

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



**Belfast  
City Council**

6th October, 2021

**MEETING OF PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE**

Dear Alderman/Councillor,

The above-named Committee will be a hybrid meeting (both remote and in person) in the Council Chamber on Tuesday, 12th October, 2021 at 5.15 pm, for the transaction of the business noted below.

You are requested to attend.

Yours faithfully,

SUZANNE WYLIE

Chief Executive

**AGENDA:**

1. **Routine Matters**

- (a) Apologies
- (b) Minutes
- (c) Declarations of Interest

2. **Restricted**

- (a) Resources and Fleet Update (Waste Collections and Management) (Pages 1 - 22)
- (b) Request for the use of Boucher Road Playing Fields (Pages 23 - 26)
- (c) Request for use of Sir Thomas and Lady Dixon Park (Pages 27 - 30)

3. **Committee/Strategic Issues**

- (a) Local Air Quality Management Matters - Update (Pages 31 - 36)

- (b) Update on DAERA consultation on the Designation of Quiet Areas (Pages 37 - 42)
  - (c) Framework Document for Civil Contingencies Northern Ireland (Pages 43 - 48)
  - (d) Update on Commonwealth War Graves (Pages 49 - 52)
4. **Physical Programme and Asset Management**
- (a) Ormeau Park BMX Track (Pages 53 - 54)
5. **Finance, Procurement and Performance**
- (a) Red Cross Funding Extension (Pages 55 - 58)
6. **Operational Issues**
- (a) Proposal for Dual Language Street Signs (Pages 59 - 62)
  - (b) General Maintenance Program at Roselawn Cemetery (Pages 63 - 66)
  - (c) Regional Home Safety Facility (Pages 67 - 70)
  - (d) Update on the Reference Group on Older People (Pages 71 - 92)
7. **Issues Raised in Advance by Members**
- (a) City Centre Safety for Women - Councillor Black
  - (b) Request for Trade Unions to present to Committee - Councillor Cobain

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

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

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

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

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

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

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

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank



<b>Subject:</b>	Committee Update on Local Air Quality Management Matters
<b>Date:</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> October 2021.
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Siobhan Toland Director of City Services, City and Neighbourhood Services Department
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Vivienne Donnelly, City Protection Manger.

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

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues</b>
1.1	The Committee will be aware that a number of ambient air quality projects are presently being progressed by officers from the City and Neighbourhood Services Department, including development of new 5-year Air Quality Action Plan for the city and completion of a detailed assessment for nitrogen dioxide (NO <sub>2</sub> ) and fine particulate matter (PM <sub>2.5</sub> ).
1.2	This report serves to provide a further update to the Committee on progress with these two projects.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	The Committee is requested to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Note the contents of this update report.</li> </ul>

3.0	<b>Main report</b>
3.1	<p><b>Key Issues.</b></p> <p><b>Air Quality Action Plan.</b></p> <p>Members will be aware that the Committee has already received a number of update reports during 2021, concerning progress with development of a new 5-year Air Quality Action Plan for Belfast 2021-2026, including at the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9<sup>th</sup> February 2021 Committee meeting, wherein the Committee considered the various actions proposed by the council and our Air Quality Action Plan Steering Group and Competent Authority partners for inclusion within the new Action Plan, to address the remaining nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) hotspots within our four Air Quality Management Areas and to improve ambient air quality generally for the city. The Committee will be aware that our Air Quality Management Areas have been declared for a combination of exceedances of annual mean and hourly objectives for nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>), associated principally with road transport emissions.</li> <li>• 13<sup>th</sup> April 2021 Committee meeting, wherein Members considered proposals for public consultation and engagement on the new Air Quality Action Plan.</li> </ul>
3.2	<p>The Committee is advised that as part of the now completed consultation and engagement process, the council undertook a 12-week public consultation exercise into a draft version of the new Air Quality Action Plan 2021-2026 from the 12<sup>th</sup> May to 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2021 inclusive. The consultation process comprised a detailed online questionnaire, delivered via the council's 'Your say Belfast' consultation hub, and the provision of four online information events to equality groups that had been identified by the council. As a consequence of the continuing Covid 19 pandemic, no face-to-face consultation events were held. The online questionnaire was augmented by a non-technical summary of the Action Plan and an Equality Screening and a Rural Needs Assessment. The consultation exercise was publicised via the council's various social media channels, through email and via the Summer 2021 edition of the Belfast City Council 'City Matters' residents' magazine, which is provided to every Belfast household. Consultation emails were also sent to those interest groups specifically identified for engagement by the council's People and Communities Committee, including, adjoining councils; the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust; the British Heart and Lung Foundation; Belfast Healthy Cities; Belfast Chamber of Commerce; Friends of the Earth; Belfast Taxis and Trade Unions, etc. The consultation process was designed to achieve the statutory consultation requirements detailed within, 'Schedule 2 Air Quality: Supplemental Provisions. Consultation Requirements' of the Environment (Northern Ireland) Order 2002.</p>

3.3	<p>The Committee will be aware that the Air Quality Action Plan proposes various measures to further address ambient concentrations of nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>), grouped under the broad themes of public transport, active travel, sustainable energy and fuels, and monitoring and reporting of ambient air quality. Consultees were therefore invited to give their views on the importance of taking forward the various Air Quality Action Plan measures proposed under these themes. We then invited consultees to provide comments on the proposed measures, to provide recommendations for additional measures or actions to be included within the final Action Plan, to provide views on the current state of ambient air quality within Belfast, to comment on any lifestyle changes that consultees would themselves be prepared to make in order to further improve ambient air quality, to indicate their support for the actions contained within the Action Plan and to provide any additional comments. We received 65 responses from individuals and specific interest groups at the conclusion of the consultation process.</p>
3.4	<p>For the purpose of communicating the outcome of the consultation process to our Air Quality Action Plan Steering Group and Competent Authority partners, we have circulated a summary of the consultation responses and recommendations received and we will also be providing a detailed statistical analysis of the consultation process as a separate report. In addition, we have invited Steering Group members and Competent Authorities to consider the outcome of the consultation process and to indicate whether they wish to amend or augment the Action Plan measures that they have proposed, in light of the consultation process. Their responses and any amendments will be captured in an Appendix to the Air Quality Action Plan. It is the council's intention that subject to fulfilling all general data protection requirements, a formal consultation report will be published as an addendum to the final Air Quality Action Plan.</p>
3.5	<p>The Committee is advised concerning some of the headline statistics from the consultation process, e.g. around 75% of the respondents live, work or study in Belfast; around 85% of respondents strongly agree and a further 10% agree with the aims of the Action Plan; after reading the draft Air Quality Action Plan, around 65% of respondents indicated that they are more concerned about ambient air quality within Belfast and; around 38% of respondents strongly agree and a further 51% agree that the actions proposed within the Air Quality Action Plan 2021-2026 will improve ambient air quality within Belfast City.</p>
3.6	<p>Members will be aware that the Air Quality Action Plan is subject to technical appraisal by DAERA's independent assessors. The council's air quality officers would therefore propose, that subject to final comments, concerning the consultation process, being received from the Air Quality Action Plan Steering Group members and Competent Authorities, and any</p>

	<p>necessary revisions to the Action Plan being completed, the completed Air Quality Action Plan 2021-2026 for Belfast will be presented to the 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021 hybrid meeting of the People and Communities Committee, with a view to the Committee accepting the Action Plan and recommending that it be forwarded to the independent assessors for appraisal, and for subsequent implementation by the Air Quality Action Plan Steering Group.</p> <p><b>Detailed assessment for nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) and fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>).</b></p> <p>3.7 At the 11<sup>th</sup> May 2021 remote meeting of the Committee, Members received an update concerning progress with the 'Detailed assessment for nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) and fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>)', together with a presentation from AECOM consultants and council officers regarding the proposed installation of additional Zephyr ambient monitoring equipment. AECOM have since completed installation of these additional Zephyr monitors and are now collating particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>) and nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) monitoring data. At this time, the monitoring data remains provisional in nature and subject to various quality assurance and quality control procedures before it can be considered ratified and reportable. Intercomparison work is also to be undertaken by AECOM to compare the Zephyr monitoring data with data from the council's automatic reference method analysers, installed at our roadside and urban background monitoring sites, in order to derive appropriate scaling factors. The ratified monitoring data will then be used to augment existing ambient air quality monitoring undertaken by the council across the city and in calibrating the atmospheric dispersion modelling, to be undertaken by AECOM as a component of the detailed assessment project. Members will be aware that current targets for fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) are expressed as annual mean values and so air quality monitoring data must be collected over an appropriate time period to allow comparison with these annual targets. In addition, our new Action Plan is tasked with delivering the annual mean objective for nitrogen dioxide.</p> <p>3.8 AECOM are currently in the process of sourcing activity and emissions data to be used in the development of an emissions inventory for Belfast and as an input to the atmospheric dispersion modelling software. As the principal focus of our Air Quality Management Areas and our new Air Quality Action Plan is on achieving the nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) objectives, associated principally with road transport emissions, AECOM have therefore been in recent contact with DfI Roads concerning obtaining detailed traffic census and traffic modelling data for the Belfast area.</p> <p>3.9 In addition, AECOM will shortly be undertaking a series of automatic number plate recognition surveys (ANPR) for a number of arterial transport routes and residential locations across the city. These ANPR surveys will identify the registration numbers of motor vehicles</p>
--	---

	<p>passing the various survey locations, which can then be compared with the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Authority (DVLA) registration database to obtain the vehicle type, fuel type and year of first registration, etc. This vehicle specific data can then be used to derive a more accurate local road fleet composition and more representative road transport emissions data for the Belfast area, to augment and refine existing information published by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) and the Devolved Administrations via the Emissions Factor Toolkit (currently version - v10.1, August 2020). The more accurate road transport fleet composition and emissions data will be used to refine inputs to the atmospheric dispersion modelling software and to help inform any subsequent source apportionment studies, undertaken for identified areas of objective exceedance.</p>
3.10	<p>The Committee is reminded that the detailed assessment for nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) and fine particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) is scheduled to conclude and report in early 2023. Further periodic reports will however be provided to Committee during the intervening time to advise of progress with major project components.</p>
3.11	<p><u>Financial &amp; Resource Implications.</u></p> <p>The Committee is further reminded that funding to support delivery of the detailed assessment project has been secured from the DAERA Local Air Quality Management grant scheme for the 2021-2022 grant period.</p>
3.12	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications / Rural Needs Assessments</u></p> <p>An Equality Screening and a Rural Needs Assessment have been completed for the draft Air Quality Action Plan for Belfast 2021-2026. These documents currently remain available to review on the council's Your Say consultation platform, via the following web link:  <a href="https://yoursay.belfastcity.gov.uk/air-quality">https://yoursay.belfastcity.gov.uk/air-quality</a></p>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Appendices – Documents Attached</b>
	None.

This page is intentionally left blank



<b>Subject:</b>	Update on DAERA consultation on the Designation of Quiet Areas
<b>Date:</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> October 2021
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Siobhan Toland, Director of City Services
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Alastair Curran, Scientific Unit Manger Environmental Protection

<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	The People and Communities Committee, at its meeting of 10 <sup>th</sup> August 2021, agreed that we would write on behalf of the Committee to the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs confirming the Committee’s continuing support for designation of the Lagan Meadows as a Quiet Area and seeking a written update as to the Department’s next steps and timeframe concerning the designation. (Appendix 1).
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	The Committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• note the response received from the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs for information</li> </ul>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main report</b>
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.1	The People and Communities Committee, at its meeting of 10 <sup>th</sup> August 2021, agreed that Officers would write on behalf of the Committee to the Department of Agriculture, Environment

	and Rural Affairs confirming the Committee’s continuing support for designation of the Lagan Meadows as a Quiet Area and seeking a written update as to the Department’s next steps and timeframe concerning the designation. (Appendix 1).
3.2	The response is enclosed in Appendix 2.
	<u>Financial &amp; Resource Implications</u>
3.3	None
	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications /Rural Needs Assessments</u>
3.4	None
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Appendices – Documents Attached</b>
	Appendix 1 – BCC letter to DAERA Appendix 2 – DAERA’s response to BCC



## City and Neighbourhood Services Department

Our ref: N/A

Your ref: N/A

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Ms. Amy Holmes  
Head of Air and Environmental Quality  
Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs.  
Klondyke Building, Cromac Avenue  
Gasworks Business Park, Malone Lower  
Belfast  
BT7 2JA

Via email: [amy.holmes@daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:amy.holmes@daera-ni.gov.uk)

Dear Amy,

**RE: Designation of the Lagan Meadows as a Quiet Area, pursuant to the requirements of the Environmental Noise Directive (Directive 2002/49/EC) and the Environmental Noise Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006.**

You will be aware that on the 21<sup>st</sup> September 2016, and in accordance with the provisions of the Environmental Noise Directive and Regulation 40 of the Environmental Noise Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006, the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs commenced a consultation into the designation of the Lagan Meadows as a Quiet Area. As part of the consultation process, the Department confirmed that the Lagan Meadows fulfilled all of the qualifying criteria as set out in the Department's Policy Guidance on the Identification, Designation and Management of Quiet Areas.

This matter was formally considered at the People and Communities Committee meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> October 2016 and a consultation response was provided subsequently to the Department indicating that the People and Communities Committee had considered the proposed designation of the Lagan Meadows as a Quiet Area and confirming that the Committee welcomed and was supportive of such a designation. The consultation response additionally indicated that the Committee was mindful of the public health and wider environmental benefits of protecting appropriate Quiet Areas across the city.

Whilst the Committee noted that the consultation period was to conclude on the 19<sup>th</sup> October 2016, the Committee has been unaware subsequently as to the outworkings of the consultation process and

**Siobhan Toland** M.Sc. , F.C.I.E.H  
Director of City Services

**Belfast City Council**, City and Neighbourhood Services Department  
The Cecil Ward Building, 4-10 Linenhall Street, Belfast BT2 8BP: Tel: 028 9027 0428  
Text Telephone Facility for People who are Deaf or Hearing Impaired: 028 9027 0405  
Email: [tolands@belfastcity.gov.uk](mailto:tolands@belfastcity.gov.uk)

regarding the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs' intentions and timetable for formally designating the Lagan Meadows as a Quiet Area.

Accordingly, the People and Communities Committee, at its meeting of 10<sup>th</sup> August 2021, agreed that I would write on behalf of the Committee to the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs confirming the Committee's continuing support for designation of the Lagan Meadows as a Quiet Area and seeking a written update as to the Department's next steps and timeframe concerning the designation. The Committee has been advised concerning the schedule for identification of Quiet Areas as provided for via Regulation 40 of the Environmental Noise Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006 and concerning the implications of Commission Directive 2015/996 of 19<sup>th</sup> May 2015, establishing common noise assessment methods according to Directive 2002/49/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council, for the fourth round of noise mapping.

I look forward to your response in respect of these matters however, if you would like to discuss any aspect of this letter in detail, please feel free to contact me directly.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Siobhan Toland". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Siobhan Toland, Director of City Services  
City and Neighbourhood Services**

Ms Siobhan Toland  
Belfast City Council  
City and Neighbourhood Services Dept  
The Cecil Ward Building  
4-10 Linenhall Street  
Belfast  
BT2 8BP

Air and Environmental Quality  
Klondyke Building  
Cromac Avenue  
Gasworks Business Park  
Lower Ormeau Road  
Belfast BT7 2JA  
Tel: 028 90 569 552  
Email: [amy.holmes@daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:amy.holmes@daera-ni.gov.uk)

[tolands@belfastcity.gov.uk](mailto:tolands@belfastcity.gov.uk)

29<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Siobhan

**Designation of the Lagan Meadows as a Quiet Area, pursuant to the requirements of the Environmental Noise Directive (Directive 2002/49/EC) and the Environmental Noise Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2006**

Thank you for your letter of 7<sup>th</sup> July September seeking an update on the designation of the Lagan Meadows as a Quiet Area

Following the closure of the consultation on the designation of Lagan Meadows on 19<sup>th</sup> October, the Northern Ireland Assembly collapsed in January 2017 and all departments were without Ministers until earlier this year.

Following the return of Ministers in January 2021, it was considered that the evidence-base upon which Lagan Meadows was put forward as a Quiet Area (round 2 mapping in 2016), had been superseded by Round 3 noise mapping results, and will shortly be updated further by the Round 4 noise mapping results. Round 4 noise mapping is due to be based on 2021 data.

It is the intention that round 4 noise mapping will use the new mapping methodology as set out in Directive 2015/996 (CNOSSOS- EU Common Noise Assessment Methods in Europe). This methodology was designed to increase the accuracy of the noise maps and to enable increased comparison between European Countries' noise climates. As such, it is the intention that any further work relating to Quiet Areas in Northern Ireland will be

***Sustainability at the heart of a living, working, active landscape valued by everyone.***

based on the results of subsequent rounds of noise mapping and the new CNOSSOS methodology.

I hope that you find this information of assistance.  
Yours sincerely,



**Amy Holmes**

**Head of Air and Environmental Quality**

**Regulatory and Natural Resources Policy Division**

***Sustainability** at the heart of a living, working, active landscape valued by everyone.*

If you are deaf or have a hearing difficulty you can contact the Department via the Next Generation Text Relay Service by dialling 18001 + telephone number.



<b>Subject:</b>	Framework Document for Civil Contingencies Northern Ireland
<b>Date:</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> October 2021
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Siobhan Toland, Director of City Services
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Seamus McBride, Emergency Planning Officer

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

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues</b>
1.1	The purpose of this report is to update members on the new Framework for Civil Contingencies Northern Ireland ‘Building Resilience Together’ document produced by the Executive Office (TEO). This document is the first product within a wider strategic programme of work setting the direction for civil contingencies strategic planning in NI.
1.2	Members will be aware that there are several regional emergency planning related protocols and reference documents in place, some of which are outdated and do not fully align to local level preparedness, response, and recovery structures.
1.3	The new framework document “Building Resilience Together” is designed to work as a foundation for all governance structures and procedures across the civil contingencies’ structures. The framework does not alter the existing local multi agency structures both in planning and response. The new approach focuses on providing a coordinated strategic

	<p>risk managed environment for civil contingencies in NI with TEO bringing together all the partners and providing leadership and strategic direction for the management of an agreed portfolio of NI risks.</p>
1.4	<p>Presentations on the draft framework were delivered by TEO to the Civil Contingencies Group NI on the 26th March and 30th June 2021, and a detailed update provided to SOLACE in June 2021. A workshop was facilitated on the 13th May 2021 for NI Emergency Preparedness Group (NIEPG) members to ensure a clear understanding of the prepare, respond and recover phases in addition to any changes that may impact local government and other partners working at a local or sub regional level.</p>
1.5	<p>Civil Contingencies Policy Branch in The Executive Office (TEO) are responsible for the management and dissemination of this Framework.</p>
1.6	<p>NILGA is hosting an interactive workshop for councillors on civil contingencies/emergency planning on 26 October 2021 from 10.30am-1.00pm. The session will be physically held in Craigavon Civic Centre and simultaneously available on zoom. The Regional Civil Contingencies Team and some emergency planning partners will be presenting and will be running through some scenario examples. Elected members, officers and interested stakeholders are welcome to register to attend.</p>
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider and note the Framework for Civil Contingencies Northern Ireland 'Building Resilience Together' document</li> </ul>
2.2	<p>Further work is now required to ensure local emergency planning documents and arrangements are fully aligned to the framework and this work will be taken forward by the Northern Ireland, Belfast, Northern and Southern Emergency Preparedness Groups. Training and familiarisation on the Framework will be arranged by TEO in the forthcoming months and councils will be fully engaged within these arrangements.</p>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main report</b>
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.1	<p>The purpose of the NI Civil Contingencies Framework is to set out the Northern Ireland arrangements for effective emergency management, identifying the processes involved in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from an emergency. It is not prescriptive in terms of the incidents it outlines but provides generic guidance for all types of emergencies.</p>

	<p>It is complementary to the Civil Contingencies Act of 2004 and provides tools to those responsible for drawing up emergency plans. It draws upon best practice and lessons learned from previous emergencies, both within Northern Ireland and from UK, Republic of Ireland (ROI) and global experiences.</p>
3.2	<p>The Framework is not a legislative document but provides regional cohesion to the civil contingencies' agencies by common acceptance of its principles and guides and should be used in conjunction with individual organisations' emergency plans.</p>
3.3	<p>The new framework document is designed to work as the foundation stone for all governance structures and procedures in the NI civil contingencies arena. It is based on 3 principles of transparency, accountability, and cohesion. More detail on content of the Framework is attached in Annex 1.</p>
3.4	<p>The Framework can be accessed at: <a href="https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/ofmdfm_dev/ni-civil-contingencies-framework.pdf.pdf">https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/ofmdfm_dev/ni-civil-contingencies-framework.pdf.pdf</a></p>
3.5	<p><u>Financial &amp; Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None</p>
3.6	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications /Rural Needs Assessments</u></p> <p>Not applicable</p>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Appendices – Documents Attached</b>
	<p><a href="https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/ofmdfm_dev/ni-civil-contingencies-framework.pdf.pdf">https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/ofmdfm_dev/ni-civil-contingencies-framework.pdf.pdf</a></p> <p>Appendix 1: Overview of NI Civil Contingencies Framework: Building Resilience Together</p>

This page is intentionally left blank

## Overview of NI Civil Contingencies Framework: Building Resilience Together

The Framework merges, and will ultimately replace, eight existing protocols and guideline documents (which are set out below) into one; whilst modernising the language and providing commonality of structures.

- NI Central Crisis Management Arrangements (NICCMA) 2016
- NI Guide to Plan Preparation 2002
- A Guide to Emergency Planning Arrangements in NI September 2011
- Escalation of the Multi-Agency Response 2016
- CCG (NI) Protocol For Multi-Agency Co-ordination Of Local Level Response and Recovery 2016
- Vulnerable People protocols.
- Protocol for the Collaborative Communications Process 2016
- Guide to Risk Assessment in NI – January 2010

The new framework has been formatted to make it a simple to follow guide for both new and experienced civil contingencies practitioners. It takes the reader through the key processes in a logical order of prepare, respond and recover. The document up front sets the scene, amalgamating the NI context into the wider JESIP (Joint Emergency Services Interoperability Programme) programme.

The document explains the NI context of the mandated parts of the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 and sets out the arrangements for delivering a common sense, practical approach to integrated civil contingencies planning and response in the absence of secondary legislation at this juncture.

It outlines the unified approach to resilience, by linking together the pre-emptive work done at local government; council and police district level, to the NI Executive. This is again a first in terms of linking structures cohesively and transparently towards the one joint aim of building resilience together. It draws together a best practice template for the readers in what good resilience might look like. It provides clarity of role for each level of building resilience and will join those together in a joint exercising and training plan, once future work is completed on the NI Risk Register. The development of an NI wide exercise and training calendar for civil contingencies is an essential next step to allow for consistency and added value across all partner organisations.

The response phase is where the greatest change has happened. It draws heavily on lessons learned and seeks to offer practical solutions to working in partnership across the response phase. It makes the activation and escalation of multi-agency collaboration an accountable and transparent process and builds upon best practice already in place at the local level. It reminds lead government departments of their responsibilities, and whilst not mandated to run Strategic Co-ordination Groups, it offers realistic options for aiding joint understanding by co-ordinating activity in partnerships. The paper explains how resilience structures can become operational immediately, in response to a crisis; a lesson implemented successfully during the COVID response with CCG (O) and the NIEPG taking on operational roles. The role of the NIHUB in a civil contingency crisis is also explained. It links the, now understood and

successfully implemented, escalation and de-escalation process to the wider tiers of civil contingency management across Northern Ireland.

There follows a chapter on the Recovery phase; the least well-rehearsed phase of all global disasters. The chapter provides consistency of message by showing how de-escalation can work, what constitutes a recovery group and how it can work initially in parallel with the respond phase before it becomes the only active phase. This fulcrum is one of the most commonly misunderstood points of a civil contingency response; how to disengage neatly whilst maintaining shared understanding of ongoing and potentially long-term issues. It provides templates for good practice in maintaining collaboration until the point that life has returned to normal. It provides a glide-path to stepping down from the recovery phase and turning the civil contingencies structures back to the beginning of the cycle; prepare. It builds upon the recovery elements in local government ensuring they remain supported by maintaining shared situational awareness for as long as is necessary.

The final chapters consider special cases such as; vulnerable people, media and communication, and finish with a clear definition of governance in the Northern Ireland context. Good record keeping procedures, of both financial and operational plans, are outlined to ensure transparency for any public enquiries that follow-on from a crisis. It also requires the formal adoption of a lessons learned process that then enables the; review, amend, test and exercise parts of the prepare phase to begin all over again; ensuring that operational knowledge and experience is maximised while it is fresh. This iterative process also means that this Framework itself can be amended quickly with new lessons, and routinely checked for validity, if processes should change, thereby future-proofing the document for the long-term.

The Framework document is supported with a number of detailed appendices, which bring together the information originally in some of the existing protocols. By providing templates and clear guidance in these appendices they support the overall principles of the Framework in improving transparency, cohesion and accountability.

The simplicity of this document is in itself a useful tool for those who need a quick guide to enable them to move quickly to a civil contingency response. It is one source of knowledge in outlining the co-operative approach to problem solving in a crisis.



<b>Subject:</b>	Update on Commonwealth War Graves
<b>Date:</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> October 2021
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Siobhan Toland, Director of City Services
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Michael Patterson, Bereavement Services Manager

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

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To seek Members' views on a request for a new Commonwealth War Grave Headstone in Dundonald Cemetery and a request to plant a tree under the Queens Green Canopy Scheme in Shankill Graveyard.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	The Committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider and agree to the requests from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission to erect a new headstone in Dundonald Cemetery and plant a tree in Shankill Graveyard under the Queens Green Canopy Scheme.</li> </ul>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
	<i>Main Issue</i>
3.1	The Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) was established in 1917 to construct cemeteries and memorials and maintain records for the war dead of the First

World War. The commission owns 2,500 cemeteries; and has built 23,000 memorials across 150 countries and territories. One of the principles of the CWGC is to make no distinction between rank, race or creed. The CWGC works under a royal charter as a not-for-profit organisation. Currently the CWGC is paid £23 per year for every UK related grave and other governments have similar arrangements.

### 3.2 *CWGC*

The Commission has constructed 791 headstones for graves of war dead in all of the Council's cemeteries (apart from Friar's Bush) and 172 in Milltown Cemetery. They have constructed and maintain a 'Cross of Sacrifice' in Dundonald and City Cemeteries. The large screen wall monument in City Cemetery also belongs to the CWGC. The CWGC undertakes extensive research on all the dead it is responsible for commemorating. The CWGC's comprehensive and linked websites are a significant resource for those doing genealogical research and this contributes to some of the visitors to our cemeteries.

### 3.3 *Construction*

The CWGC use Kilkenny Limestone to construct their headstone. Their unique foundations and ground anchoring system complies with BS 8415 and all memorial safety requirements. The sculptor they use is registered with the Council. The foundation system comes with the stone and the sculptor undertakes all the work. If a CWGC headstone is damaged or fails a safety test they carry out the repairs quickly. There is no cost to Belfast City Council in the construction and maintenance of CWGC headstones.

### 3.4 *Application*

Recent research has identified one additional war casualty who died from wounds after the First World War. They are currently buried in Dundonald Cemetery with only a wooded cross as a marker. The Plot was bought in 1915 and the grave owners registered with the Council are no longer alive. The CWGC have conducted an established communication process to connect and consult with any remaining family members and a descendant of the deceased has consented. The CWGC has applied to the Council to erect a headstone at the grave. Members may be aware that on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2019 the Strategic Cemeteries and Crematorium Development Working Group decided that that the administrative charge of £18 would not be applied to CWGC as it is not-for-profit organisation and this decision was approved at P&C on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2019 and ratified at Council on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019.

3.5	<p><i>The Queens Green Canopy Scheme</i></p> <p>The Commission have asked permission to plant a tree in Shankill Graveyard adjacent to one of their headstones under the Queens Green Canopy Scheme. The Commission are planning to mark the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee by planting a tree in every County in the UK, adjacent to one of their marked graves. Shankill Graveyard is their choice for County Antrim.</p> <p>This is in line with the agreed policy of tree planting which states:</p> <p><i>‘Permission for future tree planting requests may be granted by the People and Communities Committee on a request by request basis. Any tree planting proposals/request received by the Council should fit in and be aligned with the Council’s ‘Tree Management Plan’ for that individual Park/Open Space as advised by Council Officers within City and Neighbourhood Services’</i></p>
3.6	<p>If Committee support the tree planting proposal, it will come under the tree management plan for Shankill Graveyard, as part of a replacement planting programme and can be resourced from the related revenue budget. The additional tree will be included as part of the one million tree planting running total.</p>
3.7	<p>The Commission will work with the Councils Woodland and Recreation Officer to source a local species. The planting season is from November to March. The Commission have confirmed that they will plant the tree with minimal publicity, and it is not planned to have any additional markers onsite. Subsequent maintenance will be completed by the OSS team in North Belfast.</p>
3.8	<p>Based on the noted policy statement above, Committee is asked to accede to the request.</p>
	<p><b>Financial &amp; Resource Implications</b></p>
3.9	<p>The administrative fees will be borne within everyday budgets.</p>
	<p><b>Equality and good relations implications / Rural Needs Assessment</b></p>
3.10	<p>There are no equality or good relations implications associated with this report.</p>
4.0	<p><b>Appendices – Documents Attached</b></p>
	<p>None.</p>

This page is intentionally left blank



<b>Subject:</b>	Ormeau Park BMX Track
<b>Date:</b>	12 October 2021
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Ryan Black, Director of Neighbourhood Services
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Stephen Leonard, Neighbourhood Services Manager

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

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues</b>
1.1	Members will recall that at September Committee granted approval in principle for a preferential use agreement to be developed with Cycling Ulster in relation to the BMX track at Ormeau Park, subject to further details being submitted to a future meeting specifically in regard to the proposed priority use of the track at limited times by Cycling Ulster.
1.2	The purpose of this report is to provide detail on the proposed priority used times.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	The Committee is asked to; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) Grant approval for a preferential use agreement to be developed with Cycling Ulster in relation to the BMX track at Ormeau Park, affording priority use of the track at limited</li> </ul>

	times as detailed in the report, subject to Cycling Ulster accessing external partnership funding to upgrade the existing track.																									
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main report</b>																									
	<u>Background</u>																									
3.1	<p>Officers negotiated with Cycling Ulster representatives to agree a proposed timetable of priority use at limited times for Cycling Ulster clubs. The track will be available for recreational use at all other times. This timetable is seasonal to reflect the seasonal nature of the sport, the anticipated demand from Cycling Ulster clubs and aligns with park seasonal opening times, which are based on available daylight. The times are identified in the table below;</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Midweek usage</th> <th>Start - end times</th> <th>Weekend usage</th> <th>Start - end times</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>January - March</td> <td>nil</td> <td>n/a</td> <td>Sunday</td> <td>10:00am – 12:00noon</td> </tr> <tr> <td>April - June</td> <td>Tue &amp; Thu</td> <td>6:30pm – 8:30pm</td> <td>Sunday</td> <td>10:00am – 12:00noon</td> </tr> <tr> <td>July - September</td> <td>Tue &amp; Thu</td> <td>6:30pm – 8:30pm</td> <td>Saturday &amp; Sunday</td> <td>10:00am – 12:00noon</td> </tr> <tr> <td>October – December</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>n/a</td> <td>Sunday</td> <td>10:00am – 12:00noon</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Table 1. Timetable of priority use for Cycling Ulster</p>		Midweek usage	Start - end times	Weekend usage	Start - end times	January - March	nil	n/a	Sunday	10:00am – 12:00noon	April - June	Tue & Thu	6:30pm – 8:30pm	Sunday	10:00am – 12:00noon	July - September	Tue & Thu	6:30pm – 8:30pm	Saturday & Sunday	10:00am – 12:00noon	October – December	Nil	n/a	Sunday	10:00am – 12:00noon
	Midweek usage	Start - end times	Weekend usage	Start - end times																						
January - March	nil	n/a	Sunday	10:00am – 12:00noon																						
April - June	Tue & Thu	6:30pm – 8:30pm	Sunday	10:00am – 12:00noon																						
July - September	Tue & Thu	6:30pm – 8:30pm	Saturday & Sunday	10:00am – 12:00noon																						
October – December	Nil	n/a	Sunday	10:00am – 12:00noon																						
	<u>Financial &amp; Resource Implications</u>																									
3.2	There are no additional resource implications from this decision.																									
	<u>Equality Impact/Rural Needs Assessment</u>																									
3.3	None associated with this report.																									
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Appendices – Documents Attached</b>																									
	None																									



<b>Subject:</b>	Covid19 – Extension of Red Cross Funding
<b>Date:</b>	12 October, 2021
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Siobhan Toland, Director Neighbourhood Services
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Alison Allen, Neighbourhood Services Manager

<b>Restricted Reports</b>	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
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	The purpose of this paper is to request an extension of the existing COVID-19 Emergency Provision Red Cross Funding to the end of March 2022.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	The Committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agree an extension to the COVID-19 Emergency Provision Red Cross Funding contract to the end of March 2022 as detailed in the report.</li> </ul>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main report</b>
	<b>Key Issues</b>
3.1	Members will be aware, a significant amount of additional funding has been provided by both Council and central government over the past 18 months for community/voluntary partners supporting individuals, families and communities impacted by COVID-19.

3.2	That support has broadly been in the areas of food provision, access to food, financial assistance (fuel/utilities) and connectivity.
3.3	During this time our community/voluntary partners have worked extremely hard on ensuring the committed funding has supported services to vulnerable individuals, families and communities in the context of ever changing COVID-19 restrictions.
	<b>Red Cross Funding</b>
3.4	<p>Members may recall that one of the organisations Council funded was Red Cross, with £50,000 awarded to provide the following;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Community Support Essentials – responding to vulnerable in need to buy supplies.</li> <li>2. Community Support Pick up essentials – e.g. food, prescription pick-ups.</li> <li>3. Financial Hardship Fund – purchase of gas, electric and white goods.</li> <li>4. Transport to essential medical appointments.</li> </ol>
3.5	This project was set up to be used as a fall back where existing services could not meet the demand from vulnerable individuals and families who required urgent support during the pandemic or if no services existed. We can update that due to the work of local community organisations and statutory partners this service was not required to the level that we initially expected.
3.6	The project has a funding agreement in place which allows delivery until the end of September 2021, currently £9,297 has been spent to date, leaving a balance of £40,703. This emergency support has provided a helpful safety net to ensure that adequate support is in place for the most vulnerable people in the city when they are unable to access help elsewhere. Within the context of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic and rapidly approaching winter pressures it is recommended that this funding agreement is extended until the end of March 2022 to allow further uptake.
3.7	Whilst Officers cannot be sure of the exact level of demand from this service, Officers from the Red Cross and Council will continue to engage with community and health partners to maximise awareness of the support available through this funding agreement.
3.8	<p>The reason for the request to extend is there are some factors which may lead to increased demand over the coming months such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The pressures that those who are vulnerable may face during the winter;</li> <li>• The recent spike in utility costs will increase financial pressures on vulnerable people;</li> </ul>

3.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Furlough coming to an end;</li> <li>• Any further circuit breakers, lockdowns or other forms of restrictions that we may face.</li> </ul> <p>To extend this funding agreement over the coming months causes no issues from a financial and operational management perspective. Members are therefore asked to consider that Council will extend the delivery period for the above funding to end March 2022.</p> <p><u>Financial implications</u></p>
3.10	<p>Financial implications are detailed in the body of the report.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p>
3.11	None
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Appendices – Documents Attached</b>
	None

This page is intentionally left blank



<b>Subject:</b>	Proposal for dual language street signs
<b>Date:</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> October, 2021
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Ian Harper, Building Control Manager
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Roisin Adams, Business Coordinator

<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	To consider an application for the erection of dual language street signs for existing streets within the City.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	As at least two thirds of the total numbers of persons surveyed in the streets are in favour of the proposal to erect a second street nameplate in Irish at Clifton Street, Stephen Street, Forest Street and Fort Street, the Committee is recommended to approve the applications.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main report</b>
3.1	<u>Key Issues</u> The power for the Council to consider applications to erect a second street nameplate in a language other than English is contained in Article 11 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (NI) Order 1995.

3.2 Members are asked to consider the following applications to erect a second street nameplate showing the name of the street expressed in a language other than English. The second language is Irish.

3.3

English Name	Non- English Name	Location	Applicant	Persons surveyed
Clifton Street	Sráid Clifton	Between Carrick Hill, BT1 and Carlisle Circus BT14	Carrick Hill Residents Association	12
Stephen Street	Sráid Stiofáin	Between Library Street, BT1 and Little Donegall Street, BT1	Carrick Hill Residents Association	10
Forest Street	Sráid na Foraoise	Off Springfield Avenue, BT12	Councillor Claire Canavan	57
Fort Street	Sráid an Dúin	Off Springfield Avenue, BT12	Councillor Claire Canavan	40

3.4 The translations were authenticated by Queens University, the approved translator for Belfast City Council.

3.5 In accordance with the Council's policy for the erection of dual language street signs surveys of all persons appearing on the Electoral Register plus owners or tenants in actual possession of commercial premises, for the above streets, were carried out and the following responses were received.

3.6 **Clifton Street, BT13**

9 people (75%) are in favour of the erection of a second street nameplate  
 1 person (8%) was not in favour of the erection of a second nameplate  
 2 people (17%) did not respond to the survey

3.7	<p><b>Stephen Street, BT1</b></p> <p>9 people (90%) are in favour of the erection of a second street nameplate  1 person (10%) was not in favour of the erection of a second nameplate</p>
3.8	<p><b>Forest Street, BT12</b></p> <p>40 people (70%) are in favour of the erection of a second street nameplate  17 people (30%) did not respond to the survey</p>
3.9	<p><b>Fort Street, BT12</b></p> <p>28 people (70%) are in favour of the erection of a second street nameplate  12 people (30%) did not respond to the survey</p>
3.10	<p>The Council's policy on the erection of a second street nameplate requires that at least two thirds (66.6%) of the people surveyed must be in favour of the proposal to erect a second street sign in a language other than English.</p>
3.11	<p><u>Financial &amp; Resource Implications</u></p> <p>There is a cost of approximately £1,200 to cover the cost of the manufacturing and erection of the dual language street signs. The cost for these street signs has been allowed for in the current budget.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p>
3.12	<p>There are no direct equality/rural needs implications.</p>
4.0	<p><b>Appendices – Documents Attached</b></p>
	<p>None</p>

This page is intentionally left blank



<b>Subject:</b>	General Maintenance Program at Roselawn Cemetery
<b>Date:</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> October 2021
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Siobhan Toland, Director of City Services
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Michael Patterson, Bereavement Services Manager

<b>Restricted Reports</b>	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
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	The purpose of this report is to update Members on the current challenges around maintaining Roselawn Cemetery and to make recommendations going forwards
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	The Committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Note the update</li> </ul>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main report</b>

3.1	<p>The site at Roselawn Cemetery is the largest and busiest cemetery in Northern Ireland with a 268 acre site containing woodland, 4 lakes as well as grave and memorial tree sections. Aside from fields which are let out yearly to farmers – there are no areas of grass in Roselawn which can be cut with large machinery. Roselawn has approximately 39,000 family graves, 5,500 new unused graves and 14,000 memorial trees, and these all need to be cut around with small ride-on and pedestrian machines. Roselawn has 2 Cemetery Supervisors and 12 Cemetery Operatives who are responsible for all burials and estates management duties. Due to the pandemic there are 4 additional temporary staff employed at this site. In general, the upkeep of Roselawn is to a high standard and the site maintains its Green Flag status every year. This is evidenced by the thousands of visitors to the site every year who do not make complaints.</p> <p><i>Summer Duties</i></p>
3.2	<p>From mid- February to the end of October the grass in all the grave sections and the lawned memorial tree areas is cut every two weeks. The Council does not lift any cut grass and it is left to mulch into the ground. All flower beds are dug over, rotavated and replaced with summer plants. As it is not possible to mechanically cut around the headstones/memorials on the 39,000 used graves and therefore, these are required to be manually sprayed with weedkiller and this is usually done 3 times every summer with pedestrian knapsack sprayers. In compliance with the Wildlife (NI) Order 1985 we cannot cut any hedges before the end of August. After this staff cut the small landscape hedges within the cemetery. The large roadside boundary hedges are cut by a contractor in October and which for the above reasons cannot be done earlier. Every Saturday morning a large street sweeper cleans all the vehicular roads throughout Roselawn, however this is too large for the small pedestrian grave paths.</p> <p><i>The number of burials</i></p>
3.3	<p>It is usual during summer months for the number of burials to decrease across all our cemeteries. This means that the cemeteries workforce can be directed to grounds maintenance duties. During the summer of 2020 we conducted 27% more burials than the average for the past three years. During the summer of 2021 we conducted 32% more burials than the average of summers 2017/18/19. As Roselawn is the only Belfast City Council cemetery with new graves, most of the burials are conducted there. The labour requirement for most burials is three-fold, firstly for the gravedigging and the committal, then for topping up and pressing the soil on the grave after a couple of weeks, and then for final dressing and grass seed planting. These labour demands take place over 8 weeks</p>

and are dependent on weather conditions. The increase in burial numbers this summer has meant that the Roselawn cemetery staff were much less available to carry out grounds maintenance duties.

*Staff protection measures*

3.4 The burial procedure involves reducing the 2m social distancing guidance and putting in place mitigating controls around protection from Covid. As an infection control measure, the Council ceased the practice of family and Funeral Directors from being involved directly in the coffin lowering procedure and this is done solely by Council staff. Hence for the above reasons more of the cemetery staff are needed at each burial to carry this safe system of work out, and ultimately cemetery staff have been committed to burials for much of their working day.

*Weather conditions*

3.5 This summer the weather has been hot, humid and interspaced by wet days. These conditions are ideal for extreme vegetation growth. The grass in Roselawn grew excessively between fortnightly cuts and so the cut grass (risings) were very visible throughout the cemetery. The cut grass then gets dragged onto grave paths and was an unsightly problem this summer. These weather conditions were also ideal for the propagation of Rosebay Willowherb which is now apparent in many sites across the city. In Roselawn there was an infestation of this weed between many of the 39, 000 headstones by July. Due to the high burial operational workload the second application of chemical weed control in July was not early enough and this resulted in the weed going brown but not dying back throughout the site. The weed spraying work requires a special license (PA6) which not all cemetery staff have as this is a specialised skill. At the start of August, the tall brown weeds had become an unsightly problem through most of the grave sections. The fortnightly grass cutting regime was maintained as a priority across the entire site. However, because the grass was growing excessively between cuts, this appeared to be an additional problem. Another result of the hot damp conditions was that undergrowth proliferated throughout some of the memorial tree barked copse sections. Between June and August Roselawn received 20 complaints regarding grounds maintenance and the general condition of the site. There was also negative publicity on social media. With the high number of burials taking place, it was operationally difficult to commit the required staff

	<p>numbers to rectify the above problems in a timely manner but members should be assured that staff have been doing all they can to try and address this.</p>
3.6	<p><i>Steps taken</i></p> <p>To remove the Rosebay Willowherb it was necessary to trim or hand weed 43,500 graves. This was very labour intensive. In September some staff were moved from other cemeteries to trim or hand weed on a daily basis. In addition, it was agreed to seek additional support to tackle the issues and a contractor was employed for 3 days to assist with strimming weeds. By the 17<sup>th</sup> of September all 43,500 graves and the required sections of barked memorial tree copses had been strimmed and/or hand weeded and most of the work was done by our staff.</p>
3.7	<p>It is clearly important to conduct all estates management work at the required seasonal time, however in cemeteries burial work takes priority and if the burial workload is high it may be necessary to find staff from other sites. It is also proposed that we explore the cost of procuring a mechanical brush to fit on a small tractor which would allow us to sweep the narrow grave paths.</p>
3.8	<p><u>Financial &amp; Resource Implications</u></p> <p>All costs are within operational budgets</p>
3.9	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>There are no equality or good relations issues</p>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Appendices – Documents Attached</b>
	None



<b>Subject:</b>	Regional Home Safety Facility
<b>Date:</b>	12th October, 2021
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Sara Steele, Democratic Services Officer
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Sara Steele, Democratic Services 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"/>
Sometime in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues</b>
1.1	The purpose of this report is to note a letter sent to the Chief Executive by Head of Health and Built and Environment at Causeway Coast and Glens in relation to a regional Home Safety facility.
1.2	<p>Causeway Coast and Glens have taken the decision to close their “Hazard House” facility. They have written to each of the other 10 Councils asking for their support for the building and operation of a new regional facility via central Government funding.</p> <p>The RADAR (Risk Avoidance Danger Awareness Resource) centre which was located in Belfast has also closed. The RADAR centre had been used to teach tens of thousands of children and young people about road, fire, home and transport safety.</p>

	This centre was mainly funded by the PSNI and the decision was made due to the unsustainable nature of its funding. This centre was widely used by Council as part of its work in promoting Home Safety and Community Safety awareness.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
2.1	The Committee is requested to note the report and take such action thereon as may be determined.
3.1	<b><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></b> There are no additional financial implications associated with this report.
3.2	<b><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></b> There are no implications associated with this report.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Appendices - Documents Attached</b>
	Letter from Causeway Coast and Glens Council attached.



**Causeway  
Coast & Glens  
Borough Council**

Our Ref.: ES/54/BE/af

10<sup>th</sup> August 2021

Ms Suzanne Wylie  
Chief Executive  
Belfast City Council  
City Hall  
Belfast  
BT1 5GS

Chief Executive's Office		
Date:	20/8/21	
Noted by CX:	Y/N	
Ref:	SW 13/8	
Referred to:		
Copy sent	Original sent	
MB updated	Invite reg	

Dear Ms Wylie

**Regional Home Safety Educational Facility**

You will be aware of the recent closure of the regional safety facility RADAR based in Belfast. Unfortunately, due to reduced visitor numbers and staff resources as a result of the pandemic, our own Council has taken the difficult decision to close our local facility, Hazard House in Ballymoney after almost 17 years' service to the local community and beyond. The property has since been returned to the NIHE for social housing.

Members are very keen that a permanent regional facility be provided to aid the delivery of the home safety messages to reduce accidents in the home. To that end, I have been asked to write to all Councils seeking support for the building and running of a fit for purpose facility via central government funding.

I would appreciate if you could confirm your Council's support to this request and advise at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely,

Bryan Edgar  
**Head of Health and Built Environment**  
Riada House, 14 Charles Street, Ballymoney, BT53 6DZ  
Tel. No. 028 2766 0257

Civic Headquarters, Cloonavin,  
66 Portstewart Road, Coleraine, BT52 1EY

**Telephone:** +44 (0) 28 7034 7034  
**Fax:** +44 (0) 28 7034 7026  
**Email:** info@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk  
www.causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk





<b>Subject:</b>	Update on the Reference Group on Older People
<b>Date:</b>	12th October 2021
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Siobhan Toland, Director of City Services
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Kelly Gilliland, Neighbourhood Manager Margaret Higgins, Lead Officer, Community Provision

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

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues</b>
1.1	The purpose of this report is to report to committee on the key issues discussed at the Reference Group on Older People Meeting held on 13 <sup>th</sup> September 2021.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Note the report and approve the minutes from the Reference Group on Older People meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2021.</li> <li>• Note the request at 3.5 for Council to support the Commissioner for Older people in Northern Ireland's campaign and whether Belfast City Council should support this via our corporate communication channels .</li> </ul>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main report</b>
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.1	The Reference Group on Older People is a working group of the People and Communities Committee which consists of an elected member from each of the political parties.

3.2	<p>The minutes from the Reference Group on Older People are brought before the Committee for approval. The key issues discussed at the 13<sup>th</sup> September 2021 meeting were:</p> <p><b><u>Election of Chairperson</u></b></p>
3.3	<p>Alderman Copeland was appointed Chairperson for the period ending June 2022.</p> <p><b><u>Update by the Commissioner for Older People for Northern Ireland</u></b></p>
3.4	<p>The Commissioner for Older People discussed current issues for older people in Northern Ireland</p>
3.5	<p>It was agreed that the working group would make a recommendation to the People and Communities committee that the Council would be supportive of the Commissioner who is requesting that the Northern Ireland Assembly establish a hardship fund to provide financial support for older people, given the future anticipated rise in energy prices and that a press statement or suitable communication in support of this campaign is considered by the committee.</p> <p><b><u>Update on Development of Age-friendly Belfast Plan 2022-2025</u></b></p>
3.6	<p>The planned process for developing the new Age-friendly plan was outlined to members. It was agreed that a joint meeting be held, with the Greater Belfast Seniors Forum in November 2021</p> <p><b><u>Age-friendly Belfast Activities and Events</u></b></p>
3.7	<p>There was a presentation on the activities and events during the last year and on Positive Ageing Month 2021 and the Safe Seniors Packs produce with the Police and Community Safety Partnership.</p> <p><b><u>Climate Engagement by Older People</u></b></p>
3.8	<p>The Resilience Coordinator presented an overview of the work undertaken by the Climate Commissioner and her staff. There was discussion as to how to include older people in this.</p>

<p>3.9</p> <p>3.10</p>	<p><u>Financial &amp; Resource Implications</u></p> <p>All events and activities are met within existing resources.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>There are currently no equality or good relation implications in relation to this report.</p>
<p><b>4.0</b></p>	<p><b>Appendices – Documents Attached</b></p>
	<p>Appendix 1 - Minutes of Reference Group on Older People Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2021</p> <p>Appendix 2 - Age-friendly Belfast Positive Aging Month Programme</p>

This page is intentionally left blank

# Reference Group on Older People

Monday, 13th September, 2021

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE REFERENCE GROUP ON OLDER PEOPLE

Members present: Alderman Copeland; and  
Councillor McCabe.

In attendance: Mrs. G. McEvoy, Senior Environmental Health Officer;  
Ms. M. Higgins, Lead Officer- Community Provision;  
Mrs. E. Greer, Senior Project Development Officer;  
Mr. R. McClernon, Resilience Coordinator and  
Mr. G. Graham, Democratic Services Assistant.

### **Election of Chairperson**

The Reference Group agreed that Alderman Copeland be appointed to the position of Chairperson for the period ending June, 2022.

(Alderman Copeland in the Chair).

### **Apologies**

An apology for inability to attend was reported from Councillor Smyth.

### **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of 16th November, 2020 were taken as read and signed as correct.

### **Declarations of Interest**

No declarations of Interest were reported.

### **Update by the Commissioner for Older People for Northern Ireland**

The Commissioner for Older People (the Commissioner) attended in connection with this item, was welcomed by the Chairperson and thanked the Working Group for their invitation to address the Members.

The Commissioner stated that many of the issues affecting older people had been exacerbated by Covid-19. He referred specifically to the challenges faced by older people to re-connect and integrate with society, post Covid-19, and highlighted the fact that older people had concerns about travelling on public transport and the impact of Covid-19 in terms of restrictions on their social gatherings and interactions.

The Members were informed of many of the other adverse impacts for older people, including mental health, isolation, and a lack of community support and domiciliary care packages. He raised concerns in regard to hospital waiting lists which, while impacting

adversely on the population as a whole, could potentially have a much greater impact on older people. He referred to the need to initiate bereavement support for older people, particularly in view of the high numbers of that group who had succumbed to the virus and highlighted the work which was being undertaken by Patricia Donnelly, Head of the Vaccine Programme, in regard to the establishment of a Northern Ireland Bereavement Network.

The Commissioner referred to the need to establish a balance in care homes, in regard to maintaining family contact and keeping residents safe. He referred to his disappointment that the Draft Programme for Government had failed to provide a high-level outcome for older people and that he would be endeavouring to galvanise cross-party support for that issue to be addressed. He referred also to the need for the Adult Protection Bill to be enshrined in legislation as a matter of priority, including Age-Discrimination legislation in regard to goods facilities and services.

The Chairperson, on behalf of the Working Group, referred to the inconsistencies within the residential home sector, specifically in regard to visiting rights and access by the residents to communal areas. The Commissioner, in response to a further question from a Member in respect of removal of the triple lock for pensioners stated that, with the future impact of rising fuel prices and the onset of a potential severe winter, the removal of the triple lock could have severe implications for older people. He reported that he was investigating with the energy companies the possibility of establishing an energy hardship fund to address those specific issues.

The Working Group agreed that Belfast City Council would support the Commissioner's efforts to secure a regional hardship fund to provide financial support for older people, given the future anticipated rise in energy prices. The Members requested also an update on the Dementia-friendly initiative. In response, the Senior Project Development Officer stated that the four Area groups had continued to meet virtually on a regular basis. She stated further that dementia-friendly would be integrated into the new Age-friendly plan and that the Council had sponsored an Age-friendly awards scheme to ascertain what initiatives the business community had undertaken in support of Belfast as an Age-friendly city.

The Chairperson, on behalf of the Working Group, thanked the Commissioner for his attendance and the Members offered their support in respect of the work undertaken by his office in the provision of assistance and support for older people.

#### **Update on Development of Age-friendly Belfast Plan 2022-2025**

The Senior Project Development Officer reported that the Council was in the process of developing its new Age-friendly plan. She stated that development of the plan required a partnership approach as a result of the diverse areas covered within the plan, including amongst other things, housing and health. She referred to the coordinating role provided by the Healthy Ageing Strategic Partnership (H-A-S-P) in respect of the plan and the fact that it was a continuous process involving the development of ideas and actions carried forward from the previous action plan and continual consultation with older people.

The Members were reminded that the Age-friendly Belfast Plan action plan was included in the Belfast Agenda and included collaborative work to assess the positive impact of the plan, including the Age-friendly initiative, on the lives of older people. The Senior Project Development Officer stated that a number of partnership and older people workshops would be taking place in the new year, as part of a consultation process, to assess the views of older people in terms of their needs for services, social interaction and support. She referred to the process and timeline associated with the development and publication of the new Age-friendly plan with a view to launching the action plan in October 2022.

The Reference Group agreed that a joint meeting be held, with the Belfast Seniors' Forum, to provide the Members with an update on the work of that group, given the contact restrictions imposed as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Noted.

### **Age-friendly Belfast Activities and Events**

The Senior Environmental Officer provided an overview of a range of Age-friendly activities which had taken place since the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic in March 2020. She stated that information had been provided to older people, support services and partners outlining which services were available to them under the Covid-19 restrictions. She highlighted the initiative displayed by older people in undertaking a number of zoom meetings and consultations, which had ensured that groups, such as the Greater Belfast Senior's Forum, had remained connected during a period of severe restrictions. The Senior Environmental Officer referred to the inter-generational work which had taken place with "Linking Generations" during the pandemic and reinforced the benefits and positive feedback in regard to the online training programmes which had been undertaken.

The Members were informed that the Council had been in a position to assist older people with the provision of a range of IT devices including refurbished computer tablets. This had permitted older people to communicate with each other and access online training videos which had proved both popular and beneficial. The Working Group was informed that handyman services were operational again, after being suspended during the pandemic. The Senior Environmental Officer stated that the handyman service comprised a free home safety check and included a low-cost repair service. The Members were reminded that October had been designated as Positive Ageing month, beginning with the Age-friendly Belfast Convention, in the City Hall, on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2021. She stated that the Convention would take the form of a hybrid meeting, with a reduced number of attendees to ensure social distancing and that a recording of the event would be made available for distribution to non-attendees. The Senior Environmental Health Officer referred to a number of activities which would be taking place, including a men's health day undertaken by Volunteer Now and a Silver Sunday event which would be held in the Ulster Hall. She referred to a range of additional events being held, including fix-it clinics at various community centres throughout the city and which included a number of on-line training sessions. The Senior Environmental Health Officer stated that it was hoped that a virtual tea dance would be held at the end of October, 2021.

The Reference Group was informed that 15,000 Safe Seniors' packs would be made available from 1st October 2021 and would be distributed from a range of venues, including Community Centres. She highlighted the 'hug in a box' scheme which had been well received and which had included a range of items, including vouchers and food parcels, targeted at older people. She stated further that it was intended to record the Age-friendly convention and distribute the recording widely. The Chairperson suggested that it may be beneficial to arrange, at a future date, a meeting between the Greater Seniors' Forum and the Youth Forum, as a means to encourage greater inter-generational participation and communication between those groups. The Senior Environmental Health Officer agreed to distribute the information packs as widely as possible and confirmed that they would be made available to assist Members of the Reference Group in their role as elected and community representatives.

The Lead Officer - Community Provision suggested that it would be beneficial if the information packs, covering issues such as community safety and developments associated with the Age-friendly Action Plan, could be made available to the area teams, advice centres

and the Council's Community Development Officers. She stated that this would assist in ensuring that all vulnerable groups could be targeted for assistance and support.

The Reference Group noted the information which had been provided, agreed to the suggestions and advice provided by the relevant officers and thanked those officers for their efforts to engage with older people during the pandemic, including the delivery of an extensive range of events to maintain contact with older people and thereby ensuring that they remained connected and valued.

### **Climate Engagement by Older People**

The Resilience Coordinator provided the Working Group with an overview of the work undertaken by the Climate Commissioner and her staff in regard to the Council's strategy on climate mitigation. He reported also on the work undertaken by the Council in the development of its Resilience Strategy launched in December, 2020 and which culminated in its climate delivery plan. The Members were reminded of the three areas of work, within the plan, namely climate adaptation and mitigation, engagement with younger people and the economic drivers required to achieve zero-carbon emissions by 2050.

The Resilience Coordinator referred specifically to the need to deal with the following areas of work namely, transportation and the retrofit of public housing stock which had contributed significantly to the production of harmful emissions. He informed the Working Group that the Council was in the process of developing its own climate plan for the city and that a climate fund had been created to assist with the costs associated with climate mitigation measures. The Members were informed of the importance attached to ensuring that climate mitigation was incorporated within Council policy, including its procurement processes, and of the need to secure community engagement in respect of climate resilience and mitigation measures. The Resilience Coordinator referred to the benefits associated with the development of a green economy, including improved air quality and a reduction in traffic congestion. He explained that additional measures would be required to secure improved community engagement in respect of many of the climate change proposals.

The Working Group was informed that a carbon bus tour would be taking place in Belfast to raise awareness of the Cop26 event scheduled to take place in November 2021 in Glasgow. The Chairperson stated that she was concerned that older people had not been considered in the climate change agenda. She referred specifically to the issues of fuel poverty and the retrofit of housing stock as being issues which required particular attention. The Senior Project Development Officer stated that it was important that future green infrastructure projects afforded greater consideration to older people and their specific needs. The Members agreed that the climate change agenda needed to be more reflective of older people given the fact that Belfast was now an Age-friendly city. The Resilience Coordinator agreed to meet with Council officers to agree an approach on how older people and targets to meet their needs could be incorporated within the climate change agenda.

The Working Group noted the information which had been provided and thanked the Resilience Coordinator for his detailed presentation and expressed their wish that the needs of older people would be given greater importance and form a more integral part of the climate change agenda and its associated activities.

Chairperson

Age-  
friendly  
Belfast



# Positive Ageing Month

October 2021



**Making life better,  
together**  
*Belfast Strategic Partnership*



A month-long festival of events  
and activities for older people

#PositiveAgeingMonth  
[www.belfastcity.gov.uk/  
positiveageingmonth](http://www.belfastcity.gov.uk/positiveageingmonth)





Need some IT help?

Sign up for a free Zoom session on any of the following topics:

Page 80

- iPads
- Emails
- Messenger
- Androids
- Scams
- WhatsApp
- Kindle
- eBooks
- eMagazines
- Skype



See our Zoom programme for more details or visit [librariesni.org.uk](http://librariesni.org.uk)



#PositiveAgeingMonth

## A month-long festival of events and activities for older people

**Positive Ageing Month celebrates the contribution that older people make to their communities and the city of Belfast.**

Now in its sixth year, the festival looks different again this year but still has activities to suit all tastes. Unfortunately, there will be no big get togethers but we hope people will still be able to connect in some way.

**Booking is essential for most events this year so please check details.**

Gillian McEvoy 07713684705  
Elma Greer 07967646146  
[positiveageingmonth@belfastcity.gov.uk](mailto:positiveageingmonth@belfastcity.gov.uk)  
[www.makinglifebettertogether.com](http://www.makinglifebettertogether.com)

The details in this brochure were correct at the time of going to print. Each event organiser reserves the right to make changes to the published programme, so please check with the individual venue.

Friday  
1 October

Age-friendly Belfast  
invites you to the  
**Virtual Age-friendly Belfast  
Convention 2021**

Friday 1 October  
10.30am - 12pm

A Celebration of International Older Persons Day, Positive Ageing Month and Age-friendly Belfast.

Call 07713684705 or email [positiveageingmonth@belfastcity.gov.uk](mailto:positiveageingmonth@belfastcity.gov.uk) to receive details on how you can watch the convention once it has taken place.

Page 81

Sunday  
3 October

**Silver Sunday Age-friendly  
Museums Day**  
10.30pm to 1pm

Come along to the Ulster Museum for a socially distanced visit, refreshments, and a chance to chat and find out what's going on during October. You can also enjoy a walk in Botanic gardens and make a day off it.

Call 02890440000 to book in or email [positiveageingmonth@belfastcity.gov.uk](mailto:positiveageingmonth@belfastcity.gov.uk) or call 07713684705 for more information.



**NNNI NATIONAL MUSEUMS NI**

Monday  
4 October

**Scams**  
11am -12pm

It seems that every other day you hear about someone who's been scammed. In this Zoom session we aim to help you protect yourself against some of the most common scams around. Learn what to look out for and grasp some simple tips to help you avoid being tricked. Forewarned is forearmed!

To book call 07912 296792 or email [Sheila.Mclean@librariesni.org.uk](mailto:Sheila.Mclean@librariesni.org.uk)



**WhatsApp - Part 1**  
2pm - 3pm

What is WhatsApp? If you haven't used this social media app before, then now's the time to find out! Join our Zoom session to see what's involved including some of the more advanced features such as groups and photo messages.

Delivered via **zoom**

To book call 07843 339159 or email [Joanne.Brown@librariesni.org.uk](mailto:Joanne.Brown@librariesni.org.uk)



**Cookery Demo**  
2pm

Alex Connell, Roving Chef from Vegetarian for Life is going to do a cookery demo. Come along and watch and be inspired.

Delivered via **zoom**

To book call 07713684705 or email [positiveageingmonth@belfastcity.gov.uk](mailto:positiveageingmonth@belfastcity.gov.uk)



# Belfast u3a

Belfast u3a (University of the Third Age), is a learning organisation for older people who are not in full-time employment. It enables members to engage in many social activities and to share their knowledge and skills in relation to the arts, fitness, leisure, and creativity. With over 700 members and 57 interest groups, we cover a wide range of topics and activities. The groups are run by the members for the members. In normal times, we have a very interesting and fun-filled monthly meeting with a speaker, which is open to all members. However, due to Covid-19 regulations, this monthly meeting has been held successfully on Zoom since September 2020. Some of our groups are also meeting on Zoom, while some outdoor activities (e.g. walking, bowling, and photography) were able to function in the Summer months, and we hope for more easing of restrictions in the Autumn.

For further information, see our website Belfast U3A: Welcome ([u3asites.org.uk](http://u3asites.org.uk)) and if you like what you see and are interested in joining us, please email our Membership Secretary (with your name and postal address) on [membership@belfastu3a.org](mailto:membership@belfastu3a.org).

**u3a** learn,  
laugh,  
live

Tuesday  
5 October

## Dementia Awareness 10am -11am



A short awareness talk for anyone who wants to understand more about what it is like to live with dementia or care for someone living with dementia. Learn about types of dementia, signs and symptoms, and small things you can do in your community to make a positive difference for people living with the condition.

Delivered via **zoom**

To book, or for more information, please email:  
[julie.morton@alzheimers.org.uk](mailto:julie.morton@alzheimers.org.uk)

## Men's Heath Day 10.30 – 1.30

### St Josephs Church Sailortown

A series of activities just for men,  
Booking essential

For a programme contact  
028 9023 2020 or email  
[Pamela.higgins@volunteernow.co.uk](mailto:Pamela.higgins@volunteernow.co.uk)



## Privacy 11am – 12pm



Now that people are spending so much time online, it is more important than ever to know how to keep your personal information secure and private. This Zoom session offers you hints and tips on how to protect your data.

Delivered via **zoom**

To book call 07912 296830 or email  
[niall.mcveigh@librariesni.org.uk](mailto:niall.mcveigh@librariesni.org.uk)

## WhatsApp - Part 2 2pm – 3pm

On social media it is important that you know your information is protected. This final WhatsApp Zoom session takes a closer look at Privacy and Security settings, and gives you helpful tips on how to stay safe.

Delivered via **zoom**

To book call 07843 339159 or  
email [Joanne.Brown@librariesni.org.uk](mailto:Joanne.Brown@librariesni.org.uk)



Wednesday  
6 October

### Linking Generations NI 10.30am -12pm

Come and find out more about Linking generations and how they can support you with intergenerational work.

Delivered via **zoom**

To book [Infolgni@bjf.org.uk](mailto:Infolgni@bjf.org.uk)



### Introduction to iPad - Part 1 11am – 12pm

Mystified by your iPad? Join us for our Zoom session when we'll explain some of the basics: find out how to turn your iPad on and off, discover what the buttons do, and learn to tap and swipe like a pro! We will also do some exploring: navigate successfully through screens, apps and settings.

Delivered via **zoom**

To book call 07912 296811 or email [Karen.Maginess@librariesni.org.uk](mailto:Karen.Maginess@librariesni.org.uk)

### Entertainment 2pm - 3pm

Missed your favourite television programme? There are several free and subscription applications which allow you to watch programmes at your leisure or on the go. Come along and learn all about them.

Delivered via **zoom**

To book call 07843 339159 or email [Joanne.Brown@librariesni.org.uk](mailto:Joanne.Brown@librariesni.org.uk)



Thursday  
7 October

### Moneysaving - Part 1 11am – 12pm

Join our Zoom session to explore some of the great free advice sites on the internet that help you make your money go further. There is a wealth of knowledge out there if you know where to look. Also, see what you can do with cashback sites when you shop online.

To book call 07912 296790 or email [david.bridges@librariesni.org.uk](mailto:david.bridges@librariesni.org.uk)



### Spotify 2pm – 3pm



Join our Zoom session to find out how to access a wide range of music on your iPad, tablet or smartphone. Find out about the many free and paid for music streaming apps available, including Spotify.

To book call 07912 296830 or email [niall.mcveigh@librariesni.org.uk](mailto:niall.mcveigh@librariesni.org.uk)

### Silver Screenings – WAY OUT WEST (1937)

Laurel & Hardy at the Strand Cinema 2pm – 4pm

Tickets £3 including free tea/coffee.

To book call 02890655830



# Move with Mary



Visit [ageni.org/movewithmary](http://ageni.org/movewithmary) to join in.



in association with



Friday  
8 October

### Listen Share Change Taster Session

11am

We are inviting you to take part in digital Listen Share Change. We use storytelling to help people start a conversation, have a laugh and make new friends.

Delivered via **zoom** or by phone using a Freephone number.

To book contact Holly through Verbal Verbal LSC Team – ask for Holly (Belfast rep) 028 7126 6946  
h@belfast@theverbal.co

### Virtual Sing for Victory workshop

2pm - 3pm

Sing for Victory is a dementia friendly singing and reminiscence workshop we offer virtually. Participants sing songs from the 1940s and reminisce about the past with our Outreach Officer and Music Therapist Karen Diamond.

Delivered via **zoom**

To book email  
outreach@niwarmemorial.org

### Creative Photos for Fun

11am -12pm

Join our Zoom session to get more out of your digital photos – learn about online services that allow you to print as well as make photobooks, calendars and gifts.

Delivered via **zoom**

To book call 07912 296811 or email  
Karen.Maginess@librariesni.org.uk



### Scams

2pm – 3pm

It seems that every other day you hear about someone who's been scammed. In this Zoom session we aim to help you protect yourself against some of the most common scams around.

Delivered via **zoom**

To book call 07912 296798 or  
028 9050 9150 or email  
Gary.Patterson@librariesni.org.uk



Monday  
11 October

### Blackbirds, Bricks & the man who sold Belfast

Guided Walk on Ormeau Park

11am – 1pm

Come along and enjoy a walk around Ormeau Park whilst finding out more about the history of the park. There will also be refreshments. Booking essential.

To book call 07713684705 or email  
postiveageingmonth@belfastcity.gov.uk



### Moneysaving - Part 2

2pm – 3pm

In this Zoom session, compare the price comparison sites! Are they all that they seem? Also, check out some specialist sites that can offer you huge discounts.



Delivered via **zoom**

To book call 07912 296790 or email  
david.bridges@librariesni.org.uk

### Privacy

11am – 12pm

Now that people are spending so much time online, it's more important than ever to know how to keep your personal information secure and private. This Zoom session offers you hints and tips on how to protect your data.



Delivered via **zoom**

To book call 07843 339159 or email  
Joanne.Brown@librariesni.org.uk

### IT Fix it Van, Inverary Community Centre

2pm – 4pm

Having problems with your laptop, tablet or phone? Come to the fix it clinic and you can get a one to one session with an expert from Ignite IT – booking is essential.



To book call 07713684705 or email  
postiveageingmonth@belfastcity.gov.uk

**Tuesday  
12 October**

### iPad Camera - Part 1

11am – 12pm

Join our Zoom session to check out your iPad camera settings: live, time lapse, panoramic and more.

Delivered via **zoom**

To book call 07912 296792 or email Sheila.Mclean@librariesni.org.uk

### IT Fix it Van, Glen Road Community Centre

2pm – 4pm

Having problems with your laptop, tablet or phone? Come to the fix it clinic and you can get a one to one session with an expert from Ignite IT – booking is essential.

To book call 07713684705 or email postiveageingmonth@belfastcity.gov.uk



### Be Ready NI

3pm- 4pm

Come and hear from Claire Carlton- Resilience Manager Belfast Emergency Preparedness Group on being prepared for all types of emergencies from severe weather warnings, floods and other crisis situations.

Delivered via **zoom**

To book call 07713684705 or email postiveageingmonth@belfastcity.gov.uk

### Scams

2pm – 3pm

It seems that every other day you hear about someone who's been scammed. In this Zoom session we aim to help you protect yourself against some of the most common scams around. Learn what to look out for and grasp some simple tips to help you avoid being tricked. Forewarned is forearmed!

Delivered via **zoom**

To book call 07912 296792 or email David.bridges@librariesni.org.uk



**Wednesday 13 October 2021**

10.30 am to 12.00 pm

Online Webinar

# Dying to Talk

The importance of being prepared



- ✓ Spiritually
- ✓ Practically
- ✓ Emotionally



Register on Eventbrite -<https://bit.ly/DyingToTalkTickets>  
[www.fermanaghomagh.com/community/agefriendly](http://www.fermanaghomagh.com/community/agefriendly)



Wednesday  
13 October

### Introduction to iPad - Part 2

11am – 12pm

In iPad Zoom Session 2, you'll discover more about how to set up your iPad to suit you: we'll look at display and brightness, wallpaper, accessibility settings, and the control centre.

Delivered via 

To book call 07912 296811 or email Karen.Maginess@librariesni.org.uk



### IT Fix it Van, Ardoyne Community Centre

2pm – 4pm

Having problems with your lap top, tablet or phone? Come to the fix it clinic and you can get a one to one session with an expert from Ignite IT – booking is essential

To book call 07713684705 or email postiveageingmonth@belfastcity.gov.uk



### War Memorial Museum Virtual Reminiscence workshop

2pm

In our reminiscence workshops we use objects and photographs from the museum collection to stimulate conversation about the past. Reminiscence workshops are based on the home front in Northern Ireland during the Second World War. Our Outreach Officer Michael is connecting with groups virtually to offer workshops which would normally take place in our museum. Using museum objects and a PowerPoint presentation, Michael encourages conversations about topics including the Belfast Blitz, the US presence, evacuees and rationing.

Delivered via 

To book email outreach@niwarmemorial.org



Digital Assist Text Help

# OUR DIGITAL VOLUNTEERS ARE HERE TO HELP

[www.bitcni.org.uk](http://www.bitcni.org.uk)



## Do you need help with any digital issue or device?

**Business in the Community, in partnership with Go ON NI and NI Direct, is offering free digital help for anyone who needs it.**

If you have a tablet, laptop or phone and need help to address a specific problem, our digital volunteers can help. Simply text the word **DIGITAL** to **67300\*** with a brief description of what you require help with, or call **07551 852684\*** and leave a message, and a volunteer will phone you within 48 hours with free, helpful advice on many topics such as:

- Any online video calling, e.g Zoom, Facetime, Facebook
- Any social media, e.g Facebook
- Email
- Attachments
- Staying safe online and scams
- Online payments
- Shopping online
- Saving and sharing photos
- Computer settings

\*All calls and text messages will be charged at your network operator's standard rate. Information is held securely and is non-identifiable and not shared with a 3rd party. Information will be used by Digital Partners for this service only. There is no charge for receiving texts from this service while in the UK.



The Responsible Business Network  
Northern Ireland



Let's learn digital  
[www.nidirect.gov.uk/go-on-ni](http://www.nidirect.gov.uk/go-on-ni)

**nidirect**  
government services

For **FREE** digital help, text **DIGITAL** to **67300\*** or call **07551 852684\***

Thursday  
14 October

### Scams

11am – 12pm

It seems that every other day you hear about someone who's been scammed. In this Zoom session we aim to help you protect yourself against some of the most common scams around. Learn what to look out for and grasp some simple tips to help you avoid being tricked. Forewarned is forearmed!

To book call 07912 296792 or email Joanne.Brown@librariesni.org.uk



### Chocolate Bingo

7.30pm - 8.30pm

Eyes down, let's play Bingo. Every winner wins chocolate.

Delivered via **zoom**

To register call Eamon Quinn on 90735696 or email Eamon.quinn@engagewithage.org.uk

### IT Fix it Van, Donegal Pass Community Centre

2pm – 4pm

Having problems with your laptop, tablet or phone? Come to the fix it clinic and you can get a one to one session with an expert from Ignite IT – booking is essential



To book call 07713684705 or email postiveageingmonth@belfastcity.gov.uk

### Shop well, store well, eat well ideas session

10am - 11am

Join Grainne, a Dietician from Active Belfast Team to learn about what good staples to have in cupboards and how to eat well when shopping less.

Delivered via **zoom**

To book call 07713684705 or email postiveageingmonth@belfastcity.gov.uk



Friday  
15 October

### Allstate Cyber Safety



10am

#### Did you know individuals over the age of 60 are more likely to be targeted by cybercriminals?

To promote awareness of this threat, a team of passionate cybersecurity employees at Allstate developed a program for older adults to help them navigate the internet safely and with confidence.

Our interactive training will go over common email and telephone scams pertaining to fraud, identity protection, as well as general cybersecurity awareness, like password protection and privacy settings.

To book call 07713684705 or email postiveageingmonth@belfastcity.gov.uk

### iPad Camera - Part 2

11am

In this Zoom session, find out how you can edit your photographs or put them into albums.

Delivered via **zoom**

To book call or email 07912 296792 or email Sheila.Mclean@librariesni.org.uk



### Practice Using Zoom

2pm – 3pm

Have you used Zoom yet? Would you like to familiarise yourself with the tools and tricks of Zoom in a safe learning environment? Join our Zoom meeting where we explain the various settings and give you a chance to practice some of its features. We will also talk you through how to set up your own Zoom meeting.

Delivered via **zoom**

To book call 07912 296790 or email david.bridges@librariesni.org.uk

### IT Fix it Van, Morton Community Centre

2pm – 4pm

Having problems with your laptop, tablet or phone? Come to the fix it clinic and you can get a one to one session with an expert from Ignite IT – booking is essential



To book call 07713684705 or email postiveageingmonth@belfastcity.gov.uk

**Monday  
18 October**

### Privacy

**11am -12pm**

Now that people are spending so much time online, it's more important than ever to know how to keep your personal information secure and private. This Zoom session offers you hints and tips on how to protect your data.

Delivered via **zoom**

To book call 07912 296792 or email Sheila.Mclean@librariesni.org.uk

**Tuesday  
19 October**

### Your Health Online

**11am - 12pm**

Find out about reliable websites giving expert up to date information, help and support on health and wellbeing issues.

To book call 07912 296798 or 028 9050 9150 or email Gary.Patterson@librariesni.org.uk

### Pressreader

**2pm - 3pm**

Did you know that you can get free access to around 3,000 national and world newspapers through the Libraries NI Libby app?



Delivered via **zoom**

To book call 07912296830 or email niall.mcveigh@librariesni.org.uk

### Zoom cook a long session

Alex will be encouraging you to actually cook along with him and make Borlotti Bean Chestnut Stew, followed by Sticky Toffee Pudding.

Delivered via **zoom**

To book call 07713684705 or email positiveageingmonth@belfastcity.gov.uk

**Wednesday  
20 October**

### Making the most of your slow cooker

**11am**

Join this session to find out the benefits of using slow cookers to make tasty, nutritious meals.

To book go to: [https://setrust-hscni-net.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_x\\_Bsy4cWQGGNeoSWJgqApQ](https://setrust-hscni-net.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_x_Bsy4cWQGGNeoSWJgqApQ)

### Energy Efficiency in the Home

**11am**

Find out about energy efficient heating, lighting, and appliances, keeping the heat where it is needed, comparing and switching energy suppliers, advice and support in Northern Ireland.

Delivered via **zoom**

To book email positiveageingmonth@belfastcity.gov.uk or phone 077713684705

### Interactive Dementia Awareness training

**7pm**

The training happens via Zoom, and participants are taken to a range of locations including a home, a shop, out and about, and more. Participants learn how to make life more dementia friendly with a range of top tips.

This training is suitable for anyone affected by dementia or any member of the public hoping to make their community more dementia friendly.

Participants also receive follow-up resources by email.

Book via Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/online-interactive-dementia-training-tickets-167709988089>



Thursday  
21 October

### Taking the fear out of online banking

11am

Richard Gill, Community Banker from Ulster Bank will give you advice on safely using and the benefits of online banking, and purchasing online. There will also be an opportunity for you to ask questions.

Delivered via **zoom**

To book email [positiveageingmonth@belfastcity.gov.uk](mailto:positiveageingmonth@belfastcity.gov.uk) or phone 077713684705

### Page 89 eMagazines

2pm – 3pm

If you haven't yet discovered the amazing FREE eMagazine offer from Libraries NI, then this is the Zoom session for you!

Explore the app and discover features like search, place hold, bookmarks and reading settings.

Delivered via **zoom**

To book call 07912 296792 or email [Sheila.Mclean@librariesni.org.uk](mailto:Sheila.Mclean@librariesni.org.uk)



### Silver Screenings – Bringing Up Baby (1938) at the Strand Cinema

2pm – 4pm

Silver Screenings proudly supported by Specsavers Connswater and Arts & Business NI. Tickets £3 including free tea/coffee.



Silver Screenings are weekly classic films at the Strand Arts Centre in East Belfast, chosen with seniors in mind but open to anyone who loves a great movie!

To book call 02890655830



Friday  
22 October

### Litter pick and learn at the Waterworks Park

11am

Come and do your bit at Belfast Waterworks Park with a litter pick session. Meet at the entrance from Cave Hill Road at the children's play park.

To book email [positiveageingmonth@belfastcity.gov.uk](mailto:positiveageingmonth@belfastcity.gov.uk) or phone 077713684705

Monday  
25 October

### Scams

2pm – 3pm

It seems that every other day you hear about someone who's been scammed. In this Zoom session we aim to help you protect yourself against some of the most common scams around. Learn what to look out for and grasp some simple tips to help you avoid being tricked. Forewarned is forearmed!

Delivered via **zoom**

To book call 07912 296792 or email [Sheila.Mclean@librariesni.org.uk](mailto:Sheila.Mclean@librariesni.org.uk)



Tuesday  
26 October



Cookbook for everyone who attends

### Recycling and Reducing food waste

11am – 12pm

Come and here from Belfast City Council about reducing waste and recycling and get your questions answered.

Delivered via **zoom**

To book email [positiveageingmonth@belfastcity.gov.uk](mailto:positiveageingmonth@belfastcity.gov.uk) or phone 077713684705



### Pinterest and Instagram

2pm – 3pm

In this session we take a look at two popular image-sharing social networking sites. Find out how to create a profile, post your own images and link with others.

To book call 07912 296792 or email [Sheila.Mclean@librariesni.org.uk](mailto:Sheila.Mclean@librariesni.org.uk)

**Wednesday  
27 October**

### Age at Work

Come along and hear about what workplaces are doing for older workers and how Business in the Community are supporting them.

To book email  
positiveageingmonth@belfastcity.gov.uk  
or phone 077713684705



The Responsible  
Business Network  
Northern Ireland

**Thursday  
28 October**

### Bowel Cancer Screening

**11am**

The Women's Resource and Development Agency raises awareness of bowel cancer screening, signs and symptoms to look out for, ways to reduce your risk of developing bowel cancer and how to take the screening.

Delivered via **zoom**

To book email  
positiveageingmonth@belfastcity.gov.uk  
or phone 077713684705



### Big Quiz 3pm

Join us via zoom for a quiz with a difference

Delivered via **zoom**

To book email  
positiveageingmonth@belfastcity.gov.uk  
or phone 077713684705

### Spooky Halloween Chocolate Bingo

**7.30pm - 8.30pm**

Eyes down, let's play  
Bingo. Every winner  
wins chocolate.

Delivered via **zoom**

To register call Eamon Quinn on  
90735696 or email  
Eamon.quinn@engagewithage.org.uk

**Friday  
29 October**

### Biggest ever virtual tea dance

**2.30pm - 4pm**

Join people across Northern Ireland and beyond,  
live bands and plenty of kitchen dancing

To book email positiveageingmonth@belfastcity.gov.uk  
or phone 077713684705

Are you an older person living in Belfast who is lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, or transgender?

Would you like someone to talk to completely in confidence about your sexual orientation or gender identity?

**Cara-Friend are here to help.** Our confidential telephone helpline is teamed with people who will offer a listening ear, and will be able to provide you with support and information.

Freephone

**0808 8000 390**

Monday to Friday, 11am - 3pm  
Wednesday, 6 - 8 pm

Visit

**www.cara-friend.org.uk**

Email

**admin@cara-friend.org.uk**



**Belfast  
City Council**



This page is intentionally left blank