



<b>Subject:</b>	City Growth & Regeneration Committee Plan
<b>Date:</b>	11 <sup>th</sup> November 2015
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Suzanne Wylie, Chief Executive Donal Durkan, Director of Development
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Claire Patterson, Business Research & Development Officer

<b>Is this report restricted?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<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</b>
1.1	On 26 August 2015, Members of the Committee attended a planning workshop with a view to developing a work plan for the City Growth & Regeneration Committee. Members identified a number of priorities and made a number of proposals in the context of the emerging priorities identified as part of the ‘Belfast Conversation’ and the development of the Belfast Agenda. Discussion was also informed by the role of the Committee and the resources at its disposal for delivery.
1.2	Following this workshop, at the City Growth & Regeneration Committee on 9 September, officers were requested to use the workshop discussions to develop a workplan and bring a draft to Committee for approval. As the role of this Committee is central to building and influencing external partnerships with key city stakeholders and transforming the city to secure future success it is important that the Committee workplan is seen as an evolving document to take account of developing and new opportunities emerging for the Council and city. The key actions are attached in <b>Appendix 1</b> and the detailed committee plan is attached in <b>Appendix 2</b> . This plan covers the period 2015/16 and initial actions for 2016/ 17, subject to budgetary approval for 2016/17.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>

2.1	<p>Members are asked to consider and agree:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the draft committee plan for 2015/16</li> <li>- the proposal to hold regular strategic meetings of the Committee</li> </ul>
3.0	<b>Main report</b>
	<b>Key Issues</b>
3.1	<p>The draft committee plan has been based on the emerging ‘plan on a page’ representation of the Belfast Agenda. Whilst this is still in draft format, it represents, at this stage, the emerging strategic direction of both the council and the city. By linking to the wider strategic context, this committee plan is clearly able to demonstrate how the committee significantly contributes to the long term vision and priorities for the city.</p>
3.2	<p>As the Belfast Agenda is currently in draft format, once the final version is agreed, the committee plan will be reviewed and any changes needed to reflect the final strategic direction will be drafted and brought back to committee for approval.</p>
3.3	<p>The Committee members discussed the role of the City Growth &amp; Regeneration Committee, focusing on its key functions to influence and build relationships externally; develop the evidence base to support the development of the city and deliver key strategies, programmes and services to support the city’s growth. The key priorities raised at the workshop included</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- City centre regeneration &amp; investment strategy</li> <li>- Job creation and the employability &amp; skills framework</li> <li>- Place positioning and an agreed city brand to maximise the opportunities for investment, tourism, study and regeneration</li> <li>- Delivering the integrated Tourism Strategy 2015-2020</li> <li>- Investigate the feasibility of a City Deal for Belfast</li> <li>- Develop a car parking strategy</li> <li>- Ensure that strategies give consideration to connecting neighbourhoods to the city centre and that the whole city can enjoy the benefits</li> </ul>
3.4	<p>As Councillors will recall, a number of issues discussed at the workshop focused on the operation of the Committee. This included managing the agenda to enable greater consideration for strategic issues; improving working relationships with external bodies and improving the co-ordination of discussions and agendas with other council committees. Proposals are currently being developed</p>

<p>3.5</p> <p>3.6</p> <p>3.7</p>	<p>to take these issues forward, including the scheduling of regular ‘strategic sessions’ with the Committee, every two months.</p> <p><b>Next Steps</b> Following the approval of the draft committee plan, officers will implement the actions contained in the plan and provide periodic updates to committee.</p> <p><b>Financial &amp; Resource Implications</b> The committee plan has been developed in the context of the resources available to the committee.</p> <p><b>Equality or Good Relations Implications</b> There are no equality or good relations issues associated with this report. Actions contained within the Committee Plan will be subject to equality and good relations considerations as they develop.</p>
<p>4.0</p>	<p><b>Appendices – Documents Attached</b></p>
	<p><b>Appendix 1 – Key actions contained in the City Growth &amp; Regeneration Committee Plan</b> <b>Appendix 2 – Draft Committee Plan 2015/16</b></p>