

Public Document Pack

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



**Belfast
City Council**

19th October, 2022

MEETING OF THE STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Dear Alderman/Councillor,

The above-named Committee will meet in the **Council Chamber and via Microsoft Teams** on Friday, 21st October, 2022 at 9.30 a.m., for the transaction of the business noted below.

You are requested to attend.

Yours faithfully,

John Walsh

Chief Executive

AGENDA:

1. Routine Matters

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

2. Restricted Items

- (a) Medium Term Financial Plan and Efficiency Programme (Pages 1 - 6)
- (b) Augment the City Innovation and the Visitor Experience (Pages 7 - 12)
- (c) Update on Employees on Temporary Contracts and Agency Workers (Pages 13 - 30)
- (d) Organisational Reviews and Change Programme (Pages 31 - 36)
- (e) Update on External Funding (Shared Island and Peace Plus) (Pages 37 - 58)
- (f) Update on PEACE IV Programme (Pages 59 - 64)

3. Matters referred back from Council/Motions

- (a) Motion: Suspension of Government Debt Recovery for those in receipt of Benefits and Universal Credit – Response from Department for Communities (Pages 65 - 72)
- (b) Quarterly Update on Motions (Pages 73 - 96)

4. Governance

- (a) Scheme of Delegation (Pages 97 - 150)

5. Belfast Agenda/Strategic Issues

- (a) Smart City Expo World Congress 2022 (Pages 151 - 154)
- (b) Sustain Exchange Climate Business Conference Funding Agreement (Pages 155 - 160)
- (c) Community Wealth Building Summit and Inclusive Growth Conference (Pages 161 - 164)

6. Physical Programme and Asset Management

- (a) Update on Physical Programme (Pages 165 - 168)
- (b) Asset Management (Pages 169 - 184)
- (c) Update on Area Working Groups (Pages 185 - 196)
- (d) Community Asset Management Framework Pilot Community Benefit Sites - Update on Clarendon and Ulidia Playing Fields (Pages 197 - 208)

7. Finance, Procurement and Performance

- (a) Update on Contracts (Pages 209 - 216)

8. Equality and Good Relations

- (a) Minutes of Meeting of Shared City Partnership (Pages 217 - 242)

9. Operational Issues

- (a) Minutes of the Meeting of the Party Group Leaders' Consultative Forum (Pages 243 - 246)
- (b) Human Rights Day 2022 (Pages 247 - 248)
- (c) Ulster-Scots Language Week Exhibition (Pages 249 - 252)
- (d) Requests for Use of the City Hall and the Provision of Hospitality (Pages 253 - 258)
- (e) Minutes of the Meeting of the All-Party Working Group on the City Centre (Pages 259 - 262)

10. Issues Raised in Advance by Members

(a) Fuel Poverty Hardship Fund

Councillor Flynn to propose:

“This Council recognises the enormous hardship facing households across Belfast caused by rising fuel, food and energy bills and notes the devastating report from the University of York, which suggests that 72% of Northern Ireland households will be in fuel poverty by January, 2023.

In order to address these challenges, the Council will:

- i. allocate £500k from Council reserves to set up an Emergency Fuel Poverty Hardship Fund, to be used to administer one-off vouchers to households in most need in Belfast and authorises officers to engage with partners and provide Members with options on the administration of a scheme;
- ii. write to the Department for Communities requesting match funding for this scheme; and
- iii. commit to a long-term strategy around leveraging community-owned energy projects to reduce energy bills and create sustainable communities, with officers to report to Committee when capacity allows.”

(b) Christmas Tree Charity Collection

Councillor McKeown to propose that a collection box be placed beside the Christmas tree in the Rotunda area of the City Hall for people to place donations in when viewing the tree, taking photographs etc. The funds raised would be channelled through the Lord Mayor’s office for distribution to appropriate charities in the City.

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Subject:	Motion: Suspension of Government Debt Recovery for those in receipt of Benefits and Universal Credit – Response from Department for Communities
Date:	21st October, 2022
Reporting Officer:	Nora Largey, Interim City Solicitor and Director of Legal and Civic Services
Contact Officer:	Jim Hanna, Senior Democratic Services Officer

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

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

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	To consider a response from the Department for Communities to Councillor Matt Collins' motion on the Suspension of Government Debt Recovery for those in receipt of Benefits and Universal Credit.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is asked to note the response and take any such action as may be determined.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>The Standards and Business Committee, at its meeting on 23rd August, agreed to adopt the following motion, which had been proposed by Councillor Matt Collins and seconded by Councillor Ferguson:</p>

	<p>"This Council notes new research carried out by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation documenting the alarming cost of living impact due to benefit deductions and debt recovery.</p> <p>Many in receipt of means tested benefits and on Universal Credit, including many in work, are in bill payment arrears; taking on unaffordable debt; are going without household essentials; and are unable to properly heat their homes or feed their families. With inflation continuing to rise and the hardship emergency predicted to become more extreme as we face into the winter months the situation for many is set to worsen in the absence of immediate intervention.</p> <p>Benefit reductions to repay government and utility providers at unaffordable rates are compounding the hardship crisis faced by many of those struggling the most. Government departments are in some cases claiming back debts at higher rates than private creditors. Many people are unaware that they can receive debt reduction help.</p> <p>This Council will write to the Department of Communities' Minister requesting the immediate suspension of government debt recovery for those in receipt of benefits and universal credit.</p> <p>The Council also requests that the Department of Communities provide information on how many benefit and universal credit claims were subject to deductions in the most recent month for which data is available, broken down by Council area; how much on average was deducted in each Council area; what the total sum was of deductions in each Council area; and what proportion of each of those sums was deducted to repay advance payments."</p>
3.2	A response has been received from Ms. L. McLaughlin, Director of Pensions, Disability, Benefit Security and Debt, on behalf of the Minister for Communities. A copy is attached.
3.3	Ms. McLaughlin begins by assuring the Council that the Department for Communities understands the financial hardship which many people are experiencing as a result of the

	current cost of living crisis. The Department is continuing to consider options to provide both immediate and medium to longer term interventions to help alleviate financial pressures, including supporting individuals who are struggling financially.
3.4	<p>She goes on to address the reference within the motion to deductions which are made to repay utility providers by confirming that customers in receipt of certain benefits may have deductions taken from their benefit and paid to a creditor under what is known as the Third-Party Deductions Scheme. There are, however, limits to the level of deductions from benefit which can be made under this Scheme and she provides an assurance that third party deductions will only be made when it is considered to be in the best interest of the individual or their family. These are last resort deductions and are taken when an individual is in rent or utility arrears and where there is a risk of eviction, or their energy or utility supply being disconnected if payment is not made. It is, therefore, a safeguarding measure for many vulnerable individuals and their families.</p>
3.5	<p>Ms. McLaughlin then refers to the request within the motion for the Minister to consider an immediate suspension of government debt from benefit and Universal Credit claimants, to help ease the financial burdens. She points out that the temporary suspension of debt recovery, which was implemented in 2020 as part of the Department's Covid pandemic response, was in line with and supported by the Department for Work and Pensions. The Department for Work and Pensions is not considering a further pause in recovery activity at this time.</p>
3.6	<p>She stresses that to affect a unilateral suspension of recovery in Northern Ireland would be a complex process, relying on manual action in respect of over 200,000 cases. More significantly, it would constitute a break in parity with the Department for Work and Pensions' approach and would, therefore, require Treasury approval. Pursuing a temporary suspension in Northern Ireland would also result in financial penalties to the Northern Ireland Executive's Block Grant at a time of significant existing funding pressures. The financial cost of any divergence from parity, of this nature, would require Executive agreement.</p>
3.7	<p>However, the Department for Communities has a level of existing discretion to reduce, defer and, in exceptional circumstances, to waive social security debt. As an alternative to suspending all debt recovery, the Department would encourage those people who are experiencing difficulty with their repayments to contact the Debt Management Service. Staff there are trained to support and work with individuals to help put in place a more affordable and sustainable repayment plan and can signpost individuals to organisations delivering independent debt advice and other support services. The Department is currently finalising a programme of communications aimed at raising public awareness of the support available in</p>

3.8	<p>respect of debt recovery and officials are working closely with the independent advice sector to ensure that information and support reaches those who need it.</p> <p>Ms. McLaughlin concludes by pointing out that the Department for Communities is unable to provide the information requested within the motion on the number of benefit claims which are subject to deductions, how much on average was deducted, the total sum of deductions and the proportion of deductions made to repay a Universal Credit advance, as it is not collated on a council-by-council basis. Annex 1 of the response does, however, provide the data requested on all benefit claimants in Northern Ireland who were subject to benefit deductions during August 2022, although it is pointed out that this data is not quality assured to Office of National Statistics standards.</p> <p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
4.0	Document Attached
	Response from Director of Pensions, Disability, Benefit Security and Debt.



Leonora McLaughlin
Director of Pensions, Disability,
Benefit Security and Debt
Level 3
34 College Street
Belfast
BT1 6BT

Our ref: COR-2421-2022

27 September 2022

Carolyn Donnelly
Democratic Services Officer

Via email to: donnellycarolyn@belfastcity.gov.uk

Dear Carolyn,

Thank you for letter dated 14 September 2022 addressed to the Minister for Communities, detailing the motion passed by Belfast City Council in August 2022, and requesting a pause in the recovery of social security debt to claimants during the current financial crisis. As Director responsible for Debt Management within the Department, your correspondence has been passed to me to reply.

I acknowledge your concerns and I can assure you that the Department for Communities understands the financial hardship that many people are experiencing because of the current cost of living crisis. The Department is continuing to consider options to provide both immediate and medium to longer term interventions to help alleviate financial pressures including supporting individuals who are struggling financially.

In your correspondence, you refer to deductions that are made to repay utility providers. Customers in receipt of certain benefits may have deductions taken from their benefit and paid to a creditor under what is known as the Third Party Deductions Scheme. There are limits to the level of deductions from benefit which can be made under the scheme and I can assure you that third party deductions will only be made when it is considered to be in the best interest of the individual or their family. These



are last resort deductions, taken when an individual is in rent or utility arrears and where there is a risk of eviction, or their energy or utility supply being disconnected if payment is not made. This is a safeguarding measure for many vulnerable individuals and their families. Further information about the Third Party Deductions Scheme is available on the [Department for Communities](http://www.communities-ni.gov.uk) website.

To help ease the financial burdens, you have asked the Minister to consider an immediate suspension of government debt from benefit and Universal Credit claimants. As context, it may be useful to note that the temporary suspension of debt recovery which was implemented in 2020 as part of the Department's Covid pandemic response, was in line with and supported by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). I can confirm that DWP are not considering a further pause in recovery activity at this time.

To affect a unilateral suspension of recovery in NI would be a complex process relying upon manual action in respect of over 200,000 cases. More significantly, suspension in NI would constitute a break in parity with DWP's approach and would, therefore, require Treasury approval. Pursuing a temporary suspension in NI could also result in financial penalties to the Northern Ireland Executive's Block Grant at a time of significant existing funding pressures. The financial cost of any divergence from parity, of this nature, would require Executive agreement.

However, the Department has a level of existing discretion to reduce, defer and, in exceptional circumstances, to waive social security debt. As an alternative to suspending all debt recovery, the Department would encourage people who are experiencing difficulty with their repayments to contact Debt Management.

Debt Management staff are trained to support and work with individuals to help put in place a more affordable and sustainable repayment plan. This contact also provides the opportunity to signpost individuals to organisations delivering independent debt advice and other support services. The Department is currently finalising a programme of communications aimed at raising public awareness of the support



available in respect of debt recovery and officials are working closely with the independent advice sector to ensure that information and support reaches those who need it.

Contact details for Debt Management and additional information on benefit overpayments and financial support are available on [nidirect](#), and we would ask you to encourage any of your constituents who are struggling financially to make contact as soon as they begin to struggle with their deductions. We would also encourage individuals to contact the Departments [Make the Call service](#), to make sure they are getting all the benefits, services and support they are entitled to.

You have also asked the Department to provide information broken down by NI Council area on the number of benefit claims that are subject to deductions, how much on average was deducted, the total sum of deductions and the proportion of deductions made to repay a Universal Credit advance. Unfortunately, this information is not available in the format requested and we are unable to provide a breakdown of debt recovery statistics by NI Council area. However, **Annex 1** provides the data requested in respect of all NI benefit claimants who were subject to benefit deductions during August 2022. Please note that this is operational data and not quality assured to ONS standards.

I trust that you will find this information helpful.

Yours sincerely

Leonora McLaughlin

Director Pensions, Disability, Benefit Security & Debt



Annex 1

Q: How many benefit and universal credit claims were subject to deductions in the most recent month for which data is available (August 2022 data).

A: 73,803 customers had deduction(s) taken from their benefit payment including Universal Credit, during August 2022.

Q: How much on average was deducted.

A: The average deduction was £53.01. It should be noted that the frequency of deductions from benefit can vary e.g. weekly, fortnightly or monthly, depending on the benefit type and in some circumstances customer preference. The average figure has been calculated for the entire month irrespective of frequency.

Q: What was the total sum of these deductions.

A: The total sum of deductions from benefit during August 2022 was £3,912,435.42.

Q: How much was deducted to repay advance payments.

A: £1,770,176.48 of the total deductions taken during August 2022 was to repay Advance Payments. This includes £1,769,546.12 in respect of deductions for Universal Credit and £630.36 in respect of Short-Term Benefit advances and equates to just under 45% of overall deductions.



Subject:	Quarterly Update on Motions
Date:	21st October, 2022
Reporting Officer:	Nora Largey, Interim City Solicitor and Director of Legal and Civic Services
Contact Officer:	Geoff Dickson, Strategic Policy Lead Officer Jim Hanna, Senior Democratic Services Officer Clare Hutchinson, Strategic Planning and Policy Officer

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

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

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the progress of all motions for which the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee is responsible.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> note the updates on all motion for which the SP and R Committee is responsible; and agree to the closure of motions 52, 74, 80, 97, 99, 136, 248, 253, 256, 259, 260 and 261 as referenced in the attached appendix and in paragraph 3.4 below.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p><u>Background</u></p> <p>At the Committee meeting on 25th October 2019, the following motion was adopted:</p>

	<p>“This Council notes that other councils produce a monthly status report in relation to Notices of Motion and agrees that Belfast City Council adopts a similar practice and produces a monthly update on motions which will be brought to each full Council Meeting, detailing the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Date received 2. Notice of motion title 3. Submitted by which Councillor 4. Council meeting date 5. Committee motion is referred to 6. Outcome of committee where Notice of Motion will be debated 7. Month it will be reported back to committee 8. Other action to be taken.”
3.2	<p>Following a review exercise, a new database containing all motions and Issues Raised in Advance at Committee was created and quarterly reporting to Committee commenced in March, 2021. The attached appendix provides the latest quarterly update showing all active motions and Issues Raised in Advance which this Committee is responsible for.</p>
3.3	<p>Closure of Notices of Motion and Issues Raised in Advance</p> <p>At the Committee meeting on 20th November 2020, it was agreed that motions could be closed for one of two reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motions which contained an action(s) that has been completed; and • Motions have become Council policy.
3.4	<p>The Committee is asked to agree that the following 12 motions are now closed:</p> <p>Category 1 Recommended Closures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Armed Forces Day (Ref no 97) – This motion called for the Council to bid for the National Armed Forces Day to be held in Belfast in June 2022. The Committee voted against the motion in September 2020 and, therefore, it is recommended that this motion be closed. • Summer Youth Employment Programme (Ref no 99) – This motion called for the Council to work with other public sector bodies, the Belfast Chamber of Commerce and the private sector to develop a summer Youth Employment Programme, aimed

at 14 – 21 year olds primarily from areas of multiple deprivation. The Employability and Skills team delivered a pilot 6 week paid “Belfast Summer Work Experience” programme to 30 young people of which 30 achieved Level 1 City and Guilds accreditation in Personal Development and Employability Qualifications. Therefore, it is recommended that this motion be closed.

- **Re-opening doctors’ surgeries (Ref no 136)** – As requested, the Council’s views were expressed in writing to the Minister of Health.
- **50th Anniversary of Bloody Friday (Ref no 248)** – This motion called for the Council to provide citizens with the opportunity to engage in a programme of commemoration and education, designed to build positive relationships for the future. An event was held on 21st July 2022 in response to this motion and it is, therefore, recommended that this motion be closed.
- **Belfast Region City Deal (Ref no 253)**- This motion requested that a further update on the latest position of the BRCD be presented to the Committee in June 22. This update was provided and, therefore, it is recommended that this motion be closed.
- **Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Bill (Ref no 256)** – This motion was a request for the UK Government to abandon the aforementioned Bill. This Bill has now made its way through the House of Commons and is at second stage in the House of Lords. Therefore, it is recommended that this motion be closed.
- **Care home and top up fees (Ref no 259)** - As requested, the Council’s views were expressed in writing to the Department of Health and it is recommended that this motion be closed.
- **Support the Caterpillar strike for fair pay (Ref no 260)** – The Council was asked to write to the senior management urging them to enter discussion with trade unions to negotiate a fair pay increase. As the proposed strike was called off, no letter was required and it is recommended that this motion be closed.
- **Continuance of hybrid meetings (Ref no 261)** – As requested, the Council’s views were expressed in writing to the Department of Communities, with an update provided to this Committee on 19th August 2022.

	<p>Category 2 Recommended Closures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Menopause Aware (Ref no 52) –This motion called for the Council to work with Trades Unions to ensure that the council and it's staff are menopause aware, have an understanding of the support available and recognise it as a workplace issue. The Menopause Policy has now been agreed with the Joint Negotiating and Consultative Committee and will be implemented. Therefore, it is recommended that this motion be now closed. • Disabled People and Older People (Ref no 74) – This motion called for the Council to recommit to the commitment made in the Belfast Agenda to be an accessible city for all by 2035. It called for a focus on consultation with disabled people, older people and carers; creation of a reference group for older people and creation of an access and inclusion senior staff role. The draft Age Friendly Belfast Plan 2022–2026 is currently out for consultation and emerging priorities include infrastructure and social inclusion. Work continues with the Council's Internal Reference Group on Older People and council have secured funding for an Age-Friendly Co-ordinator with recruitment commencing in Autumn 22. Therefore, it is recommended that this motion is now closed. • Opening our streets for everyone (Ref no 80) – This motion called for the Council, as part of its recovery programme post Covid 19, to identify opportunities to enhance the city by looking at ways to encourage less car presence, affording businesses extra space and supporting the move towards reduced car use to help create a cleaner, greener, healthier city for all. The Council has subsequently taken a number of measures as part of Covid recovery to support businesses and communities in relation to this motion, including delivery of the DfC Covid Recovery Revitalisation Programme, one- off capital grants to various community groups and business clusters and the implementation of a temporary process for pavement café licensing with no associated fee. Further elements of proposals put forward within this motion will be incorporated as part of the BV Strategy and will be brought back to the Committee. Therefore, it is recommended that this motion be now closed.
	<u>Financial and Resource Implications</u>
3.5	There are no additional financial implications required to implement these recommendations.
	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u>
3.6	There are no equality, good relations or rural needs implications contained in this report.
4.0	Document Attached
	Motion Live Database – SP and R Committee

Ref	Type	Date of Council Meeting	Motion (including hyperlinks)	Proposed by	Referral route	Committee	Agreed actions (agreed decisions from committee/ Council)	Lead officer	Lead Department	Status	Status Update
1	Notice of Motion	03/05/2016	Stained Glass Window – Health Service	Cllr Mullan	Referred to Diversity Working Group	SP&R		J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Will be progressed under new Member Steering Group on City Hall / City Hall Grounds
2	Notice of Motion	02/05/2017	Stained Glass Window – 321 Explosives Ordnance Disposal Company	Cllr Graham	Referred to SP&R	SP&R	Referred to SP&R	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Will be progressed under new Member Steering Group on City Hall / City Hall Grounds
3	Notice of Motion	01/06/2017	Fire Brigades Union	Cllr McVeigh	Referred to SP&R	SP&R	Referred to SP&R	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Will be progressed under new Member Steering Group on City Hall / City Hall Grounds

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7	notice of Motion	09/04/2018	Childcare Strategy	Cllr O'Hara	Referred to SP&R	SP&R	J Tully	City & Organisational Strategy	Ongoing	A child care strategy that is for Belfast alone would not be operational and outside the remit of the Council. The Council continues to engage with key central government departments and agencies through community planning and other structures to help improve the education and social outcomes for children and young people. The Education Minister recently confirmed (7th Sep 2022) the continued commitment to developing an integrated Early Learning and Childcare Strategy for NI with March 2023 as the anticipated date for the draft of the strategy and costed action plan which will be subject to NI Executive consideration. Council officers will engage with Depts and seek to input into this process and advocate the need to accelerate the finalisation and implementation of the regional strategy	
16	Notice of Motion	04/03/2019	SEND Act and Out of School Hours Provision	Cllr Black	Debated and passed	SP&R	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Meeting was delayed due to the 2019 local government elections then the covid-19 pandemic. Currently being arranged via video call.	
23	Notice of Motion	01/07/2019	Removal of Banners and Paramilitary Flags in Belfast	Cllr Beattie	Debated and passed	SP&R	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Consultation delayed due to Covid-19.	
24	Notice of Motion	01/07/2019	Webcasting of Committee Meetings	Cllr Nicholl	Referred to SP&R	SP&R	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Report prepared for PLCF then delayed due to Covid-19 pandemic. To be rescheduled when appropriate.	
25	Issue Raised in Advance	23/08/2019	Abortion Imagery	Cllr Groogan		SP&R	Motion referred to SP&R	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Work is ongoing on the development of new city amenities byelaws which would try to address a number of issues in relation to good governance in the city centre including the display of promotional literature or material without a permit from the Council. The Council will need to seek approval for the draft byelaw from the Department for Communities.

35	Notice of Motion	02/12/2019	Pridestrian Animation	Cllr Garrett	Referred to SP&R	SP&R	J Greer	Place & Economy	Ongoing	The Cultural team are exploring the potential Pridestrian Crossing and have met with Belfast Pride, who are generally supportive of the idea. There are equality concerns as to how a crossing could negatively impact people from the partially sighted community. Further engagement is planned with Guide Dogs NI and RNIB about this issue.
49	Notice of Motion	03/02/2020	Market Gardens and Urban Farming	Cllr de Faoite	Straight to Committee	SP&R	J Tully	City & Organisational Strategy	Ongoing	The Climate Team are currently recommending the Sustainable Food Places partnership in Belfast, as well as engaging with organisations, such as Social Farms and Gardens NI, in relation to existing land which may be suitable for community food based initiatives. Developments in this area could potentially include urban farm and/or market garden establishment, though there are no existing plans at this stage. Members will be kept updated.
50	Notice of Motion	03/02/2020	Belfast Zoo	Cllr Maskey	Straight to Committee	SP&R	J Greer	Place & Economy	Ongoing	Sept 22 Summary: The original motion amended at SP&R. Work has been delayed by the Covid 19 pandemic. Council engaged Urban Scale Interventions (USI) to develop a strategic visioning proposal on the future of the zoo and the wider hills area. In December 2021, SP&R agreed to re-establish the former North Foreshore Members' Steering Group renamed as the Castle, Cavehill, Zoo and NFS Working Group, which meets quarterly. The first meeting in May 2022 received an update from the Director of Physical Programmes and a presentation from USI on the proposed vision, the development opportunities for the zoo and wider Belfast Hills area. Moving forward, officers in the P&E Assets Team, along with the Zoo Strategic Group are implementing an ongoing programme of works and

upgrades at the zoo linked with other existing assets.

51	Notice of Motion	03/02/2020	Growth Deal	Cllr Beattie	Straight to Committee	SP&R		R Cregan	Finance & Resources	Ongoing	To be progressed as resources become available.
52	Notice of Motion	03/02/2020	Menopause Aware	Cllr Michelle Kelly	Debated at Council	SP&R	Passed	J Tully	City & Organisational Strategy	Recommendation Close	The Menopause Policy has been agreed by the Council's Joint Negotiating and Consultative Committee and will be implemented with a communication and awareness raising programme in October 2022, Menopause Awareness Month
55	Notice of Motion	03/02/2020	Drug Task Force	Cllr McCusker	Debated at Council	SP&R	Letters to be sent to Ministers for Health, Justice and Communities	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	To be progressed as resources become available.
56	Notice of Motion	03/02/2020	Public Sector Pay	Cllr Matt Collins	Debated at Council	SP&R	Letter to be sent to Minister for Finance	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	To be progressed as resources become available.

67	Notice of Motion	02/03/2020	Review of Hate Crime Legislation in Northern Ireland - Inclusion of Misogyny as a standalone offence	Cllr Groogan	Debated at Council	SP&R	Council will invite representatives of the Raise Your Voice project to deliver training for Members	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	To be progressed as resources become available.
73	Issue Raised in Advance	19/06/2020	Race Equality Champion for Belfast City Council	Cllr Nicholl		SP&R		J Tully	City & Organisational Strategy	Ongoing	The Director of City and Organisational Strategy is the CMT nominated Executive Sponsor for Race and is overseeing the development of a Race Action Plan. An engagement event is planned for November 2022, with the aim of having a draft plan developed by December 2022. The plan will cover three strands of work: Workforce, Access to services and Civic Leadership
74	issue Raised in Advance	19/06/2020	Disabled People and Older People	Cllr McMullan		SP&R		D Sales	City & Neighbourhood Services	Recommendation Closed	The draft Age Friendly plan 22-26 is scheduled to be presented to SP&R in September 22 before going out to public consultation in October 22. The plan outlines actions that will contribute to relevant aims in the Belfast Agenda, accessibility is explicitly mentioned in the report with proposed actions to address this issue. The emerging priorities include Infrastructure – helping people ‘get out and about’ and Social inclusion, promoting connections both themes will promote increased accessibility. Work will continue with the Council’s internal Reference Group on Older People and officers have secured funding for a Council Age Friendly Co-ordinator, the recruitment process for this post will commence in the Autumn. It is therefore proposed that this Motion is now closed.

78	Notice of Motion	01/07/2020	Suicide Awareness Training	Cllr Michelle Kelly	Straight to Committee	SP&R	J Tully	City & Organisational Strategy	Ongoing	A number of short courses developed by the Mersey Care Trust Foundation on suicide Awareness training were promoted in September. Staff and elected members were encouraged to take part in the training. The Staywell health and wellbeing hub which went live on 12 November 21 will promote the availability of this training on an ongoing basis. A number of council staff have attended Mental Health First Aid training. Mental health / wellbeing champions will be considered as part of the review of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy. Work has started on this review and is due to be complete, with a revised strategy and action plan for 23/24 by March
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80	Notice of Motion	02/07/2020	Opening our Streets for Everyone	Cllr McKeown	Straight to Committee	SP&R		C Reynolds	Place & Economy	Recommendation Close	<p>Council have taken a range of measures relating to Covid recovery to support businesses and communities across Belfast including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of the DfC Covid Recovery Revitalisation programme which included active travel infrastructure to encourage walking and cycling, and projects which optimised outdoor space to support outdoor operations, improve vibrancy, enhance connectivity, and increase footfall. • One-off capital grants totalling £1.1m funding was awarded to 35 community groups and 16 business clusters for capital schemes. • Introduced a temporary process for pavement café licence applications, with no associated fee to help businesses recover. <p>Going forward, as part of ABV officers will be outlining a strategic approach to addressing streetscape and animation aligned to the four Key Moves including short, medium and long-term interventions aligned to the future delivery of the proposals as identified within this NoM. Further details on the BV Strategy and Action Plan will be brought back to committee.</p>
83	issue Raised in Advance	31/07/2020	Frederick Douglass Statue	Cllr Beattie		SP&R	letter to be sent to Department for Communities	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Will be progressed under new Member Steering Group on City Hall / City Hall Grounds

93	issue Raised in Advance	21/08/2020	Video and Web Streaming of Council Committee Meetings	Cllr McReynolds		SP&R	The Committee also noted that an update report would be submitted to a future Committee with respect to the continuation of live streaming after the pandemic	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	To be progressed as resources become available. Note - Should this be merged with NoM 24 on the same issue?
97	Notice of Motion	01/09/2020	National Armed Forces Day	Cllr Pankhurst	Straight to Committee	SP&R		J Greer	Place & Economy	Recommendation Close	SP&R committee voted against the motion in September 2020.
98	Notice of Motion	01/09/2020	Procurement Policy - Living Wage	Cllr Murphy	Straight to Committee	SP&R	Referred to SP&R	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	The Council's Procurement Policy is being updated as part of the overall review of Social Value Procurement - including consideration of the real living wage. A public consultation on the draft policy is running until Tuesday 14 December 2021.
99	Notice of Motion	01/09/2020	Summer Youth Employment Programme	Cllr McLaughlin	Straight to Committee	SP&R		J Greer	Place & Economy	Recommendation Close	The E&S team delivered a pilot 'Belfast Summer Work Experience' programme for 30 young people (2 programmes of 15 young people). The paid (£40pw) 6-week programme was aimed at young people at risk of becoming NEET. Participants completed employment specific tasks and met employers to discuss roles; salaries; expectations; benefits; challenges or self-employment options within the sector. There were 30 individuals who completed the programme obtaining L1 C&G in Personal Development Qualifications and L1 C&G Employability Qualifications. KPMG are currently evaluating all Youth initiatives in the E&S team which will include the paid work experience module.
108	issue Raised in Advance	18/09/2020	Application to Ulster History Circle for a blue	Cllr McMullan		SP&R	report to come back to SP&R Committee	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	To be progressed as resources become available.

[plaque - Olaudah Equiano](#)

114	Notice of Motion	01/10/2020	Pay Increase for Health Workers	Cllr Michael Collins	Debated at Council	SP&R	The Council will invite local representatives of health and social care trade unions to speak about their pay, staffing demands and the challenges they face working in the health service	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	To be progressed as resources become available.
130	Notice of Motion	02/11/2020	Closure of Ulster Bank	Cllr Heading	Debated at Council	SP&R	Letters sent. Awaiting response from Ministers	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Responses from MP's logged Nov 20. Some responses still outstanding - 06/09/21. DS to ascertain further what responses have been recieved - May 22 Cttee
131	Notice of Motion	02/11/2020	Sealing of the Records of Mother and Baby Homes	Cllr Michael Collins	Debated at Council	SP&R	Letters sent. Awaiting response from Irish Gov. Exec response received.	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Response from Irish Gov still outstanding - 06/09/21
136	Notice of Motion	01/12/2020	Re-Opening Doctors Surgeries	Cllr Bunting	Debated at Council	SP&R	Letter to be sent to Minister for Health	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Recommendation Close	No further action - Motion related to closure of doctor surgeries during lock down
138	Notice of Motion	07/12/2020	World Environment Day	Cllr Garrett	Straight to Committee	SP&R	Report to come back to SP&R Committee	J Tully	City & Organisational Strategy	Ongoing	The Climate team will discuss potential awareness raising content for World Environment Day on 5th June 2023 with Officers across relevant Council Departments and update Members accordingly.

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139	Notice of Motion	07/12/2020	Establishment of an External Independent Review of Educational Provision	Cllr McReynolds	Debated at Council	SP&R	J Tully	City & Organisational Strategy	Ongoing	Dept of Education appointed an Independent Panel to undertake a deep rooted review of the education system in NI and the council will input into this process as it moves forward. The Dept of Education has recently published for consultation (20th Sep to 15th Nov 2022) its corporate plan " Every Child Matters 2023 - 2030". A draft council response will be brought to Cttee in advance of submission. Council officers continue to work with colleagues from Dept of Education and the Education Authority in bringing forward the refreshed Belfast Agenda and focus for the next four years	
148	Notice of Motion	07/01/2021	Uplift on Universal Credit	Cllr Heading	Debated at Council	SP&R	reported to SP&R on 19/02/21	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Response from HM Treasury noted by SP and R 19/2/21 - Further letter issued 10/3/21
149	Notice of Motion	07/01/2021	Black Lives Matters Demonstrations	Cllr Matt Collins	Debated at Council	SP&R	reported to SP&R on 19/02/21	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Referred back to S P and R by Council on 1/3/21 - letters also to be issued
156	Notice of Motion	01/02/2021	Child Poverty Task Force	Cllr McCusker	Debated at Council	SP&R	Response received - Sent to SPR team for issue.	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Response from Minister for Communities to be presented to S P and R 19/3/21
157	Notice of Motion	01/02/2021	Student Support	Cllr de Faoite	Debated at Council	SP&R	Response received - Sent to SPR team for issue.	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Letters sent 21/12/20 Response received from Economy Ministre- Sent to SPR team for issue 11/02. No response from Economy Minister - 06/09/21
162	Notice of Motion	01/03/2021	Real Living Wage Foundation Accreditation	Cllr McLaughlin	Straight to Committee	SP&R	J Tully	City & Organisational Strategy	Ongoing	Work ongoing as part of the implementation of the inclusive growth strategy.	

163	Notice of Motion	01/03/2021	Application Fees in the private rented sector	Cllr Flynn	Debated at Council	SP&R	Council agrees to write to the Minister for Communities and the Minister of Finance, outlining concerns above and pledging council's support for the regulation of the private rented sector.	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	To be progressed as resources become available.
167	Notice of Motion	01/04/2021	Violence against Women and Girs	Notice of Motion	Straight to Committee	SP&R		J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	To be progressed as resources become available
168	Notice of Motion	01/04/2021	Legislation to Tackle the Third Party Sale of Pups	Councillor Newton	Debated at Council	SP&R		J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Letters sent 22/4/21 - further motion to Council on 1/11/21
169	Notice of Motion	01/04/2021	Mullaghglass Landfill Site - Legal Action	Councillor Baker	Debated at Council	SP&R		J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Legal proceedings remain ongoing. It is likely to be some time before the matter concludes.

171	Notice of Motion	01/04/2021	10 Per Cent Pay Increase for Council Workers	Councillor Matt Collins	Debated at Council	SP&R	J Tully	City & Organisational Strategy	Ongoing	The Employers Side NJC made a final pay offer for 2022-23 to the Trade Unions in July 2022. The pay offer of £1925 on all pay points represents a 10% increase at the lower end of the pay scales. UNISON have accepted the national pay offer. UNITE and GMB are currently balloting their members on the pay offer. The results of the ballot will be known after 21 October 2022. The Council has been engaging with local Trade Unions following receipt of a list of demands in respect of pay and leave. In August the Council agreed to: 1- To undertake a Pay & Grading review. This will include developing proposals on a pay & grading structure and consulting with the Trade Unions in respect of harmonising the outstanding single status matters. A timeline for the pay & grading review will be communicated to BCC TU Group at the earliest opportunity. 2- Consider the request from the Trade Unions for 2 Cost-of-living payments for all staff below Chief Officer grades to be paid in September and November. 3- Agree to the harmonisation of annual leave entitlements for all staff below Chief Officer grade. A sub-committee of JNCC has been established to oversee the pay & grading review.
176	Notice of Motion	04/05/2021	Mater Hospital Services	Cllr Ferguson	Debated at Council	SP&R	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Amended and Letter sent 17/05/21. Response received from Dr. Jack (28/05/21 Sent to SPR DSO). Outstanding response from R.Swann - 06/09/21
178	Notice of Motion	04/05/2021	Motion - Pay Rise for Public Sector Workers	Cllr Michael Collins	Debated at Council	SP&R	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Amended and Letter sent 19/05/21. No response received as at 06/09/21

179	Notice of Motion	04/05/2021	Statue of Mary Ann McCracken	Cllr Long	Straight to Committee	SP&R	was considered further in the report later in the meeting on installations in the City Hall/City Hall Grounds	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Committee approved the installation of a statue, the final form of which would be submitted to the Committee in due course for approval, as part of the Capital Programme (12/05/21)
181	Notice of Motion	04/05/2021	War Years Remembered	Cllr Pankhurst	Straight to Committee	SP&R		J Greer	Place & Economy	Ongoing	The Culture team have been undertaking feasibility work with the group and have been made aware of possible support including Heritage Lottery Funding and the Council's Vacant to Vibrant scheme.
187	Notice of Motion	01/06/2021	Local Government Pension Scheme – Responsible Investment Strategy	Cllr Murphy	Debated at Council	SP&R	Write to NILGOSC	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Letter sent 2/7/21. Meeting with NILGOSC requested by S P and R 20/8/21 - to be arranged
189	Notice of Motion	01/06/2021	PEACE IV to PEACE PLUS Programmes	Cllr Kyle	Debated at Council	SP&R	Write to TEO and SEUPB	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Letters sent 2/7/21. Response received from SEUPB 20/7/21 - TEO yet to respond
192	Notice of Motion	01/07/2021	Paid Leave for Miscarriage	Cllr M Kelly	Straight to Committee	SP&R		J Tully	City & Organisational Strategy	Ongoing	An enhanced leave arrangements paper was presented to SP&R Committee on 17 August 2022. Committee agreed for officers to consult with Trade Unions on the following proposal: It is proposed that the Council treats miscarriage as a bereavement and offer 10 days' bereavement leave on full pay to officers who suffer a miscarriage as a day one right. Consultation is ongoing with the Trade Unions.
194	Notice of Motion	01/07/2021	Marking the Centenary of the Ulster Memorial Tower	Ald Kingston	Straight to Committee	SP&R		J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	To be progressed as resources become available. SP&R Committee granted retrospective approval for a Member to attend the Centenary Commemoration of the opening of the Ulster Memorial Tower in France on 18th November and authorised the payment of the associated costs.

195	Notice of Motion	01/07/2021	Chat Bench and Tackling Loneliness	Cllr Howard	Straight to Committee	SP&R		S Grimes	Physical Program mes	Ongoing	To be progressed as resources become available. The NoM is wider than just physical projects.
196	Notice of Motion	01/09/2021	A Changing Places Toilets Policy for Belfast City Council	Cllr McMullan	Straight to Committee	SP&R		S Grimes	Physical Program mes	Ongoing	To be progressed as resources become available. The NoM is wider than just physical projects, and we also need to consider it in the context of the more recent announcement from Stormont on changes to Building Control statutory guidance relating to same – which states the Changing Places must be provided in new buildings - and will come into effect on 30 June 2022.
197	Notice of Motion	01/09/2021	The Rights of Nature	Cllr Smyth	Straight to Committee	SP&R		J Tully	City & Organisat ional Strategy	Ongoing	The Climate team will discuss options to raise awareness on the Rights of Nature with Officers across relevant Council departments and update Members accordingly
198	Notice of Motion	01/09/2021	Bonfire Procedures	Cllr Beattie	Straight to Committee	SP&R		J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	To be implemented pending discussion at September SP&R Committee.
199	Notice of Motion	01/09/2021	Four-Day Working Week	Cllr Garrett	Straight to Committee	SP&R		J Tully	City & Organisat ional Strategy	Ongoing	Management are currently developing proposals on how a 4 day working week may be trialled within the Council.
200	Notice of Motion	01/09/2021	Triple Local Guarantee	Ald Copeland	Debated at Council	SP&R	Write to Chancellor of Exchequer	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Response from HM Treasury noted by S P and R on 19/11/21
201	Notice of Motion	01/09/2021	NHS Pay	Cllr Matt Collins	Debated at Council	SP&R	Write to Health Minister	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Response from Minister of Health noted by S P and R on 19/11/21
203	Notice of Motion	04/10/2021	Electric	Ald Dorrian	Debated at Council	SP&R	Write to MInister for Infrastructure Members to receive a report from officers	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Responses from Ministers being considered by officers

204	Notice of Motion	04/10/2021	Universal Credit	Cllr Heading	Debated at Council	SP&R	Write to Prime Minister, Min. for Communities and Min. for Finance	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Responses received from 2 Ministers, awaiting PM response.
206	Notice of Motion	04/10/2021	Parental Bereavement Leave and Pay	Cllr Matt Collins	Straight to Committee	SP&R		J Tully	City & Organisational Strategy	Ongoing	An enhanced leave arrangements paper was presented to SP&R Committee 17 August 2022. Committee agreed for officers to consult with Trade Unions on the following proposal: Award 10 consecutive days' bereavement leave, not solely in the case of a child under 18, but for the death of a close relative. Award 10 consecutive days' full pay, not statutory pay, as a day one right with no qualifying service required. Award 1 days paid leave to attend the funeral of an extended family member. Consultation is ongoing with the Trade Unions.
209	Notice of Motion	04/10/2021	Environmentally Sustainable Event Spaces	Cllr Garrett	Straight to Committee	SP&R		S Grimes	Physical Programmes	Ongoing	To be progressed as resources become available. This can be considered through the BCC Climate Fund (NRCMY) programme. A feasibility proposal to investigate Solar PV across the council estate as clean energy power source is being look at.
210	Notice of Motion	04/10/2021	Staff on Temporary Contracts	Cllr McLaughlin	Straight to Committee	SP&R		J Tully	City & Organisational Strategy	Ongoing	Legal opinion was received 10 June 2022. Senior Counsel recommends not adopting a policy of making all employees who have been employed for 12 months or more permanent. Officers have given priority to addressing temporary posts that have been in place for a lengthy period with CMT providing oversight of this work on an ongoing basis. Permanent recruitment campaigns for General Operatives and Business Support Clerks were undertaken in July and September. As a result, there will be a reduction in the number of temporary and agency assignees in these high-volume generic job roles.

212	Issue Raised in Advance	24/09/2021	Adopt a Kiosk Scheme	Cllr. Garrett	Issue Raised in Advance	SP&R		D Sales	City & Neighbourhood Services	Ongoing	
213	Notice of Motion	01/11/2021	Community Sector Terms and Conditions	Cllr Bunting	Debated at Council	SP&R	Write to Minister for Communities	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Letter sent 16th November 2021
214	Notice of Motion	01/11/2021	Rent Controls	Cllr O'Hara	Debated at Council	SP&R	Write to NI Executive	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	30/11/12 - response received from TEO - report to go to S P and R in December
215	Notice of Motion	01/11/2021	Regulation of AirBnBs	Cllr McKeown	Debated at Council	SP&R	Write to NI Executive	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Letter sent 16th November.
219	Issue Raised in Advance	19/11/2021	Publication of Information on Members' Attendance at meetings	Cllr O'Hara	Issue Raised in Advance	SP&R		J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	To be progressed by Democratic Services
222	Notice of Motion	01/12/2021	Insulation Inspection and the Provision of Insulation	Cllr Heading	Debated at Council	SP&R		J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Letter sent to DfC Minister 15/12/21 - Response to S P and R 21/1/22
225	Issue Raised in Advance	17/12/2021	City Centre Built Heritage	Cllr Murphy	Issue Raised in Advance	SP&R		C Reynolds	Place & Economy	Ongoing	Progressing report for consideration at Committee
228	Notice of Motion - referred by S&B Committee	10/01/2022	Playing Pitches in Belfast	Cllr Brooks	Straight to Committee	SP&R		D Sales	City & Neighbourhood Services	Ongoing	Scoping of the work was commenced within CNS. Further contact required with colleagues in Estates and PP to identify potential assets and their suitability. Significant current workload pressures suggest that there may be merit in awaiting the findings from consultation on the Physical Activity and Sports Development Strategy prior to completing a detailed report.

229	Notice of Motion - referred by S&B Committee	10/01/2022	Pay Rise for Leisure Workers	Cllr Ferguson	Straight to Committee	SP&R		D Sales	City & Neighbourhood Services	Ongoing	Update provided to SP&R Committee in Sept 22.
233	Issue Raised in Advance	22/10/2021	Fertility Treatment Leave	Councillor Murphy	Issue Raised in Advance	SP&R		J Tully	City & Organisational Strategy	Ongoing	An enhanced leave arrangements paper was presented to SP&R Committee 17 August 2022. Committee agreed for officers to consult with Trade Unions on the following proposal: It is proposed that the Council awards 10 days full paid leave to employees who have undergone IVF treatment as a day one right. This is in addition to the paid time off for medical appointments that already exists. Consultation is ongoing with the Trade Unions.
233	Notice of Motion	17/01/2022	Proposed closure of Regina Coeli House	Councillor McCusker	Debated at Special Council	SP&R	Call for multi agency meeting	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Letters will be issued following call-in period on 25/01/22. Update: Letters issued to all organisations mentioned within the motion on 25/01/22 CD
234	Notice of Motion	07/02/2022	Irish Sea Border Checks	Cllr McLaughlin	Debated at Special Council	SP&R		J walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Motion passed

235	Notice of Motion - referred by S&B Committee	22/02/2022	Energy Price Crises	Cllr Smyth	Straight to Committee	SP&R		J Tully/ Debbie Caldwell	City & Organisational Strategy	Ongoing	The Inclusive Growth and Anti-Poverty team and Climate team have advised they will work together to produce an information leaflet which will be circulated through Elected Members, Community Planning and other networks. This will include energy saving tips and signposting. A similar newsletter was circulated in winter 2021 and it is deemed important to share again given current cost of living and energy crisis. The Climate team is circulating a 6 months communications plan including key climate messages for social media. The draft communications plan will include energy saving tips and signposting to be signed off by Marcomms.
237	Notice of Motion - referred by S&B Committee	22/02/2022	Belfast Citywide Tribunal Service	Cllr Ferguson	straight to Committee	SP&R		D Sales	City & Neighbourhood Services	Ongoing	Officers continue to work with BCTS to carry out due diligence in relation to this award. P&C committee at its September meeting welcomed a report seeking approval to carry out a review of advice services which would include long term resourcing for services including BCTS. If this recommendation is approved by Council, officers will commence work in October.
239	Notice of Motion	01/03/2022	Mountainview Centre	Cllr Matt Collins	Debated at Council	SP&R		D Sales	City & Neighbourhood Services	Ongoing	Letters issued following call in - responses received from Ministers for Finance and Education and the EA - to be presented to SP&R Committee on 15/4/22 (Minister for Communities acknowledged correspondence but no response received as of 08/04/22).
243	Notice of Motion	14/03/2022	Cost of Living	Cllr. Garrett	Debated at Special Council	SP&R	Present proposal to create a citywide hardship fund	J Tully	City & Organisational Strategy	Ongoing	Work is on-going to address the requests of this NOM in the context of the financial pressures and uncontrollable costs facing the council. Report will be brought to Committee

247	Notice of Motion	04/04/2022	City of Sanctuary	Cllr. Kyle	Debated at Council	SP&R		D Sales	City & Neighbourhood Services	Ongoing	Council has agreed that the Council should Race Action Plan and officers across Council are developing associated actions. The Director of Organisational Development has been nominated as the Executive Sponsor for the Plan. A number of initiatives are also being supported through the Good Relations Action Plan and Shared City Partnership. The development of appropriate interventions is also included in the draft Belfast Agenda Refresh.
248	Issue Raised in Advance	18/02/2022	50th Anniversary - Bloody Friday	Cllr. Pankhurst	Issue Raised in Advance	SP&R		D Sales	City & Neighbourhood Services	Recommendation Close	Event held on 21.7.22 therefore this can be closed.
253	Issue Raised in Advance	20/05/2022	Belfast Region City Deal	Cllr Heading	Issue Raised in Advance	SP&R		R Cregan	Finance & Resources	Recommendation Close	A BRCD update report was submitted to the June Committee
256	Notice of Motion	01/06/2022	Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Bill	Cllr Whyte	Debated at Council	SP&R		J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Recommendation Close	Motion was a call for UK government to abandon said Bill. Bill has now made its way through the House of Commons and is at 2nd Stage in House of Lords.
257	Issue Raised in Advance	17/06/2022	City Cemetery - Bilingual Signage	Cllr Beattie	Issue Raised in Advance	SP&R		S Grimes	Physical Programmes	Ongoing	Work is underway to deal with the requests of this NOM
259	Notice of Motion	28/06/2022	Care Home and Top Up Fees	Cllr Heading	Agreed at Committee	SP&R		J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Recommendation Close	Letter sent to Minister for Health on 15 July 2022
260	Notice of Motion	28/06/2022	Support the Caterpillar Strike for Fair Pay	Cllr Matt Collins	Agreed at Committee	SP&R	No letter sent to Caterpillar as strike was called off as per email from Caterpillar dated 1.7.2022	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Recommendation Close	No longer required as proposed strike was called off

261	Notice of Motion	04/07/2022	Continuance of hybrid meetings	Cllr Michelle Kelly	Debated at Council	SP&R	Letter sent to Minister for Communities on 18 July 2022	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Recommendation Close	Letter sent to DfC Minister 18/7/22 - Response to S P and R 19/8/22
264	Issue Raised in Advance	19/08/2022	Electric Vehicle Charging Points Strategy	Cllr Long	Issue Raised in Advance	SP&R		J Tully	City & Organisational Strategy	Ongoing	Please see response to 152 - (This issue is regulated by the Parking Order which has its limitations . The Climate tea will investigate the feasibility of a pilot scheme with colleagues in CNS, Physical Programmes and CR&D and will report back to Cttee. The Climate Team are commissioning work on an EV infrastructure strategy to identify ways to use council owned land to support EV charging infrastructure. EVI update report is on the agenda for the CG&R Oct Cttee to update Members on a range of EV/EVI items. Members will be engaged as part of the development of the Belfast EV strategy)
266	Notice of Motion	23/08/2022	GLL and Trade Unions	Cllr Ferguson	Agreed at Committee	SP&R	CX to convene meeting	J Walsh	Chief Executives	Ongoing	Wrote to GLL cc'd CX's office - CD UPDATE: Response received and presented to September SP&R (CXs Office arranging TU Mtg)- CD
268	Notice of Motion	23/08/2022	Suspension of Government Debt Recovery for those in receipt of Benefits and Universal Credit	Cllr Matt Collins	Agreed at Committee	SP&R	Write to DfC	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Wrote to DfC Minister - CD UPDATE 29/9: Response received, will be presented to October SP&R. CD
269	Notice of Motion	23/08/2022	Support for Striking Communication Workers Union	Cllr Michael Collins	Agreed at Committee	SP&R	Write to BT/Openreach/Royal Mail & arrange an all party delegation with CWU reps.	J Walsh	Legal & Civic Services	Ongoing	Wrote to BT etc. and arranging APD - Response received on behalf of BT and Open Reach 15/9
Total									90		



Subject:	Scheme of Delegation
Date:	21st October 2022
Reporting Officer:	Nora Largey, Interim City Solicitor/ Director of Legal and Civic Services
Contact Officer:	Trevor Wallace, Head of Finance Sarah Williams, Governance and Compliance Manager

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

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

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	The Scheme of Delegation is currently being reviewed in light of the agreed organisational changes to the officer leadership level across the organisation.
1.2	As the Committee is aware, the Deputy Chief Executive/Director of Finance and Resources will retire on 31st October 2022 and some changes need to be made to the attached Scheme of Delegation in the interim period.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is requested to approve the following temporary changes to the Scheme of Delegation:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. add the Director of Finance to Appendix A, List of “Chief Officers”; ii. Section 3.5 Specifically delegated functions to Strategic Director of Finance to be assigned to the Director of Finance; and iii. agree where reference is made to the Strategic Director of Finance and Resources that this now refers to the Director of Finance
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Members will be aware that the Deputy Chief Executive/Strategic Director of Finance and Resources is retiring on 31st October 2022.
3.2	There are a number of references within the Council’s Scheme of Delegation to the Strategic Director of Finance and Resources, as well as functions that have been specifically delegated to that role.
3.3	A review of the Scheme of Delegation is being undertaken following the changes ratified by Council on 3rd October 2022, however, in order to ensure the smooth operation of Council business in the intervening period it is important that temporary changes are made.
3.4	It is to be noted that the following changes only refer to the functions delegated to the Strategic Director of Finance and Resources and not to the role of Deputy Chief Executive.
3.5	<p>The Committee is asked to agree to the following temporary changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Director of Finance is Added to Appendix A as a “Chief Officer”; • the specifically delegated functions to Strategic Director of Finance and Resources in Section 3.5 are now delegated to the Director of Finance; and • where reference is made to the Strategic Director of Finance and Resources, that this now reads as Director of Finance.
3.6	<p>Financial and Resource Implications</p> <p>None</p>
3.7	<p>Equality or Good Relations Implications / Rural Needs Assessment</p> <p>None.</p>
4.0	Document Attached
	Scheme of Delegation.

BELFAST CITY COUNCIL 2022



Scheme of Delegation to Chief Officers

Ratified by Council in [Month] 2022

Last minor update October 2022

Version 3.11

Version	Changes	Date	Author
1.0	New version of Scheme of delegation	March 2015	Russell Connelly / Sandra Donnelly
1.1	Updated with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organisational and legislative changes • Planning-related changes • Licensing-related changes 	November 2016	Sarah Williams
1.2	Updated with amendments relating to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BWUH Ltd • Innovation Factory • Building Control • Cleansing Services • Environmental Health • Parks & Leisure • Planning 	November 2016	Sarah Williams
2.0	Updated with amendments relating to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director of Planning & Place as recommended by Planning Committee in March 2017 and Licensing Committee in December 2016 • Recent organisational changes agreed at SP&R in November 2016 and January 2017 • A new clause to provide clarity on Building Control powers related to dual-language street signs • An amended clause to enable Environmental Health to cancel the registration of a number of food businesses as required under the new Food Law Code of Practice (Northern Ireland) 2016 <p>Approved at Strategic Policy and Resources on 19th May and ratified by Council on 1st June 2017</p>	April 2017	Sarah Williams
2.1	Updated with clause relating to special events on roads - 3.8.8 (o). Two minor amendments made: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - move Pavement Café legislation reference from Appendix C to Appendix B - reference to Appendix B in 3.8.2 changed to Appendix C <p>Approved at Strategic Policy and Resources on 22nd September and ratified by Council on 2nd October 2017</p>	October 2017	Sarah Williams
2.2	Appendix B updated to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Standardised Packaging of Tobacco Products Regulations 2015 	January 2018	Sarah Williams

Version	Changes	Date	Author
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Tobacco and Related Products Regulations 2016 <p>As per email request from Joanne Delaney (27/10/17) and Siobhan Toland 30/10/17. Minor amendments made using delegated power 3.3.12 (as it then was).</p>		
3.0	<p>Updated with amendments relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recent organisational changes - The addition of a provision to clarify what powers cannot be delegated from Chief Officers to Operational Directors (1.7) - The Connswater Greenway as agreed by P&C on 12/04/18 (3.6.24 and 3.6.25) - Houses of Multiple Occupancy as agreed by SP&R on 24/11/18 (3.6.27 the word 'material' has been added to reflect corresponding changes agreed to the Standing Orders) - Remove a provision (3.6.24) which is already provided for in the General Delegated Functions (2.4.3) - Added a new provision to reflect the Single Tender Action process which is approved through the Commercial Panel (2.5.4) - Moving a provision relating to the City Solicitor which was included under the former Director of Planning and Place (3.3.12) <p>Appendix B updated to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Sea Fishing (Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing) Order (Northern Ireland) 2018 - Consumer Rights Act 2015 - Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 - The Waste (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2007 - The Cremation (Belfast) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1961 	February 2019	Sarah Williams
3.1	<p>Minor amendment made using delegated power 3.3.13:</p> <p>3.4.1 Approving event and activity requests for the use of the parks and open spaces along the Connswater Community Greenway in 2018/19, delivered by the CCGT in partnership with the Council.</p>	March 2019	Sarah Williams
3.2	<p>Multiple amendments made to section on delegated authority on Planning (3.7). (A summary of the amendments is included in the Planning Committee report dated 10 December 2019).</p>	January 2020	Russell Connelly
3.3	<p>Minor amendment using delegated power 3.3.13:</p>	May 2020	Susan McNeill

Version	Changes	Date	Author
	Appendix B updated to include The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2020		
3.4	<p>Update:</p> <p>To move the following provisions from the Director of Finance & Resources to the Director of City & Organisational Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2.6.5 Taking action, including terminating (excluding termination of service in respect of persons declared medically unfit) or varying contracts of employment in respect of employees below Head of Service level within their departments following consultation with the Director of City and Organisational Strategy and the City Solicitor as appropriate. Add new provision for clarity of terminology (is already covered by clause above): 3.4.10 Approving termination of service in respect of persons declared medically unfit <p>Amend 2.4.5 and 2.5 to remove references to the Director of Property & Projects and to delegate the exercise of functions previously held by such to the Chief Executive or Director of Finance & Resources as appropriate.</p> <p>Approved at Strategic Policy and Resources on 19th June and ratified by Council on 1st July 2020</p>	July 2020	Susan McNeill
3.5	Minor update using delegated power 13.3.3: Appendix B updated to include the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018	January 2021	Susan McNeill
3.6	Update to amend Section 3.7.8 (l) to add the setting of trading hours in relation to pavement café licences to the delegated powers of the Strategic Director of Place and Economy.	March 2021	Susan McNeill
3.7	<p>Minor update using delegated power 13.3.3: Appendix B updated to amend the description of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018 to add 'as amended'.</p> <p>Minor update using delegated power 13.3.3: Appendix B updated to include the European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Act 2020.</p>	April 2021	Susan McNeill

Version	Changes	Date	Author
3.8	Minor update using delegated power 13.3.3: Appendix B updated to include “The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2021”.	December 2021	Susan McNeill
3.9	Minor update using delegated power 13.3.3: Appendix B updated to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Market Surveillance (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2021; • Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 June 2019 on market surveillance and compliance of products; and • Regulation (EC) No 765/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 July 2008 setting out the requirements for accreditation and market surveillance relating to the marketing of products 	January 2022	Susan McNeill
3.10	Update to add 3.5.18 to the delegated powers of the Strategic Director of Finance and Resources as follows: “Permitting the use of personal equipment and email/messaging accounts (with consent) in the event of a significant cyber-attack.” (Approved at 19 June 2022 SP&R Committee and ratified at Council on 4 July 2022)	July 2022	Susan McNeill
3.11	Update to take account of the structural changes agreed at 23 September 2022 SP&R Committee and ratified by Council on 3 October 2022) in relation to the position of the Strategic Director of Finance and Resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Director of Finance is Added to Appendix A as a “Chief Officer”; • The specifically delegated functions to Strategic Director of Finance and Resources in Section 3.5 are now delegated to the Director of Finance; and • Where reference is made to the Strategic Director of Finance and Resources, this now reads as Director of Finance. • Amendment to 3.7.8 (m) in relation to the power delegated to the Strategic Director of Place and Economy to refuse an application for a dual language street sign. Amendment to 3.7.8 (n) to the quota required to allow consideration of exceptional	October 2022	Russell Connelly

Version	Changes	Date	Author
	circumstances in relation to a dual language street application. (Revised Dual Language Street Signs Policy approved at 23 September 2022 SP&R committee and ratified at Council on 3 October 2022)		

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SCHEME OF DELEGATION

SECTION 1: PURPOSE AND INTERPRETATION

Section 1: Purpose and Interpretation

Purpose of the Scheme of Delegation

1.1 Part 8, paragraph 49(2) of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 requires local authorities to maintain a list:

- (a) specifying those **powers** of the council which are **exercisable by officers** of the council; in pursuance of arrangements made under this Act or any other statutory provisions for their discharge by those officers; and
- (b) stating the **title of the officer** by whom each of the powers so specified is so exercisable

except in cases where the arrangements for discharge by officers are for a specified period not exceeding six months.

1.2 In addition Section 31(1) of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 also requires a council to produce a separate Scheme of Delegation detailing planning application decisions that can be delegated to officers; planning applications that must be decided by Committee and; arrangements for requesting applications to be brought to Committee that might otherwise be delegated. The delegations to the Licensing and Planning Committees are contained within the Committee terms of reference in the Council's Standing Orders documentation.

1.3 By delegating responsibility for specific duties to Chief Officers, Members will have more opportunity to concentrate on the most important strategic decisions of council policy including both corporately significant decisions and service delivery issues. This will allow officers to deal with operational issues in a more expedient way and reduce the overall administrative burden on the political process. Delegated authority is designed to aid the integrated management of the organisation, the effective deployment of resources and the efficient delivery of services and this Scheme should therefore be considered in that light.

1.4 The purpose of the Scheme is, therefore, to set out the decisions and authorisations which Members agree Chief Officers can make or grant without any further reference to Council or Committees. This authorisation will be conditional upon Committees receiving regular assurance on the application of the Scheme as set out in the reporting section ahead.

1.5 Decisions made by officers under delegated authority are not subject to reconsideration under 'Call-in' Part 7, paragraph 41 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014, which applies only to decisions made by the Council or a Committee of the Council, the procedure for which is detailed in Standing Orders paragraph 48.

1.6 The delegations in this Scheme should be interpreted widely to assist with the smooth running of the organisation, the effective deployment of resources, the efficient delivery of services, and the achievements of the Council's goals.

General Principles of delegation

The Chief Executive and Chief Officers are empowered, through this Scheme, to make decisions on behalf of the Council in accordance with the following general principles:

Chief Officers - Rules on application of the Scheme of Delegation

- 1.7 The term 'Chief Officer' includes those titled officers as defined in Appendix A. Chief Officers may sub-delegate any of their delegated powers to their deputies or such other officer(s) as they may consider appropriate except powers 2.2.4, 2.2.7, 2.4.4 and 2.5.2 (the award of contracts below £100,000 can be delegated). Such delegations need not be evidenced in writing. Chief Officers will remain accountable for decisions taken by their deputies.
- 1.8 In the absence or unavailability of the officer to whom a function is delegated, the function may be exercised by the officer(s) responsible for the performance of their duties during such absence.
- 1.9 In a case where the exercise of a delegated power involves considerations within the remit of another Chief Officer, the Chief Officer exercising the power shall consult with that other Chief Officer prior to taking any final decision.
- 1.10 A Chief Officer may only exercise a delegated function under this Scheme subject to, and in accordance with -
- the agreed plans (including but not limited to Community, Corporate, Departmental and Improvement Plans), strategies, policies, programmes and objectives approved by the Council
 - the Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, Equality Scheme, Codes of Conduct and other relevant governance policies contained within the Council's Constitution
 - the agreed estimates for their Department.
- 1.11 In exercising these delegated powers the officers concerned shall have broad discretion to use the most efficient and effective means available, including the deployment of staffing and other resources within their control and the procurement of other resources as considered necessary.
- 1.12 Authority to exercise any delegated power includes the authority to take all reasonable necessary actions of an incidental or consequential nature and to take all operational decisions, within agreed policies, in relation to the services for which they are responsible.

- 1.13 Chief Officers may, if they choose, and notwithstanding their power of delegation, refer any delegated matter to the relevant Committee in any case. Any decision which would otherwise be delegated under the Scheme should be reported to the relevant Committee if it is politically contentious, sensitive, significant or if it is otherwise in the public interest to do so.
- 1.14 Any reference in the Scheme to a statutory enactment should be taken to include any subsequent modification, re-enactment, regulations or subordinate legislation made thereunder.
- 1.15 Chief Officers shall consult with the Chief Executive in respect of agreeing any city partnership arrangements.
- 1.16 Chief Officers shall maintain a record of delegations and any sub-delegations pertaining to each of their Departments.

Members – Assurances on the application of the Scheme

- 1.17 The Council and its Committees shall retain authority for decisions on matters of **significant strategic policy**.
- 1.18 The Scheme does not delegate to Chief Officers –
- any matter reserved to full Council and which by law may not be delegated - that is, the power of setting the district rate, or of borrowing money or of acquiring, holding or disposing of land;
 - the adoption of any new policy, or major change to an existing agreed Council policy.
- 1.19 Delegation to deal with any matter shall not supersede the Council's power, or that of relevant Committees, to call for a report on any decision or action taken under the Scheme.
- 1.20 Where the exercise of a delegated function requires consultation with the Chairman of a Committee, the Deputy Chairman may act in the absence or non-availability of the Chairman.
- 1.21 The City Solicitor shall be responsible for ensuring that assurance is provided to Members on the use of the Scheme of Delegation and that any developments and amendments to the Scheme are correctly recorded so that it remains relevant and up to date.
- 1.22 The Council has an Assurance Framework in place which provides information on compliance with the various elements of the Council's governance framework, including performance reports, health and safety reports, finance reports, internal audit reports and risk management reports. The various 'in year' and 'year end' reports arising from the Assurance Framework are reviewed and approved by both the Audit & Risk Panel and Strategic Policy and Resources Committee annually.
- 1.23 Delegated matters are governed by robust policies covering financial regulations, procurement, human resources, IT etc. The assurance framework covers these areas and policy owners are responsible for ensuring that there is a framework in place for compliance monitoring, with any

instances of non compliance being reported to the Director of Finance and to Members. Key policy areas are subject to periodic internal audit and external audit review. In addition the governance framework is reviewed and reported annually in the Annual Governance Statement which forms part of the published financial statements. Chief Officers will also be required to provide assurance on the implementation of this Scheme within their departments. A more detailed assurance process will be developed requiring Chief Officers to sign quarterly assurance statements with a review against compliance recommended after year 1.

SCHEME OF DELEGATION

SECTION 2: GENERAL DELEGATED FUNCTIONS

Section 2: General Delegated Functions

All Chief Officers, as listed in Appendix A, have delegated authority to exercise the following general functions:

2.1 General management

All of the delegations listed below should be exercised in line with relevant Council policies.

- 2.1.1 Taking all necessary action for the effective day-to-day management, administration and supervision of the department, services and land and property assets for which the Chief Officer is responsible.
- 2.1.2 Implementing those strategies, programmes, actions, events and initiatives which the Chief Officer is responsible for, as set out in agreed Council plans (as outlined in paragraph 1.9).
- 2.1.3 Responding on behalf of the organisation, to consultation documents on operational and service specific matters that *do not* have corporately significant policy or financial implications.
- 2.1.4 Making initial applications for grant funding from external bodies (provided there is no financial commitment from the Council) where time constraints prohibit Council approval.
- 2.1.5 Developing and implementing specific promotions, schemes and events, waiving fees, offering refunds and taking other such action as may be required to take account of market conditions and/or to promote and protect the reputation of the Council.
- 2.1.6 Instructing the City Solicitor, where necessary, to take legal proceedings in relation to the recovery of debt, the enforcement of contractual rights, the service of notices, the prosecution of statutory offences and the instituting and defending of claims and proceedings affecting the Chief Officer's department.
- 2.1.7 Entering into arrangements with other public authorities or bodies for the provision of services subject to this Scheme and the Financial Regulations.
- 2.1.8 Approving the use of marketing and promotional measures to attract and retain users and members of Council's services as considered useful.

2.2 Finance

All of the delegations listed below should be exercised in line with relevant Council policies and in particular should take account of the requirements of the Financial Regulations which reflect best practice and provide a practical source of advice to assist all Officers in the discharge of their duties.

- 2.2.1 Each Chief Officer should consult the Director of Finance in relation to any matter within his/her area of responsibility which is likely to have a material impact on the finances of the Council before either incurring any commitment or liability, whether provisional or otherwise, or by reporting the matter to a Committee in accordance with paragraph A9 of the Financial Regulations.
- 2.2.2 Each Chief Officer is responsible for ensuring that their Department receives all income and that it does not spend more than the amount of expenditure it has estimated in accordance with paragraph G1 of the Financial Regulations.
- 2.2.3 Chief Officers will exercise control over estimates at the level of both services and cost/profit centres. Chief Officers may incur any expenditure on matters for which the Council approved the estimates in accordance with Paragraph G2 of the Financial Regulations.
- 2.2.4 Chief Officers are responsible for agreeing in-year virements within their service revenue accounts within delegated limits as set out Paragraph G23 of the Financial Regulations.
- 2.2.5 Chief Officers must submit proposals for virement to the Director of Finance who may either approve the request or refer it to the Strategic Policy & Resources Committee in accordance with the guidelines contained in Paragraph G23 of the Financial Regulations.
- 2.2.6 Paying the cost of an employee's professional fees where it is legally necessary for the employee to perform their duties.
- 2.2.7 Writing off any loss of money (including bad debts) and loss of stores and obsolete equipment and materials in accordance with the limits outlined in the Financial Regulations.
- 2.2.8 Authorising employees to attend training and development events, technical visits and courses, including conferences, exhibitions, workshops and seminars and meetings of appropriate professional associations.
- 2.2.9 Authorising appropriate payments to employees in their department in respect of telephone, travel and subsistence allowances, standby and call out allowances, overtime, additional duties, costs of study courses and removal and relocation expenses.

- 2.2.10 Granting of small scale hospitality pursuant to section 33 of the Local Government Finance Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 subject to the financial limits set.
- 2.2.11 Authorising spend of available funding in accordance with the requirements of an external funder where time constraints would not allow advance notification to be made to the relevant Committee, subject to reporting at the next Committee meeting.
- 2.2.12 Fixing new charges (where none previously existed) subject to statutory provision, in consultation with the relevant Committee Chair.

2.3 Emergencies and cases of urgency

All of the delegations listed below should be exercised in line with relevant Council policies.

- 2.3.1 Taking such measures, including incurring expenditure¹ and initiating legal action, as may be required in emergency situations or cases of urgency, subject to advising the appropriate Chair.
- 2.3.2 Where such measures involve the Council incurring expenditure of an amount that is likely to result in the Committee's expenditure exceeding its approved estimate, then the Chief Officer should advise the Director of Finance.

2.4 Management of Land & Property Assets

The exercise of the following delegated powers is in relation to the management of the land and property assets (e.g. leisure centres, community centres, parks and open spaces, Belfast Castle, Malone House and Belfast Zoo) but excluding the City Hall for which the City Solicitor has responsibility. The use of these delegated powers is subject to Para 1.7 above that there is no disposal, holding or acquisition of land involved.

All of the delegations listed below should be exercised in line with relevant Council policies.

- 2.4.1 Permitting the use of such assets by Council departments and services and outside organisations.
- 2.4.2 Varying the opening times of, or restricting access to, or closing such assets in special circumstances (for example to permit maintenance or other operational reasons) in consultation with the Chairman of the relevant Committee.
- 2.4.3 Approving the holding of non-controversial events, conferences and promotions in such assets and applying any necessary hire and/or admission charges or discounted pricing.

¹ In accordance with Paragraph G16 of the Financial Regulations.

- 2.4.4 Following consultation with Party Group Leaders and Chairs of the relevant Committee, approving requests received in respect of potentially controversial events and activities in such assets where there is not sufficient time for Council approval to be obtained.
- 2.4.5 Granting temporary licences for the use of Council assets for the purpose of events/car parking or other temporary uses on appropriate commercial terms, subject to consultation with the Chief Executive and the City Solicitor.

2.5 Procurement

The exercise of the following delegated powers is subject to consultation with the Director of Finance & Resources to ensure that decisions are taken in accordance with any relevant Council policies and protocols, including Standing Orders and the Financial Regulations.

Under Standing Order 60(a) any contract that exceeds the statutory amount (currently £30,000 {exclusive of VAT}) needs to be made under the Corporate Seal. Under Standing Order 51(b) the Corporate Seal can only be affixed when there is a resolution of the Council.

All of the delegations listed below should be exercised in line with relevant Council policies.

- 2.5.1 Procuring goods, services or works under the statutory limit of £30,000 where the procurement
- (1) is in relation to matters of a routine or recurring nature; or
 - (2) is in relation to the operational requirements of the Department provided that it is not of an unusual or controversial nature; or
 - (3) is contained within an agreed Council plan.
- 2.5.2 Authorising a contract for the procurement of goods, services or works **over** the statutory limit of £30,000, following a tender exercise, where the Council has approved the invitation to tender and the award of the contract is made in accordance with the predetermined award criteria. Chief Officers should approve the authorising of contracts over £100,000.
- 2.5.3 Authorising a contract for the procurement of goods, services or works **up to** the statutory limit of £30,000.
- 2.5.4 Certifying Single Tender Actions (STA) where appropriate and, in so doing, ensuring STAs are compliant with Standing Orders and any STA procedure adopted by the Council.
- 2.5.5 Approving the changing of sureties by contractors provided the Council's interests remain fully protected.

- 2.5.6 Determining a contract awarded by the Council where the contractor is in breach of contract and unable or unwilling to proceed therewith, subject to prior consultation with the Chairman of the relevant Committee and the City Solicitor.
- 2.5.7 Taking action to ensure contract compliance and negotiating claims and contract variations.
- 2.5.8 Signing maintenance agreements subsequent to capital acquisitions agreed by the Council subject to consultation with the City Solicitor.
- 2.5.9 Subject to the Procurement rules, making arrangements for the supply of goods and services pursuant to Section 105 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 1972.
- 2.5.10 Negotiating an interim arrangement with a supplier in circumstances where a contract is being terminated.
- 2.5.11 Signing of certain contracts which are not subject to Sealing.

2.6 Human Resources

- 2.6.1 Appointing successful applicants to agreed establishment posts below Head of Service level as recommended by the selection panel.
- 2.6.2 Agreeing to a one month overlap period for the appointment of employees, provided that this can be accommodated within budget.
- 2.6.3 Allowing or disallowing all requests for leave, of any kind, in accordance with the Schemes of Conditions of Service adopted by the Council.
- 2.6.4 Approving other paid or unpaid leave of absence.
- 2.6.5 Taking action, including terminating (excluding termination of service in respect of persons declared medically unfit - for this see 3.4.10) or varying contracts of employment in respect of employees below Head of Service level within their departments following consultation with the Director of City and Organisational Strategy and the City Solicitor as appropriate.

2.7 Small Grant Schemes

- 2.7.1 Approving the allocation of small grants in line with the award criteria (up to a maximum level of £10,000), where the Committee has established and/or administers a scheme and has authorised the Chief Officer to manage its implementation.

SCHEME OF DELEGATION

SECTION 3: SPECIFICALLY DELEGATED FUNCTIONS

Section 3: Specifically delegated functions to individual Chief Officers

3.1 Chief Executive

The Chief Executive acts as the Council's principal advisor on policy matters and has responsibility for ensuring that all delegations are consistent with Council policy. Anything delegated to a Chief Officer is also delegated to the Chief Executive who has authority to act on their behalf and to exercise any relevant function accordingly.

In addition to the above the exercise of the following functions, **in line with relevant council policies**, is therefore delegated to the Chief Executive:

- 3.1.1 Undertaking all matters associated with the professional management of the Council.
- 3.1.2 Allocating or reallocating responsibility for exercising particular powers to any officer of the Council in the interests of effective corporate management as she sees fit.
- 3.1.3 Authorising a Chief Officer to act in respect of a function, power or responsibility that has not been specifically reserved to the Council or Committee and lies within his or her remit to act.
- 3.1.4 Authorising any Chief Officer to act on behalf of any other Chief Officer as required in order to discharge their delegated functions as authorised in this Scheme.
- 3.1.5 Taking any operational decision, within agreed Council policies, in relation to the services for which any Chief Officer is responsible.
- 3.1.6 Requiring any officer of the Council to refer a matter to a Committee and/or Council even in instances where the officer may have delegated authority to deal with that matter.
- 3.1.7 Issuing a direction, as he or she considers appropriate, that any officer shall **not** exercise a delegated function.
- 3.1.8 Making a decision on the applicability of any delegated power in any specific case.
- 3.1.9 Acting, or nominating a Chief Officer to act, in instances where there may be doubt over responsibility for the exercise of any particular delegated power.

- 3.1.10 Developing and implementing appropriate city partnership arrangements to take forward the Council's plans and objectives (including establishment, membership, operation and committing of resources).
- 3.1.11 Settling, in consultation with the Deputy Chief Executive and City Solicitor, any points requiring interpretation or clarification on the practical application of this Scheme.
- 3.1.12 Signing legal documents on behalf of the Council and authorising the affixing of the Corporate Seal as required.
- 3.1.13 Invoking, and making whatever arrangements are necessary, for action under the Council's Emergency Plan.
- 3.1.14 Confirming the decisions of any Categorisation Panels or Joint Appeals Boards established under any of the Council's procedures.
- 3.1.15 Making purchases of artefacts or other items deemed appropriate for display within the City Hall up to a limit of £10,000 per annum.
- 3.1.16 Approving the provision of hospitality up to a limit of £500 per occasion.
- 3.1.17 Approving the attendance of the Chairman and Deputy Chairman (or nominees) of any of the Committees at any conference or seminar held in Northern Ireland where there is insufficient time for Committee approval to be obtained.
- 3.1.18 Approving the attendance of the Lord Mayor, Deputy Lord Mayor or the High Sheriff at events or visits on receipt of invitations.
- 3.1.19 Acting as the Deputy Returning Officer for local elections in the Belfast City Council area with responsibility for making the arrangements for Council elections in Belfast.

The exercise of the following functions, in line with relevant Council policies, is delegated to the Chief Executive who may delegate his/her relevant powers to the Director (Operational) of Physical Programmes:

- 3.1.20 Consenting to lessees' requests for assignments, sub-lettings, permission to mortgage or charge, changes of use, new buildings, alterations, signage and other matters requiring the Council's consent under the terms of existing leases and amendments of covenant affecting premises and the granting of utility wayleaves and short term licences/temporary easements (in the event that a licence or easement of more than six months in duration is sought, same will require to be brought to Committee for approval) in respect of all Council sites or properties.

- 3.1.21 Approving the affixing of the corporate seal to any documents to record formally the Council's consent to assignments, sub-lettings, permission to mortgage or charge, changes of use, new buildings, alterations, signage and any other matters requiring the Council's consent under the terms of the existing leases and amendments of covenant affecting premises, granting of utility wayleaves and short term licences/temporary easements and rent reviews at all Council sites or properties.
- 3.1.22 Approving adjusted rents in respect of leases at Council sites or properties, following the completion of the rent review process in accordance with the provisions of the leases.
- 3.1.23 Agreeing terms in relation to the lettings at Smithfield Market, including prior possession in cases of urgency, subject to consultation with the Chairman of the Committee.
- 3.1.24 Agreeing reduced charges for the acceptance of clays and soils associated with the development works of the North Foreshore.
- 3.1.25 Appointing arbitrators/independent experts as appropriate in the case of disputes arising in regard to rent reviews and other property matters.

SECTION 3 - SPECIFICALLY DELEGATED FUNCTIONS TO INDIVIDUAL CHIEF OFFICERS

3.2 Deputy Chief Executive

The exercise of the following functions, **in line with relevant council policies**, is delegated to the Deputy Chief Executive:

- 3.2.1 Exercising, in the absence of or at the request of the Chief Executive, any of the delegated powers for which he or she has responsibility as listed in Section 3.1.

SECTION 3 - SPECIFICALLY DELEGATED FUNCTIONS TO INDIVIDUAL CHIEF OFFICERS

3.3 City Solicitor / Director of Legal & Civic Services

The exercise of the following functions, **in line with relevant council policies**, is delegated to the City Solicitor:

- 3.3.1 Defending all claims made, or legal proceedings instituted against the Council, including the power to compromise or settle them, as appears necessary or desirable in the best interests of the Council.
- 3.3.2 Conducting of appeals to the Planning Appeals Commission and planning-related public inquiries.
- 3.3.3 Instituting legal proceedings on behalf of the Council, acting on the instructions of Council or of the relevant Chief Officer.
- 3.3.4 Authenticating of documents pursuant to Section 124 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 1972.
- 3.3.5 Signing legal documents on behalf of the Council and authorising the affixing of the Corporate Seal as required.
- 3.3.6 Briefing Counsel and taking Counsel's opinion.
- 3.3.7 Engaging external legal assistance as required.
- 3.3.8 Engaging such expert witnesses or commissioning such expert reports as may be required.
- 3.3.9 Authorising venues deemed as suitable places at which marriage ceremonies can be held.
- 3.3.10 Agreeing the involvement of outside agencies in any fraud investigation.
- 3.3.11 Taking any steps or measures necessary in an emergency or other situation of urgency, and in consultation with the Chief Executive, to preserve or defend the Council's legal interests.
- 3.3.12 The City Solicitor, in consultation with the Strategic Director of Place and Economy or the Director of Planning and Building Control, may refer a decision back to Committee for reconsideration.
- 3.3.13 Making minor amendments to the Scheme of Delegation to reflect organisational, functional or legislative changes.

- 3.3.14 Approving, when necessary, the use of the Reception Room by the Lord Mayor to cater for groups of visitors to the City Hall which may be too excessive for the Lord Mayor's personal suite of offices.
- 3.3.15 Permitting the use of the City Hall and the City Hall grounds by Council departments or service units.
- 3.3.16 Approving, in consultation with the Chair of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee, urgent requests for the use of the City Hall, its grounds and the Cecil Ward Building, where these are considered to be within the established criteria approved by the Committee.

SECTION 3 - SPECIFICALLY DELEGATED FUNCTIONS TO INDIVIDUAL CHIEF OFFICERS

3.4 Director of City and Organisational Strategy

The exercise of the following functions, **in line with relevant Council policies**, is delegated to the Director of City and Organisational Strategy.

- 3.4.1 Undertaking service reviews and approving all establishment changes proposed by the relevant Director, in respect of posts below the level of Head of Service, including the deletion of permanent posts and the creation of new permanent posts provided that there is no increase in the Department's approved staffing establishment and/or staffing budget for permanent posts².
- 3.4.2 Dealing with requests for the payment of honoraria for all posts.
- 3.4.3 Approving, in consultation with the City Solicitor, requests for approval of outside interests or employment made by employees.
- 3.4.4 Dealing with requests for the extension of half pay entitlement under the various occupational sick pay schemes.
- 3.4.5 Considering requests, in consultation with the Director of Finance, to extend the twelve month time limit for members of the Local Government Pension Scheme to make an option to aggregate two periods of LGPS membership, where it is in the employers' interest to do so or in circumstances where an LGPS member missed the time limit for reasons beyond their control.
- 3.4.6 Undertaking, in consultation with the relevant Chief Officer and the Chair of the relevant committee, the long listing and short listing of candidates for Chief Officer and Head of Service, prior to interview and appointment by the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.
- 3.4.7 Authorising recruitment and retention incentives, in consultation with the Director of Finance, including relocation expenses schemes and approving other arrangements that allow flexibility in the recruitment process, (for example, extend timescales, relax criteria etc) subject to satisfying Inland Revenue requirements where Tax and NI deductions are concerned.
- 3.4.8 Determining requests for the release of pension benefits on compassionate grounds in consultation with the Director of Finance.
- 3.4.9 Determining requests for early and flexible retirement in consultation with the Director of Finance.

² Staff management changes resulting in an increase in approved Departmental staffing establishment and/or staffing budget for permanent posts and/or those which effect any changes to posts at third tier and above (Head of Service level) are subject to approval by the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.

- 3.4.10 Approving termination of service in respect of persons declared medically unfit.
- 3.4.11 Determining essential and casual car user status for all Council employees.
- 3.4.12 Creating new temporary posts provided that there is no increase in approved staffing establishment and/or staffing budget.
- 3.4.13 Determining the grading of posts.

SECTION 3 - SPECIFICALLY DELEGATED FUNCTIONS TO INDIVIDUAL CHIEF OFFICERS

3.5 Director of Finance³

The exercise of the following functions, **in line with relevant council policies**, is delegated to the Director of Finance.

- 3.5.1 Making safe and efficient arrangements for proper administration of financial affairs pursuant to Section 1 of the Local Government Finance Act (Northern Ireland) 2011.
- 3.5.2 Due administration associated with the issue of mortgages including the fixing of interest rates to reflect prevailing market conditions.
- 3.5.3 Due administration of all unfunded pensions to former employees of Belfast Corporation and Belfast City Council.
- 3.5.4 Due administration of Council reserves.
- 3.5.5 Approving increase in sums of a capital scheme as provided for under the Financial Regulations.
- 3.5.6 Making appropriate transfers between the various bank accounts of the Council.
- 3.5.7 Approving the transfer of funds from one budget heading to another within Committee in accordance with Financial Regulations.
- 3.5.8 Approving requests for car loans to approved car users.
- 3.5.9 Authorising employees, in liaison with the relevant Director to attend international training and development events, technical visits and courses, including conferences, exhibitions, workshops and seminars and meetings of appropriate professional associations.
- 3.5.10 Making payment of expense claims to Council Officers in line with the Council's Travel and Subsistence Policy and in accordance with paragraph V1 of the Financial Regulations.

³ The Chief Executive is, for the purpose of Section 1 of the Local Government Finance Act (Northern Ireland) 2011, the designated Officer responsible for the proper administration of the Council's financial affairs. The Director of Finance will provide assistance to the Chief Executive in this role & will have the delegated authority, subject to Standing Orders and any resolutions of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee or the Council, to do all things necessary to secure the proper administration of the Council's financial affairs.

- 3.5.11 Approving travelling and subsistence expenses for employees in excess of those generally approved by the Council in special circumstances where expenses in excess of allowances are unavoidable.
- 3.5.12 Making payments to Members, including co-opted Members of the Council or its Committees of travelling or other allowances in accordance with paragraph V3 of the Financial Regulations.
- 3.5.13 Reviewing from time to time the rates of subsistence allowances paid to elected Members and employees attending conferences etc. both within and outside the United Kingdom.
- 3.5.14 Reimbursing Member or employee expenses on an actual cost basis, in exceptional circumstances, subject to the submission of vouchers or receipts, where this exceeds the relevant allowance.
- 3.5.15 Reviewing, from time to time, the limits for small scale hospitality.
- 3.5.16 Effecting (but not cancelling nor refusing to effect) registrations and maintaining a register of small lottery societies.
- 3.5.17 Making arrangements for the supply of computer software and services to other persons pursuant to Article 20 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1985.
- 3.5.18 Permitting the use of personal equipment and email/messaging accounts (with consent) in the event of a significant cyber-attack.

SECTION 3 - SPECIFICALLY DELEGATED FUNCTIONS TO INDIVIDUAL CHIEF OFFICERS

3.6 Strategic Director of City and Neighbourhood Services

The exercise of the following functions, **in line with relevant Council policies**, is delegated to the Strategic Director of City and Neighbourhood Services who may delegate his/her relevant powers to his/her deputies, the Directors (Operational) of City and Neighbourhood Services:

3.6.1 The functions listed at (a) to (o) below in relation to the legislation set out in Appendix B and to the legislation made thereunder:

- (a) enforcing all regulations, orders and bye-laws made under the said legislation;
- (b) issuing and serving certificates and notices;
- (c) granting (but not withdrawing, suspending or refusing) authorisations, approvals and consents;
- (d) exercising all powers in relation to the issue (but not refusal) of certificates, permits and licences;
- (e) effecting registrations and maintaining statutory registers;
- (f) instituting legal proceedings, in consultation with the City Solicitor, and making legal applications on behalf of the Council;
- (g) authorising persons and officers pursuant to relevant legislation for the purpose of exercising statutory powers;
- (h) executing works where the responsible party is in default of compliance with any notice or Order and in an emergency where empowered by statute;
- (i) generally enforcing all other statutory powers conferred on the Council or pursuant to any arrangement made under Section 104 or 105 of the Local Government Act (NI) 1972;
- (j) Making Orders for the charges to be paid in connection with the use of an off-street parking place;
- (k) Appointing such persons as may be necessary for the superintendence of parking spaces;
- (l) Making Orders for the use of any parking place and the conditions on which it may be used;

- (m) Making Orders restricting the use of a specified parking place;
 - (n) Making Orders to authorise the use of a part of an off-street parking place or places for the collection of recyclable material, for advertising or for displaying information to the public;
 - (o) Making Orders for the suspension of the use of a parking place or any part of it for specified occasions or circumstances and in consultation with the City Solicitor, entering into arrangements for the use of the said parking place;
- 3.6.2 Authorising under Article 22 (2)(c)(i) of the Health and Safety at Work (Northern Ireland) Order 1978 on behalf of the Council, suitable persons to accompany inspectors who have been appointed by the Council under Article 21 of the said Order.
- 3.6.3 Arranging burials and cremations under Section 25 of the Welfare Services Act (Northern Ireland) 1971.
- 3.6.4 Detaining a dog or causing a dog to be disposed of, sold or destroyed in accordance with Articles 23 or 48 of The Dogs (Northern Ireland) Order 1983.
- 3.6.5 Approving exceptions to the imposition of charges for the collection of commercial waste where such waste appears to be arising from premises occupied for charitable purposes and the temporary nature of occupation prevents the granting of relief from the payment of rates under Article 41(2)(C) of the Rates (Northern Ireland) Order 1977.
- 3.6.6 Applying an appropriate charge for the collection of commercial waste where traders require an evening or weekend collection.
- 3.6.7 Revising the prices and charging structure for the commercial waste collection service.
- 3.6.8 Agreeing any transfer or assignment of enforcement responsibility under Regulation 7 and Regulation 8(1) of the Health and Safety (Enforcing Authority) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1999.
- 3.6.9 Exercising powers under Article 18 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1985 in relation to the removal or obliteration of graffiti, placards or posters.
- 3.6.10 Authorising persons, other than officers of the Council, for the purposes of Section 10(2) of the Noise Act 1996.
- 3.6.11 Signing on behalf of the Council, licence agreements for the use of lands to be utilised for the installation of mini-bring recycling facilities.
- 3.6.12 Enforcing all bye-laws made for the protection of the Council's parks and other amenity facilities.

- 3.6.13 Allocating allotment plots and terminating lettings and providing financial or 'in kind' support for the development or running of community gardens or allotments in line with Council policy in consultation with the City Solicitor.
- 3.6.14 Purchasing, selling and exchanging animals for the Zoological Gardens up to a limit of £30,000 for each transaction.
- 3.6.15 Approving variations to the agreed work plan and agreements with the leisure trust and its strategic operating partner, in line with the politically agreed objectives of the associated agreements and managing the operation of the Trust of a day to day basis.
- 3.6.16 Enforcing The Burial Grounds Regulations 1992 and The Cremation (Belfast) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1961.
- 3.6.17 Maintaining a Register of Burials.
- 3.6.18 Allocating grave spaces and issuing grants of right of burial.
- 3.6.19 Undertaking cremations at the City of Belfast Crematorium.
- 3.6.20 Making arrangements for the appointment of a medical referee to the city of Belfast Crematorium in line with Council policy and procurement practices.
- 3.6.21 Protecting public rights of way and generally enforcing the Access to the Countryside (Northern Ireland) Order 1983.
- 3.6.22 Enforcing the provisions of the High Hedges Act (NI) 2011 and carrying out a series of functions associated with performing the Council's statutory role under the High Hedges legislation. These are:
- Enforcing all Regulations or Acts made and remedial notices under the High Hedges Act (NI) 2011
 - Issuing and serving remedial notices
 - Exercising all powers in relation to the High Hedges Act (NI) 2011
 - In conjunction with Legal Services, instituting legal proceedings and making legal applications on behalf of Belfast City Council
 - Authorising individual officers for the purpose of exercising any statutory power under the High Hedges Act (NI) 2011.
- 3.6.23 Approving of the repeat hosting of an annual event for a specified number of years subject to the event remaining broadly similar over time.

3.6.24 [removed Feb 2019].

3.6.25 Approving event and activity requests for the use of the parks and open spaces along the Connswater Community Greenway, delivered by the CCGT in partnership with the Council.

3.6.26 Approving event and activity requests which may include licensing arrangements such as trading or the selling of alcohol at the main event spaces along the Connswater Community Greenway including the C.S. Lewis Square, Orangefield Park and Victoria Park. Please note an entertainment license is already in place for the Connswater Community Greenway.

3.6.27 Exercising all powers in relation to the issue, but not refusal, of Houses in Multiple Occupation licences, excluding provisions relating to:

- applications for the grant, renewal, transfer or variation of licences where material objections are received;
- applications where officers believe there may be an issue in relation to the fitness of the applicant to hold a licence;
- approving any guidance documents;
- setting of licence fees;
- revocation of licences, except where in the public interest, the Director, in consultation with the City Solicitor, considers that there are particular circumstances which make it necessary to suspend a licence immediately

SECTION 3 - SPECIFICALLY DELEGATED FUNCTIONS TO INDIVIDUAL CHIEF OFFICERS

3.7 Strategic Director of Place and Economy

The exercise of the following functions, **in line with relevant Council policies**, is delegated to the Strategic Director of Place and Economy, who may delegate his/her relevant powers to his/her deputies unless otherwise stated, namely Director (Operational) of Economic Development, Director (Operational) of Planning and Building Control and Director (Operational) of City Regeneration and Development:

Planning

3.7.1 An elected Member of the Council may request that an application that relates to a site within their District Electoral Area or within an adjoining District Electoral Area or within the City Centre⁴ is referred to the Planning Committee provided that the request is made in writing or by email to Democratic Services within 21 days of the application being publicly advertised in the newspaper. The Member shall clearly state their reason/s for requesting referral of the application to the Planning Committee, which must be material planning considerations. The Strategic Director of Place and Economy shall determine whether the reason/s are material planning consideration/s and of sufficient importance for consideration by the Planning Committee. Democratic Services will advise the relevant Member of their decision. If the decision is not to refer the application to the Planning Committee, then the decision shall be delegated to the Strategic Director of Place and Economy. Democratic Services will notify the Member that made the request of the outcome of their request to refer the application to the Planning Committee. Where the application is to be referred to the Planning Committee, Democratic Services will notify all Members. Where an application is referred to the Planning Committee under this provision the planning service shall notify the applicant at least five calendar days before the application is discussed by the Planning Committee.

3.7.2 The functions listed below in relation to the legislation set out in Appendix C and legislation made thereunder for which the Planning Committee has responsibility. The thresholds set out at paragraph 3.7.2 (a) only apply where a representation⁵ has been received which conflicts with the Planning Officer's recommendation. Where no representations have been received that conflict with the Planning Officer's recommendation, the thresholds do not apply and the decision is delegated to the Strategic Director of Place and Economy.

- (a) determining applications for the following categories of local developments⁶ , including building, engineering and other operations and material changes of use:
 - i. housing schemes up to and including 12 units other than proposals for change of house type on an approved scheme below 50 units;

⁴ City Centre as defined by the Draft Belfast Metropolitan Area Plan 2015

⁵ Representation means a consultation response received during the consultation period including, but not limited to, responses from technical consultees, neighbours and the public. Conflict must be related to material planning considerations. Correspondence from an applicant is not deemed to be a Representation.

⁶ The definition of local development is provided for by section 25 of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011

- ii. retailing below 500 square metres gross floor space outside the City Centre or District Centres; or below 2,500 square metres gross floor space within the City Centre or District Centres;
 - iii. office space below 5,000 square metres gross floor space;
 - iv. business, light industry, general industry and storage and distribution below 2,500 square metres gross floor space;
 - v. community-related scheme up to 500 square metres gross floor space;
 - vi. recreation and culture below 1,000 square metres gross floor space outside town centres or below 5,000 square metres gross floor space within town centres;
 - vii. hotels and hostels below 30 beds.
-
- (b) determining applications for landscaping, car parking and minor works ancillary to the main use of the land which they are to be located; works required for the purposes of providing disability access; the erection of smoking shelters etc.;
 - (c) determining applications for alterations and extensions to residential property and ancillary and incidental residential development within the curtilage of residential property;
 - (d) determining applications for change of use but excluding those relating to student accommodation and amusement arcades;
 - (e) varying **or** removing conditions except when the variation **or** removal relates to, or constitutes, a major development;
 - (f) refusing any application, other than an application for major development, where all of the necessary supporting documentation has been reasonably requested but not provided to the Council within 28 days from the date of the request;
 - (g) determining applications for discharge of conditions;
 - (h) determining applications for a non-material change;
 - (i) determining applications for works to, or demolition of, buildings or structures in conservation areas and areas of townscape character, except where it involves full demolition of a main building (excluding buildings which are ancillary or incidental);
 - (j) determining applications for listed building consent, excluding partial or full demolition
 - (k) determining applications for the display of advertisements;
 - (l) determining applications for certificates of lawful development (existing and proposed);
 - (m) determining Pre-Application Notifications;
 - (n) exercising the Council's powers in relation to the preservation of trees;
 - (o) the making of a screening opinion or scoping opinion in relation to Environmental Impact Assessment⁷; Strategic Environmental Assessment/Sustainability Appraisal⁸; Habitats Regulations Assessment⁹; and Rural Needs Impact Assessment¹⁰
 - (p) enforcing all regulations and orders made under the said legislation and issuing and serving of notices;

⁷ Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2017

⁸ Planning (Local Development Plan) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 and Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2004 (EAPP)

⁹ Conservation (Natural Habitats, etc.) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995 (as amended)

¹⁰ Rural Needs Act (Northern Ireland) 2016

- (q) executing works in default of compliance with any notice or order and in an emergency where empowered by statute and recovering the costs of so doing;
- (r) temporary listing of buildings including the issuing of building preservation notices and listing in urgent cases;
- (s) instituting legal proceedings, in consultation with the City Solicitor, on behalf of the Council;
- (t) authorising officers pursuant to relevant legislation for the purpose of exercising statutory powers;
- (u) lodging representations including objections, in consultation with the City Solicitor, in relation to planning applications where the Council has been notified as part of the statutory process or where the Council's interests are likely to be affected;
- (v) responding to consultations from neighbouring authorities in relation to their Local Development Plan;
- (w) administering statutory registers;
- (x) registering and removing notices and charges in the Statutory Charges Register, in consultation with the City Solicitor;
- (y) conducting of planning related appeals to the Planning Appeals Commission, Public Examinations and other planning related public inquires;
- (z) responding to planning related consultations from Government Agencies unless the Strategic Director of Place and Economy considers that the consultation raises a significant planning issue for the Council, relates to a matter which is controversial or likely to be of significant public interest.

3.7.3 In relation to planning related Public Examinations, the Strategic Director of Place and Economy may, in consultation with the City Solicitor / Chief Executive where it is considered necessary, carry out the following functions:

- (a) agree minor, typographical or factual changes or modifications to the Council's Local Development Plan Documents; and
- (b) agree changes to the wording (but not the trigger points) of the operational policies which may change the emphasis but not the overall objectives of the policy.

3.7.4 Negotiating financial contributions from developers in respect of those agreements in which the contribution is equal to or less than £30,000.

3.7.5 The delegated functions set out above do not apply to the following planning applications:

- (a) Those made by elected members of the Council;
- (b) Those made by Council staff at senior management grade (PO12) or above and all staff in Place and Economy Department and Legal Services;
- (c) Those made by the Council;
- (d) Those in which the Council has an estate;
- (e) Proposals for major development;
- (f) There is an objection from a statutory consultee and the recommendation of the Planning Officer is to approve
- (g) Purpose built student accommodation

3.7.6 All other applications, permissions or provisions of the legislation which are not specifically listed above shall be deemed to be delegated unless otherwise provided for within this Scheme.

3.7.7 Where a function is normally delegated but raises issues which the Strategic or Operational Director believes should be considered by the Committee, that matter will be referred to the Committee.

Building Control and Licensing

3.7.8 The functions listed below in relation to the legislation set out in Appendices B and C and legislation made thereunder for which the Strategic Director of Place and Economy has responsibility:

- (a) Enforcing all regulations, orders and bye-laws made under the said legislation;
- (b) Issuing and serving certificates and notices;
- (c) Granting, withdrawing, suspending and refusing authorisations, approvals and consents and rejecting plans;
- (d) Exercising all powers in relation to the issue (but not refusal) or permits and licences;
- (e) Refusing any Entertainments Licence application where all of the necessary supporting documentation, including a Fire Risk Assessment, has not been provided to the council within six weeks from the date of receipt of that application or if the application is otherwise incomplete, inaccurate or falsified;
- (f) Effecting (but not cancelling or refusing to effect) registrations and maintaining statutory registers;
- (g) Instituting legal proceedings, in consultation with the City Solicitor, and making legal applications on behalf of the Council;
- (h) Authorising persons and officers pursuant to relevant legislation for the purposes of exercising statutory powers;
- (i) Dispensing with or relaxing, or refusing to dispense with or relax, Building Regulations and inviting representations thereon;
- (j) Executing works where the responsible party is in default of compliance with any notice or Order and in an emergency where empowered by statute;
- (k) Generally enforcing all statutory powers conferred on the Council or pursuant to any arrangement made under Section 104 or 105 of the Local Government Act 1972;

- (l) Exercising all powers in relation to the issue, but not refusal, of pavement café licences, including the setting of trading hours in relation to pavement café licences, but excluding provisions relating to:
- i. applications for the grant, renewal or variation of licences where adverse representations are received;
 - ii. compulsory variation of licences;
 - iii. revocation of licences;
 - iv. setting of licence fees;
 - v. suspension of licences except where in the public interest the Strategic Director, in consultation with the City Solicitor, considers that there are particular circumstances which make it necessary to suspend a licence immediately;
- (m) Refusing any Dual Language Street Sign application where all necessary survey actions have been carried out, the application does not receive the support of fifteen percent of those on the electoral register in the street as set out in the Dual Language Street Signs Policy, and no exceptional circumstances have been submitted by the applicant.
- (n) For any Dual Language Street Sign application which does not meet the fifteen percent quota an applicant may provide exceptional circumstances why the quota was not met. Where these circumstances relate only to the processing of a survey, the Strategic Director, in conjunction with the City Solicitor, will determine whether such exceptional circumstances exist to refer the matter to Committee. Where exceptional circumstances relate to matters other than the processing of a survey the matter will be presented to Committee.
- (o) Exercising all powers in relation to the making of an Order restricting or prohibiting temporarily the use of a public road in connection with special events, excluding provisions relating to:
- i. applications for an order where adverse representations are made
 - ii. the recovery of costs incurred by the Council as a consequence of making an Order and such other matters as the Director deems appropriate
- 3.7.9 Lodging objections, in consultation with the City Solicitor, in relation to notices of applications received under the following (and any other subsequent amending or substituting) legislation:
- The Betting, Gaming, Lotteries and Amusements (Northern Ireland) Order 1995
 - The Licensing (Northern Ireland) Order 1996
 - The Registration of Clubs (Northern Ireland) Order 1996
- 3.7.10 Issuing Property Certificates.

Economic Development

- 3.7.11 Allocating stalls and pitches at St George's Market and any other Council run markets.
- 3.7.12 Approving a 'Grant of Licence' to markets in the case of -
- (1) Car boots sales with less than 20 persons trading
 - (2) A market which is considered to be de minimus and/or
 - (3) Any market which is carried out solely for charitable purposes
- 3.7.13 Approving the holding of a market in special circumstances where there is not sufficient time for the procedural requirement of four months' notice under the Markets Policy.
- 3.7.14 Enforcing all bye-laws made for the protection of Council's markets.
- 3.7.15 Approving variations to the agreed Business Plan and agreements with Belfast Waterfront and Ulster Hall Limited, in line with the politically agreed objectives of the associated agreements.
- 3.7.16 Making, or referring to Committee as appropriate, any decisions relating to Belfast Waterfront and Ulster Hall Limited, which may be required in respect of reserved matters.
- 3.7.17 Approving variations to the agreed Business Plan and agreements with the Innovation Factory operator, in line with the politically agreed objectives of the associated agreements.
- 3.7.18 Entering into contracts on appropriate commercial terms in relation to the Innovation Factory.

City Centre Regeneration

- 3.7.19 Negotiating contributions from developers, insofar as it relates to city centre development, subject to obtaining Committee consent in respect of those agreements in which the contribution exceeds £30k.
- 3.7.20 Managing the City Centre Regeneration Fund and developing and bringing forward funding applications where required
- 3.7.21 Commissioning specialist services to support the implementation of the city centre regeneration framework
- 3.7.22 Undertaking masterplanning to support proposals for city centre regeneration

Appendix A – Definition of Chief Officer

In this Scheme the expression Chief Officer means:

- Chief Executive
- Deputy Chief Executive
- Strategic Director of City and Neighbourhood Services
- Director of Finance
- Strategic Director of Place and Economy
- City Solicitor / Director of Legal & Civic Services
- Director of City and Organisational Strategy

Appendix B – Legislation in respect of which functions are delegated to Chief Officers

Note that these are the principal pieces of legislation under which the Council derives its functions. This list is not exhaustive.

Any delegation to an officer to take action under a particular statutory provision, or relevant local authority bye-law, shall be deemed to authorise action under any statutory re-enactment or amendment of that provision, and any statutory regulations, order, or direction made under that provision both before and after the date of this Scheme. References to statutory requirements in this scheme include relevant European legislation and directives as applicable.

The Anti-social Behaviour (Northern Ireland) Order 2004

Belfast Corporation Act 1911

Belfast Improvements Act 1878

Belfast Local Acts 1845-1948

The Betting, Gaming, Lotteries and Amusements (Northern Ireland) Order 1985

The Building Regulations (Northern Ireland) Order 1979

The Building Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2012

The Burial Grounds Regulations 1992

Bye-laws made by Belfast City Council pursuant to Section 90 of the Local Government Act (NI) 1972 for:

- Control of the Business of Tattooing 1987
- Control of the Practice of Acupuncture 1987
- Control of the Business of Ear-piercing and Electrolysis 1987
- Regulation of Parks 1992
- Regulation of Playing Fields 1993
- Regulation of Open Parks 1994
- Regulation of Small Neighbourhood Parks and Open Spaces and Public Walkways 1994
- Childrens' Playgrounds 1997
- Good Rule and Government – City Hall Grounds 1997
- Belfast Zoological Gardens 1998

- St George's Market 2000
- Control of Business of Semi-permanent Skin-colouring 2007
- Control of Business of Cosmetic Piercing 2007
- Consumption of Intoxicating Liquor in Designated Places 2012

Bye-laws made by Castlereagh Borough Council pursuant to Section 90 of the Local Government Act (NI) 1972 for:

- Consumption of Intoxicating Liquor in Designated Places 1996

Bye-laws made by Castlereagh Rural District Council pursuant to Section 36 of the Local Government (Ireland) Act 1898

- Pleasure Grounds 1969

Bye-laws made by Lisburn Borough Council pursuant to Part VI of the Local Government Act (NI) 1972 for:

- Lisburn Leisure and Activity Centres 1989
- Regulation of Small Neighbourhood Parks, Open Spaces and Public Walkways 1998
- Regulation of Enclosed Parks 1998
- Recreational Facilities and Aberdelghy Golf Course 1996
- Regulation and Management of Playgrounds 1988

Caravans Act (Northern Ireland) 2011

The Children and Young Persons (Protection from Tobacco) (Northern Ireland) Order 1991

The Cinemas (Northern Ireland) Order 1991

Clean Air (Northern Ireland) Order 1981

Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act (Northern Ireland) 2011

Consumer Protection Act 1987

Consumer Rights Act 2015

Control of Greyhounds etc. Act (Northern Ireland) 1950

The Cremation (Belfast) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1961

Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001

Dangerous Dogs Compensation and Exemption Schemes Order 1991

The Dangerous Dogs (Northern Ireland) Order 1991

Dangerous Substances and Explosive Atmospheres Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2003

The Dog Control Orders (Prescribed Offences and Penalties, etc) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2012

Dogs (Amendment) Act (Northern Ireland) 2001

Dogs (Amendment) Act (Northern Ireland) 2011

The Dogs (Northern Ireland) Order 1983

The Dogs (Guard Dog Kennels) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013

The Dogs (Specified Maximum) (Belfast) Order 2012

The Energy Performance of Buildings (Certificates and Inspections) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2008

The Environment (Northern Ireland) Order 2002

European Communities Act 1972

European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018, as amended

European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Act 2020

Explosives Act (Northern Ireland) 1970

Food and Environment Protection Act 1985

Food Hygiene Rating Act 2016

The Food Safety (Northern Ireland) Order 1991

The Fouling of Land by Dogs (Belfast City Council) Order 2012

Free Printed Matter (Belfast) Designation Order 2012

The General Product Safety Regulations 2005

Hairdressers Act (Northern Ireland) 1939

Health Act 2009

The Health (2009 Act) (Commencement No.1) Order (Northern Ireland) 2012

Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1978

The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2020

The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2021

Health and Safety at Work (Northern Ireland) Order 1978

Health & Social Care (Reform) Act (Northern Ireland) 2009

High Hedges Act (Northern Ireland) 2011

Housing (Amendment) Act (Northern Ireland) 2011

The Housing (Northern Ireland) Order 2003

The Housing (Northern Ireland) Order 1992

Housing (Northern Ireland) Order 1981

The Licensing (Northern Ireland) Order 1996

Licensing of Pavement Cafés Act (Northern Ireland) 2014

The Litter (Northern Ireland) Order 1994 – Excluding Article 10

Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 1972

The Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1985 - excluding provisions relating to the issue of all sex establishment licences and those entertainments licences where adverse representations have been made.

The Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1992

The Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 – excluding provisions relating to street names.

The Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 2002

The Local Government (Northern Ireland) Order 2005

The Market Surveillance (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2021

Noise Act 1996 (as amended)

Petroleum (Consolidation) Acts (Northern Ireland) 1929

Petroleum (Transfer of Licences) Acts (Northern Ireland) 1937

The Petroleum (Consolidation) Act (Amendment of Licensing Provisions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2012

Poisons (Northern Ireland) Order 1976

Pollution Control and Local Government (Northern Ireland) Order 1978

The Pollution Prevention and Control (Industrial Emissions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013

The Private Tenancies (Northern Ireland) Order 2006

Psychoactive Substances Act 2016

Public Health Acts 1878 to 1967

Public Health and Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act (Northern Ireland) 1949

Rats and Mice Destruction Act 1919

The Registration of Clubs (Northern Ireland) Order 1996

Regulation (EC) No 765/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 July 2008 setting out the requirements for accreditation and market surveillance relating to the marketing of products

Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 June 2019 on market surveillance and compliance of products

Rent (Northern Ireland) Order 1978

The Roads (Northern Ireland) Order 1993

Roads (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act (Northern Ireland) 2010

The Road Traffic Regulation (Northern Ireland) Order 1997

The Safety of Sports Grounds (Northern Ireland) Order 2006

The Sea Fishing (Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing) Order (Northern Ireland) 2018

The Shops (Sunday Trading &c.) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997

The Smoking (Northern Ireland) Order 2006

Street Trading (Regulation) Act (Northern Ireland) 1929 (repealed in part)

Street Trading Act (Northern Ireland) 2001

The Fire and Rescue Services (Northern Ireland) Order 2006 (but only where permitted by Memorandum of Understanding in force between Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Services and Belfast City Council).

Sunbeds Act (Northern Ireland) 2011

Tobacco Advertising and Promotion Act 2002

Tobacco Retailers Act (Northern Ireland) 2014

The Standardised Packaging of Tobacco Products Regulations 2015

The Tobacco and Related Products Regulations 2016

Town Improvement Clauses Act 1847

The Traffic Management (Northern Ireland) Order 2005

Volatile Organic Compounds in Paints, Varnishes and Vehicle Refinishing Products 2012

The Waste and Contaminated Land (Northern Ireland) Order 1997

The Waste (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2007

Welfare of Animals Act (Northern Ireland) 2011

The Welfare of Animals (Dog Breeding Establishments and Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013

Welfare Services Act (Northern Ireland) 1971

Appendix C – Legislation in respect of which functions are delegated to Director of Place and Economy

Note that these are the principal pieces of legislation under which the Council derives its planning functions. This list is not exhaustive.

Any delegation to an officer to take action under a particular statutory provision, or relevant local authority bye-law, shall be deemed to authorise action under any statutory re-enactment or amendment of that provision, and any statutory regulations, order, or direction made under that provision both before and after the date of this Scheme. References to statutory requirements in this scheme include relevant European legislation and directives as applicable.

Caravans Act (Northern Ireland) 2011

The Conservation (Natural Habitats, etc) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995

The Enterprise Zones (Northern Ireland) Order 1981

The Land Acquisition and Compensation (Northern Ireland) Order 1973

The Land Compensation (Northern Ireland) Order 1982

The Land Development Values (Compensation) Act (Northern Ireland) 1965

Lands Tribunal and Compensation Act (Northern Ireland) 1964

Planning (Northern Ireland) Act 2011

The Planning Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 2006

The Planning (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 2003

Planning (Compensation, etc.) Act (Northern Ireland) 2001

Planning (Northern Ireland) Order 1991

The Planning and Building Regulations (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1990

The Planning (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1982

The Planning Blight (Compensation) (Northern Ireland) Order 1981

The Planning (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) Order 1978

The Planning (Northern Ireland) Order 1972

Planning and Land Compensation Act (Northern Ireland) 1971

The Private Streets (Northern Ireland) Order 1980

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Belfast
City Council

Subject:	Smart City Expo World Congress 2022
Date:	21st October, 2022
Reporting Officer:	John Walsh, Chief Executive
Contact Officer:	Deborah Colville, City Innovation Manager Mark McCann, Programme Lead

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

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

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	Following an invitation from the Trade and Investment organisation of the Catalonia government, this report seeks the Committee's approval for the City Innovation Manager to attend the Smart Cities Expo World Congress which is taking place from 15th until 17th November 2022.
1.2	This invitation also includes a specific invitation for the City Innovation Manager to attend a closed meeting of the Chief innovation Officers of world cities to share practice and develop opportunities for smart cities collaboration.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to approve the attendance of the City Innovation Manager at the Barcelona Smart Cities Expo World Congress between 15th and 17th November, representing the Council, and to identify potential Smart City Co-investment.

3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>The Smart Belfast urban innovation programme encourages collaboration between our universities, digital SMEs, industry, the public sector and communities, with the aim of developing novel solutions to complex urban challenges.</p> <p>‘Smart Belfast’ also represents an attractive inward investment proposition and complements other activities such as the Renewed Ambition programme. For example, the existence of Smart Belfast directly led to the collaboration between Belfast and the Korean City of Sejong; and our membership of such international networks such as the G20 Smart Cities Alliance and Mastercard City Possible. The value of a ‘smart city’ strand is increasingly recognised by Invest NI – who, with encouragement from the Council, are now proactive in harnessing ‘Smart Belfast’ as part of the city’s value proposition.</p>
3.2	<p>The annual international gathering of the world’s smart cities is the Barcelona Smart Cities Expo World Congress which this year takes place between 15 and 17 November 2022. The event brings together over 20,000 delegates from 700 cities and over 1,000 digital and technology companies. Some 574 media outlets from across the world are in attendance. 56% of attendees hold senior management positions/ C Level executive roles in cities and companies, whilst over 400 experts and industry practitioners are part of the programme. (Other smart cities such as Dublin, Leeds, Manchester and London have an annual significant presence at the event bringing a large number of officers to promote their city’s innovation activities and opportunities.)</p>
3.3	<p>This year’s event will focus on key themes including Enabling Urban Technologies, the Climate Emergency, Urban Mobility, Inclusive Economy, Infrastructure and Buildings, and Security. The event provides a comprehensive approach to understanding the challenges of cities across the globe, which can inform Belfast’s own efforts to integrate digital innovation into its wider urban agenda. Gaining insight into how other cities are tackling these challenges, whilst discussing directly with the innovators who are overcoming them is invaluable.</p>
3.4	<p>At the same time, Belfast has an opportunity to showcase its new Smart Belfast urban innovation framework to the world’s most exciting and influential technology companies to highlight we are an innovative, open and forward-thinking city that is ideal for collaborative investment. Offers have been received from a range of global industry players to meet at the conference to explore potential areas of co investment in the City’s Smart Belfast programme.</p> <p>The Event</p>
3.5	<p>The City Innovation Manager has identified a number of opportunities for Belfast to present, showcase and promote the city’s new urban innovation framework at the event:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the first time (following encouragement from the Council), Invest NI has a physical presence at this year's Congress – and is supporting a number of the region's innovative SMEs to showcase their offerings to industry and other cities. Invest NI has offered to host the Council at its showcase. • Fira Barcelona has invited Belfast to an exclusive meeting of the world's Chief Innovation Officers during the Congress to discuss collaboration between cities and with industry. • A number of industry partners have offered to broker discussions with their European and global executive teams focusing on collaboration and co-investment. • As a member of its international 'City Possible' program, Belfast has been invited by Mastercard to participate in its work to support innovative SME to share practice and opportunities. • Belfast has also been invited to present its urban innovation framework to the G20 Smart Cities Alliance. The Alliance has recently established a global Urban Transformation Hub which aims to support cities in large scale public/private infrastructure co-investments. The Alliance is keen to discuss the opportunities in relation to the Belfast Smart District, the Innovation for Societal Impact fund, and the Belfast Advanced Wireless programme.
3.6	Following the event, a full industry opportunity report will be presented to the Council to inform the delivery of the Smart Belfast framework. This will also be presented to Innovation City Belfast partners to inform the delivery of the partnership's own priorities.
	Financial and Resource Implications
3.7	The full congress pass is normally €1,250. However, a free invitation has been extended by the Catalonia Trade organisation, Fira, to Belfast's City Innovation Manager. Travel and accommodation costs will be required and can be covered from the existing agreed Smart Belfast budgets.
	Equality or Good Relations Implications / Rural Needs Assessment
3.8	None
4.0	Documents Attached
	None

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Belfast
City Council

Subject:	Sustain Exchange Climate Business Conference Funding Agreement
Date:	21st October 2022
Reporting Officer:	Debbie Caldwell, Climate Commissioner
Contact Officers:	Richard McLernon, Climate Programme Manager - City

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

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

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	To provide the Committee with an update on the Net Zero Faster event hosted by the Management and Leadership Network (MLN) who host a prominent climate business conference 'Sustain Exchange' in Belfast with up to 300 business leaders on Thursday 27th October 2022.
1.2	To request approval for a funding agreement to be put in place between Belfast City Council and the event organiser with the value of £10,000.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	It is recommended that Committee approve a funding contribution of £10,000 towards the Net Zero Faster event. This will be allocated from the Climate Unit budget.

3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>The Committee will recall that, at its meeting on 23rd September, it agreed to defer consideration of a report seeking approval for the Council to enter into a funding agreement, to the value of £10,000, with the organisers of the above-mentioned climate business conference being planned for Belfast, to enable further information to be provided on other potential funders.</p>
3.2	<p>Purpose and Format of Event</p> <p>The event will be planned to deliver on the objectives above and will connect local business leaders with international thought leaders with those at the forefront of the transition locally. The event will put the challenges, opportunities and absolute need for positive action associated with climate change, on the agenda for local organisations and leaders.</p> <p>The event is expected to attract some 300 local leaders (primarily business leaders but also those from the public, NDPB and third sectors) and will either be delivered as an in-person-only event or a hybrid event which would see 120 leaders gather in-person with some additional 200 leaders attending the event via a live stream. Both delivery models will ensure the messages, around the importance of positive climate action, have reach and that partners get a level of profile, amongst the NI business / leadership community, to justify their investment. Planning for the event is currently in its final stages.</p>
3.3	<p>Opening Address and Format</p> <p>The opening keynote address will be delivered by three world-renowned authorities on how to achieve 'net zero faster'. They will focus on the business threat of the climate crisis, the legacy of the imperative for businesses and leaders to act fast and meaningfully. The keynote speakers will be followed by a carefully selected line-up of local leaders who will be challenged to share their story (exemplar), insights (expert) or support offering (stakeholder).</p> <p>As exemplars these businesses will share their story and associated lessons in an engaging, informative, and entertaining manner. The speakers will encourage and empower other sectoral representative bodies (insurance, banking, hospitality transport and logistics etc) to consider their own climate impact and take the first steps on their pursuit of net zero faster.</p> <p>The keynote speakers are:</p> <p>Norman Crowley - Norman founded and sold 3 businesses for over three-quarters of a billion dollars before the age of 40. He began his first business, a welding company at age 16, employing a team of 8 within a year, and sold that business when he was 20. He then started an internet business called Trinity Commerce, growing the company to 170 employees by the time he was 28. He went on to cofound Inspired Gaming Group (the world's largest server-based gaming company), which was sold for \$500 million; and Europe's largest Wi-Fi hotspot</p>

provider, The Cloud, which was bought by BSkyB for \$77 million. Feeling his next venture should make a real difference in addressing the global climate change issue, Norman founded CoolPlanet which helps firms reduce consumption, optimise systems, lower emissions and achieve net zero. Aiming to cool the planet as fast as possible, the business has already saved some 2,597,963 tonnes of CO2. In 2021, Norman founded AVA, a company which transforms some of the world's most desirable classic cars to electric. It brings together a team of F1-grade engineers to create cars that not only have the lowest carbon footprint on the road, but that are built in a way that has the least impact on the planet.

Eric Lonergan – Eric is described by The Irish Times as "probably the finest, and certainly the most thoughtful, Irish economist of his generation". An internationally-renowned thinker, Eric is best known as a policy economist, macro hedge fund manager, and writer. His most recent book is entitled Supercharge Me: Net Zero Faster and he is also the author of the international bestseller, 'Angrynomics', and 'Money' (2nd ed) published by Routledge. He has written for Foreign Affairs, The Financial Times, and The Economist. Invited to speak around the globe, Eric also advises governments and policymakers.

Corinne Sawers - Corinne has spent the last decade advising global business and governments on climate, sustainability and food systems. She has previously worked with McKinsey, KKR and SystemIQ (a boutique sustainability advisory firm and fund). She co-founded More United (with the late Lord Paddy Ashdown) and also co-founded a social enterprise focused on improving diversity in the technology sector. Corrine holds an MBA from INSEAD, an MSc from the London School of Economics and a BA from the University of Oxford. She is the co-author of Supercharge Me: Net Zero Faster.

3.4 **Management and Leadership Network Experience**

Management and Leadership Network (MLN) provide managers and leaders in Northern Ireland with access to the thinking, insights and experiences of high-achievers and thought-leaders with the aim of supporting and developing individual managers, companies and our economy. MLN is funded by a small number of forward-thinking champion organisations (Amet, Mills Selig law firm, Danske Bank, Electric Ireland, FPM, Ulster University, CPL and Xperience) which means the network it is free to join and use.

MLN has previous experience in hosting several large events with 500 + attendees.

Virtual summits organised by Management and Leadership Network include:

- Galvanise NI May 2020 - 1400 Business leaders
- Re- launch July 2020- 900 business leaders
- Unlearn 2021 December 2020- 700 business leaders

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WELL – February 2021 – 1000 business leaders <p>Leadership Summit - February 2020 Prior to first lockdown MLN hosted 500 paying business leaders at Titanic Belfast. BCC was a partner on this event which featured world class speakers including Lord David Puttnam at Titanic Belfast. Podiem and MLN's virtual events have been created and delivered in a 3 to 4 week lead time (and have consistently attracted business leader audiences of 500+).</p> <p>As host, MLN will facilitate the event and invite all speakers to provide their slides in advance so that the idea-sharing session is delivered in a concise, visually impactful and professional manner. Belfast City Council would once again be invited to participate and profile its extensive climate work i.e Mini – Stern Report, and associated Housing and Transport Readiness Assessments, Climate Ambitions Report, Reset Agenda, internal climate mitigation and adaptation plans and /or the work of the Belfast Climate Commission, Resilience and Sustainability Board etc.</p>
3.5	<p>Legacy Platform and Annual Event</p> <p>The conference is an opportunity to highlight and celebrate the activity that is already underway in Belfast. As the host city it positions Belfast as a centre of excellence and activity when it comes to businesses and getting to net zero faster. The climate challenge will inevitably move further up the political and business agenda as we move through the decade and the pace of change on this issue is fast, so there is a need for annual event for the NI business/leadership community to share knowledge, experience and progress and supporting platforms available all year round to share resources.</p>
3.6	<p>Net Zero Faster Branding</p> <p>The conference will be branded with the theme of 'Net Zero Faster'. It is deigned to speak to and encourage participation from those businesses well on their way and those just starting their zero-carbon pathway. It acknowledges the challenges involved in committing to take meaningful action and will offer examples, insights and inspiration for individuals, businesses and policy makers. Podiem will complete a comprehensive evaluation report on the conference.</p>
3.7	<p>Date, Venue and Contingence</p> <p>The total cost of the conference will be in excess of £60,000. Podiem has already secured some corporate sponsorship for the event from Danske bank and are in advanced conversations with Belfast Harbour along with other corporate partners of MLN. The event will be hosted at Titanic Belfast to encourage use of public transport and cycle networks and to accommodate both in-person and virtual attendees.</p>

3.8	<p>Partner Contribution and Profile Benefits</p> <p>Should the Council choose to support the conference it would be profiled as an 'Event Partner' alongside several other lead event partners. The Council brand will be prominent on all event marketing collateral as well as 'at-event'. A Council representative would be invited to participate in the event press launch and MLN would like the Council to deliver a presentation. The Council would also promote the conference through its social media and other relevant communication channels.</p>
3.9	<p>Sponsors</p> <p>Confirmed sponsors for the event are Danske Bank and Mills Selig (Belfast based law firm). There will be no formal role for energy companies at the event - they will neither be sponsors nor speakers.</p>
	<u>Financial and Resource Implications</u>
3.10	There is provision for £10,000 contribution towards the event via the Climate Unit budget.
	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Implications</u>
3.11	There are no direct equality and good relations implications. Any good relations or equality implications will be identified as part of the Council's screening process.
4.0	Documents Attached
	None

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Subject:	Community Wealth Building Summit and Inclusive Growth Conference
Date:	21 st October 2022
Reporting Officer:	John Tully, Director of City and Organisational Strategy
Contact Officer:	Kevin Heaney, Head of Inclusive Growth and Anti-Poverty

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

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

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	To make the Committee aware of two up-coming events being planned by the Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES) and the Centre for Progressive Policy (CPP) / Inclusive Growth Network (IGN) focusing on community wealth building and inclusive growth which are scheduled for mid-late November, 2022.
1.2	The detailed programmes for each event have not yet been made available, however, given the subject matter for both events, with a focus on cost-of-living and the importance of focusing on creating inclusive and sustainable economic models, it is suggested that the Chair and Deputy Chair (or their nominees) of this Committee may wish to attend the event(s).

1.3	The Committee should note that reports and information emerging from both events, such as recordings of sessions and presentations will be made available to Members through circulation to the Committee and the Social Policy Working Group.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) agree that the Chair and Deputy Chair (or their nominees) be authorised to attend the Inclusive Growth Conference and the Community Wealth Building Summit; and (ii) note that a number of the sessions during both events will be available online with options to join remotely (free of charge) and officers will circulate details of programme when becomes available.
3.0	Main Report
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.1	Two key networking and information-sharing events looking at new economic growth models with a focus on place are being planned for November 2022 by the (i) Centre for Local Economic Strategies and (ii) Centre for Progressive Policy/Inclusive Growth Network.
3.2	The Committee will be aware that the Inclusive Growth Network (IGN) was established in 2020 and hosted by the Centre for Progressive Policy. It is funded by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation and supported by Metro Dynamics and the Royal Society of Arts. As members, Belfast is one of 12 councils and combined authorities leading the drive for inclusive local economies across the UK.
3.3	IGN membership provides Belfast with access to a facilitated peer network to draw on practical evidence, knowledge and expertise, as well as a package of support designed to inform and advance our local activity to create more inclusive and sustainable economies. This year the IGN's programme of support for Belfast includes providing expertise to develop an Inclusive Growth scorecard and reporting framework to assist measure and assess our progress in delivering the inclusive growth ambitions for the city and as a council.
3.4	The Council also has an established bespoke membership of Centre for Local Economic Strategies which acts as a critical friend to local economies with a focus on practice-based research and a peer network of practitioners to create change as well as promoting and supporting organisations to build community wealth. Members will be aware that CLES are currently supporting the Belfast Anchors Procurement and Commissioning Working Group on the completion of the procurement spend analysis for the additional cohort of organisations.

3.5	<p><u>Community Wealth Building Summit</u></p> <p>CLES organise an annual one-day Community Wealth Building Summit to expand and explore community wealth building which will take place on Friday 18th November in Birmingham. With a focus on the cost-of-living pressures, this year's event aims to examine the future of local economic development and the role that community wealth building can play in unlocking solutions to the pressing challenges being experienced in places.</p> <p>Whilst the event is being scheduled to take place in-person, it is understood that a number of the key discussion sessions will be streamed virtually/online and can be accessed free of charge. The detailed programme for the event has yet to be made available and will be circulated to Members.</p> <p><u>Inclusive Growth Conference</u></p> <p>The CPP/IGN hold an annual Inclusive Growth Conference and networking event, which has been scheduled for Thursday 22nd November, 2022. This is a one-day event which will be held in-person in central London, with the aim of exploring how inclusive economic growth can meet the long-standing economic challenges of increasing inequalities, low productivity and wages in the context of the growing cost-of-living crisis. The detailed programme for the event has yet to be made available</p>
3.7	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>The costs to attend each of the two one-day events is estimated to be in the region of £400, with the main costs associated with travel and accommodation. The costs will be met from Departmental budgets.</p>
3.8	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>There are no equality, good relations or rural needs implications relating to this report.</p>
4.0	Documents attached
	None

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Subject:	Update on Physical Programme
Date:	21st October, 2022
Reporting Officer:	Sinead Grimes, Director of Physical Programmes
Contact Officer:	Shauna Murtagh, Programme Manager

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

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

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	The Council's Physical Programme currently includes 170 capital projects with investment of £150m+ via a range of internal and external funding streams, together with projects which the Council delivers on behalf of external agencies. This report requests a movement on the Capital Programme for Cathedral Gardens Redevelopment project and notes a satisfactory tender return for IT Programme - Server and Storage Technology Refresh project.
2.1	<p>The Committee is requested to consider the following items on the Capital Programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cathedral Gardens Project - agree that the project is moved to <i>Stage 3 – Committed</i> and agree that necessary procurement processes (including the invitation of tenders and/or the use of appropriate 'framework' arrangements) be initiated with contract to be awarded on the basis of most economically advantageous tenders received and full commitment to deliver.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• IT Programme – Server and Storage Technology Refresh project - Note that a satisfactory tender return has been received and that the Director of Finance and Resources has confirmed that this project is within the affordability limits of the Council and agreed that a maximum of £513,000 be allocated.						
3.0	Main Report						
3.1	The Committee will be aware that the Council runs a substantial Physical Programme. This includes the rolling Capital Programme – a multimillion regeneration programme of investment across the city which improves existing Council assets or provides new council facilities. The Council also delivers externally focused funding streams such as BIF, LIF and SOF, as well as numerous capital programmes that we deliver for central government. Our funding partners include NHLF, SEUPB Peace IV, the Executive Office via Social Investment Fund and Urban Villages, DfC, DfI, DAERA, Ulster Garden Villages and others. When appropriate, the Physical Programmes Department is happy to arrange site visits to any projects that have been completed.						
3.2	<p>Proposed Movement – Capital Programme</p> <p>Members have previously agreed that all capital projects must go through a Three Stage process where decisions on which projects progress are taken by Strategic Policy and Resources Committee. This provides assurance on the level of financial control and will allow Members to properly consider the opportunity costs of approving one capital project over another capital project.</p> <p>The Committee is asked to agree to the following movements on the Capital Programme:</p> <table><tr><th>Project</th><th>Overview</th><th>Stage movement</th></tr><tr><td>Cathedral Gardens</td><td>Redevelopment of Cathedral Gardens</td><td>Move to Stage 3 - Committed</td></tr></table>	Project	Overview	Stage movement	Cathedral Gardens	Redevelopment of Cathedral Gardens	Move to Stage 3 - Committed
Project	Overview	Stage movement					
Cathedral Gardens	Redevelopment of Cathedral Gardens	Move to Stage 3 - Committed					
3.3	<p>Cathedral Gardens</p> <p>The Committee will recall that, in January 2016, this project was moved to <i>Stage 2 – Uncommitted</i> on the Capital Programme. The Council endorsed their commitment to the redevelopment of Cathedral Gardens as part of Phase 3 of the Streets Ahead project and agreed in principle to ring-fence an allocation (up to a maximum of £5m) as part of this subject to final confirmation of the costs and a commitment from Department for Communities for the delivery of Streets Ahead 3. In November 2019, in light of Department for Communities correspondence that the Belfast Streets Ahead scheme would not proceed, Belfast City Council agreed to de-couple it from the BSA project to include the Belfast Blitz memorial. This memorial involves the design, commissioning and installation of a permanent memorial to mark the Belfast Blitz.</p> <p>The redevelopment of Cathedral Gardens provides a significant opportunity to inject critical and much needed quality public urban space into the city centre. The area adjacent to and</p>						

	<p>surrounding Cathedral Gardens is home to a rich history of fabrication and cultural identity. It is a precinct in the process of evolution through a mixture of commercial, education and housing related developments that are transforming this part of Belfast into a new and vibrant mixed-use neighbourhood for the city.</p>
3.4	<p>The Outline Business Case has now been prepared following public consultation. It is recommended that the project now progresses to <i>Stage 3 – Committed</i> and that it is held at <i>Tier 0 – Scheme at Risk</i> pending further development of the project and a satisfactory tender return. An update will be brought back to the Committee at this stage, along with the final budget allocation and confirmation that this is within the affordability limits of the Council. Members are asked to agree that necessary procurement processes (including the invitation of tenders and/or the use of appropriate ‘framework’ arrangements) be initiated with contract to be awarded on the basis of most economically advantageous tenders received and full commitment to deliver.</p>
3.5	<p>IT Programme – Server and Storage Technology Refresh</p> <p>Under the Council’s IT Programme, this project has been identified as being business critical and required to ensure continuity of service provision. Many of the Council’s ICT systems and information reside on Council owned servers and data storage units in two datacentres. The hardware is now six years old and must be replaced to ensure continuity of service and support, reduce risk of failure, and to avoid escalating support costs. Members will recall in June 2021 the project was moved to <i>Stage 3 – Committed</i> on the Capital Programme but held at <i>Tier 0 – Scheme at risk</i> pending a satisfactory tender return. The Committee is now advised that a satisfactory tender return has now been received. The Committee is further advised that the Director of Finance and Resources has confirmed that this project is within the affordability limits of the Council and agreed that a maximum of £513,000 be allocated.</p>
3.6	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p><i>Financial</i> – IT Programme – Server and Storage Technology Refresh project: £513,000 under the Capital Programme.</p> <p><i>Resources</i> – Officer time to deliver as required.</p>
3.7	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/ Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>All capital projects are screened as part of the stage approval process.</p>
4.0	<p>Documents Attached</p>
	<p>None</p>

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Subject:	Asset Management i) Balmoral Estate – Plot 83 Licence ii) Site 10 – 118-122 Royal Avenue - Meanwhile Use iii) The Entries Phase 2 – Environmental Improvement Project iv) Dundela Crescent Car Park –Licence extension with crane oversailing rights v) Cathedral Gardens –Temporary Active Travel Hub – Licence
Date:	21 st October 2022
Reporting Officer:	Sinead Grimes, Director of Physical Programmes
Contact Officer:	Pamela Davison, Estates Manager

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

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

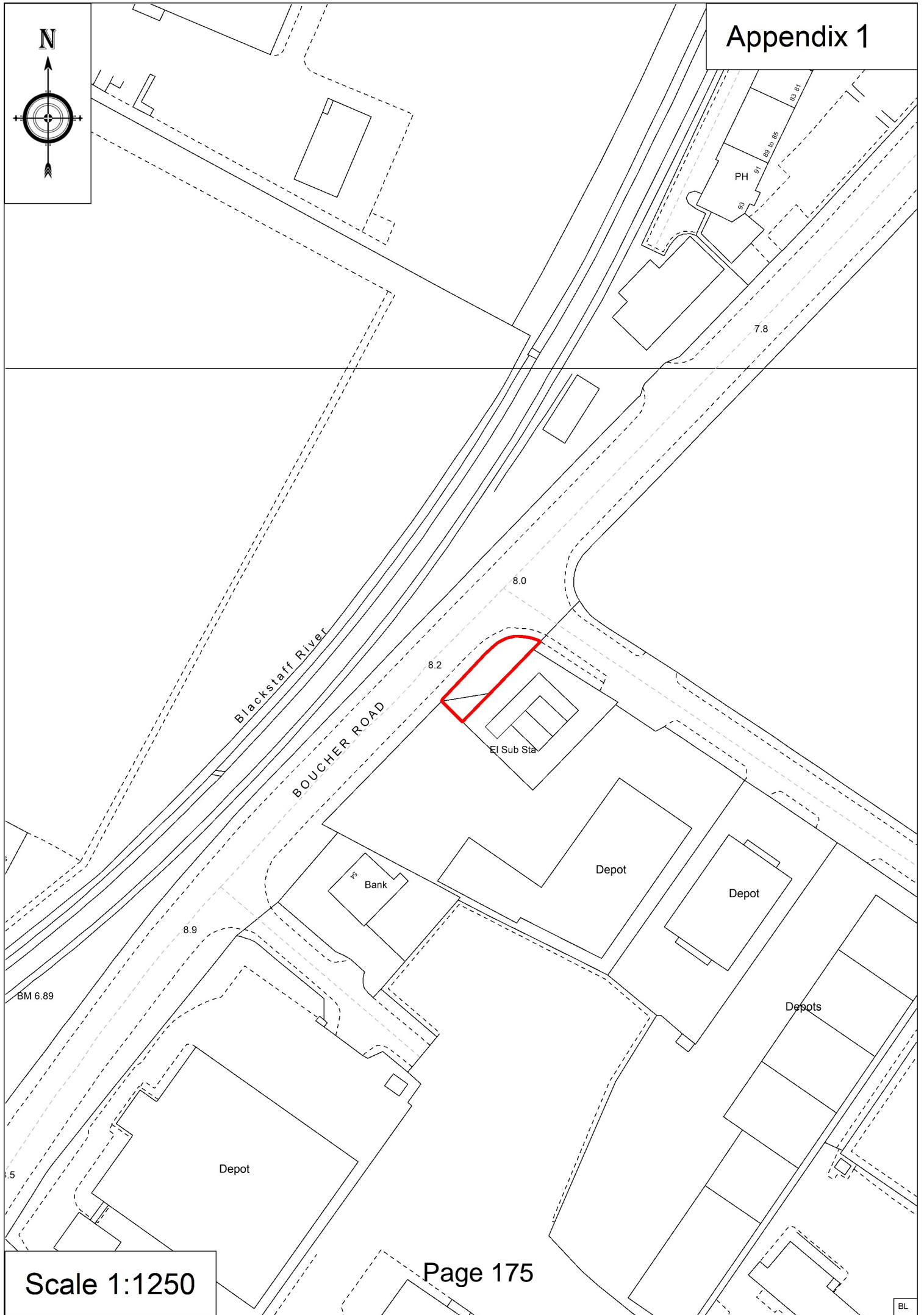
1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to seek approval from the Committee on asset related disposal, acquisition, and estates matters.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to approve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Balmoral Estate – Plot 83 Licence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a licence agreement at Plot 83 Balmoral Estate for a term of 3 years from 1st October 2022 at a licence fee of £22,000 per annum. ii) Site 10 - 118-122 Royal Avenue Meanwhile Use <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the entering into of an agreement with Extern Northern Ireland for the short-term use of the office building at 118-122 Royal Avenue iii) The Entries Phase 2 – Environmental Improvement Project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the entering into agreements with property owners in Sugar House Entry for the purpose of erecting lighting, supply of power to the lighting and interpretative panels as part of the Entries Phase 2 Environmental Improvement Project. iv) Dundela Crescent Car Park –Licence Extension with Crane Oversailing Rights <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a licence extension with crane oversailing rights between the Council & Kelly Brothers Building Contractors LLP at Dundela Crescent Car Park to facilitate a residential apartment development. v) Cathedral Gardens –Temporary Active Travel Hub – Licence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the granting of a Licence to Sustrans to utilise two shipping containers at Cathedral Gardens to provide programming, training and active travel promotion services at the temporary Active Travel Hub prior to redevelopment of Cathedral Gardens.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>i) Balmoral Estate – Plot 83 Licence</p> <p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>Plot 83 Balmoral Estate is currently held on a Licence from 1st October 2016 to 31st October 2021, continuing thereafter from month to month. The plot is licensed to David Allen Holdings Limited t/a J C Decaux Limited, who served notice on the Council to determine this Licence with effect from 30th September 2022. However, they wished to reverse this decision and approached Council with a request for a further licence for a period of 3 years from 1st October 2022 at a Licence fee of £22,000 pa. The Plot is used as a site for advertising</p>

	<p>hoardings. Approval is sought to enter into a new Licence Agreement. A map showing Plot 83 Balmoral Estate is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.</p> <p><u>Financial and Resources Implications</u></p> <p>Council will receive an annual licence fee of £22,000. Legal Services shall act on the instructions of the Estates Management Unit.</p> <p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
3.2	<p>ii) Site 10 - 118-122 Royal Avenue Meanwhile Use</p> <p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>On 1 October 2021, the Council acquired Site 10 at Royal Avenue/North Street/Union Street/Kent Street in connection with the proposed development of the Belfast Stories project. One of the buildings within Site 10 is 118 – 122 Royal Avenue and adjoining car park, which is currently licensed to Extern Northern Ireland for a period of 9 months ending on 31 October 2022. See map attached at Appendix 2 showing the property outlined in red and car park outlined in green. Extern have advised the Council that they wish to continue to use the building on a short-term basis and approval is sought to enter into a further agreement with Extern with detailed terms to be agreed by the Estates Management Unit and Legal Services.</p> <p><u>Financial and Resources Implications</u></p> <p>Fee of £1,875 per month (plus VAT). Legal Services shall act on the instructions of the Estates Management Unit.</p> <p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
3.3	<p>iii) The Entries Phase 2 – Environmental Improvement Project</p> <p>City Growth and Regeneration Committee at its meeting on 9th September 2020 adopted recommendations to progress the Entries Phase 2 project which follows the same place-making approach as Phase 1, which is to enhance the permeability of the city centre and make spaces more welcoming and vibrant as pedestrian links, as well as maximising opportunities to accommodate the use of external space by businesses in line with COVID 19 recovery initiatives. There are a number of entries included within Phase 2, but only the Sugar House Entry (see map attached at Appendix 3) requires Council to enter into agreements with the relevant building owners. These legal agreements will permit the Council to install and maintain lighting and fix interpretative panels to private property. Approval is sought to enter into agreements with relevant building owners with detailed terms to be agreed by the Estates Management Unit and Legal Services.</p>

	<p><u>Financial and Resources Implications</u></p> <p>Any financial implications will be covered from within approved external funding Letters of Offers. Legal Services shall act on the instructions of the Estates Management Unit.</p> <p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
3.4	<p>iv) Dundela Crescent Car Park – Licence extension with crane oversailing rights</p> <p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>Kelly Brothers Limited are developing an apartment block for Clanmil Housing Association on lands adjoining Council's Dundela Crescent car park. SP&R, at its meeting in August, granted approval for the use of 4no. spaces to site a contractors compound to facilitate the residential development. The contractor has subsequently approached the Council and requested consent to install a crane base plus use of a portion of the Council's lands as a working area to facilitate the development works. See Appendix 4. Committee approval is sought to agree a licence to facilitate these works up to and including 30th November 2023 then month to month thereafter subject to a maximum of three further months. C&NS have confirmed they have no issues with the proposed arrangements.</p> <p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>Council will receive a licence fee of £500+VAT per month for the use of Council lands plus £1,250+VAT for the siting of the tower crane / base and oversailing of it over our lands to a maximum length of c.35m. Legal Services shall act on the instructions of the Estates Management Unit.</p> <p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
3.5	<p>v) Cathedral Gardens –Temporary Active Travel Hub - Licence</p> <p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>City Regeneration and Development (CRD) has been working in collaboration with a number of external stakeholders to establish a temporary Active Travel Hub at Cathedral Gardens, which comprises a temporary installation housed within two shipping containers as shown in Appendix 5. Following SP&R Committee approval on 17 June 2022, CRD sought tender proposals from operators to provide programming, training and active travel promotion services at the Active Travel Hub at Cathedral Gardens. Following a procurement exercise, CRD has selected Sustrans as the programming, training and promotion operator and this will require Sustrans to enter into a licence agreement for the use of the containers at the Active Travel Hub. The proposed licence with Sustrans would be for an initial period of up to 9 months with potential for a further period of up to 9 months. The licence will therefore</p>

	<p>not affect the future redevelopment plans at Cathedral Gardens. Approval is sought to enter into a licence with Sustrans with detailed terms to be agreed by the Estates Management Unit and Legal Services.</p> <p><u>Financial and Resources Implications</u></p> <p>The operator will be charged an operating fee which will cover utilities costs and rates. Legal Services shall act on the instructions of the Estates Management Unit.</p> <p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
4.0	Documents Attached
	<p>Appendix 1 – Map showing Plot 83 Balmoral Estate</p> <p>Appendix 2 – Map showing 118-122 Royal Avenue</p> <p>Appendix 3 – Map showing Sugar House Entry</p> <p>Appendix 4 – Map showing the extent of use at Dundela Crescent Car Park</p> <p>Appendix 5 - Map showing Cathedral Gardens - Active Travel Hub</p>

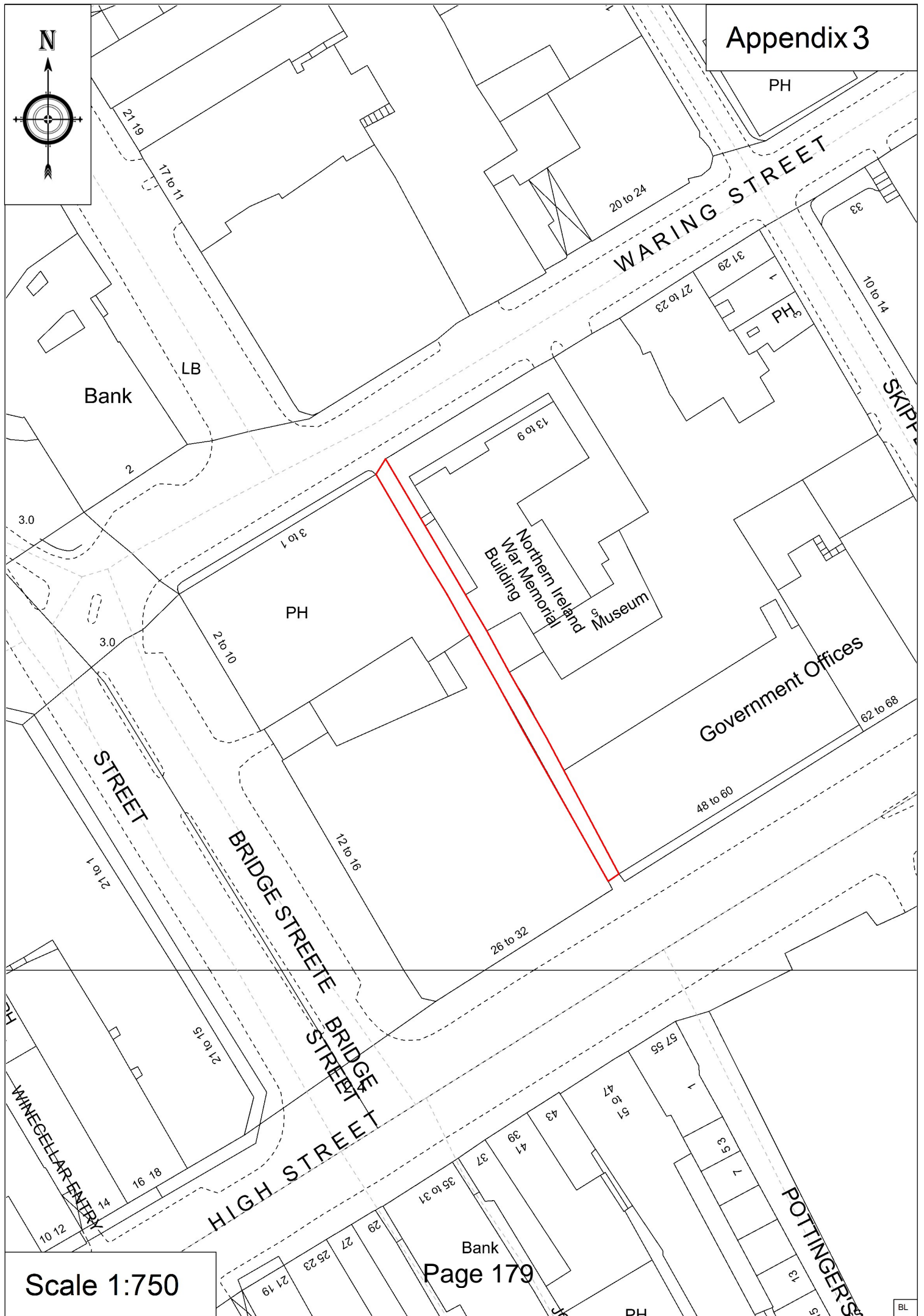
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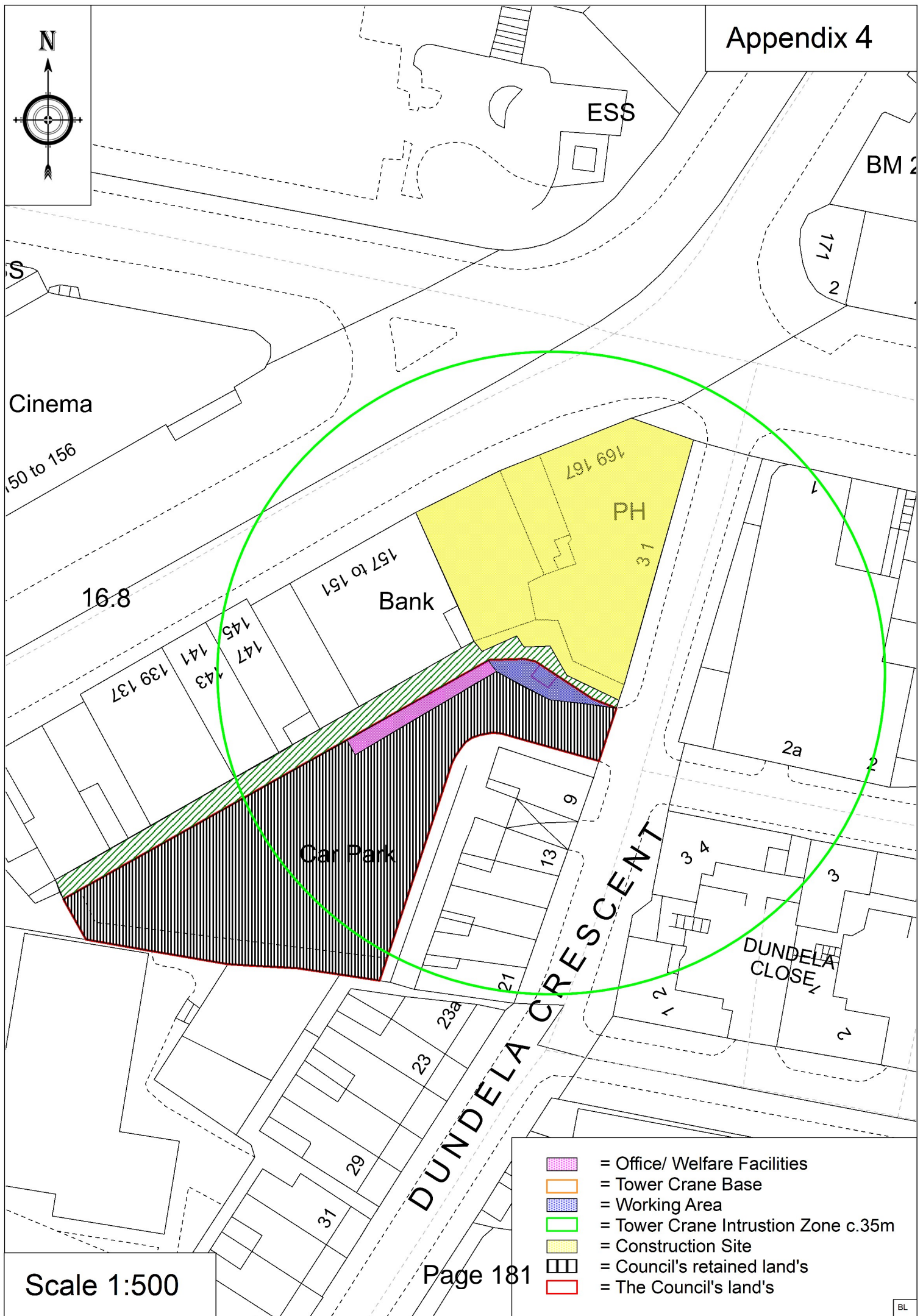
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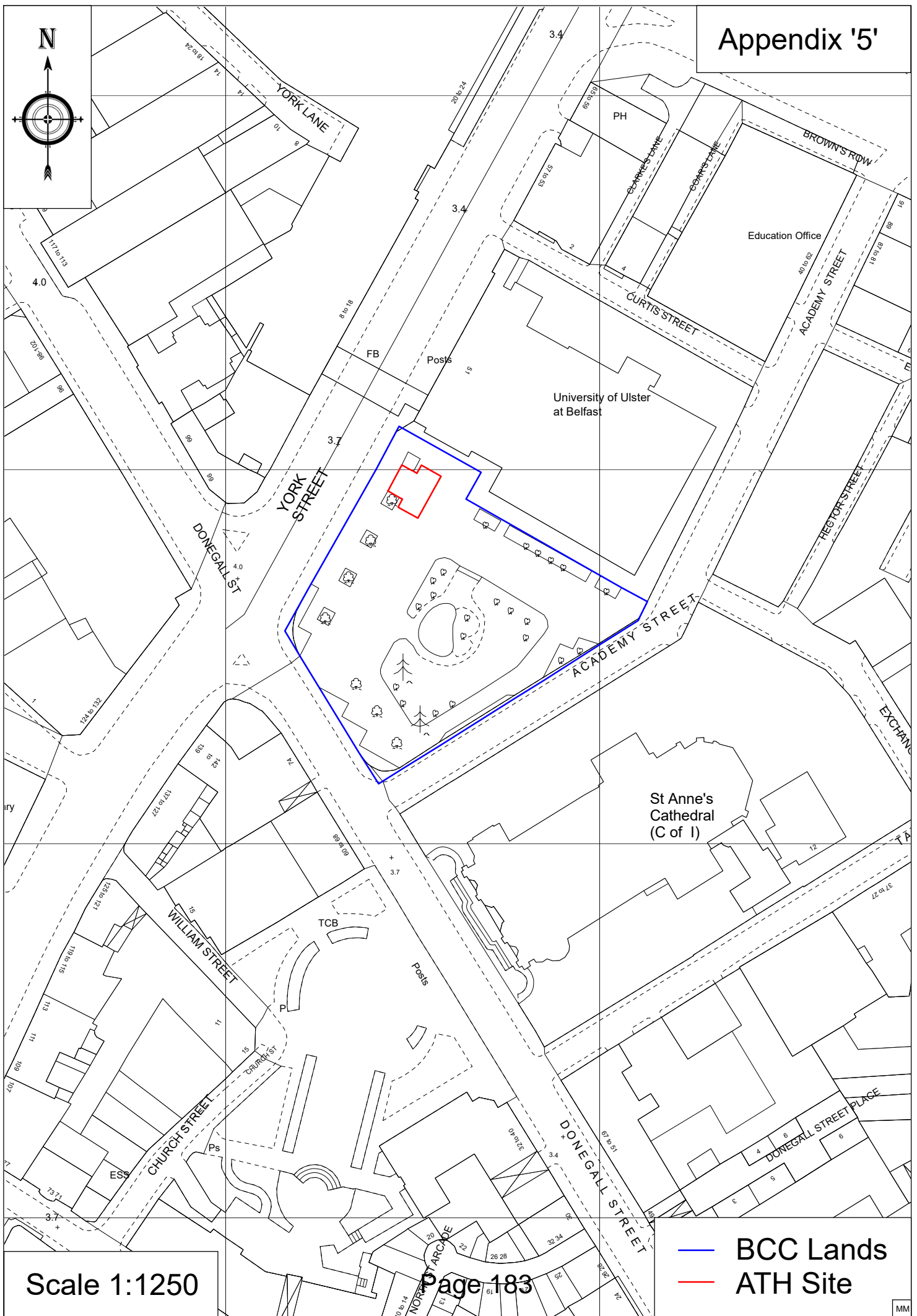
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— ATH Site

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Subject:	Update on Area Working Groups
Date:	21st October, 2022
Reporting Officer:	Sinead Grimes, Director of Physical Programmes
Contact Officer:	Shauna Murtagh, Programme Manager

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

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

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of Main Issues
1.1	To seek the Committee's approval of the minutes of the most recent Area Working Group meeting.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is requested to approve the minutes of the meeting of the South Belfast Area Working Group of 10th October, as attached.
3.0	Main Report
	<u>KEY ISSUES</u>
3.1	Area Working Group Minutes Members agreed, in June 2016, that the Area Working Group minutes would be presented to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee for approval going forward, in line with the

	<p>Council's commitment to openness and transparency and to ensure a consistent approach with other Member-led Working Groups.</p> <p>Members are asked to approve the most recent Area Working Group minutes as attached.</p>
3.3	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None</p>
3.4	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/ Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None</p>
4.0	Document Attached
	Minutes of the South Belfast Area Working Group

South Belfast Area Working Group

Monday, 10th October, 2022

MEETING OF SOUTH BELFAST AREA WORKING GROUP

HELD REMOTELY VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

Members present: Councillor Bunting (Chairperson); and
Councillors Gormley, Groogan, T. Kelly, Lyons,
McAteer, McDonough-Brown, McKeown, Murray
and Spratt.

In attendance: Ms. C. Reynolds, Director of City Regeneration and
Development;
Ms. K. Gilliland, Neighbourhood Services Manager;
Ms. D. Smith; Neighbourhood Integration Manager;
Ms. M. Wilson, Wider University and Lower Ormeau
Intervention Manager; and
Mr. H. Downey, Democratic Services Officer

Apologies

No apologies were reported.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 22nd August were approved by the Working Group.

Declarations of Interest

Councillor Gormley declared an interest in relation to the presentation from the Lower Ormeau Residents' Action Group on the John Murray Lockhouse Gateway Development, on the basis that he was on the Board of that organisation and took no part in the discussion.

Having been informed that the John Murray Lockhouse Gateway Development was the subject of a live planning application, Councillors Groogan and Spratt declared an interest, in that they were members of the Planning Committee and took no part in the discussion.

Presentation - Lower Ormeau Residents' Action Group

The Working Group was reminded that, at its meeting on 23rd May, it had agreed that representatives of the Lower Ormeau Residents' Action Group be invited to attend a future meeting in order to provide a further update on the John Murray Lockhouse Gateway Development.

Accordingly, Ms. N. Brennan and Mr. G. Rice were welcomed to the meeting.

Ms. Brennan reminded the Working Group that the Lower Ormeau Residents' Action Group had purchased the iconic John Murray Lockhouse in 2017, with a view to developing a community catalyst for a healthy living hub, under the vision of "reconnecting the community with the River Lagan by maximising local assets, providing healthy, enterprising and inclusive activity". Funding had been secured from Urban Villages, the Departments for Communities and Infrastructure and the Council's LIF Programme and the Council was managing the project build.

She drew the Members' attention to the designs which had been developed for the lockhouse and the surrounding space and pointed out that it would create employment opportunities for between nine and eleven people and provide social enterprise, community, good relations and mental wellbeing activities. The lockhouse's location on a broad part of the River Lagan was ideal for those users wishing to participate in water activities, in that they would not interfere with established lanes used by rowers etc. It was envisaged that the facility and activities would be used by, for example, local communities, office staff and those using the towpath. Reference was made to the connectivity advantages offered by the new Lagan Gateway Bridge and the soon to be commenced Lagan pedestrian and cycle bridge and linking into the Blueways Lagan Valley initiative.

She went on to outline the extent of the work which was being undertaken in partnership with various partners/agencies and pointed out that it was anticipated that the lockhouse element of the development, which was currently in the planning process, would be completed by the end of 2023. Work would then commence on the other parts of the project, including the creation of a safe permanent water access point and bridging to the McConnell Lock. In preparation for opening, twelve young people had received training as Paddle Sport Instructors and a promotional programme of water activities would be delivered between now and March, 2023 for potential users.

She concluded by highlighting the success on 8th August of the Féile na hAbhann (Festival of the River) event, which had been organised jointly with groups from the Markets and Short Strand areas to promote the use of the River Lagan.

In response to a point which had been raised by a Member, Ms. Brennan confirmed that the Action Group would, shortly, be enlisting thirty-six young people from all communities across the local Urban Villages catchment area to participate in taster sessions on the River Lagan and would also be facilitating health programmes for adults.

The Working Group commended the Lower Ormeau Residents' Action Group on the ambition of its project and the progress to date and noted the contents of the presentation.

Ormeau Avenue Concept Regeneration Placemaking Plan

The Director of City Regeneration and Development submitted for the Working Group's consideration the following report:

“1.0 Purpose of Report/Summary of Main issues

- 1.1** The purpose of this report is to provide the Working Group with an update on the work being undertaken to progress the Ormeau Concept Placemaking Plan.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1** The Working Group is asked:

Ormeau Placemaking Plan

- to note progression of work to develop an Ormeau Concept Regeneration Placemaking Plan and that a presentation will be made at this meeting; and
- to note that this work includes engagement with communities and other stakeholders.

3.0 Background Information

(SSA) Phase 1 – Ormeau Cluster

- 3.1** The Council commissioned the Strategic Sites Assessment (SSA) in August, 2018 to assess the regeneration potential of Council’s fifteen publicly operated city centre car parks and adjoining publicly owned land. This was in response to the Belfast City Centre Regeneration and Investment Strategy (BCCRIS), Car Park Strategy (CPS) and Action Plan and city centre Masterplans that all recommend a rationalisation of low density surface level car parking to unlock regeneration opportunities in line with the Belfast Agenda’s inclusive growth ambitions.
- 3.2** The SSA sought to identify mixed use regeneration opportunities that would contribute directly to BCCRIS and support the priorities of the Belfast Agenda. Inclusive growth was considered within the context of growing the city centre residential and employment population and enhancing connectivity and open space provision. The SSA also identified potential opportunities for maximising comprehensive regeneration through wider land assembly or joint development opportunities across public and private sector land.
- 3.3** The SSA comprised a four stage process to consider those car parks which might be suitable for mixed-use regeneration in the short term. The shortlisting process prioritised six car park sites, grouped into three priority clusters:
- Inner North West Cluster (Kent Street, Little Donegall Street, Smithfield),

- Clarendon Cluster (Dunbar Street and Exchange Street)
- Ormeau Avenue

- 3.4 Members will be aware that a report was provided to the City Growth and Regeneration Committee on 8th December 2021, outlining the work that officers have been progressing to develop Concept Regeneration Plans and Development Frameworks in respect of the various cluster sites identified in SSA Phase 1 and adjoining public/private lands in the city centre. This has included working with Planning Service in terms of assessing the potential for development in each of these areas but also considering other plans and development in the area in order to produce a Concept Regeneration Plan that optimises the potential of public (and private) sector lands in the area and seeks to maximise the regeneration benefit from an economic, social and environmental perspective. These Plans will provide vital collateral as part of a Council exercise seeking an institutional investor / development partner for the city for housing led regeneration as endorsed at the SP and R Committee meeting in September 2021, providing the necessary detail of the available opportunities, not only of the Council's lands but other public sector lands and the immediate environs which is crucial to understand in the delivery of placemaking regeneration. Members will recall that an update on each of the Concept Regeneration Plans was provided at a City Growth and Regeneration Committee Members' Workshop on 26th January, 2022.

The purpose of this report is to provide an update and presentation on the stakeholder engagement undertaken and next steps to progress Ormeau Placemaking Plan.

Ormeau Concept Placemaking Plan

- 3.5 The Ormeau Concept Placemaking Plan focuses on the area to the south of Ormeau Avenue. This area stretches from Bankmore Square to the West to the junction of Ormeau Road and Cromac Street to the East. The proposed next stage of the BRT route is intended to traverse East – West across the site and through the existing Bankmore Square public realm.
- 3.6 Council officers have been working with the Paul Hogarth Company to develop an Ormeau Concept Regeneration Plan in line with the priorities set out in the Belfast Agenda, Belfast City Centre Regeneration and Investment Strategy and A Bolder Vision for Belfast.
- 3.7 To ensure that the proposal contributes to the long-term regeneration of the city it is important that the plans and

proposals deliver against some or all of the following objectives:

- Improving connectivity between neighbourhoods and the city centre;
- Optimising the potential of underused sites and opportunities for residential led development;
- Catalysing economic development options to support retail, leisure and tourism priorities;
- Creating opportunities for existing residential communities to become engaged in and aware of development in the Ormeau Cluster site;
- Increasing perception of shared and inclusive ownership of the city; and
- Addressing a range of challenges, including perceptions of safety, and unattractive and derelict spaces.

3.8 There is an opportunity to apply placemaking principles to the proposed Bankmore Glider route that creates a liveable street, green active travel corridor (incorporating Sustainable Urban Drainage) and a publicly accessible central park area. There is potential to create an exciting new east-west connection from the proposed Ormeau-Gasworks City Deal bridge to the new Transport Hub at Weavers Cross whilst also strengthening south-north connections; extending the Linen Quarter grid layout. The site, when combined with other publicly owned lands, provides an opportunity to re-create street frontages for mixed use / mixed tenure buildings.

3.9 Engaging with stakeholders, including established communities, Sandy Row, Donegall Pass, Lower Ormeau and the Markets, businesses and city partners has been fundamental to the development of the plan. This engagement has provided opportunities to explore and define potential uses and inform future proposals. This has also included ongoing engagement with BRT2/DfI team to ensure that the regeneration opportunities arising from BRT proposals are realised through agreed placemaking principles.

3.10 Further engagement with communities and other stakeholders is planned within the next few weeks, following which, the Concept Placemaking Plan will be submitted for testing through the PAD process.”

The Working Group was informed that Mr. J. Hennessey (Paul Hogarth Company) and Mr. R. Jennings (RMI Architects) were in attendance to provide an update on the development of the Ormeau Avenue Concept Regeneration Placemaking Plan.

Mr. Hennessey explained that his company had been appointed in 2021 to develop concept plans for this part of the City, primarily in the context of the Council's Strategic Sites Assessment work and the Department for Infrastructure's and Translink's interest as the potential route for Phase 2 of the Belfast Rapid Transit network.

He reported that the study area for the project comprised over 6.5 hectares and focused on under-developed land along Bankmore Street, Bruce Street, Cromac Street and Ormeau Avenue. An analysis of the area had indicated that environmental quality was generally poor, despite its central location and proximity to large urban populations. The dominance of surface car parking on Bruce Street and Bankmore Street and of heavy traffic on Cromac Street and the Ormeau Road had a detrimental impact upon pedestrians and cyclists, as these spaces were noisy and dangerous. There was also very little usable green space. Bankmore Street and its surroundings saw little activity, which created an unsafe atmosphere, especially after dark and the area was often prone to antisocial behaviour. It was, therefore, an area with significant need and, whilst there was potential for redevelopment, there were a number of constraints to be taken into consideration, most notably, the line of the Belfast Tunnel, as well as the Blackstaff River culvert. The small number of remaining heritage buildings and the existence of the River Blackstaff should, it was stressed, all feature prominently in the regeneration of the area.

Mr. Hennessey and Mr. Jennings went on to draw the Working Group's attention to a series of concept proposals which had been developed for Bruce Street and Cromac Street, as well as the focus areas of Bankmore Street/Square and Ormeau Avenue. All proposals had been based upon the foregoing analysis of the area and consultation, as well as the strategic priorities for the City.

In response to an issue which had been raised by Members around the extent of the consultation to date, Mr. Hennessey confirmed that a series of meetings had, in the past year, been held with various stakeholders in the area to inform future proposals and that local community groups/forums had been included. The Director of City Regeneration and Development added that engagement would shortly take place with those same stakeholders, following which the Concept Placemaking Plan would be submitted for testing through the Pre-Application Discussion process. In response to a further point around the height of those houses which could potentially back onto homes in Donegall Pass, Mr. Jennings confirmed that they would be no higher than two/three storey.

The Chairperson thanked Mr. Hennessey and Mr. Jennings, following which the Working Group noted the information which had been provided.

Update on Wider University and Lower Ormeau Intervention Work

The Wider University and Lower Ormeau Intervention Manager informed the Working Group that there had, since her appointment in May, been two meetings of the newly reconstituted Inter Agency Group. Representatives of the Lower Ormeau Residents' Action Group, Forward South Partnership, the Landlords Association of Northern Ireland and the National Union of Students - Union of Students in Ireland had participated in those for the first time.

She explained that the agreed objectives of the intervention were to reduce crime and anti-social in the area and to improve community cohesion and the wellbeing of residents. It had been agreed that the following priority actions would be progressed in the short-term:

- **Alley Transformation Programme**

Funding for twenty-two alleygates had been received from the Department for Communities, most of which were located between Agincourt Avenue and the River Lagan. The Council had received from the Department for Infrastructure approval, in principle, to proceed with the installation of the gates. A consultation period would commence in October, with the online platform content having been agreed and it was anticipated that letters would shortly be issued to property owners. Efforts were being made to correspond directly with landlords in order to expedite the process. An enabling fund for alley transformation projects had also been established and a workshop, involving local residents' groups was planned for later in October in order to seek their ideas.

- **Installation of CCTV Cameras**

A proposal had, within the past year, been presented to the Living Here Board for cameras to be installed across ten potential hot spot locations to assist in reducing anti-social behaviour and crime. Discussions around funding for the installation of the cameras and their maintenance were ongoing and a community consultation would be undertaken once that had been secured.

- **Policy and Legislative Interventions**

Funding had been obtained from the Department of Justice and Queen's University to appoint Dr. Kevin Brown to undertake research and engage with the Inter Agency Group to produce an evidence-based report, which would assess the legislative reforms needed to address anti-social and nuisance behaviour in the area. This would then feed into the consultation exercise being undertaken later in the year by the Department of Justice.

- **Baseline Analysis**

A desktop review of the 2012 Learning City report and Professor Gray's Holyland Transition report was being undertaken, with outstanding recommendations to be shared with the Inter Agency Group to determine if they were still relevant, feasible and achievable. An initial baseline analysis, covering police and crime data, housing and the changing environment and attitudinal data, had been developed by Council officers. A Data Capture workshop was planned for 24th October, at which partners would be asked to collate information/statistics which they held in relation to the area. The baseline analysis would inform the co-design of an inter-agency action plan and assist with the measurement of any outcomes.

- **Action Plan**

The Inter Agency Group had agreed a co-design process for the Wider University/Lower Ormeau area and a number of communities of interest workshops would be facilitated from mid-November, involving Wider University residents, Lower Ormeau residents, Higher Education Institution students, the Landlord Association for Northern Ireland, BME/Roma community and local businesses.

- **New Community Engagement Model**

It was proposed that work be undertaken in the short time with separate communities of interest to allow time for relationships to be developed/enhanced.

After discussion, the Working Group noted the information which had been provided.

**Update on Neighbourhood
Services Manager Portfolios**

The Neighbourhood Integration Manager submitted for the Working Group's consideration a report on the outcome of a recent review of the areas of responsibility and operational alignment managed by each of the four Neighbourhood Services Managers within the Neighbourhood Services Section of the City and Neighbourhood Services Department.

Following the review, Neighbourhood Service Managers had, from April, 2022, assumed responsibility and accountability for specific service/portfolio areas, rather than geographical areas, as had been the case previously. With that in mind, she provided details of those Neighbourhood Service Managers, Lead Officers and other officers who were now deployed within the following new service/portfolio areas:

- Open Space and Street Scene;
- Community Funding and Neighbourhood Integration;
- Community Safety, Good Relations and Partnership Working; and
- Community Services and Community Support.

She added that this new arrangement, with a focus on clear accountability and reporting lines, should result in greater clarity, improved communication, reduced duplication and better co-ordination and stressed that all enquiries should now, regardless of the geographical area of origin, be directed to the appropriate service/portfolio area.

The Working Group noted the information which had been provided.

Community Infrastructure Pilot Initiative

A Member referred to the Community Infrastructure Pilot Initiative for the Ballynaveigh (including Annadale) and Finaghy areas and sought clarification on why it had yet to be implemented, given the expectation which had been created within those communities.

In response, the Neighbourhood Services Manager explained that the delay could be attributed to issues around the capacity available to develop a process to take the initiative forward. It was, she pointed out, still the intention to proceed with the pilot initiatives across all four parts of the City and a report would be submitted in November to the People and Communities Committee outlining how this could be progressed.

After further discussion, the Working Group agreed to recommend to the People and Communities Committee that the two-year funding allocation for the Community

Infrastructure Pilot Initiative be reaffirmed and to ensure that delivery would commence within the current financial year.

Date of Next Meeting

The Working Group noted that a special meeting would be held at 5.00 p.m. on Monday, 7th November in relation to the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund and agreed that the Community Infrastructure Pilot Initiative be added to the agenda for that meeting.

Chairperson

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Subject:	Community Asset Management Framework Pilot Community Benefit Sites - Update on Clarendon and Ulidia Playing Fields
Date:	21 st October, 2022
Reporting Officer:	David Sales, Director of Neighbourhood Services Sinead Grimes, Director Physical Programmes
Contact Officer:	Pamela Davison, Estates Manager Jacqui Stewart, Assets Co-ordinator CNS

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

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

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	To update the Committee on the progress to date and seek approvals for the next stage of the pilot initiative.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is requested to support the recommendations made by DTNI in relation to the future management of Clarendon and Ulidia Playing fields by the community and agree:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to seek the consent of DFC to the grant of a lease for a term of 25 years, at a nominal rent at each site; and that, if DFC approval is received, an award of £20,000 per annum be made to each lessee, subject to periodic review against the projections of the business case, with the review period to be negotiated as part of the lease.

3.0	Main Report
	<u>Background</u>
3.1	<p>The People and Communities Committee, at its meeting on 9th November 2021, received the attached report from the Directors of Neighbourhood Services and Physical Programmes and approved the commencement of a pilot scheme to identify future management models for a number of Council assets. The pilot is testing the decision-making value of a draft Community Management Assessment Framework and toolkit previously developed for Council by Development Trusts NI (DTNI). Sites chosen reflect the existing variety of management models, functions and end user demographics found among council assets. The key output from each pilot will be a recommendation as to the future management model. The preferred management option will be that which delivers the greatest community benefit and supports the council in delivering the outcomes of the Belfast Agenda.</p>
3.2	<p>DTNI was appointed to take forward the pilot and work directly with community-based organisations identified at the following sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarendon Playing Fields; • Ulidia Playing Fields; • Hammer Pitch, changing rooms and community space; • Willowbank Multi Sports Facility; • Tullycarnet Park Boxing Club; • Former Upper Ardoyne Youth Centre;
3.3	<p>The sites at Ulidia and Clarendon Playing Fields have now been assessed by DTNI and its recommendations form the body of this report. Assessment of other sites is ongoing and reports will be presented to the Committee as DTNI makes its returns.</p>
3.4	<p>Ulidia Playing fields has been under community management by Rosario FC since 2016. Through means of a partner agreement, the club deliver community development outcomes through sports programming. Quarterly reporting ensures the outcomes are monitored and a grant is assessed and paid accordingly. The agreement is due to terminate in 2023 and the process of developing the business case has included consideration of the significant outcomes delivered through community management of the site in the last 6 years.</p>
3.5	<p>Clarendon Playing Fields has been managed by Clarendon Development Association under a number of Facilities Management Agreements since 2005. In 2016 council moved away</p>

	<p>from entering into such agreements which had been focused largely on site management, and moved towards the partnership model with a social, community outcomes focus. The community benefit delivered by CDA at Clarendon playing fields was acknowledged by committee in 2017 with agreement for the club to have preferential use of the site and to locate a portacabin there for the delivery of homework clubs and youth activity. The legal agreement at Clarendon has been overholding since 2016.</p>
3.6	<p>Under the current legal agreements, facilities at these sites have been used to deliver community development outcomes at a local level through and alongside sports outcomes. The council is in receipt of requests from both communities for the continuation of community management of the sites rather than a reversion to council management. The requests from Rosario FC and Clarendon Development Agency have been the subject of ongoing engagement between officers, elected members and the organisations for some time.</p>
3.7	<p>In both cases the applicants were proposing that their long-term management of the site would have greater community benefit than a reversion to Council management at the termination point of the current legal agreement. They also identified opportunities for capital development at both sites using external investment but neither have the security of tenure required to be successful in a funding application.</p>
3.8	<p>DTNI was asked to work with the two community organisations to assess their capacity to undertake the future management of the site and to determine the benefit to the community in their doing so. This was to be achieved through development of a community benefits realisation plan and a business case to demonstrate the organisations long term sustainability. These documents would support identification of a recommended mechanism for the transfer of the asset to community management assessed against the draft framework.</p>
3.9	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>Given the similarity in scale and functionality of the sites at Clarendon and Ulidia and the similar aspirations of the community organisations currently delivering services at the sites, the same recommendation has come forward for both sites, ie. that the existing Clarendon Development Association and a newly formed Rosario Development Company each enter into a long-term lease with the Council. Both organisations are requesting that the lease is rent free in order to support a sustainable financial model focused on the delivery of sporting</p>

3.14	there may be a need for council to contribute capital to the pitch surface replacement if the site has not been developed by the end of its useful lifespan which is potentially 2028.
3.15	Based on current costs to the Council, a long term lease including a payment of £20,000 to Clarendon Development Association would largely reflect the current cost for the site and represent no major financial change.
3.16	<p>Ulidia Playing Fields</p> <p>This site is currently operated by Rosario FC under a partner agreement the terms of which give responsibility for the management and maintenance of the site to the Council, which retains all income from the bookings to offset costs. The annual average income from the site is £42,808.</p>
3.17	In line with all other partner agreements, the Council pays Rosario FC £20,000 for the delivery of sporting programmes at the site from a budget held for this purpose by the Sports Development Unit. When the original grass pitch, on which the partner agreement was based, was upgraded to a synthetic floodlit surface Council agreed to pay up to an additional £2,000 per month to support the club to staff the extended opening hours. The current maximum payment in any year to Rosario FC is therefore £44,000 paid through the Sports Development Unit assessed against the sporting outcomes delivered by the club.
3.18	DTNI is recommending, as with the Clarendon site, that under the new legal agreement the Council pay Rosario Development Association £20,000 per year in order to ensure the sustainability for their business model and generate a small reserve annually for reinvestment in the site. The 3G pitch surface is likely to reach the end of its useful life by 2029 and, dependant on the value of reserves achieved by that time, the Council may be required to contribute Capital towards replacement.
3.19	<p>Based on current costs, a long-term lease to Rosario Development Association including a payment of £20,000 annually would represent an annual saving to the budget of the Sports Development Unit of up to £24,000 but an average loss of income from the site of £42,808.</p> <p>This can be managed from within existing revenue budgets.</p> <p>Based on the assessment carried out by DTNI and the business cases put forward as part of that work, officers are recommending that not only can greater social outcomes be</p>

3.20	<p>achieved through long term community management of these sites but that the potential for further capital development of the sites increases under community management.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>The final Community Asset Management Policy will be screened in line with Council Policy. Both groups have existing agreements with the Council.</p>
4.0	Document Attached
	People and Communities Committee report 9 th November, 2021



Subject:	Community Asset Management Framework - Pilot Community Benefit Sites
Date:	9 th November 2021
Reporting Officer:	Ryan Black, Director City & Neighbourhood Services, Sinead Grimes, Director Physical Programmes
Contact Officer:	Jacqui Stewart Asset Co-ordinator, Pamela Davison, Estates Manager

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

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

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	<p>To seek committee approval for a number of pilot projects across the city using a draft community asset management framework and toolkit to identify future management models to maximise community benefits and ensure community management council facilities can deliver on the outcomes of the Belfast Agenda.</p> <p>The sites identified below cover a range of asset types currently being managed within the community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clarendon Playing Fields;• Ulidia Playing Fields;• Hammer Pitch, changing rooms & community space;• Willowbank Multi Sports Facility;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tullycarnet Park Boxing Club; • Former Upper Ardoyne Youth Centre;
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve pilot projects at the 6 proposed sites and move forward with the agreed work streams under our draft Community Asset Framework, working with the existing groups and through a procured partner to support the development of community benefit plans and business case proposals to determine the most appropriate future management model for each of the sites. The outcomes of this will be used to update our draft framework and the development of a new Community Asset Management policy. Committee will be kept updated at all stages and any next steps will be subject to Committee sign-off.
3.0	Main report
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.1	<p>The Council has a long history of supporting community groups and third sector organisations to deliver services, doing so by permitting community management of council assets. It is believed that communities benefit not only from overall outcomes achieved but also through their direct involvement in the management and programming of community facilities. The community benefit is generally considered to be greater when achieved via this model than when the council is the direct delivery agent, however community benefit remains unmeasured in most instances. The ambition of Members in this area is also recognised and therefore it is proposed to conduct a series of pilot projects to measure and evaluate that community benefit. The pilots will cover a range of asset types with differing functions, management models and end user demographics.</p>
3.2	<p>The pilot projects will utilise a previously untested draft framework and assessment toolkit developed for Council by DTNI. Learning achieved through the application of this work to live examples will inform a future Community Asset Management Policy. It is recognised that with increasing emphasis on inclusive growth, resilience and wealth building in communities, requests for long term access to council assets will only grow in number. There is now a strong impetus to test the previous work and assess its value as a decision-making tool.</p>
3.3	<p>Pilot sites have been chosen to reflect the existing variety of management models specifically, Leases, Facility Management Agreements and Partner Agreements. The scope includes assets already managed within the community and new or vacant assets. The range</p>

	<p>of functionality includes community programming, sports development and youth and community support.</p> <p>The Proposed Pilot sites</p> <p><u>Ulidia and Clarendon Playing Fields</u></p>
3.4	<p>Council is currently in receipt of requests for the transfer of the sites at Ulidia and Clarendon Playing Fields, to long term management within the community. Facilities at these sites are used to deliver community development outcomes through and alongside sports outcomes. The requests from Rosario FC and Clarendon Development Agency respectively have been the subject of ongoing engagement between officers, elected members and the organisations for some time as the organisations already have a management agreement at the sites. In the case of Ulidia PF the current Partner Agreement is approaching its final year and at Clarendon PF the Facility Management Agreement is overholding on a month to month basis.</p>
3.5	<p>In both cases the applicants are proposing that their long-term management of the site would have greater community benefit than a reversion to council management at the termination point of the current legal agreement. They also propose opportunities for capital development at both sites using external investment but neither have the security of tenure required to be successful in a funding application.</p>
3.6	<p>Officers are proposing the pilot deliver for each asset the following outputs, to inform decision making.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A community benefits realisation plan • A business case to demonstrate the organisations long term sustainability • Recommended mechanism for of the transfer of the asset to community management assessed against the draft framework. <p><u>Willowbank Park and Hammer 3G pitch.</u></p>
3.7	<p>The Willowbank site is managed under an FMA of 2008 by Willowbank Multi Sports Club (Ais Spóirt Bhruach na Saileoige), the Hammer site by Shankill United FC under a complex variety of agreements including a 10 year lease awarded in 2012 . The primary feature of each site is a pitch which the clubs manage and maintain on council's behalf. The clubs are</p>

	paid a fee for their operational management and retain income from the booking of the pitches.
3.8	Both sites have benefitted historically from improvements financed by external capital drawn down by the managing clubs and both sites have the potential for further enhancement but are not currently on the council's capital programme. A project to upgrade the changing facilities at Willowbank has recently completed, jointly funded by council and DFC. The club is keen to see an increase in the size of the pitch at the site from the current three quarter size pitch to full size in order to drive income but has no immediate opportunity to draw funding from an external source for this as a moratorium on future FMAs has made their tenure insecure. Capital opportunities at the Hammer site are limited similarly by the approaching lease termination date.
3.9	The pilot presents the opportunity to evaluate what is being delivered from the sites under the current community management and quantify any benefit to the council and to the community. The pilot will use the draft framework to test options for the future vehicle by which these sites might be managed and to test the capacity of the current agreement holders to continue in a managing role under a new mechanism. Any decision on the future management option will need to take account of the financial benefit the clubs currently derive from council and consider how any future agreement for their management of the site might be sustained.
3.10	<p>Officers are proposing outputs of the pilot for these sites will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation of current community management arrangements and development of a community benefits realisation plan; • Review of community management options and a recommended mechanism for the future management of the sites • A business case exploring the financial sustainability of the current agreement holders against the proposed management model <p><u>The Former Upper Ardoyne Youth Centre and TAGIT Boxing Club at Tullycarnet Park</u></p>
3.11	The Council, as landowner, took possession of the former Upper Ardoyne Youth Centre in 2017 on the dissolution of the company which had built it. The building had been funded by Urban II through the former North Belfast Partnership. It is located on the boundary of

	<p>Ballysillan park. An expression of interest exercise for a tenant was unsuccessful and the building has been vacant for some time and the council recently carried out required work to the mechanical and electrical systems. A community organisation, <i>Rcity</i>, with a proven track record of delivering cross community outcomes in North Belfast has now expressed an interest in using the building as a hub from which to deliver youth and community programming.</p>
3.12	<p>Ballysillan Park is the site of an Urban Villages funded environmental improvement project. UV are supportive of the installation of <i>Rcity</i> as anchor tenants at the facility and have awarded funding specific to the upgrade of the external spaces at the former youth centre as part of the overall project.</p>
3.13	<p>Tullycarnet Action Group Initiative Trust, (TAGIT) Boxing Club, were awarded BIF funding in 2018 for the construction of a new boxing club facility on an area of open land in Tullycarnet Park. The project aims to significantly increase the delivery of sport focused outcomes in the park and programme community activity from the building. The building has recently been completed and the club, under a condition of the funding agreement have been granted a Lease for the land.</p>
3.14	<p>Including both these facilities in the pilot presents the opportunity to explore how the DTNI framework can be used to evaluate those proposals whereby a community group or third sector organisation intends using a council facility offering community focused programme development. Whilst the BIF funding and due diligence includes assessment of project outcomes against Belfast Agenda objectives and has therefore established a baseline for the TAGIT facility no similar process has been undergone by <i>RCity</i>.</p> <p><i>Officers are proposing outputs of the pilot for these sites will include:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>A community benefit plan aligned to the core specialism of the organisation</i> • <i>A benefits realisation and monitoring plan</i> • <i>Review of current community management arrangements and recommendations for the future management options.</i> <p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p>
3.15	<p>A budget for this work will come from existing resources within City & Neighbourhood Services and Physical Programmes.</p>

	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u>
3.16	The final Community Asset Management policy will be screen in line with Council policy.
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	None.



Belfast
City Council

Subject:	Update on Contracts
Date:	21st October, 2022
Reporting Officer:	Ronan Cregan, Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Finance and Resources
Contact Officer:	Noleen Bohill, Head of Commercial and Procurement Services

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

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

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	<p>The purpose of this report is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> seek approval from the Committee for tenders and Single Tender Actions (STA) over £30,000 seek approval from the Committee for expenditure related to specific exclusions for service contracts set out in the Public Contract Regulations 2015 "PCRs" <p>And to ask the Committee to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> note contract modifications to contract term and retrospective Single Tender Actions (STAs)
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> approve the public advertisement of tenders as per Standing Order 37a detailed in Appendix 1 (Table 1) approve the award of STAs in line with Standing Order 55 exceptions as detailed in Appendix 1 (Table 2)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • approve the modification of the contract as per Standing Order 37a detailed in Appendix 1 (Table 3) • note the award of retrospective STAs in line with Standing Order 55 exceptions as detailed in Appendix 1 (Table 4) • approve the estimated expenditure of permitted excluded contracts as detailed in Financial Regulations K11 (Table 5)
3.0	Main Report
	<u>Competitive Tenders</u>
3.1	Section 2.5 of the Scheme of Delegation states Chief Officers have delegated authority to authorise a contract for the procurement of goods, services or works over the statutory limit of £30,000 following a tender exercise where the council has approved the invitation to tender
3.2	Standing Order 60(a) states any contract that exceeds the statutory amount (currently £30,000) shall be made under the Corporate Seal. Under Standing Order 51(b) the Corporate Seal can only be affixed when there is a resolution of the Council.
3.3	Standing Order 54 states that every contract shall comply with the relevant requirements of national and European legislation.
	<u>Single Tender Actions (STAs)</u>
3.4	<p>The following STAs are being submitted for approval:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a contract for £164,216, for up to 2 years, awarded to Civica for the provision of a Case Management solution across City and Neighbourhood Services Department 'C&NS'. A two-year STA is required for continued maintenance and support of the current system whilst it is determined how the replacement of the system will be best carried out in alignment with the Customer Focus programme priorities and service design within C&NS. The 2 years will allow time to complete market research, the procurement process, map out processes, data migration, configuration and implementation of the new system. Civica have proprietary rights for the continued use of their system and are therefore the only available supplier. • a contract for £60,000, for up to 1 year, awarded to Masternaut Ltd, for fleet GPS tracking system installed in council vehicles. The GPS system improves utilisation, planning and efficiency of fleet assets, such as improved fuel economy by discouraging speeding and engine idling. A one-year STA is required for continued maintenance and support of the current system whilst the 'in cab technology project' is progressed. This requirement is being incorporated into the new in cab system which is currently

	<p>being procured. Masternaut have proprietary rights for the continued use of their system and are therefore the only available supplier.</p>
3.5	<p>The following retrospective STAs were awarded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a contract for £48,000 for up to 6 months, awarded to Poolpod Products Ltd, for annual service and inspection of all Council leisure facilities that have disabled pool hoists. The servicing of the pool pods can only be carried out by the installation contractor, Poolpod Products Ltd due to proprietary rights.
3.6	<p><u>Modification to Contract Term</u></p> <p>The following contract terms were modified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A 3-month extension for contract T2111 - PEACE IV Programme – Project to support Roma Community. A modification is required to allow completion of training and capacity building elements. It is acknowledged that the Roma Hub element of the project is closed and that the extension is for the outstanding deliverables not yet achieved. *Please note this request is retrospective.
3.7	<p><u>PCRs 2015 specific exclusions for service contracts</u></p> <p>Section 10 of the PCRs sets out specific exclusions for service contracts meaning that the types of services listed are excluded from the obligations of the PCRs.</p> <p>The following excluded service contracts are being submitted for approval:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A contract for £45,000, for up to 3 months, awarded to Belfast City Centre Management 'BCCM' for the use of eyebolts/lamp posts 'Wayleaves' for erection of festive lighting. BCCM own the infrastructure required to erect Christmas illuminations across the City Centre. <p>As this spend requirement is related to a land/ property rental, it is exempt under the Public Contracts Regulations under Reg 10 (1) (a) which reads:</p> <p>Specific Exclusions for Service Contracts</p> <p>10.—(1) This Part does not apply to public service contracts—</p> <p>(a) for the acquisition or rental, by whatever financial means, of land, existing buildings or other immovable property, or which concern interests in or rights over any of them;</p>

	Financial and Resource Implications
3.8	The financial resources for these contracts are within approved corporate or departmental budgets.
	Equality or Good Relations Implications / Rural Needs Assessment
3.9	None
4.0	Document Attached
	<p>Appendix 1</p> <p>Table 1 - Competitive Tenders</p> <p>Table 2 - Single Tender Actions</p> <p>Table 3 - Modification to Contract</p> <p>Table 4 - Retrospective Single Tender Actions</p> <p>Table 5 – Excluded service contracts/ non procurement spend</p>

Table 1: Competitive Tenders

Title of Tender	Proposed Contract Duration	Estimated Total Contract Value	SRO	Short description of goods / services
Design Contest to support the delivery of Belfast Imagining 2024 *Previously approved Sept 2022 for £2.5m but revised total now £1.85m	Up to 22 months	£1,850,000	J Greer	A Design Contest process to seek out project proposals for the year of culture through a competitive and 3 staged process that will lead to a series of civic and culturally led programmes, events and projects for 2024 totalling £1.85million which has been allocated from the cultural reserve for 2024.
Dynamic Purchasing System for the supply and delivery of goods for resale at Belfast Zoo (Generates income at Belfast Zoo shop)	Up to 5 years	£640,000	J Greer	Lot 1 - Animal themed plush/soft toys Lot 2 - Animal themed toys and games Lot 3 - Animal themed gifts/souvenirs/keyrings and magnets, to include branded stationery, clothing and accessories
Callouts, repairs & planned maintenance of metal work and small engineering	Up to 5 years	£750,000	S Grimes	To have a specialist contractor to support the in-house team deliver repairs and maintenance works relating to metalwork and small engineering
Meeting room booking system (Artifax)	Up to 4 years	£70,000	R Cregan	An event booking system used by facilities for City Hall and self-service booking for meeting rooms. The current GCloud contract with Artifax expires on 31/12/22.
Appointment of a contractor to develop and deliver a number of sector specific projects supported by the Council under the Output Belfast brand	Up to 6 months	£48,000	J Greer	The Output Belfast brand has developed considerably over the past three years. It has become synonymous with the City's interactive, convergence and music sectors
Provision of Temporary Agency Resources	Up to 12 months	£2,600,000	J Tully	The current contract is due to expire 31 March 2023. The Council is developing an agency strategy to reduce spend and tighten controls on use of agency resources and to explore the feasibility of establishing a Council agency.

Contract to provide reusable period products and distribute them to individual household who apply for the scheme living within the BCC boundary	Up to 3 years	£150,000	D Sales	The company will provide quality reusable period products – cups and pads and/or pants, a page on their website for people to apply for the product designed in conjunction with the Council. Contract period subject to continued funding.
Independent evaluation of the PCSP programme of work from 2022 - 2025	Up to 3 years and 6 months	£70,000	S Toland	Independent evaluations are required by the funding body

Table 2: Single Tender Actions

Title	Duration	Total Value	SRO	Description	Supplier
Provision of a Case Management solution across City and Neighbourhood Services Department 'C&NS'	Up to 2 years	£164,216	R Cregan	A two-year STA is required for continued maintenance and support of the current system whilst it is determined how the replacement of the system will be best carried out in alignment with the Customer Focus programme priorities and service design within C&NS. The 2 years will allow time to complete market research, the procurement process, map out processes, data migration, configuration and implementation of the new system. Civica have proprietary rights for the continued use of their system and are therefore the only available supplier.	Civica
T2150 - Masternaut – fleet GPS tracking/telematics	Up to 1 year	£60,000	R Cregan	Fleet GPS tracking system installed in council vehicles. The GPS system improves utilisation, planning and efficiency of fleet assets, such as improved fuel economy by discouraging speeding and engine idling. A one-year STA is required for continued maintenance and support of the current	Masternaut Ltd

				system whilst the 'in cab technology project' is progressed. This requirement is being incorporated into the new in cab system which is currently being procured. Masternaut have proprietary rights for the continued use of their system and are therefore the only available supplier.	
Use of eyebolts/lamp posts 'Wayleaves' for erection of festive lighting	Up to 3 months	£45,000	J Greer	Belfast City Centre Management own the infrastructure required to erect Christmas illuminations across City Centre	Belfast City Centre Management

Table 3: Modification to Contract

Title of Contract	Duration	Modification	SRO	Description	Supplier
T2111 - PEACE IV Programme – Project to support Roma Community - BPR5 Project Please note this request is retrospective	Up to 22 months	Additional 3 months	S Toland	To allow completion of training and capacity building elements. It is acknowledged that the Roma Hub element of the project is closed and that the extension is for the outstanding deliverables not yet achieved.	Forward South Partnership

Table 4: Retrospective Single Tender Actions

Title of Contract	Duration	Value	SRO	Description	Supplier
Annual service and inspection of all Council leisure facilities that have disabled pool hoists	Up to 3 years	£35,000	S Grimes	The servicing of the pool pods can only be carried out by the installation contractor, Poolpod Products Ltd.	Poolpod Products Ltd

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Subject:	Minutes of Meeting of Shared City Partnership
Date:	21st October, 2022
Reporting Officer:	David Sales, Director of Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	David Robinson, Leish Dolan Good Relations Unit and Debbie McKinney, PEACE IV

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

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

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	To provide the Committee with details of the key issues which were discussed at the Shared City Partnership meeting held on 10 th October 2022.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is requested to note this report and approve the following recommendations:
2.2	<p><u>PEACE IV</u></p> <p>Secretariat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To delegate authority to the BPR Chair and Peace IV Programme Manager to consider mitigations for the Roma project. <p>CYP1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Tech Connects, Belfast Metropolitan College (Digital Insights Programme) is extended until 31 January 2023

2.3	<p>BPR 1 and CYP 5 NIHE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extension and revised approach for delivery to December 2022. <p>BPR 5- Lincs NI Alternatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request for a further extension to the project until the end of November 2022 to allow completion of all deliverables. <p>BPR 5- Roma Forward South partnership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request to extend the project until end of December 2022 to ensure completion of all Remaining elements. <p>BPR Cinematography – Morrow</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request for a further extension to the project until the end of December 2022 to ensure completion of all remaining filming. <p><u>GOOD RELATIONS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regarding the presentation on Research into the Lived Experiences of Minority Ethnic Communities in Belfast by Dr. Lucy Michael, members are asked to note the contents of the report and agree that the draft findings be approved and launched on 1st December 2022 • To note the Quarter 2 Update on the delivery of the Council's Good Relations Action Plan • That funding be awarded for the following projects as part of the Interfaces element of the Good Relations Action Plan: BCC7: Christmas Interface Events for the following groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Colin Neighbourhood Partnership: £1,500 - Dunmurry Community Association: £1,225 - Suffolk Community Forum: £1,500. - Holy Family Community Centre: £1,495 - Finaghy Resident Group £1,500 • To note the allocation of £2,000 to New Lodge Arts for their annual Lantern Parade under BCC9, Strategic Intervention Programme under delegated authority. • To note the allocation of £7,000 to Mornington Community Project to support their 'Learning through Engagement Project', bringing together women from diverse
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2.4	<p>backgrounds in South Belfast, under BCC9, Strategic Intervention Programme under delegated authority.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To approve the allocation of £5,000 to WAVE Trauma Centre for a project of engagement with young people from a number of interface areas who had been impacted by the conflict. <p>Peace Plus</p> <p>To note the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chairman asked the Partnership if it agreed to sign-off on the proposed stakeholder engagement plan to which the Members unanimously agreed. • The Members agreed to share the stakeholder engagement workshops with key contacts and attend public information sessions if available. The Members also agreed to provide feedback on the draft vision for Belfast PEACEPLUS and participatory role of the Shared City Partnership as discussed at the recent Shared City Partnership workshop.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>The Shared City Partnership is a Working Group of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee which consists of Elected members and representatives from various sectors across the city. The minutes from the Partnership are brought before the Committee for approval on a monthly basis.</p>
3.2	<p>The key issues on the agenda at the October meeting were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A presentation on Research into the Lived Experiences of Minority Ethnic Communities in Belfast • PEACE IV -Update on Secretariat • PEACEV IV - Update on CYP Theme • PEACE IV - Update on SSS Theme • PEACE IV Update on BPR Theme • Update on Good Relations Action Plan (Q2 report) • Good Relations Action Plan Funding allocations and recommendations • Update on PEACE PLUS – Local Community Peace Action Plan & Workshop

	More details regarding the above issues and recommendations are included in the attached minutes of the meeting.
3.3	<u>Financial and Resource Implications</u> All financial implications are covered through existing budgets
3.4	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u> The recommendations of the Partnership promote the work of the Council in promoting good relations and will enhance equality and good relations impacts.
4.0	Document Attached
	Minutes of the Shared City Partnership meeting of 10 th October 2022

SHARED CITY PARTNERSHIP

Monday 10th October, 2022

MEETING OF SHARED CITY PARTNERSHIP HELD REMOTELY VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

Members present: Councillor Kyle (Chairperson);
Councillors Hutchinson, Lyons, McCullough and O'Hara .

External Members: Mrs. B. Arthurs, Community and Voluntary Sector;
Ms. J. Irwin, Community Relations Council;
Superintendent Ford, PSNI;
Mr. A. Irvine, Faith Sector;
Mr. W. Naeem, Faith Sector;
Ms. A. Roberts, Community and Voluntary Sector;
Ms. A. Tohill, Good Relations, TEO; and
Mr. A. Hannaway, NIHE.

In attendance: Ms. N. Lane, Good Relations Manager;
Ms. D. McKinney, PEACE IV Programme Manager;
Mr. S. Lavery, Programme Manager;
Mr. D. Robinson, Good Relations Officer;
Ms. L. Dolan, Good Relations Officer;
Ms. V. Smyth, Democratic Services Officer;
Dr. Lucy Michael, Lucy Michael Research, Training and
Consultancy;
Ms. T. Hogg, Blu Zebra; and
Ms. B. Enslin, Blu Zebra.

Apologies

Apologies for inability to attend were reported on behalf of Councillor McMullan, Mr. I. McLaughlin, Ms. G. Duggan, Mr. P. Anderson, Ms. A.M. White, Mr. M. McBride, Mr. S. Hamilton and Mr. P. Mackel.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 20th September 2022 were taken as read and signed as correct.

Declarations of Interest

Ms. B. Arthurs declared an interest in item 3(a) and 3(d), namely, Peace IV Updates on the BPR theme.

Ms. A. Tohill declared an interest in item 3, namely, Peace IV updates and at item 6 relating to the PEACE PLUS update.

The Chairman welcomed Dr Lucy Michael who provided the Shared City Partnership with an update on the research commissioned to examine the lived experiences of people from a minority ethnic background living in Belfast.

The Good Relations Manager reminded the Members that Belfast City Council, the Public Health Agency and the Belfast Trust had jointly commissioned research to examine the lived experience of people from minority ethnic communities living in Belfast and the inequalities experienced by those groups. Following a procurement exercise the contract was awarded to Dr Lucy Michael.

The purpose of commissioning the research was to provide a more comprehensive understanding of the range of experiences of minority ethnic populations in Belfast, including Irish Travellers, to help inform policy making and service provision.

The research methodology adopted a unique approach, whereby Dr Michael was asked to ensure that 8 people from a minority ethnic background were trained and mentored to act as researchers in the project. Through this methodology, 8 people from minority communities were mentored and trained in research design, data collection, research ethics and data management. They were also involved in recruiting and interviewing participants, as well as translating and transcribing interviews.

Interview and focus groups had taken place over the past 6 months examining issues in relation to how minority ethnic populations in Belfast experience everyday issues such as employment, accessing housing, healthcare, education, leisure services, civic engagement, community safety and cultural integration. The research was now complete and a report had been produced with a number of recommendations for the relevant agencies and organisations. The report was due to be launched on 1st December.

Dr Michael presented the findings from the research and outlined the key recommendations:

- Measures of integration, not just attitudes;
- Investment in anti-racism resources for communities and schools;
- Support for migrant rights and awareness raising;
- Language supports in education and training for adults;
- Housing rights support;
- Safe public spaces;
- Incentivise ongoing intercultural projects at neighbourhood level;
- Strong political leadership on intercultural messaging; and
- Upskilling across public agencies and publicly funded organisations on interculturalism and equality

The Chairperson opened the floor for questions and the Members thanked Dr Michael for what was described as welcome research. The Members agreed that more work had to be done at a community level to improve communication and information channels in terms of needs and services. A Member relayed a local incident relating to a hate crime and discussion ensued relating to the PSNI's approach to such incidents. There was agreement that this was a wider partner/agency matter and not just a policing issue.

The Good Relations Manager explained how the recommendations would be implemented going forward from the launch, including informing the Good Relations Action Plan and the PEACEPLUS Action Plan.

The Chairman thanked Dr Michael for a very valuable piece of work.

The Partnership noted the contents of the report and recommended to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee that the draft findings be approved and launched on 1st December 2022.

PEACE IV Updates

Peace IV - Update on Secretariat

The Peace IV Programme Manager provided the Members with an update in respect of the Secretariat activity associated with the implementation of the Peace IV Local Action Plan and advised that the delivery of project activity was continuing as outlined in the Thematic Reports.

The Members noted that contract extensions for Cinematography, St Comgall's and the Roma projects had been progressed as necessary. Mitigations and project extensions continued to be progressed as required to enable implementation of the programme.

The Peace IV Programme Manager advised that the discussions regarding the challenges of implementation of CYP3 OTRT, BPR2 Creative Communities and Roma project had taken place and she was liaising closely with project managers to resolve the operational issues. Progressing the closure of projects was ongoing and further detail was outlined in the Thematic Reports.

Formal correspondence from SEUPB regarding the approval of the business case had been received, as outlined in Appendix I, and the PEACE IV team was liaising with SEUPB on specific clarifications.

The Peace IV Programme Manager explained that confirmation from the NIHE regarding their budget position was required to enable changes on the eMS system and an updated Letter of Offer was to be progressed.

The Members were informed that during September two key events had took place, both of which were informative, interactive, and well received. The Diversity and Inclusion workshop attended by pupils from four local schools had taken place on 14th September 2022 and included stimulating and thought-provoking discussions on the topic area.

The International Day of Peace conference had been held on 21st September 2022, as well as marking the theme of End Racism: Build Peace, the event had acknowledged the achievements of PEACE IV, considered what was next for peace building and included insights from the Permanent Secretary for the Executive Office on the importance of investing in good relations for peacebuilding. The Peace IV Programme Manager advised that the preliminary feedback from the event had been very positive and formal feedback was being progressed.

The Members noted that the delivery of all Peace IV events through the Event Management contract with Plannd had now been complete.

Any further workplan deliverables would be coordinated by the Peace IV team. The key deliverable, to explore outcome-based accountability, was being progressed through a series of two workshops on Measuring the Impact of Peace, author of the Peace Monitoring Report.

The Members were advised that resource pressures within the PEACE IV team were continuing with two vacant posts and staff sickness. The Traveller Support Officer and the CYP Thematic Manager had recently resigned.

The Members noted that, following written confirmation of the extended delivery timeframe, relevant staff contracts would be extended to March 2023 and/or June 2023 in line with business needs. This should help provide some job security for remaining staff. The Members also noted that recruitment via the Councils' Agency framework (Matrix-CR) had not identified any suitable candidates for vacant posts, as such recruitment via a specialist agency was being progressed. This approach would require approval of a Single Tender Action by both Council and SEUPB.

The financial position remained as previously reported, with expenditure of £7.87m and reimbursement of £5.9m to date. Discussions with SEUPB on the progress of the reimbursement of outstanding claims was progressing, although the Members noted that BCC resource pressures was causing some delay in responding to SEUPB requests.

The Members were advised that discussions with the BPR5 Roma project had highlighted the need for flexibility in terms of participant numbers and contact hours. The Members were requested to delegate authority to the BPR Chair and Peace IV Programme Manager to consider mitigations for the project, which will be subject to SEUPB approval.

The Partnership recommended to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee that they note the contents of the report and agree to:

- Delegate authority to the BPR Chair and Peace IV Programme Manager to consider mitigations for the Roma project.

Peace IV - Update on CYP Theme

The Partnership considered the undernoted report.

“1.0 Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues

To provide the Shared City Partnership (SCP) with a progress report in respect of the Children and Young People's (CYP) theme of the PEACE IV Local Action Plan.

2.0 Recommendations

The Partnership is requested to note the contents of the report and related appendices and recommend to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee that

- **The Tech Connects, Belfast Metropolitan College (Digital Insights Programme) is extended until 31 January 2023**

3.0 Main report

Project Updates

3.1 CYP 1 – TECH CONNECTS, GIGA Training (Afterschool's and Digital Arts Academies: Tech Camps) (6-11, 12-16 yr. olds)

Members are reminded of the estimated closure figures achieved by GIGA training and to note that the final monitoring and evaluation forms are being reviewed by Officers with an onsite visit to be scheduled subject to available resource. The delivery agent is working on completion of the final report for submission before drawing down the final payment. Members are also asked to note that all equipment including, laptops, iPads and Lego We Do Kits have been returned to Council with no damage recorded. A further update on the reuse of this equipment will be included in the next monthly report.

Delivery Agent	Sessions	Target	Completed YTD	Variance
GIGA Training	6-11-Year-Olds	494	496	+2
GIGA Training	12-16-Year-Olds	365	362	-3
Previous Delivery agent	Tech Connects 2018/2019	133	133	0
	Total	992	991	-1

CYP 1 – TECH CONNECTS, Belfast Metropolitan College (Digital Insights Programme) (17-24 yr. olds)

The delivery agent has submitted a modification request to extend the project until the end of January 2023. This is due to several challenges reported in previous papers, such as the delivery partner withdrawing and the impact of COVID etc. This will allow Belfast Metropolitan College a further opportunity to engage with young people to increase the participation hours as there is a high risk of non-achievement of the full target. This extension would fall within the current CYP Letter of Offer from SEUPB which has been extended until March 2023. Estimated number of completers has reduced to 104 from a target of 110 (95%), this would mean an underachievement of 6 against the new target. Members are also reminded of the previous target of 160, the reduction to 110 was approved in the business case submitted to SEUPB. There are currently 133 registrations received to date, with 104 forecasted to fully complete the programme. This is due to a high number of non-completers and college leavers. The college has followed up with these leavers with little success, leading to a low level of retention of young people.

Total	104 from a target of 160 104 from a target of 110 (Reduction of 50, from 160 to 110 approved in Business Case)	56 remaining against original target of 160 (Contract ends September 22) 6 remaining against target of 110 (Contract ends January 2023).
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3.2 CYP 2 – Playing our Part in the City

As previously reported the final supporting evidence from Active Communities Network has now been submitted which is being reviewed and finalised by Officers.

Total	610 young people from a target of 640 123 Parents from a target of 100	Progressing to Closure
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3.3 CYP3 – On the Right Track – Sports and Personal Change elements

Members are asked to note the formal approval from SEUPB as part of the business case to reduce the targets from 1800 to 1260. Group recruitment is continuing with sessions planned to take place in October and November. Additional groups are being approached with a condensed approach being regarded as attractive by the sports clubs since it avoids clashes with training and match dates. Group residentials have also been continuing and young participants recently took part from local water polo clubs across Belfast. As a result of this, they were able to take part in the International Day of PEACE event at the Hilton on 21 September 2022.

Total	800 from a target of 1260	460 remaining (Contract ends December 22)
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Personal Change – Delivered by Extern

As previously reported, following a review of the final report submitted by Extern, additional supporting information and evidence had been requested. This information has now been received and is with Officers for final review.

Total	42 from a target of 42	0 remaining – Progressing to Closure
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3.4 CYP 4 – Cooperation Ireland (Young Advocates)

As previously reported, a final signed closure report together with supporting evidence has now been submitted by the delivery partner and is being reviewed by Officers in order progress to the issue of final payment

Total	87 from a target of 80	+ 7 achieved – Progressing to closure
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3.5 CYP 5 – NIHE Local Area Network Partner Delivery

NIHE have completed all the outstanding procurement and is currently in the process of finalising awards to external providers. Dates of delivery will then be agreed with the young people's groups. Members should note the recent approval of the business case submitted to SEUPB which will lead to a reduction in hours

from 200 to 100, being required from Core participants. A reduction in target from 900 to 304 for participants, along with a reduction from 30 to 24 hours for peer participants has also been approved. This has been approved with a caveat that NIHE should aim to achieve the higher level of hours for peer groups as that group have the higher numbers of participants.

Total	345 from a target of 304	+ 41 over target
	143 Core Participants 202 Peer Participants	(Contract ends December 2022)

3.6 Financial and Resource Implications

Expenditure, up to Period 31, valued at £1.92m has been submitted to SEUPB for reimbursement. To date £1.665m has been reimbursed by SEUPB. Claims for Periods 30-31 valued at £262K remain outstanding and yet to be verified by SEUPB.

3.7 Equality or Good Relations Implications/ Rural Needs Assessment

The draft plan has been equality screened and discussed at the Equality Consultative Forum on 13 May 2015. The Equality Consultative Forum was further consulted on 18 Nov 2020.”

The Partnership noted the contents of the report and related appendices and recommended to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee that:

- The Tech Connects, Belfast Metropolitan College (Digital Insights Programme) be extended until 31 January 2023.

Peace IV - Update on SSS Theme

The Peace IV Programme Manager provided an update on the progress report in respect of the Shared Spaces and Services (SSS) theme of the Peace IV Local Action Plan. She advised that the implementation of both the capital and programming elements of the Shared Space and Services theme were continuing. She advised that risks associated with delivery were highlighted in the in the RAG Report (Appendix I).

The Peace IV Programme Manager referred to the Capital Works at Forth Meadow Community Greenway and advised that an initial meeting of the Springfield Dam bridge naming panel, made up of a representative of the West Area Working Group, Shared City Partnership Members, representation from funders (SEUPB and DfC), community representatives, project representation (Mediation NI) and supported by Council officers, had taken place on Tuesday 6th September 2022. The panel had agreed on an indicative timeline that would promote community awareness and contribution, and would include an article in City Matters, a drop-in session at the Dam, promotion through social media, and a possible leaflet drop in the surrounding communities. A second meeting had taken place on 6th October 2022.

In relation to the Peace IV Network Scheme, the works had started in Section 2, with the treatment of invasive species having been carried out on 19th September 2022.

Costs were being finalised with the contractors, and it was anticipated that they would be on site at the start of October 2022. Due to the delay in works, as a result of the Judicial Review, a request for an extension had been submitted to SEUPB. This had been approved and the completion date for works in Section 2 had been extended to June 2023.

The Peace IV Programme Manager further advised that the majority of works in Section 3 were complete, however, the handover to Council had been delayed due to an issue with an NIE cable and discussions were ongoing to resolve the issue.

Works in Phase 1 (Milltown Row) and Phase 3 (St James' City Farm) of Section 4 was complete and due for handover to the Council. Work on Phase 2 (Ulster Wildlife / St Galls GAA) was nearing completion with handover due by the end of October 2022.

Signage was still being considered in line with Council's language policy and the Members would be updated when more information was available.

McCadden had provided an updated branding document to be reflective of the diversity of Belfast's citizens. A copy had been included for the Members' information at Appendix III.

Public Art Pieces

The Peace IV Programme Manager informed the Members that the artist linked in with the schools listed below in September. The names of the pupils, whose designs / patterns would feature in the final piece, would be announced in the coming weeks.

- Bunscoil an tSléibhe Dhuibh
- Harmony PS
- Forth River PS
- Mercy Primary PS
- Springfield PS
- St. Clare's PS
- St. Kevin's PS
- St. Paul's PS

Work on the flagship piece was progressing and a planning application for installation had been approved at the Planning Committee meeting on 20th September 2022.

The artist has provided designs for the floor art, to feature in each of the sections (Appendix II). The Members were asked to review and comment ahead of submission to the Programme Board.

Programming

Implementation of the programming aspects were progressing.

Shared History, Heritage and Identity Content / Narratives for Shared Space

Deliverable targets	Targets achieved
300 individuals	224 recruited
Delivery of facilitated sessions (130 hrs min)	102 hours
51 narratives (3 narratives x 17 panels)	46 draft narratives
Compilation document of all stories	In progress

To date, Mediation NI and Osborne Partnership had submitted 46 narratives for review and inclusion on Information panels (Appendix IV). The final 12 draft narratives, for panels planned for Section 4, had been submitted by the project lead and were currently being reviewed. Narratives were being drafted from discussions with groups in Section 5 and would be included in the final collection of memories, stories and snippets of local history.

Shared Space Volunteer Training

Deliverable targets	Targets achieved
Sustrans	
30 volunteers (15 Walk & 15 Cycle Leads)	27 recruited across 3 groups
Volunteer Now Enterprise	
15 volunteers (Local Ambassadors)	13 recruited
The Conservation Volunteers	
15 volunteers (Nature Guides)	12 recruited

The three project leads, Sustrans, Volunteer Now and The Conservation Volunteers, had now completed their projects and were progressing to closure. Across all four projects, 52 participants from the communities along Forth Meadow Community Greenway had been trained as Walk / Cycle Leads, Local Ambassadors and Nature Guides. The next stage was to look at how the coordination of this team could be supported and was being discussed with all three project leads.

A celebration event for all the participant volunteers, had taken place on Saturday 8th October 2022, in Farset International, with the Lord Mayor and Shared City Partnership Chairperson in attendance.

Governance / Management Model

Following submission and review of the report, Senior Management had met to discuss the recommendations and consider the practical support that the Council could provide.

As reported previously, a public tender had been carried out in August to recruit a contractor who would deliver a project to implement a governance model. An assessment panel had met on 7th September 2022 and a successful contractor was identified. Approvals to award the contract were progressing under delegated authority and from SEUPB. Once approvals were in place, the successful contractor would be notified.

Youth Engagement & Civic Education

Deliverable targets	Targets achieved
400 young people	Commitment from approximately 120+ young people. 43 young people registered from Nubia / Blackmountain.

The project continued to receive interest from young people and the project was in the process of completing registration documentation for project participants from Glencairn, Ligoniel, Nubia, Charter, Willowbank, Blackmountain, St Theresa's and Hammer. There had also been interest from young people in the Greater Village area.

Youth Link had been contacting local schools and had engaged with St Genevieve's, Boys Model, Malone College and Hazelwood.

In response to feedback from older young people (17 years+) who have an interest in making a difference in their communities, Youth Link were looking into providing an OCN Leadership programme. This would help recruit this older age group and encourage sustained and meaningful participation.

SSS Activities and Animation Programme

Deliverable targets	Targets achieved
20 cross community activities/events, (to an audience of a minimum of 1200 attendees)	11 cross community activities / events to an audience of approximately 1000+ people
- 4 Public spectacle events (150 people at each) – 2 in Springfield Park	- “Luminate” event in Springfield Park – approximately 1500 people - “Swamp Festival” in Bog Meadows – approximately 1700 people - “Colour Festival” in Woodvale Park – approximately 1,000+ people
- 6 Medium sized creative animation activities / events (50-100 people at each).	- “River Clean event” – approximately 100 people - Colour Run events in Falls and Glencairn Park – approximately 500 people - “Movies in the Dam” – approx. 700 people
- 10 small community focused activities / events (30 to 50 people at each)	- “Sunflower Festival” – approximately 50 people - Foraging Walk and Big Potato Harvest in Bog Meadows – approximately 100 people - Dunville Heritage Tour and Whiskey Tasting – approximately 20 people

A programme of small and medium events / activities had been planned for October, and would include:

- Street Art Jam in Partnership with Seedhead Arts – Glencairn Park – Saturday 15 October 2022, 11:00 – 15:00. This would involve young people working with artists to create large scale canvasses themed around the Greenway and would go on display at the Finale Event.
- Finale Event – Springfield Park – Saturday 22 October 2022 – a colourful and energetic Mexican Day of the Dead Festival. There would also be a wide variety of activities for all the family to enjoy, including live music, stage performances, dance, food vendors, entertainers, pumpkin carving, arts and crafts, face painting and a spectacular fire dance finale.
- Sustrans would be facilitating a “Spooks on Spokes” event, with the Cycle Leaders, but the details were still to be finalised.

Resource Allocation

Feedback from interested groups / organisations had been requested and had helped with identifying options on how this resource would be used to support community activities. Through the approved delegated authority to the Programme Board, these options would be

reviewed, and the next steps approved. An update would be provided to the Members in due course.

T:BUC Engagement Forum

SSS Programming had been asked to speak at the T:BUC Engagement Forum, on behalf of The Executive Office, on Tuesday 20th September in the Stormont Hotel. The focus of the event was the UN Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDG) and their role in promoting good relations locally. It was felt that the Forth Meadow Greenway was a very strong example of utilising environmental issues to address good relations work by promoting and supporting good relations through shared space and connectivity.

Expenditure to date within the SSS theme totalled £2.7m up to the Period 31 SSS claim, with £1.9m reimbursed to date. Therefore, the total expenditure outstanding for verification and reimbursement was £833k.

The Partnership recommended to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee that they note the contents of the report and related appendices.

The Members were asked to review the floor art designs (Appendix II) and provide comments.

Peace IV - Update on BPR Theme

The Partnership considered the undernoted report.

“1.0 Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues

To provide the Shared City Partnership (SCP) with a progress report in respect of the Building Positive Relations (BPR) theme of the PEACE IV Local Action Plan.

2.0 Recommendations

The Partnership is requested to recommend to the Strategic Policy & Resources Committee that they note the contents of the report and related appendices and agree:

BPR 1 & CYP 5 NIHE

- **the extension and revised approach for delivery to December 2022.**

BPR 5- Lincs NI Alternatives

- **request for a further extension to the project until the end of November 2022 to allow completion of all deliverables**

BPR 5- Roma Forward South partnership

- **Request to extend the project until end of December to ensure completion of all remaining elements.**

BPR Cinematography – Morrow

- **request for a further extension to the project until the end of December to ensure completion of all remaining filming**

3.0 Main report

Key Issues

The status and progress with projects are outlined in Appendix I BPR-RAG Report.

Projects are at various stages of delivery; some projects are completing, whilst activity is continuing with other projects. Members should note that participation and retention levels continue to be impacted by Covid 19 with ongoing sickness and isolation, as necessary.

3.1 BPR1 – Cross Community Area Networks (CCAN)

Participation levels remain consistent with recent increases in participants to 127/144 and 354/900 peer participants across the CCAN's.

The approval of the business case submitted to SEUPB to reduce participants from 1044 to 585 and contact hours 200 to 120 hours per Core participant will assist in the achievement of deliverables for the project and enable the process of working on revised Letters of Offer to NIHE.

NIHE are to forward a copy of the reduced budgets proposed for both CYP & BPR, related to an extension to deliver to December 2022.

The recent challenges with EAST Belfast Network have progressed positively with the Diamond Ladies and Short Strand groups confirming they are interested in progressing further with TIDES. To enable progression of deliverables, a condensed delivery which has previously been approved, may be adopted.

The request to extend to December 2022 will ensure contract and outlined targets are achieved.

3.2 BPR2 – Creative Communities Project

The artist for the Football cluster continues to work with the steering group leads and engagement remains positive.

The East Belfast Radius cluster closure/unveiling event took place on the 24th September 2022. The artwork and panels were unveiled to Global Crescent and Cantrell Close participants from Radius. The artwork is a true celebration and beautiful representation of works for people across the community.

The steering group members from the Carlisle group met with the Peace IV Thematic and Programme managers and have made the decision not to progress with the cluster. This is mainly due to other priorities and personal circumstances. The Project Support officer is pursuing other potential clusters and whilst time is

limited, a condensed approach to the delivery of a new cluster may support final targets and achievements of overall deliverables.

The decision on the business case to SEUPB is welcomed with a reduction in participant numbers and hours agreed. The hours reduced from 60 to 42 and participant numbers agreed as 144 instead of 264.

As noted, the facilitation quotation received nil submissions. An alternate approach has been suggested to use this resource to increase and reengage participants across Ardoyne, Divis and Lower Shankill by commissioning an artist to work on additional activities and events.

Participant numbers and contact hours are under review.

3.3 BPR3 – Transform for Change Project

Transformative Leadership Programme

The local projects developed through the Action Plans continue to be delivered. The North Belfast conversations completed their video with NVTV and aired the film at an organised community event on 15th September 2022. See link in Appendix II- North Belfast Conversations.

The £16k combined activity is scheduled to take place on 8th October at Alexandra Park.

The Cliftonville Primary school event was completed on the 24th of September. Remaining projects continue as agreed throughout October and into November for completion.

Activity has progressed with the Black Gates project at Suffolk/Lenadoon, and artwork has been completed by the children. Kidstogether and Suffolk community group are to liaise to organise a suitable date for a community engagement event which will incorporate the appointed artist.

The residential took place on 27-29 September in Derry/Londonderry with final figures showing 17 participants attended. The residential enabled participants to put their learning into practice by visits to Creggan Enterprises and the New Gate arts projects. Both community organisations hosted the groups and discussed transformation and leadership within the context of their experiences within their organisations.

The two remaining study visits have been rescheduled for October with the Coleraine visit remaining as a preferred option.

Submission of a payment request has been made by the delivery partner and as agreed previously, a 30% payment will be progressed. The current penalties are in the region of £26k and the

partner has been advised. It is recognised that Covid and ongoing challenges have impacted final figures.

However, positive returns are shown for case studies and cluster reports and 42/45 TLP courses have been completed.

Verification and collation of monitoring and evaluation data remains a significant piece of work that will take time to progress, as staff shortages in this area continue to impact.

3.4 BPR4 –BATW-Facilitation

The Belfast and the World project is complete with a final meeting scheduled with the lead to progress any gaps. The verification of targets indicates all deliverables achieved including the development of a Learning resource to reflect the experiences and learning throughout the Belfast and the World project. All civic and community events have been completed with 173 participants completing over 21 hrs each.

The return on the business case stipulated no variances for the final engagement hours therefore 147 completed 26hrs or more and 36 completed between 20-25hrs.

Corrymeela is continuing with active engagement from BATW participants to support the residentials, and study visits. The Dublin and Cork residentials are now complete with 38 participants attending across the two events. The feedback captured has been positive.

Most recently, a participant was interviewed as part of the wider Peace celebrations on the International Day of Peace. The participant spoke to both the learning and experiences gained through the BATW project and the shared learning experienced through the Cork residential.

The Somme Heritage Centre study visit is scheduled for the 29th October and the North coast visit for the 8th October. When they have taken place, the facilitation element from Corrymeela will be complete.

3.5 BPR5 – Supporting Connected Communities - LINCS Project

The request to extend the project to November 2022 was made to ensure delivery of the final shared learning event and that all deliverables in terms of participant numbers and engagement hours are achieved. The leadership and capacity building continues and within with this extended window, further learning will be viable.

Planning for a closure / final shared learning event is underway and is now proposed for the 20th October 2022 in C.S Lewis Square. Details and invites are to be finalised.

The current reported figures indicate targets are nearly achieved with 91/96 participants completing over 68hrs each. This is pending verification of data.

3.6 BPR5 – Traveller Project - Supporting Connected Communities

The Empowering Young Women workshop series is complete and exhibition materials have been approved. The exhibition is scheduled for the 3rd of October at Culturlann in west Belfast and is a smaller scale event for participants, local communities and families. However, this exhibition will also feature at the end event in the City Hall on the 18th October, as part of the showcasing of all workshop exhibitions.

Delivery of the Health and Wellbeing workshop has been paused due to personal circumstances impacting those attending this series of workshops. The Project support officer is working with the Heart project to ensure completion of all workshops and exhibition materials in time for both launching their completed works but also ensuring the exhibition is ready for the closure event. 7 sessions were completed, and scheduled activity up to early October 2022.

The quotation for Parallel Lives, as reported received nil submissions given the remaining period for delivery and the lack of appetite from the supporting networks/organisations, it is unlikely this workshop will be achieved.

The remaining community event scoping exercise and engagement directly with travellers is ongoing. The project support officer is to secure travellers that wish to be involved in the design of this final community event.

The celebration of the traveller project will take place in a final showcasing of all exhibitions achieved through the workshops. This is scheduled for the 18th October at City Hall, and further invites will be issued in due course.

Participant registrations are 32/40 all completing 26hrs or more engagement.

3 of 4 workshops and exhibitions have been awarded
3 of 4 community events achieved
1 intercultural event achieved

Attendee numbers across community events to be calculated

3.7 BPR5 – Roma Project - Supporting Connected Communities

The Roma project was scheduled to complete end of September, the request to extend delivery to December 2022 is to ensure that the delivery partner achieves all deliverables outlined in the contract and has sufficient time to organise an event to celebrate

the achievements of the Roma participants. Forward South partnership have agreed this approach.

Further activity was filmed to capture the participants attending the English language classes. The completed clips for the recent excursion to Lady Dixons Park is a very positive reflection of the engagement and participation across this community.

Recent developments indicate that the current position requires further engagement sessions and more activity to help reach training targets. It is hoped this extended time will support successful completion of overall contract.

Update on deliverables:

3 of 4 intercultural events complete

2 of 2 community policing meetings- reports submitted. These reports indicate the engagement across the community from both Roma and other residents as well as representation from other community groups. Discussions on key issues pertaining to the community are reviewed within this meeting, subsequent reports are issued.

20 participants completing 28hrs of Capacity building engagement: 14 complete, 5 with numbers between 20-26hrs.

21 out of the required 12 participants are registered for English conversational Classes, however attendance is very sporadic. Currently only 1 participant has achieved the required 28hrs of engagement.

5 participants to complete Advice training, sessions are ongoing.

The Hub continues with significant Advice information shared indicating a diverse set of needs being addressed/supported. This element is now noted as completed within the Roma contract. The hub will continue under Good Relations funding.

Trackers currently indicate targets for training elements in Advice, English language and capacity building have yet to be achieved, the extension should support achievement of these targets.

3.8 BPR6 – St. Comgalls

Project delivery is continuing with two seminars and networking events taking place in September – Sport & Positive Change and St Comgall's Tour & Talk.

The requested reduction to 32 hours as per the business case submitted to SEUPB has been approved. A full consolidated tracker for all activity has been requested from the project which should be provided shortly and will give a picture of the remaining hours needing to be achieved.

The project has submitted further information that is currently being considered by Officers to go into a report alongside the Exhibition and Education Resource materials, for the Programme Board to consider approval.

3.9 Cinematography Project

Filming of suitable opportunities to capture the Belfast Peace Journey is continuing and an extension to the end of December will allow for more filming of NIHE projects to be included in the final outputs.

The main deliverables to be achieved is a short story film per project which are being finalised in line with each project closure.

A thematic film for the CYP theme was showcased on International Day of Peace event on 21 September and hosted on the BCC YouTube channel (App III). BPR and SSS clips and an overall Programme film will be delivered by the end of the contract.

3.10 Financial and Resource Implications

Expenditure to date within the BPR theme totals £2.95m up to Period 31 SSS claim, with £2.37m reimbursed. Therefore, the total expenditure outstanding for verification by SEUPB, for Periods 28-31 claims is valued at £840K.

3.11 Equality or Good Relations Implications/ Rural Needs Assessment

The draft plan has been equality screened and discussed at the Equality Consultative Forum on 13 May 2015. The Equality Consultative Forum was further consulted on 18 November 2020.”

The Partnership recommended to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee that it note the contents of the report and related appendices and agree the following proposals:

BPR 1 & CYP 5 NIHE

- The extension and revised approach for delivery to December 2022.

BPR 5- Lincs NI Alternatives

- Request for a further extension to the project until the end of November 2022 to allow completion of all deliverables.

BPR 5- Roma Forward South partnership

- Request to extend the project until end of December 2022 to ensure completion of all Remaining elements.

BPR Cinematography – Morrow

- Request for a further extension to the project until the end of December 2022 to ensure completion of all remaining filming.

Quarter 2 Report on the Delivery of the Council's Good Relations Action Plan

The Good Relations Officer updated the Members on the delivery of the Good Relations Action Plan during Quarter 2 which covered the period July – September 2022.

The Members recalled that the Council received funding from The Executive Office for the delivery of its annual Good Relations Action Plan. The total value of the Action Plan was £767,584.36. Of this, £495,000 was available for programme costs. The remainder supported the salaries and administration of 6 staff.

The Members also recalled at its last update in August that £235,546.50 had been allocated for projects in Quarter 1. The delivery of the Action Plan had continued during Quarter 2, with a further £153,145 being allocated during this Quarter for Good Relations projects. Therefore, the total allocated for Good Relations projects for Q1 and Q2 was £388,691.50.

The Good Relations Officer provided context around the high-level overview of the progress, outlined below, that had been made in each programme within the Action Plan in Quarter 2. Further details on groups awarded funding, and the amounts, was contained in a more detailed table and is attached as an appendix. The Quarter 1 appendix was also attached for reference.

Code	Project Summary	Budget	Progress in Quarter 2	Total allocated in Q2
BCC1	Council Good Relations Grants Programme.	£120,000	30 projects undergoing ongoing delivery	£0
BCC2	St Patrick's Day Celebration programme	£30,000	Activity due to take place in Q3 & Q4.	£0
BCC3	Cultural Expression Programme	£50,000	Beacon Programme delivered. Cultural Inclusion programme for the broad Unionist Community, to include training, mentoring, capacity building and cultural events is underway.	£0 £29,925
BCC4	Civic Engagement and Learning Programme	£38,000	A number of events are either planned or have been delivered in Q2.	£0
BCC5	Inclusion Programme	£54,000	September meeting of migrant forum took place Award to MEARS for work with Asylum Seekers living in hotels Allocation to Roma Support Hub	£0 £19,970 £12,000

BCC6	Shared City Building Relations Programme	£40,000	Programmed funded in Q1 being delivered. Aware to the Red Cross to undertake orientation and casework for asylum seekers	£0 £20,000
BCC7	Interface Engagement	£70,000	Programme of engagement in East Belfast approved in August Programme for NBIN and TACIT	£15,000 £9,500
BCC8	Shared Education Schools Programme	£25,000	Programme for 22/23 year agreed and being delivered.	£25,000
BCC 9	Strategic Intervention Programme	£48,000	3 projects in East Belfast	£12,000
BCC10	Civic Leadership	£20,000	The Good Relations Audit under way.	£9,750
		£495,000		£153,145

That Members noted the contents of this report.

Christmas Interface Events and Strategic Intervention Projects

The Good Relations Officer informed the Partnership of further project proposals for Christmas Interface Events, that have been developed as part of the Good Relations Action Plan within the BCC7 Interface Projects element and to note an allocation of £2,000 towards New Lodge Arts for their annual Lantern Parade, £7,000 to Morningside Community Project under BCC9 Strategic Intervention and £5,000 towards WAVE for a programme of engagement with young people under BCC5.

The Members recalled the Interfaces Programme (BCC7) within the Good Relations Action Plan. As with previous years, there was demand within a number of organisations who wished to undertake events around the Christmas period. Officers continued to work with groups to generate proposals for this part of the Action Plan and a number of submissions had been received.

Based on previous years, the maximum budget available for the Christmas events was £1,500. Proposals being recommended for funding under this measure were:

- £1,500 for Colin Neighbourhood Partnership for a cross community Christmas event for children from neighbouring communities;
- £1,225 for Dunmurry Community Association for an intercultural and cross community Christmas party for children and families from different backgrounds within the wider Dunmurry area;
- £1,500 for Suffolk Community Forum for a cross interface Christmas event with the families of those involved in their Men's Shed project with Lenadoon, The Plough from Grosvenor and the Upper Springfield Healthy Living Centre;

- £1,495 for Holy Family Community Centre for a Winter Wonderland event for children and young people from cross community backgrounds and multi-ethnic perspective, held in the community centre. There would also be a series of stands providing information and support pointers to people dealing with the cost of living; and
- £1,500 towards Finaghy Residents group for a Winter Engagement Event aimed at promoting ongoing contact and relations between neighbouring communities.

The Members also recalled the Strategic Intervention Programme under BCC9. At its September meeting, £10,000 was allocated for projects in North Belfast. This left £2,000 within the North Belfast allocation. This remaining amount was being allocated to New Lodge Arts for their annual Lantern Parade to take place in October, around the Halloween period.

In addition, the remaining allocation for South Belfast of £7,000 would support the delivery of a project led by Mornington Community Group, engaging women in a 6-month project developing relations between women from diverse community and ethnic backgrounds. Mornington Women's Group, a cross community group based in the Lower Ormeau area, would be the primary group, with engagement from a diverse range of other women's groups in the area, including Indian Women's Association, Donegall Pass and Sandy Row Women's Group, and the Roma Support Hub. These projects had been approved through the agreed delegated authority.

Under BCC5, a project to the value of up to £5,000 had been discussed with WAVE for a programme of engagement with young people from a number of different interface areas across the City, including activities around Christmas time and a number of follow-up engagement activities. Given the need for engagement with this sector, Members were asked to approve the allocation of £5,000.

The Members were reminded that at previous meetings, a total of £57,015 has been allocated to projects under the BCC7 Interfaces Programme. There was a total budget of £70,000 in this programme.

The Partnership noted the contents of the report and recommended to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee that funding be awarded for the following projects as part of the Interfaces element of the Good Relations Action Plan:

- BCC7: Christmas Interface Events for the following groups:
 - Colin Neighbourhood Partnership: £1,500
 - Dunmurry Community Association: £1,225
 - Suffolk Community Forum: £1,500.
 - Holy Family Community Centre: £1,495
 - Finaghy Resident Group £1,500
- To note the allocation of £2,000 to New Lodge Arts for their annual Lantern Parade under BCC9, Strategic Intervention Programme under delegated authority.
- To note the allocation of £7,000 to Mornington Community Project to support their 'Learning through Engagement Project', bringing together women from diverse backgrounds in South Belfast, under BCC9, Strategic Intervention Programme under delegated authority.

- To approve the allocation of £5,000 to WAVE Trauma Centre for a project of engagement with young people from a number of interface areas who had been impacted by the conflict.

Update on PEACE PLUS
Co-designed Local Community Peace
Action Plan for Belfast

Ms. T. Hogg, Blu Zebra, informed the Members on the development of the PEACEPLUS Local Community PEACE Action Plan and the recent workshop that the Members attended.

Ms. T. Hogg informed the Members that a total of 16 co-design engagement sessions had been planned between the 17th and 24th October which would include sessions with Section 75 and Thematic Groups. The purpose of these engagement workshops was to receive input from stakeholders on how the local PEACE Action Plan should be developed. The detail of these events had been shared on the Council website, via social media and through community contacts and would be advertised in the local media over the next week. A Member raised the matter of engagement and accessibility in terms of some of the target groups. It was agreed that there was a need to reach out to as many groups, areas of interest and specific communities as possible and it was acknowledged that this can be challenging.

The Members were asked to provide feedback on the content of the workshop which discussed the Co-Design stages, the vision for Belfast PEACEPLUS Local Community Action Plan and role of the Shared City Partnership to develop the Plan. A number of the Members raised the need for political will and buy-in and there was agreement that the vision should start with compassion, and should be inclusive while making it clear that the programme was timebound and could only contribute to PEACE and Reconciliation and would be unable to achieve things such as Belfast being free from the legacy of the conflict. There was also opportunity to learn from Peace IV. It was also advised that the vision should align with what the PEACE PLUS Programme would be measuring as outcomes and the Belfast Agenda.

Ms. T. Hogg stated she would need a longer session with the Shared City Partnership to bed down the rationale, and in the meantime would issue a survey to the Members to complete.

The Chairman asked the Partnership if it agreed to sign-off on the proposed stakeholder engagement plan to which the Members unanimously agreed.

The Members noted the contents of this report and agreed to share the stakeholder engagement workshops with key contacts and attend public information sessions if available. The Members also agreed to provide feedback on the draft vision for Belfast PEACEPLUS and participatory role of the Shared City Partnership as discussed at the recent Shared City Partnership workshop.

The Chairperson acknowledged that the Good Relations Manager had secured a promotion and would be moving into a new role and this would be her last Shared City Partnership meeting as Good Relations Manager.

Chairperson

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Minutes of Meeting of Party Group Leaders' Consultative Forum Thursday 13th October 2022

Attendance

Members:

Councillor Ciaran Beattie
Councillor Billy Hutchinson
Councillor Michael Long
Alderman George Dorrian
Councillor Mal O'Hara
Councillor Donal Lyons
Alderman Sonia Copeland
Councillor Fiona Ferguson

Apologies: Councillor Emmet McDonough-Brown.

Officers:

John Tully, Director of City & Organisational Strategy
Trevor Wallace, Head of Finance (for Item 1)
Sinead Grimes, Director of Physical Programmes (for Items 3, 4 & 7)
Cathy Reynolds, Director City Regeneration & Development (for Item 4)
Christine Sheridan, Head of Human Resources (for Item 5)
Nora Largey, Interim City Solicitor/Director of Legal and Civic Services (for Items 6 & 7)

1. Finance Update

The Head of Finance advised that work has commenced on the estimates for 2023/24 and an initial report outlining the 2023/24 rate setting process was presented to September SP&R committee. He advised that at that meeting it was agreed that the Committee would receive monthly rate update reports to enable the striking of the district rate by February 2023. He provided an update on the key issues influencing the rate setting process since the September update in relation to uncontrollable costs and outlined the timelines in relation to the first draft EPP. A report on the updates provided will be presented to October SP&R Committee.

2. Sustain Exchange Climate Business Conference Funding Agreement

The Director of City & Organisational Strategy provided an update on a recent request for funding that was considered at September SP&R Committee to provide support to the climate business conference 'Sustain Exchange' in Belfast as an Event Partner. Members noted that

this request had been deferred in order for Officers to obtain further information on other potential funders. The Director provided an update on the query raised at SP&R Committee in relation to other funders and advised that this would be presented to October SP&R Committee for Members to further consider.

3. Neighbourhood Regeneration Fund

The Director of Physical Programmes provided an update for Members on the Neighbourhood Regeneration Fund designed to support capital projects within the Belfast City Council area. She outlined the next steps now that the application process has closed and submissions have been assessed by Officers. The outcome of assessments will be brought to Special Area Working Groups which are currently being arranged in order for Members to consider and make recommendations for funding to SP&R Committee for approval. There were a number of queries raised by Members in relation to the programme and levels of investment to which the Director provided clarity on the queries raised. It was also requested by a Member that the scoring for each of the submissions is provided to the Area Working Groups in order to help inform the decision making process, this was noted by the Director. Members thanked the Director and her team for all the work that has gone in to progressing the Neighbourhood Regeneration Fund.

4. Peace PLUS/Shared Island

The Director of City & Organisational Strategy provided an update on the applications made to the Shared Island Funding scheme that Belfast City Council supported and are a partner to. Members noted those applications that had been successful and had secured funding.

The Director also provided an update in relation to PEACEPLUS Investment Area 1.4 (Reimagining Communities). He outlined for Members recent feedback received from SEUPB following the submission of the Pre-Development support Concept Note that had been put forward following engagement with Party Group Leaders. Members discussed the selected projects brought forward under the concept process, the feedback received and the challenging timeframes involved for the formal application process. The Director of Physical Programmes and the Director City Regeneration & Development provided an update on the proposed applications and key next steps. A report on the detail discussed will be brought to October SP&R Committee for consideration.

5. Agency Contract

The Director of City & Organisational Strategy provided a briefing in relation to the service provider for the provisions of temporary agency resources. The Head of Human Resources advised that the current contract was due to expire in March 2023 and that a request will be submitted to October SP&R in order to seek an extension to the contract to allow for the development of an agency strategy. She also outlined for Members the programme of work being undertaken and the proposed mechanisms in order to reduce spend and tighten controls for agency usage. Following detailed discussion a number of queries were raised by a Member in relation to the programme of work outlined and the Head of Human Resources provided clarity on those issues raised. The request for extension will be included the October Contacts report that will be presented to SP&R Committee.

6. Planning Update

The City Solicitor updated the Forum on the live planning applications and informed the Forum of applications that were being presented to the Planning Committee in October and November. She also highlighted some of the current challenges in relation to the implementation of the Replacement Planning Portal (new Planning IT system) and the risks involved. Members also noted an update in relation to resourcing within the planning team.

7. AOB

Black Mountain Shared Space

The Director of Physical Programmes provided an update on the Black Mountain Shared Space (BMSS) project which had secured funding under the Peace IV Programme. She outlined a number of significant challenges in relation to the project which could not have been foreseen due to the current market volatility. There was detailed discussion on the options that could potentially be explored to address the challenges being experienced. A report on the challenges and options discussed will be presented to October SP&R Committee.

Beechvale Farm

The Director of Physical Programmes provided an update on a disposal of agricultural land at Beechvale Farm that was agreed by SP&R Committee in June 2022. She outlined for

Members an amendment to the disposal following consultation with both Legal Services and Estates Management. Members noted the amendment to the disposal.

A member raised a query in relation to the retained areas of the site in line with environmental ambitions. The Director advised that work was ongoing to consider options in relation the retained lands and further details on this to be brought back to SP&R Committee in due course.

Belfast Waterfront Hall

The Director of City & Organisational Strategy raised an issue in relation to the constitution for the selection panel for the recruitment of the Chairperson of Belfast Waterfront and Ulster Hall Ltd. Party Group Leaders to consider a nominee for the selection panel and advise the Director of Economic Development in advance of the panel dates outlined.

Marking Human Rights Day

The City Solicitor advised that a request had been received from a Member to fly two flags from City Hall, namely the UN Flag and a Human Rights Flag, on the 10 December, in order to mark Human Rights Day 2022. Members noted that the same request was approved by SP&R Committee last year. A report will go to October SP&R Committee for approval.

Elected Member Disability Working Group

The City Solicitor provided an update for Members on the Elected Member Disability Working Group which is to be established and resourced by Legal and Civic Services. Party Group Leaders to consider nominations for the Working Group and to forward these to City Solicitor and the Senior Democratic Services Officer.



Belfast
City Council

Subject:	Human Rights Day 2022
Date:	21st October, 2022
Reporting Officer:	Nora Largey, Interim City Solicitor and Director of Legal and Civic Services
Contact Officer:	Aisling Milliken, Functions and Exhibition Manager

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

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	The purpose of this report is to seek the Committee's approval to fly the Human Rights Day flag and the United Nations flag from the City Hall on 10th December to mark Human Rights Day 2022.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is asked to approve the flying of the Human Rights Day flag and the United Nations flag from the City Hall on Saturday 10th December, 2022.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p><u>Background</u></p> <p>December 10th marks the anniversary of the ratification of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Since 2018, a global campaign has called for civic buildings to mark the day by flying a dedicated flag which was created in partnership with the United Nations and organisations like Amnesty International to celebrate universal human rights.</p>

3.2	The Committee approved the same request in November 2021 and both flags were flown on 10th December, 2021.
3.3	The Committee is recommended to approve this request.
	<u>Financial and Resource Implications</u>
3.4	None.
	<u>Equality and Good Relations / Rural Needs Implications</u>
3.5	None.
4.0	Documents Attached
	None



Subject:	Ulster-Scots Language Week Exhibition
Date:	21st October, 2022
Reporting Officer:	Nora Largey, Interim City Solicitor and Director of Legal and Civic Services
Contact Officer:	Aisling Milliken Functions and Exhibition Manager Michael Johnston, Language Officer

Restricted Reports

Is this report restricted?

Yes

☐

No

☒

If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?

After Committee Decision

After Council Decision

Sometime in the future

Never

☐
☐
☐
☐

Call-in

Is the decision eligible for Call-in?

Yes

☒

No

☐

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to seek approval to display an Ulster Scots exhibition on the main marble area of the City Hall to celebrate Ulster-Scots Language Week.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	It is recommended that the Committee grant approval for an Ulster-Scots exhibition to be displayed at the reception area in the City Hall during Ulster-Scots Language Week (21 st to 28 th November 2022).
3.0	Main Report
	<u>Background</u>

	<p>The Council launched its Language Strategy in April 2018. The Strategy commits to establishing a transparent set of principles for promoting, protecting, and enhancing the linguistic diversity of the city. There are five language strands within the Strategy including Ulster-Scots.</p> <p>In the Language Action Plan, the Council has committed to providing events and exhibitions to promote language, heritage, and culture.</p>
3.1	<p><u>Exhibition Display in the City Hall</u></p> <p>An exhibition display showcasing Ulster-Scots Belfast Placenames has been proposed by Small Steps. The exhibition would consist of framed photographs showing Ulster-Scots placenames in different areas in Belfast. The framed photographs would be displayed on exhibition panels provided by Small Steps.</p> <p>In 2019, the Council funded a pocket Ulster-Scots Placenames booklet published by the Ulster-Scots Agency. These booklets would be on display in the exhibition area for members of the public to pick up during Ulster-Scots Language Week.</p> <p>The Equality and Diversity Unit has raised this request with Corporate Communications and Good Relations and no concerns have been raised.</p> <p>We are requesting that this exhibition display be approved.</p>
4.1	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>All costs related to this event would be met from existing budgets.</p>
5.1	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
6.0	<p><u>Document attached</u></p>
	<p>Samples of proposed exhibition content</p>

Ulster-Scots Language Week Exhibition

Belfast has a rich Ulster-Scots heritage which stretches back over 400 years. For centuries, the town's population was largely Ulster-Scots, both in identity and speech; and the impact of this can be seen today in the Ulster-Scots place names that can be found all over the city.

Ulster-Scots Place Names in Belfast.

The names the Ulster-Scots of Belfast gave to features in the landscape, or to their homes or to streets that they built, have left a legacy that bears witness to the strong Scottish character of the city.

In North Belfast, on the slopes of the Cave Hill, brae (hillside) appears prominently, while in East Belfast, on the shore of the Lagan and Belfast Lough, strand (beach) provides many names. There are burns (small streams) all over the city, including Purdysburn, Minnowburn and Wedderburn in South Belfast.

The Knock (prominent hill) in East Belfast also provided many street names. Big houses were often named for a nearby geographical feature or an association with Scotland. These included Glencairn (after the Cunningham seat in Dumfriesshire) and Maryburn in West Belfast and Strathearn and Netherleigh in East Belfast. In turn they influenced the names of nearby streets.

Belfast also has over one hundred streets which are named after places in Scotland, many containing Scots language elements, including Braemar, Langholm, Lochinver, Merkland, Selkirk, and Stratheden.

Many more Ulster-Scots place names, no longer reflected in official street names, also survive in the historical record or in the memory of older Belfast people.

The North Belfast Photographic Exhibition (Ulster-Scots Street Names) reflects these street names with a photo of each location.



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Belfast
City Council

Subject:	Requests for Use of the City Hall and the Provision of Hospitality
Date:	21st October, 2022
Reporting Officer:	Nora Largey, Interim City Solicitor and Director of Legal and Civic Services
Contact Officer:	Aisling Milliken, Functions and Exhibition Manager

Restricted Reports

Is this report restricted?

Yes ☐ No ☒

If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?

After Committee Decision
After Council Decision
Sometime in the future
Never

☐
☐
☐
☐

Call-in

Is the decision eligible for Call-in?

Yes ☒ No ☐

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	This report and the attached appendix contain the recommended approach in respect of each of the requests by external organisations for access to the City Hall function rooms received up to 7th October 2022.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is asked to approve the recommendations, as set out in the attached appendix.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p><u>Background Information</u></p> <p>The current criteria for use of the function rooms used to review external applications is:</p> <p>Functions Permitted</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> functions which support other events in the City and which are of demonstrable economic benefit to Belfast whether organised by the Council or not;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • functions which demonstrably enhance the City's image nationally or internationally as a desirable commercial, business or tourist destination; • functions designed to celebrate or commemorate a notable achievement or significant anniversary (25, 50, 100 years) by an organisation or body with close links to the city or province; and • functions organised by recognised local community or voluntary sector groups for non-profit and non-political purposes
3.2	<p>Functions Not Permitted</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • conferences, meetings, seminars, performances, wedding receptions, private parties or receptions and similar booking requests in the prestige function rooms; • functions, which have as their principal purpose the generation of commercial gain for the organisers. Charity-fundraising functions are managed by the Lord Mayor's Office; • functions which have no compelling links to the Council or the City specifically and which could instead use local private sector facilities; • functions which have as their primary purpose the advancement of any political or religious cause or campaign or are otherwise potentially contentious or involve significant reputation risks for the Council; and • functions which involve exceptionally large or disruptive set-ups or pose a real and tangible risk to the fabric of the building or grounds <p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>3.3 The existing revised criteria and scale of charges have been applied to the various requests received and the recommendations herein are offered to the Committee on this basis for approval.</p> <p>The attached schedule covers six applications for functions, scheduled for 2022, 2023 and 2024.</p> <p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>3.4 None.</p> <p><u>Equality and Good Relations / Rural Needs Implications</u></p> <p>3.5 None.</p>
4.0	Documents Attached
	Schedule of function requests received up to 7th October, 2022

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OCTOBER 2022 CITY HALL FUNCTION APPLICATIONS

NAME OF ORGANISATION	FUNCTION DATE	FUNCTION DESCRIPTION	CRITERIA MET	ROOM CHARGE	HOSPITALITY OFFERED	CIVIC HQ RECOMMEND
2022 EVENTS						
Department of International Trade	17 November 2022	Northern Ireland Export Champion launch to showcase Northern Ireland Export Champion's contribution to exporting to the Northern Ireland business community. Numbers attending – 100	B	Charge £115	No hospitality	Approve Charge £115 No hospitality
NI Housing Executive	22 November 2022	Peace IV Building Positive Relations programme is in partnership with Belfast City Council – Launch of Project presentations for participants in the programme Numbers attending – 120	B	Charge £115	No hospitality	Approve Charge £115 No hospitality
Chartered Institute of Marketing Ireland	30 November 2022	Celebration of 50 Years of CIM Ireland - drinks and networking reception to acknowledge work of CIM. Numbers attending – 50	B and C	Charge £300	Yes, Wine Reception as significant anniversary	Approve Charge £300 Wine Reception <i>£500 given to their chosen caterer for wine on arrival</i>
2023 EVENTS						
An Droichead	4 March 2023	An Droichead 30th Anniversary Gala dinner – a leading Irish language organisation in Ireland. Numbers attending – 200	B & C	No charge - Complimentary as Charity	Yes, Wine Reception as significant anniversary	Approve No Charge Wine Reception <i>£500 given to their chosen caterer for wine on arrival</i>

OCTOBER 2022 CITY HALL FUNCTION APPLICATIONS

International Association of Gaming Advisors (IAGA)	20 June 2023	Conference Welcome Reception for guests attending their 3-day conference taking place in ICC Belfast. Numbers attending - 200	A &B	No (waived as linked to Visit Belfast)	No hospitality	Approve No Charge No hospitality
2024 EVENTS						
British Hip Society	28 February 2024	Conference Welcome Reception and Dinner for guests attending their 3-day conference taking place in Belfast. Numbers attending – 40	A &B	No (Waived as linked to Visit Belfast)	No hospitality	Approve No Charge No hospitality

All Party Working Group on the City Centre

Friday, 7th October, 2022

ALL PARTY WORKING GROUP ON THE CITY CENTRE MINUTES HELD REMOTELY VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

Members present: Aldermen Copeland;
Councillors de Faoite, Long, McCann, McCullough, and O'Hara.

In attendance: Mr. J. Walsh, Chief Executive
Mrs. C. Reynolds, Director of City Regeneration
Mr. J. Greer, Director of Economic Development
Ms. D. Kelly, Programme Manager
Mr. D. Sales, Director of Neighbourhood Services
Mr. K. Heaney, Head of Inclusive Growth and Anti-Poverty
Ms. N. Doak, Portfolio and Programme Co-ordinator
Ms. K. Gilliland, Neighbourhood Services Manager
Mr. J. Uprichard, Business and Research Development
Manager
Mrs. D. Smith, Neighbourhood Service Integration Manager
Mr. S. Leonard, Neighbourhood Services Manager
Mrs. C. Donnelly, Democratic Services Officer;
Mrs. G. Boyd, Democratic Services Officer.

Election of Chairperson

It was proposed by Councillor de Faoite and seconded by Councillor Copeland that Councillor O'Hara be appointed as the Chairperson to the All-Party Working Group on the City Centre from October, 2022 until the Local Government Elections, scheduled to be held in May 2023.

(Councillor O'Hara in chair.)

Apologies

Apologies for an inability to attend the meeting were received from Councillor Hutchinson and Councillor Beattie. Councillor McCann attended in Councillor Beattie's absence.

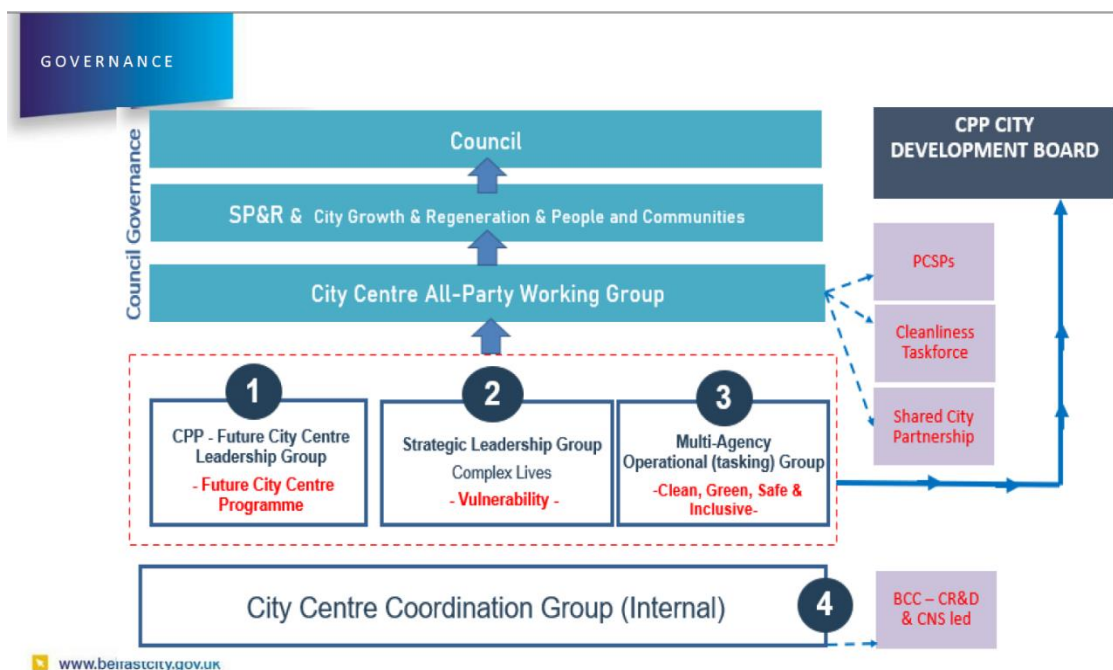
Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were recorded.

Governance

The Chief Executive welcomed the Members to the first meeting of the working group. He referred the Members of the group to the Terms of Reference document that had been circulated in advance and advised that the ToR had been agreed at August 2022 meeting of

the Strategic Policy and Resources committee. The Members agreed that the Group should meet monthly in the short term, rather than quarterly as set out in the ToR. The Chair requested that Build Heritage be added as a key focus to the ToR. He drew their attention to the overarching role of the City Centre All-Party Members Working Group, to identify and prioritise issues and opportunities to address specific needs with the aim of regenerating and improving the vibrancy of the city centre. He continued that these would be linked to the Council's growth aspirations and the Community Planning Partnership – City Development Board including the Future City Centre Leadership Group.



The Chief Executive and the Director of City Regeneration and Development presented the governance structure for the working group (see diagram above).

The Members of the working group emphasised the urgency to address the various issues within the city centre and expressed the need to have a joined-up approach with other agencies throughout the city. Members asked about the Complex Lives programme and what statutory agencies had committed funding so far. Officers confirmed the agencies that had agreed to co fund and that they were still waiting for confirmation from one agency. The Chief Executive advised of the priority work to secure funds and that Officers would welcome any support from Members to drive this forward. The Chief Executive agreed that the relevant Chief and Senior Officers would bring updates of the work of each of the strategic leadership groups to the meetings of the City Centre Working Group. During the discussion a member raised concerns about lack of progress around the night-time economy within the city centre. The Director of Economic Development assured members that he would bring an update on the night-time economy work to the next meeting of the Future City Centre Leadership group. He agreed to check the list of partner agencies listed in the original notice of motion and would come back with suggestions on other groups who could be included. Members asked officers to consider a standardised reporting mechanism for other groups to report into the City Centre All Party Working Group. The Chief Executive agreed to take on board members suggestions and to make amendments to reflect the discussion held at the meeting.

City Centre short-, medium- and long-term priorities

Members of the working group raised their concerns in relation to a number of ongoing issues within the city centre, specifically the humanitarian crisis Belfast was facing due to the number of drug related deaths in the city centre and agreed that the next meeting of the Working Group be focussed on vulnerability. The Chief Executive advised the Members that the Council was meeting with statutory agencies to ensure a coordinated approach to deal with the crisis and he agreed to provide updates to the group. Other issues raised by members of the group were support for local businesses such as retail and hospitality and the need to look at the night-time economy. They said there seemed to be a lack of focus or perhaps a lack of a coordinated approach to the arts in the City Centre. Much work would be required to attract more people into the city centre and would have to include an action plan to address the cleanliness of the space but most importantly the safety of its users. The Members reiterated the request that officers bring regular updates to this group. Officers agreed to take Members' suggestions on board and work them into the workplans and then bring them back to the next meeting of the group.

Noted.

Future Focus

The Director of City Regeneration and Development outlined the various programmes that would help shape the future work of the group. These included the 'A Bolder Vision for Belfast' but most importantly working in partnership with statutory agencies and other partners to help shape the discussions and focus.

After discussion, it was agreed that officers bring more details back to the next meeting of the working group.

Chairperson

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