



<b>Subject:</b>	Motion: Climate Emergency
<b>Date:</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup> March, 2019
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Stephen McCrory, Democratic Services Manager
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	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"/>
Some time 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 Climate Emergency which was referred to the Committee by the Council at its meeting on 4th March.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	The Committee is asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Consider the motion and to take such action thereon as may be determined.</li></ul>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main report</b>
3.1	<u>Key Issues</u>  At the meeting of the Council on 4th March the following motion was proposed by Councillor Collins and seconded by Councillor Heading:

3.2	<p><i>“This Council congratulates the Extinction Rebellion movement and other activists who have recently protested in Belfast and across the world in order to highlight the threat of catastrophic climate change. The Council recognises this as one of the greatest threats facing citizens in Belfast, and believes that urgent action must be taken in Belfast and globally in order to mitigate the worst impacts of climate change. Accordingly, the Council agrees to immediately declare a “Climate Emergency”.</i></p> <p><i>The Council also urges other local Councils to follow suit, and calls on both British and Irish governments to also declare a climate emergency. Such a call aims to see Belfast move away from fossil fuels and fully toward renewable energy sources. This initiative would see the Council doing everything it can to tackle climate change and reduce carbon emissions, including, for example, ensuring that all new buildings are ecologically friendly, that the retrofitting of homes is a priority, and that public transport is expanded. The Council agrees to immediately establish a multi-agency team across the city, which should include various governmental departments, political parties and other relevant agencies, to ensure that tackling the causes of climate change is an immediate priority.”</i></p> <p>In accordance with Standing Order 13(f), the motion was referred to the Committee for consideration.</p> <p><u>Financial &amp; Resource Implications</u></p>
3.3	None associated with this report.
3.4	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Appendices – Documents Attached</b>
	None.