



<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Notices of Motion – Quarterly Update</b>
<b>Date:</b>	19th March 2021
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	John Walsh, City Solicitor
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Christine Robinson, Strategic Policy & Partnership Manager Geoff Dickson, Strategic Planning & Policy Officer 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"/>
Sometime 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	The purpose of this report is to update Committee on the progress of all Notices of Motion for which SP&R Committee is responsible for.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
2.1	It is recommended that SP&R Committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>note the updates to all Notices of Motion that the SP&amp;R Committee is responsible for; and</li> <li>agree to the closure of a number of Notices of Motion, as referenced in Appendix 1 and noted in paragraph 3.8 below.</li> </ul>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	<u>Background</u> At the SP&R Committee meeting on 25 <sup>th</sup> October 2019, the following Notice of Motion was agreed:

	<p>“That this Council notes that other Councils produce a monthly status report in relation to Notices of Motion; and agrees Belfast City Council adopts a similar practice and produces a monthly Notice of Motion Update which will be brought to each full Council Meeting, detailing the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Date received</li> <li>2. Notice of motion title</li> <li>3. Submitted by which Councillor</li> <li>4. Council meeting date</li> <li>5. Committee motion is referred to</li> <li>6. Outcome of committee where Notice of Motion will be debated</li> <li>7. Month it will be reported back to committee</li> <li>8. Other action to be taken.”</li> </ol>
3.2	As a first step, officers undertook a review of existing Notices of Motion to ensure any that had been completed could be reported to Committee as closed before commencing the live database. This review was undertaken in 2020 and recommendations were brought to SP&R Committee to close 69 Notices of Motion.
3.3	The remaining Notices of motion were added to a new database with all additional Notices from this point of time now added to the database for quarterly reporting to the relevant Standing Committee. Appendix 1 is the first of the quarterly updates showing 54 currently active Notices of Motion and Issues Raised in Advance which SP&R Committee is responsible for.
3.4	At SP&R Committee on 20 <sup>th</sup> November, there was a query in relation to a missing Notice of Motion on Abortion Imagery. Upon investigation, it was realised that the query raised was in relation to an Issue Raised in Advance at Committee rather than a Notice of Motion. Members are asked to note that all outstanding Issues Raised in Advance at Committee have now been added to the database and will be regularly reported through this database.
3.5	<p><b>Notice of Motion Updates</b></p> <p>SP&amp;R Committee is asked to note that, given the current pressures in responding to the pandemic, it has been difficult to afford the usual time towards progressing Notices of Motion. Nevertheless, there has been progress in a number of notices of motion.</p>
3.6	Likewise, given the nature of remote working at present, it has proven more difficult than usual to coordinate the updates across all departments. Members will note that estimated

	completion dates and Next Steps require further updates – these will be progressed and reported back at the next quarterly update.
3.7	<p><b>Closure of Notices of Motion and Issues Raised in Advance</b></p> <p>At SP&amp;R Committee on 20<sup>th</sup> November, it was agreed that Notices of Motion could be closed for one of two reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Category 1 - Notices of Motion which contained an action that has been completed and recommend they are closed.</b> All Notices of Motion within this category contained a specific task that has since been complete. It is worth noting that, when Committee agree to action a Notice of Motion, there are sometimes additional actions agreed alongside the Notice of Motion. As these are not technically part of the Notice of Motion, they are taken forward through normal committee decision making processes. The Notice of Motion can therefore be closed, but additional actions related to it will continue to be progressed and reported to the committee. These additional actions are not contained in this report, but will be noted in the live database moving forward.</li> <li>• <b>Category 2 - Notices of Motion have become Council policy and recommend they are closed.</b> These notices of motion did not contain a specific task that could be complete. Instead, they were more strategic in nature and required changes in Council policy and/ or strategy for long term outcomes. Those listed within this category have all been agreed by Committee and are now either Council policy or are currently being implemented through a Council strategy that is managed by a Standing Committee through the corporate planning process.</li> </ul>
3.8	<p>SP&amp;R Committee is asked to agree that the following 13 Notices of Motion are now closed:</p> <p>Category 1 Recommended Closures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Regeneration Powers</b> (Ref number 42). This was an issue raised in advance at Committee on 24<sup>th</sup> January 2020 and had a specific task of writing to the Minister for the Department of Communities requesting that she consider again the transfer of regeneration powers to local councils. This task has been undertaken, along with further representation in regards to the devolution of powers to local government, including in the draft response to the PfG Outcomes Framework which is one the agenda for today's meeting.</li> </ul>

- **Flying of the Flag on 19th February to mark the Birthday of the Duke of York** (Ref number 60). This was a time sensitive issue and the manner has now been resolved.
- **Celebration of Donor's Day** (Ref number 75). City Hall was illuminated pink to mark Donors' Day on 29th January 2021.
- **Light Up the City Hall Request - World AIDS Day, 1st December** (Ref number 81). City Hall was lit red to mark World AIDS Day on 1st December 2021.
- **New Lodge Bonfire** (Ref number 84). This was a time sensitive issue and the manner has now been resolved.
- **Lighting Up City Hall for World Suicide Awareness Day on 10 September** (Ref number 94). City Hall illuminated on 10 September 2020.
- **Babyloss Awareness Week Virtual Book of Remembrance 9-15 October** (Ref number 109). Virtual Book of Remembrance arranged for 9 - 15 October 2020.
- **Unit Fees for St. George's Market** (Ref number 118). Members agreed to the setting up of rental relief for Council Tenants at a special SP&R committee on 10th December 2020. The criteria and process around this has been left with officers to set and does not require to be sent back to Members. A draft approach is now being reviewed by legal, audit and others.
- **Belfast Leisure Centres - Proposed Redundancies** (Ref number 126). This was a time sensitive issue and the manner has now been resolved.
- **Illumination of Belfast Castle** (Ref number 133). Belfast Castle illuminated in blue on 29 November 2020.
- **Pay for Student Nurses** (Ref number 135). Response from Minister of Health noted by SP&R 19<sup>th</sup> February 2021.
- **Funding for Palliative and End-of-life Care** (Ref number 141). Response from Minister of Health noted by SP&R 19<sup>th</sup> February 2021.
- **Proposed Future Development - Writer's Square** (Ref number 155). Response from Minister for Communities noted by SP&R 19<sup>th</sup> February 2021.

Category 2 Recommended Closures:

- **Report by the Environmental Audit Committee into the impact of disposable coffee cups in the UK** (Ref number 5). This issue will be considered as part of the internal sustainability review being undertaken by KPMG on behalf of the Council under the Climate Adaption and Mitigation Plan.
- **City Tree Initiative** (Ref number 36). City Tree Initiative is being progressed as part of One Million Trees programme.

3.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>SUDS and the City</b> (Ref number 68). Council have made significant progress with DfI in relation to the use of SUDS in Belfast, as evidenced by their extensive inclusion in the recent Living With Water in Belfast consultation document, including Distillery Street/Westlink. These will now be taken forward across Belfast in partnership between the Council, DfI and NI Water, subject to funding being available.</li> </ul> <p>Additional information in relation to these Notices of motion and Issues Raised in Advance are available in Appendix 1.</p>
3.10	<p><b><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></b></p> <p>There are no additional financial implications required to implement these recommendations.</p>
3.11	<p><b><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></b></p> <p>There are no equality, good relations or rural needs implications contained in this report.</p>
4.0	<p><b>Document Attached</b></p>
	<p><b>Appendix 1 - Notices of Motion Live Database – SP&amp;R Committee</b></p>