



Subject:	Update on Area Working Groups
Date:	20 March 2026
Reporting Officer:	Sinead Grimes, Director of Property & Projects
Contact Officer:	David Logan, Senior Programme Delivery Manager Shauna Murtagh, Portfolio Manager

Restricted Reports

Is this report restricted? Yes No

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

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"/>

Call-in

Is the decision eligible for Call-in? Yes No

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
------------	---

1.1	To present to the Committee for approval the minutes of the most recent meeting of the Area Working Groups.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	Committee is asked to approve the minutes of the meeting of South AWG – 23 February, North AWG – 25 February, West AWG – 26 February, and East AWG – 5 March 2026 as attached.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p><u>Area Working Group Minutes</u></p> <p>It was agreed in June 2016 that the minutes of the meetings of the Area Working Groups would be presented to the SP&R Committee for approval going forward, in line with the Council’s commitment to openness and transparency and to ensure a consistent approach with other Member-led Working Groups. The Committee is asked to approve the minutes of the most recent meeting, as attached.</p>
3.2	<p>Project Updates</p> <p>South AWG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Drumglass Park SuDs project</u> - the South Belfast AWG agreed that it was content with the project to proceed. <p>North AWG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>LIF underspend</u> – the North Belfast AWG agreed to recommend to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee, the allocation of LIF underspend towards the cost of the Ardoyne Youth Club heating system and the acquisition of land from the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service for the Westland Community Centre Hub, on the basis that both projects had previously been agreed as LIF projects. <p>West AWG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The Mountainview Hotel</u> – the West Belfast AWG agreed that a recommendation be made to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee that the revised proposal be taken forward, focusing on additional works to be carried out at the Roddy McCorley Heritage Centre, subject to discussion with the Legal Services Department and subject to the Council’s due-diligence processes. <p>East AWG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>LIF reallocation</u> – the East Belfast AWG agreed, in principle, to recommend to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ that, subject to due diligence, the £70,000 allocated to the Cycling Ireland project under the Local Investment Fund, be reallocated as follows: £40,000 to Clarawood Tenants Hall; and £30,000 to the Ballyhackamore Parklet Project.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ that, following completion of the relevant due diligence to ensure that projects met the funding criteria, a report be submitted to a future meeting on the proposed reallocation of the funding, and include also information on the potential for the Ballyhackamore Parklet project to be extended to other vacant Council land within that area; and ● <u>Strand Arts Centre</u> - to write to the Minister for Communities to request an update in respect of the Department for Communities providing funding support to the redevelopment of the Strand Arts Centre. <p>Members are asked to note that, following further checks, the proposed Ballyhackamore Parklet project will not be eligible for funding under LIF as it is a council asset and there is no community group or long-term lease in place. The proposals for the Parklet have been included in the proposed Parks and Open Space Improvement Programme which is due to be considered by the Committee today as part of the Physical Programme. Members are asked to note that this means the allocation of £30k will go back to the East AWG at their next meeting for re-allocation.</p>
3.3	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None</p>
3.4	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/ Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None</p>
4.0	<p>Documents Attached</p>
	<p>Appendix 1 - Minutes – Meeting – South Belfast Area Working Group 23 February 2026</p> <p>Appendix 2 - Minutes – Meeting – North Belfast Area Working Group 25 February 2026</p> <p>Appendix 3 - Minutes – Meeting – West Belfast Area Working Group 26 February 2026</p> <p>Appendix 4 - Minutes – Meeting – East Belfast Area Working Group 5 March 2026</p>