



Subject:	Notice of Motion – Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Bill
Date:	24th May, 2022
Reporting Officer:	John Walsh, Chief Executive
Contact Officer:	Jim Hanna, Senior Democratic Services Officer

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sometime in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	To consider the Notice of Motion received for the meeting of the Council on 1st June in relation to the Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Bill.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is asked to consider the motion and agree to either adopt the motion, refer it for debate at the Council meeting (with or without restrictions) or reject the motion.

3.0	Main Report
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.1	The Committee will be aware Standing Orders 13 (m) to (r) as agreed by the Council at its meeting on 4th October is as follows:
3.2	<p>(m) <i>The Standards and Business Committee will have delegated authority to adopt or reject Notices of Motion. The Lord Mayor will indicate at the Council meeting those Notices of Motion that have been considered by the Standards and Business Committee and whether such Notices of Motion were rejected or adopted. In either case, the proposer only may speak on the issue at Council.</i></p> <p>(n) <i>The Standards and Business Committee will refer all Notices of Motion directly to a standing committee when the matter to which the Notice of Motion refers falls within the remit of that committee. At Council, the Lord Mayor will indicate that the Notice of Motion was received and referred. There will be no speakers on such Notices of Motion at Council.</i></p> <p>(o) <i>The Standards and Business Committee will refer Notices of Motion for consideration by full Council when the Notice of Motion relates to a strategic or constitutional matter.</i></p> <p>(p) <i>The Standards and Business Committee will not have the power to amend the wording of any Notice of Motion that is being referred to the full Council for debate.</i></p> <p>(q) <i>Any amendments to Notice of Motions to be proposed at the Council are to be furnished at least one day in advance of going to the full Council and will be circulated to Party Group Leaders in advance of the Council meeting.</i></p> <p>(r) <i>In referring any matter to the full Council, the Standards and Business Committee may determine to restrict contributions to the debate in relation to any Notice of Motion to one per political party. At the Council meeting, the Lord Mayor will clearly indicate if the restriction applies.</i></p>
3.3	<p>The following motion has been received:</p> <p><u>Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Bill</u></p> <p>“This council, noting the UK government’s introduction of the Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Bill, believes that the proposals within this Bill fail to honour the UK’s obligation under the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) to carry out proper investigations into deaths and serious injuries that occurred during the NI conflict. This council also recognises this bill is a unilateral move by the UK government to abandon its commitment to the Stormont House Agreement, again demonstrating contempt for agreements made with international partners.</p> <p>Furthermore, this Council echoes fears made by civil society and victims organisations that, under these proposals, the Secretary of State may in practice decide who gets immunity from prosecution.</p>

3.4	<p>Accordingly, this Council calls on the UK government to abandon this Bill and return to the already agreed structures as outlined in the Stormont House Agreement and to recognise to state or non-state actor should have control over how a victim seeks truth and justice.”</p> <p>Proposer: Councillor Lyons</p> <p>Seconder: Councillor Whyte</p> <p>The motion is the Council to call upon the UK Government to abandon the abovementioned Bill – can be adopted by the Committee, referred to the Council for debate (with or without restrictions) or rejected.</p> <p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p>
3.5	<p>None associated with this report.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p>
3.6	<p>None.</p>
4.0	Documents Attached
	None.