



<b>Subject:</b>	Consultation Response on Future Delivery of Electoral Services in Northern Ireland
<b>Date:</b>	16 <sup>th</sup> December, 2016
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager

<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 or Summary of main Issues</b>
1.1	To consider making a corporate response to the consultation document on Future Delivery of Electoral Services in Northern Ireland
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	The Committee is asked to <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Approve the draft response to the consultation document on Future Delivery of Electoral Services in Northern Ireland.</li></ul>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main report</b>
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.1	The Northern Ireland Office and the Electoral Office for Northern Ireland are currently consulting on the options for the future delivery of Electoral services in Northern Ireland.
3.2	The Chief Electoral Officer, Mr Graham Shields, attended a special meeting of the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee on 11 <sup>th</sup> November to answer Members

<p>3.3</p> <p>3.4</p> <p>3.5</p> <p>3.6</p>	<p>questions on the consultation exercise. The Committee agreed that a draft response be prepared and submitted for consideration.</p> <p>It is acknowledged that there might well be different views amongst the political parties as to whether or not the options for consideration in the review are acceptable in a regional context and, therefore, this response deals only with the practical issues which will arise for Belfast City Council should the proposals contained in the consultation paper proceed.</p> <p>A draft response is attached for Members' consideration.</p> <p><u>Financial &amp; Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None associated with this report. However, one of the main points of the response is to ensure that any proposed changes to how elections are delivered in future do not result in the Council having to fund them.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
<p><b>4.0</b></p>	<p><b>Appendices – Documents Attached</b></p>
<p>4.1</p>	<p>Appendix 1 – Draft response to the consultation document on Future Delivery of Electoral Services in Northern Ireland.</p>