

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



**Belfast
City Council**

23rd January, 2023

STANDARDS AND BUSINESS COMMITTEE

Dear Alderman/Councillor,

The above-named Committee will meet in hybrid format, both in the Lavery Room - City Hall, and remotely, via Microsoft Teams, on Tuesday, 24th January, 2023 at 5.30 pm, 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. Motions

- (a) Support the network of WW2-era Pillboxes (Pages 1 - 4)
- (b) Winter Outdoor Preparedness Strategy (Pages 5 - 8)
- (c) End Hostile Environment (Pages 9 - 12)
- (d) Support for striking Health Workers (Pages 13 - 16)



Subject:	Notice of Motion – Support the network of WW2-era Pillboxes
Date:	24th January, 2023
Reporting Officer:	Nora Largey, Interim City Solicitor/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 the Notice of Motion received for the meeting of the Council on 1st February in relation to Support the network of WW2-era Pillboxes.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is asked to note that the Motion should be referred, in the first instance, to the City Growth and Regeneration Committee.

3.0	Main Report
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.1	<p>The Committee will be aware that Standing Orders 13 (m) to (r), as agreed by the Council at its meeting on 4th October, are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (m) <i>The Standards and Business Committee will have delegated authority to adopt or reject Notices of Motion. The Lord Mayor will indicate at the Council meeting those Notices of Motion that have been considered by the Standards and Business Committee and whether such Notices of Motion were rejected or adopted. In either case, the proposer only may speak on the issue at Council.</i> (n) <i>The Standards and Business Committee will refer all Notices of Motion directly to a standing committee when the matter to which the Notice of Motion refers falls within the remit of that committee. At Council, the Lord Mayor will indicate that the Notice of Motion was received and referred. There will be no speakers on such Notices of Motion at Council.</i> (o) <i>The Standards and Business Committee will refer Notices of Motion for consideration by full Council when the Notice of Motion relates to a strategic or constitutional matter.</i> (p) <i>The Standards and Business Committee will not have the power to amend the wording of any Notice of Motion that is being referred to the full Council for debate.</i> (q) <i>Any amendments to Notice of Motions to be proposed at the Council are to be furnished at least one day in advance of going to the full Council and will be circulated to Party Group Leaders in advance of the Council meeting.</i> (r) <i>In referring any matter to the full Council, the Standards and Business Committee may determine to restrict contributions to the debate in relation to any Notice of Motion to one per political party. At the Council meeting, the Lord Mayor will clearly indicate if the restriction applies.</i>
3.2	<p>The following motion has been received from Alderman Dorrian:</p> <p><u>Support the network of WW2-era Pillboxes</u></p> <p>“That this Council supports the development of culture and tourism and in doing so will supporting the concept of regenerating the network of WW2-era pillboxes and other structures across Belfast and beyond, and engages with other local councils and relevant government departments to develop an Action Plan to promote their regeneration, in partnership with the local communities where they are sited.”</p> <p>Proposer – Alderman Dorrian</p> <p>Seconder – Councillor Spratt</p>
3.3	<p>The motion calls upon the Council to support the concept of regenerating the network of WW2-era pillboxes and other structures in terms of heritage and tourism. These are areas</p>

3.4	<p>of responsibility of the City Growth and Regeneration and the motion should be referred to that Committee for consideration.</p> <p>Members are reminded that in accordance with Standing Order 13(l) where the notice of motion seeks to commit the Council to expenditure not previously agreed through the Committee process, the notice of motion is referred to the relevant Committee for consideration. This will usually require a further report from officers outlining the financial and other implications should the notice of motion be adopted.</p> <p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p>
3.5	<p>None associated with this report but there may be finance and resource implications associated with the substantive notice of motion is approved and adopted.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p>
3.6	<p>None associated with this report.</p>
4.0	Documents Attached
	None.

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Subject:	Notice of Motion – Winter Outdoor Preparedness Strategy
Date:	24th January, 2023
Reporting Officer:	Nora Largey, Interim City Solicitor/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 the Notice of Motion received for the meeting of the Council on 1st February in relation to a Winter Outdoor Preparedness Strategy.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is asked to note that the Motion will be referred, in the first instance, to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.

3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p data-bbox="316 297 470 331"><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p data-bbox="316 365 1516 432">The Committee will be aware that Standing Orders 13 (m) to (r), as agreed by the Council at its meeting on 4th October, are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="363 465 1516 633">(m) <i>The Standards and Business Committee will have delegated authority to adopt or reject Notices of Motion. The Lord Mayor will indicate at the Council meeting those Notices of Motion that have been considered by the Standards and Business Committee and whether such Notices of Motion were rejected or adopted. In either case, the proposer only may speak on the issue at Council.</i> <li data-bbox="363 656 1516 824">(n) <i>The Standards and Business Committee will refer all Notices of Motion directly to a standing committee when the matter to which the Notice of Motion refers falls within the remit of that committee. At Council, the Lord Mayor will indicate that the Notice of Motion was received and referred. There will be no speakers on such Notices of Motion at Council.</i> <li data-bbox="387 846 1516 947">(o) <i>The Standards and Business Committee will refer Notices of Motion for consideration by full Council when the Notice of Motion relates to a strategic or constitutional matter.</i> <li data-bbox="387 969 1516 1037">(p) <i>The Standards and Business Committee will not have the power to amend the wording of any Notice of Motion that is being referred to the full Council for debate.</i> <li data-bbox="387 1059 1516 1171">(q) <i>Any amendments to Notice of Motions to be proposed at the Council are to be furnished at least one day in advance of going to the full Council and will be circulated to Party Group Leaders in advance of the Council meeting.</i> <li data-bbox="387 1193 1516 1328">(r) <i>In referring any matter to the full Council, the Standards and Business Committee may determine to restrict contributions to the debate in relation to any Notice of Motion to one per political party. At the Council meeting, the Lord Mayor will clearly indicate if the restriction applies.</i> <p data-bbox="204 1361 1185 1395">3.2 The following motion has been received from Councillor McMullan:</p> <p data-bbox="316 1429 861 1462"><u>Winter Outdoor Preparedness Strategy</u></p> <p data-bbox="363 1496 1441 1597">“This Council notes the recent spate of icy cold weather in December 2022 that left streets frozen over for days exposed how poorly prepared the Council is to ensure safe walking, wheeling and cycling across the city.</p> <p data-bbox="363 1630 1441 1765">Noting that other councils have certain measures in place that this Council currently does not, including gritting town centres and high streets working in conjunction with the Department for Infrastructure to provide additional grit and white salt for use by the council, residents and local businesses.</p> <p data-bbox="363 1798 1441 1899">The Council will work with key stakeholders to put a funded winter outdoor preparedness strategy and action plan- including a grit policy- for the city together, to be operational by Quarter 3 of 2023/2024 financial year.”</p>

	<p>Proposer - Councillor McMullan</p> <p>Seconder – Councillor Long</p>
3.3	<p>The motion calls upon the Council to put together a funded winter outdoor preparedness strategy. The Strategic Policy and Resources Committee is responsible for the Council's financial strategy which would include additional services and areas for growth – the motion should be referred in the first instance to that Committee.</p>
3.4	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
3.5	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>None.</p>
4.0	Documents Attached
	<p>None.</p>

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Subject:	Notice of Motion – End Hostile Environment
Date:	24th January, 2023
Reporting Officer:	Nora Largey, Interim City Solicitor/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"/>
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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 the Notice of Motion received for the meeting of the Council on 1st February in relation to End Hostile Environment.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is asked to consider the motion and agree to either adopt the motion, refer it for debate at the Council meeting (with or without restrictions) or reject the motion.

3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p data-bbox="316 297 470 331"><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p data-bbox="316 365 1516 432">The Committee will be aware that Standing Orders 13 (m) to (r), as agreed by the Council at its meeting on 4th October, are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="363 465 1516 633">(m) <i>The Standards and Business Committee will have delegated authority to adopt or reject Notices of Motion. The Lord Mayor will indicate at the Council meeting those Notices of Motion that have been considered by the Standards and Business Committee and whether such Notices of Motion were rejected or adopted. In either case, the proposer only may speak on the issue at Council.</i> <li data-bbox="363 656 1516 824">(n) <i>The Standards and Business Committee will refer all Notices of Motion directly to a standing committee when the matter to which the Notice of Motion refers falls within the remit of that committee. At Council, the Lord Mayor will indicate that the Notice of Motion was received and referred. There will be no speakers on such Notices of Motion at Council.</i> <li data-bbox="387 846 1516 947">(o) <i>The Standards and Business Committee will refer Notices of Motion for consideration by full Council when the Notice of Motion relates to a strategic or constitutional matter.</i> <li data-bbox="387 969 1516 1037">(p) <i>The Standards and Business Committee will not have the power to amend the wording of any Notice of Motion that is being referred to the full Council for debate.</i> <li data-bbox="387 1059 1516 1171">(q) <i>Any amendments to Notice of Motions to be proposed at the Council are to be furnished at least one day in advance of going to the full Council and will be circulated to Party Group Leaders in advance of the Council meeting.</i> <li data-bbox="387 1193 1516 1328">(r) <i>In referring any matter to the full Council, the Standards and Business Committee may determine to restrict contributions to the debate in relation to any Notice of Motion to one per political party. At the Council meeting, the Lord Mayor will clearly indicate if the restriction applies.</i> <p data-bbox="204 1361 1185 1395">3.2 The following motion has been received from Councillor Ferguson:</p> <p data-bbox="316 1429 667 1462"><u>End Hostile Environment</u></p> <p data-bbox="347 1496 1465 1630">“As a city of sanctuary, Belfast City Council recognises the need for refugees, migrants and asylum seekers to feel safe and welcomed in our communities. Moreover, the Council recognises the important cultural diversity and richness that newcomers to our communities bring, as well as all they contribute beyond this.</p> <p data-bbox="347 1664 1465 1765">The Council further notes the important work carried out by community and activist groups across the city in working to ensure people who move to Belfast are connected to services and supports where needed.</p> <p data-bbox="347 1798 1465 2022">However, the Council acknowledges the detrimental and often damaging impact of Hostile Environment policies which are set by the Home Office but administered here locally. These include the ban on the right to work for asylum seekers, temporary accommodation facilities such as Larne Detention Centre and hotels, ‘dispersals’ to regions in Britain, and punishing conditions designed to create a climate of fear and hostility, criminalising and impoverishing those who may find themselves without status.</p>

	<p>The Council recognises that the Hostile Environment is a xenophobic policy of the UK Government which encourages an ‘othering’ of people who move here.</p> <p>This Council therefore expresses its opposition to the Hostile Environment and calls on the Home Office to end this policy and immediately offer the right work and access services for people who arrive on our shores fleeing war or persecution. The Council further calls on the UK Government to put in place a right to remain policy, which is focused not on discouraging people to come here to better their lives, but ensuring the pathway is simplified and welcoming.”</p> <p>Proposer - Councillor Ferguson</p> <p>Seconder – Councillor Matt Collins</p>
3.3	The motion calls upon the Council to express its opposition to the Hostile Environment and calls on the Home Office to end this policy – the Committee can either adopt the motion, refer it for debate at the Council meeting (with or without restrictions) or reject the motion.
3.4	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
3.5	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>None.</p>
4.0	Documents Attached
	None.

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Subject:	Notice of Motion – Support for Striking Health Workers
Date:	24th January, 2023
Reporting Officer:	Nora Largey, Interim City Solicitor/Director of Legal and Civic Services
Contact Officer:	Jim Hanna, Senior Democratic Services Officer

Restricted Reports	
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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 the Notice of Motion received for the meeting of the Council on 1st February in relation to Support for Striking Health Workers.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is asked to consider the motion and agree to either adopt the motion, refer it for debate at the Council meeting (with or without restrictions) or reject the motion.

3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p data-bbox="316 297 470 331"><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p data-bbox="316 365 1516 432">The Committee will be aware that Standing Orders 13 (m) to (r), as agreed by the Council at its meeting on 4th October, are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="363 465 1516 633">(m) <i>The Standards and Business Committee will have delegated authority to adopt or reject Notices of Motion. The Lord Mayor will indicate at the Council meeting those Notices of Motion that have been considered by the Standards and Business Committee and whether such Notices of Motion were rejected or adopted. In either case, the proposer only may speak on the issue at Council.</i> <li data-bbox="363 656 1516 824">(n) <i>The Standards and Business Committee will refer all Notices of Motion directly to a standing committee when the matter to which the Notice of Motion refers falls within the remit of that committee. At Council, the Lord Mayor will indicate that the Notice of Motion was received and referred. There will be no speakers on such Notices of Motion at Council.</i> <li data-bbox="387 846 1516 947">(o) <i>The Standards and Business Committee will refer Notices of Motion for consideration by full Council when the Notice of Motion relates to a strategic or constitutional matter.</i> <li data-bbox="387 969 1516 1037">(p) <i>The Standards and Business Committee will not have the power to amend the wording of any Notice of Motion that is being referred to the full Council for debate.</i> <li data-bbox="387 1059 1516 1171">(q) <i>Any amendments to Notice of Motions to be proposed at the Council are to be furnished at least one day in advance of going to the full Council and will be circulated to Party Group Leaders in advance of the Council meeting.</i> <li data-bbox="387 1193 1516 1328">(r) <i>In referring any matter to the full Council, the Standards and Business Committee may determine to restrict contributions to the debate in relation to any Notice of Motion to one per political party. At the Council meeting, the Lord Mayor will clearly indicate if the restriction applies.</i> <p data-bbox="204 1361 1212 1395">3.2 The following motion has been received from Councillor Matt Collins:</p> <p data-bbox="347 1429 853 1462"><u>Support for Striking Health Workers</u></p> <p data-bbox="347 1496 1436 1563">“This Council notes with concern that health workers in Belfast are once again forced to take strike action for fair pay.</p> <p data-bbox="347 1597 1436 1697">Health workers have faced long-term deterioration in conditions, a series of below inflation pay offers, and the additional work due to staff shortages and the ongoing crisis within the Health Service.</p> <p data-bbox="347 1731 1436 1832">The Council further notes that health workers are being offered an unsatisfactory pay offer in the midst of the cost-of-living crisis, as many who work full time are struggling to make ends meet.</p> <p data-bbox="347 1865 1436 2011">In order to retain a vibrant and world class health service, it is vital that we reward staff fairly for the work which they carry out. High levels of agency usage, staff travelling to find better pay and conditions elsewhere, underfunding and privatisation is actively undermining this aim.</p>

	<p>The pandemic has shown how important our health service and the workers who staff it, are. Yet many NHS staff still suffer poverty wages and are forced to consider leaving a job they studied and worked hard to achieve.</p> <p>The Council resolves to write to the Department for Health and the Secretary of State, in the absence of a Minister for Health, to urge them to source and provide a fair, above inflation pay rise for health workers.</p> <p>The Council further resolves to show public support for health workers on pickets and to send a message of solidarity on behalf of Councillors to Unison, The Royal College of Nurses, and NIPSA, who are engaged in the action.”</p> <p>Proposer - Councillor Matt Collins</p> <p>Seconder – Councillor Michael Collins</p>
3.3	<p>The motion calls upon the Council to write to the Department of Health and the Secretary of State in relation to an above inflation pay rise for health workers – the Committee can either adopt the motion, refer it for debate at the Council meeting (with or without restrictions) or reject the motion.</p>
3.4	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
3.5	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>None.</p>
4.0	Documents Attached
	None.

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