



Subject:	Correspondence re: Notice of Motion on Special Designated Status
Date:	21st November, 2017
Reporting Officer:	Louise McLornan, Democratic Services Officer, ext 6077
Contact Officer:	Louise McLornan, Democratic Services Officer, ext 6077

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"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	This report provides the Committee with details of the responses which have been received in relation to the Council's Notice of Motion of 1st June, which called for Special Designated Status for Northern Ireland.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is asked to note the responses which have been received and that any further responses will be circulated to the Committee for information.

3.0	Main Report
3.1	The Council, at its meeting on 1st November, agreed that the responses which had been received in relation to the following Notice of Motion, which was passed by the Council on 1st June, would be circulated to the Committee:
3.2	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Special Status for North of Ireland</u></p> <p>“This Council calls upon the European Commission to agree a special designated status for the North of Ireland, following Brexit. This special status should incorporate provisions included within the Good Friday Agreement, in particular Strand Two, and uphold the human rights and equality protections currently in place which are derived from our current membership of the European Union. The Council agrees to write to the President of the Commission, to the Prime Minister, Teresa May, and to the Taoiseach, Enda Kenny, seeking a meeting to press the case for special status.”</p>
3.3	Responses have since been received from the Prime Minister’s Office, the Office of the Taoiseach and the Northern Ireland Office, copies of which are attached. The Committee will note that 2 of the 3 replies are acknowledgement responses and, to date, no further correspondence has been received.
3.4	<p>In addition, the following Notice of Motion, which was proposed by Councillor Nicholl and seconded by Councillor Lyons, was passed by the Council on 1st November:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>EU Single Market</u></p> <p>“This Council recognises the critical importance of the EU Single Market to the economy of the City of Belfast and calls for a special deal to be put in place for Northern Ireland in context of Brexit that would facilitate continued participation in this Single Market.</p> <p>Accordingly, the Council agrees to write to the UK Government and European Commission Taskforce in this regard.”</p>
3.5	Letters conveying this Motion have since been sent to Mr Michel Barnier, European Commission Chief Negotiator and Mr. David Davis M.P., Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union.
3.6	Any further responses received will be circulated to the Committee for its information and will be presented to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee for consideration.
3.7	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>There are no financial or resource implications associated with this report.</p>
3.8	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>None.</p>

	Documents Attached
4.1	Responses from the Prime Minister's Office, the Office of the Taoiseach and the Northern Ireland Office.