



Subject:	Correspondence Received from Dfl
Date:	10 th January 2024
Reporting Officer:	Cathy Reynolds, Director of City Regeneration & Development
Contact Officer:	Sean Dolan, Senior Development Manager, City Regeneration & Development

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"/>
Some time 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 or Summary of main Issues
	To update Members of the City Growth & Regeneration Committee on responses received from Dfl in relation to the Dfl Autumn Statement presentation in November 2023, and in relation to Committee responses to Dfl consultation on proposed traffic restriction schemes on Sorella St, Dunville St and Belmont Church Road.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to: i. Note the response received from Dfl following questions raised by Members at the Special meeting of the CG&R Committee in November 2023 in relation to the Dfl Autumn Statement Presentation

	<p>ii. Note the responses received from Dfl in relation to the Committee responses to the consultation on proposed traffic restriction schemes on Dunville St, Sorella St and Belmont Church Road as agreed at the December 2023 meeting of the CG&R Committee.</p>
3.0	Main report
	<p>Dfl Autumn Statement Responses</p> <p>3.1 At the Special Meeting of the CG&R Committee in November 2023 Members received a presentation on the Autumn Report from Dfl. A link to the meeting presentation and subsequent minutes are attached here for information.</p> <p>3.2 During discussion Members raised a number of queries with Dfl committing to respond to Members on any queries that were not answered at the meeting. The formal response from Dfl is as attached within Appendix A of this report and as shared on the Mod.gov Members portal on the 6th December 2023.</p> <p>Dfl Consultation Responses</p> <p>3.3 At the December 2023 meeting of the CG&R Committee Members received a paper relating to Dfl consultation on a number of schemes including a proposed cycle path on Montgomery Road and proposed waiting restrictions on Belmont Church Road, Dunville St, Sorella St and Suffolk Road. Following conversation Members comments were incorporated within the Council consultation responses in relation to these schemes, and the responses were submitted to Dfl subject to Council ratification in January 2024.</p> <p>3.4 Subsequent to this Dfl have responded via email to the request for Dunville, Sorella and Belmont Church Road.</p> <p>3.5 In relation to the request to introduce Residents Parking Schemes on Dunville St and Sorella St the department responded:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>“In response to your request for these areas to be considered for the introduction of a residents only parking scheme, I can advise that currently only one residents’ parking scheme is in operation within Northern Ireland, and this is located at Rugby Road / College Park Avenue, Belfast. The Department has subsequently carried out</i></p>

3.6	<p><i>a review of residents parking schemes and the draft report on this review has been prepared for Ministerial consideration.</i></p> <p><i>The draft review report sets out the lessons learnt from the Rugby Road scheme in Belfast, and the other schemes that did not make it to implementation and, when approved, will be used to establish the policy for such schemes going forward. The report will be made public when it is finalised, and the Department will then consider requests for residents parking schemes in light of the recommendations from the review.”</i></p> <p>In relation to the Council request to extend the proposed parking restrictions at the Belmont Church Road / Upper Newtownards Road junction to include the introduction of a similar restriction on Belmont Church Road to Belmont Road the department responded:</p> <p><i>“In your response you have requested that the department give consideration for the introduction of further restrictions along Belmont Church Road.</i></p> <p><i>The overuse of yellow lines can be problematic within residential areas as they do not discriminate between visitors, residents and service vehicles and may not therefore be appropriate or welcomed by some residents. Consideration must also be given to the possible transfer of the parking further along the street. We therefore only introduce them where there is a history of either traffic progression or road safety issues.</i></p> <p><i>To sustain commercial viability, it is essential to permit parking adjacent to shops and business premises. It is considered that the extent of the current waiting restrictions on this stretch of Belmont Church Road is adequate and assists with the traffic management and progression in the area, therefore, we have no plans to introduce any further restrictions in this area.”</i></p>
4.0	Finance & Resource Implications
	There are no finance or resource implications associated with this report
5.0	Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment
	There are no Equality or Good Relation Implications/Rural Needs Assessment requirements associated with this report
6.0	Appendices

	Appendix A – Dfl response to the Autumn Statement Presentation
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