

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



**Belfast  
City Council**

1<sup>st</sup> August, 2025

**MEETING OF THE 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, 7th August, 2025 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**
  - (a) Apologies
  - (b) Minutes
  - (c) Declarations of Interest
2. **Notice of Motion - National Park City (Pages 1 - 4)**
3. **Response to the draft Third Northern Ireland Climate Change Adaptation Programme (NICCAP3) 2024-2029** (Report to follow)
4. **Elected Member Training (Pages 5 - 6)**



# Agenda Item 2



**Belfast**  
City Council

CLIMATE AND CITY RESILIENCE COMMITTEE

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Notice of Motion – National Park City</b>
<b>Date:</b>	7th August, 2025
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	John Tully, Director of City and Organisational Strategy
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Debbie Caldwell, Climate Commissioner

## Restricted Reports

Is this report restricted?

Yes

☐

No

☒

Please indicate the description, as listed in Schedule 6, of the exempt information by virtue of which the council has deemed this report restricted.

Insert number

☐

1. Information relating to any individual
2. Information likely to reveal the identity of an individual
3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the council holding that information)
4. Information in connection with any labour relations matter
5. Information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained
6. Information showing that the council proposes to (a) to give a notice imposing restrictions on a person; or (b) to make an order or direction
7. Information on any action in relation to the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime

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

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<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues</b>
1.1	To bring to the Committee's attention the Notice of Motion referred to it by the Standards and Business Committee, on 24th June, in relation to a National Park City.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
2.1	<p>Members are asked to note that in accordance with Standing Order 13(i) that Notices of Motion which commit the Council to expenditure must be referred to the appropriate committee for consideration and report.</p> <p>At this time Members are only asked to note that the Notice of Motion has been received and that, if agreed, a subsequent report will be brought to Committee outlining a detailed consideration of the Notice of Motion and the potential costs implications.</p>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
	<b><u>Key Issues</u></b>
3.1	<p>The Committee will be aware that Standing Order 13 (n), as agreed by the Council at its meeting on 4th October, is as follows:</p> <p>(n) 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.</p>
3.2	<p>The following motion has been received:</p> <p><b>National Park City</b></p> <p>"This Council recognises the ambition set out in the Belfast Agenda that Belfast will be a "vibrant, attractive, connected and environmentally sustainable" city by 2035, as well as somewhere "where everyone experiences good health and wellbeing".</p>
3.3	<p>The Council celebrate the good work already happening right across the city that will help us achieve this aim; alleyway greening, community growing projects, the</p>

	<p>Blackstaff greenway, development of a neighbourhood net-zero framework, the One Million Trees project, and many more initiatives working to improve biodiversity, make green spaces more accessible and help make Belfast a greener and cleaner city.</p>
3.4	<p>The Council believes that a city where people, places and nature are better connected is one that not only helps us to tackle our climate and biodiversity crisis but leads to better health and wellbeing outcomes for everyone in the city.</p>
3.5	<p>As such, this Council commits to supporting the move to become a National Park City, convening stakeholders from across the city, improving support to empower local communities, bringing together existing projects, and developing a clear roadmap to how we collectively can restore nature for the benefit of people, wildlife and planet.”</p> <p>Proposer: Councillor Áine Groogan  Seconded: Councillor Tara Brooks</p>
3.6	<p>The motion calls upon the Council to commit to move to become a National Park City. As the Climate and City Resilience Committee is responsible for making recommendations on the Council's approach to addressing the climate crises and the Council's role and responsibilities at city level, including but not limited to considering public campaigns/public education programmes which the Council may wish to deliver to change behaviour amongst residents and businesses; and to take account of the Council's statutory responsibilities on sustainable development, the motion has been referred to this Committee.</p>
3.7	<p><b>Financial and Resource Implications</b></p> <p>None at this stage. Details of any financial and resource implications will be reported at a subsequent meeting.</p>
3.8	<p><b>Equality or Good Relations Implications</b></p> <p>None at this stage.</p>
4.0	<p><b>Documents Attached</b></p>
	<p>None.</p>





<b>Subject:</b>	Climate Change and Sustainability Training for Staff and Elected Members.
<b>Date:</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> August 2025
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	John Tully, Director Organisational and City Strategy
<b>Contact Officers:</b>	Debbie Caldwell, Belfast Climate Commissioner Brenda Roddy, Project Support Officer (Climate)

<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/Summary of Main Issues</b>
1.1	The purpose of this report is to provide members with an update on the schedule and format of a climate change training workshop for the Climate and City Resilience Committee.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
2.1	<p>The Committee is requested to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. Note that Sustainable NI will deliver a two hour in-person climate workshop to the committee on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2025 as a pilot for the wider group of Elected Members;</li> <li>II. Give approval to commission training;</li> <li>III. Confirm attendance by 22<sup>nd</sup> August</li> </ul>

<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	<p><b>Background</b></p> <p>At the meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2025, the Climate and City Resilience Committee agreed the following actions:</p> <p>“Approved the courses for Elected Members and CMT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) agreeing that officers would report back to the Committee, based on the Members’ feedback, with suggestions for the most appropriate format and time for the Members training to take place; and</li> <li>b) noting that officers were seeking three Members to participate in a Training Needs Assessment to gauge the level of training required, and that an email would be circulated seeking volunteers in the first instance.”</li> </ul>
3.2	<p><b>Climate Change and Sustainability Training Arrangement</b></p> <p>Following discussions with Elected Members, it is proposed that a 2 hour in-person climate training workshop will be delivered immediately after the committee’s meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> September 2025. The workshop will be delivered by Sustainable NI supported by members of the Council’s Climate Team. Content will be tailored to the findings of a training needs assessment carried out with members of the Climate and City Resilience Committee.</p>
<b>4.0</b>	<b><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></b>
4.1	The cost for up to 15 Elected Members attending the training is covered within Belfast City Council’s subscription as a partner to SNI for 2025/26. If additional places are required the cost would be £150 per delegate (a 50% reduction on the regular charge £295) and would be funded via existing City and Organisational Strategy budget.
<b>5.0</b>	<b><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></b>
5.1	None identified. Engagement with Equality & Rural Needs team is ongoing across the Programme.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Appendices - none</b>