

Place and Economy Department  
Planning and Building Control



**Belfast**  
City Council

**Your Ref:**

**Our Ref:** 20210219AT/nm  
(Please quote at all times)

Mr Angus Kerr  
Chief Planner and Director of Regional Planning  
Department for Infrastructure  
Clarence Court  
10-18 Adelaide Street  
BELFAST  
BT2 8GB

Belfast Planning Service  
Cecil Ward Building  
4-10 Linenhall Street  
BELFAST  
BT2 8BP

Tel: 028 90 500510  
Date: 7 April 2021

By email: [angus.kerr@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk](mailto:angus.kerr@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk)

Dear Angus,

**RE: Call for Evidence – Review of the implementation of the Planning Act (NI) 2011**

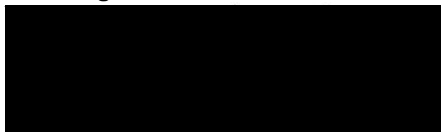
I refer to the Department's email of 15 February 2021, which requested views in relation to the above, and my subsequent letter dated 19 February 2021 advising that the Council's response will be ratified at the full Council meeting on 1 April 2021.

The Council's response to the Call for Evidence set out in the attached Annex Response Form but as amended/amplified as follows:

- in respect of the notice of applications, that public awareness should be encouraged and increased where possible, including the use of site notices, which may be complementary to, but not instead of, direct neighbour notification;
- to acknowledge that the different levels of resource in Planning Committees across N.I. was not equal;
- the Local Development Plan amendments must ensure it is adaptable to change and fit for purpose; and
- ensure that fee amendments resulted in graduated fees to ensure that smaller schemes paid a lower fee.

We look forward to working with the Department in implementing the outcome of the review. If you require anything further, please don't hesitate to contact [planning@belfastcity.gov.uk](mailto:planning@belfastcity.gov.uk).

Kind regards



Aidan Thatcher  
**Director of Planning and Building Control**