPLICATIONS

NAME OF ORGANISATION	FUNCTION DATE	FUNCTION DESCRIPTION	CRITERIA MET	ROOM CHARGE	HOSPITALITY OFFERED	CIVIC HQ RECOMMEND
2023 EVENTS						
Consulate General of Spain (Edinburgh office)	9 March 2023	Spanish Ambassadors Reception to bestow the Order of Civil Merit on Honorary Vice Consulate. Numbers attending – 60 - 75	D	Yes - £115	No as group wish to bring traditional Spanish food	Approve Charge £115 No hospitality
Northern Ireland Football League	22 April 2023	NI Football League 10th Anniversary and Awards Celebration- Drinks Reception, Awards, Dinner and entertainment. Numbers attending – 350	C & D	Charge £825	Yes, Wine Reception as significant anniversary	Approve Charge Wine Reception <i>£500 given to their chosen caterer for wine on arrival</i>
Newhill Football Club	2 September 2023	Newhill Football Club 50th Anniversary Celebration- Drinks Reception, Awards, Dinner and entertainment. Numbers attending – 200	C & D	No Charge as charity	Yes, Wine Reception as significant anniversary	Approve No Charge Wine Reception <i>£500 given to their chosen caterer for wine on arrival</i>
Belfast Bible College	8 December 2023	Post-Graduation Reception – reception event to make the graduation and achievements of the students at the college. Numbers attending - 200	C & D	No (Charity)	No hospitality	Approve No Charge No hospitality
2024 EVENTS						
The Scout Association, Northern Ireland Scout Council	5 January 2024	Chief Scout's Award and Queen's Scout Award Presentation – 120 young people receiving awards and attending a reception.	B & D	No charge - Complimentary as Charity	No hospitality	Approve No Charge No Hospitality

FEBRUARY 2023 CITY HALL FUNCTION APPLICATIONS

		Numbers attending - 450				
Holocaust Memorial Day Trust	24 January 2024	Northern Ireland regional ceremony to mark Holocaust Memorial Day 2023 - a time for all to remember the millions of people killed in the Holocaust and subsequent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur. The event is the official Northern Ireland commemoration of the Holocaust. Numbers attending – 400 - 500	C	No (charity)	No hospitality (<i>funding provided</i>)	Approve No Charge No hospitality



Subject:	Requests for the use of the City Hall Grounds for Various Events in 2023
Date:	17th February, 2023
Reporting Officer:	Nora Largey, Interim City Solicitor and Director of Legal and Civic Services
Contact Officer:	Aisling Milliken, Functions and Exhibition 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"/>
Sometime in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
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1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	<p>To present to the Committee the following requests from various clients for the use of City Hall Grounds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action Cancer Breast Foot Forward Walk – 9th June, 2023 • Belfast One Film Screening – 15th and 16th July, 2023 • Pride Picnic – 22nd July, 2023 • Belfast Mela Carnival Parade Party – 19th August, 2023 • Shine – October 2023

2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. authorise the use of the City Hall grounds on dates listed above; and ii. authorise the events to take place on the basis of the submission of an event management plan and risk assessment to ensure delivery of a safe public events.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p><u>Background Information</u></p> <p>Members will be aware that requests for the use of City Hall are normally dealt with under the authority delegated by the Committee to the Director of Legal and Civic Services using criteria agreed for this purpose. Occasionally however, it is necessary to place such requests directly before the Committee and those in this report fall into this category.</p>
3.2	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>Several requests have been received for events over the spring and summer period and this report seeks to update the Committee on larger events using the City Hall grounds, due to the larger scale of activities involved it is deemed necessary to seek Committee approval.</p>
3.3	<p><u>The Proposed Events</u></p> <p>The proposed events would take place on the front lawns only and areas such as the Titanic Garden and Cenotaph will remain open to the public. Access to the City Hall building will not be affected.</p>
3.4	<p>The event would be free to enter. In each case, the organisers would be providing all stewarding/marshalling staff and first aiders and would of course have to comply with the usual conditions including indemnities for damage and submission of a formal event-management plan.</p>
3.5	<p><u>9th June 2023 - Action Cancer Breast Foot Forward Walk</u></p> <p>The Breast Foot Forward walk has taken place at the City Hall since 2014. It is Action Cancer's flagship fundraising event and raises circa £60,000 each year. The City Hall is the starting point for the event, with entertainment and warm up activities, before 800 participants take part in 5k or 10k walk around Belfast returning to the City Hall as the end point. This is an annual event in the City Hall calendar and has been delivered without incident.</p>

	<p><u>15th and 16th July 2023 - Belfast One Cinema Screenings</u></p> <p>3.6 This event aims to encourage people to experience the city centre shops and hospitality while they are in town. Organisers will be offering attendees information about potential offers provided our business members. Belfast One plan to show 4 films per day. Films early in the day will be aimed at young children and families and later films at a slightly older audience. All films will be rated appropriately. The event will be ticketed and access managed. There will be a big screen and audio equipment and additional entertainment by way of face painting and film props. Previous events in 2022 were very popular and were delivered without incident.</p> <p><u>22nd July 2023 Belfast Pride Family Fun Day</u></p> <p>3.7 This event would take place on the front lawns would include a radio roadshow, various performers on a stage, food stalls and children's attractions. The event would last from 12 noon to 5.00 p.m., although access would be required earlier and later in the day for set ups and strip downs. The event would be free and the organisers estimate up to 5,000 people would be in attendance. Previous event in 2022 and 2019 were very popular and were delivered without incident.</p> <p><u>19th August 2023 Belfast Mela Carnival Parade Party</u></p> <p>3.8 In 2022, ArtsEkta launched a new event as part of the festival titled 'Mela Carnival, a spectacular opening to the festival and begin a series of 50 events across a full week which will culminate in the traditional event at Botanic Gardens. The 2022 event was very successful and it wishes to host the event again this year.</p> <p>A 800-participant carnival parade will begin at Writers Square, proceed onto Royal Avenue into Donegal Place and end at City Hall grounds. ArtsEkta requests the use of the City Hall grounds for a free to access carnival party and celebration event for the participants, family/friends and wider audiences with stage entertainment, performers, food traders and carnival floats.</p>
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3.9	<p><u>14th October 2023 - Cancer Research Shine Night Walk</u></p> <p>The Shine Night Walk is a 10k walk around Belfast starting and ending at the City Hall. The grounds infrastructure includes stage entertainment, gantry, marquees and warm up activities for 700 participants. The event took place in 2022 and was very successful and well delivered by Action Cancer fundraising team.</p> <p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>There would be no costs for the council as the various organisers would bear any/all stewarding and equipment costs etc themselves. The utilities costs on the day are of a very minor nature and the normal event support in the form of electrical and water provision in the grounds will be provided.</p> <p>There are no concerns from an asset management point of view, although the organisers would be required to provide the usual insurances, indemnities, and obligations.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>There are no direct good relations, equality or rural needs implications arising from this report.</p>
4.0	Document Attached
	None



Subject:	Request for use of the City Hall Grounds – Belfast Photo Festival Photographic Exhibition
Date:	17th February, 2023
Reporting Officer:	Nora Largey, Interim City Solicitor and Director of Legal and Civic Services
Contact Officer:	Aisling Milliken, Functions and Exhibition 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"/>
Sometime in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
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1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	To present a request from Belfast Photo Festival for the use of City Hall grounds from 13th to 30th June 2023 to host a photographic exhibition. This is an annual exhibition which has been held in the grounds in previous years.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. approve the request for Belfast Photo Festival to use the City Hall grounds from 13th to 30th June 2023 to display a photographic exhibition as part of the Belfast Photo Festival; and ii. authorise the exhibition in line with similar events previously approved by the Council.

3.0	Main Report
	<u>Background Information</u>
3.1	Members will be aware that requests for the use of the City Hall are normally dealt with under the authority delegated by the Committee to the Director of Legal and Civic Services, using criteria agreed for this purpose. Occasionally however, it is necessary to place such requests directly before the Committee and the request set out below falls into this category.
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.2	A request has recently received from the organiser of the Belfast Photo Festival (BPF) to hold a photographic exhibition in the grounds of the City Hall from 13th to 30th June, 2023. The BPF is the visual arts festival of Northern Ireland and one of the leading photography festivals in the UK. Launched in 2011, the festival attracts 85,000 visitors across 24 city centre venues and is one of the city's major art events.
3.3	Each year, the City-wide festival includes the grounds of the City Hall as a primary location for both photographic exhibitions and other events. Previous exhibits have included the DeLorean Print Project in 2015 which proved to be very successful and brought a real spectacle to the City Hall lawns. In 2018 the exhibition looked at music and photography, 2020 exhibition theme "The Man Machine" shows 'speculative fictions' where artificial creatures, robots and other avatars interact with man in everyday life scenarios. The 2022 exhibition is 'Lockdown Collages' by Nico Krinjo featuring kitsch household items, ornate furniture, marble sculptures etc have been cut horizontally and later formed into vertical totems and weaved together the mediums of photography.
3.4	The theme for 2023 is 'Journey', focusing on photography's ability to capture and reflect the world around us, from journeys of self-discovery, migration and spiritual journeys. This exhibition focuses on Vasantha Yoganathan most renowned body of work, A Myth of Two Souls, which charts an epic 7-year journey across India, Nepal and Sri Lanka, charting a spiritual and personal journey. It will be its debut in Northern Ireland. There will be 24 images in all in the exhibition.
3.5	The exhibition would be installed on the West and East Lawn of City Hall grounds on 10th June and dismantled on 29th June, 2023. It would be free for members of the public to view daily, in line with the opening times of the grounds.
3.6	The Good Relations and Corporate Communications Units will review the exhibition images included in the proposal but presently no negative good relations implications have been

	<p>identified which should stop the exhibition being hosted at the City Hall. A copy of the exhibition proposal is attached.</p> <p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>3.7 There are no direct resource implications in terms of staff time or additional costs associated with this request and hosting of the exhibition.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>3.8 Good Relations will be consulted on this request and the exhibition content, but do not foresee any negative implications.</p>
4.0	Document attached
	2023 Exhibition Proposal

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BELFAST PHOTO FESTIVAL

Proposal for Belfast City Hall Lawn, June 2023

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- Winner: Arts Award for Excellence (2019 Allianz Arts & Business NI Awards)
- “One of the best photography festivals in the world” - Capture Magazine
- 100,000+ visitors in June 2021
- Working with 30+ partners in arts, culture & education to deliver the 2022 festival
- Winner: Best PR Campaign (2020 PRCA Dare Awards)



PREVIOUS OUTDOOR EXHIBITIONS



Since 2013, Belfast Photo Festival has been producing exhibitions and art works for outdoor display across the city, including the City Hall and Botanic Gardens.



2023 FESTIVAL THEME: JOURNEY

Page 328
Focusing on photography's ability to capture and
reflect the world around us



BELFAST PHOTO FESTIVAL

Proposed Exhibition: 'A Myth of Two Souls' Vasantha Yogananthan

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OUTDOOR EXHIBITION INSTALLATION

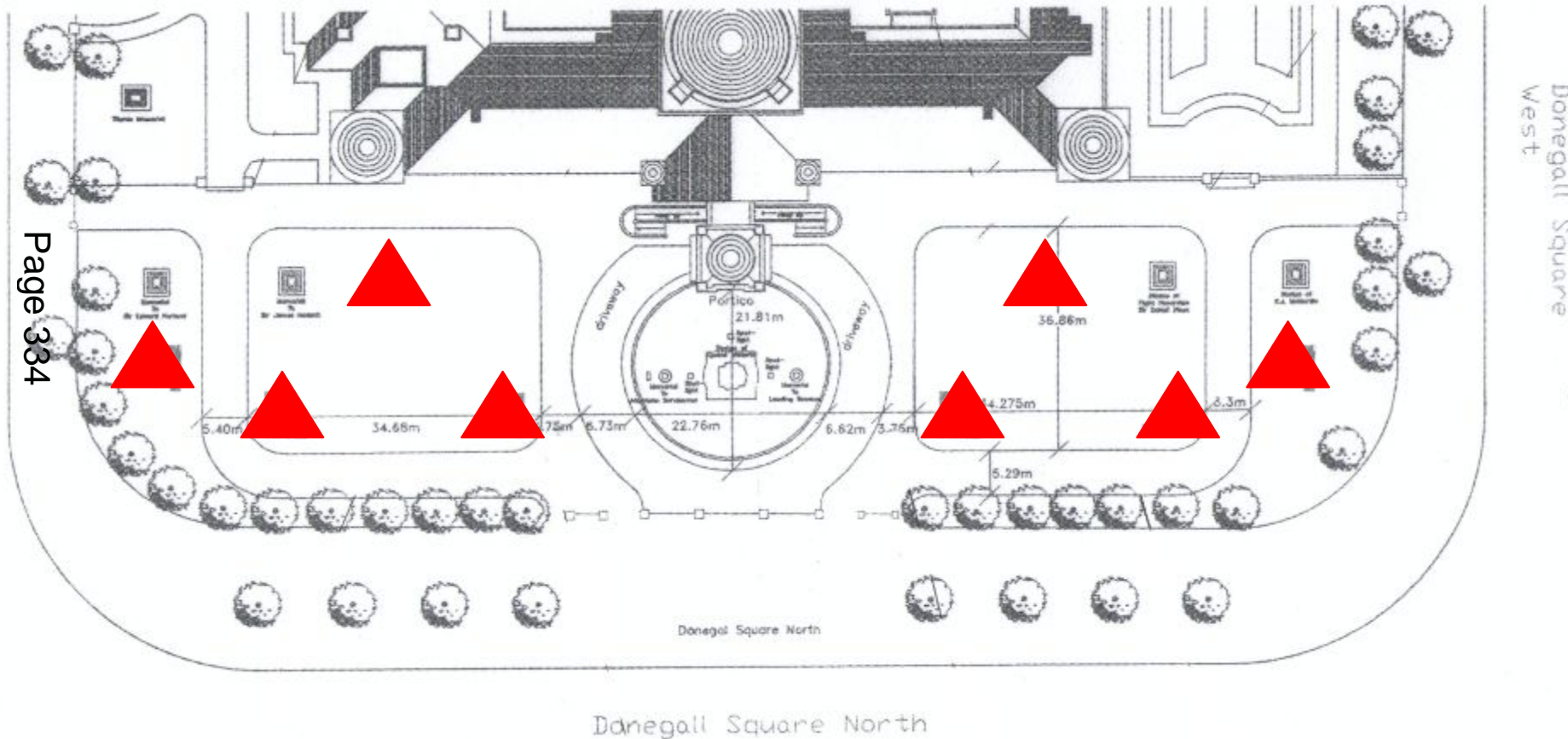
C-Bond Triangular Displays

Artworks: 2 structures of 1.5m wide x 2.5m high and 6 structures of 2.5m wide x 2.5m high (Three images per display unit)

Displayed as presented in these photographic examples showing the same method used in Queen's University, Botanic Park & Belfast Harbour.



PROPOSED EXHIBITION LAYOUT



Number of Triangular Display Units = 8 weighted displays

All-Party Working Group on the City Centre

Thursday, 26th January, 2023

MEETING OF THE ALL-PARTY WORKING GROUP ON THE CITY CENTRE
HELD REMOTELY VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

Members present: Councillor O'Hara (Chairperson); and
Councillors de Faoite, Long and McCullagh.

In attendance: Mr. J. Walsh, Chief Executive;
Mrs. C. Reynolds, Director of City Regeneration;
Mr. J. Greer, Director of Economic Development;
Ms. D. Kelly, Programme Manager;
Mr. D. Sales, Director of Neighbourhood Services ;
Mr. K. Heaney, Head of Inclusive Growth and Anti-Poverty;
Ms. K. Gilliland, Neighbourhood Services Manager;
Mrs. D. Smith, Neighbourhood Service Integration
Ms. E. McCullough, Neighbourhood Service Integration; and
Mrs. G. Boyd, Democratic Services Officer.

Apologies

An apology for inability to attend was received from Councillor Hutchinson.

Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were reported.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 2nd December 2022 were agreed.

Welcome and Introductions

The Chairperson welcomed Amy Lamé, London Night Czar, to the meeting and advised the working group of the reason for Ms Lamé's visit to Belfast, highlighting her focus on collaborative working with city partners. He then asked both Members and officers to introduce themselves to Ms. Lamé and they briefly outlined their role in the Council.

Overview Future City Centre Programme – Presentation

The Chief Executive thanked Ms. Lamé for taking the time to meet with members of the working group and proceeded to set the context. He advised that Councillor de Faoite had raised a notice of motion outlining Belfast's current position to consider a Night Czar for Belfast and he went on to outline what the Belfast has to offer as a city. Ms. Lamé thanked the

members of the working group for their time and said she welcomed the opportunity to forge strong links with Belfast as she believed they had a lot to learn from Belfast too.

The Director of City Regeneration outlined the plans for the Future City Centre programme and advised that it was reimagining and revitalising the city centre to create a healthy, shared, vibrant and sustainable environment where people want to live, work, visit and invest. The aim was to create a shared space that would intrinsically connect to, and support, surrounding communities, the wider city and region. She outlined the various elements that the team were focussing on, highlighting a number of 'game changers' that would help drive economic growth within the city centre. She went on to outline the six-pillar approach behind the FCC work and highlighted that behind each pillar were strands of work. She outlined a number of major developments within the City Centre that were in concept and planning stage.

The Director then outlined the plans for Belfast's newest tourism destination, Belfast Stories, and highlighted the planned location for Belfast Stories and what the hub would contain. She went on to outline a number of strategic acquisitions that included the site for Belfast Stories and detailed some of the delivery highlights achieved to date, including new active travel enabling infrastructure, Belfast Entries projects, along with many of the projects undertaken as part of the Covid Recovery effort.

Noted.

Belfast City Council's Role in the Night-Time Economy – Presentation

The Director of Economic Development gave a high-level overview of work that was ongoing to assist the revitalisation effort of the night-time economy and provided a synopsis of the work Belfast City Council had been taking forward to support the night-time economy. He outlined the governance, case studies looking to elsewhere, Belfast's purple flag status, pillars of a night-time economy strategy and alignment to current Council work strands and strategies. The Director outlined the challenges that businesses currently faced, including the availability of staff within the hospitality sector and provision of night-time transport links for residents. He added that Belfast was working towards a year of culture in 2024, where the focus would be showcasing what Belfast had to offer.

Noted.

Lessons Learned from London – Key Insights for Belfast

Ms. Lamé gave an overview of her background before being recruited to the post of the London Night Czar in 2016. As London Czar she said her approach was holistic in that she looked at every aspect of the city and those who lived, worked and leisured at night. She looked at how the city was used at night and said that the night-time economy could not be separated from daytime – it needed to be viewed as the economy. She looked at the cross-cutting priorities in the city, as well as how many people worked in the city at night, the transport links at night and the unique issues that faced cities at night. She outlined the challenges that she had faced, including changing perceptions of the city at night and working with partners to deal with the challenges, including ensuring women felt safe in London at night. She developed a women's night safety charter that had been adopted by other cities. She said this ensured consistency throughout the cities and she agreed to forward information on the charter for members of the working group to review. The Chairperson invited members

of the Working Group to ask questions and after discussion, he thanked the Night Czar for her presentation.

Chairperson

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STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCE COMMITTEE



Belfast
City Council

Subject:	The Coronation of Their Majesties The King and The Queen Consort
Date:	17th February, 2023
Reporting Officer:	Nora Largey, Interim City Solicitor / Director of Legal and Civic Services
Contact Officer:	Sandra Robinson, Protocol and Public Affairs 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"/>
Sometime in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	The purpose of this report is to outline a proposed programme to mark The Coronation of HM The King and HM The Queen Consort.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. approve the proposed programme of events over the bank holiday weekend of Saturday 6th May to Monday 8th May 2023; and ii. approve costs in the region of £25,000 to deliver this programme.

3.0	Main Report
	<p>Background</p> <p>3.1 The Chief Executive received a request from Councillor McCullough for the Council to consider putting in place plans to mark the Coronation weekend. Members will be aware that arrangements have already been made to provide an early May Bank Holiday on Monday 1st May, followed by a Bank Holiday to mark the Coronation on Monday 8th May.</p> <p>3.2 Buckingham Palace has announced details of ceremonial, celebratory and community events which will take place between Saturday 6th and Monday 8th May.</p> <p>3.3 The Coronation Service will take place at Westminster Abbey on Saturday 6th May. This is one of the designated days for flying the Union Flag by DCMS.</p> <p>3.4 On Sunday, 7th May, the Coronation Big Lunch will take place and will be overseen and organised by the Eden Project, funded by The National Lottery. Its aim is to bring people together to boost community spirit, reduce loneliness and support charities and good causes. A special Coronation Concert will be held on the same date.</p> <p>3.5 On Monday 8th May, members of the public will be invited to take part in The Big Help Out, which will encourage people to try volunteering for themselves and join the work being undertaken to support their local areas. This is being organised by The Together Coalition and a wide range of partners such as The Scouts, the Royal Voluntary Service and faith groups. The Big Help Out will highlight the positive impact volunteering has across communities.</p> <p>3.6 A Coronation Emblem, specially designed for this occasion, represents the rose of England, the thistle of Scotland, the daffodil of Wales and the shamrock of Northern Ireland.</p> <p><u>Proposed Programme of Events</u></p> <p><u>Saturday 6th May – Coronation Service</u></p> <p>3.7 It is proposed to erect a large screen on the west lawn in the grounds of the City Hall to provide a public space for those who wish to view the Coronation Service and ceremonial processions. In keeping with the community theme of bringing people together, a marquee will be placed on the east lawn to provide family activities through a programme of animation such as craft making and a photo-booth.</p>

	<p><u>Sunday 7th May – The Coronation Big Lunch</u></p> <p>3.8 It is proposed to host a Coronation Big Lunch at City Hall, to primarily acknowledge the role of volunteering across Belfast which will also reflect other themes of community and diversity. This community lunch would be informal in nature to provide a platform for local people to come together whilst encouraging communities in the city who wish to join in by holding events across Belfast.</p> <p><u>Monday 8th May – The Big Help Out</u></p> <p>3.9 Given the theme of this day, to highlight the positive impact volunteering has across communities, it is not proposed to hold any events at City Hall. Rather, it will provide the opportunity for Civic Dignitaries and councillors more generally to visit local areas to volunteer or see volunteering in action.</p> <p>3.10 The Committee is asked to note that local organisations can apply to the National Lottery 'Awards for All' to mark this occasion through its small grants programme. Projects are required to meet the priorities and eligibility criteria set out for this programme - http://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/northern-ireland.</p> <p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>3.11 All events will take equality and good relations implications into account.</p> <p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>3.12 The cost of delivering the council's programme of events is estimated to be in the region of £25,000, and will be met from existing budgets, if approved. Discussions are also ongoing regarding a potential contribution towards costs from external partners.</p>
4.0	Documents Attached
	None

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Social Policy Working Group

Tuesday, 14th February, 2023

MEETING OF THE SOCIAL POLICY WORKING GROUP HELD REMOTELY VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

- Members present: Councillor O'Hara (Chairperson); Alderman Copeland and Councillors Collins, Heading and Hutchinson.
- In attendance: Mr. J. Tully, Director of City and Organisational Strategy;
Mr. K. Heaney, Head of Inclusive Growth and Anti-Poverty;
Ms. C. Patterson, Inclusive Growth-Policy and Programme Officer;
Ms. L. Toland, Senior Manager - Economy
Ms. C. Hutchinson, Strategic Planning and Policy Officer;
Ms. N. Irvine, Enterprise and Business Growth Officer;
Ms. C. Sheridan, Director of Human Resources;
Ms. S. O'Regan, Employability and Skills Manager;
Ms. N. Bohill, Head of Commercial and Procurement Services;
Mr. C. Campbell, Divisional Solicitor;
Mr. J. Uprichard, Business, Research and Development Manager;
Mr. P. Brown, Universal Basic Income (UBI) Lab; and
Ms. V. Smyth, Democratic Services Officer.

Apologies

An apology for the inability to attend was reported on behalf of Councillor Murray.

Minutes

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

Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were reported.

Actions Updates

The Working Group noted the actions update report which had been circulated in advance.

Universal Basic Income - Feasibility Study Emerging Issues

The Senior Manager, Economy, provided a brief update to the Social Policy Working Group on the feasibility work which was underway into the development of a Universal Basic Income (UBI) pilot in Northern Ireland. She introduced Mr Patrick Brown from the UBI Lab who presented an update on the work undertaken. He thanked the Senior Manager and the team within Belfast City Council for the support provided.

The Members were reminded that, in September 2019, Belfast City Council had passed a Notice of Motion to support the implementation of a Universal Basic Income (UBI) trial in Northern Ireland. Similar Notices were passed in a number of other councils across the region, including Derry and Strabane District Council. In 2020, a steering group was formed to explore how this work could be moved forward. This steering group was coordinated by the UBI Lab Network, a global UBI advocacy movement with a local Northern Ireland group. A key area of focus was to move forward on a feasibility study to consider how a UBI trial would be planned, delivered and measured. This study would also identify the likely outcomes of such a trial and create a foundation on which a Northern Ireland-wide UBI might be delivered and resourced by the Northern Ireland Executive.

Mr. Brown advised that the feasibility study was due to complete in March, with the write-up planned for the summer months, the intention was that a report launch would coincide with the NI Executive sitting. A UBI calculator had been developed and economic modelling completed. Community outreach had been planned to trial the proposals; this would include communities in Belfast. Engagement was also planned with government representatives from the Welsh and Irish Governments along with officials from the Department for Communities (DfC). An invitation would be extended to Belfast City Council. He explained the parameters set around the modelling, which was based on monthly income top-up levels at £200, £300 and £400. A demonstration of the UBI calculator was provided which would allow individuals to assess the impact of UBI on their income levels.

In response to a query about the role of NI Government Departments in the absence of an Assembly, Mr. Brown clarified that in his view political leadership would be needed to move forward on a trial, as was the case in the Welsh and Irish governments which were currently trialling UBI for specific cohorts, those leaving care and artists respectively. However, DfC had shown interest in the work, attending the All-Party Working Group. Central government involvement would be essential, and the feasibility study had been designed to answer the queries Departments might have before embarking on a trial, which would be 2-3 years in duration. The potential for UBI as a tool to address poverty and inequality was noted.

The Chairperson thanked Mr Brown for his presentation and asked that slides be circulated to Members.

Noted.

Social Value Procurement Delivery Reporting

The Head of Commercial and Procurement Services (CPS) updated the Social Policy Working Group on the delivery of social value outcomes via open tender competitions awarded in accordance with the Council's Social Value Procurement Policy (SVPP).

Following the feedback from the December meeting of the Social Policy Working Group (SPWG), the report format had been revised for the period 1st December to 31st January for consideration. The Members were reminded that this report would be a standing item on the SPWG agenda and would then be taken to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee meeting for notation.

The Members were reminded that the SVPP was approved by Committee in April 2022 with a 'Go Live' date of 1st June 2022. SVPP was applied to any new applicable open tender exercises with approval dated from 1st June 2022.

Within this reporting period being considered by the SPWG, social value applied to 10 of the 27 tenders. As six tenders were below the £250k threshold only part 1 was considered:

1. Reserve the tender competition to a social enterprise/VCSE sector, taking into consideration levels of market competition; and
2. Include organisational behaviours – ethical procurement, environment and HR policies and procedures, taking into consideration relevance to the goods, services, works being purchased and relevance to the market.

The Members were asked to note that, from April 2023, for all tender competitions valued over £30k, the following be included (in addition to the above in Part 1):

1. Payment of the Real Living Wage by suppliers to their employees;
2. The prohibited use of zero hours contracts by suppliers; and
3. The inclusion of a social value weighting (10% or 15%) and scoring.

It was noted that this report would develop as the application of the SVPP was increasingly adopted and that the mechanisms to monitor and authenticate the delivery of the commitments relied on contract management arrangements, which would be supported by the Council's Procurement team. The delivery of commitments would be reported to the SPWG in future reports.

The Members confirmed the report layout was useful and provided the required information for consideration by the SPWG going forward.

Living Wage Accreditation Update

The Director of City and Organisational Strategy informed the Working Group on the outcome of the Council's application for Living Wage accreditation and updated the Members on the next steps of the process.

The Members welcomed the report and noted the next steps.

Belfast Business Promise Update

The Strategic Planning and Policy Officer presented an update on the Belfast Business Promise (BBP), referring to the slides previously circulated.

Internal training and awareness sessions have been ongoing across Council departments to raise awareness of Belfast Business Promise aims and to ensure a

consistent brand message, promotion and knowledge base across the organisation. The Brand and Marketing materials have been updated in conjunction with the Marcomms business partners, including a short video and the construction of the website. These would be important over the next year as the pilot goes live.

The resources to deliver on the BBP, progress with the CRM system, accreditation process and the emerging work on the development of the Promise 'offer' was noted. A significant level of engagement had been carried out with further sessions planned for February and March 2023. There had been a high level of interest with 10 organisations agreeing, in principle, to sign-up as early adopters. Key events such as the Labour Relations Agency conference on 22nd February and a strategic engagement event hosted by the Lord Mayor in March were noted as providing further opportunities to promote the BBP and encourage sign-up.

An overview of the indicative self-assessment of Belfast City Council's position against the BBP Pledges was provided. The Strategic Planning and Policy Officer explained that this provided an assurance to Members of the Council's ability to the BBP standard within 18-24 months. She reminded Members that work continued to refine and define the pledge criteria and assessment process for implementation and the Council would be subject to the full assessment and action planning process once the pilot goes live.

It was noted that a significant amount of work was in progress which would continue to require resource and effort to deliver on the commitments. There was also scope for the areas where gaps had been identified to be factored into these plans and strategies, for example, volunteering policy.

Clarification was sought on those signing up to be Early Adopters in terms of the scale of their workforce and procurement opportunities. The Strategy Planning and Policy Officer explained that there were a number of large private sector employers and further engagement was planned with the city's anchor institutes. However, the website and the pilot would be key to promoting the benefits of membership and providing the associated promotional/reputational benefits. It was agreed that the Council's position against the BBP would continue to be tracked and progress reported at the next SPWG meeting.

In response to a question, the Director of Human Resources advised that a Workforce Planning group was considering the various initiatives that could be used to support the Council to staff key roles, for example, waste collection. Employment academies were one example. An update would be provided to the SPWG at future meetings.

Noted.

Community Wealth Building

The Head of Inclusive Growth and Anti-Poverty provided an update and overview of Council interventions mapped against the core pillars of Community Wealth Building.

The Head of Inclusive Growth and Anti-Poverty explained that some areas of work were further developed such as Human Resources and the Real Living Wage accreditation, the work to support employability and skills, Social Value Procurement, Planning, Developer Contributions and the Local Development Plan process. However, there was more that could be done. He reminded Members that the levers and projects

delivering on community wealth building ambitions were being brought forward through the Council's approach to inclusive growth and would be central to it.

In terms of next steps, the Head of Inclusive Growth and Anti-Poverty stated that momentum was needed to embed and drive Community Wealth Building forward and the Belfast Agenda refresh was a key part of that process. He highlighted immediate next steps included reinvigorating the Procurement and Commissioning Working Group, mapping of Belfast's social economy to refresh the social economy action plan and the bespoke community management asset transfer pilots.

A Member commented on the importance of community wealth building being owned by communities, focused on working in co-operation with others to ensure that communities benefit from wealth. The merits of explicit reference to community wealth building and maximising the relationship with the Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES) as advisory experts on community wealth building were also raised. Assurance was provided that the relationship between the Council and CLES was long-standing and based on partnership working, recognising their role as a critical friend.

The Head of Inclusive Growth and Anti-Poverty clarified that the anchor institutions involved in the recent CLES procurement spend analysis process now included Belfast Harbour and Belfast Health and Social Care Trust along with the Council, South-Eastern Health and Social Care Trust, Queen's University and Ulster University.

Noted.

The Chairperson thanked Councillor Heading for his contribution to the Social Policy Working Group given that it was his last meeting as he would not be standing at the next Election.

Chairperson

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