



Subject:	Notice of Motion: Pilot Drug and Pill Testing Facilities at Major Events and Festivals
Date:	Tuesday, 14th April, 2026
Reporting Officer:	Barry Flynn, Committee Services Officer
Contact Officer:	As above.

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" 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
1.1	To consider a motion which was referred to the People and Communities Committee.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is requested to consider the motion and to take such action thereon as may be determined.
3.0	Main report
3.1	<p>At the meeting of the Standards and Business Committee on 24th March, the following motion, which was proposed by Councillor Murray and seconded by Councillor Smyth, was referred to the Committee for consideration:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Pilot Drug and Pill Testing Facilities at Major Events and Festivals</u></p> <p>“That this Council supports harm reduction approaches to drug use, particularly in the context of festivals and nightlife events.</p> <p>That this Council acknowledges the rising public concerns around drug-related harm, and notes that traditional approaches focused solely on enforcement have not eliminated the presence or use of illicit substances at major events. Therefore, I move that this Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supports the introduction of a pilot drug and pill testing facilities at major events and festivals held in Belfast;• Calls on relevant public bodies, including Public Health Agency and Belfast Trust, to explore the feasibility of piloting such a service, alongside those in the community and voluntary sector with a proven track record of harm reduction; and

3.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requests an internal report on the role of Belfast City Council in supporting and facilitating such harm reduction services, including legal and regulatory considerations.” <p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None at this stage.</p>
3.3	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
4.0	Appendices
	None