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| Subject: | Notice of Motion – Regional Jobs and Investment Bill |
| Date: | 28th November, 2023 |
| Reporting Officer: | Nora Largey, Interim City Solicitor/Director of Legal and Civic Services |
| Contact Officer: | Jim Hanna, Senior Democratic Services Officer |

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| Restricted Reports | |
| Is this report restricted? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <p>Please indicate the description, as listed in Schedule 6, of the exempt information by virtue of which the council has deemed this report restricted.</p> <p>Insert number <input type="checkbox"/></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Information relating to any individual2. Information likely to reveal the identity of an individual3. 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 matter5. Information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained6. Information showing that the council proposes to (a) to give a notice imposing restrictions on a person; or (b) to make an order or direction7. 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 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| After Council Decision | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Sometime in the future | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Never | <input type="checkbox"/> |

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

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| 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 4th December in relation to a Regional Jobs and Investment Bill. |
| 2.0 | Recommendation |
| 2.1 | The Committee is asked to note that the motion will be referred in the first instance to the City Growth and Regeneration Committee. |
| 3.0 | Main Report |
| | <u>Key Issues</u> |
| 3.1 | <p>The Committee will be aware that Standing Orders 13 (m) to (r), as agreed by the Council at its meeting on 4th October, are as follows:</p> <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> |
| 3.2 | <p>The following motion has been received:</p> <p><u>Regional Jobs and Investment Bill</u></p> <p>“Belfast City Council:</p> <p>Expresses grave concern at the significant geographic disparities in the economy of Northern Ireland between those areas which have experienced economic prosperity and those areas which have been left behind.</p> |

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| | <p>Recognises that of the ten of the most deprived wards in Northern Ireland, six can be found in the Belfast City Council district.</p> <p>Welcomes the publication of an action plan by Invest Northern Ireland (NI) to implement the recommendations of the recent review which revealed the scale of failure of Invest NI to work as a partner on a sub-regional basis.</p> <p>Welcomes the proposal for legislation to address these regional economic imbalances through a Regional Jobs and Investment Bill.</p> <p>Resolves to take all possible measures to alleviate regional economic imbalances in order to give every citizen equal opportunity to succeed, regardless of geography.</p> <p>Commits to responding to the consultation on this legislation which is currently open.”</p> <p>Proposer: Councillor Paul Doherty</p> <p>Seconder: Councillor Carl Whyte</p> |
| 3.3 | <p>The motion calls upon the Council, amongst other things, to resolve to take all possible measures to alleviate regional economic imbalances and to commit to respond to a consultation on a Regional Jobs and Investment Bill. The motion should be referred, in the first instance, to the City Growth and Regeneration Committee which has responsibility for influencing and contributing to regional regeneration and growth strategies and activities.</p> |
| 3.4 | <p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p> |
| 3.5 | <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>None.</p> |
| 4.0 | <p>Documents Attached</p> |
| | <p>None.</p> |