

Public Document Pack

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

MEETING OF CITY GROWTH AND REGENERATION 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 Wednesday, 13th March, 2024.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN WALSH

Chief Executive

AGENDA:

2. Presentations

- (b) Request to Present - Translink: Belfast Grand Central Station (Pages 1 - 4)

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| Subject: | Translink Request to Present on the Belfast Grand Central Station |
| Date: | 13 th March 2024 |
| Reporting Officer: | Kate Bentley, Director of Planning and Building Control |
| Contact Officer: | Sean Dolan, Senior Development Manager, City Regeneration & Development |

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| 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Please indicate the description, as listed in Schedule 6, of the exempt information by virtue of which the council has deemed this report restricted.

Insert number

1. Information relating to any individual
2. Information likely to reveal the identity of an individual
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the council holding that information)
4. Information in connection with any labour relations matter
5. Information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained
6. Information showing that the council proposes to (a) to give a notice imposing restrictions on a person; or (b) to make an order or direction
7. Information on any action in relation to the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime

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

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| 1.0 | Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues |
| | To request that the Members of the CG&R Committee receive a presentation from Translink at the April Meeting on the Belfast Grand Central Station. |
| 2.0 | Recommendations |
| 2.1 | <p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Agree to receive a presentation from Translink on the Belfast Grand Central Station at the April Meeting of the CG&R Committee. ii. Agree that the invitation for the presentation is to include all Members of Belfast City Council. |
| 3.0 | Main report |
| 3.1 | <p>Background</p> <p>As an NI Executive Flagship Project construction commenced on the the new transport hub, Belfast Grand Central Station in 2020 and is due to be completed in 2025. This £250m investment will be the main transport gateway to Belfast combining rail, bus and coach connections into a modern facility, and will open up a major transport led regeneration project in the Weavers Cross regeneration opportunity. The key benefits of the scheme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integration: Designed to be a multi modal transport hub with 26 bus stands, 8 railway platforms, cycle and taxi provision for enhanced comfort and capacity to attract even more people to choose greener, active travel for a healthier city. • Enhanced passenger capacity: Belfast Grand Central Station will cater for around 20 million passenger journeys each year. • Commercial Business & Investment: At the heart of a dynamic new 'Weavers Cross' mixed-use development, boasting a range of commercial opportunities to support the local economy and provide sustainable end use jobs. • Regeneration: The station investment is the catalyst to reconnect and reinvigorate adjacent Sandy Row and Lower Falls neighbourhoods. • Public Realm: A new accessible civic space, named Saltwater Square, inviting more people to access and enjoy the area. • New Gateway: To attract and welcome visitors worldwide providing an excellent first impression to NI – including relocation of the Enterprise Train. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Job Creation: Providing over 400 jobs during the construction phase with the added commitment to education and skills training for apprenticeships and new entrants opportunities for local people. |
| 3.2 | <p>To date the construction works have largely been contained to within the site boundary, however throughout 2024 and 2025 the construction works will include utility diversions on the surrounding streets, public realm and junction improvement works on Great Victoria St, Grosvenor Road, Durham St, Sandy Row, Glengall St and Hope St as well as rail works to transfer the rail network into the new Belfast Grand Central Station.</p> |
| 3.3 | <p>The Translink team provided a presentation to the Special Meeting of the CG&R Committee in January 2024 providing detail on the positive benefits of the delivery of the Belfast Grand Central Station along with an outline of the planned construction activities for 2024/25.</p> |
| 3.4 | <p>Request to Present</p> <p>Following the presentation in January Translink have requested to present an update on the Belfast Grand Central Station works to the April Meeting of the CG&R Committee. This presentation will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An update on the Belfast Grand Central Station construction timelines including public realm works. • Planned Traffic Management activities. • Closure of Great Victoria Street Station. • Planned Summer railway closures. |
| 3.5 | <p>Translink have requested that this presentation is restricted until they commence their wider public communication and engagement plan.</p> |
| 3.6 | <p>Given the wide-reaching impacts of the wider Weavers Cross and Belfast Grand Central Station works, and the pending Streetworks it is recommended that invitations to this presentation are widened to include all Council Members.</p> |
| 3.7 | <p>Officers have requested that the presentation is shared with Members at least one week in advance of the Special meeting.</p> |

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| 4.0 | Finance & Resource Implications |
| | There are no finance or resource implications associated with this report |
| 5.0 | Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment |
| | There are no Equality or Good Relation Implications/Rural Needs Assessment requirements associated with this report |
| 6.0 | Appendices |
| | None |