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| Subject: | Site Visit Request – Belfast Chamber |
| Date: | 9th October, 2024 |
| Reporting Officer: | Cathy Reynolds, Director of City Regeneration and Development |
| Contact Officer: | Eilish McGoldrick, Democratic Services and Governance Coordinator |

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| Restricted Reports | |
| Is this report restricted? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input 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"/> |

Please indicate the description, as listed in Schedule 6, of the exempt information by virtue of which the council has deemed this report restricted.

Insert number

1. Information relating to any individual
2. Information likely to reveal the identity of an individual
3. 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 matter
5. Information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained
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
7. Information on any action in relation to the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime

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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 or Summary of main Issues |
| | To consider the request from Belfast Chamber to a walk around the city centre followed by a brief meeting. |
| 2.0 | Recommendations |
| 2.1 | The Committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Consider the request from Belfast Chamber for a walk around the city centre followed by a brief meeting. |
| 3.0 | Main report |
| 3.1 | A request has been received from Mr. G. Annon, Belfast Chamber President, for the City Growth and Regeneration Committee, together with members of the Belfast Chamber board and council for a walk around the city centre followed by a brief meeting in their offices at Custom House. |
| 3.2 | The Correspondence notes that Belfast Chamber represents 600 businesses in the city across all sectors including retail, leisure, financial and professional services. The majority of which are based in the city centre, and we pride ourselves as being the voice of business. Over recent months there has been an increasing level of frustration in connection with the city centre and we have received a significant level of feedback from members. The issues range from anti-social behaviour, to cleanliness, lack of investment in public realm and the continuing absence of city centre residential development. |
| 3.3 | It highlights that the walk and meeting would give a fantastic opportunity to engage directly on these matters ensuring the committee members are aware of the business community's views. It would also be a good forum to discuss potential solutions. Belfast Chamber wants to work positively and constructively with Belfast City Council to make our city a better place to live, learn, work, visit and invest. |
| 3.4 | Members of the committee are asked to note that the issues raised by the Belfast Chamber include cleanliness and anti-social behaviour, which are under the remit of the People and Communities Committee. As an alternative to inviting members from both Committees, and given the focus on the City Centre, it may be appropriate to consider attendance by members of the All Party Working Group on the City Centre. |
| 4.0 | Finance & Resource Implications |
| | There are no finance or resource implications associated with this report |

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| 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 |
| | None |