

# Public Document Pack

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



**Belfast  
City Council**

10th September, 2025

## **PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Dear Alderman/Councillor,

The above-named Committee will meet in hybrid format, both in the Lavery Room, City Hall and remotely, via Microsoft Teams, on Tuesday, 16th September, 2025 at 5.00 pm, for the transaction of the business noted below.

You are requested to attend.

Yours faithfully,

John Walsh

Chief Executive

## **AGENDA:**

### **10. Miscellaneous Reports**

- (b) Notices of Motion - Annual Update (Pages 1 - 6)

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Subject:	Notices of Motion – Annual Update
Date:	16 <sup>th</sup> September 2025
Reporting Officer:	Kate Bentley, Director of Planning and Building Control
Contact Officer:	Christina Bateson, Business Research and Development Officer

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

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues</b>
1.1	This report provides an annual update on the Notices of Motion that the Planning Committee is responsible for, in line with the agreement of the Strategic Policy & Resources (SP&R) Committee that all standing committees receive regular updates.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	It is recommended that the Committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notes the updates to all Notices of Motion and Issues Raised in Advance that Planning Committee is responsible for, as referenced in Appendix 1 and</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agree to the closure of Notices of Motion and Issues Raised in Advance, numbers 236 and 374 as referenced in Appendix 1 and paragraph 3.4 below.</li> </ul>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main report</b>
3.1	<p>At the <a href="#">SP&amp;R Committee meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> October 2019</a>, members agreed “<i>that this Council notes that other Councils produce a monthly status report in relation to Notices of Motion; and agrees Belfast City Council adopts a similar practice and produces a monthly Notice of Motion Update which will be brought to each full Council Meeting, detailing the following:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Date received</i></li> <li><i>Notice of motion title</i></li> <li><i>Submitted by which Councillor</i></li> <li><i>Council meeting date</i></li> <li><i>Committee motion is referred to</i></li> <li><i>Outcome of committee where Notice of Motion will be debated</i></li> <li><i>Month it will be reported back to committee</i></li> <li><i>Other action to be taken.”</i></li> </ol>
3.2	<p>Following a review exercise, a new database containing all Notices of Motion and Issues Raised in Advance at Committee was created and reporting to Committees commenced in March 2021. Planning Committee is provided with an annual report containing an overview of the actions taken and the progress of each motion that the committee is responsible for.</p>
3.3	<p>At the <a href="#">SP&amp;R Committee on 20th November 2020</a>, members approved the arrangement for the future management of motions, which included recommendations that Notices of Motion could be closed for one of two reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Category 1 – Notice of Motion contained an action that has been completed.</b> All Notices of Motion within this category contained a specific task that has since been complete. It is worth noting that, when Committee agree to action a Notice of Motion, there are sometimes additional actions agreed alongside the Motion. As these are not technically part of the Notice of Motion, they are taken forward through normal committee decision making processes. The Notice of Motion can therefore be closed, but additional actions related to it will continue to be progressed and reported to the committee.</li> <li><b>Category 2 - Notice of Motion has become Council policy or absorbed into a strategic programme of work.</b></li> </ul>

	<p>These Notices of Motion did not contain a specific task that could be complete but rather they are more strategic in nature and require changes in Council policy and/ or strategy for long term outcomes. Those listed within this category have all been agreed by Committee and are now either Council policy or are currently being implemented through a Council strategy that is managed by a Standing Committee through the corporate planning process.</p> <p>3.4 There are presently 3 Notices of Motion and Issues Raised in Advance for which the Planning Committee is responsible for. Members are asked to approve the recommendation to close 2 motions (detailed below) and note status updates for the other motion which remains open. Additional information is included at Appendix 1.</p> <p><b>Category 1 Recommended Closures:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public Local Inquiry for the Dalradian Gold application (ID = 374)</li> </ul> <p>This motion called on Council to intervene in the Inquiry for the Dalradian Gold Planning applications as there was a direct hydrological link to Lough Neagh from the Sperrin mountains which supplies Belfast's drinking water. The Planning Appeals Commission indicated that organisations with similar objections should be grouped together. At its meeting in June, SP&amp;R agreed to outline Council's opposition to the Commission but not actively engaging in the Inquiry and request that Fermanagh and Omagh District Council keep Council informed particularly in respect of the concerns on the impact of the drinking water. It is recommended that this Issue Raised in Advance is now closed.</p> <p><b>Category 2 Recommended Closures:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Historic Belfast Street Signs (ID = 236)</li> </ul> <p>This motion called on Council to put in place practical arrangements to protect and upkeep the traditional black tile street signs which play an important part in the built heritage of Belfast. Research has been carried out in conjunction with DFC's Historic Environmental Division and an application made for external funding. As of May, SP&amp;R agreed that the Historic Tiled Street project would progress to Stage 2 Uncommitted in the Capital Programme. It is recommended that this Notice of Motion is now closed.</p>
3.5	<p><u>Financial &amp; Resource Implications</u></p> <p>There are no additional financial implications attached to this report. Finance and resource implications are considered by Committee when taking decisions on the specific Notices of Motion and Issues Raised by Members.</p>

3.6	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u> There are no equality, good relations or rural needs implications contained in this report.
4.0	<b>Appendices – Documents attached</b>
	<b>Appendix 1:</b> Notices of Motion Live Database – Planning Committee

## Planning Committee Notice of Motions

Notices of Motion and Issued Raised in Advance that remain OPEN

ID	Date	Notice of Motion	Proposed By	Referral Route	Lead Officer	Latest Status Update
279	18/10/2022	<a href="#">City Architect</a>	Cllr Groogan	Issue Raised in Advance (Planning)	Kate Bentley	Progress on this NoM has been constrained due to resource pressures and other priority work areas however, a research report is planned when resources become available.

Notices of Motion and Issued Raised in Advance recommended to CLOSE

ID	Date	Notice of Motion	Proposed By	Referral Route	Lead Officer	Update / Latest Status
236	22/02/2022	<a href="#">Historic Belfast Street Signs</a>	Cllr McKeown	Notice of Motion – referred to Planning	Sinead Grimes	<p><b><u>Recommended to Close (Category 2)</u></b></p> <p>At the <a href="#">SP&amp;R Committee in May</a> it was agreed that the Historic Tiled Street Signs project would progress to Stage 2 – Uncommitted in the Capital Programme.</p> <p>Initial research on this project has been carried out in conjunction with DfC's Historic Environment Division. An application for external funding to support a pilot refurbishment programme has been made and is awaiting decision. Officers are continuing to collate a database of other historic tiled street signs across the city, in order to prepare for further phases of survey work.</p>
374	19/03/2024	<a href="#">Public Local Inquiry for the Dalradian Gold application</a>	Cllr Groogan	Issue Raised in Advance (Planning)	Kate Bentley / Nora Largey	<p><b><u>Recommend to Close (Category 1)</u></b></p> <p>A report in response to this Notice of Motion was before Planning Committee on 18 March 2025 and Members determined that the matter go to Strategic Policy and Research Committee for a decision to be made on the next steps.</p> <p>As indicated previously, the PAC have indicated that organisations with similar objections should be grouped together. The subsequent paper taken to SP&amp;R Cttee outlined the applications by Dalradian Group which are the subject of the</p>

						<p>enquiry and the concerns raised by Fermanagh and Omagh District Council in relation to these applications.</p> <p>Following discussion including an address by Cllr Groogan, Members agreed to adopt an approach similar to Derry and Strabane District Council in outlining the Council's opposition to the Commission but not actively engaging in the Inquiry but request that Fermanagh and Omagh District Council keep Council informed, particularly in respect of the concerns on the impact of the drinking water in the Sperrin Mountains which feeds into Lough Neagh which supplies the drinking water for Belfast; and that a letter also be forwarded outlining the Council's concern regarding the lack of transparency and public access to the Inquiry.</p>
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