

Moved by Alderman Ekin:

City Planning

“This Council recognises that the consistent message from all the studies carried out for City Council at home and abroad, of progressive regions and cities, is one of good City Planning. This planning considers living and health conditions, economic and transport requirements, education and recreation needs. It helps to create a city that is socially and economically sustainable, and underpins decisions which might be unpopular but are necessary.

With the transfer of planning functions to councils, it is vital that Belfast City Council creates a City Planning capability to develop the City Plan which will set the guidelines for future planning decisions.

We, therefore request the Chairman of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee to arrange for officers to urgently prepare proposals for consideration by the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee regarding the appointment of a Senior Planning Executive (or team) who will bring the experience of best practice from elsewhere and who will constructively guide the Council as it takes on responsibility for planning.”