



<b>Subject:</b>	All Party Round Table on Connectivity, Active & Sustainable Travel
<b>Date:</b>	8 November 2023
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Cathy Reynolds, Director of City Regeneration & Development
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Sean Dolan, Senior Development Manager Callie Persic, Development Manager

<b>Restricted Reports</b>	
<b>Is this report restricted?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Please indicate the description, as listed in Schedule 6, of the exempt information by virtue of which the council has deemed this report restricted.</b>	
Insert number <input type="checkbox"/>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Information relating to any individual</li><li>2. Information likely to reveal the identity of an individual</li><li>3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the council holding that information)</li><li>4. Information in connection with any labour relations matter</li><li>5. Information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained</li><li>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</li><li>7. Information on any action in relation to the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime</li></ol>	
<b>If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?</b>	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sometime in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues</b>
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1.1	The purpose of this report is to update Members on the All Party Round Table on Connectivity, Active and Sustainable Travel that took place on 30 August 2023 and next steps.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="300 367 1497 506">I. Note the content of this report in relation to the All Party Round Table meeting and the opportunity shape the Belfast Agenda Connectivity, Active and Sustainable Travel Action Plan.</li> <li data-bbox="300 517 1497 607">II. Agree that future sessions will take place that will provide an opportunity for Members to have a focused and informed discussion around this strategic priority.</li> </ul>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1           3.14	<p><u>Background</u></p> <p>Following discussions between Officers and Elected Members regarding various matters associated with active and sustainable travel, particularly in relation to the refreshed Belfast Agenda it was agreed in February 2023 to convene an All Party Round Table meeting. The session enabled Members to explore the various stands of work ongoing across the organisation and with partners to ensure that Council can effectively position itself in terms of what we can deliver, who we need to work with and what we need to influence to realise the wider associated benefits of connecting people to opportunities and creating a better connected and sustainable city.</p> <p>In particular, the session looked at how this work cuts across various Committees and via the Community Planning process and provided an overview (Appendix 1) of the streams of work underway, which enabled Members to see all this work holistically and how it feeds into Council's strategic priorities and governance structures. This included the work being taken forward within the Community Planning structures via the Connectivity, Active &amp; Sustainable Travel subgroup as part of the Belfast Agenda refresh and through the Climate &amp; Resilience Board as well as Council led Physical Programme projects, A Bolder Vision and the strategic and large-scale infrastructure projects being led by public and private sector city partners.</p> <p>Connectivity, Active and Sustainable Travel are integrated levers that cut across city stakeholders, including Council, DfI and other Government departments, Sustrans, Translink, communities, businesses and anchor institutions and span across a number of strategic, policy and delivery areas including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="322 1850 1252 1886">● The Local Development Plan and the Eastern Transport Plan (ETP)</li> <li data-bbox="322 1901 836 1937">● Belfast Agenda and A Bolder Vision</li> <li data-bbox="322 1953 852 1989">● Council's capital delivery programme</li> <li data-bbox="322 2004 890 2040">● Modal shift/behavioural change projects</li> </ul>

- Net Zero Roadmap for Belfast

The All Party Round Table took place on 30 August 2023 and provided an overview of the wider strategic opportunities and links to the Corporate Plan, the draft CAST plan, A Bolder Vision, Council capital workstreams and outlined the links to the plans and projects of other partners, including the Department for Infrastructure's emerging Eastern Transport Plan.

A key focus of discussion included the relationship of the ETP to other large priority schemes such as Belfast Streets Ahead, Glider Phase 2 and the key Junctions (Peter's Hill, Frederick St, Clifton Street) with particular focus on the need to deliver the Belfast Cycling Network across the city. Referencing the ETP presentation from DfI on 28 June 2023, Members were advised that the ETP will influence and shape the form and function of streets and roads which means that large transport and place-making projects will have to be altered to accommodate the changes needed to deliver sustainable travel, aligned with the climate targets.

Members were advised that Council will submit a response to the ETP and were encouraged to submit a response from their respective parties. Council's response was agreed at the City Growth & Regeneration Committee on 11 October. The resource and financial restraints experienced by DfI and the restrictions of 'in-year' funding was highlighted along with how these impact on what can be delivered in relation to major projects across the city, including Belfast Streets Ahead, Glider Phase 2 and improvements at the large junctions.

Other issues raised included the content within the Belfast Agenda's draft Connectivity, Active and Sustainable Travel Action Plan including active travel for school children, play streets and school streets and opportunities to share and learn from best practice, e.g. through Eurocities. Members were advised that the CAST group is co-chaired by Sustrans and Translink and the draft plan was developed through a co-design process led by this group. Following public consultation on the draft Belfast Agenda, partners will consider potential revisions to the suite of Action Plans before final publication. It is intended that all action plans will remain dynamic, and delivery will be through respective subgroups.

It was agreed that Members would feed the information discussed at the Round Table to their respective parties and that a copy of the presentation would be brought to a future City Growth & Regeneration Committee, with a copy of the presentation attached in Appendix A of this report. It was also agreed that the Round Table would reconvene on a future date to enable further discussion on the issues and to provide an opportunity for Members to feed into the work of the Connectivity, Active & Sustainable Travel sub-group within the Community planning structures. It is proposed that the next meeting will take place after the

	Belfast Agenda Action Plans are updated and invitations will be issued to the Party Group Leaders to nominate a representative.
<b>4.0</b>	<b><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></b> None associated with this report.
<b>5.0</b>	<b><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></b> There are no Equality, Good Relations or Rural Needs implications associated with this report.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Appendices - Documents Attached</b>
	<b>Appendix 1:</b> All Party Round Table Presentation on Connectivity, Active & Sustainable Travel