



Belfast City Council

Report to:	Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
Subject:	Notice of Motion re – Organ Donation
Date:	10th May, 2013
Reporting Officer:	Mr. S. McCrory, Democratic Services Manager, 6314
Contact Officer:	Mr. J, Hanna, Senior Democratic Services Officer, 6313

1.0	Relevant Background Information
1.1	Members will recall that the Council, at its meeting on 4th March, passed the following Notice of Motion: “This Council welcomes the calls for consultation around the introduction of an opt-out organ donation scheme to increase the number of organ donors here; notes with concern the current serious shortage of organ donors; and agrees to write to the Minister for Health urging him to explore the introduction of such a scheme which would help save the lives of the many seriously ill people currently on long waiting lists dependent on the gift of organ donation.”
1.2	A letter was subsequently forwarded to the Minister.

2.0	Key Issues
2.1	A response, copy attached, has been received from the Minister in which he indicates that proposals for an opt-out scheme for organ donations were still being developed and he intends to announce the way forward as soon possible.
2.2	Once the findings of that work were known, he would then consider what the next steps could be for organ donation in Northern Ireland.

3.0	Resource Implications
3.1	None associated with this report

4.0	Equality and Good Relations Considerations
4.1	No relevant equality and Good Relations considerations

5.0	Recommendations
5.1	The Committee is asked to note receipt of the correspondence.

6	Documents Attached
Appendix 1 Copy of response from the Minister.	