



Subject:	Motion – Economic Future Planning
Date:	20th September, 2019
Reporting Officer:	John Walsh, City Solicitor/Director of Legal and Civic Services
Contact Officer:	Jim Hanna, Senior Democratic Services Officer,

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"/>
Sometime 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/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	To consider a motion on Economic Future Planning, which was referred to the Committee by the Council at its meeting on 2nd September.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is requested to; <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consider the motion and whether it wishes Council officers to research the issue and then bring back a report on how such a plan would be developed, resourced and led.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	At the Council meeting on 2nd September, the following motion was proposed by Councillor Beattie and seconded by Councillor Hargey: “This Council recognises that economic future planning is crucial in the period ahead, particularly given the impending withdrawal from the European Union.

	<p>This Council should plan for, and bring forward an economic plan for the future of this Council area in the event of the north of Ireland retaining membership of the European Union, following a referendum on Irish Unity.</p> <p>The economic plan should draw on the numerous existing reports of an all-island economy, including, but not limited to: ‘Modelling Irish Unification’ by Dr Kurt Hubner, ‘The Economic Effects of an All Island Economy’, by Paul Gosling, ‘The Economic Case for Irish Unity’, by Michael Burke and the Joint Oireachtas Committee Report, ‘Brexit and the Future of Ireland – Uniting Ireland & Its People in Peace & Prosperity’.</p> <p>This Council should be prudent in planning for the future to maximise our potential and secure future economic growth and to compete effectively with other Cities across the Island of Ireland.</p> <p>The economic plan should examine how this Council would prepare for this scenario and how this Council area could position itself within this potential new constitutional arrangement, in order that Belfast maximizes all opportunities for city growth in this context.”</p>
3.2	<p>In accordance with Standing Order 13(f), the motion was referred without debate to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee.</p>
3.3	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u> None</p>
3.4	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u> None</p>
4.0	<p>Appendices - Documents Attached</p>
	<p>None</p>