

<b>Title of Report: Update Report re. Social Justice and Workers Rights Motion</b>	<b>Officer Presenting: Director of Business &amp; Culture</b> <b>Author: Director of Business &amp; Culture</b>
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## **1 Purpose of Report/Recommendations**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update members on the engagement with businesses regarding access to trade unions and fair employment for their employees.

## **2 Background**

- 2.1 Following a motion of Council, it was agreed that Council would use the e-zine communication and Council's social media platforms to ensure that all businesses received the necessary correspondence agreed at the meeting of the Business and Culture Committee. It was also agreed that a database be compiled with businesses / employers email contact details using the existing databases of contacts within Council.

## **3 Key Issues**

- 3.1 A letter on behalf of the Mayor requesting businesses to enable its employees to access trade unions was issued businesses throughout the district (see appendix 1) during the summer period.
- 3.2 Where we could identify micro businesses of ten employees or less we did not send out the letter. Efforts were focused on the large private and public sector employers to ensure the maximum impact.
- 3.3 In addition, an online post (see link below) went out on Council's social media channels which proved to have an extensive reach given that c97,000 people interacted with the message. This is testament to the extent of our online platforms.

<https://www.derrystrobane.com/Council/News/Council-writes-to-businesses-in-support-of-workers>

Further details of the interactions are attached as appendix 2, 3 & 4.

3.4 The online article appeared in a number of local newspapers across the council area.

3.4 Following concerns raised regarding the engagement with businesses during the summer months on this issue, arrangements were made for the marketing team to refresh the letter and prepare another online post, which is currently live (see link below).

<https://mailchi.mp/03d9474c065c/workers-rights-and-social-justice-agenda>

Officers are not currently working on a complete database of all employers as it has proved to be a much larger piece of work than was originally anticipated and currently the resources are not available to complete this with any degree of accuracy. Officers have utilised as far as possible existing databases within council whilst being very careful regarding our GDPR responsibilities.

#### **4 Financial, Equality, Legal, HR, Improvement, Rural Needs and other Implications**

n/a

#### **5 Recommendations**

That members note the contents of this report.

#### **Background Papers**

Appendix 1 – Letter from Mayor

Appendix 2,3 & 4 – Media interaction details