



Subject:	Supplementary Report - Designation of Belfast district (or the city centre) as a 'holiday resort' providing large shops with an option to extend Sunday trading hours between the months of March and October
Date:	27 April 2018
Reporting Officer	Suzanne Wylie, Chief Executive
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Restricted Reports

Is this report restricted? Yes No

If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?

After Committee Decision

After Council Decision

Some time in the future

Never

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
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<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in

Is the decision eligible for Call-in? Yes No

1.0	PURPOSE OF THE SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT
1.1	<p>The purpose of this report is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - provide the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee with supplementary information (to the original report of 20 April 2018) to inform any decision by the Council as to whether Belfast City Council should designate the Belfast district (or the city centre) as a 'holiday resort' under Article 6 of the Shops (Sunday Trading &c.) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 - to seek a decision from Members on whether to proceed with a 'holiday resort' designation
1.2	<p><u>Deputations</u></p> <p>Members will wish to note that officers have received a request from Retail NI to make a further oral submission to the Committee on this issue. It will be a matter for the Committee to decide at the start of the meeting whether or not to receive the deputation from Retail NI (or indeed any other organisation who may make a similar request prior to the meeting), however others may have considered that they only had one opportunity to present to committee and they have therefore submitted further information in writing.</p>

2.0	RECOMMENDATIONS
2.1	<p>It is recommended that Members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) advise whether to receive the deputation(s) indicated at para 1.2 (ii) refer to the original SP&R report dated 20 April 2018 which includes the findings from the original public consultation which concluded on 5 May 2017 and the supplementary public consultation which ended on 2 April 2018 (Appendix 1). (iii) note the additional briefing report on a range of issues raised at Committee on 20 April 2018 (Appendix 2) (iv) note the draft Charter circulated to all interested parties (Appendix 3)
3.0	MAIN REPORT
3.1	<p>At the meeting of 20 April 2018 the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee considered the original report and agreed to defer a decision, pending the provision of additional information. Following the meeting, officers engaged with the parties that had made representations at the Committee meeting in order to request- further information on a number of issues raised including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Feedback from other NI locations on the impact of Holiday Resort designation 2. Details on the number of people employed in retail in Belfast 3. Details on the numbers of large stores (i.e. 280m2 +) who currently have staff in work before the normal Sunday trading hours (i.e. staff working before 1pm) 4. Details on cruise ship visitors to the city, focusing on those visiting on Saturday and Sunday 5. Details on how many cruise visitors come into the city centre 6. Details on hotel occupancy at weekends in the city – focusing on the Summer period (April-September) <p>Further submissions have been received from Usdaw, Belfast Chamber of Commerce, Retail NI, Visit Belfast and the NI Hotels Federation on the issues raised and upon the draft charter circulated (see para 3.2). A summary of the additional requested information has been included at Appendix 2.</p>
3.2	<p>Draft Charter</p> <p>At Committee Members requested sight of a draft copy of a potential Sunday trading Charter as per para 3.10 of the 20 April report. The report stated that the Council would seek assurances from employer organisations that their members are fully aware of their obligations under the legislation to protect the rights of workers and that such assurance could take the form of an agreed charter that participating large shops could sign up to on a voluntary basis.</p> <p>A draft Charter was circulated on Tuesday 24 April as requested by Members to all those who had made representation at the SP&R meeting on 20 April and comments have been received in relation to the draft.</p> <p>An updated draft Charter is now included at Appendix 3 for Members’ consideration. This draft</p>

	<p>charter represents a 'voluntary undertaking' on the part of participating shops and Members will note that the legal obligations reaffirmed within the Charter are enforceable through employment tribunals as outlined in Schedule 2 of the Sunday Trading Order 1997.</p> <p>The Belfast Chamber of Commerce are supportive of the draft Charter and have indicated a willingness to work with its members on the promotion of the charter should a designation be made. Usdaw and Retail NI have objected on the basis that the Charter is not in itself legally enforceable.</p>
4.	<p>FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</p> <p>See original report dated 20 April 2018</p>
5.	<p>EQUALITY OR GOOD RELATIONS IMPLICATIONS</p> <p>See original report dated 20 April 2018</p>
6.0	<p>Documents attached</p>
6.1	<p>Appendix 1 – SP&R Report dated 20 April 2018</p> <p>Appendix 2 – Briefing report on additional information</p> <p>Appendix 3 – Draft Charter</p>