



<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Notice of Motion – Priority for our Local Traders</b>
<b>Date:</b>	3rd December, 2025
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Damien Martin, Strategic Director of Place and Economy
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Craig Mealey, Committee Services Officer

<b>Restricted Reports</b>	
<b>Is this report restricted?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?</b>	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time 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 or Summary of main Issues</b>
1.1	To consider a motion in relation to priority for local traders, which was referred to the Committee by the Standards and Business Committee at its meeting on 20th November, 2025.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to note that, in accordance with Standing Orders, Notices of Motion which commit the Council to expenditure or fall within the remit of a particular Committee must be referred to the appropriate committee for consideration and report.</p> <p>At this stage, the Committee is asked to note that the notice of motion has been received and that, if agreed, a subsequent report will be brought back to the Committee outlining a detailed consideration of the motion and the potential cost implications.</p>

3.0	<b>Main report</b>
3.1	<p><b><u>Key Issues</u></b></p> <p>At the meeting of the Standards and Business Committee held on 20th October, the following motion, which was proposed by Councillor Doran and seconded by Alderman McCoubrey, was referred to the Committee for consideration:</p>
3.2	<p><b><u>Priority for our Local Traders</u></b></p> <p>“This Council notes the significant contribution that local independent traders, small businesses, and market stallholders make to Belfast’s economy, tourism offering and community life.</p> <p>This Council further notes that major Council organised events such as the Belfast Maritime Festival, Christmas Market, and other seasonal events attract large crowds and generate substantial commercial opportunities.</p> <p>Accordingly, this Council resolves that for all Belfast City Council organised or Council supported events involving trader or vendor pitches, priority shall be given to traders who are residents or ratepayers within the Belfast City Council area. Council officers should develop and publish a transparent process for allocating pitches which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• gives first refusal to eligible local traders before any external operators are invited;</li> <li>• ensures fair opportunity across different sectors and communities; and</li> <li>• supports the Council’s commitment to local economic growth and inclusive prosperity.”</li> </ul> <p><b>Proposer:</b> Councillor Jordan Doran  <b>Seconded:</b> Alderman Frank McCoubrey</p>
3.3	<p>The motion calls upon the Council to give priority to traders who are residents or ratepayer within the Belfast City Council area at Council organised or Council supported events involving trader or vendor pitches.</p>
3.4	<p><b><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></b></p> <p>None at this stage as there is no commitment to proceed with the Notice of Motion. Details of any financial and resource implications will be reported at a subsequent meeting.</p>
3.5	<p><b><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></b></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>