



Subject:	<b>Motion – Audio Recording of Council Working Groups</b>
Date:	16 <sup>th</sup> February, 2018
Reporting Officer:	Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager
Contact Officer:	Jim Hanna, Senior Democratic Services Officer

<b>Restricted Reports</b>	
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"/>

<b>Call-in</b>	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	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 a motion in relation to the audio recording of all meetings of the Council's Working Groups which, in accordance with standing orders, was referred to the Committee by the Council at its meeting on 1 <sup>st</sup> February.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
2.1	The Committee is asked to consider the motion and to take such action thereon as may be determined.

<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
	<p data-bbox="272 192 421 226"><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p data-bbox="165 257 1469 338">3.1 At the meeting of the Council on 1<sup>st</sup> February, the following motion was proposed by Alderman Rodgers and seconded by Councillor Johnston:</p> <p data-bbox="368 409 1378 591">"This Council recognises the need for openness, transparency and accountability in how it transacts its business. In order for this to happen, the Council agrees to audio record all meetings of Council Working Groups not presently included in the policy, namely:</p> <ul data-bbox="368 663 1318 1061" style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Audit and Risk Panel</li> <li>• Budget and Transformation Panel</li> <li>• Party Leaders' Forum</li> <li>• North Foreshore Members' Steering Group</li> <li>• Reference Group on Older People</li> <li>• Strategic Cemeteries and Crematorium Development Working Group</li> <li>• Shared City Partnership and</li> <li>• Historic Working Group."</li> </ul> <p data-bbox="165 1133 1378 1214">3.2 In accordance with Standing Order 13(f), the motion was referred to the Committee for consideration.</p> <p data-bbox="165 1263 1378 1444">3.3 The Committee will recall that, at its meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> January, it had considered a report on the audio recording of Area Based Working Group meetings (copy attached) and had agreed to extend its policy and protocol on the recording of Standing Committees to include those Groups.</p> <p data-bbox="165 1507 1378 1688">3.4 Should the Committee be minded to agree to extend the policy further, then the same technical issues and protocols for the recording of Standing Committees and Area Based Working Groups would apply. These will include appropriate consideration of the content of reports and whether restrictions need to be applied.</p> <p data-bbox="165 1751 1378 1933">3.5 However, it should be pointed out that both the Audit and Risk Panel and the Shared City Partnership have representatives on their membership who are not Council officers and legal opinion would need to be obtained as to how this would be addressed.</p>

	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>There are not any significant financial implications associated with this report. Any additional costs from extending the audio recording to include Working Groups can be met from within existing budgets.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>None</p>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Document Attached</b>
4.1	Committee report of 19 <sup>th</sup> January.