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| <b>Subject:</b>           | <b>Notice of Motion – University Sector Industrial Action</b> |
| <b>Date:</b>              | 30th March, 2022  |
| <b>Reporting Officer:</b> | Nora Largey, Divisional Solicitor                             |
| <b>Contact Officer:</b>   | Jim Hanna, Senior Democratic Services Officer                 |

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| <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"/>  |

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| <b>Call-in</b>                               |   |
| <b>Is the decision eligible for Call-in?</b> | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> |

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| <b>1.0</b> | <b>Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues</b>   |
| 1.1        | To consider the Notice of Motion received for the meeting of the Council on 4th April in relation to University Sector – Industrial Dispute.  |
| <b>2.0</b> | <b>Recommendation</b>   |
| 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 (with or without restrictions) or reject the motion. |

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| 3.0 | <b>Main Report</b>  |
|     | <p data-bbox="272 259 427 293"><b><u>Key Issues</u></b></p> <p data-bbox="165 327 1449 394">3.1 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 1473 629">3.2 (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></p> <p data-bbox="325 663 1473 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></p> <p data-bbox="347 864 1473 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></p> <p data-bbox="347 999 1473 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></p> <p data-bbox="347 1099 1473 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></p> <p data-bbox="347 1234 1473 1357">(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> <p data-bbox="165 1424 802 1458">3.3 The following motion has been received:</p> <p data-bbox="272 1491 794 1525"><b><u>University Sector - Industrial Dispute</u></b></p> <p data-bbox="272 1559 1473 1693">“This Council acknowledges the contribution to civic and economic life made by both Queens University Belfast and University of Ulster to the citizens of Belfast City. Belfast City Council also notes the high standard of teaching and research carried out by staff at both universities and the benefits made to the people of Belfast as an employer.</p> <p data-bbox="272 1727 1473 1928">This Council is concerned at the current Industrial dispute taking place throughout the university sector and in particular its detrimental impact upon the international reputation, civic and economic contribution of Queens University Belfast and University of Ulster to the City. This council is further concerned of the failure to resolve this dispute will mean staff will seek employment outside the sector impacting upon quality of teaching and research and the local and international standing as universities of excellence.</p> <p data-bbox="272 1962 1473 2029">Belfast City Council is also concerned at the failure of Universities and Colleges Employers' Association (UCEA), of which Queens University Belfast and University of Ulster are</p> |

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|            | <p>members, in addressing the proposed 35% cut in the Universities Superannuation Scheme payable to staff on retirement.</p> <p>Belfast City Council is further concerned the Universities and Colleges Employer's Association appear to have no resolve in negotiating an amicable solution and is therefore prolonging unnecessarily the industrial dispute.</p> <p>Belfast City Council therefore calls upon both local University Vice Chancellors to use their influence with the Universities and Colleges Employers' Association to resolve this dispute and if required for call for an allocation from the sector's reserves estimated at £46.8 billion to be used to support the Universities Superannuation Scheme.</p> <p>This Council asks the Lord Mayor to write to both Vice Chancellors expressing the views of council and in particular the dispute to be resolved fairly and that Belfast City Council supports the principle of adequate pensions for all employees on retirement."</p> <p>Proposer: Councillor Heading</p> <p>Seconder: Councillor Lyons</p> |
| 3.4        | <p>The motion calls on the Council to write to the Universities in relation to the dispute - no cost implications to the Council – can be adopted by the Committee, referred to the Council for debate (with or without restrictions) or rejected.</p>   |
| 3.5        | <p><b><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></b></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>  |
| 3.6        | <p><b><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></b></p> <p>None.</p>  |
| <b>4.0</b> | <b>Documents Attached</b>  |
|            | None.  |