



Subject:	European Capital of Culture 2023 – Special Committee Meeting
Date:	22 September 2017
Reporting Officer:	Suzanne Wylie, Chief Executive
Contact Officer:	Suzanne Wylie, Chief Executive

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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 type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	To seek the Committee’s authority to hold a Special Committee meeting during the w/c Monday 25 September [Thursday 28 September @4pm] to discuss European Capital of Culture 2023.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is asked to; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve that a Special Committee meeting be held. • Agree that, due to the urgency of the matter, the decision to be taken at the Special meeting will not be subject to the call-in process.
3.0	Main report
3.1	The Committee will be aware that Belfast City Council and Derry City and Strabane District Council are progressing a bid to secure European Capital of Culture 2023 designation. This is a once in a generation transformational opportunity for both cities and wider region to promote

	and showcase the cultural and creative aspects of our place as well as delivering many wider social and economic benefits to our citizens.
3.2	A key milestone in the process is the formal submission of a Phase 1 Bid Book to the Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sports (DCMS) by 27 October 2017 .
3.3	Given the significance of this programme and to enable Members to discuss the emerging concept, vision and ambition behind the ECOC proposition as well as to explore some of the key decisions required in moving forward, it is proposed that a Special Committee meeting be held on Thursday 28 September @ 4pm.
3.4	This Committee meeting will receive a presentation on the bid summary, the overall theme, the candidate city issue and some of the programme ideas. Some of the discussion will need to be restricted where it could be deemed commercially sensitive.
3.5	If the decision taken at the Special Committee meeting is to be ratified at the Council meeting on 2 October, then there will not be sufficient time for the normal call-in process to be completed. Therefore, the Committee is requested to agree that, due to urgency, the call-in process is set aside for the decision to be taken at the Special meeting.
	<u>Financial & Resource Implications</u>
3.6	None associated with this report.
	<u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u>
3.7	None.
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	None.