



Subject:	Notice of Motion: High Speed Rail Connection Belfast – Dublin
Date:	12th October, 2016
Reporting Officer:	Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager
Contact Officer:	Louise McLornan, Democratic Services Officer

Is this report restricted?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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 bring to the Committee’s attention the Notice of Motion re: High Speed Rail Connection Belfast – Dublin which was referred to the Committee by the Council on 3rd October.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked to; <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consider the Motion and take such action thereon as may be determined.
3.0	Main report
3.1	<p>Key Issues</p> <p>The Council, at its meeting on 3rd October, considered the following Notice of Motion which had been moved by Councillor McVeigh and seconded by Councillor Long:</p> <p>High Speed Rail Connection Belfast - Dublin</p> <p><i>“This council recognises the importance of high quality transport connections across these Islands and to this Island. Good Connectivity facilitates and encourages trade and commerce.</i></p> <p><i>The council believes that a high speed rail connection between Belfast and Dublin, reducing traveling time to one hour each way, would help transform the Island economy to the specific benefit of both Belfast and Dublin and indeed the towns and cities that run along the eastern</i></p>

3.2	<p><i>corridor between the two cities. Such a connection would facilitate a daily commute between the two cities for employees and business persons.</i></p> <p><i>Such a development would cost in excess of £2 Billion. The Council believes that the European Juncker Fund, a multibillion Euro fund designed to finance major infrastructure projects throughout the EU, is ideally placed to assist with this ambitious project.</i></p> <p><i>The Council will explore with others, particularly the Department for Infrastructure and Dublin City Council, the potential for a joint feasibility study to be carried out into this proposal, and to prepare a possible funding application to the Juncker Fund.”</i></p> <p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>None.</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
4.1	None.