



Subject:	Notice of Motion – Mountainview Centre
Date:	22nd February, 2022
Reporting Officer:	John Walsh, City Solicitor
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 the Notice of Motion received for the meeting of the Council on 1st March in relation to the Mountainview Centre.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is asked to consider the motion and agree to either adopt the motion, refer it for debate at the Council meeting or reject the motion.

3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p data-bbox="272 259 432 293"><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p data-bbox="272 327 1452 394">The Committee will be aware Standing Orders 13 (m) to (r) as agreed by the Council at its meeting on 4th October is as follows:</p> <p data-bbox="165 461 1481 1368">3.2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="325 461 1481 629">(m) <i>The Standards and Business Committee will have delegated authority to adopt or reject Notices of Motion. The Lord Mayor will indicate at the Council meeting those Notices of Motion that have been considered by the Standards and Business Committee and whether such Notices of Motion were rejected or adopted. In either case, the proposer only may speak on the issue at Council.</i> <li data-bbox="325 663 1481 831">(n) <i>The Standards and Business Committee will refer all Notices of Motion directly to a standing committee when the matter to which the Notice of Motion refers falls within the remit of that committee. At Council, the Lord Mayor will indicate that the Notice of Motion was received and referred. There will be no speakers on such Notices of Motion at Council.</i> <li data-bbox="349 864 1481 965">(o) <i>The Standards and Business Committee will refer Notices of Motion for consideration by full Council when the Notice of Motion relates to a strategic or constitutional matter.</i> <li data-bbox="349 999 1481 1066">(p) <i>The Standards and Business Committee will not have the power to amend the wording of any Notice of Motion that is being referred to the full Council for debate.</i> <li data-bbox="349 1099 1481 1200">(q) <i>Any amendments to Notice of Motions to be proposed at the Council are to be furnished at least one day in advance of going to the full Council and will be circulated to Party Group Leaders in advance of the Council meeting.</i> <li data-bbox="349 1234 1481 1368">(r) <i>In referring any matter to the full Council, the Standards and Business Committee may determine to restrict contributions to the debate in relation to any Notice of Motion to one per political party. At the Council meeting, the Lord Mayor will clearly indicate if the restriction applies.</i> <p data-bbox="165 1424 804 1458">3.3 The following motion has been received:</p> <p data-bbox="272 1491 576 1525"><u>Mountainview Centre</u></p> <p data-bbox="272 1559 1481 1626">This Council notes with concern that the childcare service at Mountainview Centre in West Belfast is due to close in the coming weeks.</p> <p data-bbox="272 1659 1481 1727">This follows a recent announcement by the Ardmonagh Family Centre, also based on the Upper Springfield Road, that it too, is reluctantly having to terminate its services.</p> <p data-bbox="272 1760 1481 1861">The Council recognises the vital resource that the Mountainview Centre has been to a large number of families over many years; by providing after schools activities and childcare services at an affordable rate.</p> <p data-bbox="272 1895 1481 1962">The Council believes the closure of this service will have a negative impact on families in West Belfast.</p> <p data-bbox="272 1995 1481 2063">This Council also expresses concern that several staff will face redundancy as a result of this closure.</p>

<p>3.4</p> <p>3.5</p> <p>3.6</p>	<p>Given the recent spiralling cost of living, and the inability for working class families to access affordable childcare, it is imperative that this centre remains open to provide after schools services and creche facilities at an affordable rate for parents.</p> <p>The Council resolves to convene an urgent cross-party meeting, reaching out to both the Education and Communities Ministers and their officials, as well as Council officers and staff of the Mountainview Centre, in order to explore the possibility of keeping the doors of this invaluable service open.</p> <p>Proposer: Councillor Matt Collins</p> <p>Seconder: Councillor Ferguson</p> <p>The motion calls on the Council to convene a meeting to explore the possibility of keeping the service open - no cost implications to the Council – can be adopted by the Committee, referred to the Council for debate or rejected.</p> <p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>None.</p>
<p>4.0</p>	<p>Documents Attached</p>
	<p>None.</p>