



<b>Subject:</b>	Motion – Action on Avoidable Winter Deaths
<b>Date:</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> November, 2019
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Jim Hanna, Senior Democratic Services Officer
<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>Sometime 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 motion on the Action on Avoidable Winter Deaths, which will be referred to the Committee by the Council at its meeting on 4 <sup>th</sup> November.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
2.1	The Committee is requested to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consider the motion and if the proposal is agreed a report on how this would be facilitated, resourced and managed will be brought back.</li></ul>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	At the Council meeting on 4 <sup>th</sup> November, the following motion will be proposed by Councillor McAteer:  <i>“In December last year, NISRA published Excess Winter Mortality figures for the period 2017/18 which revealed the second highest recorded number of excess winter deaths in the north of Ireland since data began in 1974/75. Further, these shocking statistics</i>

	<p><i>recorded that the number of excess winter deaths in the north had more than doubled since 2015.</i></p> <p><i>2017/18 statistics record that 1,500 people died, who were classed as Excess Winter Deaths and of these 22% or 320 people, were from the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust. These deaths are Avoidable Winter Deaths and even one is too many. Unfortunately, it is our citizens aged over 65 who are most affected, particularly those vulnerable elderly people aged 85+.</i></p> <p><i>The increase in winter deaths is widely understood to be down to the flu and spells of very cold weather - yet these deaths are avoidable. A combination of high energy prices, fuel poverty, ill health, low income and poor housing can make winter a dangerous time for many older people.</i></p> <p><i>As we await the NISRA figures for 2018/19 and approach the upcoming winter, this Council will do all in its power to effectively act on avoidable winter deaths. This Council welcomes the joined up multi-sectoral approach that will focus on preventing avoidable Winter Deaths through Belfast’s Community Planning Process and will also convene and facilitate a meeting of Belfast’s community, voluntary and social enterprise agencies who focus on protecting and supporting older vulnerable people, to identify, develop and support innovative programmes that can be deployed and co-ordinated to prevent avoidable deaths in our city over the upcoming winter.”</i></p>
3.2	<p>In accordance with Standing Order 13(f), the motion will be referred without debate to the Committee.</p>
3.3	<p><b><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></b></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
3.4	<p><b><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></b></p> <p>None</p>
4.0	<p><b>Appendices - Documents Attached</b></p>
	<p>None</p>