

Belfast Local Development Plan
Draft Plan Strategy 2035
MATTERS ARISING

Week 1 - 16th – 19th November 2020

Date - Tuesday 17th November 2020

Topic 2: Promoting a Green and Active Place – Open Space (RD)

Matter arising (MA001)

Belfast City council to provide a Link to the Belfast Open Space Strategy (BOSS) document.

Response:

Please find appended the Belfast Open Spaces Strategy documents comprising:

- Consultation Draft Belfast Open Spaces Strategy (BOSS); [[Commission reference MA001.A](#)]
- Strategic Policy & Resources (SP&R) Report; [[Commission reference MA001.B](#)]
- Proposed amendments /actions set out in the Appendix to the Strategic Policy & Resources Report; and [[Commission reference MA001.C](#)]
- The decision and note of decision under the powers of the Chief Executive. [[Commission reference MA001.D](#)]

The BOSS has been approved on the basis of the changes set out in the SP&R Committee report and appendix being incorporated into the final document.

Date - Wednesday 18th November 2020

Topic 3: Promoting a Green and Active Place – Natural Heritage (JdeC)

Matter arising (MA002)

Belfast City council to provide either: reference to where within its submitted evidence base that NIEA recommended the 5m set-back referred to in the last sentence of Policy NH1 – Protection of natural heritage resources; or the minute of the Working Group where the recommendation was made.

Response received:

Please find appended the information referred to in the response from the Council to the issues raised during the consideration of Policy NH1 under Topic 3 of the Programme.

The appended email exchanges was part of the draft policy development process carried out by the Council through engagement with stakeholders as part of a series of thematic Working Groups. The approach and details in respect of the Working Groups are set out in the submission documentation within the appendix of the Self-Assessment of Soundness (SD004K) [[Commission reference MA002.A](#)] and I would highlight pages 62-65 where they relate to the Green & Active Working Group - including the Terms of Reference, meetings dates and the references to topics considered.

This 5m aspect of the policy was, as indicated in the Council's answer to the query raised at the session on Wednesday, incorporated as an addition to the initial draft policy in response to a request from NIEA. The NIEA were participants in the Working Group (as highlighted in SD004K above) and submitted their suggestion as part of the Working Group engagement process undertaken for the development of the draft Plan Strategy policies. The response from NIEA [[Commission reference MA002.B](#)] has been redacted to remove the elements not relevant to the matter raised in respect of NH1 and it should be noted that the heading and references to the emerging policies differ from those contained in the published draft of the Plan Strategy.