

## BELFAST CITY COUNCIL

### **SUMMONS TO ATTEND THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

**TO: THE LORD MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND THE COUNCILLORS OF BELFAST CITY COUNCIL**

Notice is hereby given that the monthly meeting of the Council will be held in the on Wednesday, 1st July, 2020 at 6.00 pm, for the transaction of the following business:

1. Summons
2. Apologies
3. Declarations of Interest
4. Minutes of the Council (Pages 1 - 16)
5. Official Announcements
6. Minutes
  - a) Strategic Policy and Resources Committee (Pages 17 - 70)
7. Chief Executive's Decisions taken under Delegated Authority
  - a) People and Communities Committee (Pages 71 - 74)
  - b) City Growth and Regeneration Committee (Pages 75 - 76)
  - c) Licensing Committee (Pages 77 - 78)
  - d) Planning Committee (Pages 79 - 84)
  - e) Brexit Committee (Pages 85 - 86)
8. Notices of Motion

a) Black Lives Matter

Proposed by Councillor Matt Collins,  
Seconded by Councillor Ferguson,

“This Council loudly condemns the disgraceful racist murder of George Floyd and expresses support and solidarity to the Black Lives Matter movement globally in its pursuit of justice and against racism in all of its forms.

The Council is also deeply concerned at the manner in which members of the BAME community were treated by the PSNI for attending socially distant protests in support of the Black Lives Matter movement in Belfast and Derry, on 6 June 2020. This treatment included fines, cautions and threats of prosecutions.

The Council notes that human rights organizations including Amnesty International and the Committee for the Administration of Justice, have expressed serious concern about police actions on the day. Further notes the disproportionate police approach compared with other gatherings, events, and indeed instances at workplaces, where minimal levels of social distancing have occurred.

This Council opposes the fines and does not support any future prosecutions arising from these protests in Belfast and Derry. Finally, the Council calls for the immediate implementation of a racial equality strategy which should be prioritised and invested in by government.”

**(To be debated by the Council)**

b) Suicide Awareness Training

Proposed by Councillor Michelle Kelly,  
Seconded by Councillor Long,

“This Council recognises the Covid-19 pandemic will exacerbate the current mental health crisis in our City.

The Council previously agreed to work with others to make Belfast a Zero Suicide City to include challenging the taboos of mental health and suicide and ensuring that there is adequate training and resources for all the citizens so that Belfast can react positively to assist those in need.

All of us need to be aware of the signs and understand the questions to ask someone we are worried about and what help they can get. Therefore, Council agrees:

1. That Training in mental health and suicide intervention is crucial; therefore Council will investigate resourcing further SafeTALK and Mental Health First Aid training programmes for staff.

2. To appoint mental health champions in each Council Department in to act as a point of contact for an employee who is experiencing a mental health issue or emotional distress, helping the person get appropriate help, and also provide early intervention for someone who may be developing a mental health issue.
3. As a practical first step, to encourage Councillors and staff to undertake a short, free online course in Suicide Awareness training (developed by Mersey Care Foundation Trust and widely used across the NI Health and Social Care Trusts) – this teaches people how to recognise the warning signs and safeguard someone who could be contemplating suicide, talking openly to them and then directing them to appropriate services.”

**(To be referred, without discussion, to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee)**

c) Restoration and Listing of Historic Street Signs

Proposed by Councillor Hussey,  
Seconded by Alderman Kingston,

“This Council:

1. notes the valuable contribution that Belfast’s historic tiled street signs make to the character of the areas in which they are situated and laments the loss of so many of these signs over the years.
2. further notes that a number of freestanding tiled street signs in Belfast have been listed and thereby protected from destruction or removal, but that most such signs have no protection at all.
3. requests its officers :-
  - a. to take all necessary steps to effect the repair and restoration of the freestanding tiled street signs identified below;
  - b. to take steps to identify other such signs and to take all necessary steps to effect the repair and restoration of those signs;
  - c. to request that the Department for Communities adds those signs which are of particular quality and merit to the list of buildings of special architectural or historic interest.
4. The street signs referred to above are situated at the junctions of :-
  - (a) Kensington Road/Knock Road.
  - (b) Cherryvalley Park/Kensington Road.
  - (c) Kingsden Park/Knock Road.
  - (d) Knockland Park/Barnett’s Road.

- (e) Summerhill Parade/Barnett's Road.
- (f) Belmont Road/Massey Avenue [the unlisted sign].
- (g) Wandsworth Road/Belmont Road [2 signs].
- (h) Belmont Church Road/Sydenham Avenue.
- (i) Belmont Church Road/Belmont Road [the unlisted sign].
- (j) Eastleigh Drive/Kincora Avenue.
- (k) Clonlee Drive/Upper Newtownards Road.
- (l) Beersbridge Road/Upper Newtownards Road."

**(To be referred, without discussion, to the Planning Committee)**

d) Opening our Streets for Everyone

Proposed by Councillor McKeown,  
Seconded by Councillor Whyte,

"The coronavirus pandemic has shown that there is a real appetite among the people of Belfast to walk and cycle more, which is benefitting their physical and mental wellbeing. This energy and enthusiasm needs to be supported so it can be sustained.

While potentially transformative work is being undertaken by the Department for Infrastructure to install pop-up cycle lanes, pedestrianise streets and widen footpaths, there is a significant opportunity for Belfast City Council also to play its role in the recovery and the enhancement of our city by taking the car out of many of our streets.

The Council therefore agrees that a programme of temporary road closures be rolled out across the city on specific days, such as at weekends, in consultation with local communities, disability organisations and businesses. This will help in the recovery – socially, economically and environmentally – by making room for people to get around in a socially-distanced way, affording local businesses extra space to operate more safely, and supporting the move towards reduced car use and a cleaner, greener, healthier city for all.

To facilitate this in a managed way, the Area Working Groups will be reconvened remotely at the earliest opportunity to help identify potential sites in each part of the city. Any closures must not adversely impact residents, businesses, or people with a disability or accessibility issues. Closures must also take account of public and road safety."

**(To be referred, without discussion, to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee)**

e) Littering

Proposed by Councillor Groogan,  
Seconded by Councillor Smyth,

“This Council recognises the blight that littering across our city presents and the significant cost to the Council in dealing with it.

We commit to doing all in our power to reduce the instances of littering, to ensure adequate resourcing is put into enforcement and to enhance opportunities for people to properly dispose of waste whether on street, in our parks or public spaces. This council will commit to providing recycling bins in parks and public spaces and where appropriate, provide additional general waste bins in communities.”

**(To be referred, without discussion, to the People and Communities Committee)**

The Members of Belfast City Council are hereby summoned to attend.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Suzanne Wylie', with a stylized, cursive script.

Chief Executive

**Please Note:**

This Council meeting is being organised to ensure it is in accordance with Public Health Agency guidance.

The meeting is being held remotely via Microsoft Teams, and can be viewed by the Public via the Council's website.