

# Public Document Pack

12<sup>th</sup> May 2022

## **MEETING OF CLIMATE AND CITY RESILIENCE COMMITTEE**

Dear Alderman/Councillor

The above-named Committee will meet in the Lavery Room - City Hall and remotely via Microsoft Teams on Thursday, 12th May, 2022 at 5.15 pm, for the transaction of the business noted below.

You are requested to attend.

Yours faithfully

JOHN WALSH

Chief Executive

### **AGENDA:**

1. Routine matters
  - (i) Apologies
  - (ii) Minutes
  - (iii) Declarations of Interest
2. Ciaran White and Francis Costello - Paper on EU elections "Allowing Northern Ireland residents to vote in future EU Parliamentary Elections" (Pages 1 - 4)
3. Restricted Items
  - (i) Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (Pages 5 - 10)
  - (ii) Port Health Update (Pages 11 - 16)
4. Update on current issues
  - (i) Work of the Climate Unit (Pages 17 - 20)
  - (ii) BCC Carbon Baseline and Trajectory Report
  - (iii) Local offset fund (Pages 21 - 24)
  - (iv) Belfast Fairtrade Update (Pages 25 - 30)

5. Belfast Net Zero Carbon Road Map
6. Recap on suggestions for future meetings

# Ciaran White and Frank Costello: Allowing Northern Ireland residents to vote in future EU Parliamentary Elections: An ‘itsy-bitsy-teeny-weeny-yellow-polka-dot’ proposal



The UK-EU negotiations on the final shape of the future relationship between them are reaching a crescendo as the deadline of 31 December 2020, which the s33 of the EU Withdrawal Act 2020 does not permit to be extended, approaches. However, whatever outcome those negotiations reach, Northern Ireland’s relationship with the EU will continue to be governed by the ‘backstop’ that is the Protocol on Ireland/Northern Ireland. The Protocol fixes Northern Ireland with the task of continuing to observe elements of EU law in the areas of, for example, equality, state aid, the single electricity market (on the island of Ireland), customs rules and regulations, food, agriculture, aquaculture and related areas, with the intention of, inter alia, delivering on the UK’s commitment of “avoiding a hard border, including any physical infrastructure or related checks and controls.” The Protocol will, it states, “maintain the necessary conditions for continued North-South cooperation, to avoid a hard border and to protect the 1998 Agreement in all its dimensions.” (Art 1)

The implementation of the Protocol will be in the hands of the UK government and its officials and officials of the EU acting through the ‘Specialised Committee’, set up by Article 165, of the Withdrawal Agreement, and supported by the ‘Joint consultative working group’ (Art 15), a forum for the exchange of information and mutual consultation.

The Protocol’s continued, future, application is subject to the consent of the Northern Ireland Assembly, voting every four years after the end of the transition period, on a straight majority basis (Art 18(5)). (If a majority of the MLAs vote for the continuation of the Protocol then it will continue for another four years, to be voted on again. If the majority has ‘cross-community support’ of nationalist and unionists then the period until the next vote is extended to 8 years) (Art 18(6)). The securing of the Assembly’s consent is designed to provide ‘democratic legitimacy’ according to the Preamble (for a discussion of the implications of requiring cross community support on all votes on the continuation of the Protocol see [O’Connell](#)).

The democratic legitimacy of the Protocol and its effects can be enhanced further, we suggest, by allowing NI residents the opportunity to vote in EU parliamentary elections. This might seem to be a suggestion whose ‘sell-by date’ has come and gone, now that the UK has departed the EU and its seats in the EU Parliament distributed amongst other member states, with two of Northern Ireland’s seats having been allocated to the Republic of Ireland. However, other examples, from across the EU, demonstrate that it is possible for a Member State to provide EU

voting opportunities to non-EU residents, or to its own nationals resident outside that Member State's territory.

Since 2014 Turkish Cypriots have been allowed to vote in EU Parliamentary elections owing to a new law adopted by the government of the Republic of Cyprus which governs the southern part of the island and is mainly Greek. It allows Turkish Cypriots, resident in the north of the island, with Republic of Cyprus identity documents to cross into southern Cyprus, to vote in the EU Parliament election. Cyprus has six seats in the European Parliament, of which two, we understand, are notionally set aside for Turkish Cypriots. The 2019 EU elections saw a Turkish Cypriot elected to public office for the first time since 1963. Whilst the electoral process in operation in EU Parliamentary elections in Cyprus generates complaints from the Turkish minority, one can immediately appreciate that it is a model to stimulate discussion on the island of Ireland.

There are also examples from France. Prior to the 2019 EU Parliament elections there were two examples relevant to the proposal made here. One of these involved Nouvelle Calédonie, the French Pacific island collective, which, along with other French overseas territories, was represented in the EU Parliament as part of France's Overseas Territories constituency. This was the case even though Nouvelle Calédonie, and some of the other French overseas territories, are not in the EU. The second example was found closer to home: France also allowed its citizens who live outside France and who were not registered to vote in other EU states, to vote in EU Parliamentary elections for its 'Ile de France' constituency. Since 2019, France has elected representatives to the EU Parliament on the basis of a single constituency composed of the entire country and its overseas territories and departments, rather than on the basis of multiple constituencies. However, France continues to allow those residing in Nouvelle Calédonie, for example, the right to vote in EU Parliamentary elections and did so in 2019 (In Nouvelle Calédonie the participation rate in the 2019 EU election was 19.22%, compared to 27.05 % in 2014). French nationals living outside of France also retain the right to vote in EU elections.

The authors first put this proposal to the previous Irish Minister for Foreign Affairs in March 2018 and to the Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar, in November 2018. The latter left the matter with the Department of Housing and Local Government, which has responsibility for the conduct of elections in Ireland and the development of electoral law and policy, where the proposal currently resides. We have, however, recently renewed our suggestion with the present Taoiseach, Micheál Martin, suggesting that it fits neatly within the 'Shared Island' concept contained in the new Programme for Government of the incoming Coalition Government.

Rules regarding eligibility to vote in EU Parliamentary elections are a matter for Member States, and so it is within Ireland's gift to create a mechanism by which NI residents can continue to vote in those elections. Coincidental to our own correspondence with Irish government figures, in March 2018, the Joint Committee of the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission and the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission, also recommended that "all the people of Northern Ireland retain the right to stand and vote in European Parliament elections." ('Policy statement on the United Kingdom withdrawal from the European Union', March 2018).

It is important to stress that the extension of voting rights to Northern Ireland residents need not be focussed solely on Irish passport holders. Good stewardship of the Good Friday Agreement should mean that the Irish Government would ensure that those who opt for British passports in Northern Ireland – as they are entitled to do by virtue of that Agreement – are not disadvantaged by making that choice.

As things sit at the present, the Protocol will create something of a democratic deficit. Certain EU laws will continue to apply to Northern Ireland in circumstances where there will no longer be any Northern Ireland representation in the EU Parliament. The Protocol appears to anticipate that those EU laws that continue to have effect in Northern Ireland after transition will apply for quite some considerable period of time, even in fact embracing amendments or replacements to them. Article 13(3) provides that, notwithstanding the Withdrawal Agreement, a reference to EU law is to include those legal enactments that amend or replace that law. A new legislative act that neither amends nor replaces an existing one is to be the subject of an iterative process within the Joint Committee which may lead to that new legislative act being added to the Protocol Art13(4). Further, as noted above, the only manner in which the Protocol would no longer apply is if the Assembly votes for that effect, and that is an unlikely event given the Northern Ireland vote in the 2016 Brexit referendum and the breakdown of seats in the subsequent 2019 Assembly election. Based on the current MLA party affiliations, ('Anti-Brexit' parties, namely Sinn Fein, SDLP, Alliance, and Green Party, have 48 of the 90 seats between them.) the Assembly will not vote, in 2024, to have the Protocol disapplied and therefore it cannot happen until at least 2030, being two years after the next opportunity that the Assembly will have to vote on the matter, that is in 2028 (Art 14(4).)

Ireland has never recognised the right of persons who are not resident within the state to vote in Irish elections, whether those are municipal, general, Presidential or European elections. (It does, however, recognise the right of non-Irish EU nationals living in Ireland to vote in EU elections, provided they agree not to cast a vote in their country of origin.) However, as clichéd as it may sound, we are in unprecedented times, and the Protocol is likely to remain part of Northern Ireland's constitutional legal architecture for some decades to come. Enhancing its democratic legitimacy by creating a mechanism to allow Northern Ireland residents to vote in Irish-allocated EU Parliament seats will not deal with all the issues that may arise from the implementation of the Protocol. It is a 'small ask' in the greater scheme of things, though a justified one, we suggest. It is only a 'itsy-bitsy-teeny-weeny-yellow-polka-dot' request, when you think of it really.

*Ciaran White is a Senior Lecturer in Law, Ulster University and a practising Barrister and Dr Francis Costello is a former Visiting Professor at the Centre for Conflict Transformation and Social Justice at Queen's University Belfast.*

(Suggested citation: C. White and F. Costello, 'Allowing Northern Ireland residents to vote in future EU Parliamentary Elections: An 'itsy-bitsy-teeny-weeny-yellow-polka-dot' proposal', U.K. Const. L. Blog (13th Oct. 2020) (available at <https://ukconstitutionallaw.org/>))

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

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 6  
of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.

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<b>Subject:</b>	Climate action – progress update
<b>Date:</b>	12 May 2022
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Debbie Caldwell
<b>Contact Officers:</b>	Debbie Caldwell

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

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report or Summary of Main Issues</b>
1.1	The purpose of this report is to update Members on the current activities carried out by the Belfast City Council Climate Unit. Further updates will be provided as specific areas of work progress.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	The Committee is asked to note of the key areas of focus for the Belfast City Council Climate Unit.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main report</b>
3.1	<b>Council - Key areas of focus and progress</b>  1. A baseline emissions analysis of BCC and a preliminary net zero target and trajectory has been completed (detailed in separate paper).

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. An energy review of five buildings is underway (City Hall, Cecil Ward, Waterfront Hall, North Queen Street Community Centre, Shankill Leisure Centre). This work will be completed by August 2022.</li> <li>3. A climate risk assessment, climate action plan and climate investment plan for BCC will be carried out from May-Sep.</li> <li>4. 14 phase 1 pilots supported by the Climate Fund have commenced this quarter: (1) Pilot insulation programme; (2) Solar PV investigation across the estate (3) Rollout of the Hysop project – hydraulic optimisation initiative; (4) EV charging at leisure centres; (5) Pilot recycling in the city centre; (6) study to assess carbon stocks on BCC owned peatland on Belfast Hills; (7) Survey of wildflower meadows / species rich grassland at 4 sites across the City; (8) Economic appraisal of larger tree nursery/commercial opportunities; (9) Installing additional electric charging points at Duncrue; (10) HVO trial in 10 vehicles; (11) Smart chargers study (12) Furniture recycling/up-cycling pilot; (13) Carpet recycling pilot; and (14) Scale up Repair and reuse laptop scheme.</li> <li>5. A climate data platform is being scoped, EOIs have been sought and received from several companies and a business case will be developed for consideration by Digital Services.</li> <li>6. A pilot programme is underway to measure supply chain emissions using the Trace Data Service Pilot Platform developed by Praesideo.</li> <li>7. Ongoing coordination of climate initiatives through the Climate Programme Board and the Climate and Resilience Committee.</li> </ol>
3.2	<p><b>Council - Key areas of focus and progress</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ongoing delivery of One million Trees and UPSURGE projects and completion of the VPACH project.</li> <li>2. Social Farms &amp; Gardens, a UK wide charity supporting communities to farm, garden and grow together, have been contracted to review the existing Belfast Sustainable Food Place (SFP) accreditation, undertake engagement with key stakeholders and propose a framework and action plan which will allow for renewal of the Bronze Sustainable Food Place award and potential progression to Silver and Gold. This work will be completed by July 2022.</li> <li>3. Collation of climate data for annual submission to the Carbon Disclosure Project and the GDS Index.</li> <li>4. Ongoing engagement with LSE, PCAN, GFI and UKCCIC to position Belfast as a Net Zero finance demonstrator.</li> </ol>

	<p>5. Initial work is underway to scope a local carbon offsetting fund (detailed in separate paper).</p> <p>6. Climate considerations are being mainstreamed into key strategies and investments – Belfast Agenda, BCRD, Belfast Stories, City Regeneration &amp; BV, Economic Strategy, Investment Guide, 2 Royal Avenue, Active Travel etc.</p> <p>7. Ongoing climate collaboration with other cities via RCN, Core Cities and ICCLEI. A Statement of Intent was signed by the Mayors Dublin, Greater Manchester and Liverpool City Region ahead of a decarbonisation summit in June 22 and discussion are ongoing with officers to identify specific areas for collaboration.</p> <p>8. The potential to develop a Local Area Energy Plan is being discussed with the Energy Systems Catapult. This plan would enable the Council to engage businesses and citizens in measures to reduce emissions and energy costs across the City. The plan would provide a detailed spatial representation of the most cost-effective decarbonisation measures that could be deployed in different parts of the city (heat pumps, retrofit, district heating, EV charging points, solar PV, wind etc.) along with estimated costs. The outputs could then be used to develop a series of investments across the City to improve energy efficiency, reduce emissions and create jobs.</p> <p>9. ToRs for a Climate Action Plan and Climate Investment Plan (Net Zero pipeline) are being developed.</p> <p>10. Ongoing engagement with NIE, PWC and other Councils to develop a place-based delivery mechanism for the Energy Strategy and Green growth Strategy. The LSE Grantham Institute have developed an outline for a proposed Just Transition Bond to enable NIHE to finance the retrofit of its entire social housing stock.</p> <p>11. Ongoing engagement with businesses leading the Net Zero agenda (including NI Water, Translink, Catagen, B9 Energy, MJM Renewables etc.).</p> <p>12. Ongoing coordination of climate initiatives through R&amp;S Board and Belfast Climate Commission.</p>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Financial &amp; Resource Implications</b>
4.1	None
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Implications</b>
5.1	None
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Appendices – Documents Attached</b>
6.1	None

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<b>Subject:</b>	Mapping the opportunity for a Local Carbon Offset Fund
<b>Date:</b>	12 May 2022
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Debbie Caldwell
<b>Contact Officers:</b>	Debbie Caldwell

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

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report or Summary of Main Issues</b>
1.1	The purpose of this report is to inform Members about a proposal to map the opportunity to develop a Local Carbon Offset Fund.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	The Committee is asked to approve the proposal to map the opportunity to develop a Local Carbon Offset Fund.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main report</b>
3.1	NI has set an ambitious climate target of achieving Net Zero emissions by 2050 and the Northern Ireland Climate Change Adaptation Programme 2019-2024 includes a number of adaptation actions under key priority areas. Councils across NI have a key role to play in delivering of resilience and emission targets. According to the UK Committee on Climate Change, “more than half of the emissions cuts needed rely on people and businesses taking

	<p>up low-carbon solutions – decisions that are made at a local and individual level. Many of these decisions depend on having supporting infrastructure and systems in place. Local authorities have powers or influence over roughly a third of emissions in their local areas”.</p> <p>Moreover, a recent report Accelerating Net Zero Delivery demonstrates the economic and social value of locally tailored approaches. Councils are the closest level of government to communities, workers, suppliers and consumers and are well placed to deliver holistic, tangible, large scale climate solutions. However, implementing this ambition is challenging for councils due to resource limitations and capacity constraints.</p>
3.2	<p>The public sector can’t deliver the volume of funds required to deliver Net Zero commitments, new funding and revenue models are needed to deliver at scale and at pace. Belfast City Council (BCC) has been working in partnership with PCAN and the Grantham Institute, LSE and the UKCICC to better understand how it can mobilise the necessary finance to decarbonise heat, transport and industry across the City as well as support investments in resilience measures.</p> <p>At the same time, many organisations across NI have set ambitious net zero targets. Whilst these will mostly be delivered through emission reductions, it is likely that most organisations will need to off-set the emissions they cannot avoid or reduce by paying for a carbon credit, which allows them to pay for an equivalent amount of emissions to be reduced or removed elsewhere. Most off-setting projects are located in developing countries but there is anecdotal evidence that there is an appetite among NI companies to off-set their emissions via local projects.</p>
3.3	<p>This project would be a collaborative exercise between Belfast City Council, Derry City and Strabane District Council, Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council, Mid and East Antrim Borough Council, Ards and North Down Council, and Fermanagh and Omagh District Council and Newry, Mourne and Down District Council.</p> <p>Working in partnership, these Councils have identified a need to carry out a desktop review to quantify the opportunity for establishing a regional Carbon Offset Fund that could be used to finance a pipeline of climate investments across NI. These could range from investments in energy efficiency, decarbonised heating supply and renewable energy to habitat restoration and other nature-based solutions that enhance resilience and sequester carbon.</p>
3.4	<p>This would require a joint procurement by interested Councils to identify a suitably qualified supplier with experience and expertise in climate finance and developing climate plans and programmes, to undertake a mapping exercise to help us understand the extent of the opportunity for local off-setting in NI.</p>



3.5	<p>This work is being aligned with ongoing work by SIB and DAERA to develop funding mechanisms to deliver against Net Zero targets. The off-setting fund would provide a source of finance to support the development and delivery of a Net Zero pipeline as well as help to deliver against targets in the Energy Strategy and the Green Growth Strategy but in a very place-specific (rather than sector or departmental based) fashion.</p> <p>This is an initial piece of mapping work to develop the evidence base and provide an opportunity for the Councils, SIB, DfE and DAERA to start working together on the financing / delivery challenge. It would need to be followed up with further scoping work.</p>
3.6	<p>The <b>overall objective</b> is to undertake a mapping exercise to help the partners understand the extent of the opportunity for local off-setting in NI. This survey and analysis will be informed by the work of Anthesis around Authority-based insetting and other work in this field. We will draw on our linkages with PCAN and LSE to peer review and supplement the findings with research and analysis on place-based financing from other parts of the country.</p>
3.7	<p>The intended <b>outcome</b> is that, based on a survey of emitters from key sectors, the potential for establishing a local off-setting fund will be better understood along with an estimate of the potential annual income that could be achieved by such a scheme. It is anticipated that the survey results will lead onto further preparatory work that could be used as part of a business case or funding application. In particular, the survey will determine the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is the current value of the offset market in Belfast and more widely across NI i.e. what amount of GHG emissions are currently offset?</li> <li>2. What level of investment is needed to satisfy GHG offset targets currently?</li> <li>3. What is the current trend in offsetting across the organisations (increasing/decreasing)</li> <li>4. What is the likely value of the offset market in Belfast and more widely across NI through to 2030 based on trends in carbon prices and expected volume of offsetting?</li> <li>5. Who are the largest emitters? What is their individual and combined GHG emission output?</li> <li>6. What is the level of interest from organisations (public, private) in offsetting locally?</li> <li>7. How much of their current offset would they be willing to channel into a local fund?</li> <li>8. What types of projects are they interested in? Are there any restrictions on what they can and can't fund?</li> <li>9. What are the key barriers or enablers to offsetting locally?</li> <li>10. What type of support do they require in relation to carbon offsetting?</li> <li>11. Highlight examples of best practice elsewhere which can be shared with others, and which highlight the opportunities for regional carbon offsetting.</li> </ol>
4.0	<p><b><u>Financial &amp; Resource Implications</u></b></p>

4.1	The total budget for this study is £15,000 which would be divided across the seven Councils. £2500 has been allocated from within the existing City and Organisational Strategy budget to finance BCC's contribution.
5.0	<b><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Implications</u></b>
5.1	Any good relations or equality implications will be identified as part of the Council's screening process.
4.0	<b>Appendices – Documents Attached</b>
4.1	None



<b>Subject:</b>	Belfast Fairtrade update
<b>Date:</b>	12 May 2022
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	John Tully
<b>Contact Officers:</b>	Joe McKearney

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


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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report or Summary of Main Issues</b>
1.1	The purpose of this report is to update and seek approval from Members for the installation of new 'Belfast is a Fairtrade City' signage at various locations across the city and to update members on the planned actions of the Belfast Fairtrade Steering Group to mark World Fairtrade Day on Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> May.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	The Committee is asked to approve the installation of the 'Belfast is a Fairtrade City' signage and to note the update for the Belfast Fairtrade Steering Groups plans to mark World Fairtrade Day on Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> May.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main report</b>

3.1	Belfast has held the Fairtrade City status from the UK Fairtrade Foundation since 2005 and was the first city to gain dual Fairtrade accreditation when receiving Fairtrade City status from Fairtrade Ireland also in 2006.
3.2	The City & Organisational Strategy Department leads the maintenance of Belfast's Fairtrade City status. The department supports the Belfast Fairtrade Steering Group, a group co-Chaired by Council Members, Cllr Donal Lyons and Cllr Ross McMullan with representation from Council and the business, voluntary and community sectors. The Steering Group is responsible for maintaining Belfast's Fairtrade City status through continued promotion and awareness of Fairtrade. The group is for all those interested in trade justice and international development through Fairtrade and membership is open to the public. The Group meets approximately every two months to discuss ways to advance Fairtrade in Belfast and to support group members tin achieving this.
3.2	<p><b>'Belfast is a Fairtrade City' signage</b></p> <p>Fairtrade City status is conferred by the Fairtrade Foundation on a biennial basis. It is awarded after the completion of a comprehensive audit of Fairtrade outlets in the city, and after undertaking considerable marketing and promotional activities by the Belfast Fairtrade Steering Group. Belfast was granted this city status in 2005 and biannually since. The Fairtrade certificates awarded are displayed in the Lord Mayors office.</p>
3.3	The marketing and promotion of Fairtrade activity in the city is key to retaining Fairtrade City status. The Fairtrade Foundation recommend the display of one of the approved formats or logo's for each Fairtrade Town, City or Borough that has achieved this accolade. This is standard practice across the UK and Ireland and has been adopted in Northern Ireland by seven other Local Authorities with two more progressing on this action and will be joined soon after by the final Council authority in NI to receive Fairtrade status once application is approved in the coming weeks.
3.4	Fairtrade City signage erected in a prominent place recognises the City's endeavours in promoting the global campaign of increasing Fairtrade products. Fairtrade is the gold standard of ethical labelling and can only appear on products from the developing world. Fairtrade is a local ethical consumerism led by cross community, public/private sector demand and statutory obligations: UN Sustainable Development Goals, which falls to each council under sustainability. Fairtrade alleviates poverty, tackles global issues and all forms of exploitation (child labour, trafficking), environmental and social considerations, including climate change. Fairtrade has an international dimension and wider implication for the most

	<p>disadvantaged vulnerable small-scale producers world-wide, that produce the tropical commodities that are not able to be grown locally. This campaign is supported by the City Council who host the Belfast Fairtrade Steering Group and Fairtrade Belfast webpage.</p>
3.5	<p>Following a request from the Belfast Fairtrade Steering Group, Belfast City Council officers agreed to conduct a review of Council sites to host Fairtrade city signage. This review has been completed and approval is sought from this Committee for the following installations:</p> <p>'Belfast is a Fairtrade City' signage (See Appendix one)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A3 portrait signs for park display stands in north, south, east and west of the city.</li> <li>• 2 x A1 landscape signs for St George's Market</li> <li>• 2 x A2 landscape signs for 2 Royal Avenue</li> </ul>
3.6	<p>Members are asked to consider this proposal by the Belfast Fairtrade Steering Group to erect 'Belfast is a Fairtrade City' signage at locations outlined above for launch on World Fairtrade Day on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May,</p> <p><b>World Fairtrade Day – Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May</b></p> <p>The Belfast Fairtrade Steering Group intend to mark World Fairtrade Day on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May with the following actions:</p> <p><i>Signage</i></p>
3.7	<p>Pending Committee approval of the above 'Belfast is a Fairtrade City' signage request, there are plans for a press release and photo call with Steering Group members to announce this installation with circulation across the multiple Belfast City Council social media platforms.</p> <p><i>Mesh Banner</i></p>
3.8	<p>There will be a temporary mesh banner placed at City Hall railings for Fairtrade Day weekend. This can be removed upon conclusion of the weekend and stored for future use during key Fairtrade calendar events such as Fairtrade Fortnight or Fairtrade Day.</p> <p><i>Pop-Up Stands</i></p>
3.9	<p>A number of pop-up stands have been created and will be placed inside City Hall visitor areas over the Fairtrade Day weekend to raise awareness of the campaign and Belfast's commitment to Fairtrade. These can be used again during future Fairtrade events.</p>

3.10	<p><i>Fairtrade Materials Distribution</i></p> <p>Councils is planning to create posters, cards or window stickers to distribute to Fairtrade outlets showing the 'Belfast is a Fairtrade City' artwork. This will have the effect of increasing the idea of shared ownership and using appropriate venues across the city to help spread the word.</p>
3.11	<p><i>Lighting</i></p> <p>City Hall will be illuminated green, blue and black, the colours of the Fairtrade Foundation logo for Fairtrade Day on the evening of Saturday 14th May.</p>
3.12	<p><i>City Matters</i></p> <p>There are plans for the inclusion of a Fairtrade educational piece in the next edition of City Matters using 'Belfast is a Fairtrade City' branding along with a call-to-action to seek new Belfast Fairtrade Steering Group members.</p>
3.13	<p><i>Asset library</i></p> <p>Various Communications Assets with the new 'Belfast is a Fairtrade City' logo have been designed. These graphics can be used on the branding/web/social content during the promotion of Fairtrade Day but also for future Fairtrade marketing and communications.</p>
3.14	<p><i>BCC Fairtrade Hamper Staff Giveaway</i></p> <p>A hamper containing multiple Fairtrade branded food and drinks items will be featured as part of a BCC staff giveaway along with accompanying Fairtrade article on Interlink. All hamper items have been sourced within Belfast with inclusion of more than 50% of the budget for the hamper contents spent on items produced by Belfast based SME's.</p>
3.15	<p><i>BCC Fairtrade Resources</i></p> <p>An order has been placed with the Fairtrade Foundation by Council for new resource materials, posters, information leaflets etc. These will be displayed in Staff and Visitor areas across multiple Council sites in order to raise awareness among staff and visitors of the importance of the Fairtrade campaign.</p>
4.0	<p><b><u>Financial &amp; Resource Implications</u></b></p>
4.1	<p><i>Financial</i></p> <p>The Fairtrade signage will be created by the Council's in-house Reprographics Team at nominal cost to Belfast City Council.</p>

4.2	<p><i>Resource</i></p> <p>Staff time will be required from Officers in the City &amp; Organisational Strategy Department, City &amp; Neighbourhood Services and Physical Programmes Department in order to undertake the signage installation.</p>
5.0	<p><b><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Implications</u></b></p>
5.1	<p>None.</p>
6.0	<p><b>Appendices</b></p>
6.1	<p>App 1 - 'Belfast is a Fairtrade City' signage design.</p> 

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