



CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED

AUTHORITY FOR THE CITY GROWTH AND REGENERATION COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting: 11th August, 2021 *Final CX Decision Register Published:* 16th August, 2021

Recommendation Sent to CX: 12th August, 2021 *Final Date for Call-in (10am):* 23rd August, 2021
CX’s Comments Received: 16th August, 2021

	Topic	Chief Executive’s Decision	Subject to call-in
<u>Presentation</u>			
2a	Translink Belfast Transport Hub - Weavers Cross	<p>In accordance with the Council decision of 4th May, the Chief Executive exercised her delegated authority to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The information provided in Translink’s presentation in relation to the Belfast Transport Hub and the wider Weavers Cross regeneration scheme and that, where relevant, Translink would provide further information on the issues raised; • In line with the Committee’s approval in November 2019 the Council’s Hope Street carpark facility is included in Translink’s Weavers Cross master planning considerations and the site has been conditionally included in their marketing collateral seeking a master-developer partner with the financial means and relevant experience, skills and resources to realise the vision for Weavers Cross; and • That a further report will be brought to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee in the near future on the detail of any subsequent land /development proposal and associated financial offer and, subject to Members endorsement, for inclusion of the Hope Street carpark facility in any formal development agreement with Translink’s nominated developer partner. 	YES

Restricted Items

3a	Financial Reporting - Quarter 4 2020/21	<p>The Members of the Committee recommended that, in accordance with the Council decision of 4th May, the Chief Executive exercise her delegated authority to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Note that the following recommendations outlined in the report had been agreed by the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee in June:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- <i>Note the report and agree the 2020/21 balances;</i>- <i>Agree to the year-end surplus of £5.4m being made available for re-allocation; and</i>- <i>Retain the annual allocation of £500k for the summer diversionary festival programme with the purpose of running it later in the year.</i>• Note that, furthermore, the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee had considered the Summer Community Diversionary Festival Programme at a Special Meeting on 2nd August, at which some of the £500k for the summer diversionary festival programme funding had been allocated.	YES
3b	City Centre Property -Targeted Acquisition	<p>In accordance with the Council decision of 4th May, the Chief Executive exercised her delegated authority to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Note that, in accordance with the Council decision of 4th May, that the decisions of the Chief Executive, taken under delegated authority for the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee of 18th June, 2021, relating to City Centre Property - Targeted Acquisition was approved and adopted by Council on 1st July, 2021;• Note strategic alignment of this acquisition with priorities identified by Members at the recent City Growth & Regeneration workshop – ‘Future of the City and Role of the City Centre’ in terms of place-making and	YES

		<p>diversification of city centre uses;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the immediate next steps and further work proposed in relation to scoping out optimal uses for these premises aligned to strategic proposals for reimagining the city centre; and Note that further reports to be brought back to Committee with respect to emerging proposals for future uses of the property. 	
3c	Belfast Destination Hub - Site Acquisition	<p>In accordance with the Council decision of 4th May, the Chief Executive exercise her delegated authority to note the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council Legal Services is progressing the acquisition of Site 10 at Royal Ave / North Street for the Belfast Destination Hub, as considered by the Strategic Policy & Resources Committee at its meeting of 18th June 2021 and ratified at the special meeting of the Council on 1st July 2021; Land and Property Services has been instructed to progress acquisition negotiations with owners of 108 – 112 Royal Avenue and 114 – 116 Royal Avenue as ratified at the special meeting of the Council on 1st July 2021; and All associated site assembly acquisitions will be subject to full title review, to be undertaken by Council Legal Services, with further updates to be brought back to Committee if required. 	YES
3d	Request for loan of Portrait of Michael Longley - 'Light from Two Windies' by Jeffrey Morgan	<p>In accordance with the Council decision of 4th May, the Chief Executive exercised her delegated authority to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approve the loan of the Michael Longley Portrait for the duration of the Portrait of Northern Ireland Exhibition to support this important and unique exhibition. 	YES

Regenerating Places and Improving Infrastructure

<p>4a</p>	<p>Connectivity and Active Travel Update</p>	<p>In accordance with the Council decision of 4th May, the Chief Executive exercised her delegated authority to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The update on the Connectivity Study: A Bolder Vision, including the pending elected representatives' workshop on the 23rd August and planned Public Consultation; • The updates on individual public realm projects including the 5Cs, and Belfast Streets Ahead phases 3 and 5; • The proposed amendments to the scope of the '5Cs' public realm scheme, including the removal of College Avenue, which will now be delivered through Belfast Streets Ahead Phase 5; • The update regarding DfC plans for carriageway resurfacing at Queens Square; • The update on the Junctions Working Group; • The update on the Belfast THRIVES initiative, a pilot partnership to inform how Belfast's public spaces can more effectively and inclusively contribute to the liveability of the city and the wellbeing of its inhabitants; • The update regarding the Council's bid to the UK Community Renewal Fund; and • Agree that, in relation to the indicative timeline outlined in the report regarding the Public Realm Projects, the Council writes to the relevant Ministers to expedite processes in relation to the Public Realm Projects to assist in transforming the city at a faster pace. 	<p align="center">YES</p>
<p>4b</p>	<p>DfC Housing Supply Strategy: Call for Evidence</p>	<p>In accordance with the Council decision of 4th May, the Chief Executive exercised her delegated authority to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note that a draft response to the DfC Housing Supply Strategy Call for Evidence was submitted to DfC on the 16th July; and • Confirm the draft consultation response of the 16th July (Appendix 1) as the Council's final response. 	<p align="center">YES</p>

4c	City Centre Open Spaces	<p>In accordance with the Council decision of 4th May, the Chief Executive exercised her delegated authority to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note the ongoing work to identify open space and additional greening opportunities across the city centre and connections to local communities; • Note the update regarding Cathedral Gardens design development; • Agree to receive a presentation on the emerging Cathedral Gardens Masterplan in the near future; • Agree to the proposal to consider opportunities to create a new temporary pop-up park in a suitable location during the permanent construction works for Cathedral Gardens; • Note the work underway through the INW Open Space Framework to maximise the combined benefits of emerging open space and regeneration projects in the wider Cathedral and UU area and its alignment also with the ongoing Bolder Vision Connectivity work; BRT Phase 2; Belfast Streets Ahead etc; • Note the update on other emerging projects, including City Quays Gardens and key connections between the City Quays and City Centre areas; and • Note the ongoing work on a 'Playful City'. 	YES
<u>Growing Business & the Economy</u>			
5a	Employability NI - Belfast Labour Market Partnership Action Plan	<p>In accordance with the Council decision of 4th May, the Chief Executive exercised her delegated authority to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note the outline Action Plan which will be used as a basis for engagement with the Department for Communities (DfC) in the coming weeks, in order to support delivery of activity from September 2021. If 	YES

		<p>approved, the action plan will run from September 2021-March 2023;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note that a report be submitted to a future meeting providing further information on the current procurement framework and the Dynamic Procurement Gateway, together with the results, for consideration. 	
<u>Positioning Belfast to Compete</u>			
6a	A City Imagining Investment Programme: Cultural multi-annual grants	<p>In accordance with the Council decision of 4th May, the Chief Executive exercised her delegated authority to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the contents of this report and agree to open cultural multi-annual grants in September 2021 for Arts and Heritage organisations and Events and Festivals for funding from 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2024 subject to final recommendations being agreed by Committee in February 2022. 	YES
<u>Finance, Procurement & Performance</u>			
7a	The Zoo - Quarter 1 Performance Update Report	<p>In accordance with the Council decision of 4th May, the Chief Executive exercised her delegated authority to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the Zoo performance update report for the period April – June 2021. 	YES
7b	DfC Covid-19 Recovery Revitalisation Programme Update	<p>In accordance with the Council decision of 4th May, the Chief Executive exercised her delegated authority to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the updates on the DfC Revitalisation Programme projects contained within this paper and the continued importance of the use of streets and spaces to assist businesses and communities as part of a wider programme of work focused on Reimagining the Public Realm; 	YES

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To note the challenges and risk around delays in delivery, the request to DfC for an extension and the agreement, via a Letter of Variance process, to extend funding spend period to March 2022; • To note the outcome of the Castle Place Hub procurement, with project costs now exceeding the current budget allocated; • To note the DfI commitment to 100% funding Adelaide Street project and the proposed condition to reallocate Adelaide Street budget of £100,000 to Castle Place Hub scheme; • To note the £45,000 underspend of the Connectivity Scheme in Church Lane area following a procurement exercise and agree to reallocate this underspend to Castle Place Hub project; • To agree that any further underspends realised are utilised to meet any additional cost increases on previously agreed and committed projects; • To note the progress made with the E-cargo bike pilot and the appointment of a suitable operator to carry out the pilot project; • To note the progress of the Covid-19 Business Grant, the potential underspend and to approve the reallocation of underspend to the overall Revitalisation Programme budget; and • To note the current position regarding the Business Cluster and Community grant scheme and the ratified decision at full Council on 1st July to allocate Council monies towards the remaining applications (subject to the applications due diligence process). 	
<u>Strategic & Operational Issues</u>			
8a	DfI Accessible Parking Bay Proposals	<p>In accordance with the Council decision of 4th May, the Chief Executive exercised her delegated authority to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Note the two proposed schemes as outlined in the report. 	YES

8b	Notice of Motion Quarterly Report	<p>In accordance with the Council decision of 4th May, the Chief Executive exercised her delegated authority to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Note the updates to all Notices of Motion that this Committee is responsible for as referenced in Appendix 1; - Agree to the closure of a number of Notices of Motion, as referenced in Appendix 1 and noted in paragraph 3.6 below; and - Note that a timeframe for the Car Parking Strategy Review would be submitted to the Committee in due course (as noted under Notice of Motion Ref 153). 	YES
<u>Issues Raised in Advance by Members</u>			
9a	20s Plenty for Us Campaign (Cllr McMullan to raise)	<p>In accordance with the Council decision of 4th May, the Chief Executive exercised her delegated authority to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree to invite representatives of the 20s Plenty Campaign to present its work at a future meeting. 	YES

Please note that the agenda/reports associated with the decisions listed above can be accessed on the app and on the web, via the following link: [Agenda for City Growth and Regeneration Committee on Wednesday, 11th August, 2021, 5.15 pm - Belfast City Council](https://www.belfastcity.gov.uk/Agenda-for-City-Growth-and-Regeneration-Committee-on-Wednesday-11th-August-2021-5.15-pm-Belfast-City-Council) (www.internalminutes)