



<b>Subject:</b>	Motion: Personal Independence Payments
<b>Date:</b>	21st September, 2018
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Jim Hanna, Senior Democratic Services Officer

<b>Restricted Reports</b>	
<b>Is this report restricted?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?</b>	
<b>After Committee Decision</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>After Council Decision</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Some time in the future</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Never</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues</b>
1.1	To consider a response which has been received from the Rt Hon Esther McVey MP, Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, in relation to the Council's motion on Personal Independence Payments.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
2.1	The Committee is asked to <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Note the response and take any such action as may be determined.</li></ul>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	<b><u>Key Issues</u></b> The Council, at its meeting on 2nd July, passed the following motion on Personal Independence Payments, which had been proposed by Councillor McReynolds and seconded by the Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor McDonough-Brown).

<p>3.2</p> <p>3.3</p> <p>3.4</p> <p>3.5</p> <p>3.6</p>	<p>"This Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• notes the importance of Personal Independence Payments to sustaining and maintaining the lives of many across Northern Ireland;</li> <li>• notes with concern the many issues associated with undergoing assessments and the stress they can bring upon individuals;</li> <li>• is concerned at the fall in figures of those receiving the benefit and the impact this is having on their lives;</li> <li>• notes the link that exists between the drop in support provided and the '20m rule' for the highest rate of PIP mobility support, as highlighted by 'PIP – a step too far' published by MS Society; and</li> <li>• accordingly, agrees to write to the Minister for Work and Pensions, calling for an urgent review of the 20m rule and to engage with key stakeholders to find a more appropriate alternative."</li> </ul> <p>A response has now been received from the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, a copy of which is attached.</p> <p>The Secretary of State points out that the Department for Communities is responsible for delivering the Personal Independent Payment system in Northern Ireland and suggests that the Council might wish to raise the issue with that Department. The Minister then sets out in detail the position in Great Britain to assist in addressing some of the issues raised within the motion.</p> <p><b><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></b></p> <p>None</p> <p><b><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></b></p> <p>None</p>
<p>4.0</p>	<p><b>Appendices - Document Attached</b></p>
	<p>Appendix 1 - Response from the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions</p>