

# Public Document Pack

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

19th April, 2023

## **MEETING OF THE STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

Dear Alderman/Councillor,

In addition to those matters previously notified to you, the following items will also be considered at the meeting to be held at 9.30 a.m. on Friday, 21st April, 2023.

Yours faithfully,

John Walsh

Chief Executive

### **AGENDA:**

#### **2. Restricted Items**

- (e) Summer Community Diversionary Festivals Programme (Pages 1 - 8)
- (f) Update on the Beacon Programme (Pages 9 - 14)
- (g) Community Support Programme (Pages 15 - 30)
- (h) Micro and Medium Grants 2023/24 (Pages 31 - 44)
- (i) Request for the use of Barnett Demesne and the Cenotaph (Pages 45 - 48)
- (j) Asset Management (Pages 49 - 56)

#### **4. Belfast Agenda/Strategic Issues**

- (c) The Planting of Several Trees to Celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III (Pages 57 - 58)

#### **5. Physical Programme and Asset Management**

- (a) Update on Area Working Groups (Pages 59 - 64)

**7. Equality and Good Relations**

- (a) Minutes of the Meeting of the Shared City Partnership (Pages 65 - 106)

**8. Operational Issues**

- (b) Minutes of the Meeting of the Party Group Leaders' Consultative Forum (Pages 107 - 108)

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

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<b>Subject:</b>	<b>The Planting of Several Trees to Celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III</b>
<b>Date:</b>	21st April, 2023
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	David Sales, Director of Neighbourhood Services, City and Neighbourhood Services Department
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Stephen Leonard – Neighbourhood Services Manager

<b>Restricted Reports</b>	
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"/>

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues</b>
1.1	To consider a request received from the UK's Trees for Cities organisation, inviting the Council to take part in the planting of several young trees to mark the forthcoming Coronation of King Charles III, as part of a UK capital cities initiative.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	The Committee is asked to approve the request from the Trees for Cities organisation to plant several young trees to mark the Coronation of King Charles III in May 2023, as part of a UK national capital city initiative.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	<u>Key Issues</u> On 11th April 2023, the Council received a request from Trees for Cities inviting it to take part in the planting of several young trees to mark the forthcoming Coronation of King Charles III.

3.2	<p>Trees for Cities is the only UK charity working at a national and international scale to improve lives by planting trees in cities. With over 25 years of experience in urban tree planting, Trees for Cities has been constantly working to highlight the multiple benefits of urban trees to improve people's lives in towns and cities. They specifically work with local communities and local authorities to cultivate lasting change within their neighbourhoods.</p>
3.3	<p>Trees for Cities is currently in talks with the Duchy of Cornwall who is supportive of the project to see trees planted in each of the four UK national capitals to mark King Charles III coronation.</p>
3.4	<p>Trees for Cities has secured agreement to plant trees in Cardiff, Edinburgh and London and their hope is that Belfast, as the capital city of Northern Ireland would also agree to take part.</p>
3.5	<p>The Trees for Cities charity recognise that its request does require a quick turnaround in terms of a decision, organising a suitable planting location and sourcing trees in such short notice.</p>
3.6	<p>It would be our recommendation to plant three 'heavy standard' ornamental, containerised trees which would be at a height of approximately 10' to 12' and an ideal location for the tree planting, would be within the grounds of Barnett Demesne.</p>
3.7	<p>This small-scale tree planting proposal would still add a small contribution towards the Council's ongoing 'One Million Tree' planting initiative.</p>
3.8	<p><b><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></b></p> <p>Funding for the tree supply/planting will be included within the current CNS tree planting budget and would cost in the region of £1,245.00 in total, as these will be larger trees and it will be necessary to purchase 'containerised' trees – these are trees which have been grown in a large pot and will have an adequate root system to establish quickly. It may also be possible to secure some external funding for this and officers will engage in this regard.</p> <p><b><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications /Rural Needs Assessments</u></b></p>
3.9	<p>None</p>
4.0	<p><b>Documents Attached</b></p>
	<p>None</p>



<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Update on Area Working Groups</b>
<b>Date:</b>	21st April, 2023
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Sinead Grimes, Director of Physical Programmes
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Shauna Murtagh, Programme Manager

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

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues</b>
1.1	To present to the Committee for approval the minutes of the most recent meetings of the Area Working Groups.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	The Committee is asked to approve the minutes of the meeting of the East Belfast Area Working Group of 30th March and the North Belfast Area Working Group of 5th April, as attached.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
	<b><u>KEY ISSUES</u></b>
3.1	<b>Area Working Group Minutes</b> It was agreed in June 2016 that the minutes of the 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 Committee is asked to approve the most recent round of meetings, as attached.</p>
3.2	<p><b>Project Updates</b></p> <p><b><i>East AWG – BIF Funding Allocation</i></b></p> <p>The East Belfast AWG agreed to recommend to the Committee the following reallocations to projects which had already been agreed in principle by the Area Working Group namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an additional £215,000 be allocated to Bloomfield Community Association [BIF13]; and</li> <li>• an additional £35,000 be allocated to provide additional storage facilities for sports clubs (Tullycarnet, Cregagh Wanderers, Nettlefield Multi-Sports and Bredagh GAC) [ELIF031].</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></b></p>
3.3	<p>A total of £250,000 will be allocated to the above projects from the monies available for reallocation from the Strand Arts Centre BIF project.</p> <p><b><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/ Rural Needs Assessment</u></b></p>
3.4	<p>None</p>
<b>4.0</b>	<p><b>Documents Attached</b></p>
	<p>Minutes - East Belfast Area Working Group 30th March</p> <p>Minutes - North Belfast Area Working Group 5th April</p>

# East Belfast Area Working Group

Thursday, 30th March, 2023

## HYBRID MEETING OF EAST BELFAST AREA WORKING GROUP

Members present: Councillor Long (Chairperson);  
Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor M. Kelly;  
Aldermen Copeland, Dorrian and Rodgers;  
Councillors Douglas, Flynn, Hussey, Maghie,  
McMullan, Newton and Smyth.

In attendance: Ms. S. Grimes, Director of Physical Programmes;  
Ms. K. Watters, Neighbourhood Integration Manager; and  
Ms. E. McGoldrick, Democratic Services Officer.

### **Apologies**

Apologies were reported on behalf of Aldermen Haire and Sandford and Councillor Howard.

### **Minutes**

The Working Group agreed that the minutes of the meeting of 12th and 31st January were an accurate record of proceedings.

### **Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of interest were received.

### **Physical Programme Update**

The Director of Physical Programmes reminded the Working Group that the Levelling Up bid for the Strand Arts Centre, which had been led by the Council, had been successful and as a result there was the potential for reallocation of some of the £1.8m which had been committed to the project under the Belfast Investment Fund. She advised the Group of the current overall project costs along with a breakdown of the proposed funding sources.

She highlighted that, as part of the overall funding package, funding was being sought from the Department for Communities and the National Lottery Heritage Fund but that this was not yet committed. In light of this, she advised that £250k of the BIF funding could be reallocated by the Working Group at this stage but highlighted that this figure would be subject to change in the future dependent on the allocation of other funding to the project.

She advised that further updates on the project and any further reallocation of funding would be brought to the Working Group in due course.

The Working Group agreed to recommend the following reallocations to projects which already had in principle allocations agreed by the Area Working Group, namely:

- additional £215k to be allocated to Bloomfield Community Association (BIF13); and
- additional £35k to be allocated to storage facilities for sports clubs (ELIF031) (Tullycarnet, Cregagh Wanderers, Nettlefield Multi-Sports and Bredagh GAC).

The Working Group also noted that a request had been received from the Sanctuary Theatre regarding support from the East Area Working Group and it was agreed that the Physical Programmes Department would undertake a visit and report back to the next Area Working Group.

### **Orangefield Pavilion Artwork**

The Working Group was provided with an update on the Orangefield Pavilion Artwork which included an illustration of the final design which had been designed with Adam Woods' family and various local groups. The Neighbourhood Integration Manager thanked the Members of the Working Group that had attended the co-design sessions with the group of young men and local artist.

She advised that the artwork would commence on 17th April and that the launch event would take place on 27th April from 6pm and welcomed the Working Group to attend.

She highlighted that the officers would continue to engage in youth work in the area.

Noted.

Chairperson



# North Belfast Area Working Group

Wednesday, 5th April, 2023

NORTH BELFAST AREA WORKING GROUP

HELD REMOTELY VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

Members present: Councillors Bradley (Chairperson),  
Councillors, Magee, Maskey,  
Murphy, Nelson and O'Hara

In attendance: Ms. S. Grimes, Director of Physical Programmes;  
Ms. B. Coyle, Project Sponsor Officer; and  
Ms. C. Donnelly, Democratic Services Officer.

## **Apologies**

An apology for inability to attend was reported for Councillors Cobain and Whyte.

## **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of 28th February were approved by the Working Group.

## **Declarations of Interest**

No Declarations of Interest were reported.

## **Presentation:**

### **Urban Scale Interventions (USI) – Update on Upgrade of Waterworks and Alexandra Parks**

The Director of Physical Programmes outlined the background to the meeting noting that the Council had agreed that the redevelopment of the Waterworks and Alexandra Park had been agreed as one of the Council's potential projects under Theme 1.4 of the Peace Plus Programme. She noted that the Council had engaged USI (Urban Scale Interventions) to assist with this work and that USI were attending today to outline the next steps. The Chairperson introduced Mr. J. Spencer, Partner, USI, to the Working Group and he was admitted to the meeting.

Mr. Spencer informed the Working Group that the Council had engaged USI to scope the development of a new vision for the Waterworks and Alexandra Park to provide better connectivity, integration and to develop a coherent and compelling vision for an ambitious community centred asset that aligned with Belfast's bold vision for the future.

He explained how USI had conducted desk research and engagement and outlined the four-stage process, which had been designed to open up new opportunities by engaging key stakeholders throughout the process and ensure design solutions were grounded in real

insight to have the maximum impact upon delivery and to serve the needs of the greatest number of people as possible.

He reported the initial insights through mapping assets, challenges, opportunities and stakeholders, and he provided creative examples from other major cities around the world.

Mr. Spencer referred to the key themes which had emerged from the initial desktop research and internal workshop, which were to be tested and refined, and he outlined the following next steps to the Working Group:

- Desk research and engagement planning;
- Online webpage and survey launch;
- Discovery workshop and site visit;
- Interviews and focus group discussions;
- Co-design workshop; and
- Final analysis and reporting.

During discussion, Mr. Spencer received a number of suggestions from the Members in relation to engagement with stakeholders and design considerations.

After discussion, the Chairperson thanked Mr. Spencer for his presentation and he retired from the meeting.

The Director of Physical Programmes thanked Members for their comments and noted that further updates would be brought back to the North AWG and SP&R in due course.

The Working Group noted the presentation.

Chairperson



<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Minutes of the Meeting of the Shared City Partnership</b>
<b>Date:</b>	21st April 2023
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	David Sales, Director of Neighbourhood Services
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Nicola Lane, Neighbourhood Services Manager Godfrey McCartney, Good Relations Manager

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

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues</b>
1.1	To report to the Committee the key issues discussed at the meeting of the Shared City Partnership held on 27th March.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	The Committee is requested to approve the minutes and recommendations from the Shared City Partnership Meeting held on 27 <sup>h</sup> March 2023 including:
2.2	<p><b><u>PEACEPLUS</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To note, the high-level feedback on the Peace Plus Programme, including an update on the <b>Thematic Group Meeting 1</b> – 22<sup>nd</sup> March – St Comgall's; and further updated on Stage 2 development of the Local Action Plan, including forthcoming Thematic Working Group meetings.</li> </ul>

## **PEACE IV**

### 2.3 **Secretariat**

To note the contents of the report and agree:-

- to delegate authority to the PEACE IV Programme Board to consider and agree the closure the position of projects, with final agreement by the Director of Neighbourhood Services, until the SCP is reconvened following the Council elections.

### 2.4 **CYP Theme**

- To note the contents of the report and note and agree: -
  - **CYP 1 – TECH CONNECTS, Belfast Metropolitan College (Digital Insights Programme)** - Agree in principle, completion of the project at the level as outlined and to progress discussions with SEUPB on any implications.
  - **CYP5 NIHE** - To note that the written return from SEUPB indicates that any additional request for mitigations to be applied to target hours, has been declined.

### 2.5 **SSS Theme**

To agree:

- the revised narratives for the information panels in Sections 2 and 5 subject to a plain English review and creative input (as detailed in appendix II).
- to note the suggested locations for panels and directional signage in Section2 (Springvale) and Springfield Dam / Park (as detailed in appendix III).

### 2.6 **BPR Theme**

To agree the following proposals:

- **BPR 1 - NIHE- Cross Community Area Networks** - note that SEUPB had responded in writing, to request for application of additional mitigations, stating no further mitigations are permitted.
- **BPR2 – Creative Communities Project** - agree in principle the level of achievement as 55% of participant targets.

2.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>BPR6 St Comgall's</b> - note the project is moving into closure phase. The project is submitting further evidence on completion of contact hours for 6 final adult participants.</li> </ul> <p>Delegate authority to the Thematic Chairs of the Programme Board to approve the final completer numbers for closure of the project.</p> <p><b><u>GOOD RELATIONS</u></b></p> <p><b>Quarter 4 report on the delivery of the Council's Good Relations Action Plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommend to note the contents of the report.</li> </ul>
3.0	<b>Main report</b>
3.1	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>The Shared City Partnership is a Working Group of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee which consists of Elected members and representatives from various sectors across the city. The minutes from the Partnership are brought before the Committee for approval on a monthly basis.</p>
3.2	<p>The key issues on the agenda at the meeting on 27<sup>th</sup> March were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update on PEACE PLUS – Local Community Peace Action Plan</li> <li>• PEACE IV Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Update on PEACE IV Secretariat</li> <li>○ Update on PEACE IV CYP Theme</li> <li>○ Update on PEACE IV SSS Theme</li> <li>○ Update on PEACE IV BPR Theme</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Good Relations Action Plan 2023/24 Quarter 4 Update</li> </ul> <p>More details regarding the above issues and recommendations are included in the minutes of the meeting at Appendix 1.</p>

3.3	<p><b><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></b></p> <p>All financial implications are covered through existing budgets</p>
3.4	<p><b><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></b></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>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached</b>
	<p>Appendix 1 - Minutes of the meeting of 27th March</p> <p>Appendix 2 - Revised narratives for the information panels in Sections 2 and 5</p> <p>Appendix 3 - Suggested locations for panels and directional signage in Section2 (Springvale) and Springfield Dam / Park</p>

## SHARED CITY PARTNERSHIP

Monday 27th March, 2023

### MEETING OF SHARED CITY PARTNERSHIP HELD REMOTELY VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

Members present: Councillor Kyle (Chairperson);  
and Councillor McCullough.

External Members: Mr. I. McLaughlin, Community and Voluntary Sector;  
Mr. J. Donnelly, Community and Voluntary Sector;  
Ms. A. Tohill, Good Relations, TEO;  
Mr. A. Hannaway, NIHE;  
Mr. M. McBride, Education Authority  
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. G. McCartney, Good Relations Manager;  
Mr. S. Lavery, Programme Manager;  
Ms. L. Dolan, Good Relations Officer;  
Mr. D. Robinson, Good Relations Officer; and  
Ms. V. Smyth, Democratic Services Officer.

#### **Apologies**

Apologies were reported on behalf of Councillors Bower and O'Hara and Ms. B. Arthurs and Mr. W. Naeem.

#### **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of 6th March, 2023 were taken as read and signed as correct.

#### **Declarations of Interest**

Ms. A. Tohill declared an interest in Item 2 PEACE PLUS and item 3 Peace IV updates and left the meeting whilst the items were under consideration.

#### **Update on Peace PLUS (Verbal Update)**

The Programme Manager provided the Members with a verbal update on the development of the PEACE PLUS 1.1. Co-designed Local Community Peace Action Plan for Belfast.

The Programme Manager informed the Members that there had been approximately 65-70 participants at the event held on 27th March at St Comgall's during which there had been positive engagement across the 3 priority themes. During the event the participants were provided with information on the parameters, proposed

process and constraints including the significant detail that SEUPB will require for inclusion in the local action plan submission.

With regards to Theme 1, Community Regeneration and Transformation, which will be the capital element of the plan, the Programme Manager reported that some participants had a lack of understanding in terms of what the process was for prioritising projects to be included in any submission to SEUPB. Some participants thought that local groups could apply for small scale capital funding as part of this process. At the Theme 1 session, participants were informed that the Council would make a submission to SEUPB and, following feedback from Stage 1, it was likely that 4-5 projects would be prioritised at around £500,000 per project. They were also advised that this would not be an open call / expression of interest, but officers would undertake an assessment of potential projects already known to the Council, including those identified through Stage 1 engagement and within the parameters and principles that were agreed by the SCP, and those that would be required by SEUPB. While participants accepted the process, they did raise a number of points with regards to the co-design element of prioritising projects for Theme 1. It was agreed that the feedback received from participants had been taken on board and that there was work to be done with officers from the Physical Programme department in terms of the process for agreeing prioritised capital projects to be included in the Local Action Plan submission.

In relation to Themes 2 and 3, the Programme Manager outlined the 6 focus areas for Theme 2 - Thriving & Peaceful Communities and the 5 focus areas for Theme 3 - Building Respect for All Cultural identities. He advised that there had been good discussion and enthusiasm from the participants in relation to co-design process for Theme 2 and Theme 3. He updated the Members on the agreed process which was endorsed by those in attendance at the Thematic Working Group sessions. The Members were informed that work to develop detailed project ideas would continue over the coming months and further details brought back to the Shared City Partnership.

The Programme Manager stated that it was important that partners, including members of the Shared City Partnership, attended the next Thematic Working Group session on the 18th April in the Skainos Centre. The development of the Local Action Plan required input from a wide range of stakeholders to ensure alignment with current strategies, and to avoid duplication. It was agreed that officers would continue to engage with stakeholders, including the Shared City Partnership Members, to encourage involvement in the development of the Local Action Plan.

The Programme Manager explained to the Members that Delegated Authority was being sought so that the Director of Neighbourhood Services and Corporate Management Team could make operational decisions, which weren't expected to be significant, on behalf of the Partnership during Purdah and election period.

The Good Relations Manager added that the draft Local Action Plan would be submitted by September / October 2023 and would then have to go to the Department of Finance due to the £10m+ value.

Ms. A. M. White asked what support would be required. The Programme Manager advised that the Members had the knowledge and expertise required to work with groups regarding programmes of work e.g. Migrant Forum, and in the context of designing the Local Action Plan which would still have to go to tender.



A Member enquired about the spread of representation at the event on 27th March. The Programme Manager advised that the majority of the representation were from the community and voluntary sector across Belfast but also acknowledged that there were geographic gaps in the representation, but he was confident representatives would attend the upcoming event at Skainos in East Belfast. In response to a question as to whether thought had been given to the upcoming budget cuts, for example, Education, the Programme Manager made it clear that the Co-Design Local Community Area Plan was not replacing the European Social Fund (ESF) or any other funding that was coming to an end, it was to focus on PEACE and Reconciliation.

## **PEACE IV**

### **Secretariat**

The Peace IV Programme Manager provided the Members with a progress update in respect of the Secretariat activity associated with the implementation of the Peace IV Local Action Plan.

She advised that, as previously reported, the current focus of the programme was finalising project activity and progressing closure of projects. The status of the closure of projects was outlined in the PEACE IV Thematic Reports.

Due to the forthcoming election period, the Members were requested to agree to delegate authority to the PEACE IV Programme Board to consider the closure position of projects, with final agreement by the Director of Neighbourhood Services until the Shared City Partnership was reconvened. This was on the basis that clarification from delivery partners was required, as well as final closure positions to be agreed with SEUPB. An update report would be presented to the Partnership once reconvened.

As previously reported, the verification of claims by SEUPB was an ongoing issue. Whilst there had been some progress on the reimbursement of claims, the value of the backlog of claims was approximately £3.4m. The Members were advised that, to ease cashflow for the Council, an interim payment of £625k had been issued by SEUPB. The reimbursement of claims would be offset against this payment.

The preparation for submission of the final claims for the Children and Young People (CYP) and Building Positive Relationships (BPR) themes, by the Letter of Offer end date of 31st March 2023, was also a key priority being progressed. The Peace IV Programme Manager reported that further resource issues within the PEACE IV team were increasing the pressure on the team. Discussions with Human Resources on options to alleviate the pressures were being progressed.

Expenditure across the programme up to Period 33 totalled £9.7m and reimbursement of £6.3m to date. Members were advised of indicative final claims for CYP theme of £250K, which would result in an underspend of £800K and for BPR the final claim is estimated at £500K, with an underspend of approximately £750K.

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

- To delegate authority to the PEACE IV Programme Board to consider and agree the closure the position of projects, with final agreement by the Director of Neighbourhood Services, until the SCP was reconvened following Council elections.

## **CYP**

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:

#### **CYP 1 – TECH CONNECTS, Belfast Metropolitan College (Digital Insights Programme)**

- agree in principle, completion of the project at the level as outlined and to progress discussions with SEUPB on any implications.

#### **CYP5 NIHE**

- note that written return from SEUPB indicates that any additional request for mitigations to be applied to target hours, has been declined.

### **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)**

Project closure is pending the submission of additional information associated with the final project report.

All IT equipment on loan to the project has now been returned by the delivery partner and is prepared for reallocation to local community organisations as previously agreed by the SEUPB, SCP and Council.

Members are requested to note the call for expressions of interest (EOI) to reallocate the equipment opened on 9 March and will close on 22 March 2023. Following

assessment it is anticipated the equipment will be distributed by end of April 2023. The EOI opportunity was advertised to CYP project contacts and on social media,

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

This project finishes on 31 March 2023, and the delivery partner has sought to increase on the contact hours and encourage participation during March by promoting sessions in Girdwood Community Hub as part of Festival of Learning.

Belfast Metropolitan College has indicated 165 participants registered on the project, with 128 completing the Insights workshop element. Based on the level of achievement of the contact hours, 44 students (40%) will complete the project, 32 achieving the required level of 26 contact hours and 12 achieving the 80% tolerance.

Members should note that outstanding monitoring data is yet to be submitted and the closure requirements are to be completed to enable final closure of the project.

Members are requested to agree in principle, the completion of the project at the level as outlined above and to agree the Secretariat should progress discussions with SEUPB on any implications.

Total	44 from a revised target of 110	66 less than target figure.
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**3.3 CYP3 – On the Right Track – Sports and Personal Change elements**

Discussions with ACN on the levels of achievement of the accredited training element for OCN, VRQ and Sports Leaders have progressed.

The Leisure Department is undertaking a final reconciliation of participation, as such current indications are 666 participants completing the required contact hours, with 103 of these participants having completed an additional Sports Leaders Award.

Total	Estimated 666 from a target of 1260 103 sports leaders from a target of 160
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On completion of the reconciliation, final closure based on the level of achievement outlined above will progress.

### 3.4 Personal Change – Delivered by Extern

As previously report final closure and payment are now progressing.

Total	43 from a target of 42	0 remaining – Progressing to Closure
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### 3.5 CYP 4 – Cooperation Ireland (Young Advocates)

The additional clarification outstanding from the On-the-Spot Verification Site Visit has been submitted and is being reviewed by the Secretariat to enable final closure and payment to progress.

Total	87 from a target of 80	+ 7 achieved – Progressing to closure
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### 3.6 CYP 5 – NIHE Local Area Network Partner Delivery

Members are requested to note that SEUPB has advised that further project mitigations, from those presented in the 2022 Business Case, will not be considered.

As such the level of achievement across the project is 25% as outlined below:

	Core	Peer	% of targets achieved	Final position	Previously % with mitigations
CYP 5	3/104	73/200	76/304	no mitigations applied	179/304
	Target Hrs 100	Target Hrs 24	25%	25% of CYP target hrs achieved	59%

NIHE has been advised of the above position.

The final position relating to the financial implications of the level of achievement is to be confirmed in writing from SEUPB before actioning.

### 3.7 Financial and Resource Implications

Claims up to Period 33 totalling £2m have been submitted to SEUPB and approximately £1.7m has been reimbursed to date. Reimbursement of NIHE claims for Period 30 and 31 has just been received from SEUPB. As such £270K remains outstanding from SEUPB.

### 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 Peace IV Programme Manager advised that discussions with SEUPB was scheduled regarding the mitigations and potential implications of the NIHE achievement. The Members were requested to note that as reimbursement to NIHE was on a claims basis of real costs, as incurred for both CYP5 and BPR1, discussions would focus on no implications being applied. A Member questioned the level of achievement in relation to the Housing Executive projects. The Peace IV Programme Manager explained that the duration of the projects, changes of NIHE staff and Covid-19 had a negative impact on the projects in terms of engagement with the groups involved.

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

### **CYP 1 – TECH CONNECTS, Belfast Metropolitan College (Digital Insights Programme)**

- Agree, in principle, completion of the project at the level as outlined and to progress discussions with SEUPB on any implications.

-

### **CYP5 NIHE**

- Note that written return from SEUPB indicates that any additional request for mitigations to be applied to target hours, had been declined.

## **SSS**

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.

The Members were reminded that the Capital and Programming elements of the SSS theme were continuing to progress, as highlighted in the RAG Report (Appendix I).

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

Works in Section 2 remained on track for completion by June 2023.

- **Signage**

A request for a 3-month extension to 30th September 2023 to enable a decision on the language approach and signage installation had been progressed with SEUPB. The request was to be considered by the SEUPB Steering Committee via written procedure, and SEUPB would advise of the decision in due course.

- **Public Art Pieces**

Production of the flag-ship art piece had been completed by the artist. It was anticipated that installation and unveiling of the artwork would now take place in late May / early June, which would align with the completion of works and official opening of the Greenway.

- **Programming**

Implementation of the programming aspects are progressing.

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

<b>Deliverable targets</b>	<b>Targets achieved</b>
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 final draft copy submitted for review.

Following the Members review and discussion of the proposed narratives for Sections 2 (Springvale) and Section 5 at the Shared City Partnership meeting held on 6th March 2023, the narratives had been reviewed and reworded by Mediation NI to reflect the Members' comments. The Members were requested to consider and agree the narratives for Sections 2 and 5, which would be subject to grammar, spelling and a plain English review. (Appendix II).

The Officers from PEACE IV and Physical Programmes carried out a walkthrough of Section 2 (Springvale) on 7th March, to identify possible locations for panels and suggested narratives. Springvale Park / Dam was also considered, as part of this exercise. The Members were asked to note the proposed locations outlined in Appendix III. The locations would be subject to agreement and advice from Council's OSS and Health and Safety Sections.

A final draft compendium of the narratives had been submitted by the delivery partner. The compendium would be based on the narratives already considered and approved by the SCP. The Members were requested to note that final approval of compendium would be progressed through the PEACE IV Programme Board.

- **Resource Allocation**

As reported previously, Artsekta had been appointed to deliver a coordinated programme of activities and events at each key section of the Greenway. A draft events plan had been submitted and reviewed by the PEACE IV Programme Board. The Programme Board delegated authority to the PIV Programme Manager and SSS Thematic Manager to review and finalise the event programme.

The Members were advised that a call for applications to a Resource Allocation to support local community activity along the Greenway opened on Friday 3rd March

and closed on Monday 20th March 2023. Applications would be assessed on Wednesday 22nd March, with the successful applicants informed shortly afterwards.

- **Shared Space Volunteer Training**

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

A second study visit, with volunteer Cycle / Walk Leads, Local Ambassadors and Nature Guides, to Cloughmills Community Action Team, was scheduled for Saturday 18th March 2023. The volunteers would tour the facilities and centre, learn about the services that were provided and meet and share learning with the Cloughmills volunteers.

- **Governance / Management Model**

Implementation of a proposed governance model was ongoing. The Members noted that the interim report on the progress to date and the proposed next steps as outlined in Appendix IV. The report was currently being reviewed by the Programme Board and Council’s Neighbourhood Services Managers.

During a site-visit to Belfast, week commencing 6th March 2023, MDL facilitated a joint discussion with the Community Stakeholders and Council officers on 8th March, around establishing a Fast-Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG) Advisory Group. MDL also met with the Neighbourhood Services Managers on 9th March, to further discuss the resourcing and coordination of activities and services along FMCG.

Further facilitated meetings for site-visit scheduled for week commencing 27<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

- **Youth Engagement & Civic Education**

<b>Deliverable targets</b>	<b>Targets achieved</b>
280 young people	386 young people registered from Nubia, Blackmountain, Glencairn, Forthspring, St Peters, Ballysillan, Clonard, Corpus Christi, GVRT, Holy Trinity, Malone College, St Genevieve’s, Belfast Boys Model and Youth Initiatives
60 contact hours per participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 278 young participants (72%) have achieved a minimum of 60 contact hours.</li> <li>• 360 young participants (93%) have achieved a minimum of 48 contact hours.</li> </ul>

Youth Link had provided the Monitoring and Evaluation documentation for the project which was currently being reviewed by the Secretariat. The project had progressed the completion of the final closure report, following submission project closure requirements would be progressed.

- **SSS Activities and Animation Programme**

As reported previously, Artsekta had submitted their project closure report, which was currently being reviewed, prior to a final payment being processed.

- **Financial and Resource Implications**

The Peace IV Programme Manager advised that claims for the SSS theme up to Period 33 totalling £3.5m had been submitted to SEUPB, with £1.9m reimbursed to date. Clarifications relating to SEUPB verification of outstanding claims had been progressed. The current value of outstanding claims was approximately £1.4m.

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

- The revised narratives for the information panels in Sections 2 and 5 subject to a plain English review and creative input. (Appendix II)
- To note the suggested locations for panels and directional signage in Section 2 (Springvale) and Springfield Dam / Park. (Appendix III)

## **BPR**

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 that SEUPB have responded in writing, to request for application of additional mitigations, stating no further mitigations are permitted.**

#### **BPR2 – Creative Communities Project**

- **agree in principle the level of achievement as 55% of participant targets.**



### BPR6 St Comgall's

- To note the project is moving into closure phase. The project is submitting further evidence on completion of contact hours for 6 final adult participants.
- Members are asked to delegate authority to the Thematic Chairs of the Programme Board to approve the final completer numbers for closure of the project.

### 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 Progress report.

### 3.1 BPR1 – Cross Community Area Networks (CCAN)

SEUPB has advised that further mitigations for the BPR1 project will not be considered, on the basis that the business case presented to SEUPB in 2022 outlined final mitigations.

As such no additional tolerances will be considered and the level of achievement across the project is 14% as outlined below:

	Core	Peer	% of targets achieved	Final position	Previously % with mitigations
BPR 1	10/100	73/485	83/585	no mitigations applied	239/585
	Target Hrs 120	Target Hrs 30	14.00%	14% of BPR target hrs achieved	41%

Members are asked to note that this has been reported to NIHE and discussed at programme board. The final position relating to the financial implications of the level of achievement is to be confirmed in writing from SEUPB before actioning.

### 3.2 BPR2 – Creative Communities Project

Final activity associated with the Football Creative Cluster, including Rosario and Albert Foundry Academy has complete with the unveiling of two inspirational sculptures on Sunday 12th March at Ulidia Playing Fields. The cluster engaged 39 children committing over 33 hours in creative sessions from June 2021.

Agreement with McCadden on the delivery of cluster booklets has been confirmed and draft publications have been submitted for considered.

Members are requested to agree in principle the level of achievement, approximately 55%, as outlined below:

Target	Status
8 cohorts established (reduced to 6)	5 achieved
144 participants registered (24 per cohort)	102
Participants completes 42 hrs (reduced from 60hrs)	78 (1 cohort still to complete)
8 publications completed	5 in progress

### 3.3 **BPR3 – Transform for Change Project – NICVA and Project Evaluation S3 solutions**

All areas of closure for the project have been completed for Transform for Change NICVA and S3 solutions evaluations. Final payments have been progressed and as such the projects are considered closed based on the level of achievement outlined below.

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

### 3.4 **BPR5 - LINC'S Project**

The LINC'S project has completed, and final closure process is concluding. It is anticipated that final payment will be progressed before end March 2023.

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

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

Project activity has completed and payments to delivery agents progress on completion of activity. The final report has been completed, and the closure review is underway which will bring the project to a close.

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.

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

The Roma project has completed and is in final stages of closure and progression of final payment is underway.

**3.7 BPR6 – St. Comgall’s**

All project workshops, seminars, and so on are now complete. The project has been asked to submit further attendance evidence for their first adult cohort, to allow to sign off on the final achievement level.

Members are requested to note that the project is submitting further evidence on completion of contact hours for 6 final adult participants.

The On-the-Spot visit is scheduled for 23 March and the closure report is due to be submitted by the delivery partner.

To enable final closure of the project, members are asked to delegate authority to the BPR Thematic Chair and PIV Programme Manager to approve the final completer numbers for closure of the project.

Target	Status
20 core young people participants	27 completed target of 33 hrs
20 core adult participants	21 completed reduced target of 32 hrs (pending final verification)
	<b>48 out of 40 target complete</b> (pending final verification)

**3.8 Cinematography Project**

Final edits of video content capturing the Belfast Peace Journey are progressing. Project clips for CYP5, SSS and BPR6 are being finalised.

The draft overall programme film has been submitted and is currently reviewed before final sign off.

### **3.9 Financial and Resource Implications**

Claims for the BPR theme up to Period 33 totalling £3.6m have been submitted to SEUPB, with £2.4m reimbursed to date and as such £1.2m remains outstanding from SEUPB,

### **3.10 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 and related appendices and recommended to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee to:

#### **BPR 1 - NIHE- Cross Community Area Networks**

- Note that SEUPB had responded in writing, to request for application of additional mitigations, stating no further mitigations were permitted.

#### **BPR2 - Creative Communities Project**

- Agree in principle the level of achievement as 55% of participant targets.

#### **BPR6 - St Comgall's**

- Note the project was moving into closure phase. The project was submitting further evidence on completion of contact hours for 6 final adult participants.
- To delegate authority to the Thematic Chairs of the Programme Board to approve the final completion numbers for closure of the project.

### **Good Relations**

#### **Update on DC Good Relations Plan 2022/23**

The Good Relations Officer updated the Members on the delivery of the Good Relations Action Plan during Quarter 4, which covered the period January – March 2023.

The Members were reminded that the Council received funding from The Executive Office for the delivery of its annual Good Relations Action Plan. For 2022/23, the total value of the Action Plan was £776,984.36, of which £504,400 was for programme costs. The remainder supported the salaries and administration of 6 staff.

The Members recalled at its last quarterly update in January that £504,159.35 had been allocated for projects in Quarters 1,2 and 3. The delivery of the Action Plan had continued during Quarter 4, with a further £3,600 being allocated for projects in this quarter.

The total therefore allocated for Good Relations projects for the full year was £507,759.35.

The slight over-allocation was possible as a result of one of the small grants, funded at £3,420, not proceeding,

The officers were now working with groups to ensure that projects completed, that final payments were made and that groups completed their monitoring and evaluation requirements.

The Good Relations Officer provided a high-level overview of the progress that had been made in each programme within the Action Plan in Quarter 3.

<b>Code</b>	<b>Project Summary</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Progress in Quarter 4</b>	<b>Total allocated in Q4</b>
BCC1	Council Good Relations Grants Programme.	<b>£120,000</b>	Projects delivery ongoing	<b>£0</b>
BCC2	St Patrick's Day Celebration programme	<b>£30,000</b>	Projects delivered in Q4.	<b>£0</b>
BCC3	Cultural Expression Programme	<b>£50,000</b>	Cultural Inclusion programme activity delivered in Q4	<b>£0</b>
BCC4	Civic Engagement and Learning Programme	<b>£37,600</b>	Project delivery ongoing	<b>£0</b>
BCC5	Inclusion Programme	<b>£74,805.15</b>	Programme support for Colin Urban Park delivered  Events to mark Holocaust Memorial Day delivered  DiverseCity Refugee Voices Event delivered  DiverseCity City of Sanctuary initiative delivered  Storage costs for donations for refugees and asylum seekers agreed by the SCP in March 2023	<b>£800</b>  <b>£1,000</b>  <b>£1,500</b>  <b>£300</b>  <b>Total: £3,600</b>

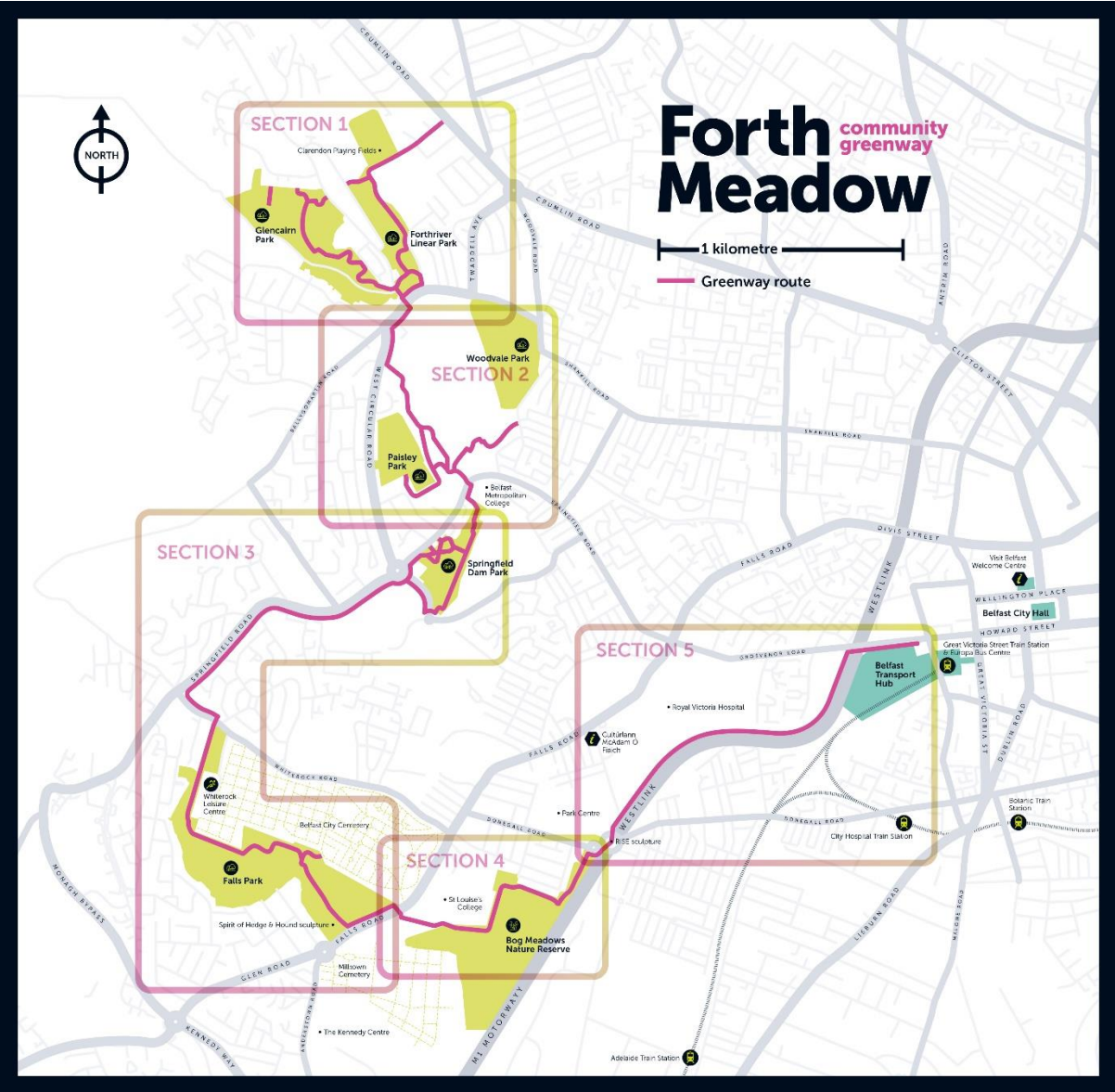
BCC6	Shared City Building Relations Programme	<b>£39,244.85</b>	Project delivery complete	<b>£0</b>
BCC7	Interface Engagement	<b>£70,000</b>	Projects completed	<b>£0</b>
BCC8	Shared Education Schools Programme	<b>£25,000</b>	Project delivery ongoing	<b>£0</b>
BCC 9	Strategic Intervention Programme	<b>£48,000</b>	Projects completed	<b>£0</b>
BCC10	Civic Leadership	<b>£9,750</b>	The Good Relations Audit complete.	<b>£0</b>
		<b>£504,400</b>		<b>£3,600</b>

The Members recommended to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee that it note the contents of the report.

As it was the Chairperson's last Shared City Partnership meeting before he stood down, the Good Relations Manager expressed his thanks for the warm welcome he had received since taking up the position. He acknowledged the dedication and support the Chairperson had given to the Shared City Partnership. The Chairman thanked the Partnership and acknowledged the hard work that goes on in the background.

Chairperson

# DRAFT NARRATIVES



## **Section Two (inc. Springfield Dam)**

Springvale / Springfield Dam / Springfield  
Road



## # 1

### **GUNNING FOR VICTORY**

#### **Location: Paisley Park**

Paisley Park was opened as a sport ground in 1947 and very quickly became associated with sporting achievement and hosting social events every weekend for local people.

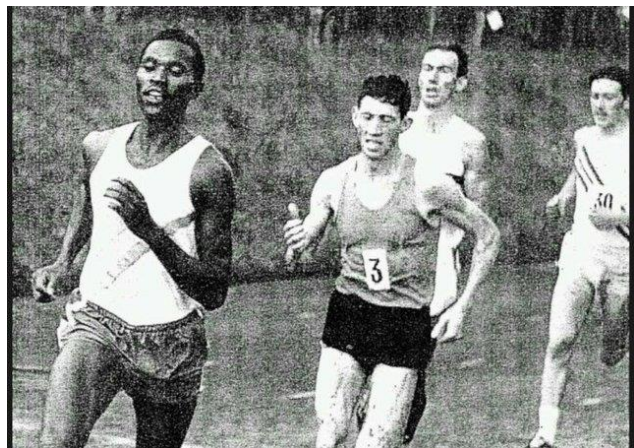
Teams from football, boxing, bowling and athletics competed all over the world. Boxer Wayne McCollough started at the Albert Foundry Boxing Club and soon won world titles.

Albert Foundry was the name most associated with the Park, originating from an old Mackie's foundry site. Albert Foundry Football Club is still based in the Park with a fine refurbished football ground as its base.

## # 2

### **Did You Know – Sub 4-minute mile**

The Kenyan Commonwealth and future Olympic champion, Kip Keino, made history in 1967 by being the first person to run a sub-four minute mile in Northern Ireland. He was followed home in second place by local runner, Derek Graham, who also managed to get inside the magic mark.



## # 3

### **BULLETS AND BULLETINS**

#### **Location: near Ballygomartin Presbyterian Church**

Before this building was a place of worship, anti-aircraft guns were located here, to defend against ~~the~~ German Air-raids.

Whilst church attendance has dramatically reduced, for many in the area this was historically their social, sporting and 'courting' club, as well as a spiritual home. *If you wanted to know what was happening in the area, you went to church....* Said one local.

*I remember the milk floats with snow chains on the wheels in the winter on the West Circular,* said another.

Later during the Troubles the army was billeted close by in Blackmountain Primary School. *They used to show us films on a Friday afternoon,* said one local, *and we would use the army doctor instead of our own GP.*

## **# 4**

### **SMALL MARGINS**

Two of Northern Ireland world renown athletes trained at Paisley Park.

Dame Mary Peters won gold at the 1972 Munich Olympics – the only gold medal won by Britain in the whole Olympics that year. Later in 1972 she won the BBC Sports Personality of the Year award. The BBC award said "The pentathlon competition was decided on the final event, the 200m, and Peters claimed the title by one-tenth of a second."

She represented Northern Ireland at every Commonwealth Games between 1958 and 1974. In these games she won two gold medals for the pentathlon, plus a gold and silver medal for the shot put.

In 1975 she established the Mary Peters trust to help young athletes from Northern Ireland. She was awarded a CBE and in 2017 made a Dame.

Mike Bull won silver (1966) and gold (1970) medals at the Commonwealth Games and went on to set up his own gym in Belfast that trained many more athletes

### **Did You Know**

Paisley Park was the place to be on a Saturday night for locals in the 1970s. the night club was buzzin with queues sometimes stretching on to the West Circular Road.

## **# 5**

### **SMELLS of SUCCESS**

#### **Location**

Monarch Laundry

The smell of the washing and soap powder

The Brickworks – and the bricks that were used to build the dry-dock for the Titanic came from this Brickworks

## # 6

### COUNTING SHEEP

Whiterock Orange Hall was built in 1957 and opened in 1958. The local Orange Lodge chose that site over another that was available to them – the Henry Taggart Memorial Church Hall.

The Orange Hall was built on a former site of the Belfast Corporation Department for Markets. The original building included a toll and weighing operation for farmers bringing their animals to a Market in Belfast. Some of the original walls are visible and an old weigh bridge is encased in the wall of the Orange Hall.

## # 7

### TURNING MIRRORS TO WINDOWS

#### Springfield Primary School

How does a Protestant Primary School on the predominantly Catholic Springfield Road go from 65 pupils in 2005 (and at risk of closure) to 180 pupils (and maximum capacity in 2021)? The answer appears to be a combination of inspirational leadership, dedicated staff team, holistic practice (mind, body, spirit) and a rare partnership between pupils, parents and staff. This is a school situated in an area of **separation** peace barriers, historical violence and sectarian division. And yet, because of its vision and heart, the school recently won Best Primary School (Families First NI Awards) & Most Caring Primary School UK (Education Awards).

This is a school of which Belfast can be proud.



#### Did You Know

Educationalist Sydney Harris said schools turn mirrors into windows for young people. Young people stop looking in a mirror back at the past or looking at themselves and what might go wrong. Instead, a good school helps them look through an open window, forward to see opportunity and a bright future with all sorts of possibilities.

**# 8**

## **CANARIES AND CATERPILLARS**

### **Location: Entrance to Dam at Springfield Road**

The Springfield Dam was surrounded by factories and mills in years gone by, most famously by Mackie's which was one of the most famous and largest employers in Belfast. There were other factories too and the area was a hub of activity as people came to and from their places of work.

**# 9**

### **Mackie's**

Mackie's employed thousands of Belfast people over the decades from the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century to the early 20<sup>th</sup> century in its 44-acre Albert Foundry, where Caterpillar is based now.

During the world wars Mackie's made munitions for the war effort. The women workers who handled the sulphur were often called Canary Girls because it turned their skin yellow and their hair green. Because things they touched could turn yellow, they were sometimes separated in the canteen at lunchtime.



You can see the Black Mountain which was where factory workers might go to escape German bombs being dropped on Belfast in 1942. So, bombs were being made to drop in inner city and industrial areas all over Europe; and the those who made them, here or in Germany, had little means to escape other than to take to the hills.

### **Did You Know?**

Isadore Avenue, near the Dam, was built by the owners of Mackie's to house the managers of their factories, virtually on site and on-call at all hours. The street is named after James Mackie's' two daughters, Isa and Dora. Do you think it was a Christmas present?

## # 10

### WHAT COLOUR TODAY?

#### Location: Entrance to the Dam at Springfield Road

The dye put into the Forth River coloured the river as it wound its way through Belfast, in and out of Springfield Dam.

One of the then kids who played in the Dam recalled that "*we didn't know what colour our clothes would be when we went home until we got into the Dam – that was part of the fun.*" Maybe not so much fun for their parents who had to wash them?

#### Did You Know

The Springfield Cotton Mill was the main user of water from the Dam, or Mill Pond as it was often called. The cotton mill was taken over by Scribbens Kemp biscuit factory, then became a storeroom for Mackie's. It was knocked down soon after Mackie's closed in 1999.



## # 11

### CRUMBS OF COMFORT

**Location: Southern end of Dam**

#### The Biscuit Factories

Some of the best-known biscuits made in Belfast came from this site like Custard Creams and Bon-Bon Creams. Factories like Scribber's Kemp and Mackie's employed hundreds of local people.

But it wasn't just the jobs they were famous for – and the owners didn't miss a trick. They sold all the biscuits that had broken in the factory in bags to passing pedestrians, broken up and random.



*Sure, said one Mackie's worker, they were a penny a bag and we didn't know what we'd get in them. I loved getting the broken up bon-bon creams. By the time I got in to work there wasn't much left.*

## # 12

### Did You Know?

Mother Theresa may have eaten some of the broken biscuits. She spent 18 months in Belfast arriving in 1971, based close by in Ballymurphy at Springhill Community Centre, where a shrine exists to her honour.

She won the Nobel Peace Prize a few years later in 1979. Was she thinking of the Dam when she said: " I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the water to create many ripples"



## # 13

### ONCE...AND NOW

#### Location: Entrance to the Dam

#### Springfield Dam

There once was a time when children ice-skated here.

There was once a time when the water went on fire.

There was once a time the water froze, tragically.

There once was a time when a boy rowed from one side to the other in a tin bath.

There once was a time when feet paddled in the water changed colour as a result of dyes that flowed from a neighbouring factory.

There once was a time when fishing rods waited taut to be tugged on by fish.

There once was a time when people from different communities were drawn here, finding respite from the built-up urban space – that time is here again.



#### We walk #OnCommonGround



## # 14

### **HATCHET FIELD and HEROS or HEROINES**

The Troubles were a stressful time for people from all communities living in the area. The Dam became an interface with rival gangs contesting the space. Parents did what they could to keep their children safe and to make life as normal as possible.

Said one *"The heroes were the women – all the women who kept things going when the men were 'away'."*

Another local woman remembers trying to make life as normal for her children as possible: *"I remember wearing plastic sandals in the summer and having sore feet by the end of the day. We played in the Hatchet field, gathering frogspawn and collecting Bumble-bees in milk bottles – the buzz of them all captured. What a sound!"*

You can see Hatchet Field from Springfield Dam, high on the side of the mountain.

### **Did You Know**

Hatchet Field is named that because of its shape. You can make out the hatchet shape from here. But in 1753 a triple murder took place there when a farmer, William Cole, his daughter Elizabeth, and another woman called Mary Maguire were murdered – with a hatchet. The murderer was never caught but the bloody story hasn't been forgotten even today.

But what was the motive? Was it robbery as originally thought or jealousy as it has never been explained why Mary Maguire was in the house.

## # 15

### **CIRCLE OF BIRTH, WORK AND LIFE**

#### **Location: Views at Springfield Dam**

Springfield Dam offers magnificent views of the hills from where the water comes and the city of Belfast where the water is going.

In this picture you can see (need highlighted on a picture):

Castlereagh hills  
City Hospital  
Windsor Park  
Belfast shipyard  
The old Mackie's site





Royal Victoria Hospital  
Stormont  
Significant churches  
City and Milltown Cemeteries

Direction of the rest of the Greenway.

The rivers have been the lifeblood of Belfast flowing down from the hills to Belfast Lough, helping to create jobs and make the city what it is.

For many people, this view encapsulates the life story of many – can you see where you were born, worked, played and socialised, married, and the place you might end up in the end?

Opposite is Hatchet Field, high up on the Belfast Hills.

### **Did You Know?**

Springfield Dam was also known as the Mill Pond because it supplied water to Springfield Cotton Mill and other local bleach greens and mills.

### **# 16**

### **SPRINGFIELD WHEN WE WERE BOYS, Poem by local man R Close**

#### **Location: At Springfield Dam**

*I often think when we were boys  
We roamed about the hills  
We all lived in Springfield  
Aye near Springfield's Cotton Mills  
We were never out of mischief  
Since our early days began  
Of course we weren't so awful bad  
Our hearts were full of fun*

*All the lads are parted now  
And some are far away  
I now recall the worst of all  
Some lie neath foreign clay.  
It's hard to part from those we love  
We would rather they remain,  
But like little birds that cloud the sky  
We hope to meet again.*

*This Springfield Village that I mean  
That once so fair a spot,*

*Emptied all the best she had  
That lay on Mother's lap.  
Now there may be nicer scenery  
And I'm sure far higher hills  
Yet love ne'er forget that once fair sport  
Near Springfield Cotton Mills.*

R. Close

### **Did You Know**

In February 1917, during World War 1 Springfield Dam froze over, so harsh had been the winter. Three local boys who had been playing on the ice fell through and drowned. Two of the boys were brothers called Frazer and their father was granted compassionate leave from fighting in France to come back for their funeral.

### **# 17**

### **PEACE by PIECE**

#### **Location: East of Bridge at the Dam**

Mackie's was an important part of the visit to Belfast by President Bill Clinton in December 1995 as a stimulus to the embryonic peace process at the end of The Troubles. During the speech President Clinton said: *Here we lie along the peace line, the wall of steel and stone separating Protestant from Catholic. But today...you are bridging the divide, overcoming a legacy of discrimination where fair employment and integration are the watchwords of the future. On this shop floor men and women of both traditions are working together to achieve common goals. Peace, once a distant dream, is now making a difference in everyday life in this land...But most of all, America salutes all the people of Northern Ireland who have shown the world in concrete ways that here the will for peace is now stronger than the weapons of war.*



### **Did You Know:**

At its peak Mackie's employed over 6,000 people. Just four years after the visit of President Clinton, in 1999, it closed its doors for the last time. By then it employed just a few hundred people.

## # 18

### INTERDEPENDENCE FOR BETTER OR WORSE

The Henry Taggart Memorial Hall in Ballymurphy was part of the Presbyterian Church attended by many of the Protestant families living in Ballymurphy prior to riots and upheaval in 1970. The families and the Presbyterian Minister moved out, and the Memorial Hall, now unused, was taken over by the British Army as a temporary base in the area.



Around that time many families from Protestant and Catholic backgrounds felt the need to move out of other areas like Ballymurphy, Highfield and New Barnsley.

This demographic shift didn't just affect the families at the time and the make-up of the areas further segregating the city; it also affected trust between communities for generations to come. Belfast is still coming to terms with these events, and the violence experienced by communities over the next years.

The "peace wall" here is one of the consequences of that time – one million bricks used to construct a barrier between mainly Catholic and Protestant communities. Efforts continue, with some success, to take down the barriers based on rebuilding relations and rebuilding trust - a bit like when the old raths and ring forts were built then became redundant.

### Did You Know

Do you remember the two public houses near Springfield Dam that were used by people from all sides of the community before the Troubles? They were called the White Horse Pub, bombed in the early 1970s, and Divis Castle, burnt out in 1971.

## **Section 5 (West Link)**

Broadway Roundabout to New Transport Hub

## # 1

### THE CITY RISES

This is one of the lowest points in Belfast. The city rises up all around. The rivers streaming down from the hills created the conditions for the city to grow, prosper and diversify. The rivers finally gather, and often meet, in this low bog land.

It may be the end of the journey for the water that started on Black Mountain or in Glencairn where the Forth Meadow Community Greenway starts, that made the linen mills work, that emptied into Springfield Dam with such energy and at times with different colours from the linen mills, that then flowed on and through parks such as the Falls, before finishing here.

The rivers were also a source of fun. Near Bog Meadow, said one local, there used to be a river called the Blackwater. It got broader as you walked along. We used to play a game "jump the river". You jumped from one side to the other as you went up with the river getting wider every few yards. It was great fun...unless you were the loser and the first to fall in.

The city rose on the wealth of the linen and ship building industries. Around are the 21<sup>st</sup> century buildings that define Belfast –

### Did You Know?

In August 2008, the newly opened £104 million Westlink Broadway bypass flooded badly, submerged in 20 feet of water. One of the rivers, the Clowney, had overflowed despite all of the work that had been done. Many cars were abandoned and the Westlink closed for days. Managing powerful flood plains like this is constant challenge, even today.



## # 2

### **AN UNWANTED REMINDER**

Further along the Forth Meadow Community Greenway is the Royal Victoria Hospital where many people from the city were born and during their life treated for all sorts of ailments since it opened in

However, many babies were not so lucky. An estimated 11,000 new-born or infant babies were buried in land that was not consecrated and transferred to Ulster Wildlife to be part of the nature reserve. After investigations, the land was transferred back to Milltown cemetery in 2010 and was consecrated. A memorial to the babies was erected not long afterwards.

## # 3

### **THE RISE... AND RISE FURTHER**

RISE consists of two steel spheres, one inside the other. Standing at 37.5 metres tall, it is the biggest piece of public art in Belfast. RISE is known locally known as the Balls of the Falls. The design was commissioned to symbolise a new dawn for the city. The sculpture can be seen in the round from any angle, it welcomes views from all vistas and political and religious persuasions. The structural supports refer to the marshlands which previously grew here.

In a city where peace barriers often restrict the movement of people across areas and communities, the location of RISE in the middle of the Westlink is symbolic in many ways, of hope for a future without barriers.

The design shows that everything is connected, and that often the easiest way from one point to another is often the shortest.

In a city where peace barriers often restrict the movement of people across areas and communities, the location of The Rise in the middle of the Westlink is symbolic in many ways, of hope for a future without barriers.

Said one of the residents from the Village "The Westlink has separated us form the other side – all those cars, all that noise – it's the biggest peace barrier in Belfast"

During The Troubles people largely kept to their "own" areas, wary of what would happen if they crossed an interface. Said one local: "Outside our area we expected to be asked Who are you? Or Where are you from? You were always on your guard outside your own area. Always waiting to be asked, with our answers ready like passports!"

## # 4

## **Roden Street Bridge and the RVH**

During the height of The Troubles, between 1981 and 1983, the Westlink was opened, a road designed to relieve congestion in the city centre, that had been in the planning since the early 1960s.

Originally planned as complete motorway circle around the city centre, only the western part was build – the Westlink. While it relieved city centre congestion, the Westlink also cut links that had previously existing between communities and with local services, such as the Royal Victoria Hospital.

With the Troubles and the construction of the Westlink, people on the other side of the bridge had fleeting and distant contact. Said one resident from the unionist side:

“I remember, years ago, when I lived in Tate’s Avenue roller-skating up to the bridge. I’ll never forget what I saw. I could see children – Catholic children my age – playing in the distance. They looked just like us. I’ll never forget seeing that.”

“We wouldn’t use the footbridge”, said another resident, “it isn’t safe to go to the other side and people wouldn’t feel safe coming here”.

### **# 5**

#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

The Royal Victoria Hospital started as early as 1797 and moved to the Grosvenor Road site in 1903. It is known for innovation. It was the first air-conditioned building in the world when opened, and while working at The Royal, Frank Pantridge invented the portable defibrillator which has saved thousands of lives worldwide since. During The Troubles the Hospital got a reputation as one of the best in the world.

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### Signage / Panel locations in Section 2 (Springvale) and Springfield Dam / Park

Officers from Physical Programmes and PEACE IV did a walkabout in Section 2 (Springvale) and Springfield Dam / Park on Tuesday 7 March 2023, to identify suggested locations for Signage (Beacons & Fingerposts) and information panels (with narratives).

#### Section 2 (Springvale) Annex 1

1. Information Panel - entrance to this section coming from West Circular Road
2. Information Panel - entrance onto the section from roundabout at Innovation Factory
3. Information Panel – at the gate to Paisley Park
4. Location for the Flagship Art Piece – “Carry Each Other”
5. FMCG Beacon

#### Springfield Dam / Park – Annex 2

1. FMCG Beacon
2. Information Panel - at green space, just inside the gates at the Belfast Metropolitan College entrance.
3. Finger Post – indicating the route to continue along the Greenway’s route or giving the option to cross the bridge to the modular building, car-park and main park entrance from Springfield Road.
4. A “Tabletop” panel – this panel is located at view overlooking Belfast and will feature a picture of the view, showing interesting landmarks (e.g., City Hospital, Stormont, Windsor Park, Conway Mill, City Hall, etc.)
5. Finger Post – indicating the route, continuing along the Greenway’s route.
6. Information Panel - on the green space, at the bottom of the steps beside the Modular Building
7. A notice board at the modular building, featuring up-coming FMCG events / activities. This could also feature a welcome to the park, highlighting that this is the central hub of the Greenway.

The panels and numbers of, are dependent on the available budget. The locations are also open to discussion. The location of the information panels will also have a say in what narratives are included. For example, the panel at Paisley Park may include how Mary Peters and Mike Bull used the track for training. The panels will also highlight Springfield Dam / Park and it’s history, along with the history of the factories that were once a big feature of this area.



**PEACE IV**  
2018-2021

**Springfield Dam Park Masterplan**

Creating welcoming, safe and accessible shared spaces



**By connecting Springfield Dam and Park we will create a new signature civic space with improved access, recreational facilities and environmental enhancements.**

This is the first step in our plans to reconnect communities stretching from Glencairn to Bog Meadows by creating a necklace of interconnected shared spaces.

Our plans for Springfield Dam Park include:

**Improving access to and around the site**

There will be a number of new entrance points ① around the park, including a signature pedestrian access point to the north of the park ② and car parking, including accessible parking spaces, at the site of the current park ③. A new pedestrian bridge ④ will cross the dam, helping to integrate the site by providing access to the new pathway and recreational facilities along the east bank.

**Recreational facilities**

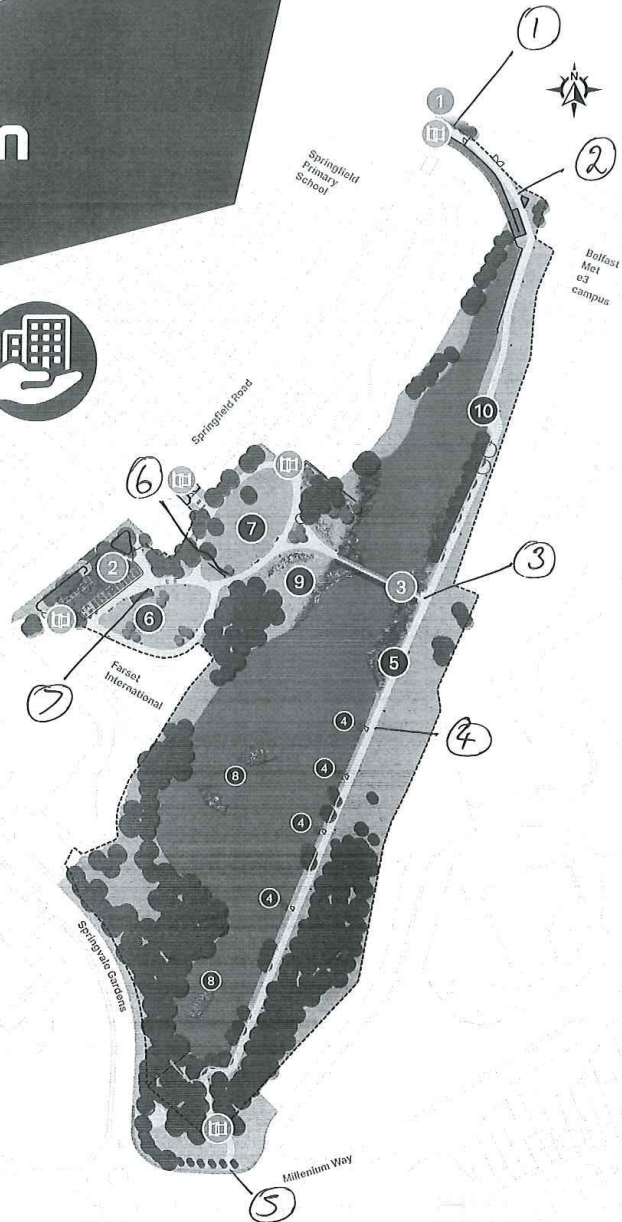
Fishing stands ⑤ will be positioned along the east bank of the dam. A circular pathway ⑥ will provide quiet and scenic places for walking, jogging and exercising. A new modular classroom ⑦ will provide a year-round meeting place for schools and community groups. Dedicated outdoor event space ⑧ will enable fairs and community events to take place.

**Environmental enhancements**

A number of floating islands ⑨ and wildflower planting ⑩ will provide additional habitat for birds and wildlife. The existing ecological richness of the area will be enhanced through additional planting throughout the site.

**Overall site enhancements**

A new viewing area ⑪ will provide a place to take in the vista while information panels will outline the history of the dam. New lighting and fencing throughout the park will ensure an attractive and uniform look throughout the site.



Energising Belfast together



[www.belfastcity.gov.uk/peaceiv](http://www.belfastcity.gov.uk/peaceiv)

This project is supported by the EU's PEACE IV Programme, managed by the SEUPB. The redevelopment of Springfield Dam is funded by Department for Communities.

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## **Minutes of Party Group Leaders' Consultative Forum Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April, 2023**

### **Attendance**

Members:

Councillor Donal Lyons  
Councillor Michael Long

**Apologies:** Councillor Ciaran Beattie, Councillor Billy Hutchinson, Alderman George Dorrian, Alderman Sonia Copeland, Councillor Fiona Ferguson, Councillor Emmet McDonough-Brown, Councillor Mal O'Hara.

### **Officers:**

John Walsh, Chief Executive  
Trevor Wallace, Director of Finance  
Nora Largey, Interim City Solicitor/Director of Legal and Civic Services (for Items 1 & 3)  
Christine Sheridan, Director of Human Resources (for Item 2)  
Siobhan Toland, Director City Services (for Item 3)  
Joanne Delaney, Portfolio and Programme Coordinator (secretariat)

### **1. 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.

### **2. Members Induction Programme**

The Chief Executive provided an update on the arrangements being made for the delivery of an Induction Programme for Members following the Local Government Elections in May. The Director of Human Resources outlined for Members the proposed programme and advised that induction training for new Members would commence imminently following the Elections. Further details will be communicated to all Members in the new Council term.

### **3. AOB**

### **Illuminate Requests**

The City Solicitor outlined for Members a number of illumination requests received namely:

- **International Nurses Day** - 12<sup>th</sup> May
- **National Deafblind Awareness Week** - 27<sup>th</sup> June
- **World Diabetes Day** – 14<sup>th</sup> November
- **Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Day** 16<sup>th</sup> November
- **Belfast giants - Grand Slam Treble Win** – date to be agreed in line with availability

Members noted the requests would be agreed under the City Solicitors delegated authority. A further request outlined to be brought to the next meeting of PGL's for consideration.

### **Portrait of His Majesty The King for UK Public Authorities**

The Chief Executive referred to UK Government funding that had been announced for public organisations to apply for a portrait of his Majesty the King as part of a scheme to celebrate the new reign. Members noted the scheme, which is to open later this year following the Coronation and the proposal to apply for one free framed portrait once released.

### **Events**

The Chief Executive provided an update for Members on some recent challenges in relation to insurance cover for the hosting of events, particularly in relation to cancellation cover.

### **Trees For Cities**

The Director City Services provided an update for Members on a request received from Trees for Cities inviting Belfast City Council to take part in the planting of several young trees to mark the forthcoming Coronation of King Charles III, as part of a UK capital cities initiative. A report will be brought to April SP and R for Members' consideration.