



Subject:	Correspondence received – Ulster University Job Cuts
Date:	19th June, 2026
Reporting Officer:	Nora Largey, City Solicitor/Director of Legal and Civic Services
Contact Officer:	Eilish McGoldrick, Democratic Services and Governance Co-ordinator

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" 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 <input type="checkbox"/>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Information relating to any individual2. Information likely to reveal the identity of an individual3. 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 matter5. Information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained6. Information showing that the council proposes to (a) to give a notice imposing restrictions on a person; or (b) to make an order or direction7. 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 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	To consider the correspondence received from the Department from the Economy and the Ulster University in relation to the announcement of up to 450 redundancies at Ulster University.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • note the correspondence as set out in the report: and • consider the request from Ulster University to attend a future meeting of the Committee to discuss the how the University and Members could work together on the issue.
3.0	Main report
3.1	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>The Committee will recall that, at its meeting on 5th May 2026, Belfast City Council passed the following motion which had been proposed by Councillor Michael Collins and seconded by Councillor Anthony Flynn:</p>
3.2	<p><i>“This Council:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>expresses deep concern at the announcement of up to 450 redundancies at the University of Ulster (UU);</i> • <i>stands in solidarity with workers at UU in campuses in Belfast and across the north against these job losses;</i> • <i>calls on and will write to senior University of Ulster management urging them to rescind these proposals to protect jobs and educational provision;</i> • <i>will also write to the Economy Minister requesting an urgent intervention by the Stormont Executive to protect jobs and educational provision in UU; and</i> • <i>supports the UCU, UNITE and other trade unions representing workers at UU and supports action to resist the loss of 450 jobs and the resultant impact on educational provision.”</i>
3.3	Subsequently, Democratic Services wrote to the Department from the Economy and the Ulster University on the issues which had been raised, and responses have been received at Appendix 1 and 2.

3.4	The Committee is asked to consider the responses, together with the request from the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Bartholomew, to attend a future meeting of the Committee to discuss how the University and Members could work together to safeguard the provision at all the Ulster University campuses., as outlined in Appendix 2.
3.5	<u>Financial and Resource Implications</u> None associated with this report.
3.6	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u> None associated with this report.
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 – Response from the Department form the Economy Appendix 2 – Response from Ulster University