

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



**Belfast
City Council**

MEETING OF THE STRATEGIC POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Dear Alderman/Councillor,

The above-named Committee will meet both online and in-person in the Lavery Room - City Hall on Friday, 21st August, 2026 at 9.30 am, 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. **Presentation**

- (a) Ulster University Job Cuts- Vice Chancellor (Prof. Bartholomew)

3. **Restricted Items**

- (a) Area-based Community Planning and Community Wealth Building (Pages 1 - 8)
- (b) EVAWG: Local and Regional Change Fund 2026/2027 (Report to follow)
- (c) Local Growth Fund (Report to follow)

- (d) Update on Employees on Temporary Contracts and Agency Workers (Pages 9 - 24)
- (e) Organisational Reviews and Change Programme (Pages 25 - 30)
- (f) Scottish Cities Alliance (Report to follow)
- (g) TEO Rapid Response Funding (Pages 31 - 36)
- (h) 2026-27 Quarter 1 Finance Report (Pages 37 - 58)
- (i) An Droichead - Stabilisation Support (Pages 59 - 62)
- (j) Outcome of Structural Review - Northern Ireland Houses of Multiple Occupancy (NIHMO) Service, City and Neighbourhood Services Department (Pages 63 - 70)
- (k) Waste Specialist (Pages 71 - 86)
- (l) 5-year Service Level Agreement for the management of 11 chargers across 5 Council depots, installed via the Depot Charging Scheme (Pages 87 - 96)
- (m) Belfast Hills Partnership - Request for increase to annual funding (Pages 97 - 126)

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

- (a) Correspondence received - Removal of Ring-fenced Protection for Youth Service Funding - Department of Justice (Report to follow)
- (b) Correspondence received - Pre Accession Assistance - EU (Report to follow)
- (c) Motion Correspondence received - Tackling Anti-Social Scrambler and E-Scooter Use in Belfast - Department of Justice (Report to follow)
- (d) Motion Correspondence received - Premenstrual Dysphoric Disorder- DoH and PHA (Report to follow)

5. **Belfast Agenda/Strategic Issues**

- (a) Belfast Region City Deal - Annual Report (Pages 127 - 150)
- (b) Independently Managed Community Centres (IMCC's) (Pages 151 - 156)
- (c) Belfast Place Based Growth Proposition (Report to follow)
- (d) Planning Update (Pages 157 - 178)
- (e) Performance Improvement Plan (Report to follow)

6. **Physical Programme and Asset Management**

- (a) Physical Programme Update (Pages 179 - 188)
- (b) Asset Management (Pages 189 - 194)

7. **Finance, Procurement and Performance**

- (a) Contracts Update (Pages 195 - 206)

8. **Equality and Good Relations**

- (a) Minutes of Shared City Partnership Meeting of 12th August 2026 (Report to follow)

9. **Operational Issues**

- (a) Minutes of the Party Group Leaders Consultative Forum (Report to follow)
- (b) Requests for use of the City Hall (Pages 207 - 212)
- (c) Request for use of City Hall grounds for two events in Autumn 2026 (Pages 213 - 216)
- (d) Minutes of the Disability Working Group of 14th August 2026 (Report to follow)

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Subject:	Belfast Region City Deal – update
Date:	21 st August 2026
Reporting Officer:	John Walsh, Chief Executive
Contact Officer:	Sharon McNicholl, Deputy Chief Executive / Director of Corporate Services

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? <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 70%;">After Committee Decision</td> <td style="width: 30%; text-align: center;"> </td> </tr> <tr> <td>After Council Decision</td> <td style="text-align: center;"> </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sometime in the future</td> <td style="text-align: center;"> </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Never</td> <td style="text-align: center;"> </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 ☒ No ☐

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	This report is to provide an update to Committee on the progress of the Belfast Region City Deal (BRCD) and seek approval for the BRCD Annual Report 2025/26 and for Belfast City Council to commence work on the AI Adoption Programme on behalf of BRCD.

2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to: • Approve the BRCD Annual Report for 2025/26 • Approve the commencement of work on a £4.6 million AI Adoption programme on behalf of Belfast Region City Deal partners (subject to DfE business case approval).
3.0	Main report
	Annual Report 2025/26
3.1	The agreed reporting arrangements for all City and Growth Deals requires both the production of an Annual Report and a meeting with the Northern Ireland Delivery Board in order to discuss deal progress as part of an 'Annual Conversation' which is scheduled for 25 th August 2026.
3.2	A high level, outward focused Annual Report has now been produced for 2025/26 to outline the progress made at programme level. A number of notable achievements are included in this reporting year. To date at Programme level: • 22 projects with Outline Business Cases and 5 with Full Business Cases approved. • More than £674m investment committed to the BRCD in signed Contracts for Funding. • More than £86m paid out to partners for the projects. • 22 contracts - with an estimated value of £158m - initiated across the Programme. Together these contracts have committed more than 15,000 in social value points. • Two projects now have their Operators appointed, 3 are at Fit Out stage, 3 more at construction stage and 12 are at design stage. • Further information on emerging benefits and real world impacts can be found in section 3 of the report. During the year at project level: • Construction was completed at AMIC's Factory of the Future in Newtownabbey. • The first productions were filmed and broadcast at Studio Ulster. • Construction continued at iREACH Health and Momentum One Zero and planning permission was granted for CDHT. • An operator was appointed for I4C Innovation and Cleantech centre. • The UK Digital Twin Centre completed its first Industry Accelerator. • A funding agreement was signed for the £4.4m Regional Contracts for Innovation and a £2m BRCD Innovation Centre Collaborative Grants Programme was approved. In addition an OBC was approved for the Enabling Infrastructure Fund.

	• DFI approved the OBC for BRT2 and procurement for a contractor for the Lagan Pedestrian and Cycle Bridge is underway. Newry Southern Relief Road awaits a decision on the need for a public enquiry before it can be further progressed. • Belfast Stories OBC was approved and progress is continuing on Bangor Waterfront, and Destination Royal Hillsborough. • Construction for the theatre and conference element of Newry Regeneration was scheduled to commence in June and engagement continues at Carrickfergus Regeneration. • An additional cross deals skills assessment was completed for the Life and Health Sciences sector – bringing the total completed to 5 – and engagement is underway to strengthen the contribution projects make to inclusive growth particularly through skills.
3.3	The Annual Report, which was approved by the BRCD Executive Board in June, is attached at Appendix 1 for Members’ consideration. The individual BRCD partners will also be seeking approval for the Annual Report through their own governance structures. The report will be formally published after all approvals have been secured.
3.4	The report will then be shared with the Department of Finance and used to inform the Annual Conversation.
3.5	Moving into Year 5 (2026/27) we will see significant progress across the programme with: • Construction due to commence on CDHT and Newry Regeneration Theatre and Conference Centre and continuing for iREACH Health and Momentum One Zero. • Design Teams will be appointed for Bangor Waterfront Urban Waterfront and Public Realm and Marina. • Belfast Stories Contract for Funding will be signed, the planning application submitted and a Contractor appointed. • Carrickfergus Regeneration planning applications will be submitted and the Supply Team Contract packages will be issued to market. • The BRCD Regional Contracts for Innovation programme and the BRCD Innovation Centres Collaborative Grants programme will be launched. • Further business cases to support adoption of innovative projects utilising advanced wireless and AI technologies will be submitted and approved. • The OBC Addendums for Destination Royal Hillsborough, i4c Innovation & Cleantech Centre and The Gobbins Phase II will be approved, enabling design development and submission of planning applications. • Our final Skills Assessment on Tourism and Hospitality will be produced.

	Financial and Implementation Plan
3.6	The overarching deal document is supported by a Financial and Implementation Plan and the annual submission for 2025/26 sits alongside the Annual Report.
3.7	As the programme is now firmly in delivery phase this year's financial and implementation plan has again been combined into one document. The document includes the expenditure profile of all the projects broken down annually and the high level project milestones based on the Quarter 4 financial and performance returns. The PMO engaged closely with partners and following consideration by the Finance Directors' Group and the Executive Board it was formally submitted to the Department of Finance at the end of June as required by the governance and assurance arrangements.
3.8	During 2025/26 a further £46.2m was drawn down from both the Department for the Economy and the Department for Communities demonstrating the positive progress being made across the programme. Up to 31 st March 2026, claims totalling £87m have been processed by Programme Management Office (£46m in FY25-26).
3.9	Belfast Region AI Adoption programme Belfast City Council, on behalf of Belfast Region City Deal partners, has submitted a business case proposal to the Department for the Economy (DfE) to deliver a £4.6 million AI Adoption programme across the region.
3.10	The new programme will provide rounds of competitive grants of between approximately £20,000 to £100,000 to support organisations in the innovative adoption of AI in ways that contribute to increased productivity and improved service delivery. The programme will also offer expert guidance to organisations during the bid development phase and afterwards during the implementation of those projects that are awarded funding.
3.11	The AI Adoption programme will directly contribute to the growth ambitions of the Belfast Region City Deal Digital pillar and it also aligns well with a key recommendation of the recent NI Science Panel AI report to ' <i>establish new programmes of support for established companies-integrating AI into their organisations and operations</i> '.
3.12	Subject to DfE approval of the business case, which is expected imminently, Members are asked to approve the commencement of work on the programme by Belfast City Council. The business case includes funding to Belfast City Council for staffing and programme costs. It also includes funding for the Council to commission technical third-party support, approval for which is included in this month's Contracts Report.

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Subject:	Independently Managed Community Centres (IMCC's)
Date:	21 ST August 2026
Reporting Officer:	Jim Girvan, Director, Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Margaret Higgins, Lead Officer, Community Provision

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 ☐	
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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;

	- advise committee of correspondence received from Shaftesbury Community Recreation Centre on 23 July 26 and seek their view on the request for additional funding for 26/27. - Provide an update on actions agreed at SP&R committee in March 26.																																
2.0	Recommendation																																
2.1	That the Committee consider the request for additional funding contained in the correspondence and the update on recent and planned activity in relation to IMCCs.																																
3.0	Main Report																																
	Key Issues 3.1 Members will recall Council has long standing arrangements in place to provide financial support to 7 Council community centres that are managed independently by the community sector. 3.2 In March 2026, following a written request from 4 IMCCs, SP&R agreed to double the annual award to these facilities so that they received an uplift of £74,000 each (totalling £296,000) for 25/26 financial year. 3.3 In July this year, Council received a further request from these 4 facilities to pay the same uplift in the 26/27 year. Members are asked to consider this and whether they wish to approve an additional payment. Detail of this request can be found in Appendix I. 3.4 The table below shows the individual allocations to IMCCs for 26/27. To date 50% of these awards have been issued. An annual CPI increase of 2.8 % for 26/27 will be included with the second payment which will be paid in October 2026. The 4 organisations requesting the increase are highlighted. <table><tr><th>Independently Managed Centres</th><th>Amount</th><th>CPI Increase</th><th>Total 26/27</th></tr><tr><td>Shaftesbury Recreation Centre</td><td>£74,056.80</td><td>£2,073.59</td><td>£76,130.39</td></tr><tr><td>Grosvenor Recreation Centre</td><td>£74,056.80</td><td>£2,073.59</td><td>£76,130.39</td></tr><tr><td>Denmark Street Community Centre</td><td>£25,680.28</td><td>£719.04.</td><td>£26,399.32</td></tr><tr><td>Carrick Hill Community Centre</td><td>£40,867.01</td><td>£1,144.27</td><td>£42,011.28</td></tr><tr><td>Sally Gardens</td><td>£74,056.80</td><td>£2,073.59</td><td>£76,130.39</td></tr><tr><td>Hanwood Trust</td><td>£74,056.80</td><td>£2,073.59</td><td>£76,130.39</td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>£362,774.49</td><td></td><td>£372,932.15</td></tr></table>	Independently Managed Centres	Amount	CPI Increase	Total 26/27	Shaftesbury Recreation Centre	£74,056.80	£2,073.59	£76,130.39	Grosvenor Recreation Centre	£74,056.80	£2,073.59	£76,130.39	Denmark Street Community Centre	£25,680.28	£719.04.	£26,399.32	Carrick Hill Community Centre	£40,867.01	£1,144.27	£42,011.28	Sally Gardens	£74,056.80	£2,073.59	£76,130.39	Hanwood Trust	£74,056.80	£2,073.59	£76,130.39	Total	£362,774.49		£372,932.15
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3.5	In March 26, when considering the request for additional funding, SP&R agreed that a number of actions would be completed by council officers. An update on these is provided below: Agreed that a report would be brought back to the committee which would provide members with options on proceeding with standard Legal Agreements outlining Terms and Conditions for all IMCCs at a future meeting.
3.6	Officers have been working on a cross departmental basis to gather this information for all IMCCs and are working with IMCCs to gather information that will inform a consistent approach in relation to legal agreements, funding levels and capture of activity and outcomes delivered by IMCCs.
3.7	At its meeting on 11 August P&C committee agreed that an elected member workshop on Community Services would be held at 5.15pm on 26th October. An update on the outcome of the work above and options for a consistent approach to IMCC funding and legal agreements will form part of the agenda for this workshop. All elected members will be invited to attend. Agreed that a condition survey would be undertaken across all Independently Managed Community Centres.
3.8	This work is underway by Property & Projects Department and is due for completion in the Autumn.
	<u>Financial and Resource Implications</u>
3.9	Annual awards to IMCC's including CPI increases are contained within approved budgets and factored into future budgeting/forecasting processes. There is no available departmental budget to pay the additional funding of £296,000 in the 26/27 financial year that has been requested.
	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications /Rural Needs Assessment</u>
3.10	This will be considered throughout and any appropriate issues highlighted to Members. Any amendments to existing arrangements will be considered in the context of any Equality/Good Relations and Rural Needs considerations.
4.0	Appendices - Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 – Correspondence from Shaftesbury Community Recreation Centre to Belfast City Council

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SHAFTESBURY
COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTRE



Mr John Walsh

CEO Belfast City Council,

23rd July 2026

Dear Mr Walsh

Firstly, we hope you are keeping well and we wish to thank Belfast City Council for the ongoing relationship in place with the Independent Centres at,

-  Grosvenor Community Centre
-  Shaftesbury Healthy Living Centre
-  Sally Gardens
-  Hanwood

We wish to thank you Chief Executive, the senior team and departmental senior officers, as well as councillors for recognising the value of the centres and the historic issues related to lack of inflationary increases applied to the independent facilities.

As you know, the ask had been “for an **in-year** increase to the running cost grant support provided. As well as **urgent** actions to enable reasonable recurring support from 2026/2027 and thereafter, which is cognisant of the unique context and scale of the 4 independent centres”.

Further to this, there was council agreement for a review of the models and agreements across the independent centres and condition surveys of facilities.

We recognise that officers have a large portfolio of work this year, particularly with Fleadh Cheoil, leisure transformation, the community support plan and delivering the aspirations of the Belfast City Centre Regeneration and Investment Strategy.

As such, we fully accept that the independent centres reviews are unlikely to be completed in financial year 2026/2027.

For that reason, we would ask that the initial request for increase in 2025/2026 is applied again and in year to the support for 2026/2027, until a final appropriate rate is agreed linked to review completion.

Further, we would ask that this increase is considered in light of any in year departmental underspends, if appropriate.

We are happy to forward supporting reports, media, OBA data, numerical information and programming overviews across the sites if required.



SHAFTESBURY
COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTRE



By way of background again, the centres represent thriving hubs of **community development, good relations work, community sports, safety, health and wellbeing**. The facilities are large in scale, have secured excellent cultural inclusion at Belfast City Council owned premises and consistently demonstrate some of the highest participation rates across the existing BCC Leisure estate. The independent centres encompass former full size leisure centre facilities (all dry), with high operational, 'open door' costs versus smaller community centre settings. The facilities have **measurable, evidenced high footfall numbers** and have come to represent quality examples of community asset transfer. Including being cited as 'models of good practice' in the DTNI community asset transfer report commissioned by Belfast City Council in 2014. The centres have been beacons of cultural inclusion including during **high tension periods, including in 2026**.

The facilities have represented a **cost saving to Belfast City Council** and the bespoke models of management have ensured that centres, which were at risk of participation decline, have thrived in usage and impact terms. The organisations each have unique selling points, from 7 day opening, central arenas for cultural inclusion, OBA Health programming and advancers of community sports.

The centres have, **to date, not been included in leisure transformation schemes** and as such face historic infrastructure issues linked to insulation and outdated heating systems. It is hoped that the centres may be included in Leisure Transformation future initiatives. In the interim, officers have instructed condition reports be undertaken which are very welcome.

To conclude, we ask that the same support agreed in 2025/2026 is applied in 2026/2027 (in year), to recognise the scale of operations across the 4 sites. Further that this request is considered as part of in year underspends. Once again, we sincerely thank Belfast City Council for the partnership and vision in community asset transfer. We believe this vision has been borne out in the 4 independent facilities becoming successful examples of community and council working together.

Thank you again sincerely for all the help, support, guidance and faith in our organisations.

Yours sincerely

Maura Millen

Chairperson



Belfast
City Council

Subject:	Planning Information
Date:	21 August 2026
Reporting Officer(s):	Kate Bentley, Director of Planning and Building Control
Contact Officer(s):	Ed Baker, Planning Manager (Development Management)

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes ☐ No ☒
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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 or Summary of Main Issues
1.1	To provide an update on Major planning applications and applications that have been determined by the Planning Committee.

2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The report is for notation.
3.0	Main Report
	<u>Background</u>
3.1	The Committee received an update on Planning Performance at its meeting on the 27 th August 2024. At that meeting and previously, the Committee sought a regular update on Major applications and applications that have been determined by the Planning Committee, especially those where a Decision Notice has yet to be issued.
3.2	All Major applications must be determined by the Planning Committee. The Key Performance Indicator (given in weeks) is calculated from when an application is considered to be valid to when the Decision Notice ("Green Form") is issued. This means that any delays either pre- or post- committee will impact on the KPI. The target for determining a Major application is 30 weeks.
	<u>Major applications</u>
3.3	Appendix 1 sets out the Major applications that are currently with the Council to determine. Details are given on the location, proposal, the validation date and target date for determination (using the 30 week target set out in the Key Performance Indicator) as well as a status update.
	<u>Applications determined by Committee</u>
3.4	Appendix 2 sets out the applications that have been determined by Committee since February 2022 which are yet to issue. For completeness information is also given on those applications determined by Committee which have had their Decision Notice issued. Details are given on the time taken (in weeks) to bring the applications before Committee and where decisions are yet to be issued, information is given relating to the main reason for the delay.
3.5	Following further discussion at the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee in May 2025, this table has now been amended to include a new non statutory target date and to give more detailed reasons for any delays in determination.
	<u>Conclusion</u>
3.6	This report will be brought to each Planning Committee and to each Strategic Policy and Resources Committee for information on an ongoing basis.
	Financial & Resource Implications
3.7	There are no financial or resource implications associated with this report.
	Equality or Good Relations Implications / Rural Needs Assessment
3.8	There are no equality or good relations / rural needs implications associated with this report.
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached

	Appendix 1 – Major planning applications at August 2026 Appendix 2 – Applications determined by Committee at August 2026
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Live Major Applications not previously considered by Committee @ 11.08.26

Number	Application No.	Category	Location	Proposal	Date Valid	Target Date	Status
1	LA04/2023/3799/F	Major	Vacant lands (partial site of the former Wolfhill Flax Spinning Mill) located to the south, of Wolfhill Manor, north of Wolfhill Grove and west of Mill Avenue, Ligoniel Road, Belfast, BT14 8NR	New single storey 10-class based primary school, separate nursery school accommodation and school meals accommodation to facilitate the relocation of St. Vincent De Paul Primary School and Nursery from existing site on Ligoniel Road, Belfast. Proposal includes new pedestrian and vehicular accesses onto Mill Avenue, car parking, covered cycle storage area and hard play areas. Hard and soft landscaping including wildlife walkway, fencing, retaining walls, underground drainage system to include the reinstatement of underground storm sewer and headwall into adjacent DFI River wayleave. Includes temporary contractors compound and all associated site works.	09-Oct-23	06-May-24	Under Consideration
2	LA04/2023/4181/F	Major	Lands comprising the existing Sydenham Wastewater Pumping Station west of Park Avenue, Connswater River and King George V Playing Fields, to the south of the Sydenham By-Pass, east of The Oval football stadium, north and east of Parkgate Gardens and north of Parkgate Crescent, Parkgate Parade and Mersey Street, Belfast	Demolition of existing Wastewater Pumping Station (WwPS) with reinstatement of site as a landscaped area. Construction of a replacement WwPS including associated control building and hardstanding, the raising of site levels, in-channel works, provision of new rising main, other ancillary buildings, the creation of an access road on lands within the King George V Playing Fields to serve the facility, landscaping and other ancillary works. Provision of a temporary working area on lands within the King George V Playing Fields, the creation of a temporary access road from Mersey Street to facilitate construction traffic on lands to the rear of 1-35 Parkgate Gardens, the creation of a temporary footway adjacent to 88 Park Avenue and other ancillary development and landscaping restoration works.	14-Nov-23	11-Jun-24	Under Consideration
3 Page 161	LA04/2024/0910/F	Major	70 Whitewell Road, Newtownabbey, BT36 7ES Site at Hazelwood Integrated College	Redevelopment of Hazelwood Integrated College to include demolition of existing building and development of new school campus, new sports pitch, outdoor play areas, car parking, hard and soft landscaping and retention and refurbishment of the Listed Building (Graymount House) and other associated site works including a temporary mobile village during the construction process.	23-May-24	19-Dec-24	Under Consideration
	LA04/2024/2024/RM	Major	Royal Ulster Agricultural Society, the Kings Hall, 488-516 Lisburn Road, Belfast, BT9 6GW	41no. retirement living apartments at Plot 6, parking and landscaping in accordance with outline planning permission LA04/2020/0845/O, seeking approval of layout, scale, appearance and landscaping details	18-Dec-24	16-Jul-25	Under Consideration

5	LA04/2025/0012/F	Major	Lands at the Waterworks Park, located off the Cavehill Road; and lands at Alexandra Park, located between Castleton Gardens and Deacon Street; extending along Castleton Gardens and Camberwell Terrace to the road junction approximately 30 metres to the north west of 347 Antrim Road, Belfast, BT15 2HF	Refurbishment and safety work to the Waterworks upper and lower reservoirs, and Alexandra Park Lake reservoir, to be complemented with wider environmental, landscape and connectivity improvements. The reservoir works comprise of a new overflow structure with reinforcement and protection of the return embankment parallel to the by-wash channel at Waterworks Upper reservoir. Repairs to the upstream face of Waterworks Lower reservoir with the addition of wetland planting to reduce the overall capacity of the reservoir. Removal of an existing parapet wall and embankment reinforcement at the Alexandra Park Lake reservoir. Improvements at Waterworks Park comprise the demolition of the existing Waterworks Bothy and replacement with a new building to include public toilets, Changing facilities, multi-purpose community room and kitchenette. Extension to existing Cavehill Road gatehouse building. Entrance improvements, new events space including multipurpose decking; resurfacing of footways; new pedestrian lighting along key routes; a dog park; replacement platforms and viewing area. New 3-on-3 basketball court; replacement surface to existing small sided 3G pitch; and upgrades to existing Queen Mary's playground. Improvements at Alexandra Park include the resurfacing of footways; new pedestrian lighting along key routes; new reinforced grass event space; new lake viewing area; new public toilets and changing places; entrance improvements. 2no existing bridges replaced; new pedestrian entrance; reimagined peace wall; new multi-sport synthetic surface with cover; and upgrades to existing play parks. Streetscape improvements along Camberwell Terrace and Castleton Gardens include resurfacing of footways with new kerbs; resurfaced carriageways and new tactile paving at pedestrian crossings; and all associated works.	20-Dec-24	18-Jul-25	Under Consideration
6	LA04/2024/2134/F	Major	Site of the former Dunmurry Cricket Club, Ashley Park, Dunmurry, Belfast BT17 0QQ, located north of 1-10 Ashley Park and south of 1-20 Areema Grove and Areema Drive, Dunmurry.	Mixed use scheme for new community recreational facilities, including basketball court, parkland and residential development comprising 37no social/affordable housing units with landscaping and associated works.	21-Dec-24	19-Jul-25	Under Consideration
7	LA04/2024/2145/F	Major	Lands at North Foreshore / Giant's Park Dargan Road, Belfast, BT3 9LZ	Creation of a new Adventure Park comprising a community / visitor hub building including café, creche, flexible exhibition / community space, ancillary office space and maintenance yard. Development includes community gardens, bmx track, crazy golf, dog park, walking/running/cycle paths, outdoor amphitheatre, bio diversity zones, and recreational facilities. Associated landscaping and infrastructure (drainage, lighting, car / coach parking, WC block etc).	15-Jan-25	13-Aug-25	Under Consideration
8	LA04/2025/0184/O	Major	38-52 Lisburn Road, Malone Lower, Belfast, BT9 6AA	Seven storey building (39.3m AOD) mixed use development comprising of Use Class B1 (c): Business, Research & Development and Use Class, D1: Community and Cultural Uses, including landscaping, and servicing (Amended Description).	10-Feb-25	08-Sep-25	Under Consideration
9	LA04/2025/0088/F	Major	Lands adjacent and south west of Monagh By-pass, north west of Nos. 17, 19 and 22 Black Ridge Gardens and c.150 metres south east of Nos. 38 to 70 (evens) Black Ridge View (part of the wider Glenmona mixed-use development), Belfast	Proposed mixed use development (in lieu of the previously approved employment zone under LA04/2020/0804/F) comprising a three storey building of 36 no. Category 1 (over 55's) social housing apartments and 7 no. single storey Class B1/B2 Business/Light Industrial Units. Development includes 2 no. access points, car parking, landscaping and all associated site works	17-Feb-25	15-Sep-25	Under Consideration

10	LA04/2025/0974/F	Major	Site to the south of the former Knockbreda High School. Lands bounded by the A55 Upper Knockbreda Road to the south and south-east, Wynchurch Road to the north-east, Knockbreda Primary School to the north and Knockbreda Park to the west.	Development of a new primary school building for Forge Integrated Primary School. including development of a nursery unit, hard and soft play areas, landscaping, car parking, internal drop-off areas and new access arrangements onto the A55 Knockbreda Road via a new signalised junction; demolition of no. 138a Knockbreda Park and associated site works	04-Jun-25	31-Dec-25	Under Consideration
11	LA04/2025/2018/F	Major	Lands at Donegall Quay, Tomb St. to north of Albert Square, Gamble St. to south of Corporation Sq, Little Patrick St. to east of Nelson St. & under the M3 bridge at Donegall Quay and Corporation St., Belfast, BT1 1AA	Public realm and road improvements including development of urban recreation space below the M3 flyover at Corporation Street / Tomb Street and new public space below the M3 flyover at Donegall Quay.	19-Nov-25	17-Jun-26	Under Consideration
12	LA04/2026/0007/F	Major	Lands at Belfast YMCA, Knightsbridge Park, Stranmillis, Belfast. To the east of Nos. 15; 17; 19; 25; 27; 29; and 35 Knightsbridge Manor. South of Nos. 26 to 34 (evens) Knightsbridge Manor, Nos. 65; 66; and 68 Vauxhall Park, and Nos. 15 and 17 Marylebone Park. West of Nos. 35 and 38 Sharman Drive, and Nos. 39 and 42 Sharman Park, Belfast	Proposed mixed-use development comprising 3G playing pitch with floodlighting; Children's Play Area; Trim Trail; Car Parking; and 24 No. Dwelling Units including a mix of detached, semi-detached and apartment house types. The development also includes site access, internal roads, landscaping and pumping station and all other associated site and access works.	17-Dec-25	15-Jul-26	Under Consideration
Page 163	LA04/2025/2210/O	Major	Lands to the east of Corporation Street, north of Donegall Quay, west and south of Clarendon Dock, south, east and south west of Pilot Street, and south and south east of Corry Road, Belfast (amended address)	Hybrid planning permission is being sought for the following development: Outline Planning Application (no matters reserved) for Plots A & B to provide 456No. residential units (apartments) and 1,600sqm of ground floor commercial uses including retail (Class A1), Financial and Professional (Class A2), Community and Cultural Uses (Class D1), Assembly and Leisure (Class D2), and café, bar and restaurant uses, landscaping, open space, play equipment, public realm improvements and all associated site and access works including servicing from Corporation Street. Outline Planning Application (all matters reserved) for Plots C, D, E and F for a mixed-use development comprising residential (apartments and dwellings), a Hotel/Apart Hotel, ground floor commercial uses including retail (Class A1), Financial and Professional (Class A2), Community and Cultural Uses (Class D1), Assembly and Leisure (Class D2), and café, bar and restaurant uses, the change of use (principle only) to the listed Clarendon Building, Furnace House and Pump House (to include cafe and restaurant uses), re-purposing of Clarendon Dock for leisure uses and all associated site, access and infrastructure works.	27-Jan-26	25-Aug-26	Under Consideration
14	LA04/2026/0282/F	Major	29-33 Bedford Street, Belfast, BT2 7EJ	Renewal of application reference LA04/2020/0659/F - Refurbishment of existing four storey terrace including alteration, extension to rear, partial demolition and reinstatement. Part change of use from art galleries to two cafes at ground floor. Retention of offices within existing building at second, third and fourth floor. Erection of new 13 storey aparthotel building to rear and associated works including public realm improvements	13-Feb-26	11-Sep-26	Under Consideration
15	LA04/2026/0496/F	Major	Lands at 3-9 Dalton Street, (bordered by Middlepath Street and Bridge End), Belfast, BT5 4BA	Proposed construction of 325no. apartments, residents' gym and 4no. retail units with associated car parking and landscaping (amendment to previously approved application LA04/2018/2649/F).	19-Mar-26	15-Oct-26	Under Consideration
16	LA04/2026/0515/F	Major	All Saints College Glen Road, Belfast and lands to the rear of Hamill Park and Nos 151 to 165A Glen Road (former Cross & Passion school site).	Proposed construction of a new post-primary school campus on the former Cross & Passion site, with associated landscaping, play areas, new access road, parking and all other associated works. The proposal also includes the demolition of the existing All Saints Glen Road Campus buildings and redevelopment of the site to include new playing fields, changing pavilion and associated parking.	20-Mar-26	16-Oct-26	Under Consideration

17	LA04/2026/0442/F	Major	Land at D3 adjacent to the RSPB Reserve Airport Road West, Belfast, BT3 9DY	Revisions to terrestrial elements of Planning Permission ref. LA04/2016/0421/F (Construction of a new multi-purpose berthing facility at D3) comprising upgrade of existing access track along northeastern boundary of site and installation of associated street lighting/parking area; additional security hut; relocation and extension of main cruise terminal building and associated parking/drop-off areas with covered walkways; additional baggage building; and other associated site works in respect of lighting, landscaping and ancillary infrastructure. Retention of approved cruise quay with minor relocation of mooring dolphins, 25m wide piled relieving slab along quay length, associated hardstanding on hinterland, tower lights (with one to be relocated), security hut, access road adjacent to RSPB lands and other ancillary works.	24-Mar-26	20-Oct-26	Under Consideration
18	LA04/2025/2140/F	Major	Harberton North Special School 29a Fortwilliam Park, Belfast, BT15 4AP	Partial demolition of existing school buildings. Refurbishment of existing building and part single, part two storey extension to front and rear. New parking and drop off areas, play areas and landscaping.	28-Apr-26	24-Nov-26	Under Consideration
19	LA04/2026/0814/F	Major	Nos 128, 128C, 130, 132, 134, 136-138, & 140-144 Kingsway, Dunmurry, Belfast, BT17 9NP	Demolition of existing commercial units, erection of discount foodstore, alterations to car parking layout, alterations to access on Dunmurry Lane, landscaping and associated site works	01-May-26	27-Nov-26	Under Consideration
20	LA04/2026/0701/F	Major	Land adjacent to and south of the junction of London Road and Lismore Street, Belfast	Residential development of 24no. apartments in 8no. blocks, 44no. semi-detached houses and 1no. detached house (69no. units in total) and associated ancillary works	07-May-26	03-Dec-26	Under Consideration
21	LA04/2026/0909/F	Major	Centre House 69-87 Chichester Street, Belfast, BT1 4JE	Proposed change of use from offices to hotel at 1st to 7th floor and construction of a two-storey extension to the Chichester Street elevation to provide 176no. bedrooms, breakfast room/dining room, bar, kitchen, gym and business suite. Proposed partial change of use of ground floor from café to retail unit and ancillary space for hotel. Construction of additional plant room and elevational changes (amendment to previously approved application LA04/2022/2216/F).	05-Jun-26	01-Jan-27	Under Consideration
22	LA04/2026/0978/O	Major	Lands at former Sirocco Works, Short Strand and adjacent to Bridge End and River Lagan, Belfast	Renewal of outline planning permission LA04/2018/0811/O. Mixed use development comprising offices, residential apartments (including affordable), hotel and serviced apartments, retail and professional services, community and cultural, leisure uses, cafes, bars, restaurants, with associated car parking, circulation and servicing arrangements; public realm works, landscaping, replacement of existing pedestrian bridge fixed to railway bridge and associated access works to Short Strand and Bridge End with other infrastructural works, and demolition of existing structures including boundary walls.	24-Jun-26	20-Jan-27	Under Consideration
23	LA04/2026/1224/F	Major	City Link Business Park Albert Street, Belfast, BT12 4HQ	Erection of residential development comprising of 2 No. Apartment buildings comprised of 202 apartments, car parking, open space and all ancillary development and 1 No. social/affordable apartment building comprised of 51 apartments, car parking, open space and all ancillary development.	24-Jun-26	20-Jan-27	Under Consideration
24	LA04/2026/1226/F	Major	123 York Street, Belfast, BT15 1AB	Proposed use of 388 no. Student rooms as short term let accommodation outside of term time (July & August).	01-Jul-26	27-Jan-27	Under Consideration
25	LA04/2026/1262/F	Major	AMIC Harbour Building, 5 Airport Road, Belfast, BT3 9EF	Demolition of buildings to south-west of main building, erection of double height extension on south-west side facing Airport Road (18.08m height) with triple height extension (21.85m height) to rear on south-west side, erection of double height extension (12.07m height) on north-east side (total additional 6,754m ² floorspace Use Class (B1)(c)). PV panels, access from Airport Road, car parking, cycle parking, boundary fencing and all other associated works.	09-Jul-26	04-Feb-27	Under Consideration
26	LA04/2026/1250/F	Major	Lands on the site of the former Ballygolan Primary School, located adjacent / south of no. 45 Voltaire Gardens and 1 Serpentine Parade; and adjacent / west of no. 39 Vandyck Gardens and 39 Serpentine Road, Belfast	Residential development including 73 apartments (over 55s Category 1), communal spaces, mobility scooter storage areas, landscaped open space, car parking, bin stores and associated site works	23-Jul-26	18-Feb-27	Under Consideration

Planning Applications Discussed at Committee Between 01 Apr 2019 and 11 Aug 2026

Decision Description	Totals												
	23												
Application Withdrawn													
Consent Granted	3												
Consent Refused													
Permission Granted	12												
Permission Refused	1												
Total	39												
Application No.	Location	Proposal	Category	Date Valid	Statutory Target Date	Statutory Target Weeks	Current number of Weeks	Committee Date	Weeks between Valid date and Comm date	Weeks Since Committee	Previous New Non-statutory Target Date	New Non-statutory Target Date	Reason decision not issued
LA04/2022/2059/F	Lands south of 56 Highcairn Drive Belfast BT13 3RU Site located at junction between Highcairn Drive and Dunboyne Park Belfast.	Social Housing Development comprising of 12 no. 3p/2b semi-detached dwelling houses with incurtilage parking and associated site works. (amended description and site location plan)	LOC	04-Nov-22	17-Feb-23	15	197	29/06/2023	33	162	31/05/2026	Unknown	Awaiting Section 76 Agreement - land ownership issue resolved but now issue with status of the applicant
LA04/2024/1036/F	Lands to the east of the River Lagan located between Lagan Gateway Phase 1 and Belvoir Park Forest, running adjacent to the west of Belvoir Park Golf Club and approximately 120 metres to the east of Newtownbreda Water Treatment Plant, Galwally Ave, Belfast BT8 7YA.	Lagan Gateway Phase 2 – Proposed greenway connection extending between Lagan Gateway Phase 1 at Annadale Embankment to Belvoir Forest Park. Comprising compacted gravel paths; a new elevated (4-5 meter high) timber boardwalk (approximately 85m long); landscaping works, new cycle stands, bollards, seats and bins; and all associated works	LOC	10-May-24	23-Aug-24	15	118	17/06/2025	57	60	Unknown	Unknown	Further information received from applicant following request from DAERA NIEA and NIEA reconsulted

LA04/2025/0535/F	Lands West of Monagh By-Pass South of Upper Springfield Road & 30-34 Upper Springfield Road & West of Aitnamona Crescent & St Theresa's Primary School. North and East of 2-22 Old Brewery Lane, Glanaulin, 137-143a Glen Road & Airfield Heights & St Mary's CBG School Belfast	Variation of conditions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 11, 14, 17, 18, 19, 36, 37 and 41 of approval LA04/2023/2390/F and LA04/2020/0804/F to facilitate removal of 31 previously approved dwellings and retaining structure along northern boundary of site adjacent to Upper Springfield Road. Retention of existing sloping ground levels and landscaping at this location.	MAJ	27-May-25	23-Dec-25	30	63	17/06/2025	3	60	31/07/2026	30/09/2026	Awaiting conclusion of S77 agreement (amendment to S76 agreement). Further information submitted following request from DfI Roads and DfI Roads reconsulted
LA04/2024/1865/O	Land between No 22 Squires View and Nos 57 & 59 Squires Hill Road, Belfast.	3no. detached dwellings part 2 storey part 3 storey (amended plans)	LOC	28-Oct-24	10-Feb-25	15	93	12/08/2025	41	52	31/08/2026	30/09/2026	Late objections received. Additional information received from applicant regarding land stability issue. New objection from Shared Environmental Services being considered. To be reported back to Committee
LA04/2025/0605/F	341-345 Albertbridge Road, Ballymacarret, Belfast, BT5 4PY	Erection of a four storey building to create 29no. short-term let accommodation units with ancillary roof-mounted solar panels	LOC	09-Apr-25	23-Jul-25	15	70	17/02/2026	44	25	TBC	TBC	Application considered at February 2026 Committee following site visit
LA04/2025/1003/F	81-107 York Street, Belfast, BT15 1AT	Proposed use of 300 No. Student Bedrooms/Studios as Short Term Let Accommodation outside of term time (July and August).	LOC	16-Jun-25	29-Sep-25	15	60	10/03/2026	38	22			Permission Granted
LA04/2025/1002/F	24 Rutherglen Street, Belfast, BT13 3LS	Change of use from 4 bed residential dwelling (C1) to 5 bedroom HMO (suis generis) with occupancy for 5 people	LOC	17-Jul-25	30-Oct-25	15	56	10/03/2026	33	22	N/A	To be reconsidered	Deferred for Site Visit. Consulting NIW

LA04/2025/0574/F	Surface level car park at lands to east of Lanyon Place Station Mays Meadow, Belfast, BT1 3NR	Erection of eight storey building comprising seven floors of grade A office accommodation, ground floor retail / business units together with car parking (15 no. spaces), cycle parking and plant areas: and public realm improvements including dedicated drop-off area to front of building	MAJ	17-Apr-25	13-Nov-25	30	69	10/03/2026	46	22	30/06/2026	30/09/2026	Applicant to address issues raised by DfI Roads
LA04/2025/0594/F	163 Ballygomartin Road, Belfast, BT13 3NA	Change of use from 4 bedroom residential property (C1) with to 5 bed HMO with occupancy of 5 (Sui Generis)	LOC	30-Apr-25	13-Aug-25	15	67	10/03/2026	44	22	N/A	To be reconsidered	Deferred for Site Visit. Consulting NIW
LA04/2025/0463/F	Decco Ltd 1-5 Redcar Street, Belfast, BT6 9BP	Proposed change of use of Vacant Warehouse to indoor Padel Court Facility to include, Cafe, Changing rooms, Gym, Picklecourts and ancillary site development works	LOC	26-Mar-25	09-Jul-25	15	72	10/03/2026	49	22	Unknown	Unknown	Delegated authority sought to resolve final response from NIW. Discussions ongoing
LA04/2021/2839/F	29-32 College Gardens Belfast BT9 6BT	Proposed change of use from offices to 17no. 1 bedroom and 2no. 2 bedroom apartments with alterations to rear facade and dormers.	LOC	13-Dec-21	28-Mar-22	15	243	21/04/2026	227	16			Permission Granted
LA04/2025/1350/F	29 GLENCAIRN STREET EDENDERRY BELFAST BT13 3LT	Change of Use from 3 bed Dwelling (Class C1) to 5-bed, 5-person HMO (sui generis)	LOC	24-Jul-25	06-Nov-25	15	55	21/04/2026	38	16	30/06/2026	31/08/2026	Drafting refusal reasons
LA04/2025/2096/F	Land adjacent to Quay Gate House 15 Scrabo Street Belfast BT5 4D: footpaths and public realm at Scrabo Street Station Street and Middlepath Street.	Variation of Condition 5 of Planning Permission LA04/2019/2387/F relating to Noise Impact Assessment.	MAJ	04-Dec-25	02-Jul-26	30	36	21/04/2026	19	16			Permission Granted
LA04/2022/0071/LBC	29-32 College Gardens Belfast BT9 6BT	Proposed change of use from offices to 17no. 1 bedroom and 2no. 2 bedroom apartments with alterations to rear facade and dormers.	LOC	14-Dec-21	29-Mar-22	15	243	21/04/2026	227	16			Consent Granted

LA04/2026/0393/F	Lands at the Titanic Quarter, between Hamilton Road, Queens Road and Sydenham Road. Immediately NE, E and SE of Belfast Metropolitan College, approximately 150m SE of Titanic Hotel, 8 Queens Road, Belfast, BT3 9DT.	Temporary planning approval for a caravan / campervan / motorhome site, with ancillary facilities including communal recreational spaces, toilets, showers, waste disposal points, food and drink area, site office, waste collection, lights, storage areas and all associated temporary structures and works	MAJ	06-Mar-26	02-Oct-26	30	23	19/05/2026	10	12			Permission Granted
LA04/2025/2090/F	38 Hillhead Avenue, Belfast, BT11 9GD	Creation of hardstanding and widening of vehicular access to front of dwelling. (Retrospective)	LOC	04-Dec-25	19-Mar-26	15	36	19/05/2026	23	12			Permission Granted
LA04/2025/1661/F	River bank approximately 150m north east of Shaws Bridge Car Park, Belfast, BT9 5YN	Installation of a new floating pontoon to replace the existing wooden jetty.	LOC	27-Oct-25	09-Feb-26	15	41	19/05/2026	29	12			Permission Granted
LA04/2024/1646/F	46-50 Gilnahirk Road, Belfast, BT5 7DG	Demolition of existing dwelling (no. 50 Gilnahirk Road) to facilitate proposed extension and alterations to existing petrol filling station including extension of retail floor space, extension and realignment of carpark to provide 9 no. additional car parking spaces and pedestrian access, cycle parking, construction of retaining wall and associated landscaping	LOC	01-Oct-24	14-Jan-25	15	97	19/05/2026	85	12			Permission Refused

LA04/2025/1991/F	Makro, 97 Kingsway, Belfast, BT17 9NS	Subdivision of the existing cash and carry building and the change of use of 4,750 sq,m gross floorspace for use as a Class A1 retail; erection of new loading bay in service yard; minor external alterations to building; reconfiguration of car park.	MAJ	03-Dec-25	01-Jul-26	30	36	16/06/2026	26	9	N/A	30/09/2026	Awaiting consultation responses from DfI Roads and SES
LA04/2025/2013/F Page 169	Netherleigh House, 1 Massey Avenue, Belfast, BT4 2JP	Change of use of Netherleigh House and existing office blocks (Class B1) to provide residential and nursing care facilities (Class C3 (a) and (b)). Extensions to existing office block including a fourth storey floor, eastern and western gable extension and two front projections from the northern elevation. Erection of 36 no. assisted living apartments over two four storey blocks. Site parking, landscaped amenity areas, woodland trails and all associated site works	MAJ	18-Nov-25	16-Jun-26	30	38	16/06/2026	30	8	N/A	30/09/2026	Further information required by DAERA NIEA. Awaiting consultation responses from SES and BCC Economic Development Unit

LA04/2025/2015/LBC	Netherleigh House, 1 Massey Avenue, Belfast, BT4 2JP	Change of use of Netherleigh House and existing office blocks (Class B1) to provide residential and nursing care facilities (Class C3 (a) and (b)). Extensions to existing office block including a fourth storey floor, eastern and western gable extension and two front projections from the northern elevation. Erection of 36 no. assisted living apartments over two four storey blocks. Site parking, landscaped amenity areas, woodland trails and all associated site works	LOC	18-Nov-25	03-Mar-26	15	38	16/06/2026	30	alber	N/A	30/09/2026	Awaiting resolution of outstanding issues for associated planning application LA04/2025/2013 /F
Page 170 LA04/2025/2215/F	Halifax Building, 24 Cromac Place, Building, BT7 2JB	Proposed change of use from offices to nursing home comprising 156 no. bedrooms, ancillary scanning unit and all associated accommodation including dining/ café areas, day rooms and lounges, hairdressers, cinema rooms, treatment rooms and internal courtyard. The proposal also includes ancillary offices, landscaping, cycle parking, external alterations and all other site and associated works.	MAJ	19-Dec-25	17-Jul-26	30	34	16/06/2026	25				Permission Granted

LA04/2026/0021/F	Former Good Shepherd Centre at lands at Nos. 511 and 511a Ormeau Road Belfast BT7 3GS	Conversion of former convent to 28no. apartments (1, 2 & 3 bed) involving internal and external refurbishment/retention and re-configuration. Provision of ground floor extension with partial demolition and provision of new stairwell and lift. Provision of dormers, rooflights and extension to first, second floor and attic levels regarding new stairwell and lift. External layout reconfigurations to include construction of new access from Ormeau Road, amended parking layout, provision of cycle parking, bin stores, landscaping, substation and associated works.	LOC	22-Jan-26	07-May-26	15	29	16/06/2026	20	8	N/A	31/08/2026	DfC HED recommended conditions to deal with late archaeological issues raised by objector. Resolving exploration of dedicated accessible parking spaces
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LA04/2026/0022/LBC	Former Good Shepherd Centre at lands at Nos. 511 and 511a Ormeau Road Belfast BT7 3GS	Conversion of former convent to 28no. apartments (1, 2 & 3 bed) involving internal and external refurbishment/retention and re-configuration. Provision of ground floor extension with partial demolition and provision of new stairwell and lift. Provision of dormers, rooflights and extension to first, second floor and attic levels regarding new stairwell and lift. External layout reconfigurations to include construction of new access from Ormeau Road, amended parking layout, provision of cycle parking, bin stores, landscaping, substation and associated works.	LOC	05-Jan-26	20-Apr-26	15	31	16/06/2026	23	8	N/A	31/08/2026	Awaiting resolution of outstanding issues for associated planning application LA04/2026/0021 /F
LA04/2026/0066/F	Existing soccer pitches at Wedderburn Park Playing Fields (approx. 20m east of Orpen Ave. and 10m west of Wedderburn Gdns), Belfast, BT10 0BT	Erection of 2.4m high perimeter fencing around 1 No. existing soccer pitch and internal 1.2m high spectator rail. Additional tree planting (Amended proposal)	LOC	21-Jan-26	06-May-26	15	29	16/06/2026	20	8			Permission Granted
LA04/2026/0340/F	The Edge, 1 Frederick Street, Belfast, BT1 2LW (formally 48-52 York Street, Belfast, BT15 1AS)	Proposed change of use of 144 no. PBMSA units to short term let accommodation outside of term time only.	LOC	30-Mar-26	13-Jul-26	15	19	16/06/2026	11	8	N/A	31/08/2026	Awaiting finalisation of s76 planning agreement

LA04/2026/0306/F	140 Donegall Street, Belfast, BT1 2FJ	Section 54 of the Planning Act (NI) 2011 for non-compliance with planning conditions 15 and 16 of planning permission LA04/2021/0516/F (relating to junction improvements and provision of disabled parking spaces)	MAJ	19-Feb-26	17-Sep-26	30	25	16/06/2026	16	8			Permission Granted
LA04/2026/0505/LBC	2 Royal Avenue, Belfast, BT1 1DA	Fenestration changes to include insertion of new windows at first floor level on north facing elevation, creation of new access door and new windows at ground floor level on north elevation and internal alterations.	LOC	15-Apr-26	29-Jul-26	15	17	16/06/2026	8	8			Consent Granted
Page 178 LA04/2026/0659/F	2 Royal Avenue, Belfast, BT1 1DA	Fenestration changes to include insertion of new windows at first floor level on north facing elevation and creation of new access door and new windows at ground floor level on north elevation.	LOC	15-Apr-26	29-Jul-26	15	17	16/06/2026	8	8			Permission Granted
LA04/2026/0716/F	Alma Place, 16 Library Street, Belfast, BT1 2JB	Proposed change of use of 342 no. Student rooms to short term let accommodation outside of term time (July & August).	LOC	13-Apr-26	27-Jul-26	15	17	16/06/2026	9	8			Permission Granted
LA04/2026/0787/LBC	Bandstand, Ormeau Park, Ormeau Rd, Belfast, BT7 3GG	Proposed remedial works to the bandstand	LOC	15-May-26	28-Aug-26	15	13	16/06/2026	4	8			Consent Granted

LA04/2024/1195/F	Lands south of nos. 7-14 Wolfhill Manor, east of no.42 Mill Avenue and west and north west of 100 Mill Avenue, Ligoniel, Belfast, BT14 8EL.	Proposed residential development comprising 20 no. dwelling units, including 8 no. semi-detached 2 storey dwellings, 1 no. detached 2 storey dwelling, 2 no. 3-bed apartments (2 storey building) and 9 no. 2-bed apartments (3 storey building) with associated car parking, landscaping and associated works.	LOC	04-Jul-24	17-Oct-24	15	110	16/06/2026	101	8	N/A	31/08/2026	Awaiting Section 76 Agreement
LA04/2025/1651/F	20 Rosemary Street, Belfast, BT1 1QD	Retention, conversion, refurbishment and change of use of existing office building (Class A2) and 2 no. vacant retails units (Class A1) to hotel accommodation and associated facilities, including bar and restaurant (sui generis) and extension of 5th floor (30no. hotel bedrooms in total)	LOC	30-Sep-25	13-Jan-26	15	45	16/06/2026	37	8	N/A	30/09/2026	Awaiting consultation response from NI Water. SES requires satisfactory Waste Water Impact Assessment to be submitted to NI Water

LA04/2025/1839/F	Lindsay House, 8 - 14 Callender Street, Belfast, BT1 5BN	Change of use from fast food unit, restaurant, retail and office to hotel with associated restaurant/bar areas, lobby/reception area and other areas ancillary to hotel use at ground floor level, 76no. bedrooms on 1st to 4th floor level and ancillary rooftop store. Includes demolition of all internal walls and partitions at ground floor level and demolition of sections of building at the rear, replacement of windows, reconfiguration and replacement of shopfronts, creation of new openings for windows and removal of rooflights.	LOC	31-Oct-25	13-Feb-26	15	41	16/06/2026	32	8	N/A	30/09/2026	Awaiting consultation response from NI Water. SES requires satisfactory Waste Water Impact Assessment to be submitted to NI Water
LA04/2025/1841/DCA	Lindsay House 8 - 14 Callender Street, Belfast, BT1 5BN	Change of use from fast food unit, restaurant, retail and office to hotel with associated restaurant/bar areas, lobby/reception area and other areas ancillary to hotel use at ground floor level, 76no. bedrooms on 1st to 4th floor level and ancillary rooftop store. Includes demolition of all internal walls and partitions at ground floor level and demolition of sections of building at the rear, replacement of windows, reconfiguration and replacement of shopfronts, creation of new openings for windows and removal of rooflights.	LOC	31-Oct-25	13-Feb-26	15	41	16/06/2026	32	8	N/A	30/09/2026	Awaiting resolution of outstanding issues for associated planning application LA04/2025/1839 /F

LA04/2025/0288/F	Existing taxi passenger terminal and former retail unit located within 35a King Street, Belfast, BT1 1HU.	Retrospective change of use from ground floor taxi passenger terminal, cafe, office and newsagent to a Homeless Centre, Category D1(B). The centre will provide meals, washing and changing facilities and an internal social amenity area for users. The centre will operate Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday each week from 4:00 pm up until 10:00 pm (Amended Description)	LOC	11-Mar-25	24-Jun-25	15	74	16/06/2026	66	8			Permission Granted
04/2024/0570/F Page 176	Stormont Hotel, 587 Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast BT4 3LP	Change of use of an existing hotel, conference centre and offices (sui generis) to a 97-bed care home (Use Class C3(b)) and 1,559sqm diagnostic medical facility (Use Class D1(a)), associated access, car parking, landscaping and open space.	MAJ	04-Apr-24	31-Oct-24	30	123	16/06/2026	114	8	N/A	N/A	Application considered at June 2026 Committee

LA04/2024/0569/O	Stormont Hotel, 587 Upper Newtownards Road BT4 3LP and adjacent properties at Castlevue Road (nos. 2, 4, 6, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28 & 30), Summerhill Parade (nos. 18, 20 & 22), and rear of 160 Barnetts Road, Belfast (amended address)	Outline planning permission with all matter reserved for independent living (Use Class C1) units and up to 62no. assisted living units (Use Class C3), associated internal access roads, communal open space, revised access from Castlevue Road, associated car parking, servicing, amenity space and landscaping and demolition of dwellings at Castlevue Road (nos. 2, 4, 6, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28 & 30) and Summerhill Parade (nos. 18, 20 & 22) (amended description).	MAJ	04-Apr-24	31-Oct-24	30	123	16/06/2026	114	8	N/A	N/A	Application considered at June 2026 Committee
Page 177 04/2022/0809/F	Lands to the south and west of Woodland Grange to the north of Blacks Gate and to the east of Moor Park Mews Belfast.	Amendments to approved schemes ref. Z/2008/0993/F (erection of 53 No. dwellings) & ref. Z/2013/0120/F (erection of 46 No. dwellings); to reduce overall density from 99 No. dwellings to 92 No. dwellings and associated and ancillary works.	MAJ	21-Apr-22	17-Nov-22	30	225	16/06/2026	216	8	N/A	N/A	Awaiting resolution of cycle-foopath design issues raised by DfI Roads. Completion of s76 planning agreement

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Subject:	Physical Programme Update
Date:	21 August 2026
Reporting Officer:	Sinead Grimes, Director of Property & Projects
Contact Officer:	Shauna Murtagh, Portfolio Manager David Logan, Senior Programme Delivery Manager

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

☐

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of Main Issues
1.1	The Council's Physical Programme currently includes over 200 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. The Council's Capital Programme forms

	part of the Physical Programme and is a rolling programme of investment which either improves existing Council facilities or provides new facilities. This report presents a request for an approval under the Capital Programme.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is requested to – Capital Programme Stage Movements - • Fire Service Blitz Memorial – Agree that the project is moved to <i>Stage 3 – Committed</i> with a maximum allocation of up to £5,000. • Depot Charging Scheme 2026/27 - Agree that the project is moved to <i>Stage 2 – Uncommitted</i> to allow options to be fully worked up, with further detail to be brought back to Committee in due course. • Drumglass Park SuDS Project – Agree that the project is moved to <i>Stage 2 – Uncommitted</i> to allow options to be fully worked up, with further detail to be brought back to Committee in due course. Note that this project is fully funded by NI Water and DfI. • Belfast Castle - Agree that the project is moved to <i>Stage 2 – Uncommitted</i> to allow options to be fully worked up, with further detail to be brought back to Committee in due course. • City Hall Programmable Floodlighting Replacement - Agree that the project is added to the Capital Programme at <i>Stage 1 – Emerging</i> to allow a business case to be developed. • Belfast Waterfront and Ulster Hall 3010 Modernisation - Agree that the project is added to the Capital Programme at <i>Stage 1 – Emerging</i> to allow a business case to be developed. Project Updates • Girdwood Hub Health & Safety Works - Agree up to £300,000 to carry out essential health and safety remedial works • Capital Letters of Offer - to note the update in relation to capital letters of offer. • Contracts awarded in Q1 2026/27 - to note the update in relation to contracts awarded.
3.0	Main report <u>Key Issues</u>
3.1	Physical Programme Members 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 Property & Projects Department is happy to arrange a site visit to any projects that have been completed or are underway.
3.2	<u>Capital Programme - Proposed Movements</u> Members have agreed that all capital projects must go through a three-stage process where decisions on which capital projects progress are taken by the Committee. This provides assurance as to the level of financial control and will allow Members to properly consider the

opportunity costs of approving one capital project over another capital project. Members are asked to note the following activity on the Capital Programme:

Project	Overview	Stage movement
Fire Service Blitz Memorial	Sculpture to be installed in City Hall featuring Fire Service helmets and a Women's Voluntary Service cap to recognise their efforts and sacrifices during the Belfast Blitz.	Stage 3 – Committed with a maximum budget of £5,000
Depot Charging Scheme 2026/27	Further improvements to electric vehicle (EV) charging provision at Council depots.	Move to Stage 2 – Uncommitted
Drumglass Park SuDS Project	Nature based drainage solution at Drumglass Park.	Move to Stage 2 – Uncommitted
Belfast Castle	Phased capital improvement programme for Belfast Castle with the aim of enhancing customer experience, accessibility and operational efficiency.	Move to Stage 2 – Uncommitted
City Hall Programmable Floodlighting Replacement	Proposed replacement of the existing 'Illuminate' programmable floodlighting system on the City Hall	Add at Stage 1 - Emerging
Belfast Waterfront and Ulster Hall 3010 Modernisation	Priority modernisation works for Waterfront Hall and Ulster Hall	Add at Stage 1 - Emerging

3.3 Fire Service Blitz Memorial

Members will recall that this project was moved to *Stage 2 – Uncommitted* in October 2023. The project involves the design, commissioning and installation of a permanent memorial in City Hall to acknowledge and remember the efforts and sacrifices of the Fire Services from Belfast and Dublin and the crucial role of the Women's Voluntary Service during the Belfast Blitz (April–May 1941). The proposed sculpture features two Fire Service helmets and a Women's Voluntary Service cap cast in bronze resin. This will be mounted on a plaque on a stainless-steel stand in the reception area of City Hall. **Members are asked to agree that the project is moved to Stage 3 – Committed with a maximum allocation of up to £5,000. The Director of Finance has confirmed that this is within the affordability limits of the Council.**

3.4 Depot Charging Scheme 2026/27

This project was added to the Capital Programme at *Stage 1 – Emerging* in June 2026. To meet climate change targets and legislative requirements, the Council must consider its current fleet and the transition required to reach zero emissions. In January 2026 part funding was secured through the Cabinet Office Depot Charging Scheme to install EV chargers at Blanchflower, Duncrue, Mallusk, Ormeau, and Belfast Zoo. The project aims to improve the EV charging on Council sites and will support the fleet transition and overall decarbonisation of Council fleet. The funding stream is now open again for this year and funding is available for up to 70% of project costs with the remainder being met by the Council. **Members are asked to agree that 'Depot Charging Scheme 2026/27' is moved to Stage 2 – Uncommitted to allow the options to be fully worked up, with further detail to be brought back to Committee in due course, and update regarding the funding opportunity referred above.**

3.5 Drumglass Park SuDS Project

	This project was added to the Capital Programme at <i>Stage 1 – Emerging</i> in May 2026. It is an NI Water-led project which aims to introduce a new sustainable drainage system (SuDS), including a new pond, in Drumglass Park. It will provide a nature-based solution to address ongoing issues with surface water and flooding in the area during periods of heavy rainfall. The project is funded by the Department for Infrastructure as part of the Public Sector Transformation Fund – a four-year pilot project which will demonstrate the effectiveness of nature-based Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS). SuDS aims to manage surface water through natural drainage processes by slowing, storing and treating rainwater close to where it falls. It will promote biodiversity through native planting while creating an attractive new feature in the park. The project's key objectives are to manage the flooding risk in the area, improve the local environment, provide opportunities for educational outreach, enhance biodiversity and support long term climate resilience. The scheme is being project managed by NI Water with Aecom appointed to design and deliver it on their behalf. DfI are funding the project through the NI Executive's Public Sector Transformation Fund. The Council is a partner in the project as it is being delivered in a council-owned park. Consultation and engagement is a critical element of the project and engagement with local groups, including community groups, the Traders Association and schools, is already underway. Members are asked to agree that this partnership project is moved to Stage 2 – Uncommitted to allow the options to be fully worked up, with further detail to be brought back to Committee in due course.
3.6	Belfast Castle This project was added to the Capital Programme at <i>Stage 1 – Emerging</i> in June 2026. Belfast Castle is one of Belfast's most recognised heritage and tourism assets. Situated within Cave Hill Country Park, the castle plays a significant role in the city's visitor economy, civic hospitality offering, weddings and events market as well as wider community engagement activities. However, parts of the building require targeted investment to maintain competitiveness, improve visitor experience, protect the asset, and align the venue with the Council's Corporate Plan priorities. A phased capital improvement programme for Belfast Castle with the aim of enhancing the customer experience, accessibility and operational efficiency has been proposed. As per the three-stage approval process, the strategic outline case has been completed. Members are asked to agree that this project is moved to Stage 2 – Uncommitted to allow the options to be fully worked up, with further detail to be brought back to Committee in due course.
3.7	City Hall Programmable Floodlighting Replacement The project is for the replacement of the existing programmable floodlighting system (illuminate) on the City Hall. The system was installed in 2013 as part of a European programme to promote the use of LED lighting and it received 50% funding for participation in the programme. The system allows the Council to mark significant dates, occasions or achievements using bespoke lighting scenes and has proved to be very successful for the city,

	with around 80 lighting events displayed annually in addition to Christmas and New Year events. The system currently requires replacement as component parts are no longer available. In the interim, pending replacement, it may be necessary to use existing parts of the lighting system on the east and west facades to maintain the lighting on the north façade. Members are asked to agree that the project is added to the Capital Programme at Stage 1 – Emerging to allow a business case to be developed.
3.8	Belfast Waterfront and Ulster Hall 3010 Modernisation The project is for modernising Belfast Waterfront and Ulster Hall venues thereby enhancing experiences and securing the future competitiveness and growth. These priority works generally involve replacement of end-of-life assets to ensure safety, maintain performance and protect the reputation of our venues to include ICT modernisation and end of life door access system, lifts replacement, pit covers, etc. Members are asked to agree that the project is added to the Capital Programme at Stage 1 – Emerging to allow a business case to be developed.
	Project Updates
3.9	Girdwood Hub Health & Safety Works In October 2025, Members agreed that the Girdwood Hub Health & Safety Works project was moved to the Capital Programme at <i>Stage 3 – Committed</i>. Health and safety works are required to repair the parapets and the roof and to fix issues which are causing water ingress into the building. Water damage has meant that the youth space currently cannot be used due to health and safety reasons and works are required to ensure ongoing service provision. Members are asked to approve up to £300,000 required to carry out essential remedial health & safety works. The Director of Finance has confirmed that this is within the affordability limits of the Council.
3.10	Capital Letters of Offer Members are asked to note the update in relation to capital letters of offer in Q1 2026/27 at Appendix 1.
3.11	Contracts Awarded Members are asked to note the award of tenders for capital works including services related to works in Q1 2026/27 at Appendix 2.
3.12	<u>Financial & Resource Implications</u> <i>Financial Implications –</i> Fire Service Belfast Blitz – capital allocation of up to £5,000. The Director of Finance has confirmed that this is within the affordability limits of the Council. Girdwood Hub H&S Works – additional capital allocation of up to £300,000. The Director of Finance has confirmed that this is within the affordability limits of the Council. <i>Resource Implications –</i> Officer time to deliver.

3.13	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/ Rural Needs Assessment</u> The legislation requirements have been met including screening. All physical projects are designed for people and are inherently inclusive and accessible.
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 – Capital Letters of Offer in Q1 2026/27 – April to June 2026 Appendix 2 – Contracts Awarded in Q1 2026/27 – April to June 2026

Appendix 1

Capital Letters of Offer 01 April – 30 June 2026

Project	Funder	Amount
Giants Park Greenway	DfI	£564,158
Glencairn Community Hub	DfC	£430,000
<i>BMSSP - Phase 2 - Finlay's Site (Amendment)</i>	<i>IFI</i>	<i>£667,000</i>
Assembly Rooms Cluster	WMF	£105,000

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Appendix 2**Schedule of Contracts Awarded (Works and Works Related) for Notation
(April – June 2026)**

Contract Awarded	Supplier	Date of Award
Giant's Park, North Foreshore - Maintenance Contract	John McQuillan (Contracts) Ltd	01/04/2026
Integrated Consultant Team for Black Mountain Pathway	McAdam Design Ltd	13/04/2026
Forth Meadow Community Greenway Signage	Totalis Solutions Ltd	22/04/2026
Ulster Hall Façade Lighting and Auxiliary Works	Electrical & Data Systems Ltd	30/04/2026
L1BCC17 Quotation for Site Feasibility and Technical Assessment Works	Hamilton Architects	05/05/2026
Term Service Contract for the Demolition of dangerous or ruinous properties	McCusker Demolition Ltd	18/05/2026
Main Contractor for replacement of Waterfront Hall Chillers	JPM Contracts Ltd	27/05/2026
Assembly Rooms External Façade Treatment and Painting	CivCo Ltd	01/06/2026
Wilmont House and Fernhill House Making Safe Works	William Rogers Construction Ltd	09/06/2026
Integrated Consultancy Team for Giant's Park Pedestrian/Cycle Bridge	Nicholas O'Dwyer Ltd	16/06/2026
NRF_Integrated Consultant Team for 335 Newtownards Road, Belfast	R E Quinn Architects Limited	23/06/2026

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Subject:	Asset Management i) Botanic Gardens (Lower Section) – Upsurge Licence Extension & Update
Date:	Friday 21 st August 2026
Reporting Officer:	Sinead Grimes, Director of Property & Projects
Contact Officer:	Richard Weir, Interim Estates Manager David Logan, Senior Programme Delivery Manager Kevin Heaney, Head of Inclusion Growth and Ant-Poverty

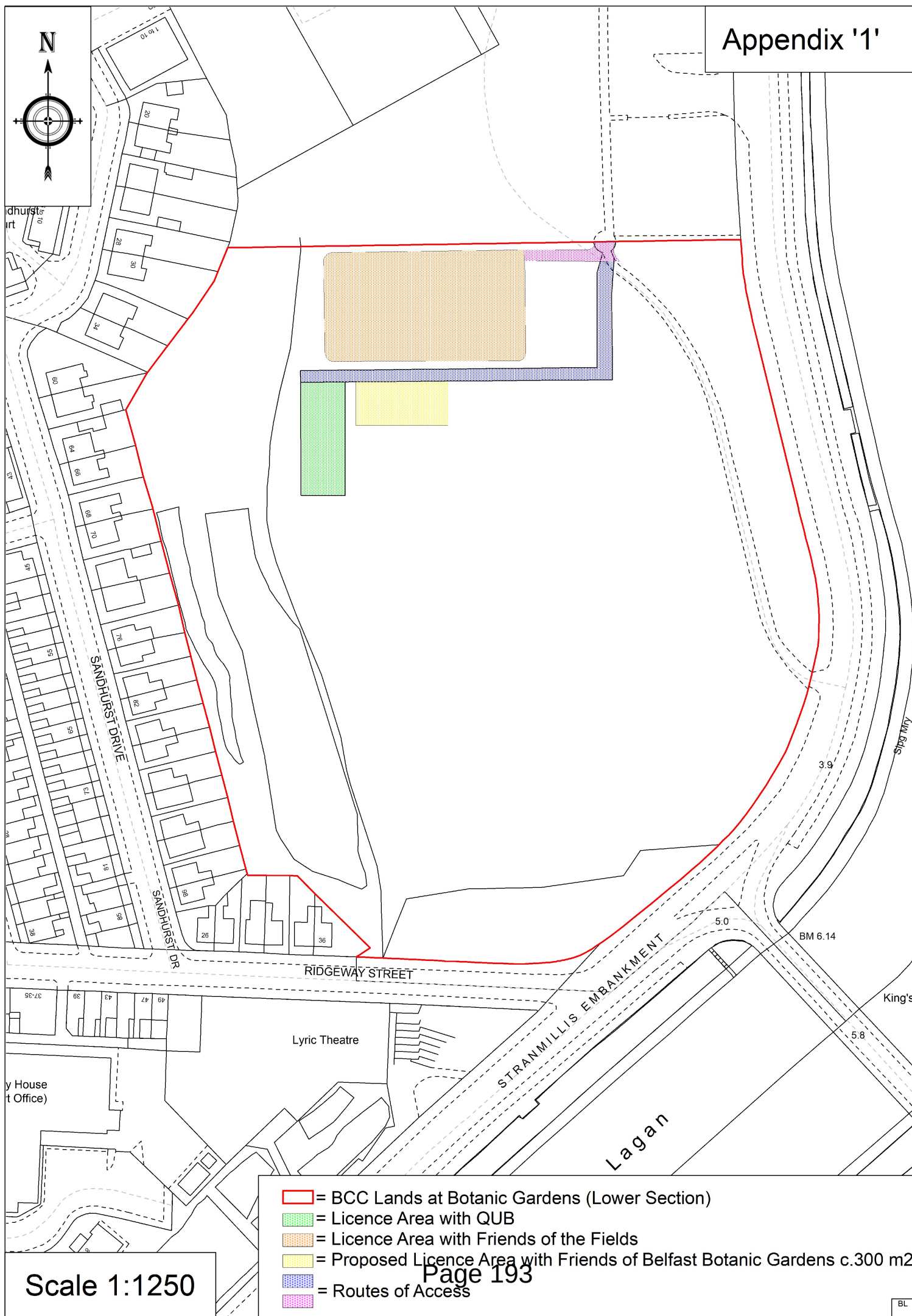
Restricted Reports									
Is this report restricted?	Yes ☐ No ☒								
Please indicate the description, as listed in Schedule 6, of the exempt information by virtue of which the council has deemed this report restricted. Insert number 1. Information relating to any individual 2. Information likely 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? <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 70%;">After Committee Decision</td> <td style="width: 30%; text-align: center;">☐</td> </tr> <tr> <td>After Council Decision</td> <td style="text-align: center;">☐</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sometime in the future</td> <td style="text-align: center;">☐</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Never</td> <td style="text-align: center;">☐</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 ☒ No ☐

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	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is asked to: (i) Approve licence extensions at Botanic Gardens (Lower Section) for the continued delivery of the Horizon 2020 Upsurge Project for each partner; and (ii) note the update in relation to the Upsurge Project as set out within this report.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<u>Botanic Gardens (Lower Section) –Proposed Licence Agreements in connection with Upsurge</u> Queens University Belfast (QUB) and Friends of the Field (FotF) have been working in partnership with Belfast City Council on the delivery of the Horizon 2020 UPSURGE project at Botanic Gardens (Lower Section). Members will recall that, at the Strategic Policy & Resources Committee meeting on 20 February 2026, approval was granted for a licence agreement with Friends of Belfast Botanic Gardens (FoBBG) for the delivery of the UPSURGE project at this location for a six-month period. Subject to Members’ approval, it is proposed that the Council now enters into new licence agreements with QUB, FotF and FoBBG, commencing 1 September 2026 and running to 31 August 2027. In line with the established UPSURGE partnership arrangements, no licence fees will apply. A Site Map showing each respective licence area is provided at Appendix 1.
3.2	Members will also recall that, at the Strategic Policy & Resources Committee meeting on 6 February 2026, it was agreed that the development of a GAA pitch on the Lower Section be progressed as part of the approved implementation plan. Entering into the proposed licences with QUB, FotF and FoBBG up to 31 August 2027 will not impede delivery of the pitch project, which remains at design stage and will be subject to the statutory planning process. <u>Upsurge Project update</u>
3.3	Members are asked to note that the Upsurge Project (i.e. both the demonstrator site and community garden) will remain at the Lower Botanic site until construction of the GAA pitch is scheduled to commence. This is currently estimated as Q3 2027/28 however this will be subject to further refinement as the project is developed and is dependent also on planning timelines.
3.4	When the Upsurge Project was first approved in August 2020, members were advised that the project had a 48-month duration. The Project started in September 2021 and was scheduled to finish in September 2025, however an extension was granted until February 2026. However, it subsequently transpired that there was a further period of time required for the exploitation of the results of the Project. This is due to expire in February 2030.

3.5	There is no absolute obligation to retain the UPSURGE Project in situ until that time. However, if it is to be moved, the Council must implement viable mitigating measures in order to avoid the risk of funding clawback. Cognisant of members decision to develop a GAA pitch at this location, officers are exploring whether it is possible to co-locate the projects. In tandem, they are also seeking to identify suitable alternative sites. As part of that process, they will engage with EU Horizon, QUB and the organisations that use the Upsurge site as appropriate.
3.6	The Climate & Resilience Committee will be kept up to date as those discussions progress. However, any final decision in relation to this site will be for Strategic Policy & Resources Committee.
	<u>Financial and Resources Implications</u>
3.7	In line with the established UPSURGE partnering arrangement, licence fees will not be applicable.
	<u>Equality and Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u>
3.8	None associated with this report.
4.0	Appendices - Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 – Site Map showing the location of each respective licence area at Botanic Gardens (Lower Section)

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Subject:	Contracts Update
Date:	21 August 2026
Reporting Officer:	Sharon McNicholl Deputy Chief Executive / Director of Corporate Services
Contact Officer:	Lewis Murray, Strategic Category Manager, Commercial and Procurement Services

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									
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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 or Summary of main Issues
	The purpose of this report is to: Seek approval from members for tenders, contract modifications to contract term and Single Tender Actions (STA) over £30,000

2.0	Recommendations
	The Committee is asked to: • 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) • Note the award of retrospective STAs in line with Standing Order 55 exceptions as detailed in Appendix 1 (Table 3) • Approve the modification of the contract as per Standing Order 37a detailed in Appendix 1 (Table 4) • Approve Contracts awarded by Arc 21 on behalf of the Council (Table 5) • Note the non-procurement expenditure (Table 6)
3.0	Competitive Tenders
	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. 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. Standing Order 54 states that every contract shall comply with the relevant requirements of national and European legislation. The Committee is asked to approve the public advertisement of tenders as per Standing Order 37a detailed in Appendix 1 (Table 1).
4.0	Single Tender Actions (STAs)
	The Council's current Single Tender Action (STA) process, which has been in place since 2020, provides assurance that the Council continues to comply with its obligations under the Procurement Act 2023 'the Act' and internal governance arrangements including required controls and approvals. It mirrors the Act setting out the exceptional and specific circumstances when a STA can be used (see STA/ Direct Award Reasons Table in Appendix 1). To support Officers understanding and to build capability, CPS offer support training and guidance on the STA process.

	In line with Standing Order 55 the Committee is asked to approve the award of the STAs in Appendix 1 (Table 2). In line with Standing Order 55 the Committee is asked to note the award of the retrospective STAs Appendix 1 (Table 3).
5.0	Modification to Contract
	The Committee is asked to approve the following modification of the contract as per Standing Order 37a as set out in Appendix 1 (Table 4) .
6.0	Arc 21 Contracts
	The Committee is asked to approve an extension to a current Arc 21 contract as per Standing Order 37a as set out in Appendix 1 (Table 5) .
7.0	Non-procurement expenditure
	The Procurement Act 2023 ‘the Act’ – Schedule 2 Exempted Contracts Schedule 2 of the Act sets out a specific list of types of contracts that are exempted under the Act. Further details on this non-procurement expenditure is set out in Appendix 1 (Table 6).
8.0	Renewal of existing Council Contract
	Provision of Property Details Surveys to Land and Property Services Members are asked to note that the Council has provided a service to Land and Property Services (LPS) for over 20 years, in respect of carrying out property details surveys. The Council carries out these surveys on behalf of LPS, for buildings being inspected for Building Regulation compliance, as a means of streamlining the valuation process. LPS have requested that the contract for this service is renewed, effective from 1st April 2026, with modifications as outlined below, for a further term of 2 years, with the option to extend for 2 periods of 12 months. In this renewed contract the Council will only provide surveys for all new domestic and new commercial properties. Council will continue to make LPS aware of works to altered properties and LPS will carry out the required valuation. The service will continue to be provided on a cost recovery basis. Legal Services have been consulted and have approved the contract. Members are asked to agree to this renewal.
6.0	Tender pipeline
	To support transparency and assist supplier planning, Members should note that Future Tendering Opportunities are published bi-annually on the Councils website. The current

	update Tendering opportunities covers future tendering opportunities up to 31st October 2027. Note: CPS consult with Departments to help populate this procurement pipeline and are reliant on Departments sharing their available procurement plans.
7.0	Financial & Resource Implications
	The financial resources for these contracts are within approved corporate or departmental budgets.
8.0	Equality or Good Relations Implications / Rural Needs Assessment
	None
9.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 • Table 1 - Competitive Tenders • Table 2 - Single Tender Actions • Table 4 - Retrospective Single Tender Actions • Table 4 - Modification to Contract • Table 5 - Retrospective Single Tender Actions • Table 6 - Non-procurement expenditure

Table 1: Competitive Tenders

Title of Tender	Proposed Contract Duration	Est. Max Contract Value	SRO	Short description of goods / services	On published pipeline (Y/N)	Prior Committee approval (Y/N) If Y name Committee & Date	External Funding (Y/N)
Traffic management service for Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann 27	Up to 1 year	£400,000	D Martin	Due to this expanded scope and the need for a dedicated, event-specific solution, a new standalone contract must be procured to ensure safe, compliant and effective delivery of traffic management services for Fleadh 2027. Please note that due to time required in planning and road closure notices this tender was advertised w/c 3rd August to allow sufficient time for award and implementation.	N	N	N
Provision of the cleaning services	Up to 5 years	£1,000,000	N Largey	Critical service to ensure facilities are clean and operational for staff, visitors and commercial partners across a wide range of facilities and services across Belfast This contract is used across Departments to cover assets and buildings not historically covered by in-house cleaning teams.	Y	N	N
Supply and delivery of playground parts	Up to 3 years	£60,000	S Leonard	This contract will ensure a steady supply of replacement playground parts for the Council's playground inspection teams.	Y	N	N

Appendix 1

Title of Tender	Proposed Contract Duration	Est. Max Contract Value	SRO	Short description of goods / services	On published pipeline (Y/N)	Prior Committee approval (Y/N) If Y name Committee & Date	External Funding (Y/N)
Supply, delivery and installation of summer plants and containers	Up to 3 years	£250,000	D Sales	This contract supports OSS and Bereavement Services with hanging baskets, flower towers, wall mounted manger baskets and barrier/troughs for Belfast in Bloom	Y	N	N
Assessment of biodiversity enhancement opportunities across parks and open spaces, pitches, playgrounds and amenity spaces	Up to 18 months	£41,667	S Leonard	One of the specific deliverables within the Nature Towns and Cities Project is professional work on the topic – Enhancing existing parks and open spaces for nature and climate resilience	N	N	N
Hotel Accommodation for Fleadh 2027	Up to 8 days	£300,000	D Martin	The contractual agreement between Council and Comhaltas includes the provision of hotel accommodation and business suite facilities. Dates for Fleadh 27 need to be secured with hotel accommodation asap.	N	N	N
Annual abstract of accounts training, technical guidance & treasury management advice	Up to 4 years	£31,200	T Wallace	Specialist consultancy services and training required for compliance purposes Please note that this procurement was conducted by Newry, Mourne & Down District Council on behalf of all NI councils with contracts award in July 26.	N	N	N
Web streaming and AV services at Roselawn Crematorium	Up to 3 years	£90,000	P Gribben	To facilitate secure remote access to funeral services for invited attendees who are unable to attend in person. This will enhance the quality and accessibility of the service provided to bereaved families during a difficult time.	N	N	N

Table 2: Single Tender Actions

Title	Duration	Est. Max Contract Value	SRO	Description	Supplier	STA Reason	Other Committee approval (Y/N) If Y name Committee & Date	External Funding (Y/N)
Delivery of Output Belfast - Ireland's biggest one-day music conference	Up to 4 months	£22,000	K Forster	There are no other suppliers who can deliver the conference activity. The Output Conference is a key event within the City of Music programme and Music Matters strategy. 2 months & £11k being reported as retrospective	Score Draw Music Ltd	2.	CG&R committee 15/04/2026	N
The provision 3D model, design and planning software	Up to 3 years & 8 months	£48,500	P Gribben	The current platform is widely used by key architectural practices across Northern Ireland who subscribe to the VU.CITY model. Replacing the current supplier at this stage would require a significant system configuration, implementation, migration of historical and live data, testing, user training and managed transition to a replacement platform.	VU.City	7.	N	N

Table 3: Retrospective Single Tender Actions

Title of Contract	Duration	Est. Max Contract Value	SRO	Description	Supplier	STA Reason	Other Committee approval (Y/N) If Y name Committee & Date	External Funding (Y/N)
Park & Ride management for Fleadh 26 Page 202	Up to 8 days	£170,000	D Martin	The end-to-end car park management solution is required for 3 x park and ride locations with Translink as part of Fleadh 26. The requirement emerged late in the planning stages and did not allow sufficient time to tender. This requirement will be procured via open competition for Fleadh 27.	Car Parking Services	5.	N	N
Delivery of Output Belfast - Ireland's biggest one-day music conference	Up to 2 months	£11,000	K Forster	Further to STA request above this is retrospective STA approval to cover services from July and Aug 26	Score Draw Music Ltd	2.	CG&R committee 15/04/2026	N
The provision 3D model, design and planning software	Up to 4 months	£4,500	P Gribben	Further to STA request above this is retrospective STA approval to cover services from 4 months from May to Sept 26.	VU.City	7.	N	N

Table 4: Modification to Contract

Title of Contract	Original Duration & Value	Modification	SRO	Description	Supplier
Research on Advanced Wireless Investment Models (T2696)	Up to 3 months & £70k	Additional 3 months	S McNicholl	Initial contract provided for a second sprint to develop proposals for investing Enabling Infrastructure Funds but subsequent agreement with DfE was that developing a business case would be an improved outcome for that work. The modification is retrospective.	Bloom Procurement Services (NEPRO3)
Health & Safety advice for Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann 26	Up to 1 year & £30k	Additional £20,000	K Forster	The additional funds are required due to the increased level of support required from the contractor in the months leading up to and over the delivery period of the Fleadh. The nature of the support will not change. The modification is down to the increased level of support required to deliver this event for the first time. Contract is being reported as it now exceeds £30k.	Paul Scott
Deliver the resourcing plan to support the Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann 26	Up to 3 months & £29k	Additional £8,500	K Forster	The Eventor is already in contract to manage this programme for Fleadh and therefore it makes sense that they continue to manage the additional asks and pressures on the programme and budget. The nature of the support will not change. The modification is down to the increased level of support required to deliver this event for the first time. Contract is being reported as it now exceeds £30k.	The Eventor

Table 5: Contracts awarded by Arc 21 on behalf of the Council

Title of Contract	Original Duration & Value	Modification Required	SRO	Description	Supplier
The receipt and processing of kerbside mixed dry recyclables – lot 1	Up to 7 years & £4.5m (BCC Spend)	Additional 6 months & £330k	D Sales	Arc21 are in the process of procuring a new contract for reception and treatment of dry recyclables (our blue bin waste) but due to delay in the DAERA consultation on future collections schemes Arc 21 are going to extend their contract for an additional six months.	Contract managed by arc 21

Table 6: Non-Procurement Expenditure

Title	Duration	Value	SRO	Description	Supplier
The Northern Light Incubation Project at Studio Ulster	Up to 2 years	£700,000	D Martin	As part of the Council's Local Economic Partnership Ulster University have been selected to support the delivery of this project. This is considered an exempted contract under the Act in line with Schedule 2, section 3 (1) - horizontal arrangement. Externally Funded	Ulster University

Appendix 1
STA/ Direct Award Reasons

STA Number	Full description
1. Switching to a Direct Award	Switching to a Direct Award: No response or no suitable response following advertised procurement exercise.
2. Single Supplier for Art or Artistic Performance	Single Supplier for Art or Artistic Performance: the creation or acquisition of a unique work of art or artistic performance
3. Single Supplier Absence of Competition for Technical Reasons	Single Supplier Absence of Competition for Technical Reasons: only a particular supplier can supply the goods, services or works required and there are no reasonable alternatives to those goods, services or works
4. Single Supplier Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)	Single Supplier Intellectual Property Rights (IPR): only particular supplier can supply the goods, services or works required due to that particular supplier having IPR or other exclusive rights and there are no reasonable alternatives to those goods, services or works.
5. Urgency	Urgency: Where the goods, services or works to be supplied under the public contract are strictly necessary for reasons of extreme and unavoidable urgency which is not attributable to any act or omission of and could not have been foreseen by the council, and as a result the public contract cannot be awarded on the basis of a competitive tendering procedure using the reduced 10 day period for 'urgent procurements'
6. Prototypes and Development	Prototypes and Development: the production of a prototype, or supply of other novel goods or services (i.e. goods or services designed or developed at the request of BCC), for the purpose of testing the suitability of the goods or services, researching the viability of producing or supplying the goods or services at scale and developing them for that purpose, or other research, experiment, study or development.
7. Additional or Repeat Goods Services or Works	Additional or Repeat Goods Services or Works: Extension or Partial Replacement concerns the supply of goods, services or works by the existing supplier (includes supplier that the council no longer has a contract with) which are intended as an extension to, or partial replacement of, existing goods, services or works in circumstances where a change in supplier would result in the council receiving goods, services or works that are different from, or incompatible with, the existing goods, services or works, and the difference or incompatibility would result in disproportionate technical difficulties in operation or maintenance.
8. Commodity	Commodity: Supplies quoted and purchased on a commodity market
9. Advantageous time-limited	Advantageous time-limited: Supplies or services on particularly time-limited advantageous terms e.g. supplier winding up its business activities
10. Additional or Repeat Goods Services or Works	Additional or Repeat Goods Services or Works: Similar to Existing Goods Services or Works, concerns the supply of goods, services or works by the existing supplier (includes supplier that the council no longer has a contract with) that are similar to existing goods, services or works where the existing goods, services or works were supplied under a

Appendix 1

STA Number	Full description
	public contract that was awarded following a competitive procedure within the period of five years ending with the day on which the transparency notice is published, and the tender notice or any tender document in respect of the earlier contract set out the Council's intention to carry out a subsequent procurement of similar goods, services or works in reliance on this direct award justification, and any other information specified in Section 95.
11. Other	Other: Reason not in line with Procurement Act 2023
12. To Protect Life	To Protect Life: where a Minister of the Crown has by Regulations provided that specified contracts may be awarded to protect human animal or plant life or health or protect public order or safety
13. Schedule 2– Exempted Contract	Schedule 2– Exempted Contract: Requirement not considered procurement spend but use of STA process to document and approve spend. https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2023/54/schedule/2



Belfast
City Council

Subject:	Requests for use of the City Hall
Date:	21 August 2026
Reporting Officer:	Nora Largey, City Solicitor and Director of Legal and Civic Services
Contact Officer:	Christopher Burns, Interim Functions and Exhibition Manager

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? <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 70%;">After Committee Decision</td> <td style="width: 30%; text-align: center;">☐</td> </tr> <tr> <td>After Council Decision</td> <td style="text-align: center;">☐</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sometime in the future</td> <td style="text-align: center;">☐</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Never</td> <td style="text-align: center;">☐</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 ☒ No ☐

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	This paper, together with the attached appendix, contains the recommended approach in

	respect of each of the requests by external organisations for access to the City Hall function rooms received up to 7 August 2026.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to: • Approve the recommendations as set out in Appendix 1.
3.0	Main report
	<u>Background Information</u>
3.1	The current criteria for use of the function rooms used to review external applications is set out below.
3.2	Functions are invited for a range of purposes, including those: • which support other events in the city; are of demonstrable economic benefit to Belfast, • celebrate or commemorate a notable achievement or significant anniversary by an organisation or body with close links to the city or Northern Ireland or those, • organised by recognised local community or voluntary sector groups for non-profit and non-political purposes.
3.3	Functions that may not be allowed; • are those 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, • or private events or functions which have no compelling links to the council or the city specifically and which could instead use local private sector facilities.
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.4	Committee will recall that at its meeting on 23rd January 2026 it considered an update on the City Hall Income Generation Project and subsequently agreed the revision of criteria for the use of Belfast City Hall and the provision of room hire fees and additional charges / recharges for event services. The events listed in the schedule of Appendix 1 have been reviewed against this new criteria and room hire prices applied on this basis.
	<u>Financial & Resource Implications</u>
3.5	None.
	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications / Rural Needs Assessment</u>
3.6	None.

4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 - Schedule of function requests received up to 7 August 2026.

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AUGUST 2026 CITY HALL FUNCTION APPLICATIONS

NAME OF ORGANISATION	FUNCTION DATE	FUNCTION DESCRIPTION	CRITERIA MET	CHARGES
Belfast Health & Social Care Trust	12 October 2026	Launch of the Belfast Child Document – which outlines the design for a seamless developmental pathway for children in Belfast. Numbers attending - 250	Yes	- ROOM HIRE OF £1250 - Any applicable additional charges
Ulster Baseball & Softball Club	17 October 2026	30th Anniversary End of Season Awards evening event with drinks reception, awards, speeches and dinner to celebrate the work of the club over last 30 years to promote the playing of baseball and softball locally. Numbers attending - 100	Yes	- NO ROOM HIRE - Any applicable additional charges <i>With 20% charity deduction applied to final total</i>
UNISON	13 November 2026	UNISON LGBT+ Conference Reception evening event with drinks reception and speeches. The event is attached to the national UNISON LGBT+ conference which will bring around 200 delegates to Belfast for a weekend conference in the ICC. Numbers attending – 200	Yes	- ROOM HIRE OF £1250 - Any applicable additional charges
Newington Housing Association Ltd	16 November 2026	Newington HA 50th Anniversary Celebration - celebrating with the local community and voluntary sector 50 years since formation as a registered social housing provided in 1976 with dinner, speeches and entertainment. Numbers attending – 150	Yes	- NO ROOM HIRE - Any applicable additional charges <i>With 20% charity deduction applied to final total</i>
Conradh Na Gaeilge	20 November 2026	ELEN General Assembly Launch Event – is hosted by Conradh Na Gaeilge in Belfast bringing together delegates and language activist organizations from across Europe to discuss minoritised languages and language rights. Numbers attending – 100	Yes	- ROOM HIRE OF £450 - Any applicable additional charges <i>With 20% charity deduction applied to final total</i>

AUGUST 2026 CITY HALL FUNCTION APPLICATIONS

Consulate General of India, Belfast	16 January 2027	Republic of India (National Day) Celebration evening with cultural performances and dinner. The event will showcase India's rich heritage, culture and democratic values and would also reinforce Belfast's growing international partnerships, supporting good relations and cultural exchange Numbers attending - 300	Yes	- ROOM HIRE OF £1250 - Any applicable additional charges
Northern Ireland Medico Legal Society	6 April 2027	Northern Ireland Medico Legal Society 50th Anniversary Dinner - established to foster collaboration, mutual understanding, and collegiality between the medical practitioners, barristers, solicitors and members of the judiciary the evening will consist of a drinks reception and dinner accompanied by speeches, historical talk and music. Numbers attending – 150	Yes	- NO ROOM HIRE - Any applicable additional charges
British Nuclear Medicine Society	18 May 2027	BNMS Annual Awards Dinner – Spring 2027 – Drinks reception followed by an awards ceremony an ending with dinner. Event to support conference activity in the city with 300-400 delegates. Numbers attending – 200	Yes	- ROOM HIRE OF £1250 - Any applicable additional charges <i>With 20% charity deduction applied to final total</i>
Aflac Northern Ireland	25 November 2027	Aflac NI Con 27 - Internal employee conference for technology and cyber Security company with keynotes speeches, panel discussions, presentations and refreshments throughout. Numbers attending – 160	Yes	- ROOM HIRE OF £1250 - Any applicable additional charges
Society for Endocrinology	7 March 2028	SfE BES 2028 Conference Dinner – UK and Irish Endocrine Society will hold their annual conference at the ICC. This evening event will include welcome drinks and dinner followed by speeches and entertainment. Numbers attending – 300	Yes	- ROOM HIRE OF £1250 - Any applicable additional charges <i>With 20% charity deduction applied to final total</i>



Subject:	Request for use of City Hall grounds for two events in Autumn 2026
Date:	21 August 2026
Reporting Officer:	Nora Largey, City Solicitor and Director of Legal and Civic Services
Contact Officer:	Christopher Burns, Acting Functions and Exhibition Manager

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									
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After Committee Decision	☐								
After Council Decision	☐								
Sometime in the future	☐								
Never	☐								

Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes ☒ No ☐
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1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	To consider two requests for the use of City Hall grounds

	• From Northern Ireland Housing Executive on 19th October 2026 to host Domestic Abuse Awareness Week Candlelit Vigil • From Belfast One BID on 30th – 31st October 2025 for Halloween themed animation
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is requested to: 1. Authorise the use of City Hall grounds on dates noted above. 2. Authorise the events to take place on the basis of submission of an event management plan and risk assessment to ensure delivery of a safe public events.
3.0	Main report
3.1	<u>Background Information</u> Members will be aware that requests for the use of City Hall are normally dealt with under the authority delegated by the Committee to the Director of Legal and Civic Services using criteria agreed for this purpose. Occasionally however, it is necessary to place such requests directly before the Committee, and the requests set out below falls into this category.
3.2	<u>Key Issues</u> Two requests have been received for events in October to use City Hall Grounds and due to the larger scale of activities involved it is deemed necessary to seek Committee approval.
3.3	<u>Proposed event; Domestic Abuse Awareness Week – Candlelit Vigil</u> The purpose of the Vigil is to mark the launch of the 2nd Domestic Abuse Awareness Week of events in NI organised by the NIHE as part of the delivery of the NIHE Domestic Abuse Action Plan.
3.4	Last year the vigil was successfully delivered in Wallace Park in Lisburn with the Lisburn and Castlereagh Mayor in attendance and the support of LCCC. Speakers at the event included the CEO of MAP and a representative Belfast and Lisburn Women's Aid. The plan this year is to host the vigil on the grounds of the Belfast City Hall and follow the same format of last year with speeches and support signposting. The event will be free and open to the public. There will be digital posters advertised and shared on social media and with key stakeholders.
3.5	<u>Proposed event; A Belfast One Halloween 30 – 31 October 2026</u> Belfast One held similar events in 2023, 2024 and 2025 and the events were successful with no incidents, hence Belfast One requesting a fourth event.

3.6	Aimed towards families celebrating Halloween, with a pumpkin patch on the west lawn with a few novelties throughout such as scarecrows. The event will be ticketed online and at the gate, allowing for restricted flow throughout the day to avoid overcrowding. Designed with a route through the patch with entrance and exit on opposite sides to stop congestion and limit lawn damage, with matts in place to help mitigate also. There will be some additional entertainment throughout the day such as characters animation. The event intends to support wider activity across the City Centre. Set-up will be facilitated from the afternoon of the 29 October 2026. <u>Financial & Resource Implications</u>
3.7	There would be no costs for the council for both these requests as the various organisers would bear any/all stewarding and equipment costs etc themselves. The normal event support in the form of electrical and water provision in the grounds may be required for both events. There are no concerns from an asset management point of view, although the organisers would be required to provide the usual insurances, indemnities, and obligations. <u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u>
3.8	There are no direct good relations or rural needs implications arising from this report.
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	None

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