

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



**Belfast
City Council**

28th November, 2025

MEETING OF THE CITY GROWTH AND REGENERATION COMMITTEE

Dear Alderman/Councillor,

The above-named Committee will meet in the Lavery Room, City Hall, and remotely via MS Teams on Wednesday, 3rd December, 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. Restricted Items

- (a) Assembly Rooms Cluster Update (report to follow)
- (b) Grosvenor Road Revitalisation Scheme Update (report to follow)
- (c) Local Growth Fund Update (report to follow)
- (d) St George's Market Quarterly Performance Update (Pages 1 - 10)
- (e) Belfast Zoo Quarterly Performance Report (Pages 11 - 18)
- (f) Belfast Bikes Quarterly Performance Report (Pages 19 - 30)
- (g) Financial Reporting - Quarter 2 2025/26 (Pages 31 - 38)

3. **Matters referred back from Council/Motions**

(a) Notice of Motion - Priority for our Local Traders (Pages 39 - 40)

4. **Strategic and Operational Issues**

(a) Notices of Motion Quarterly Update (Pages 41 - 46)

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

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Subject:	Notice of Motion – Priority for our Local Traders
Date:	3rd December, 2025
Reporting Officer:	Damien Martin, Strategic Director of Place and Economy
Contact Officer:	Craig Mealey, Committee Services Officer

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes ☐ No ☒
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	☐
After Council Decision	☐
Some time in the future	☐
Never	☐

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes ☒ No ☐

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	To consider a motion in relation to priority for local traders, which was referred to the Committee by the Standards and Business Committee at its meeting on 20th November, 2025.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to note that, in accordance with Standing Orders, Notices of Motion which commit the Council to expenditure or fall within the remit of a particular Committee must be referred to the appropriate committee for consideration and report. At this stage, the Committee is asked to note that the notice of motion has been received and that, if agreed, a subsequent report will be brought back to the Committee outlining a detailed consideration of the motion and the potential cost implications.

3.0	Main report
3.1	<u>Key Issues</u> At the meeting of the Standards and Business Committee held on 20th October, the following motion, which was proposed by Councillor Doran and seconded by Alderman McCoubrey, was referred to the Committee for consideration:
3.2	<u>Priority for our Local Traders</u> “This Council notes the significant contribution that local independent traders, small businesses, and market stallholders make to Belfast’s economy, tourism offering and community life. This Council further notes that major Council organised events such as the Belfast Maritime Festival, Christmas Market, and other seasonal events attract large crowds and generate substantial commercial opportunities. Accordingly, this Council resolves that for all Belfast City Council organised or Council supported events involving trader or vendor pitches, priority shall be given to traders who are residents or ratepayers within the Belfast City Council area. Council officers should develop and publish a transparent process for allocating pitches which: • gives first refusal to eligible local traders before any external operators are invited; • ensures fair opportunity across different sectors and communities; and • supports the Council’s commitment to local economic growth and inclusive prosperity.” Proposer: Councillor Jordan Doran Seconder: Alderman Frank McCoubrey
3.3	The motion calls upon the Council to give priority to traders who are residents or ratepayer within the Belfast City Council area at Council organised or Council supported events involving trader or vendor pitches.
3.4	<u>Financial and Resource Implications</u> None at this stage as there is no commitment to proceed with the Notice of Motion. Details of any financial and resource implications will be reported at a subsequent meeting.
3.5	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u> None associated with this report.



Subject:	Notices of Motion – Quarterly Update
Date:	3 December 2025
Reporting Officer:	Damien Martin, Strategic Director of Place and Economy
Contact Officer:	Jamie Uprichard, Business Research and Development Manager

Restricted Reports												
Is this report restricted?	Yes		No	X								
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 - Information relating to any individual - Information likely to reveal the identity of an individual - Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the council holding that information) - Information in connection with any labour relations matter - Information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained - 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 - Information on any action in relation to the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime												
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted? <table> <tr> <td>After Committee Decision</td> <td>☐</td> </tr> <tr> <td>After Council Decision</td> <td>☐</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sometime in the future</td> <td>☐</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Never</td> <td>☐</td> </tr> </table>					After Committee Decision	☐	After Council Decision	☐	Sometime in the future	☐	Never	☐
After Committee Decision	☐											
After Council Decision	☐											
Sometime in the future	☐											
Never	☐											

Call-in				
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes	X	No	

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the Notices of Motion and Issues Raised in Advance allocated to the City Growth & Regeneration (CG&R) Committee.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	It is recommended that the Committee: Notes the updates to all Notices of Motion and Issues Raised in Advance that this Committee is responsible for as referenced in Appendix 1; and

	Agrees to the closure of a single Notices of Motion, as referenced in Appendix 1 and noted in paragraph 3.3 below.
3.0	Main report
3.1	At the SP&R Committee meeting on 25th October 2019 , members agreed “ <i>that this Council notes that other Councils produce a monthly status report in relation to Notices of Motion; and agrees Belfast City Council adopts a similar practice and produces a monthly Notice of Motion Update which will be brought to each full Council Meeting.</i> ”
3.2	It was subsequently agreed that quarterly updates would be brought to the council’s statutory committees providing a regular update on the progress of each motion for which the committee is responsible for. At the SP&R Committee on 20th November 2020, members approved the arrangement for the future management of motions, which included recommendations that Notices of Motion could be closed for one of two reasons: Category 1 – Notice of Motion contained an action that has been completed. All Notices of Motion within this category contained a specific task that has since been complete. It is worth noting that, when Committee agree to action a Motion, there are sometimes additional actions agreed alongside the Motion. As these are not technically part of the Notice of Motion, they are taken forward through normal committee decision making processes. The Notice of Motion can therefore be closed, but additional actions related to it will continue to be progressed and reported to the committee. Category 2 - Notice of Motion has become Council policy or absorbed into a strategic programme of work. These Motions did not contain a specific task that could be completed but rather they are more strategic in nature and require changes in Council policy and/ or strategy for long term outcomes. Those listed within this category have all been agreed by Committee and are now either Council policy or are currently being implemented through a Council strategy that is managed by a Standing Committee through the corporate planning process.
3.3	There are presently nine Notices of Motion and Issues Raised in Advance for which the CG&R Committee is responsible for. Members are asked to approve the recommendation to close one motion (detailed below) and note status updates for the remaining eight motions which remain open. Additional information is included at Appendix 1. Category 1 Recommended Closures: 289 - Translink - Night-time provision of services
3.4	<u>Financial & Resource Implications</u> There are no additional financial implications attached to this report. Finance and resource implications are considered by Committee when taking decisions on the specific Notices of Motion and Issues Raised by Members.
3.5	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u> There are no equality, good relations or rural needs implications contained in this report.
4.0	Appendices – Documents attached
	Appendix 1: Notices of Motion Live Database – CG&R Committee

City Growth & Regeneration Notice of Motions

Notices of Motion and Issues Raised in Advance that remain OPEN:

ID	Date	Notice of Motion	Proposed By	Referral Route	Lead Officer	Latest Status Update
208	04/10/2021	Belfast City Nightlife and Night-time Economy	Cllr S de Faoite	Notice of Motion – straight to CG&R	Damien Martin	Research by DfE, TNI and the three BIDs into NI's Night-Time Economy was launched at an event in the Europa Hotel on 17 th September. The findings report that Belfast alone accounts for £802million in GVA and supports over 26,000 jobs, many of them entry-level positions providing vital opportunities for young people and new workforce entrants. The full research report is yet to be published. The event also included the first annual update from the Belfast Night Czar. Following previous engagement by the City Centre All Party Working Group (CCAPWG) with the Night Czar in December 2024, it has been agreed that ongoing engagement and closer working arrangements are established between Elected Members and the Purple Flag Steering Group (PFSG). The Night Czar will be invited to the next meeting of the working group (early in the New Year), while enhanced elected member engagement on Belfast's nightlife and nighttime economy will be facilitated by the Chair of the CCAPWG joining the PFSG.
217	01/11/2021	Tourism Street Signage (Enlightenment Period)	Cllr M Long	Notice of Motion - referred by S&B Committee	Keith Forster	Officers have undertaken initial desk-based research on the Belfast Enlightenment Period, its potential tourism appeal and a list of proposed options. Further work on the motion has been delayed due to other priority work areas however consideration and audit of associated tourism experiences will form part of the ongoing Visitor Experience Development Plans (VEDP) development work.
425	15/01/2025	Gary Moore Statue	Cllr B Smyth	Issue Raised in Advance (CG&R)	Sinead Grimes	<i>It was agreed at the recent meeting of the City Hall/City Hall Grounds Installations Working Group and subsequently at the SP&R Committee meeting on 21 November that the Gary Moore Statue would be added to the council's Capital Programme as a Stage 1 – Emerging project to allow Officers to work with statutory partners to identify a suitable location in the Cathedral Quarter. It is proposed that there will be a similar agreement in line with the Rory Gallagher statue project, ie the statue will be crowd funded with the Council taking on ownership, management and maintenance post installation. Whenever necessary funds have been raised for piece to be completed.</i>

431	05/02/2025	Bristol Music Fund	Cllr S de Faoite	Issue Raised in Advance (CG&R)	Keith Forster	Council officers met with counterparts in Bristol in April 2025, in relation to the establishment of the Bristol Music Fund; and the subsequent feasibility study. Officials will continue to engage in learning and development discussions with counterparts in Bristol and further information will be brought back to a future committee meeting.
465	06/08/2025	Artist and Creative Studio Space	Cllr A Groogan	Issue Raised in Advance (CG&R)	Keith Forster	The Culture team are currently working with colleagues in City Regeneration and Development and a report will be brought back to a future committee meeting.
472	10/09/2025	Rosetta Quietway	Cllr S de Faoite	Issue Raised in Advance (CG&R)	Cathy Reynolds	NEW: Officers are preparing to reach out to Elected Members who represent the Lisnasharragh DEA, Eastside Partnership and the Department for Infrastructure with a view to hold an engagement session early in the New Year.
475	23/10/2025	Bike Bunkers Trial	Cllr B Smyth	Notice of Motion - referred by S&B Committee	Cathy Reynolds	NEW: The motion calls upon the Council to carry out a trial to determine demand for a Bike Bunkers Scheme across Belfast. A previous motion on Secured Serviced City Centre Civic Bicycle Parking Facilities was referred to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee in November 2020 and subsequently the City Growth and Regeneration Committee, following which a secure parking facility pilot was opened within the city centre. Officers will carry out a detailed analysis of the requirements for providing a Bike Bunker Scheme in Belfast with a detailed report to be brought back to a future meeting of the CG&R Committee.
485	20/11/2025	Priority for our local traders	Cllr J Doran	Notice of Motion - referred by S&B Committee	Keith Forster	NEW: No update yet available

Notices of Motion and Issued Raised in Advance recommended to CLOSE

ID	Date	Notice of Motion	Proposed By	Referral Route	Lead Officer	Update / Latest Status
289	01/12/2022	Translink - Night-time provision of services	Cllr D Lyons	Notice of Motion – debated at council	Cathy Reynolds	<u>Recommend to close (Category 1)</u> As part of the original motion, council contacted Translink, requesting an extension to the night-time provision to its Metro and Glider bus services. In addition, as part of an amendment, the council also engaged Translink about setting up a free public transport incentive in the run up to Christmas 2023. A four-week Nightmover Service was delivered over the last two-years. In 2023, it started on 24 November 2023, and ran every Friday and Saturday until 22 December 2023 (covering four weekends). The 2023 Nightmover service was impacted by a 24-hour strike on 1 Dec and a 48-hour strike on 15-16 December. In 2024, the Nightmover Service started on 30 November 2024 and ran every Friday and Saturday until 21 December 2024 (also four weekends). As part of community planning the council has mainstreamed related activity within the refreshed Belfast Agenda action plans: “Expand the timetable with a greater service in the evenings and funding for the provision of night-time services”, for which Translink are the lead partner. Council had positive engagements with relevant Ministers and continued to work with Translink and other interested stakeholders. Furthermore at the September meeting of the SP&R Committee, members agreed to provide £92.3k of collaborative funding of the Nightmover Service (subject to Executive funding). Initiative starting on Friday 28 November 2025, marks the start of a significant new year-round bus pilot scheme backed by BCC and the NI Executive.

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