

Public Document Pack

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

8th August, 2023

MEETING OF PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

Dear Alderman/Councillor,

In addition to those matters previously notified to you, the following item(s) will also be considered at the meeting to be held at 5.15 pm on Tuesday, 8th August, 2023.

Yours faithfully,

John Walsh

Chief Executive

AGENDA:

1. Routine Matters

- (d) Request to Present to Committee (Pages 1 - 4)

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Subject:	Request to Present to Committee – Keep Recycling Local
Date:	8th August, 2023
Reporting Officer:	Cathy Matthews, Director – Resources and Fleet, CNS
Contact Officer:	Sara Steele, 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 bring to Members’ attention a request received from Keep Recycling Local to address the Committee.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is asked to consider the request and decide whether it wishes to extend an invitation for representatives to attend a future meeting of the Committee.
3.0	Main Report
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.1	A request has been received from Keep Recycling Local seeking permission to address the Committee on recycling and the circular economy.

3.2	<p>The group itself is a campaign group made up of businesses and organisations with the following aims:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encourage source segregation of glass, paper and cardboard and plastics, cans and cartons 2. Incentivise local processing 3. Publish end destinations of waste collected in NI.
3.3	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None at this stage.</p>
3.4	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications / Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None.</p>
4.0	<p>Appendices - Documents Attached</p>
	<p>Copy of correspondence from Keep Recycling Local</p>



Aaron McMullan
Democratic Services
Belfast City Council
Belfast City Hall,
Belfast,
BT1 5GS
aaron.mcmullan@belfastcity.gov.uk
3rd July 2023

Dear Aaron,

Request to present to the People and Communities Committee on recycling and the circular economy

I am writing to you in my capacity as a consultant to Keep Recycling Local (KRL) seeking an opportunity to present to the Environment Committee.

KRL is a recently launched campaign group created to help raise awareness about recycling in Northern Ireland.

Our aim is to ensure that the recyclable materials collected here are also processed in Northern Ireland, to aid the circular economy and benefit our environment.

Currently the reprocessing sector in Northern Ireland provides more than 800 jobs and is worth an average of £100m per annum. We want to grow this for the benefit of the local economy, the environment and to improve the competitiveness of local industry.

Our campaign is led by prominent NI organisations such as Encirc, Enva and Bryson Recycling and is supported by a range of others such as British Glass, Coca-Cola HBC Ireland and Northern Ireland, Friends of the Earth, Tetra-Pak, Ulster Wildlife, Action for Cartons in the Environment and Alupro.

We understand that DAERA will soon consult on statutory guidance requiring Councils to separate recycling during collections to maximise the availability of recyclable materials in the local market.

It is our view that, for the Northern Ireland economy to fully benefit from the proposed policy change, materials need to be collected in at least three streams to reduce contamination, ensuring Councils collect high quality materials which can more readily be reprocessed locally.

Streaming collections to maximise the resale potential of household and business recycling has the potential to make a significant saving to the ratepayer.

With the upcoming statutory guidance changes expected to have an impact on how collections are managed, and ahead of the upcoming DAERA consultation, we would appreciate the opportunity to present to members of the Council's Environment Committee at the earliest convenience (post July) to outline the benefits associated with keeping recycling local.

Given the potential savings for Councils, and that this is a core Council service provision, it might also be helpful for officials from the Chief Executive's Office and Finance Directorate to attend. Equally, we would be more than happy to speak with them separately.

I look forward to hearing from you shortly.

Yours Sincerely

Nicola Carruthers

Consultant

Keep Recycling Local

E: nicola@keeprecyclinglocal.com

W: www.keeprecyclinglocal.com

CC: John Walsh (Chief Executive)

aidan.mcpeake@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk

Cllr Micky Murray (People and Communities Committee Chair)

micky.murray@belfastcity.gov.uk

Cllr Michael Donnelly (People and Communities Committee Deputy-Chair)

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