

Public Document Pack

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



**Belfast
City Council**

20th April, 2024

MEETING OF THE STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Dear Alderman/Councillor,

The above-named Committee will meet in the **Lavery Room and via Microsoft Teams** on Friday, 21st April, 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) Appointment of Deputy Chief Executive/Strategic Director of Corporate Services (Pages 1 - 2)
- (b) Update on Organisational Reviews and Change Programme (Pages 3 - 8)
- (c) Update on Employees on Temporary Contracts and Agency Workers (Pages 9 - 24)
- (d) Update on City Centre Public Realm Catalyst Projects (Pages 25 - 34)
- (e) Summer Community Diversionary Festivals Programme (Pages 35 - 42)

- (f) Update on the Beacon Programme (Pages 43 - 48)
- (g) Community Support Programme (Pages 49 - 64)
- (h) Micro and Medium Grants 2023/24 (Pages 65 - 78)
- (i) Request for the use of Barnett Demesne and the Cenotaph (Pages 79 - 82)
- (j) Asset Management (Pages 83 - 90)
- (k) IFA-DCMS Funding Applications (Pages 91 - 96)

3. Governance

- (a) Governance Arrangements for the new Council 2023-27 (Pages 97 - 106)

4. Belfast Agenda/Strategic Issues

- (a) Update on Belfast Smart District Programme (Pages 107 - 112)
- (b) UK - Republic of Korea Innovation Twins Programme and Council of Global City Chief Innovation Officers Visit to Belfast (Pages 113 - 118)
- (c) The Planting of Several Trees to Celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III (Pages 119 - 120)

5. Physical Programme and Asset Management

- (a) Update on Area Working Groups (Pages 121 - 126)
- (b) Update on Physical Programme (Pages 127 - 130)

6. Finance, Procurement and Performance

- (a) Update on Contracts (Pages 131 - 138)

7. Equality and Good Relations

- (a) Minutes of the Meeting of the Shared City Partnership (Pages 139 - 180)

8. Operational Issues

- (a) Requests for the use of the City Hall and the Provision of Hospitality (Pages 181 - 184)
- (b) Minutes of the Meeting of the Party Group Leaders' Consultative Forum (Pages 185 - 186)

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Subject:	Governance Arrangements for the new Council 2023-27
Date:	21st April, 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
1.1	To consider the governance arrangements to apply for the new Council term commencing in 2023.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is requested to consider the issues set out in the report and agree the governance arrangements for the new Council term.</p> <p>In particular, Members are asked to agree to continuing with the following arrangements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> operating with a traditional Committee structure; allocation of positions of responsibility using the D'hondt method; Committee places allocated using the quota greatest remainder method; current standing Committees remain the same, save for reviewing the membership numbers of Planning and BUWHL Shareholder Committees;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 political appointments will be made to the PCSP and DPCSPs using D'hondt method from the bottom up; • agree the arrangements for Working Groups as set out in the report; and • appointment to Outside Bodies using the Sainte Lague method.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p><u>Background</u></p> <p>At the meeting of the new Council following the local government elections in May, it will be necessary to agree the new Council's governance arrangements for the period 2023-27.</p> <p>In order for the proper arrangements to be made, including meetings with the Nominating Officers of the Parties returned after the elections, in advance of the Annual Meeting of the new Council on 5th June, it is now necessary for decisions to be made.</p>
3.2	<p><u>Key issues</u></p> <p>1. Council Governance Arrangements</p> <p>The Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 provides for a number of types of governance arrangements, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traditional committee arrangements (default position) • Executive model <p>In 2014 and 2019, the Council adopted a Constitution which, amongst other things, agreed the default governance arrangements prescribed in the 2014 Act namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traditional Committee system • Positions of responsibility selected using the D'hondt model • Committee places allocated using the quota greatest remainder model <p>Adoption of an alternative arrangement requires a qualified majority vote (80%).</p>

Looking forward to the new Council term, should the Council agree to continue with the existing arrangements as set out in the Council Constitution, then the decision-making process requires a simple majority vote to do so.

Decision required:

- Do members wish to continue with existing governance arrangements that is, a traditional committee system?

Please note that a mini governance review is underway in relation to the remit of Committees, Standing Orders etc. and a report is likely to be presented to the new Council in September.

3.3

2. Standing Committees

The Council currently has established seven Standing Committees which promote cross-departmental and thematic working across the organisation supporting the delivery of the Belfast Agenda and the developing process of Outcomes Based Accountability:

Committee	Number of Members	Responsibility
Strategic Policy and Resources	20	Responsible for setting the strategic direction of the Council through the development of its corporate plan and other key corporate and cross cutting strategies and policies and for setting the budget overseeing the appropriate use of Council finances.
City Growth and Regeneration	20	Responsible for the development and implementation of strategies, policies, programmes and projects directed to the regeneration and inclusive growth of the city.
People and Communities	20	Responsible for the development and implementation of strategies, policies, programmes, services and projects aimed at improving life at a local level.
Licensing	20	Delegated responsibility for the consideration of all matters pertaining to policy and legislation in relation to licensing issues save for those matters reserved to full Council.

	Planning	14	Delegated responsibility for all the Council's planning functions save for those matters reserved to full Council.
	Belfast Waterfront and Ulster Hall Ltd. Shareholders'	14	Responsible for making the decisions required by the Shareholders' Agreement and ensure that the Company complies with the contract for the operation of the Belfast Waterfront and Ulster Halls.
	Climate and City Resilience	20	Responsible for the political oversight of the resilience strategy for Belfast, Brexit and establishing links and collaborating with relevant authorities and organisations on a North/South and East/West basis and connections with Europe.
	Standards and Business	20	Responsible for the promotion of standards and conduct of councillors and the improvement of processes in relation to the bringing of business before the Council.
	<p><u>Decisions required:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do we wish to continue with these Committees? Do we wish to maintain the current remit of each Committee? Do we wish to continue with these Committees with the same numbers of Members? <p>It should be noted that, during the current Council term, Members have suggested that the number of Members on each of the Committees should be equal, with all Committees having 20 Members.</p>		
3.4	<p>3. Annual review of Committee Membership</p> <p>In the current Council term, members were appointed to the Committees for one-year terms and reappointed at each Annual Meeting. This allows for any changes in political affiliation which can occur during a council term to be accounted for. The City Solicitor believes this to be in keeping both the spirit and intent of the 2014 Act.</p> <p>Decision required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would Members be supportive of retaining a one-year committee membership term? 		

3.5	<p>4. Method of appointing positions of responsibility including PCSP and DPCSPs</p> <p>The positions of responsibility include the Lord Mayor, Deputy Lord Mayor, Committee Chairpersons and Deputy Chairpersons, some prescribed outside bodies and the Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) and the four District Policing and Community Safety Partnerships (DPCSPs). In dealing with the appointments of members to the PCSP and DPCSPs, the Council needs to ensure that the appointments are made in accordance with not only the LGA 2014 but also the Justice Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 and are considered as part of the allocation of positions of responsibility.</p> <p>The solution, which was agreed by all parties in 2015 - 2019, was that the appointments to the PCSP and DPCSPs were made by allocating those parties' D'hondt choices from the bottom up. Therefore, the parties' earlier choices for positions of responsibility were not adversely affected by the requirements of the Justice Act as to how the appointments to the PCSP and DPCSPs had to be made.</p> <p>A separate decision is also required in relation to the size of the main Policing and Community Safety Partnership. The Justice Act provides that the Council may appoint 8, 9 or 10 Political Members to the PCSP. The number of Independent Members is then set at one less than the number of Political Members. The Justice Act also provides that each DPCSP must have 6 Political and 5 Independent Members so no decision is required with regard to the DPCSP size. In 2015- 2019, the Council agreed to appoint 9 Political Members to the PCSP, resulting in a membership of 17 in total (9 political and 8 independent members).</p> <p>Decisions required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are we content to again employ the solution with regard to the Positions of Responsibility in 2023? • Are we happy to again appoint 9 Political Members to the PCSP?
3.6	<p>5. Appointment of Working Groups</p> <p>The Council decided to appoint a number of Working Groups in 2019, with a number of additional groups established throughout the Council term. These Working Groups are not specified in the 2014 Act and the Council is free to establish as many as it so wishes and use whatever mechanism it sees fit to appoint members to them.</p>

The following is a list of the 16 Working Groups which the Council has currently:

Current Working Group	Main role(s)
All Party Working Group on the city Centre	Act as a reference panel for the wider development and regeneration of city centre
Audit and Risk Panel	It provides an independent and high-level focus on the audit, assurance and reporting arrangements that underpin good governance and financial standards.
Castle, Cavehill, Zoo and North Foreshore Steering Group	The remit of the Group is to oversee the management of the North Foreshore, especially in regard to policy, resource allocation and financial risk of future development at the site.
Community Planning Working Group	Provide recommendations on the strategic direction and political input to the community planning process within Belfast.
Disability Working Group	To discuss the progress and implementation of the Belfast City Council Disability Action Plan 2022-2025 and ensure alignment with the Council's Disability Strategy.
East Area Working Group North Area Working Group South Area Working Group West Area Working Group	To enable and ensure that the socio-economic conditions and needs of local people, areas and communities are given due consideration with respect to the delivery of our plans, services and projects.
Installations – City Hall/City Hall Grounds Working Group	Consider and provide recommendations relating to City Hall and its grounds ensuring these are reflective of the principles set out in the EQIA whilst ensuring compliance with City Hall's status as a Grade 1 Listed Building.
Language Strategy Working Group	To provide elected members with a forum to discuss the impact of the languages in the Strategy across the above areas of work.
Party Leaders' Consultative Forum	To receive briefings and updates on the Council's programmes of work relating to the Belfast Agenda priorities.

		<p>Council's Corporate Plan and associated programmes of work.</p> <p>To introduce complex or sensitive reports/issues or proposed reports prior to committee or to discuss issues arising from committees/Council</p> <p>To receive information on oversight of the Council's finances and discuss future rates setting.</p> <p>To receive and consider complex or sensitive information prior to decision making through committee and Council.</p> <p>To raise sensitive resource (particularly human resource) issues</p> <p>To receive and discuss proposals relating to governance arrangements.</p>	
	Reference Group on Older People	To provide political direction and input to the development of the city planning process for improving the health, wellbeing and independence of older people within Belfast	
	Shared City Partnership	To assist the elected political leadership of the Council, staff, diverse civil society interests and partnering agencies to engage pro-actively on all Good Relations issues on behalf of citizens and be a collective voice, promoting a common vision for Good Relations in the City.	
	Social Policy Working Group	Oversee the creation of a robust and ambitious approach for the integration of social value through the Councils procurement processes, with consideration given to financial affordability, legal implications and the maximisation of impact.	
	Strategic Cemeteries and Crematorium Working Group	To support cemetery and crematorium development and improvement of bereavement services for Belfast.	
	<p>It is proposed that the decision to re-establish the working groups as outlined above is taken during the new Council term, except for the following, which approval is sought from the Committee to appoint from the beginning of the new Council term:</p>		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audit and Risk Panel - the panel is well established working group and, during June, before the meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee considers quite a number of reports, including the Council's Statement of Accounts and it would be beneficial to the decision-making process to have this in place. • Shared City Partnership – Again another established group which includes representation from many outside organisations. The Partnership deals with many funding issues, including PEACE IV. The Group last met on 27th March and be preferable to agree to its establishment from the start of the new Council term. <p>Decision required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Would Members be supportive of the proposals as outlined above? • In line with previous Council policy, to appoint 1 Member from each of the Parties on the Council, with a Party being defined as having 2 or more Members.
3.7	<p>6. Process for Nomination for High Sheriff</p> <p>The current Council agreed to use a separate D'hondt process to decide which Parties would be entitled to nominate a person for consideration for appointment as High Sheriff for each year of the Council term. This process sits outside the positions of responsibility process as the appointment is made by the Secretary of State.</p> <p>Decision required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do we wish to use this process again from 2023?
3.8	<p>7. Appointment to Outside Bodies</p> <p>There are a number of appointments to Outside Bodies. In 2019, the Council decided to use the Sainte Lague method to make these appointments. A report on the appointments to be made would be presented to the first meeting of the new SP and R Committee in June.</p> <p>Decision required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do we wish to use this method again or the more common D'hondt method?

3.9	<u>Financial and Resource Implications</u> None at this stage
3.10	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u> None at this stage
4.0	<u>Documents Attached</u>
	None

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Subject:	Update on Belfast Smart District Programme
Date:	21st April, 2023
Reporting Officer:	Deborah Colville, City Innovation Manager
Contact Officer:	Mark McCann, City Innovation programme lead

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 provide the Committee with an update on the development of the Belfast Smart District programme, including the commencement of a first phase to leverage and maximise innovation opportunities for the city, communities and businesses building on the new Weavers Cross regeneration.
1.2	The report seeks the Committee's approval for a number of the programme's first initiatives.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. note the rationale for an urban innovation accelerator at Weavers Cross, the four proposed objectives and the near term opportunities;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii. approve a letter of support for the £10m Belfast bid to the UKRI Net Zero Mobility Hub for a Resilient Future; iii. approve development work with Ulster University and others on a health innovation hub proposal at Weavers Cross; iv. note the development of CODI and plans to develop a funding bid that may include Smart Dublin as a partner; v. note the work on a potential £10 million bid to DSIT's Open Network Ecosystem competition. Members are asked to approve in advance Council's role in any bid, with details to be shared and approved at June committee; and vi. approve the proposed governance and resourcing arrangements for the Urban Innovation Accelerator.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The Smart Belfast urban innovation framework (2022 to 2026) was approved by Committee in November 2022. The aim of the framework is to foster greater collaborative innovation between government (both local and regional), industry, SMEs, academia, and our communities. Smart Belfast is about encouraging these partners to work together to harness the power of digital technologies to develop policy solutions to urban challenges.
3.2	The agreed framework places great emphasis on the importance of 'place' for urban innovation and the role of the Belfast Smart District (an area that is geographically coterminous with the city centre). The Smart District is about grounding urban innovation initiatives in 'real-world' opportunities in which they can be developed, tested, and scaled.
3.3	A compelling opportunity that falls within the Smart District is the Weavers Cross regeneration. Cities across the world have used similar large-scale transport regeneration schemes as a catalyst for a wider urban innovation and economic growth (eg, London's Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, King's Cross, and Dublin's Smart Docklands). A multi-partner innovation urban accelerator at Weavers Cross has the potential to radically accelerate Belfast's Smart District ambitions. Such an urban innovation accelerator will leverage the planned investments by Translink and its partners to generate significant additionality for the wider city, communities, SMEs and both local universities.
3.4	Staff from the Council's City Innovation Office have been developing a joint proposition with Translink, industry partners and our universities to map out what such an accelerator would look like; the immediate opportunities that it can bring to Belfast; and the steps required to deliver it. It is proposed that the Urban Accelerator would have four main objectives:

	<p>I. Supporting urban place-making in our city centre</p> <p>II. Fostering inclusive innovation for communities</p> <p>III. Supporting economic growth through innovation</p> <p>IV. Encouraging next generation digital Infrastructure</p>
3.5	<p>The proposition has proven immediately attractive to partners, funders, industry and researchers. There are already a number of immediate opportunities that have the potential of bringing substantial funding directly to the City:</p> <p>(a) Net Zero Mobility Hub for a Resilient Future</p>
3.6	<p>Queen's University is working with city partners including the Council on a £10 million bid to URKI to establish a national Net Zero Mobility Hub at Weavers Cross. This would establish a UK research hub in our city centre to support collaborative innovation between the universities, industry and government. Members are asked to agree to our continuing involvement and to providing an letter of support for the bid from the Council.</p> <p>(b) Health Innovation Health Hub</p>
3.7	<p>The City Innovation Office and Weavers Cross partners are working with Ulster University to develop a proposal that aims to accelerate innovation for the city's high growth medtech companies. The Weavers Cross location is an idea location, both in terms of easy access to travellers passing through the new station, and also its close links to inner city communities (Markets, Donegall Pass, Sandy Row, and Lower Falls). There is an opportunity to avail of a 'meanwhile use' location for healthcare professionals, SMEs and university researchers to trial innovative health care technologies with local communities and travellers. Ulster University are exploring funding opportunities and there is the potential to grow this to a multi-city, cross border proposition. Members are asked to approve work with Ulster on the development of this proposal.</p> <p>(c) Citizens Opportunities for Digital Innovation (CODI)</p>
3.8	<p>CODI is a key strand of work in the new Smart Belfast framework. Successful urban collaborative innovation requires the direct involvement of 'end users' (ie, the individuals and communities that live and work in the city) in the development of new public services and programmes. CODI recognises that there are a core set of capabilities and resources that communities must have to order to collaborate meaningfully on such end-user co-design. The ambition is to work with our academic partners and others to create a shared resource that would be available to any city partner working with communities on innovation projects.</p>

3.9	Weavers Cross presents an opportunity to develop CODI with local communities focused on local challenges particularly in relation to neighbourhood health and urban mobility.
3.10	Members are asked to note the City Innovation Office is currently developing a funding proposal to support this community programme and has been engaging extensively with partners including the potential of building shared resources with Smart Dublin which is developing a similar approach to working with communities in inner city Dublin.
	(d) SME Mobility Innovation Zone
3.11	This zone would be a managed environment that allows SMEs to develop and trial innovative solutions with an initial focus on mobility and on health. Connected Places Catapult have developed a similar approach with Network Rail and University of Bristol at Bristol Temple Meads and there is strong evidence that it could be successfully replicated here in Belfast for our companies. The City Innovation Office is exploring opportunities to leverage Belfast Region City Deal funding to support SME involvement in such a zone.
	(e) Open Network Ecosystem (ONE) Competition
3.12	On 27th March, DSIT opened a £80 million competition to deploy and trial Open RAN technologies in urban environments. The aim of the competition is to help diversify the UK's mobile equipment supplier base by inviting new vendors to run their technologies in the real world. This is an opportunity for Belfast to demonstrate that it is an ideal location for digital innovation, while at the same time deploying some of the most advanced wireless technologies in the world.
3.13	DSIT has indicated that they will make up to £10 million available per location and are particularly interested in demonstrators at high demand locations such as transport hubs. (Weavers Cross will deal with over 20 million passengers each year.)
3.14	The City Innovation Office has convened discussions with BT, Translink, Queen's University, and Digital Catapult UK. There is broad agreed that most of the elements for a strong Northern Ireland bid are present; however, any bid will be complex and the timeline for submission (24 May) is a challenging one. Members are asked to note that exploratory work will continue on this bid. Given that there is no SPR committee in May, Members are asked to approve in advance Council's role in any bid, with details to be shared and approved at the Committee meeting in June.

3.15	<p>The City Innovation Office is exploring collaboration with industry and university partners on an 'urban data and AI lab' that would bring the latest in AI and data analytics to our city that would be accessible to SMEs, researchers, and public bodies. This would seek to manage and explore large quantities of urban data to support better decision-making and development of new innovative products and services for transport, climate programmes, etc. A proposal will be presented to the Committee meeting in June.</p> <p>Making It Work</p>
3.16	<p>Members should note that if the projects described above were to proceed, the Weavers Cross urban innovation accelerator would attract over £25 million of urban innovation funding to the city. The approach will continue be driven by third-party funding opportunities and in-kind contributions with the expectation that there will be limited resources elsewhere. The Council's City Innovation Office will support the development and delivery of the Programme and draw upon the Smart District budget allocated previously agreed by Committee.</p>
3.17	<p>A group, jointly chaired by officers from the City Innovation Office, Belfast City Council and Translink and including a range of city partners, will act as a formal Urban Innovation Accelerator board to drive this work. The board would seek approval from each of its respective partner organisations on any new proposals and opportunities. Members are asked to approve the involvement of Belfast City Council officers on this board and note the role of the City Innovation Office in supporting its work.</p>
Financial and Resource Implications	
3.18	<p>As noted in the body of the report individual initiatives will proceed based on a mix of funding and co-investment from partners.</p>
3.19	<p>Resourcing costs for programme development and delivery have been identified in the existing City Innovation team budget.</p>
3.20	<p>Resources for activities associated with the Belfast Region City Deal will be subject to business case development through the city deal process.</p>
Equality or Good Relations Implications / Rural Needs Assessment	
3.21	<p>A public consultation and Equality Screening was previously carried out as part of the full consultation process on the Smart Belfast Urban Innovation Framework.</p>
4.0	Documents Attached
	None



Subject:	UK - Republic of Korea Innovation Twins Programme and Council of Global City Chief Innovation Officers Visit to Belfast
Date:	21st April, 2023
Reporting Officer:	Deborah Colville, City Innovation Manager
Contact Officer:	Mark McCann, Innovation Programme Lead Paula Fee, Innovation Programme Officer

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

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	<p><u>UK-Republic of Korea Innovation Twins Programme</u></p> <p>To update the Committee on the UK and Republic of Korea Innovation Twins programme and plans for the next phase of the programme which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> developing and implementing a roadmap to support collaboration on smart city initiatives, economic development and bi-lateral trade between Belfast and the city of Sejong; signing an MOU/friendly, cooperative agreement to support opportunities for city-to-city collaboration;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an invitation to the City Innovation team to lead an Innovation Twinning Programme development visit to Sejong with costs covered by BEIS/Connected Places Catapult (CPC); and • an invitation to host the Mayor, Choi Min-ho and a delegation from Sejong during their visit to Belfast in August 2023. <p><u>Council of Global City CIOs</u></p>
1.2	To update Members on the Council of Global City Chief Innovation Officers visit to Belfast on 23rd May 2023.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <p>UK-Republic of Korea Innovation Twins Programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. note the invitation for the City Innovation Office to lead on a visit to Sejong and support the further development of a roadmap to develop collaborative, co-investment opportunities; ii. approve the request for a letter of invitation to the Mayor of Sejong to visit Belfast in August 2023; iii. approve the request for Lord Mayor to meet and host a reception for the Mayor of Sejong and the signing of an MOU in August 2023 <p>Council of Global City CIOs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> iv. note the CCGC event taking place on 23 May 2023; v. note the attendance of the Lord Mayor at the event; and vi. approve Belfast City Council's membership of the CGCC.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p><u>UK-Republic of Korea Innovation Twins programme</u></p> <p>Members will be aware from previous update reports of the Council's participation in the '<i>UK-Republic of Korea Innovation Twins</i>' programme¹ which was set up by the Connected Places Catapult and funded by BEIS and UKRI.</p>

¹ <https://cp.catapult.org.uk/project/uk-republic-of-korea-innovation-twins-programme>

3.2	The programme aims to build relationships between smart cities with high potential for accelerating long term R and I collaborations and generating opportunities for trade and FDI. Following Committee approval for participation in the programme in 2021, a Statement of Intent was agreed to promote collaboration on the first of the programme up to the end of March 2023.
3.3	While not legally binding, the Statement sets out areas of shared interest based on discussion with a range of city partners, to form the basis for cooperation between Sejong and Belfast. These include smart cities, medtech, cyber security, fintech, academic, educational and cultural cooperation, economic development and opportunities for bilateral trade and investment.
3.4	During the initial phase of the programme, we received £100,000 funding which enabled eight local companies to avail of training and support to develop a range of products in areas such as virtual tourism, community rewards programmes, last mile delivery, safer cycling, recycling behaviour, fitness hubs and personal safety. They profiled their work during a virtual international showcase event and one company was successful in being selected for a follow up trade mission to South Korea.
3.5	Council staff also had opportunities to work with innovative companies to develop digital solutions and also benefitted from a bespoke innovative procurement training programme delivered via the Captapult.
3.6	In the next phase of the Innovation Twins programme, Connected Places Catapult (CPC), with funding from BEIS, will facilitate further engagement with key city partners on the development and implementation of a roadmap to consolidate areas of focus for both cities. The roadmap will set out key missions and priority areas for city to city civic, academic and business collaboration over the next two to three years. It will also detail governance structures and resources required. It is anticipated the roadmap will also help to unlock future funding opportunities from UK Government and attract South Korean investment.
3.7	Roadmap development will include the identification of one or more collaborative projects and will include outward visits to Sejong for Belfast companies as well as agreeing to host delegations here in Belfast. As part of this next phase the City Innovation team have been invited by Connected Places Catapult to lead a programme of meetings in Sejong to build on our innovation twinning relationship and agree a focus for collaborative innovation projects. CPC will provide funding of £32,500 to cover associated costs for the outward visit and resulting roadmap development. This will be made available following Committee approval for the signing of a grant agreement.

3.8	Invest NI has been a key partner in developing the relationship with Sejong and worked closely with us on shaping the Statement of Intent. They have now established an office in South Korea having extended their work into Sejong through the Innovation Twins programme. Their work programme for 2023 includes a Smart Cities cluster mission which is planned to coincide with the Smart Cities Expo in Korea in September this year.
3.9	The Mayor of Sejong would like to visit Belfast and wishes to sign an MOU to replace the current Statement of Intent which ended on 31 March 2023. The Mayor of Sejong's office has requested a letter of invitation to bring a delegation of 10 people to include the Ambassador of International Relations (two team members), the Director of External Relations, a representative from the Culture and the Economy Department, and two people from Executive Secretary office. The visit will potentially take place 7 and 8 August 2023 and will provide an opportunity to promote collaboration on a range of areas such as Smart Cities, Digital Twins and cyber security among others, that will be confirmed during the roadmap development phase.
3.10	During the visit, we would like to host a meeting/reception with the Lord Mayor to facilitate the signing of the MOU, provide a lunch/dinner with key city stakeholders to promote areas of collaboration agreed in the roadmap and offer a tour of the city.
3.11	Invest NI are liaising with the Northern Ireland Office separately in relation to the programme for the Mayor's visit and will provide support for the visit.
3.12	Members should note that, in parallel, Invest NI hosted Steve Baker NI Minister of State, during a visit to South Korea. The Minister who was made aware of our programme, had the opportunity to meet with the Mayor of Sejong and invited him to come to Northern Ireland for further discussion on opportunities for bi-lateral trade and collaboration.
	Council of Global City Chief Innovation Officers (CGCC)
3.13	The Council of Global City Chief Information Officers was set up in 2016 and brings together the leaders and commissioners for innovation and digital technologies from European cities. The aim of the Council, which is supported by Bloomberg Associates, is for cities to share best practice, practice and strategic advice on smart cities, digital technologies and urban innovation.

3.14	CGCC originated in the US in 2016 and was led by chief technology officials in San Francisco and Washington DC with a focus on developing a model for smart cities; digital connectivity; and open source and code-sharing.
3.15	CGCC has been invited to Ireland on 22nd and 23rd May by the CEO of Dublin City Council for its bi-annual meeting. Invites have been issued to the CIOs of Amsterdam, Athens, Barcelona, Bratislava, Dublin, Helsinki, Karlsruhe, Kyiv, London, Milan, New York, Tallinn, The Hague and Zurich. The group have expressed an interest in visiting Belfast to find out about our urban innovation ambition.
3.16	A visit by these CIOs would allow us to showcase Belfast's digital innovation ambition to influential European partners and to explore collaborative economic and innovation opportunities. (Note: the City Innovation Manager has been invited by Bloomberg to become a member of the group to represent the Smart Belfast Innovation ambition.)
3.17	The CGCC will hear about the Smart Belfast programme, the Belfast Smart District and City Deal investments. There will be a focus on smart tourism and the local creative industries sector, highlighting our Augment the City initiative and Belfast Stories development, with a visit to Ulster University's Virtual Production Studio. Ormeau Baths will also present on its role in supporting Belfast's innovation ecosystem and highlight some of the SMEs located at its coworking space.
3.18	The Lord Mayor has been invited to attend the event and welcome the CGCC members to Belfast.
Financial and Resource Implications	
3.19	<p><u>UK-Republic of Korea Innovation Twins Programme</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Overall Belfast visit programme schedule will be led and funded by Invest NI Staff from the City Innovation Office will work with the Enterprise and Business Growth Unit to plan the hosting of the dinner for the Mayor of Sejong and his team - estimated at under £3,000. The cost for hosting the dinner will come from existing Smart Cities Budget. Costs associated with roadmap development will be funded through BEIS/Connected Places Catapult Costs for the Sejong visit to develop the programme and area/s of interest will be met by BEIS/Connected Places Catapult <p>In TOTAL £32,500 funding from BEIS/CPC being received.</p>

3.20	<p><u>Council of Global City CIOs</u></p> <p>£800 for catering for approx. 30 global leaders, including tea and coffee on arrival, and lunch. Final costs subject to confirmation of final attendee numbers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This will come from existing Smart Cities budget. <p>NOTE: Ormeau Baths has agreed to provide its event space at no cost.</p>
	Equality or Good Relations Implications / Rural Needs Assessment
3.21	None
4.0	Documents Attached
	None



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

Restricted Reports

Is this report restricted?

Yes

☐

No

☒

If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?

After Committee Decision

After Council Decision

Sometime in the future

Never

☐
☐
☐
☐

Call-in

Is the decision eligible for Call-in?

Yes

☒

No

☐

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
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.
2.0	Recommendations
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.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>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.</p>

3.2	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.
3.3	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.
3.4	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.
3.5	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.
3.6	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.
3.7	This small-scale tree planting proposal would still add a small contribution towards the Council's ongoing 'One Million Tree' planting initiative.
	<u>Financial and Resource Implications</u>
3.8	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.
	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications /Rural Needs Assessments</u>
3.9	None
4.0	Documents Attached
	None



Subject:	Update on Area Working Groups
Date:	21st April, 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"/>
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 present to the Committee for approval the minutes of the most recent meetings of the Area Working Groups.
2.0	Recommendations
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.
3.0	Main Report
	<u>KEY ISSUES</u>
3.1	Area Working Group Minutes 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>Project Updates</p> <p><i>East AWG – BIF Funding Allocation</i></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"> • an additional £215,000 be allocated to Bloomfield Community Association [BIF13]; and • an additional £35,000 be allocated to provide additional storage facilities for sports clubs (Tullycarnet, Cregagh Wanderers, Nettlefield Multi-Sports and Bredagh GAC) [ELIF031]. <p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></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><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/ Rural Needs Assessment</u></p>
3.4	<p>None</p>
4.0	<p>Documents Attached</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



Subject:	Update on Physical Programme
Date:	21st April, 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"/>
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 Council's Physical Programme currently includes 170 capital projects with investment of £150m+ via a range of internal and external funding streams, together with projects which the Council delivers on behalf of external agencies. The Council's Capital Programme forms part of the Physical Programme and is a rolling programme of investment which either improves existing Council facilities or provides new facilities.</p> <p>This report presents an overview of recent funding secured since last month which completes the reporting for the financial year 2022-23.</p>

2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is asked to note the update in relation to funding secured up to 31 st , March 2023.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p><i>Physical Programme</i></p> <p>Members will be aware that the Council runs a substantial Physical Programme. This includes the rolling Capital Programme – a multimillion regeneration programme of investment across the city which improves existing Council assets or provides new council facilities. The Council also delivers externally focused funding streams such as Belfast Investment Fund (BIF), Local Investment Fund (LIF), Social Outcomes Fund (SOF) and Neighbourhood Regeneration Fund (NRF), as well as numerous capital programmes that we deliver for central government. Our funding partners include National Lottery Heritage Fund, SEUPB Peace IV, the Executive Office via Social Investment Fund and Urban Villages, DfC, DfI, DAERA, Ulster Garden Villages, Levelling Up Fund (LUF) and others. When appropriate, the Physical Programmes Department is happy to arrange site visits to any projects that have been completed.</p>
3.2	<p><i>Externally Funded Projects</i></p> <p>The Committee is asked to note that letters of offer and amended letters of offer have now been received for a number of projects where the Council is acting as the delivery agent. Amended letters of offer are commonly received to reflect minor adjustments required following tender returns. Several of these projects are match funded by the Council, either under the various funding streams i.e. LIF/BIF/SOF or through close alignment with ongoing Council initiatives. The details are attached at Appendix 1 and Members are asked to note the summary provided.</p>
	<u>Financial and Resources Implications</u>
3.3	<p><i>Finance</i> – None</p> <p><i>Resources</i> – Officer time to deliver as required</p>
3.4	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/ Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None</p>
4.0	<u>Document Attached</u>
	Capital Letters of Offer (16 th to 31st March 2023)

Capital Letters of Offer 16 March 2023 - 31 March 2023

Project	Funder	Amount
<i>Marrowbone Sacred Heart (Amendment)</i>	DfC	£40,000
<i>BCC Public Realms Work Heritage Centre Roddy McCorley (Amendment)</i>	DfC	£250,000
Urban Villages Sandy Row Arts and Digital Hub	TEO	£706,856
Green & Blue Infrastructure Fund - Grey to Green – Blue / Green Projects	DfI	£400,000
Green & Blue Infrastructure Fund - Active Travel Enablers – Active Travel Project	DfI	£402,500
<i>SIF - Walkway Community Centre (Amendment)</i>	TEO	£1,695,229
<i>Covid-19 Letter of Variance No. 8 (Amendment)</i>	DfC	£4,039,000
<i>Black Mountain Shared Space – Phase 2 Finlay's Site (Amendment)</i>	IFI	£500,000
Lagan Gateway Greenway (Phase 2)	DfI	£714,326

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Belfast
City Council

Subject:	Update on Contracts
Date:	21st April, 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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> seek approval from the Committee for tenders and Single Tender Actions (STA) over £30,000; and ask the Committee to note contract modifications to contract term and retrospective Single Tender Actions (STAs).
2.0	Recommendation
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); and note the award of retrospective STAs in line with Standing Order 55 exceptions as detailed in Appendix 1 (Table 3)

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 that 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 up to £100,000, for up to 6 months, awarded to MCS Group, for Requirement for Environmental Health Officers (EHOs) and Technical Support Officers (TSOs) are required for 24hr shift rota cover for essential service delivery within the Port Health service (fully funded). The existing contracted provider for T1792 Provision of Temporary Agency Resources: Matrix SCM have confirmed they are unable to fulfil the required roles of Environmental Health Officer (Port Health) and Technical Support Officers within the contractually agreed time period. • a contract for up to £70,000, for up to 2 days, awarded to Atelier Sisú for the acquisition of a unique Giant Bubble Art Installation. The Festival Board decided that the unique design was best fitting to enhance the festival on an international setting with lots of social network opportunities to showcase Belfast's most iconic landmarks and enhance the ambience and curiosity around Belfast's Maritime Event offering. • a contract for up to £2.3m for up to 12 months, awarded to Bryson Recycling for the provision of kerbside collections & treatment services for recyclable materials. Requirement for the current contract to be extended for up to 12 months to enable the findings of a feasibility study and members feedback to be considered in the subsequent procurement exercise. There is no service provider currently in the local market with the capacity or capability to tender for the service on a short-term contract basis. This was confirmed recently (Oct/ Nov 22) when Bryson were the only supplier to express an interest as part of a pre-market engagement exercise. • a concession contract for catering services (i.e. café and small events) at Malone House, for up to 10 months, with an estimated annual gross revenue of £435,000 for

	<p>the service provider (based on pre-Covid figures). Income estimated to the council of approx. 5% of revenue (£22k per annum). The department are in negotiations with a number of suppliers to secure service provision and agree contracts. The name of selected supplier will be reported back to Committee once agreed. Due to previous suppliers withdrawing services and an increasing demand from residents and elected members to open this facility there is an urgent requirement to appoint a provider as soon as possible. Undertaking a publicly advertised tender process would delay appointment of a catering provider resulting in reputational damage for the Council and the loss of further business. The council has struggled to secure and retain a catering service provider at this venue for a number of years despite number attempts via open tender competition.</p>
3.5	<p>The following retrospective STAs were awarded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a contract for up to £59,915, for up to 3 months, awarded to Energy Systems Catapult, for the delivery of a feasibility study within the UKRI Pioneer Places funded Net Zero Belfast initiative (fully funded). The funding award is to Belfast City Council so this will require a contract for the use of Energy Systems Catapult and allocation of external funding for that purpose.
3.6	<p>CPS review of the Complex Lives Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complex Lives is a whole system approach that was developed by Doncaster Council (with support from MPSS) to address issues of substance use, mental health and homelessness in the city centre with a view to providing planned, coordinated, wraparound support to those impacted by these issues thereby reducing impact at individual, organisational and societal level. <p>This project began as an exploratory STA of £9.5k which was followed by STAs for the values of £29,900 and £23,400.</p> <p>The project has continually grown in scope since its inception which has resulted in forecasted spend for the project now projected to be approximately £307,000.</p> <p>As a result of this, CPS have reviewed the project spend and have advised that as result of forecasted spend; the project will now be subject to a full procurement exercise. Committee is asked to grant approval to tender to the value of £200,000.</p>

	<p>In addition, as part of the review, CPS has identified that approximately £45k spend to date has not been subject to any procurement exercise and that this will need to be regularised by way of a retrospective STA for £45K.</p> <p>This project is jointly funded between BCC and BHSCT, BPCSP, DfC, NIHE, PBNI, PHA and PSNI, with several other partners also involved in the oversight and implementation to Chief Executive level.</p>
	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
	<p>Appendix 1</p> <p>Table 1 - Competitive Tenders</p> <p>Table 2 - Single Tender Actions</p> <p>Table 3 - Retrospective Single Tender Actions</p>

Table 1: Competitive Tenders

Title of Tender	Proposed Contract Duration	Estimated Total Contract Value	SRO	Short description of goods / services
Replacement media relations software	Up to 4 years	Up to £38,400	P Gribben	Current contract is coming to an end and needs to be renewed
Appoint an appropriately experienced contractor to develop and deliver Belfast PCSP's Young People Cyber Safety Project 2023 – 2026 (Fully Funded)	Up to 3 years and 4 months	Up to £85,000	D Sales	PCSP funding is made available on an annual basis and the tender will be awarded with annual renewal, subject to adequate performance, PCSP approval and funding availability.
Appoint an appropriately experienced contractor to develop and deliver Belfast PCSP's Older Adults Cyber Safety Project 2023 – 2026 (Fully Funded)	Up to 3 years and 4 months	Up to £105,000	D Sales	PCSP funding is made available on an annual basis and the tender will be awarded with annual renewal, subject to adequate performance, PCSP approval and funding availability.
Asylum immigration advice project (Fully Funded)	Up to 9 months	Up to £72,000	D Sales	Council has received funding from the Executive Office to support asylum seeking communities. This proposal has been based on need identified through the Migrant Forum and Refugee and Asylum Forum
QRadar SIEM provision	Up to 3 years	Up to £106,573.98	T Wallace	A critical IT security device that can accept logs from many devices and alert/defend against Cyber Attack and Malware events in real time

Appendix 1

Electrical vehicle fitted with power washer (Fully Funded)	One off Purchase	Up to £50,000	D Sales	DfC have provided £50k of funding to assist with the Cleansing Fleet Enhancement Project
Complex Lives Project Support (Partly funded)	Up	Up to £200,000	J Tully and D Sales	The provision of strategic advice, development and independent support to support senior managers and staff with progressing this project.

Table 2: Single Tender Actions

Title	Duration	Total Value	SRO	Description	Supplier
Requirement for Environmental Health Officers (EHOs) and Technical Support Officers (TSOs) are required for 24hr shift rota cover for essential service delivery within the Port Health Service (Fully funded)	Up to 6 months	Up to £100,000	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 Environmental Health Officer (Port Health) and Technical Support Officers within the contractually agreed time period.	MCS Group
The acquisition of a unique Giant Bubble Art Installation by Atelier Sisu	2 days	Up to £70,000	J Greer	The Festival Board decided that the unique design was best fitting to enhance the festival on an international setting with lots of social network opportunities to showcase Belfast's most iconic landmarks and enhance the ambience and curiosity around Belfast's Maritime Event offering.	Atelier Sisu
Provision of kerbside collections and treatment services for recyclable materials	Up to 12 months	Up to £2.3m	C Matthews	Requirement for the current contract to be extended for up to 12 months to enable the findings of a feasibility study and members feedback to be considered in the subsequent procurement exercise. There is no service provider currently in the local	Bryson Recycling

				market with the capacity or capability to tender for the service on a short-term contract basis. This was confirmed recently (Oct/Nov 22) when Bryson were the only supplier to express an interest as part of a pre-market engagement exercise.	
Catering service in Malone House	Up to 10 months	£453,000 estimated annual revenue for service provider. 5%/ £22k per annum estimated income for council	J Greer	Due to previous contractors withdrawing services and an increasing demand from residents and elected members to open this facility there is an urgent requirement to appoint a provider as soon as possible. Undertaking a publicly advertised tender process would delay appointment of a catering provider resulting in reputational damage for the council and the loss of further business. The council has struggled to secure and retain a catering service provider at this venue for a number of years despite number attempts via open tender competition.	TBC at later date. Dept in negotiations with a number of suppliers to secure service provision asap.

Table 3: Retrospective Single Tender Actions

Title of Contract	Duration	Total Value	SRO	Description	Supplier
Delivery of a feasibility study within the UKRI Pioneer Places funded Net Zero Belfast initiative (Fully funded)	Up to 3 months	Up to £59,915	J Tully	The funding award is to Belfast City Council so this will require a contract for the use of Energy Systems Catapult and allocation of external funding for that purpose.	Energy Systems Catapult
Printer copy charges	Up to 1 year	Up to £100,000	P Gribben	Payment of copy charges for existing multi-function printers. The supplier has exclusive rights to these printers and the STA is required in the interim pending a full refresh of our printer estate.	SCC

Appendix 1

Complex Lives Project Support	8 months	£45,000	J Tully	The provision of strategic advice, development and independent support to support senior managers and staff with progressing this project (August 22 to March 23 spend)	Marsh Public Service Solutions
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Subject:	Minutes of the Meeting of the Shared City Partnership
Date:	21st April 2023
Reporting Officer:	David Sales, Director of Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Nicola Lane, Neighbourhood Services Manager Godfrey McCartney, Good Relations 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	To report to the Committee the key issues discussed at the meeting of the Shared City Partnership held on 27th March.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is requested to approve the minutes and recommendations from the Shared City Partnership Meeting held on 27 ^h March 2023 including:
2.2	<p><u>PEACEPLUS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To note, the high-level feedback on the Peace Plus Programme, including an update on the Thematic Group Meeting 1 – 22nd March – St Comgall's; and further updated on Stage 2 development of the Local Action Plan, including forthcoming Thematic Working Group meetings.

	<p><u>PEACE IV</u></p> <p>2.3 Secretariat</p> <p>To note the contents of the report and agree:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. <p>2.4 CYP Theme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To note the contents of the report and note and agree: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. <p>2.5 SSS Theme</p> <p>To agree:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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). <p>2.6 BPR Theme</p> <p>To agree the following proposals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BPR6 St Comgall's - note the project is moving into closure phase. The project is submitting further evidence on completion of contact hours for 6 final adult participants. <p>Delegate authority to the Thematic Chairs of the Programme Board to approve the final completion numbers for closure of the project.</p> <p><u>GOOD RELATIONS</u></p>
2.7	<p>Quarter 4 report on the delivery of the Council's Good Relations Action Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommend to note the contents of the report.
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 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 27th March were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on PEACE PLUS – Local Community Peace Action Plan • PEACE IV Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Update on PEACE IV Secretariat ○ Update on PEACE IV CYP Theme ○ Update on PEACE IV SSS Theme ○ Update on PEACE IV BPR Theme • Good Relations Action Plan 2023/24 Quarter 4 Update <p>More details regarding the above issues and recommendations are included in the minutes of the meeting at 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 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**

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 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**

Deliverable targets	Targets achieved
<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 27th March 2023.

- **Youth Engagement & Civic Education**

Deliverable targets	Targets achieved
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"> • 278 young participants (72%) have achieved a minimum of 60 contact hours. • 360 young participants (93%) have achieved a minimum of 48 contact hours.

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 completion 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)
	48 out of 40 target complete (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.

Code	Project Summary	Budget	Progress in Quarter 4	Total allocated in Q4
BCC1	Council Good Relations Grants Programme.	£120,000	Projects delivery ongoing	£0
BCC2	St Patrick's Day Celebration programme	£30,000	Projects delivered in Q4.	£0
BCC3	Cultural Expression Programme	£50,000	Cultural Inclusion programme activity delivered in Q4	£0
BCC4	Civic Engagement and Learning Programme	£37,600	Project delivery ongoing	£0
BCC5	Inclusion Programme	£74,805.15	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	£800 £1,000 £1,500 £300 Total: £3,600

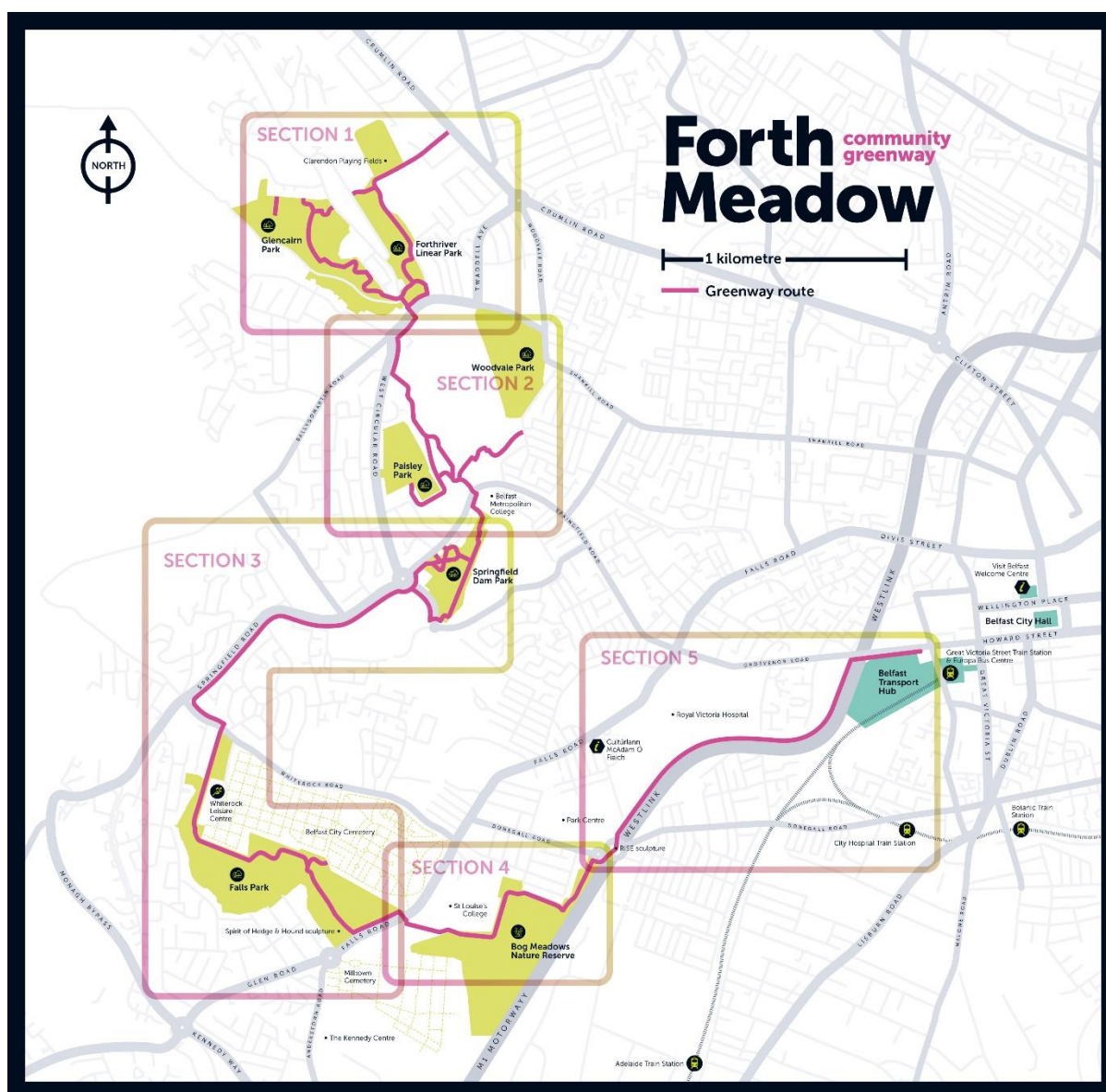
BCC6	Shared City Building Relations Programme	£39,244.85	Project delivery complete	£0
BCC7	Interface Engagement	£70,000	Projects completed	£0
BCC8	Shared Education Schools Programme	£25,000	Project delivery ongoing	£0
BCC 9	Strategic Intervention Programme	£48,000	Projects completed	£0
BCC10	Civic Leadership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

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.

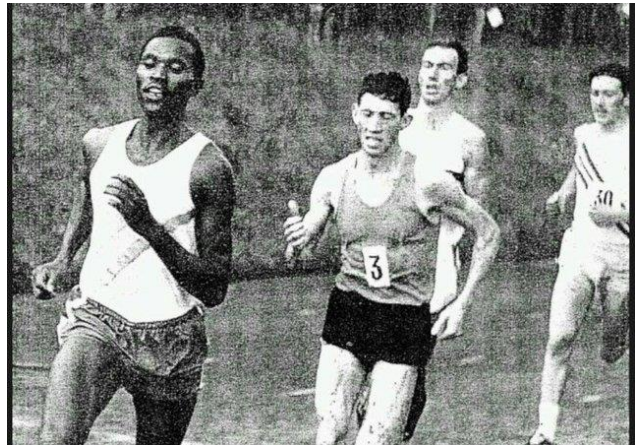
Teams from football, boxing, bowling and athletics competed all over the world. Boxer Wayne McCollough started at the Albert Foundry Boxing Club and soon won world titles.

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-19th century to the early 20th 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 Scribbsen'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.

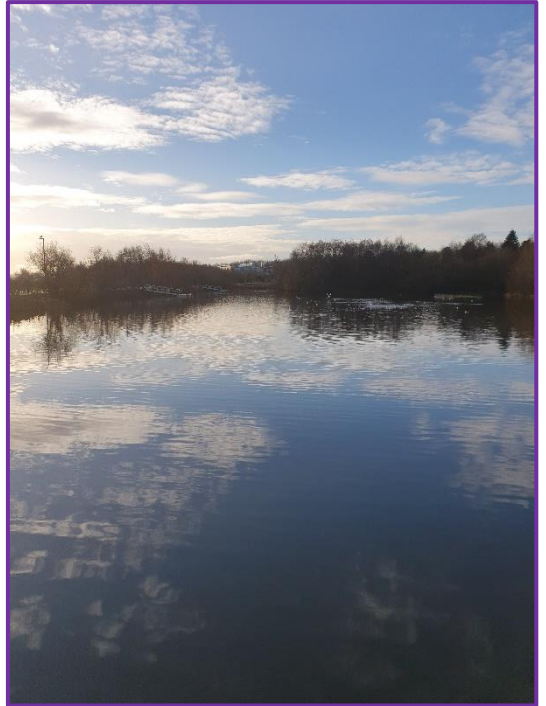
There was once a time the water froze, tragically.

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 21st 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

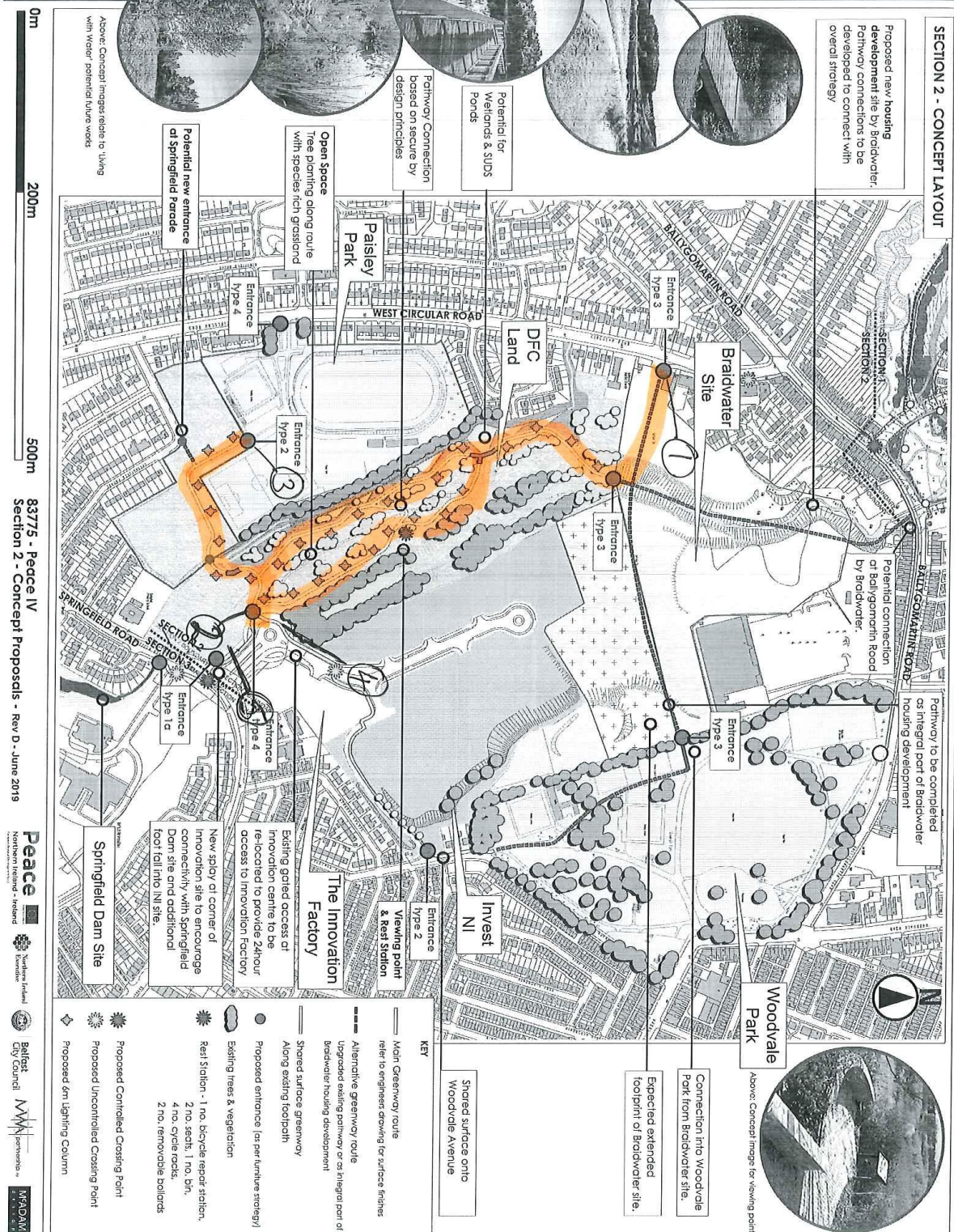
1. Information Panel - entrance to this section coming from West Circular Road
2. Information Panel - entrance onto the section from roundabout at Innovation Factory
3. Information Panel – at the gate to Paisley Park
4. Location for the Flagship Art Piece – “Carry Each Other”
5. FMCG Beacon

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 its history, along with the history of the factories that were once a big feature of this area.

SECTION 2 - CONCEPT CONTEXTUAL MASTERPLAN



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

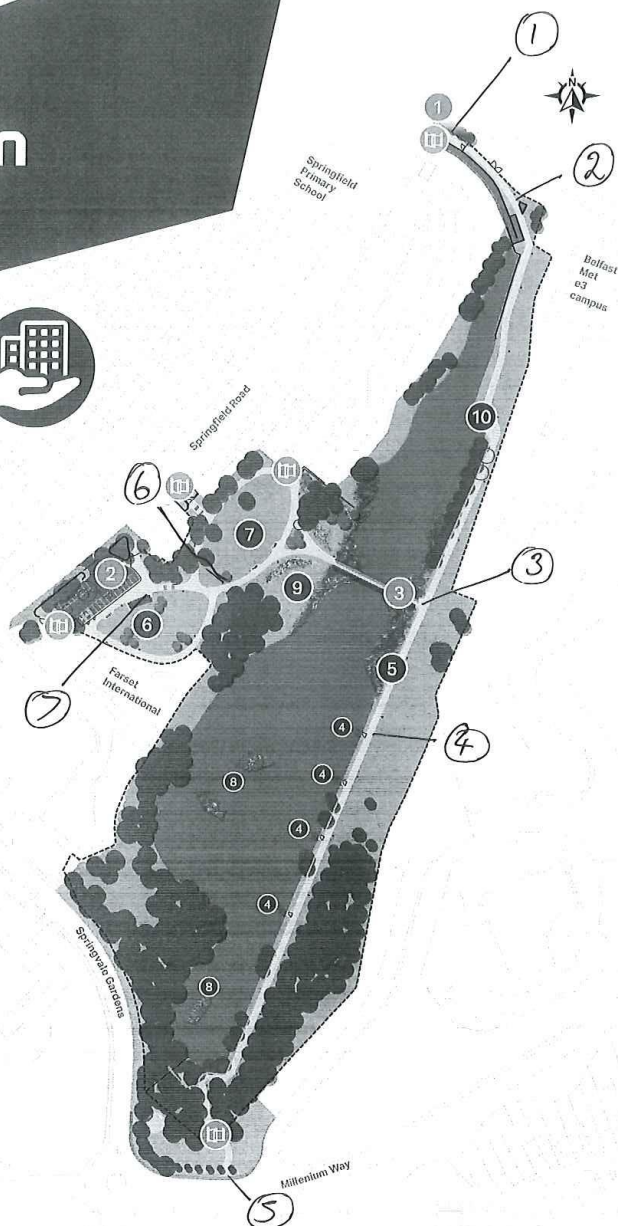
Fishing stands ⑤ will be positioned along the east bank of the dam. A circular pathway ⑥ will provide quiet and scenic places for walking, jogging and exercising. A new modular classroom ⑦ will provide a year-round meeting place for schools and community groups. Dedicated outdoor event space ⑧ will enable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

Peace
Northern Ireland - Ireland



Belfast City Council



Widening Horizons
Government of Ireland



Northern Ireland Executive
Executive Office of the Prime Minister



Department of Communities
Department of Communities

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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Belfast
City Council

Subject:	Requests for the use of the City Hall and the Provision of Hospitality
Date:	21st April, 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 and the attached appendix contain the recommended approach in respect of those requests from external organisations for access to the City Hall function rooms received up to 3rd April.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to approve the recommendations as set out in the attached appendix.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p><u>Background Information</u></p> <p>The current criteria for use of the function rooms used to review external applications is as follows:</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 • 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. • 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	<p>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.</p>
3.4	<p>The attached schedule attached covers three applications for functions, scheduled for 2023 and 2025.</p>
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	<p>Documents Attached</p>
	<p>Schedule of function requests received up to 3rd April, 2023.</p>

APRIL 2023 CITY HALL FUNCTION APPLICATIONS

NAME OF ORGANISATION	FUNCTION DATE	FUNCTION DESCRIPTION	CRITERIA MET	ROOM CHARGE	HOSPITALITY OFFERED	CIVIC HQ RECOMMEND
2023 EVENTS						
EMBRACE	19 October 2023	20th Anniversary Celebration of Embrace - a group of Christians working together to promote response to people seeking asylum, refugees and migrant workers. Numbers attending 50	C	No charge as charity	Yes, Drinks reception as anniversary	Approve No Charge Drinks Reception <i>£500 given to their chosen caterer.</i>
2025 EVENTS						
Belfast Philharmonic Society	21 June 2025	Belfast Philharmonic Society 150th Anniversary Dinner - Drinks Reception, Awards, Dinner and entertainment. Numbers attending – 200	C	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>
C S Lewis Foundation	24 July 2025	Opening Reception for C S Lewis Summer Institute for guests attending their 7-day conference taking place in QUB. Numbers attending - 300	A & B	No (Waiver as linked to Visit Belfast)	No hospitality	Approve No Charge No hospitality

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Minutes of Party Group Leaders' Consultative Forum Monday 17th 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** - 12th May
- **National Deafblind Awareness Week** - 27th June
- **World Diabetes Day** – 14th November
- **Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Day** 16th 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.