



Subject:	Committee Plan 2018-2019
Date:	11 th April 2018
Reporting Officer:	Suzanne Wylie, Chief Executive
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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 or Summary of main Issues
1.1	In February 2018, the Committee held a workshop to focus on the priority areas of work for the year ahead, to help deliver on the Belfast Agenda ambitions. This workshop provided an opportunity to identify priorities and activities within the Committee Plan, with a focus on Employability and Skills and City Centre Development; as well as encourage opportunities for Member engagement with a view to maximising the Committee's strategic leadership role in influencing the future growth and development of the city.
1.2	The Committee is familiar with the four main priorities in the Belfast Agenda, which demonstrates the centrality of growing and diversifying the local economy to improve

	<p>quality of life in Belfast. It sets out an ambition for growth and opportunity that includes four headline goals to focus on the sustainable economic and social growth of Belfast so that by 2035:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Our economy supports 46,000 additional jobs - Our city is home to 66,000 people - There will be 33% reduction in the life expectancy gap between the most and least deprived neighbourhoods - Every young person leaving school has a destination that fulfils their potential
1.3	<p>As previously noted by Committee, with the changing global and economic context this engagement with Members helps to build our understanding of the key issues to lead to more informed decision-making on how to best allocate our resources to maximise the Committee's role in delivering on the Belfast Agenda.</p>
1.4	<p>Building on the work over the last year, the draft Committee Plan (attached as Appendix 1) draws together several annual delivery plans previously agreed by Committee in March 2018 (international relations, city events, tourism and the cultural framework action plans). It also includes key actions contained in the annual plans to support city centre development and the growing the economy (support to start and grow businesses) and working and learning (employability and skills) priority themes. These annual workplans are included as separate items on the agenda at this Committee meeting. The Committee Plan provides an overview of the various priorities and key activities that this Committee will oversee in the 2018/19 financial year to help deliver on the priorities and ambitions in the Belfast Agenda.</p>
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	<p>The Committee is asked to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consider and agree the draft Committee Plan 2018/19
3.0	Main report
3.1	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>The City Growth and Regeneration Committee is responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The development and implementation of strategies, policies, programmes and projects directed towards regeneration and growth of the city in the context of outcomes agreed in the community and corporate plans and other corporate strategy decisions. - Oversight of the exercise of Council functions in relation to economic development, urban development, tourism, culture & arts, European and international relations,

car parks, city markets, city events, Belfast Castle, Malone House and Belfast Zoo.

3.2

The draft Committee Plan outlines the key actions, milestones and Lead Director responsible for the delivery of programmes and projects. However, as the Committee is aware many of these programmes and projects are cross-cutting and there are opportunities to maximise impact by aligning relevant programmes and actions to areas such as the Smart Belfast Framework and city resilience. Delivering on the draft plan will therefore require the involvement of more than one Council service, as well as engagement and partnership with city partners and communities.

3.3

During the workshop, there was general support for the direction of travel for the city centre and employability and skills programmes of work. Comments referenced the importance of creating opportunities for engagement and participation of all ages in the development and delivery of programmes and projects. Members also emphasised the importance of supporting inclusive growth through economic and city development, the need to create a coherent and specific programme of work to reinforce and reinvigorate its role as key driver for the Council and the Committee.

3.4

There was recognition that the City Deal offers an opportunity for additional investment in a number of the Committee's priorities including Employability and Skills, Tourism Infrastructure, City Investment and Regeneration. In addition, Members have also previously noted the importance of relevant strategic briefing and engagement sessions on key issues to support the Committee's role in guiding and shaping the city's economic growth and development, particularly in the context of the global economic and social environment.

3.5

Last month the Committee noted the progress during 2017/18 to create jobs, improve skills and the development of the city centre. Through this work, 1,247 residents have entered into employment/self-employment. Building on this, the following provides an overview of the key programmes and activities, aligned to each of the Belfast Agenda priorities that are included the draft 2018/19 Committee Plan.

3.6

Growing the Economy

- Support job creation priorities
- Shape the development of a Council-wide Inclusive Growth Framework and programme of activities

- Promotion and marketing of the city internationally, including at MIPIM and the launch of a standalone website promoting investment and development in Belfast
- Launch 'Belfast: City for Business' concept, along with the new concierge service and further develop opportunities for partnership working
- Continue to develop the city as a tourist destination, including production of an Outline Business Case for a second world-class visitor attraction
- International Relations - Further develop Belfast's Sister City Relationships and continue to build on the relationships with the City of London and with Dublin on the economic corridor

City Development

3.7

- Deliver a City Centre Liveability Strategy by pursuing opportunities for City Centre Living, working with public and private sector partners to deliver high-quality mixed-tenure residential accommodation
- Deliver the City Centre Engagement Plan and improve the capacity of residents and groups to engage in the regeneration and development process
- Secure full planning permission for the development of the Belfast Telegraph site for a scheme targeted at the professional, creative and tech sectors
- Implement meanwhile use projects in the city centre, and influence the activity of other partners
- Work with partners to influence key developments in the city e.g. UU campus, Transport Hub, Belfast Streets Ahead, Hope Street, York Street Interchange. Royal Exchange, Sirocco, Queens Quay & Greater Clarendon etc.
- Work with city stakeholders, including DfI and the private sector, to implement the Car Parking Strategy and emerging Action Plan
- Secure approval and progress the East Bank and Inner North West masterplans
- Incentivise the development of Grade A office accommodation through the City Centre Investment Fund
- Work with Partners to deliver the proposed Belfast Region City Deal application including project selection & provision of supporting information including the Belfast Region Infrastructure Investment Plan
- Deliver the Belfast Infrastructure Plan to provide a holistic approach to assessing the critical interventions required to deliver the objectives of the Belfast Agenda & the Local Development Plan.

Working and Learning

3.8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ramp up and expand the Employment Academies across the city and across sectors - Increase engagement and early intervention with schools and with young people, both within and outside of the formal school setting - Pilot new approaches to increase engagement and opportunities for reskilling, retraining and apprenticeships for all ages - Deliver and further develop the phased approach to the Belfast Employability Pathway (Belfast Workplace) - Maximise the job and employment opportunities from planning and major redevelopment in the city
3.9	<p>Living Here</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Progress the City Events and Festivals Strategy and deliver the annual events programme - Develop and progress the ECoC Legacy Programme 2018-2023 - Deliver a City Centre Liveability Strategy by pursuing opportunities for City Centre Living, working with public and private sector partners to deliver high-quality mixed-tenure residential accommodation
3.10	<p>These actions are also contained in the annual delivery plans previously considered by Committee to form the basis of the draft Committee Plan, attached at Appendix 1.</p>
3.11	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>The Committee Plan will be delivered in accordance with the budgets previously agreed by Committee and approved by Council in February 2017.</p>
3.12	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>Programmes and activities contained within the Committee Plan will be subject to appropriate equality and good relations considerations.</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	Appendix 1 – Draft Committee Plan 2018-2019