



June 29th, 2017

**Notice Of Meeting**


You are requested to attend the Council meeting to be held on **Monday, 3rd July 2017 at 6:00 pm** in **Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre.**

# Agenda

## 1.0 Apologies and Chairperson's Remarks

## 2.0 Declarations of Interest

## 3.0 Action Sheet arising from Council Meeting held on 5 June 2017

 [Council-05062017.pdf](#)


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### *Council Minutes For Adoption and Signing*

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## 4.0 Minutes of Council Meeting held on 5 June 2017

 [Council-05062017.pdf](#)

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## 5.0 Minutes of Annual Meeting of Council held on Thursday 1 June 2017.

 [Annual\\_Meeting\\_01-06-2017.pdf](#)

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## 6.0 Minutes of Special Council Meeting held on 29 May 2017

 [Special Council 22052017.pdf](#)

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### *Committee Minutes for Consideration and Adoption*

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## 7.0 Minutes of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee Meeting held on 12 June 2017

 [ERT Mins 12 June 2017.pdf](#)

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## 8.0 Minutes of Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 15 June 2017

 [SPR Minutes 15-06-2017.pdf](#)

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## 8.1 SPR/111/2017 Officer's Report - Local Development Plan: Options for Undertaking Sustainability Appraisal, incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment (copy attached)

 [Council Report re LDP SA-SEA - Add.pdf](#)

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**8.2 SPR/116/2017 Officer's Report - Newry Business Improvement District (BID) (copy attached)**

[Newry BID.pdf](#)

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***Committee Minutes for Consideration and Adoption***

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**9.0 Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on 19 June 2017**

[AHC19-06-2017.pdf](#)

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**10.0 Minutes of Regulatory and Technical Services Committee Meeting held on 21 June 2017**

[RTS Minutes - 21 June 2017.pdf](#)

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***Correspondence***

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**11.0 Correspondence from Health and Social Care Board - Re-Shaping Stroke Services: A Pre-Consultation**

[Stroke Ltrs - Invitation to meet- General - 13 July 2017.pdf](#)

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[STROKE-PRECONDOC-PUBLISH\\_12June17.pdf](#)

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**12.0 Correspondence received from Department for Infrastructure re: Smart Pass Equality Campaign**

[smart pass.pdf](#)

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***Conferences/Events***

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**13.0 Conference on Housing Policy in Northern Ireland - Tuesday 17 October 2017**

[housing-market-NI-agenda.pdf](#)

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# Invitees

Cllr Terry Andrews	<a href="mailto:terry.andrews@nmandd.org">terry.andrews@nmandd.org</a>
Cllr Naomi Bailie	<a href="mailto:naomi.bailie@nmandd.org">naomi.bailie@nmandd.org</a>
Cllr Patrick Brown	<a href="mailto:patrick.brown@nmandd.org">patrick.brown@nmandd.org</a>
Cllr Robert Burgess	<a href="mailto:robert.burgess@nmandd.org">robert.burgess@nmandd.org</a>
Cllr Stephen Burns	<a href="mailto:stephen.burns@nmandd.org">stephen.burns@nmandd.org</a>
Lorraine Burns	<a href="mailto:lorraine.burns@nmandd.org">lorraine.burns@nmandd.org</a>
Cllr Pete Byrne	<a href="mailto:pete.byrne@nmandd.org">pete.byrne@nmandd.org</a>
Cllr Michael Carr	<a href="mailto:michael.carr@nmandd.org">michael.carr@nmandd.org</a>
Mrs Dorinnia Carville	<a href="mailto:dorinnia.carville@nmandd.org">dorinnia.carville@nmandd.org</a>
Cllr charlie casey	<a href="mailto:charlie.casey@nmandd.org">charlie.casey@nmandd.org</a>
Cllr William Clarke	<a href="mailto:william.clarke@nmandd.org">william.clarke@nmandd.org</a>
Cllr Garth Craig	<a href="mailto:garth.craig@nmandd.org">garth.craig@nmandd.org</a>
Cllr Dermot Curran	<a href="mailto:dermot.curran@nmandd.org">dermot.curran@nmandd.org</a>
Ms Alice Curran	<a href="mailto:alice.curran@nmandd.org">alice.curran@nmandd.org</a>
Cllr Laura Devlin	<a href="mailto:laura.devlin@nmandd.org">laura.devlin@nmandd.org</a>
Ms Louise Dillon	<a href="mailto:louise.dillon@nmandd.org">louise.dillon@nmandd.org</a>
Cllr Sean Doran	<a href="mailto:sean.doran@nmandd.org">sean.doran@nmandd.org</a>
Cllr Cadogan Enright	<a href="mailto:cadogan.enright@nmandd.org">cadogan.enright@nmandd.org</a>
Cllr Gillian Fitzpatrick	<a href="mailto:gillian.fitzpatrick@nmandd.org">gillian.fitzpatrick@nmandd.org</a>
Cllr Glyn Hanna	<a href="mailto:glyn.hanna@nmandd.org">glyn.hanna@nmandd.org</a>
Mr Liam Hannaway	<a href="mailto:liam.hannaway@nmandd.org">liam.hannaway@nmandd.org</a>
Cllr Valerie Harte	<a href="mailto:valerie.harte@nmandd.org">valerie.harte@nmandd.org</a>
Cllr Harry Harvey	<a href="mailto:harry.harvey@nmandd.org">harry.harvey@nmandd.org</a>
Cllr Terry Hearty	<a href="mailto:terry.hearty@nmandd.org">terry.hearty@nmandd.org</a>
Cllr David Hyland	<a href="mailto:david.hyland@nmandd.org">david.hyland@nmandd.org</a>
Miss Veronica Keegan	<a href="mailto:veronica.keegan@nmandd.org">veronica.keegan@nmandd.org</a>
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Cllr Kate Loughran	<a href="mailto:kate.loughran@nmandd.org">kate.loughran@nmandd.org</a>
Cllr Jill Macauley	<a href="mailto:jill.macauley@nmandd.org">jill.macauley@nmandd.org</a>
Mrs Regina Mackin	<a href="mailto:regina.mackin@nmandd.org">regina.mackin@nmandd.org</a>
Cllr Kevin Mc Ateer	<a href="mailto:kevin.mcateer@nmandd.org">kevin.mcateer@nmandd.org</a>
Colette McAteer	<a href="mailto:colette.mcateer@nmandd.org">colette.mcateer@nmandd.org</a>
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Ms Carmel Morgan	<a href="mailto:carmel.morgan@nmandd.org">carmel.morgan@nmandd.org</a>
Cllr Roisin Mulgrew	<a href="mailto:roisin.mulgrew@nmandd.org">roisin.mulgrew@nmandd.org</a>
Cllr Mark Murnin	<a href="mailto:mark.murnin@nmandd.org">mark.murnin@nmandd.org</a>

Mrs Aisling Murray	<a href="mailto:aisling.murray@nmandd.org">aisling.murray@nmandd.org</a>
Cllr Barra O Muiri	<a href="mailto:barra.omuiri@nmandd.org">barra.omuiri@nmandd.org</a>
Cllr Pol O'Gribin	<a href="mailto:pol.ogribin@nmandd.org">pol.ogribin@nmandd.org</a>
Ms Patricia Oakes	<a href="mailto:patricia.oakes@nmandd.org">patricia.oakes@nmandd.org</a>
Cllr Brian Quinn	<a href="mailto:brian.quinn@nmandd.org">brian.quinn@nmandd.org</a>
Cllr Henry Reilly	<a href="mailto:henry.reilly@nmandd.org">henry.reilly@nmandd.org</a>
Cllr Michael Ruane	<a href="mailto:michael.ruane@nmandd.org">michael.ruane@nmandd.org</a>
Cllr Gareth Sharvin	<a href="mailto:gareth.sharvin@nmandd.org">gareth.sharvin@nmandd.org</a>
Cllr Gary Stokes	<a href="mailto:gary.stokes@nmandd.org">gary.stokes@nmandd.org</a>
Sarah Taggart	<a href="mailto:sarah-louise.taggart@nmandd.org">sarah-louise.taggart@nmandd.org</a>
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Caroline Taylor	<a href="mailto:Caroline.Taylor@downdc.gov.uk">Caroline.Taylor@downdc.gov.uk</a>
Cllr Jarlath Tinnelly	<a href="mailto:jarlath.tinnelly@nmandd.org">jarlath.tinnelly@nmandd.org</a>
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Central Support Unit	<a href="mailto:central.support@nmandd.org">central.support@nmandd.org</a>
Cllr William Walker	<a href="mailto:william.walker@nmandd.org">william.walker@nmandd.org</a>
Mrs Marie Ward	<a href="mailto:marie.ward@nmandd.org">marie.ward@nmandd.org</a>

**ACTION SHEET – COUNCIL MEETING – MONDAY 5 JUNE 2017**

<b>Minute Ref</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Decision</b>	<b>Lead Officer</b>	<b>Actions taken/ Progress to date</b>	<b>Remove from Action Sheet Y/N</b>
C/94/2017	Apologies and Chairperson's Remarks	The Chairperson to send a letter of condolence to the Mayor of London to express sympathies over the terror attack.	Democratic Services	<b>Sent.</b>	Y
C/97/2017	Minutes of Council Meeting held on 2 May 2017	Minutes agreed as an accurate record and adopted.	Democratic Services	<b>Agreed.</b>	Y
C/98/2017	Minutes of Special Council Meeting held on 24 April 2017	Minutes agreed as an accurate record and adopted.	Democratic Services	<b>Agreed</b>	Y
C/99/2017	Minutes of ERT Committee Meeting held on 8 May 2017	Minutes agreed as an accurate record, subject to the correction of minute reference ERT/98/2017 and adopted.	M Ward	<b>Agreed</b>	Y
C/100/2017	Minutes of SPR Committee Meeting held on 11 May 2017	Minutes agreed as an accurate record and adopted.	D Carville	<b>Agreed</b>	Y
C/101/2017	Minutes of AHC Committee Meeting held on 15 May 2017	Minutes agreed as an accurate record and adopted.	M Lipsett	<b>Agreed</b>	Y
C/102/2017	Minutes of RTS Committee Meeting held on 17 May 2017	Minutes agreed as an accurate record and adopted.	C O'Rourke	<b>Agreed</b>	Y
C/103/2017	Minutes of Audit Committee held on 27 April 2017	Minutes agreed as an accurate record and adopted.	D Carville	<b>Agreed</b>	Y
C/104/2017	Invitation to attend a meeting of the Seanad Special Select Committee on the UK's withdrawal from the EU	It was agreed that the invitation be accepted and the Chairperson, Chair of ERT Committee and the Chief Executive attend.	Democratic Services	<b>Seanad advised of attendance</b>	Y
C/105/2017	Notice of Motion received from Councillor Stokes -	It was agreed to extend an invite to and meet principals from the area and write to and seek	Democratic Services	<b>PRF to meet in August with various sectors of schools</b>	

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
	Reduction in Education Budgets	meetings with the Education Authority, CCMS and the Secretary of State to highlight Council's concerns about reductions in schools budgets and the impact this would have to the local economy and the children in Newry, Mourne and Down and demand increased funding to our schools in line with that proposed by the previous Minister of Education.		to gather information and prepare for subsequent meeting with CCMS and the Education Authority  Correspondence sent to Secretary of State 26.6.17.	
C/106/2017	Notice of Motion received from Councillors Enright, Curran, Sharvin and Trainor – Resumption of Downpatrick Masterplan Implementation Group	It was agreed that the motion be referred to the ERT Committee for consideration and report.	M Ward	Forwarded to M Ward for inclusion on ERT Committee agenda	Y

**NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL****NMD/C/**

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**Minutes of Council Meeting held on Monday 5 June 2017 at 6pm in the Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick**

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**In the Chair:** Councillor R Mulgrew**In attendance: (Councillors)**

Councillor T Andrews	Councillor P Brown
Councillor R Burgess	Councillor S Burns
Councillor P Byrne	Councillor M Carr
Councillor C Casey	Councillor W Clarke
Councillor G Craig	Councillor L Devlin
Councillor S Doran	Councillor C Enright
Councillor G Hanna	Councillor H Harvey
Councillor T Hearty	Councillor D Hyland
Councillor L Kimmins	Councillor M Larkin
Councillor J Macauley	Councillor D McAteer
Councillor O McMahon	Councillor A McMurray
Councillor M Murnin	Councillor B Quinn
Councillor H Reilly	Councillor M Ruane
Councillor G Stokes	Councillor D Taylor
Councillor J J Tinnelly	Councillor J Trainor
Councillor W Walker	

**(Officials)**

Mr L Hannaway, Chief Executive  
 Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services  
 Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active and Healthy Communities  
 Mr C O'Rourke, Director of Regulatory and Technical Services  
 Mrs M Ward, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism  
 Mrs C Miskelly, Assistant Director, Corporate Services (Human Resources)  
 Mr J Parkes, Assistant Director, Waste Management  
 Mrs E McParland, Democratic Services Manager  
 Mrs C Taylor, Democratic Services Officer  
 Miss S Taggart, Democratic Services Officer

**C/94/2017****APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

Apologies were received from Councillors Bailie, Curran, Fitzpatrick, Loughran, O'Múiri and Sharvin.



The Chairperson advised she would be sending a letter of condolence to the Mayor of London to express sympathies over the terror attack at the weekend.

The Chairperson extended her thanks to Marie Ward and the staff of the Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism department for the fantastic tourism event at Slieve Gullion over the weekend. She said over 9,000 visitors had attended from all over Europe and Ireland.

**C/95/2017            DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**C/96/2017            ACTION SHEET ARISING FROM COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 2 MAY 2017**

Read:                    Action Sheet from Council Meeting held on 2 May 2017(copy circulated)

**AGREED:**            **The Action Sheet from Council Meeting held on 2 May 2017 was agreed.**

**COUNCIL MINUTES FOR ADOPTION AND SIGNING**

**C/97/2017            MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 2 MAY 2017**

Read:                    Minutes of Council Meeting held on 2 May 2017 (copy circulated)

**AGREED:**            **The Minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted on the proposal of Councillor Craig, seconded by Councillor Doran.**

**C/98/2017            MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 24 APRIL 2017**

Read:                    Minutes of Special Council Meeting held on 24 April 2017 (copy circulated)

**AGREED:**            **The Minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted on the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Clarke.**

**COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION**

**C/99/2017            MINUTES OF ENTERPRISE, REGENERATION AND TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 8 MAY 2017**

Read:                    Minutes of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee Meeting held on 8 May 2017 (copy circulated).

On a point of accuracy, Mrs Ward advised ERT/98/2017 – Royal International Air Tattoo – had been proposed by Councillor Hanna, seconded by Councillor D McAteer, and asked that the minutes be amended to reflect this.

**AGREED:**            **The Minutes were agreed as an accurate record, subject to the correction of minute reference ERT/98/2017 and adopted on the proposal of Councillor D McAteer, seconded by Councillor Hearty.**

**C/100/2017**            **MINUTES OF STRATEGY, POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 11 MAY 2017**

Read:                    Minutes of Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 11 May 2017 (copy circulated).

In response to a query from Councillor Casey, Mrs Carville advised that the IT issues that had been recently experienced, were due to IT being in a transformational stage. Work was on-going to move to a new platform and in doing so, more problems had been uncovered.

**SPR/94/2017 – Book of Condolence Policy**

Councillor Hanna said it was unfair that the people of Mourne, in particular the people living on the southern side of the Mournes, would have to travel to Newcastle to sign a Book of Condolence, especially as there had been many tragedies in the Kilkeel area.

Councillor Hanna proposed an amendment, seconded by Councillor Reilly, that the Book of Condolence Policy would include Kilkeel as a location.

Mr Hannaway advised that if there was an incident, like rescue helicopter 116, which affected a particular community, a book of condolence would be opened in that area.

The amendment, as proposed by Councillor Hanna, seconded by Councillor Reilly, was put to a vote, the results of which were as follows:

**FOR:            11**  
**AGAINST:      8**

**The amendment was LOST.**

**SPR/87/2017 – Apologies and Chairperson's Remarks**

Councillor Reilly referred to his Notice of Motion, which had been withdrawn and questioned if it would have been worth him attending the meeting, as he did not have automatic speaking rights and would not be entitled to travel allowance.

In response, Mr Hannaway advised Councillor Reilly that as he had raised the motion, he would be entitled to mileage and to speak at the committee.

**SPR/91/2017 – Communications/Marketing Assignment**

In response to Councillor Reilly's query, Mrs Carville said that the Federation of Small Businesses published an annual report and last year had commented on prompt payment statistics and had written to the Chair of Council asking if they could talk to Council about prompt payments. Following this, Mrs Carville had organised a meeting. The Federation of Small Businesses had then brought back recommendations to the small business community to help Council to work well with small businesses.

In response to Councillor Murnin's suggestion, Mrs Carville advised Council had to comply with procurement legislation and regulations and that this included open competition.

In response to Councillor Reilly's question, Mrs Carville said there was an annual report to Audit Committee regarding prompt payments. The target set by Central Government was to achieve 90% in 30 days. Last quarter, Council achieved 88% and the quarter prior to that, Council achieved 90%, which was an improvement on the same quarters last year. She advised the 10 day target required further work and the Audit Committee was being kept advised of this target on a regular basis.

**AGREED:**            **The Minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted on the proposal of Councillor Hearty, seconded by Councillor Ruane.**

**C/101/2017            MINUTES OF ACTIVE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 15 MAY 2017**

Read:                    Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on 15 May 2017 (copy circulated)

**AHC/72/2017 – Community Support Loans**

Councillor Burns said at the AHC meeting held on 15 May 2017, a number of changes that Members wished to see in the future had been highlighted and he would like these reflected in the minutes.

**AHC/74/2017 – Financial Assistance**

In response to a query from Councillor Devlin, Democratic Services undertook to see if it was possible to append the committee reports to the committee minutes on the Council agenda.

**AGREED:**            **The Minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted on the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Kimmins.**

**C/102/2017            MINUTES OF REGULATORY & TECHNICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 17 MAY 2017**

Read:                    Minutes of Regulatory and Technical Services Committee Meeting held on 17 May 2017 (copy circulated)

**RTS/65/2017 – Request for Additional Temporary Refuse Staff**

In response to concerns from Councillor D McAteer regarding bins not being lifted, the Chairperson advised that she, and the Chair of RTS Committee, would be holding an emergency meeting that week with Mr O'Rourke to discuss the issues.

Mr O'Rourke acknowledged that there had been difficulties since the implementation of the brown bin scheme.

In response to suggestions from Councillor D McAteer, the Chairperson advised communication regarding bins that had not been lifted could be discussed at the emergency meeting.

Councillor Hyland concurred with Councillor D McAteer's comments, saying bins in Newry were not being lifted on a regular basis.

Councillor Andrews placed on record his appreciation to the refuse staff.

The Chairperson said this was Mr O'Rourke's last Council meeting before his retirement and on behalf of all Councillors, she wished him well and a long and happy retirement.

**AGREED:**            **The Minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted on the proposal of Councillor Hyland, seconded by Councillor Craig.**

**C/103/2017            MINUTES OF AUDIT COMMITTEE HELD ON 27 APRIL 2017**

Read:                    Minutes of Audit Committee held on 27 April 2017 (copy circulated)

**AGREED:**            **The Minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted on the proposal of Councillor Hearty, seconded by Councillor Brown.**

**CORRESPONDENCE****C/104/2017            INVITATION TO ATTEND A MEETING OF THE SEANAD SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE UK'S WITHDRAWAL FROM THE EU**

Read:                    Correspondence from Houses of the Oireachtas, dated 11 May 2017, regarding Invitation to attend a meeting of the Seanad Special Select Committee on the UK's withdrawal from the European Union.

Mr Hannaway said this meeting followed on from the recent seminar held in Lough Erne regarding the EU, where a representative from the Department for the Taoiseach requested a discussion on issues, in particular Brexit and the impact on the 10 councils along the border area. Mr Hannaway suggested the Chair of Council and the Chair of ERT Committee would attend along with himself.

Councillor Hanna said this was just a talking shop and not worth attending.

**AGREED:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Stokes, seconded by Councillor Ruane, that the invitation to attend a meeting of the Seanad Special Select Committee on the UK's Withdrawal from the EU be accepted, and that the Chairperson, Chair of ERT Committee and Chief Executive attend.

### NOTICES OF MOTION

#### **C/105/2017      NOTICE OF MOTION RECEIVED FROM COUNCILLOR STOKES**

The following Notice of Motion came forward for consideration in the name of Councillor Stokes:

"Newry Mourne and Down Council note with deep concern the 2.5% cut, equivalent to a reduction of £50m, in the Education Budget announced by the Secretary of State in April 17. This is in light of the announcement made by the previous Minister of Education to the Education Committee where he stated that schools required an additional £80m per year just to stay at 2016/17 spending. This effective cut of £130m would seriously impact on schools and to the educational provision of the children in Newry Mourne and Down.

Newry Mourne and Down notes the unprecedented move by many primary principals, who have expressed their dismay at this reduction in schools budgets especially given the reductions they have had to suffer over the last few years. Many schools now find that they would have to reduce staff in order to stay within proposed spending limits and this would lead to increased pupil numbers in classes and seriously compromise children's education. As a council we are also gravely concerned that our schools will not know their budget until at least September due to the current political impasse, a situation which is unprecedented and some considerable months into the new financial year.

Newry Mourne and Down Council supports the honourable stand by these principals especially our local principals, against this proposed cut in educational funding as it will seriously undermine the educational opportunities and achievements of the children in the communities we represent.

Newry Mourne and Down Council agrees to extend an invite to and meet principals from the area and write to and seek meetings with the Education Authority, CCMS and the Secretary of State to highlight our concerns about reductions in our schools budgets and the impact this would have to the local economy and the children in Newry Mourne and

Down and demand increased funding to our schools in line with that proposed by the previous Minister of Education."

In proposing the motion, Councillor Stokes said it was the right of all the children in the District to receive a proper and decent education to the highest of standards.

Councillor D McAteer seconded the motion and said that it was the weakest in society that would suffer most from the cuts.

**COUNCILLOR LARKIN JOINED THE MEETING AT 6:40PM.**

Councillor Craig, on behalf of the DUP provided support to the motion, saying children's education was a priority but that the situation would become worse if funds were not forthcoming. He said he was disappointed that Sinn Fein failed to produce a budget before bringing down the Assembly.

The Chairperson asked Councillor Craig to speak to the subject of the motion, and she said what happened in the Assembly was not up for debate.

Councillor Taylor, on behalf of the UUP offered support to the motion, saying young people's prospects were being jeopardised because of these cuts. He said it was due to the fall of the Assembly that these cuts were forthcoming and appealed to all Parties to work together to find a solution as schools needed certainty going forward.

Councillor Andrews provided his support to the motion, suggesting seeking a meeting with the Education Authority, Secretary of State and Local Minister when the Assembly was back in session.

Councillor McMurray, on behalf of the Alliance Party, offered his support to the motion, saying questions needed to be asked of the Education Authority and he appealed to the parties' representatives at the Education Authority Committee to raise the issues.

Councillor Hyland also spoke in support of the motion.

Councillor Burns, on behalf of Sinn Fein, congratulated Councillor Stokes on bringing the motion to Council, saying it was a subject affecting everyone. He said the Conservative Party was to blame for these cuts and Sinn Fein would support any attempt on austerity and Tory cuts.

Councillor Stokes, in summing up, thanked Council for the cross party support on this very important issue.

**AGREED: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Stokes, seconded by Councillor D McAteer that Newry Mourne and Down Council note with deep concern the 2.5% cut, equivalent to a**

reduction of £50m, in the Education Budget announced by the Secretary of State in April 17. This is in light of the announcement made by the previous Minister of Education to the Education Committee where he stated that schools required an additional £80m per year just to stay at 2016/17 spending. This effective cut of £130m would seriously impact on schools and to the educational provision of the children in Newry Mourne and Down.

Newry Mourne and Down notes the unprecedented move by many primary principals, who have expressed their dismay at this reduction in schools budgets especially given the reductions they have had to suffer over the last few years. Many schools now find that they would have to reduce staff in order to stay within proposed spending limits and this would lead to increased pupil numbers in classes and seriously compromise children's education. As a council we are also gravely concerned that our schools will not know their budget until at least September due to the current political impasse, a situation which is unprecedented and some considerable months into the new financial year.

Newry Mourne and Down Council supports the honourable stand by these principals especially our local principals, against this proposed cut in educational funding as it will seriously undermine the educational opportunities and achievements of the children in the communities we represent.

Newry Mourne and Down Council agrees to extend an invite to and meet principals from the area and write to and seek meetings with the Education Authority, CCMS and the Secretary of State to highlight our concerns about reductions in our schools budgets and the impact this would have to the local economy and the children in Newry Mourne and Down and demand increased funding to our schools in line with that proposed by the previous Minister of Education."

**C/106/2017**

**NOTICE OF MOTION RECEIVED FROM COUNCILLORS**

The following Notice of Motion came forward for consideration in the name of Councillors Enright, Trainor, Curran and Sharvin:

"Council directs management to resume the Downpatrick Masterplan Implementation Group as an interagency working group led by Downpatrick DEA Councillors, but open to any other Councillor whose area is likely to be impacted by the Masterplan. The Masterplan Implementation Working Group is essential for the development and progression of five work streams containing all the major projects envisaged in the Downpatrick area. It is also the Downpatrick DEA's

draft submission to the Area Plan. The resumption of this Masterplan Implementation Working Group can act as a model for other areas across the Council."

The Chairperson said under Standing Orders 16.1.6, the motion would be referred to the Economic, Regeneration and Tourism Committee for consideration and report.

**AGREED: Councillor Hearty proposed, seconded by Councillor Doran, that the Motion be referred to the ERT committee for consideration and report.**

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 6.53pm

**Signed:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Chairperson**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Chief Executive**



**NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL****NMD/AGM/****Minutes of Annual Meeting of Council held on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2017 at 6pm  
in the Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick**

**In the Chair:** Councillor G Fitzpatrick 6.00pm-6.20pm  
Councillor R Mulgrew 6.20pm-6.40pm

**In attendance: (Councillors)**

Councillor T Andrews	Councillor P Brown
Councillor R Burgess	Councillor S Burns
Councillor M Carr	Councillor C Casey
Councillor W Clarke	Councillor G Craig
Councillor L Devlin	Councillor S Doran
Councillor C Enright	Councillor G Hanna
Councillor V Harte	Councillor H Harvey
Councillor T Hearty	Councillor D Hyland
Councillor L Kimmins	Councillor M Larkin
Councillor J Macauley	Councillor D McAteer
Councillor O McMahan	Councillor A McMurray
Councillor B Ó Muiri	Councillor B Quinn
Councillor M Ruane	Councillor G Stokes
Councillor D Taylor	Councillor JJ Tinnelly
Councillor B Walker	

**(Officials)**

Mr L Hannaway, Chief Executive  
Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services  
Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active and Healthy Communities  
Mr C O'Rourke, Director of Regulatory and Technical Services  
Mrs M Ward, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism  
Mrs E McParland, Democratic Services Manager  
Mrs L Dillon, Democratic Services Officer  
Miss S Taggart, Democratic Services Officer  
Mrs C Taylor, Democratic Services Officer

**AGM/1/2017 APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

Apologies were received from Councillors Bailie, Byrne, Curran, Loughran, Murnin, Reilly and Trainor.

The Chairperson, Councillor Fitzpatrick, expressed her condolences to the family of the road worker who had died tragically following an accident outside Forkhill. She also expressed her condolences to the

family of the motorcyclist who had died following an accident in Ballymartin.

The Chairperson thanked the public stating she had a fantastic year in office and enjoyed every minute. She thanked the Council staff, in particular the Democratic Services team, Directors and Chief Executive for their work, help and guidance throughout her year as Chairperson. She also thanked her party colleagues and the wider SDLP community for putting their faith in her to fulfil the role of First Citizen. She stated her year in office was tremendous, enjoyable, heart-rending, thoughtful and tough at times. However she had met so many people from all across the District and hoped she had represented all sections of the community. She wished the new Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson a good year in office.

The Deputy Chairperson, Councillor Craig, stated it had been an honour to serve the District during the year and he thanked the Chairperson for her hard work and the manner in which she carried out her duties. He thanked the Chief Executive for his help and support and the Democratic Services team along with his party colleagues and all Members within the chamber for their assistance and support throughout the year.

The Chief Executive thanked the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson for their efforts over the last 12 months. He said the Chairperson had adapted to the role and the words of appreciation she sent to staff she had worked with over the year were very much valued by the staff.

Councillors Andrews, Brown, Harvey, Hyland, Stokes, Ruane and Taylor paid tribute to the work undertaken by Councillors Fitzpatrick and Craig during their tenure as Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson. Sarah – order I have is Stokes, Taylor, Hyland, Brown, Ruane, Andrews and Harvey.

#### **AGM/2/2017 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### **AGM/3/2017 TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO STATUTORY POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY**

The Chairperson called upon Councillor Ruane as nominating officer for SF to nominate a Councillor for the position of Chairperson of Council for 2017/18.

Councillor Ruane nominated Councillor Roisin Mulgrew who subsequently confirmed her acceptance of the post.

The Chairperson called upon Councillor Ruane, as nominating officer for SF, to nominate a Councillor for the position of Deputy-Chairperson of Council for 2017/18.

Councillor Ruane nominated Councillor Willie Clarke who subsequently accepted the post.

The Chairperson stated that Councillor Mulgrew and Councillor Clarke had been duly nominated as Chairperson and Deputy-Chairperson respectively of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council for the year 2017/18.

Councillor Mulgrew stated it was a great honour to be appointed as Chairperson of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council. She thanked her family and members from the Slieve Gullion area who had made it possible for her to take on the position. She stated as Chairperson she would have the opportunity to pursue and achieve for all the people in the District. The uncertain future of Daisy Hill and the challenges that lay ahead in terms of Brexit, would be high on her agenda to work with the community to challenge.

Councillor Mulgrew stated she would be a Chairperson for all and would work hard as Chair, particularly for the volunteers and community workers in the District who work tirelessly to organise festivals, fundraise, help with care of disadvantaged people and run the youth clubs and sports clubs. She advised her nominated charities would reflect the network of these volunteers that were rooted in towns and villages and would promote health, wellbeing and togetherness.

Councillor Mulgrew congratulated Councillor Clarke on his appointment as Deputy Chair, stating he was a very talented and dedicated Councillor who would provide her with enduring support in the year ahead.

Councillor Clarke congratulated Councillor Mulgrew on becoming the District's First Citizen and stated he would do all he could to support her, as her Deputy-Chair. He congratulated Councillor Fitzpatrick on the high energy role she undertook as Chairperson and thanked Councillor Craig for his role as Deputy Chairperson, stating he would be an excellent Chair of the Planning Committee. He thanked his party for the nomination to the role stating he was honoured and humbled to be Deputy Chair of Council. He set out his priorities for the year in working with Councillor Mulgrew to try to continue the healing process in communities and work with new citizens and ethnic groups within the District. He also stated he wished to work with disadvantaged groups who are switched off from the political process.

Party leaders took this opportunity to wish the new Chairperson and Deputy-Chairperson best wishes in their incoming year.

The Chairperson called upon the nominating officers of each of the parties to nominate to the following statutory positions of responsibility and the following nominations were made by the respective nominating officers and formally accepted by the nominees:

Chair of AHC	Councillor Walker
Deputy Chair of AHC	Councillor Taylor
Chair of ERT	Councillor Byrne
Deputy Chair of ERT	Councillor Hyland
Chair of RTS	Councillor Trainor
Deputy Chair of RTS	Councillor Harte
Chair of SPR	Councillor Hearty
Deputy Chair of SPR	Councillor McMurray
Chair of Planning	Councillor Craig
Deputy Chair of Planning	Councillor Loughran

**Councillor Fitzpatrick vacated the Chair at this point in the meeting.**

**Councillors Mulgrew and Clarke assumed the Chairperson and Deputy-Chairperson roles at this point.**

#### **AGM/4/2017 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR OF PCSP**

**The Chairperson called upon Councillor Craig as nominating officer of DUP to nominate a Chairperson for the PCSP.**

**Councillor Craig nominated Councillor Harvey as Chairperson of the PCSP, who formally accepted the post.**

**Agreed:** It was agreed that Councillor Harvey would become Chairperson of PCSP for the term commencing 25 June 2017.

#### **AGM/5/2017 REPORT OF MOCK ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 18 MAY 2017**

**Read:** Report of the Mock Annual Meeting held on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2017 (copy circulated)

**Agreed:** The report was agreed as an accurate record on the proposal of Councillor Hyland, seconded by Councillor Enright.

**Agreed:** The recommendations arising out of the Report were unanimously agreed, with Members being appointed to Committees; external Bodies and Organisations; Council Project Boards and Forums; Task and Finish Working Groups and Thematic Partnerships, as detailed in the appendices attached.

The Chief Executive called upon the Unionist grouping to nominate Members to the Somme Advisory Council for 2017-2018.

Councillor Craig proposed Councillor Hanna and Walker. This was seconded by Councillor Taylor.

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Craig, seconded by Councillor Walker, that Councillors Hanna and Walker should be the Council's representatives on the Somme Advisory Council for 2017-2018.

**AGM/6/2017 TO AGREE SCHEME OF ALLOWANCES PAYABLE TO COUNCILLORS FROM JUNE 2017**

**Read:** Draft Scheme of Allowances payable to Councillors from June 2017 (copy circulated)

**Agreed:** The draft Scheme of Allowances payable to Councillors from June 2017 as presented was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor D McAteer.

**AGM/7/2017 TIMETABLE OF MEETINGS**

**Read:** Timetable of Meetings for the year 2017/18 (copy circulated)

Mrs Carville advised the Audit Committee Independent Chairperson had asked that the Audit Committee meeting scheduled for December 2017 be moved to January 2018.

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Burgess to approve the Timetable of Meetings for the year 2017/18, subject to the Audit Committee meeting scheduled for December being moved to January 2018.

**AGM/8/2017 TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR COMMITTEES**

**Read:** Report from Director of Corporate Services regarding Review of Terms of Reference for Committees (copy circulated)

Mrs Carville advised it was necessary to make adjustments to the Terms of Reference of the Strategy, Policy and Resources and Active and Healthy Communities Committees with effect from 1 June 2017.

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Burgess to accept the adjustments to the Terms of

**Reference of the Strategy, Policy and Resources and Active and Healthy Communities Committees, as detailed in the Officer's Report, with effect from 1 June 2017.**

There being no further business, the Meeting concluded at **6.40pm**.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Chairperson**

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Chief Executive**

## 1. Committees

### Active and Healthy Communities 2017 - 2018

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**Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism 2017-2018**

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**Audit 2017 - 2018**

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**Plus Independent Chairperson - Mr Joseph Campbell (2015-2019)**

**Policing and Community Safety Partnership 2015 - 2019 (4 Year Term)**

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David Taylor	115 Shandon Park, Newry, Co Down, BT34 1QE <a href="mailto:david.taylor@nmandd.org">david.taylor@nmandd.org</a>

**Plus Independent Members**

### 3. Council Project Boards and Forums 2017 – 2018 (unless otherwise stated)

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#### Party Representatives Forum

Membership	2017 - 2018
Chairperson	R Mulgrew
SF	M Ruane
2 SDLP	G Stokes G Fitzpatrick
1 DUP	H Harvey
1 UUP	D Taylor
1 Smaller Parties/Indp	J Tinnelly
H Reilly *	H Reilly

\* This Member does not receive a Special Responsibility Allowance for this role.

- One Special Responsibility Allowance to Sinn Fein and SDLP for role as Party Representative
- Position of Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson count towards allocation of two places for Sinn Fein and SDLP (only one SRA Allowance is paid).

#### Chief Executive Appraisal Group

Membership	2015 - 2019
1 Sinn Fein	C Casey
1 SDLP	M Murnin
1 DUP	G Craig
1 UUP	D Taylor
1 Smaller Parties/Indp	C Enright

#### Strategic Projects Forum

Membership	2017 - 2018
2 Sinn Fein	C Casey W Clarke
2 SDLP	M Murnin G Stokes
1 DUP	G Craig
1 UUP	D Taylor
1 Smaller Parties/Indp	P Brown

### Economic Forum

Membership	2017 - 2018
2 Sinn Fein	S Burns R Mulgrew
2 SDLP	D Curran M Murnin
1 DUP	H Harvey
1 UUP	R Burgess
1 Smaller Parties/Indp	P Brown

### Equality and Good Relations Reference Group

Membership	2017 - 2018
2 Sinn Fein	T Hearty M Ruane
2 SDLP	T Andrews G Fitzpatrick
1 DUP	W Walker
1 UUP	D Taylor
1 Alliance	P Brown
H Reilly	H Reilly
1 Independent	D Hyland

\* These Members will change annually as new Chairperson/ Deputy Chairperson appointed. Other appointments are preferred for term 2015-2019. Revised ToR allow for 2 members from the larger parties (SF and SDLP) but Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson are counted towards this representation.

### Peace IV Partnership

Membership	2017 - 2018
2 Sinn Fein **	T Hearty M Ruane
2 SDLP **	T Andrews G Fitzpatrick
1 DUP	W Walker
1 UUP	D Taylor
1 Alliance	P Brown
H Reilly	H Reilly
1 Independent	D Hyland

Plus 9 social partners

\* These Members will change annually as new Chairperson/ Deputy Chairperson appointed. Other appointments are preferred for term 2015-2019.

\*\* SF and SDLP have 2 Members but positions of Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson count towards this representation

### Efficiency Working Group

Membership	2017 - 2018
Chairs of: ERT	P Byrne as Chair of ERT*
AHC	W Walker as Chair of AHC*
SPR	T Hearty as Chair of SPR*
RTS	J Trainor as Chair of RTS*
Planning	G Craig as Chair of Planning *
1 Sinn Fein	S Doran
1 SDLP	G Stokes
1 DUP	H Harvey
1 UUP	J Macauley
1 Smaller Parties/Indp	C Enright

\*These Members will change annually as new Chairs are appointed.  
Other appointments are preferred for term 2015-2019

### Newry and Mourne Travellers Forum

Membership	2017 - 2018
3 Councillors appointed to Local Government Partnership for Travellers	C Casey K McAteer G Stokes
Plus 3 Councillors:	
1 Sinn Fein	L Kimmins
1 SDLP	P Byrne
1 DUP/UUP	H Harvey

### Anti Litter Working Group

Membership	2017 - 2018
Sinn Fein	C Casey W Clarke
SDLP	G Stokes
DUP	W Walker
UUP	J Macauley
Smaller Parties/Indp	J Tinnelly



**Marine Task Force**

Membership	2017 - 2018
2 Sinn Fein	W Clarke S Doran
2 SDLP	M Carr B Quinn
1 DUP	G Hanna
1 UUP	R Burgess
1 Smaller Parties/Indp	C Enright

**Elected Member Development Working Group**

Membership	2017 - 2018
Sinn Fein	C Casey M Ruane
SDLP	G Fitzpatrick T Andrews
DUP	H Harvey
UUP	D Taylor
Smaller Parties/Indp	A McMurray

Appointment preferred for term 2015-2019

**Strategic Waste Issues Working Group**

Membership	2017 - 2018
2 Sinn Fein	S Doran C Caset
2 SDLP	T Andrews G Stokes
1 DUP	G Craig
1 UUP	J Macauley
Smaller Parties/Indp	C Enright

**Sustainable Development and Climate Change Forum**

Membership	2017 - 2018
Sinn Fein	S Burns
Sinn Fein	S Doran
SDLP	T Andrews
SDLP	M Murnin
DUP	H Harvey
UUP	D Taylor
Alliance	P Brown
Smaller Parties/Indp	C Enright

**Fair Trade Steering Group**

Membership	2017 - 2018
Alliance	P Brown
SDLP	T Andrews

**International Relations Forum**

Membership	2017 - 2018
Sinn Fein	M Ruane
Sinn Fein	C Casey
SDLP	M Murnin
SDLP	M Carr
DUP	Nomination outstanding
Smaller Parties/Independents	Nomination outstanding

**4. Task & Finish Working Groups – 2017 – 2018****Tourism Strategy Task and Finish Project Board**

Membership	
2 Sinn Fein	W Clarke T Hearty
2 SDLP	D Curran B Quinn
1 DUP	G Hanna
1 UUP	R Burgess

**Health Forums**

	<b>Daisy Hill – Forum A</b>	<b>Downe – Forum B</b>
SF	L Kimmins	N Bailie
SF		
SDLP	D McAteer	D Curran
SDLP	P Byrne	J Trainor
DUP	G Hanna	W Walker
UUP	D Taylor	J Macauley
Smaller Parties/Indp	D Hyland	C Enright

**St Patrick's Day Cross Party Working Group**

Membership	
Sinn Fein	C Casey
SDLP	J Trainor
DUP	G Hanna
UUP	D Taylor
Smaller Parties/Indp	C Enright

**Castlewellan Forest Park Task and Finish Project Board**

2 Sinn Fein Members	S Burns
	W Clarke
2 SDLP Members	L Devlin
	M Murnin
1 DUP Member	G Craig
1 UUP Member	R Burgess
Smaller Parties/Indp	A McMurray

**Implementation of Irish Language Strategy Working Group**

Membership	
2 Sinn Fein	C Casey
	B O'Muiri
2 SDLP	T Andrews
	D McAteer
1 DUP	No nomination submitted
1 UUP	No nomination submitted
Smaller Parties/Indp 1 Member	C Enright
Chairperson of Council	G Fitzpatrick
Deputy Chairperson of Council	G Craig

**YAFTA Short listing 2016/2017**

Membership	
Sinn Fein	L Kimmins
SDLP	P Byrne
DUP	H Harvey
UUP	D Taylor
Smaller Parties/Indp 1 Member	P Brown

**Camlough Lake Task & Finish Working Group**

Slieve Gullion Councillors	SDLP	Pete Byrne
	SF	Terry Hearty
	SF	Micky Larkin
	SDLP	Kate Loughran
	SF	Roísín Mulgrew
	SF	Barra Ó Muirí
	UUP	David Taylor

**Warrenpoint Municipal Park Task & Finish**

Crotlieve Councillors	SDLP	Declan McAteer
	SDLP	Gillian Fitzpatrick
	SDLP	Michael Carr
	SF	Mickey Ruane
	SF	Oksana McMahon
	Independent	Jarlath Tinnelly

**Councillors Website Reference Group**

Membership	
Sinn Fein	S Burns
SDLP	M Carr
DUP	H Harvey
UUP	J Macauley
Smaller Parties/Indp	C Enright

## **5. Appointments to External Bodies/Organisation**

### **LAG Board 2015-2019**

SF	Stephen Burns
SF	William Clarke
SF	Terry Hearty
SF	Roisin Mulgrew
SDLP	Terry Andrews
SDLP	Pete Byrne
SDLP	Declan McAteer
SDLP	Mark Murnin
DUP	Harry Harvey
UUP	Robert Burgess
Smaller Parties / Indp	Jarlath Tinnelly
Henry Reilly	Henry Reilly

### **Warrenpoint Harbour Authority 2015-2019**

SF	Sean Doran
SDLP	Gillian Fitzpatrick
DUP	Glyn Hanna

### **Carlingford Lough Commissioners Board 2015 - 2019**

SF	Sean Doran
SDLP	Gillian Fitzpatrick

### **Louth, Newry, Mourne and Down (LNMD) Joint Committee 2015-2019**

SF	Terry Hearty
SF	Mickey Larkin
SF	Michael Ruane
SDLP	Pete Byrne
SDLP	Dermot Curran
SDLP	Declan McAteer
DUP	William Walker
Smaller Parties / Indp	Cadogen Enright
Smaller Parties / Indp	Jarlath Tinnelly

**East Border Region 2015-2019**

SF	Micky Larkin
SF	Michael Ruane
SDLP	Terry Andrews
SDLP	Kate Loughran
Smaller Parties / Indp	Davy Hyland
Henry Reilly	Henry Reilly

**East Border Region Board Directors 2015-2019**

SF	Michael Ruane
SDLP	Terry Andrews
Smaller Parties / Indp	Davy Hyland

**NILGA 2015-2019**

Membership	
3 Sinn Fein	Charlie Casey
	Oksana McMahon
	Michael Ruane
3 SDLP	Terry Andrews
	Dermot Curran
	Brian Quinn
	William Walker
1 DUP	Robert Burgess
1 UUP	

**National Association of Councillors 2015-2019**

Membership		
3 Sinn Fein	Charlie	Casey
	Valerie	Harte
	Michael	Ruane
3 SDLP	Terry	Andrews
	Michael	Carr
	Dermot	Curran
	Robert	Burgess
1 UUP	Andrew	McMurray
1 Smaller Parties/Indp		

**Local Government Partnership on Travellers Issues 2015-2019**

SF	Charlie Casey
SDLP	Gary Stokes
Smaller Parties / Indp	Kevin McAteer

**Northern Ireland Amenity Council 2015-2019**

SF	Charlie Casey
SDLP	Terry Andrews

**Somme Advisory Council 2017-2018**

DUP	William Walker
DUP	Glyn Hanna

**Ring of Gullion AONB Management Board/Ring of Gullion Landscape Partnership Management Board 2015-2019**

Slieve Gullion Councillors	SF	Terry Hearty
	SF	Micky Larkin
	SF	Roisin Mulgrew
	SF	Barra O Muiri
	SDLP	Pete Byrne
	SDLP	Kate Loughran
	UUP	David Taylor

**SANDSA (South Armagh, Newry and Down Sports Association) 2016-2019**

5 Councillors	SF	Stephen Burns
	SF	Barra Ó Muiri
	SDLP	Declan McAteer
	SDLP	Gareth Sharvin
	DUP	William Walker

(allocated by d'Hondt 05/12/16)

**Strangford Lough and Lecale Partnership****Years 1 and 3 2015/2016 and 2017/2018**

2 Councillors	SDLP	Gareth Sharvin
	Smaller Parties/Indp	Cadogen Enright

**Years 2 and 4 2016/2017 and 2018/2019**

2 Councillors	SF	Naomi Bailie
	DUP	William Walker

**NI Museums Council (September 2015 - September 2018)**

Membership 2015 - 2018	
1 Councillor	UUP Robert Burgess

**NI Drainage Council 2015 - 2019**

Membership 2015 - 2019	
1 Councillor	Cadogan Enright

(Competitive selection process undertaken by NI Drainage Council)

**Rural Community Network (October 2016 – October 2018)**

Term to October 2017	SF Terry Hearty

**Diversity Champions 2015-2019**

Councillors and Officer	
SF 1 Member	Roisín Mulgrew
SDLP 1 Member	Brian Quinn
DUP/UUP 1 Member	Harry Harvey
Council Officer	Colin Moffett

**Community Planning Partnership Board**

Membership	<b>2016 – 2019</b>
SF 2 Members	Willie Clarke
	Terry Hearty
SDLP 2 Members	Gary Stokes
	John Trainor
DUP 1 Member	Harry Harvey
UUP 1 Member	David Taylor
Smaller Parties/Indp 1 Member	David Hyland
Chairperson of Council	Roisin Mulgrew

(Chairperson will change annually)



**Elected Member Representation on Community Planning Thematic Groups (2017 - 2018)**

<b>Thematic Working Group Safety &amp; Good Relations</b>	<b>Elected Member</b>
	Terry Andrews
	William Clarke
	Laura Devlin
	Sean Doran
	Harry Harvey
	Mickey Larkin
	Kate Loughran
	Brian Quinn
	Michael Ruane
	David Taylor

<b>Thematic Working Group Economic Development Regeneration/ Tourism</b>	<b>Elected Member</b>
	Patrick Brown
	Robert Burgess
	Stephen Burns
	Michael Carr
	Charlie Casey
	Dermot Curran
	Glyn Hanna
	Terry Hearty
	Mark Murnin
	Oksana McMahon

<b>Thematic Working Group Health and Wellbeing</b>	<b>Elected Member</b>
	Pete Byrne
	Valerie Harte
	Davy Hyland
	Gillian Fitzpatrick
	Jill Macauley
	Declan McAteer
	Oksana McMahon
	Brian Quinn
	Jarlath Tinnelly
	William Walker

<b>Thematic Working Group Environment and Spatial Development</b>	<b>Elected Member</b>
	Terry Andrews
	William Clarke
	Garth Craig
	Cadogen Enright
	Terry Hearty
	Kevin McAteer
	Andrew McMurray
	Michael Ruane
	Henry Reilly
	Gary Stokes

## 1. Committees

### Active and Healthy Communities 2017 - 2018

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Jill Macauley	3 Drumdreenagh Road Rathfriland Co Down BT34 5NG <a href="mailto:jill.macauley@nmandd.org">jill.macauley@nmandd.org</a>
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Mark Murnin	46 Cherryhill Road, Ballynahinch, BT24 8NW <a href="mailto:mark.murnin@nmandd.org">mark.murnin@nmandd.org</a>
Michael Ruane	27 Ardfield Crescent, Warrenpoint, BT34 3TY <a href="mailto:michael.ruane@nmandd.org">michael.ruane@nmandd.org</a>

**Audit 2017 - 2018**

	<b>Contact Details</b>
Patrick Brown	30 The Craig Road, Ballynacraig, Downpatrick, BT30 9BG <a href="mailto:patrick.brown@nmandd.org">patrick.brown@nmandd.org</a>
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Laura Devlin	44 Drumee Road, Castlewellan, BT31 9HQ <a href="mailto:laura.devlin@nmandd.org">laura.devlin@nmandd.org</a>
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Jarlath Tinnelly	3 Slievemartin Mews Rostrevor Newry BT34 3WH <a href="mailto:jarlath.tinnelly@nmandd.org">jarlath.tinnelly@nmandd.org</a>
John Trainor	41 Ardglass Road, Downpatrick, Co Down, BT30 6JQ <a href="mailto:john.trainor@nmandd.org">john.trainor@nmandd.org</a>

**Plus Independent Chairperson – Mr Joseph Campbell (2015-2019)**

**Policing and Community Safety Partnership 2015 – 2019 (4 Year Term)**

	<b>Contact Details</b>
<b>Chairperson</b> Brian Quinn (25 June 2016 – 24 June 2017) Harry Harvey (25 June 2017 – 24 June 2018)	7 Wrack Road, Ballymartin, Kilkeel, Co Down, BT34 4NT <a href="mailto:brian.quinn@nmandd.org">brian.quinn@nmandd.org</a> 30 Kilmore Road Crossgar BT30 9HJ <a href="mailto:harry.harvey@nmandd.org">harry.harvey@nmandd.org</a>
Terry Andrews	11 Woodside Gardens, Crossgar, Downpatrick, BT30 9DA <a href="mailto:terry.andrews@nmandd.org">terry.andrews@nmandd.org</a>
William Clarke	37 King Street, Newcastle, BT33 0HD <a href="mailto:william.clarke@nmandd.org">william.clarke@nmandd.org</a>
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Sean Doran	12 Springdale Crescent, Kilkeel, BT34 4XY <a href="mailto:sean.doran@nmandd.org">sean.doran@nmandd.org</a>
Mickey Larkin	1 Kilmorey Terrace Patrick Street Newry BT35 8DW <a href="mailto:mickey.larkin@nmandd.org">mickey.larkin@nmandd.org</a>
Kate Loughran	20 Ballynabee Road, Camlough, Newry, BT35 7HD <a href="mailto:kate.loughran@nmandd.org">kate.loughran@nmandd.org</a>
Mickey Ruane	27 Ardfield Crescent, Warrenpoint, BT34 3TY <a href="mailto:michael.ruane@nmandd.org">michael.ruane@nmandd.org</a>
David Taylor	115 Shandon Park, Newry, Co Down, BT34 1QE <a href="mailto:david.taylor@nmandd.org">david.taylor@nmandd.org</a>

**Plus Independent Members**



## 2. Statutory Positions of Responsibility

<b>POSITION - Year 3</b>		<b>Councillor Name</b>
Chair of Council	SF	Roisin Mulgrew
Deputy Chair of Council	SF	William Clarke
Chair - ENTERPRISE, REGENERATION & TOURISM	SDLP	Pete Byrne
Deputy Chair - ENTERPRISE, REGENERATION & TOURISM	Independent	Davy Hyland
Chair - ACTIVE & HEALTHY COMMUNITIES	DUP	William Walker
Deputy Chair - ACTIVE & HEALTHY COMMUNITIES	UUP	David Taylor
Chair - REGULATORY & TECHNICAL SERVICES	SDLP	John Trainor
Deputy Chair - REGULATORY & TECHNICAL SERVICES	SF	Valerie Harte
Chair - STRATEGY, POLICY & RESOURCES	SF	Terry Hearty
Deputy Chair - STRATEGY, POLICY & RESOURCES	Alliance	Andrew McMurray
Chair - Planning	DUP	Garth Craig
Deputy Chair - Planning	SDLP	Kate Loughran
<b>Positions – 4 Year Term</b>		
Partnership Panel for NI	SDLP	Dermot Curran
NI Housing Council	SF	Charlie Casey
Reserve Forces & Cadets' Assoc for NI	Alliance	Patrick Brown
Arc21 - Position 1	SDLP	Dermot Curran
Arc21 - Position 2	DUP	Garth Craig
Arc21 - Position 3	SF	Stephen Burns
PCSP Position 1	SF	Mickey Larkin
PCSP Position 2	SDLP	Terry Andrews
PCSP Position 3	SF	Mickey Ruane
PCSP Position 4	SDLP	Laura Devlin
PCSP Position 5	DUP	Harry Harvey
PCSP Position 6	SF	Sean Doran
PCSP Position 7	SDLP	Kate Loughran
PCSP Position 8	SF	William Clarke
PCSP Position 9	SDLP	Brian Quinn
PCSP Position 10	UUP	David Taylor

### 3. Council Project Boards and Forums 2017 – 2018 (unless otherwise stated)

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#### Party Representatives Forum

Membership	2017 - 2018
Chairperson	R Mulgrew
SF	M Ruane
2 SDLP	G Stokes G Fitzpatrick
1 DUP	H Harvey
1 UUP	D Taylor
1 Smaller Parties/Indp	J Tinnelly
H Reilly *	H Reilly

\* This Member does not receive a Special Responsibility Allowance for this role.

- One Special Responsibility Allowance to Sinn Fein and SDLP for role as Party Representative
- Position of Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson count towards allocation of two places for Sinn Fein and SDLP (only one SRA Allowance is paid).

#### Chief Executive Appraisal Group

Membership	2015 - 2019
1 Sinn Fein	C Casey
1 SDLP	M Murnin
1 DUP	G Craig
1 UUP	D Taylor
1 Smaller Parties/Indp	C Enright

#### Strategic Projects Forum

Membership	2017 - 2018
2 Sinn Fein	C Casey W Clarke
2 SDLP	M Murnin G Stokes
1 DUP	G Craig
1 UUP	D Taylor
1 Smaller Parties/Indp	P Brown

**Economic Forum**

Membership	2017 - 2018
2 Sinn Fein	S Burns R Mulgrew
2 SDLP	D Curran M Murnin
1 DUP	H Harvey
1 UUP	R Burgess
1 Smaller Parties/Indp	P Brown

**Equality and Good Relations Reference Group**

Membership	2017 - 2018
2 Sinn Fein	T Hearty M Ruane
2 SDLP	T Andrews P Byrne
1 DUP	W Walker
1 UUP	D Taylor
1 Alliance	P Brown
H Reilly	H Reilly
1 Independent	D Hyland

Appointments are preferred for term 2015-2019.

**Peace IV Partnership**

Membership	2017 - 2018
2 Sinn Fein	T Hearty M Ruane
2 SDLP	T Andrews G Fitzpatrick
1 DUP	W Walker
1 UUP	D Taylor
1 Alliance	P Brown
H Reilly	H Reilly
1 Independent	D Hyland

Plus 9 social partners

Appointments are preferred for term 2015-2019.

### Efficiency Working Group

Membership	2017 - 2018
Chairs of:	
ERT	P Byrne as Chair of ERT*
AHC	W Walker as Chair of AHC*
SPR	T Hearty as Chair of SPR*
RTS	J Trainor as Chair of RTS*
Planning	G Craig as Chair of Planning *
1 Sinn Fein	S Doran
1 SDLP	G Stokes
1 DUP	H Harvey
1 UUP	J Macauley
1 Smaller Parties/Indp	C Enright

\*These Members will change annually as new Chairs are appointed.  
Other appointments are preferred for term 2015-2019

### Newry and Mourne Travellers Forum

Membership	2017 - 2018
3 Councillors appointed to Local Government Partnership for Travellers	C Casey K McAteer G Stokes
Plus 3 Councillors:	
1 Sinn Fein	L Kimmins
1 SDLP	P Byrne
1 DUP/UUP	H Harvey

### Anti Litter Working Group

Membership	2017 - 2018
Sinn Fein	C Casey W Clarke
SDLP	G Stokes
DUP	W Walker
UUP	J Macauley
Smaller Parties/Indp	J Tinnelly

**Marine Task Force**

Membership	2017 - 2018
2 Sinn Fein	W Clarke S Doran
2 SDLP	M Carr B Quinn
1 DUP	G Hanna
1 UUP	R Burgess
1 Smaller Parties/Indp	C Enright

**Elected Member Development Working Group**

Membership	2017 - 2018
Sinn Fein	C Casey M Ruane
SDLP	G Fitzpatrick T Andrews
DUP	H Harvey
UUP	D Taylor
Smaller Parties/Indp	A McMurray

Appointment preferred for term 2015-2019

**Strategic Waste Issues Working Group**

Membership	2017 - 2018
2 Sinn Fein	S Doran C Caset
2 SDLP	T Andrews G Stokes
1 DUP	G Craig
1 UUP	J Macauley
Smaller Parties/Indp	C Enright

**Sustainable Development and Climate Change Forum**

Membership	2017 - 2018
Sinn Fein	S Burns
Sinn Fein	S Doran
SDLP	T Andrews
SDLP	M Murnin
DUP	H Harvey
UUP	D Taylor
Alliance	P Brown
Smaller Parties/Indp	C Enright

**Fair Trade Steering Group**

Membership		2017 - 2018
Alliance		P Brown
SDLP		T Andrews

**International Relations Forum**

Membership		2017 - 2018
Sinn Fein		M Ruane
Sinn Fein		C Casey
SDLP		M Murnin
SDLP		M Carr
DUP		W Walker
Smaller Parties/Independents		Nomination outstanding

#### **4. Task & Finish Working Groups – 2017 – 2018**

##### **Tourism Strategy Task and Finish Project Board**

Membership	
2 Sinn Fein	W Clarke T Hearty
2 SDLP	D Curran B Quinn
1 DUP	G Hanna
1 UUP	R Burgess

##### **Health Forums**

	<b>Daisy Hill – Forum A</b>	<b>Downe – Forum B</b>
SF	L Kimmins	N Bailie
SF		
SDLP	D McAteer	D Curran
SDLP	P Byrne	J Trainor
DUP	G Hanna	W Walker
UUP	D Taylor	J Macauley
Smaller Parties/Indp	D Hyland	C Enright

##### **St Patrick's Day Cross Party Working Group**

Membership	
Sinn Fein	C Casey
SDLP	J Trainor
DUP	G Hanna
UUP	D Taylor
Smaller Parties/Indp	C Enright

##### **Castlewellan Forest Park Task and Finish Project Board**

2 Sinn Fein Members	S Burns
	W Clarke
2 SDLP Members	L Devlin
	M Murnin
1 DUP Member	G Craig
1 UUP Member	R Burgess
Smaller Parties/Indp	A McMurray

**Implementation of Irish Language Strategy Working Group**

Membership	
2 Sinn Fein	C Casey B O'Muirí
2 SDLP	T Andrews D McAteer
1 DUP	No nomination submitted
1 UUP	No nomination submitted
2 Smaller Parties/Indp Members	C Enright P Brown

**YAFTA Short listing 2016/2017****2016/2017 Members listed for information only.****2017/2018 Members will be appointed, if required, for 2017/2018.**

Membership	
Sinn Fein	L Kimmins
SDLP	P Byrne
DUP	H Harvey
UUP	D Taylor
Smaller Parties/Indp 1 Member	P Brown

**Camlough Lake Task & Finish Working Group**

Slieve Gullion Councillors	SDLP	Pete Byrne
	SF	Terry Hearty
	SF	Micky Larkin
	SDLP	Kate Loughran
	SF	Roísín Mulgrew
	SF	Barra Ó Muirí
	UUP	David Taylor

**Warrenpoint Municipal Park Task & Finish**

Crotlieve Councillors	SDLP	Declan McAteer
	SDLP	Gillian Fitzpatrick
	SDLP	Michael Carr
	SF	Mickey Ruane
	SF	Oksana McMahon
	Independent	Jarlath Tinnelly



**Councillors Website Reference Group**

Membership	
Sinn Fein	S Burns
SDLP	M Carr
DUP	H Harvey
UUP	J Macauley
Smaller Parties/Indp	C Enright

## **5. Appointments to External Bodies/Organisation**

### **LAG Board 2015-2019**

SF	Stephen Burns
SF	William Clarke
SF	Terry Hearty
SF	Roisin Mulgrew
SDLP	Terry Andrews
SDLP	Pete Byrne
SDLP	Declan McAteer
SDLP	Mark Murnin
DUP	Harry Harvey
UUP	Robert Burgess
Smaller Parties / Indp	Jarlath Tinnelly
Henry Reilly	Henry Reilly

### **Warrenpoint Harbour Authority 2015-2019**

SF	Sean Doran
SDLP	Gillian Fitzpatrick
DUP	Glyn Hanna

### **Carlingford Lough Commissioners Board 2015 – 2019**

SF	Sean Doran
SDLP	Gillian Fitzpatrick

### **Louth, Newry, Mourne and Down (LNMD) Joint Committee 2015-2019**

SF	Terry Hearty
SF	Mickey Larkin
SF	Michael Ruane
SDLP	Pete Byrne
SDLP	Dermot Curran
SDLP	Declan McAteer
DUP	William Walker
Smaller Parties / Indp	Cadogen Enright
Smaller Parties / Indp	Jarlath Tinnelly

**East Border Region 2015-2019**

SF	Micky Larkin
SF	Michael Ruane
SDLP	Terry Andrews
SDLP	Kate Loughran
Smaller Parties / Indp	Davy Hyland
Henry Reilly	Henry Reilly

**East Border Region Board Directors 2015-2019**

SF	Michael Ruane
SDLP	Terry Andrews
Smaller Parties / Indp	Davy Hyland

**NILGA 2015-2019**

Membership	
3 Sinn Fein	Charlie Casey
	Oksana McMahon
	Michael Ruane
3 SDLP	Terry Andrews
	Dermot Curran
	Brian Quinn
1 DUP	William Walker
1 UUP	Robert Burgess

**National Association of Councillors 2015-2019**

Membership		
3 Sinn Fein	Charlie	Casey
	Valerie	Harte
	Michael	Ruane
3 SDLP	Terry	Andrews
	Michael	Carr
	Dermot	Curran
1 UUP	Robert	Burgess
1 Smaller Parties/Indp	Andrew	McMurray

**Local Government Partnership on Travellers Issues 2015-2019**

SF	Charlie Casey
SDLP	Gary Stokes
Smaller Parties / Indp	Kevin McAteer

**Northern Ireland Amenity Council 2015-2019**

SF	Charlie Casey
SDLP	Terry Andrews

**Somme Advisory Council 2017-2018**

DUP	William Walker
DUP	Glyn Hanna

**Ring of Gullion AONB Management Board/Ring of Gullion Landscape Partnership Management Board 2015-2019**

Slieve Gullion Councillors	SF	Terry Hearty
	SF	Micky Larkin
	SF	Roisin Mulgrew
	SF	Barra O Muiri
	SDLP	Pete Byrne
	SDLP	Kate Loughran
	UUP	David Taylor

**SANDSA (South Armagh, Newry and Down Sports Association) 2016-2019**

5 Councillors	SF	Stephen Burns
	SF	Barra Ó Muirí
	SDLP	Declan McAteer
	SDLP	Gareth Sharvin
	DUP	William Walker

(allocated by d'Hondt 05/12/16)

**Strangford Lough and Lecale Partnership****Years 1 and 3 2015/2016 and 2017/2018**

2 Councillors	SDLP	Gareth Sharvin
	Smaller Parties/Indp	Cadogen Enright

**Years 2 and 4 2016/2017 and 2018/2019**

2 Councillors	SF	Naomi Bailie
	DUP	William Walker

**NI Museums Council (September 2015 - September 2018)**

Membership 2015 - 2018	
1 Councillor	UUP Robert Burgess

**NI Drainage Council 2015 - 2019**

Membership 2015 - 2019	
1 Councillor	Cadogan Enright

(Competitive selection process undertaken by NI Drainage Council)

**Rural Community Network (October 2016 – October 2018)**

Term to October 2018	SF Terry Hearty

**Diversity Champions 2015-2019**

Councillors and Officer	
SF 1 Member	Roísín Mulgrew
SDLP 1 Member	Brian Quinn
DUP/UUP 1 Member	Harry Harvey
Council Officer	Colin Moffett

**Community Planning Partnership Board**

Membership	<b>2016 – 2019</b>
SF 2 Members	Willie Clarke
	Terry Hearty
SDLP 2 Members	Gary Stokes
	John Trainor
DUP 1 Member	Harry Harvey
UUP 1 Member	David Taylor
Smaller Parties/Indp 1 Member	David Hyland
Chairperson of Council	Roisin Mulgrew

(Chairperson will change annually)

**Elected Member Representation on Community Planning Thematic Groups (2017 – 2018)**

<b>Thematic Working Group Safety &amp; Good Relations</b>	<b>Elected Member</b>
	Terry Andrews
	William Clarke
	Laura Devlin
	Sean Doran
	Harry Harvey
	Mickey Larkin
	Kate Loughran
	Brian Quinn
	Michael Ruane
	David Taylor

<b>Thematic Working Group Economic Development Regeneration/Tourism</b>	<b>Elected Member</b>
	Patrick Brown
	Robert Burgess
	Stephen Burns
	Michael Carr
	Charlie Casey
	Dermot Curran
	Glyn Hanna
	Terry Hearty
	Mark Murnin
	Oksana McMahon

<b>Thematic Working Group Health and Wellbeing</b>	<b>Elected Member</b>
	Pete Byrne
	Valerie Harte
	Davy Hyland
	Gillian Fitzpatrick
	Jill Macauley
	Declan McAteer
	Oksana McMahon
	Brian Quinn
	Jarlath Tinnelly
	William Walker

<b>Thematic Working Group Environment and Spatial Development</b>	<b>Elected Member</b>
	Terry Andrews
	William Clarke
	Garth Craig
	Cadogen Enright
	Terry Hearty
	Kevin McAteer
	Andrew McMurray
	Michael Ruane
	Henry Reilly
	Gary Stokes

**NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL****NMD/SC/**

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**Minutes of Special Council Meeting held on Monday 22 May 2017 at 6pm in the Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick**

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**In the Chair:** Councillor P Brown**In attendance:** **(Councillors)**

Councillor R Burgess	Councillor W Clarke
Councillor D Curran	Councillor C Enright
Councillor H Harvey	Councillor T Hearty
Councillor K Loughran	Councillor J Macauley
Councillor A McMurray	Councillor B Ó Muirí
Councillor B Quinn	Councillor W Walker

**(Officials)**

Mr L Hannaway, Chief Executive  
Miss S Taggart, Democratic Services Officer

Also in attendance: Mr S Richardson, Transport NI  
Mr S Duffy, Transport NI  
Ms C Noble, Transport NI

**As an apology had been received from the Chairperson and the Vice-Chair it was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Curran, seconded by Councillor McMurray that Councillor Brown assume the Chair.**

**SC/11/2017      APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

Apologies were received from Councillors Andrews, Bailie, Burns, Carr, Craig, Devlin, Fitzpatrick, Hanna, D McAteer, Murnin, Stokes, Taylor and Trainor.

**SC/12/2017      DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**SC/13/2017      PRESENTATION BY TRANSPORT NI**

The Chairperson welcomed Mr Richardson, Mr Duffy and Ms Noble from Transport NI and invited them to present their Annual Report 2017/2018.

Mr Richardson thanked the Chairperson for the opportunity to present the Annual Report and stated he had hoped the earlier clinics held in Newry and Downpatrick had been useful for the Members. He advised that Transport NI had been given an initial opening financial allocation which was less than the opening budget last year

therefore there would likely be impacts upon routine maintenance and they would be reliant on additional resources becoming available during the year. He highlighted the following:

- Grass cutting would only occur once between April and October except sightlines which will be cut as and when required.
- Traffic signal maintenance will continue as well as any urgent public safety concerns.
- Repairs of lower priority defects such as potholes will only occur if the in-year budget comes forward.
- The amount of resurfacing work carried out last year was much larger than will be planned for the incoming year.
- Due to the significant loss of staff through the Voluntary Exit scheme, Southern Division had to develop new staffing structures to try to maintain the level of service. The Department therefore was proposing to deal with correspondence which was only reporting routine defects differently from general correspondence. Routine defects would be logged onto the work systems and an automated response with a reference number would be issued to the correspondent. If, however, the query was a more general roads issue, a substantive reply would be issued in the normal way.

Mr Richardson referred to the report, copy of which had been circulated to all Members, highlighting the following:

- Strategic Road Improvements – there had been a significant amount of work carried out regarding Ballynahinch By-pass and, subject to funding, the scheme would be going ahead.
- Newry Southern Relief Road – the first stage was substantially completed and the next stage to identify a preferred option will include geotechnical investigation surveys which were scheduled for late Summer 2017. A public information event was programmed for Autumn 2017 to provide an update on progress and to invite feedback.
- Maintenance of Structures – Kilmore Bridge replacement was now complete and had significant benefits in terms of road safety and connectivity.
- Rural Roads Initiative – the scheme was very successful with section engineers having developed a programme of the highest priority locations to repair rural roads.
- Winter Service – although there was a relatively mild winter, staff were always on standby to react as and when required.
- Minor Works had been carried out at Vianstown Road-Bishops Brae junction Downpatrick; Riverside Crescent, Bessbrook; Foundation Street, Downpatrick; Kingsmill Road-Drumnahunshin Road junction, Whitecross.
- Strangford Ferry – it was intended to rotate the new vessel with the existing vessel to ensure both were used regularly.

The Chairperson thanked the delegation for their presentation and stated questions would be taken by DEA, alphabetically.

Downpatrick DEA



- There was no reference within the report to traffic congestion in Downpatrick. Were there any planned schemes coming forward to alleviate this?
- Welcome the improvement to sightlines at Vianstown Road however these were only completed on the left side of the road, were there any plans to provide sightlines at the right hand side?
- Junctions need to be worked on as part of the creation of the public sector campus include Killough Road at the bottom, Ardglass Road, Edward Street one-way system, lower part of Racecourse Road which has now become a rat-run for people accessing the Downshire Estate.
- Was there any progress on the Pound Lane/Killough Road junction to put an additional lane onto Pound Land?
- East Down Distributor Road not mentioned within the report.
- One-way system behind Irish Street carpark, need to move forward on this issue in order to open up opportunities for retailers within the town.
- Issue of Southern Relief Road from Asda/Ballydugan Industrial Estate out to the back of the Cinema to eliminate queues in St Patricks Avenue and Market Street.
- Updates should be provided each year without the need for Members to continually submit questions on the same schemes.
- The Eastern Distributor Road was initially a developer-led scheme, were there any thoughts on how this could be rolled out.

Mr Richardson responded to the queries as follows:

- At the Autumn meeting the short, medium and long term strategies were presented to deal with traffic study for Downpatrick. This report was a programme of work going forward.
- The cost of completing work on 9 junctions within Downpatrick was 9 times more than the budget that exists. The strategy for dealing with congestion in Downpatrick was still there however the short-term elements were contained within the report.
- Eastern Distributor Road would be reported on within the next month or so and issued then. Hopefully progression had been seen however the scheme was limited by budget constraints.
- Transport NI would work closely with Council to bring in the key stakeholders in terms of the Eastern Distributor Road. The feasibility study would provide detail and costings and there would then be debate as to where the funding would come from.

Rowallane DEA

- Thanks to Transport NI for the upgrading of minor roads and Kilmore Bridge works.
- Was Ballynahinch By-pass a priority scheme?
- Where there any plans to put in a place for slow vehicles to pull in on the A7?
- Any timescale for completion of A7?
- Can assurances be given that sightlines will be cut more than once?

- Could the crossing at Crossgar roundabout be improved?
- The old busstop on Belfast Road in Saintfield, potentially a park and ride site?
- Were there any plans to roll out weed spraying using quads in the area and what type of chemicals were used?
- Timing in replying to Councillor enquiries was too long, was it possible to put in place something to expedite the queries from Councillors?

Mr Richardson responded to the queries as follows:

- Ballynahinch By-pass was not one of the Executive's flagship schemes however it was the Departments role to bring the scheme as far as possible so that it was ready to go when funding became available.
- A7 was substantially complete design-wise and it was down to funding now.
- There were no passing bays put into the scheme due to the length of road.
- The funding received was reduced by 30% this year so far.
- There would be one cut done between April and October, due to resources and funding.
- Regarding Crossgar roundabout and Saintfield busstop, he would speak with the traffic engineer.
- Weed spraying may be carried out slightly differently within different Council areas.
- Timing of replies was a work in progress and the department was endeavouring to be more efficient.

Slieve Croob DEA

- Carnreagh Road flooding issues.
- Bann Road/Dublin Road roundabout – safety issues regarding sightlines for pedestrians. How to report these issues?

Mr Richardson responded to the queries as follows:

- The Carnreagh Road has flooding history and had been closed, the Department was investigating the possibility of raising the road which should reduce the levels of flooding.

Slieve Gullion DEA

- A29 Dundalk road into Newtown with the junction at Cullyhanna Road – campaigning to get resurfaced. Traffic measures also need to be installed before the primary school.
- Tullyvannon West Road – very large potholes need to be fixed.
- Coldbrae Road was sinking, both sides of the road have gone.
- B30 Silverbridge-Newry road – the small portion that was resurfaced was good however the rest of the road needs to be done also.
- Some of the roads in the Slieve Gullion area were impassable and were beyond repair as they had been ignored for so long.

- Concession Road in Crossmaglen – Louth and Monaghan Council had spent money on it.
- Ballycarry Road needs investigated as there were two bad throws in the road pulling lorries out of line.
- Not cutting sightlines and grass and weeds overgrowing causing people to walk onto roads was putting people's lives in danger.
- Could a breakdown of spend across DEAs be provided as there has not been the same amounts of money invested in Slieve Gullion as other DEA areas.
- Scheme at Creamery Road was a top priority for Councillors and has now been taken off the report altogether.

Mr Richardson responded to the queries as follows:

- Took note of the roads listed and would get traffic officers to have a look at the 30 mile an hour near the primary school.
- The level of funding in South Armagh had been raised and was not taken lightly. Last year the rural road initiative was brought in and some areas within the DEA were completed.
- In the past budgets were done on a 4 yearly basis and schemes were able to be planned and taken forward. This year there was no budget and the Department was endeavouring to complete as much work as possible within the tight constraints they were placed under.

The Mourne DEA

- Commend the Department for the work undertaken on Mill Road in Kilkeel.
- Castlewellan Road from Rathfriland A25 near Cabragh needs investigated.
- A2 just after Bloody Bridge on the Annalong side there had been incidents where large stones were coming loose and falling.
- Bloody Bridge carpark caused major problems in the area and a meeting needed to take place between Council officials, Transport NI officials and Councillors to discuss options.
- Zebra crossing in Newcastle was a deathtrap as motorists do not stop. Was there any update on the traffic study undertaken?
- Congestion in Newcastle would likely increase if the Ballynahinch by-pass was put in place, how do Transport NI plan to alleviate this increase?
- Valentia Place/Bryansford Gardens was seriously congested and residents cannot get parked. Was it possible to introduce residents only parking or a one-way system?
- Crash barrier at the S at Spelga needs looked at.
- Traffic management survey in Kilkeel needs undertaken and possibly a set of traffic lights installed rather than the roundabout.
- Would it be possible to see figures for compensation paid to drivers due to damage caused by road defects?

Mr Richardson responded to the queries as follows:

- Meeting regarding Bloody Bridge would be welcomed and officials would be happy to meet with Councillors and Council officials to discuss same.
- Newcastle roundabout and crossing – there were a number of preliminary designs and it was dependent on funding.
- Dundrum crossing – hope to complete this year, subject to funding.
- Residents' parking was very difficult to implement and perhaps would be better discussed when looking at the roundabout in Newcastle.
- Traffic study would be subject to funding but would raise the issue with engineers in case there was relevant information from previous surveys.
- Would reply separately on changing roundabout to traffic lights in Kilkeel.
- The claims unit had published figures in relation to the total amount paid out in vehicle damage claims and he would send this onto Members.

The Chairperson thanked Mr Richardson, Mr Duffy and Ms Noble for their attendance at the meeting.

**There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 7.22pm.**

For adoption at Meeting of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council to be held on Monday 5 June 2017.

**Signed:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Chairperson**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Chief Executive**

## NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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**Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on  
Monday 12 June 2017 at 3.00pm in the Boardroom, District Council Offices, Monaghan  
Row, Newry**

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**Chairperson:** Councillor P Byrne

**Vice Chairperson:** Councillor D Hyland

**In Attendance:** **(Committee Members)**

Councillor R Burgess

Councillor M Carr

Councillor C Casey

Councillor W Clarke

Councillor D Curran

Councillor G Hanna

Councillor H Harvey

Councillor T Hearty

Councillor D McAteer

Councillor O McMahon

Councillor B Quinn

Councillor M Ruane

Councillor G Stokes

**Officials in Attendance:** Ms M Ward, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism  
Mr J McGilly, Assistant Director of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism  
Mr M Mohan, Senior Tourism Initiatives Manager  
Mr A Patterson, Tourism NI  
Miss S Taggart, Democratic Services Officer

**Also in Attendance:** Ms Darcie Graham AV Browne  
Mr Aaron Ward AV Browne

**ERT/102/2017: APOLOGIES / CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

The following apologies were received:

Councillor M Ruane

- The Chairperson stated he was delighted to be back on the Committee and congratulated the Committee on the good work that had taken place over the last 12 months.

- The Chairperson thanked the staff of ERT and in particular the Events team for a highly successful Footsteps in the Forest event.
- The Chairperson advised a date for the BE Airspace visit would be circulated and he suggested that officers ask for site visits once a quarter to understand businesses in the area.
- The Chairperson congratulated Mr Patterson on his appointment as Assistant Director for Tourism and Arts.

**ERT/103/2017: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest

**FOR DISCUSSION/DECISION**

**ERT/104/2017: START TIME  
ERT MEETINGS JUNE 2017 – MAY 2018**

**AGREED: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Harvey, seconded by Councillor Burgess to retain the meeting start times at 3pm and 5pm respectively with the next meeting being held at 5pm.**

(Mr Mohan entered the meeting at this stage – 3.07pm)

**ERT/105/2017: ACTION SHEET  
MINUTES OF ENTERPRISE, REGENERATION & TOURISM  
COMMITTEE MEETING  
MONDAY 8 MAY 2017**

Read: Action Sheet arising out of the Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 8 May 2017.  
**(Copy circulated)**

The following issues were raised:

***ERT/95/2017 – Former PSNI Station site – Downpatrick***

Mrs Ward advised Council officials were arranging a meeting with Department for Economy and SIB and a report would be brought to the August Committee Meeting.

***ERT/101/2017 – Cranfield Beach***

Councillor Quinn asked for officials to have a look at replacing the turning bay with a roundabout as during warmer weather cars park in the turning bay resulting in resident being unable to get into their houses.

**Hotel provision – Rostrevor**

Councillor McAteer asked that the issue of a hotel in Rostrevor remain on the Action Sheet until the matter was resolved.

Mrs Ward advised an accommodation study was completed, which she would circulate to all Members, and this set the priorities for the Council in acknowledging gaps in Newry, South Armagh, Newcastle and Downpatrick.

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor Hanna, it was agreed to note the Action Sheet arising out of the Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 8 May 2017.**

**PRESENTATIONS****ERT/106/2017: TOURISM MARKETING PLAN**

The Chairperson advised item 16 related to the presentation and would be taken following the presentation. He invited representatives from AV Browne to make their presentation regarding a Tourism Marketing Plan.

Mr D Graham and Mr A Ward AV Browne, presented the Tourism Marketing Plan which focused on effective media and digital methods of marketing the area. A copy of the presentation was appended to the minutes.

Members raised the following issues:

- Tourism NI website was out of date - would a Council developed website be more advanced and would it be compatible?
- How can Council break into the mindset of coach and tour operators visiting the District.
- The Mourne is a famous brand - Council need to ensure when people are accessing online search engines for outdoor tourism activities that the Mourne is at the forefront. The development of a website would be a gateway into our product and can signpost people across the District to the range of activities including the St Patrick story.

The delegation responded to the queries as follows:

- There were a large number of key words relating to this District that Tourism NI's site would not be able to grasp. St Patrick for example was huge in search volumes however if people input outdoor adventure into a search engine as their key words, the aim would be to make people aware of the Mourne Mountains and Slieve Gullion then signpost them on further.
- First time visitors probably on coach tours would primarily visit Belfast or Derry however the second-time visitors would be looking for adventures further afield which would be where the website could signpost to adventures for outdoor tourism.

The Chairperson thanked the delegation for their presentation.

**ERT/107/2017: MARKETING PLAN**

Read: Report dated 12 June 2017 from Ms M Boyle, Tourism Development Officer regarding Marketing Plan **(Copy circulated)**

Mrs Ward presented the report which recommended that:

Councillor McAteer asked that regular updates on the types of progress and ideas that were generated on events throughout the District need to be kept on the action sheets.

Councillor Quinn stated that walking festival needed to be investigated in terms of the number of bed nights that were generated from it as people were walking in the District but not staying.

Councillor Carr stated the festivals highlighted were about outdoors and perhaps a lot of people were not looking for that type of experience.

Mrs Ward advised the Tourism strategy recognises body, mind and soul across the District and visitor experiences plans were about development all different offerings.

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Clarke, seconded by Councillor Hanna it was agreed as follows as per Report dated 12 June 2017 from Ms M Boyle Tourism Development Officer:**

- **To provide a new website based on the key recommendation to drive NMD as the Outdoor Capital of Ireland incorporating Mountains, Myths and Maritime themes**
- **To provide and implement a Tourism Specific Marketing Plan**
- **To work on a pilot basis with the Tourism businesses during 2018 in the delivery of 3 key outdoor events – Mourne International Walking Festival, Newry Water Festival and Red Bull Foxhunt/Bike Fest and subject to evaluation consider opportunities for other tourism events.**

**ENTERPRISE, EMPLOYMENT & REGENERATION****ERT/108/2017: AONB RING OF GULLION, STRANGFORD & LECAL**

Read: Report dated June 2017 from T Hamill, D Rice & C Nolan, Managers, regarding Ring of Gullion and Strangford & Lecale Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Hanna, seconded by Councillor Clarke, it was agreed to approve the contents of the Ring of Gullion and Strangford & Lecal Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Action Plans 2017-2022, as per Report dated June 2017 from T Hamill/D Rice/ C Nolan Managers.**



**ERT/109/2017: STRANGFORD & LECALÉ LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP SCHEME**

Read: Report dated June 2017 from Ms C Nolan, Strangford & Lecale Landscape Partnership Manager, regarding Strangford & Lecale Landscape Partnership Scheme. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Curran, seconded by Councillor McAteer, it was agreed as follows regarding the Strangford & Lecale Landscape Partnership Scheme Bid, as per Report dated June 2017 from Ms C Nolan, Strangford & Lecale Landscape Partnership Manager:

- (a) To approve the Council's role as lead partner on behalf of SLLP in the Coast Connect LPS.
- (b) NMDDC approve the submission of Phase I application as lead partner on behalf of the group.
- (c) NMDDC approve commitment of £17k from NMDDC to the 18 month Development stage of the Coast connect Landscape Partnership scheme from November 2017 to March 2019 and the SLLP application.

**ERT/110/2017: DISTRICT MASTERPLANS**

Read: Report dated 12 June 2017 from Mr J McGilly, Assistant Director of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism regarding an update on District Masterplans. **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor Hyland queried whether the Council had any success getting the Rivers Agency on board to clean up the river and Weir project.

Mr McGilly advised the river clean up scheme was completed by the Rivers Agency on behalf of Council.

Councillor McAteer asked whether the promenade at Warrenpoint should be entirely within the Council's responsibility as it would cost a lot of money to upgrade. He stated a major injection of funds and partnership working would need to take place.

Mr McGilly advised these were working documents and if it mentioned internal project it just means the Council can drive it forward and doesn't preclude the Council from working with others to deliver the projects.

Councillor Casey asked that the LOTS scheme be looked at again in order to improve the look of the streets, particularly in Newry.

Councillor Carr queried whether officials had spoken with the developer recently about the provision of a hotel at Warrenpoint marina.

Mrs Ward advised officers continue to work on this however they can only try to influence some of the schemes on the action plan and do not control them all.

Councillor McAteer advised the prioritising of Southern Relief Road over Narrow Water Bridge should not occur as Tourism is a top priority for the Council and the Narrow Water Bridge would be an integral part of developing the tourism product.

Councillor Clarke stated Castle and Islands Parks need to be identified for improvements and within Castle Park the development could become an activity tourism hub for families at relatively little cost. Indoor leisure provision was also missing from the action plan and should be included.

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Stokes, seconded by Councillor McAteer, it was agreed to note the contents of Report dated 12 June 2017 from Mr J McGilly, Assistant Director of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism regarding an update on District Masterplans.

**ERT/111/2017: CASTLEWELLAN FOREST PARK**

**Read:** Report dated June 2017 from Ms S Keenan, Project Development Officer regarding Castlewellan Forest Park. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Hanna, seconded by Councillor Clarke, it was agreed as follows, as per Report dated June 2017 from Ms S Keenan Project Development Officer, regarding Castlewellan Forest Park:

- The Terms of Reference of the Task and Finish Board are amended to allow a chair to remain in place for 12 months as opposed to 6 months for the purposes of consistency.
- Taking over the Castle is not part of the application. It will need to be integrated to some extent however.
- No additional roads are recommended. The preferred option is bringing traffic into the car park from the Bann Road but will require a study to determine feasibility.
- Management of the Park- Council are required to develop a proposal to discuss with FSNI. A draft lease will need to be prepared prior to submission of a round one application. It is recommended that Council and FSNI now engage in respect of this matter. Various external reports need to be commissioned prior to the submission of a round one application. These reports include the following;
  - Biodiversity Survey and statement of significance.
  - Garden and Arboretum Survey, initial Plan, and statement of significance.
  - Feasibility Study in respect of the use of Built Heritage in first court yard at the Grange and visitor facilities at Bothy Yard.
  - Traffic Survey and Car-Park Study.

**ERT/112/2017: MGL CO-OPERATION PROJECT**

- **DERRYMORE HOUSE, BESSBROOK**
- **MOOREHALL CO MAYO**

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**Read:** Report dated 12 June 2017 from Mr J McGilly, Assistant Director of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism regarding an MGL Co-Operation Project for the regeneration of Derrymore House and Moorehall, Co. Mayo. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Harvey, seconded by Councillor Stokes, it was agreed as follows as per Report dated 12 June 2017 from Mr J McGilly, Assistant Director of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism regarding an MGL Co-Operation Project for the regeneration of Derrymore House and Moorehall, Co. Mayo:

(a) To approve contents of the report and approve to proceed to tender for the appointment of a consultancy team for the Derrymore House and Moorehall Co-operation project, and subject to securing funding and tender being within budget, following assessment Council proceed to award contract.

(b) It was also agreed in line with the design of the Derrymore House Cooperation project, to re-engage site owners, ie, National Trust, in discussions regarding lease/development agreements, to the satisfaction of the funder and submit a Planning Application for the agreed design proposals.

### **TOURISM, CULTURE AND EVENTS**

**ERT/113/2017: SOCIAL ENTERPRISE PROGRAMME (PHASE II)**

**Read:** Report dated 12 June 2017 from Mr M Patterson, Tourism NI, regarding Social Enterprise Programme Phase 2. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Hanna, seconded by Councillor McAteer, it was agreed to approve the additional activity and outputs for the Social Enterprise Programme (phase II), as per Report dated 12 June 2017 from Mr A Patterson, Tourism NI.

**ERT/114/2017: RE-DEVELOPMENT OF CAR PARKS - BALLYNAHINCH**

**Read:** Report dated 12 June 2017 from Mr J McGilly, Assistant Director of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism regarding re-development of Car Parks at Ballynahinch. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Harvey, seconded by Councillor Burgess, it was agreed as follows as per Report dated 12 June 2017 from Mr J

**McGilly, Assistant Director of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism regarding re-development of Car Parks at Ballynahinch:**

- (a) **To note reference to carparks in the Draft Off-Street Car Parking Strategy and agree to proceed with this proposal in advance of agreeing Off-Street Car Parking Strategy.**
- (b) **Council to appoint consultants to work up and manage two Development Briefs of Lisburn Street South and Lisburn Street North sides ensuring that proposals bear in mind the constraints and that car parking spaces and access was retained.**
- (c) **Relevant department commences work to relocate bonfire.**

**ERT/115/2017: CITY DEAL**

**Read:** Report dated 12 June 2017 from Mr L Hannaway, Chief Executive regarding Belfast Growth Region. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** **On the proposal of Councillor Hanna, seconded by Councillor Curran, it was agreed to note the progress on the strategic collaboration with Belfast City Council, Ards and North Down and Antrim and Newtownabbey and agree to on-going participation to progress this initiative, as per Report dated 12 June 2017 from Mr L Hannaway Chief Executive.**

**ERT/116/2017: BREXIT**

**Read:** Report dated 12 June 2017 from Mr L Hannaway, Chief Executive regarding Council Action in respect of Brexit Update. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McAteer, seconded by Councillor Hyland to note the activity in relation to the preparation for Brexit negotiations and agree the direction of travel in relation to solutions, as per Report dated 12 June 2017 from Mr L Hannaway Chief Executive.**

**ERT/117/2017: ERT BUSINESS PLAN**

**Read:** Report dated 19 June 2017 from Ms M Ward, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism regarding the ERT Business Plan. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Stokes, seconded by Councillor Hanna to approve the ERT Business Plan for the period 2017-18.**

**TOURISM CULTURE & EVENTS****ERT/118/2017:    LEASE – TENNIS PAVILION  
-    ROSTREVOR TENNIS CLUB**

Read:            Report dated 12 June 2017 from Ms B Magill , Administration Officer regarding Lease of Pavilion to Rostrevor Tennis Club. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:    On the proposal of Councillor Hyland, seconded by Councillor Clarke it was agreed to agree to a proposed 20 year lease from 1 March 2017 of the pavilion building to Rostrevor Tennis Club at peppercorn rent, as per Report dated 12 June 2017 from Ms B Magill Administration Officer.**

**ERT/119/2017:    HALLOWEEN & CHRISTMAS EVENTS**

Read:            Report dated 12 June 2017 from Mrs M Ward, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism regarding Halloween and Christmas Events Support 2017/18 **(Copy circulated)**

Members asked if officials could ensure invitations were sent out to the various events organised throughout the District, particularly at Christmas time and to ensure Council meetings were not held on the same day as these

In response to Members regarding invitations being sent out for events and clashes with Council Meetings, Mrs Ward advised generally invitations were not sent out for events, however the Chairperson of Council would be invited to attend. She also stated it would be very difficult to guarantee that Council meetings were not held on the same day as the events due to the huge number of events to be scheduled in, particularly over Christmas.

**AGREED:    On the proposal of Councillor Clarke, seconded by Councillor Hanna, it was agreed to approve the following community led organisations to organise and deliver Halloween and Christmas events in their respective towns with the support of Council officials from the ERT Directorate, as per Report dated 12 June 2017 from Mrs M Ward, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism regarding Halloween and Christmas Events Support 2017/18:**

- **Ballynahinch (Halloween & Christmas) – Ballynahinch Community Collective in partnership with Ballynahinch Lyons.**
- **Crossmaglen (Halloween & Christmas) – Crossmaglen Community Association**
- **Downpatrick (Halloween) – Downpatrick Community Collective**
- **Kilkeel (Halloween & Christmas) – Kilkeel Development Association**
- **Newcastle (Christmas) – Chamber of Commerce**
- **Warrenpoint (Halloween & Christmas) – Safer Warrenpoint Project (Halloween), Chamber of Commerce (Christmas)**

(Councillors Burgess and Harvey left the meeting at this stage – 5pm)

**ERT/120/2017:     TRAIL NETWORK  
ROSTREVOR FOREST**

**Read:**           Report dated 12 June 2017 from Ms M Boyle, Tourism Development Officer regarding a trail network for Rostrevor Forest. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:**   **On the proposal of Councillor Hanna, seconded by Councillor McAteer, it was agreed to tender for the services of a suitably qualified company to oversee the procurement and delivery of the design and build contract for a trail network in Rostrevor Forest, as per Report dated 12 June 2017 from Ms M Boyle, Tourism Development Officer.**

**ERT/121/2017:     IAGTO CONFERENCE**

**Read:**           Report dated 12 June 2017 from Ms M Boyle, Tourism Development re: the IAGTO Conference to be held 26-29 June 2017, North Carolina. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:**   **On the proposal of Councillor Carr, seconded by Councillor Curran, it was agreed that a Council official attend the IAGTO North America Golf Tourism from 25-28 June 2017.**

**FOR NOTING**

**ERT/122/2017:     MAKE IT LOCAL INITIATIVE**

**Read:**           Report dated 12 June 2017 from Ms M Ward, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism re: the Make It Local Initiative. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:**   **On the proposal of Councillor Hyland, seconded by Councillor Hanna, it was agreed to note Report dated 12 June 2017 from Ms M Ward, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism re: the Make It Local Initiative.**

**ERT/123/2017:     SCHEME OF DELEGATION – ERT**

**Read:**           Report on Scheme of Delegation for ERT Department April 2017 to present. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:**   **On the proposal of Councillor Hyland, seconded by Councillor Hanna, it was agreed to note the Report on Scheme of Delegation for ERT Department April 2017 to present.**

**ERT/124/2017: BUSINESS START UP PROGRAMME**

**Read:** Report dated 12 June 2017 from Mr J McGilly, Assistant Director of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism regarding NI Business Start Up Programme **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Hyland, seconded by Councillor Hanna, it was agreed to note Report dated 12 June 2017 from Mr J McGilly, Assistant Director of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism regarding NI Business Start Up Programme.

**ERT/125/2017: CARLINGFORD GREENWAY**

**Read:** Report dated 12 June 2017 from Ms C Murphy, Countryside/Rights of Way Officer regarding Update on the Development of Carlingford Greenway **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Hyland, seconded by Councillor Hanna, it was agreed to note Report dated 12 June 2017 from Ms C Murphy, Countryside/Rights of Way Officer regarding Update on the Development of Carlingford Greenway.

**ERT/126/2017: OFCOM MOBILE PHONE SUMMIT**

**Read:** Report dated 12 June 2017 from Mr M Patterson, Enterprise Development Officer regarding Ofcom Mobile Phone Summit report. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Hyland, seconded by Councillor Hanna, it was agreed to note Report dated 12 June 2017 from Mr M Patterson, Enterprise Development Officer regarding Ofcom Mobile Phone Summit report.

**ERT/127/2017: LOUTH & NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING - 22 MARCH 2017**

**Read:** Report of Louth & Newry, Mourne & Down Joint Committee Meeting held on 22 March 2017 **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Hyland, seconded by Councillor Hanna, it was agreed to note Report of Louth & Newry, Mourne & Down Joint Committee Meeting held on 22 March 2017.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 5.09pm

For consideration at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2017.

**Signed:** **Councillor P Byrne**  
**Chairperson of Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee**

**Signed:** **Ms M Ward**  
**Director of Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee**



## NEWRY MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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### **Minutes of Strategy Policy & Resources Committee Meeting held on Thursday 15 June 2017 at 5.00pm in the Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick.**

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In the Chair: Councillor Hearty

In Attendance:

Councillor T Andrews	Councillor P Byrne
Councillor R Burgess	Councillor S Doran
Councillor S Doran	Councillor C Enright
Councillor D Hyland	Councillor O McMahon
Councillor A McMurray	Councillor M Murnin
Councillor M Ruane	Councillor G Sharvin
Councillor W Walker	

Officials in Attendance:

Mr L Hannaway, Chief Executive  
 Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services  
 Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active and Healthy Communities  
 Mr C O'Rourke, Director of Regulatory & Technical Services  
 Mr A Wilkinson, Director of Regulatory & Technical Services (Interim)  
 Mrs R Mackin, Assistant Director, Corporate Planning and Policy  
 Mrs C Miskelly, Assistant Director, Corporate Services (HR)  
 Mr K Montgomery, Assistant Director of Finance  
 Mr J McBride, Assistant Director, Community Planning & Performance  
 Mr A McKay, Area Planning Manager  
 Mr A Hay, Principal Planning Officer  
 Mr E McManus, Capital Projects  
 Mr T McClean, Capital Project Manager  
 Miss K Rusk, Health, Safety and Wellbeing Advisor  
 Mrs E McParland, Democratic Services Manager  
 Mrs C Taylor, Democratic Services Officer

**SPR/105/2017**

### **APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

Apologies were received from Councillors Carr, Ó'Múiri and Mr E Curtis, Director of Strategic Policy & Performance.

Councillor Hearty paid tribute to Councillor Brown for carrying out an excellent job chairing the SPR Committee over the past year.

**SPR/106/2017**

### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Byrne declared an interest in Agenda Item 21 – NMDDC v Hamill Update.

Mrs Carville, on behalf of Mr Hannaway, declared an interest in Item 17 – Chief Executive Appraisal.

**SPR/107/2017      TO AGREE A START TIME FOR SPR MEETINGS FROM JUNE 2017 – MAY 2018**

Read:                      SPR Committee start times 2017-2018 (circulated).

**AGREED:**              **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Ruane, the start time of Strategy, Policy & Resources Committee from June 2017 – May 2018 would be at 5pm.**

**SPR/108/2017      ACTION SHEET OF THE STRATEGY, POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 11 MAY 2017**

Read:                      Action Sheet of the Strategy, Policy and Resources (SPR) Committee Meeting held on 11 May 2017 (circulated).

**SPR/99/2017 – Annual Debt Write-Off**

In response to Councillor Byrne's query, Mrs Carville advised that this matter had been taken back to the Finance Department, who were actively working on pursuing the debts and further details would be brought back to Members.

**SPR/192/2016 – Former Kindle Primary School – Business Case**

In response to Councillor Sharvin's query, Mrs Carville advised that an agreement had been reached for the purchase of the former Kindle Primary School and that this action would now be removed from the Action Sheet.

**Agreed:**              **On the proposal of Councillor Doran, seconded by Councillor Burgess, it was agreed that the Action Sheet of 11 May 2017 be noted and the actions identified in the right hand column as completed be removed.**

**PERFORMANCE**

**SPR/109/2017      PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2017 – 2018**

Read:                      Report from Mr J McBride, Assistant Director, Community Planning and Performance, dated 15 June 2017 regarding the Performance Improvement Plan 2017-18 (copy circulated).

In response to a question from Councillor Andrews, Mr McBride advised there were 53 survey responses received, which was more than the number received the previous year.

Councillor Byrne referred to Objective 3 – implementation of the AONB Action Plans – saying the progress of these would depend on buy-in from the Council.

Councillor Byrne referred to Objective 5, asking how the 50 community groups to progress the 'Audit of Effectiveness' for community centres and developing proposals for improvement were selected and he proposed that the identification of the groups would be progressed through the DEA's.

Mr McBride advised the identification of the groups through the DEA's lay with the AHC Committee, but he would advise the Director of those comments.

Councillor Enright made the following comments:

- Performance Objective 1 – there were many people involved in groups outside of the leisure centres ie. coastal rowing groups and walking groups – could these groups not be included in the statistics?
- Objectives 3 and 5 – regarding the role of the DEA's in delivering the master plans, it would be necessary to review the role of the DEA's and how to enable Councillors to understand the capacity of their own area in order to review the master plans effectively.
- Objective 4 – there were gaps in the environmental improvement projects and in general, the way in which Council measured itself and how this could be more effective, should be looked at.

The Chairperson advised Councillor Enright that Mr McBride would respond to his comments after the meeting.

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, it was agreed that the identification of the 50 community groups to progress the 'Audit of Effectiveness' for community centres and developing proposals for improvement, would be progressed through the DEA's.

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Byrne, it was agreed to approve:

- The final version of the Performance Improvement Plan 2017–2018, including the five performance improvement objectives.
- The publication of the Performance Improvement Plan 2017-2018 by 30 June 2017, before full Council approval, in order to meet the statutory deadline.

### LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

SPR/110/2017 NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN: DRAFT TIMETABLE

**Read:** Report from Mr A McKay, Chief Planning Officer, dated 15 June 2017, regarding the Newry, Mourne and Down Local Development Plan: Draft Timetable (copy circulated).

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Walker, it was agreed that approval be given to :

- The Local Development Plan: Draft Timetable.
- The Planning Department to liaise with the PAC and other key stakeholders prior to submitting the draft Timetable to the Department for Infrastructure for its agreement.
- Following agreement of the Timetable by the Department for Infrastructure, that it be made available and published in accordance with Regulation 8 of the Planning (Local Development Plan) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015.

**SPR/111/2017**      **OPTIONS FOR UNDERTAKING SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL, INCORPORATING STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

**Read:** Report from Mr A McKay, Chief Planning Officer, dated 15 June 2017, regarding the Newry, Mourne and Down Local Development Plan: Options for undertaking the LDP Sustainability Appraisal, incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment (copy circulated).

Councillor Sharvin referred to Option 3, saying this was his preferred option, as it would up-skill in-house staff for future local development plans, rather than having to go out to another organisation, the capacity of which to facilitate all of the Councils, was unknown.

In response, Mr Hay said this was an opportunity to compliment and build skills in-house, but that Option 5 – to engage Shared Environmental Services (SES) was the preferred option.

Councillor Byrne concurred with Councillor Sharvin, saying he preferred Option 3 as the costs were lower and in-house skills could be developed.

Mr Hay advised in Option 5, a service level agreement would be entered into with SES and based on information from SES and other councils.

**Mr Hannaway joined the meeting at this point – 5.28pm**

Mr McKay advised Members that SES had been engaged by Council over the past 2 years to provide expert advice on planning applications that demanded their input. He said he understood the Councillors' point regarding developing in-house expertise, but there were time constraints relating to delivery on plan.

Mr McKay said a few issues raised had not been fully reflected within the report and suggested bringing further detail back to Committee.

Mr O'Rourke advised Members that this was a one-off exercise, and the Council would not require the skill set after completion. He said to provide the service in-house would cause significant delay and SES had in place the skill sets required.

Councillor Byrne proposed and Councillor Sharvin seconded that approval be given to Option 3.

The Chairperson put Councillor Byrne's proposal, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, to a vote, the results of which were as follows:

**FOR: 7**  
**AGAINST: 5**  
**ABSTENTIONS: 0**

**The PROPOSAL was declared CARRIED.**

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, it was agreed that approval be given to:**

- **Option 3 – engage consultants to assist the Development Plan Team to prepare the Sustainability Appraisal in-house by providing independent advice and guidance during its production.**

### **CORPORATE PLANNING AND POLICY**

**SPR/112/2017      UPDATED POLICY ON NAMING FACILITIES AND GUIDELINES AND ASSOCIATED PROCEDURE FOR (RE) NAMING OF FACILITIES**

**Read:** Report from Mrs R Mackin, Assistant Director, Corporate Planning and Policy, dated 15 June 2017, regarding the Updated Policy on Naming Facilities and Guidelines and associated procedure in relation to (re) naming of facilities (copy circulated).

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Hyland, it was agreed that approval be given to :**

- **The updated Policy on Naming Council facilities.**
- **The updated Guidelines and associated procedure in relation to (re) naming of facilities.**
- **The application form regarding the Request to (re)name a Council Facility.**

**SPR/113/2017      CONSULTATION RESPONSE TO FORAS NA GAEILGE  
REVIEW OF FUNDING OF IRISH LANGUAGE CENTRES  
CONSULTATION DOCUMENT APRIL 2017**

**Read:** Report from Mrs R Mackin, Assistant Director, Corporate Planning and Policy, dated 15 June 2017, regarding the Consultation Response to Foras na Gaeilge Review of Funding of Irish Language Centres Consultation Document April 2017 (copy circulated).

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Doran, seconded by Councillor Andrews, that the consultation response prepared in relation to Foras na Gaeilge's Review of Funding for Irish Language Centres, Consultation Document April 2017, be approved.

**CORPORATE SERVICES – DEMOCRATIC SERVICES**

**SPR/114/2017      CORRESPONDENCE FROM APSE RELATING TO ANNUAL  
GENERAL MEETING ON 28 JUNE 2017**

**Read:** Correspondence from APSE dated May 2017 regarding the APSE Northern Ireland Annual General Meeting 2017.

Mr McBride advised Members that APSE were seeking the nomination of 1 Member and 1 official to sit on the Pilot APSE Northern Ireland Executive Board.

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, that Councillor Andrews would be Council's elected representative to sit on the Pilot APSE Northern Ireland Executive Board and that one officer also participate.

Councillor Hyland suggested that Councillor Andrews provide updates to Council of the discussions at the Pilot APSE Northern Ireland Executive Board.

**FOR CONSIDERATION/DECISION**

**SPR/115/2017      SMOKE FREE POLICY**

**Read:** Report from Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services, dated 15 June 2017, regarding the Smoke Free Policy (copy circulated).

In response to a query from Councillor Sharvin, Miss Rusk explained once the Smoke Free Policy was in place, it was the responsibility of each building manager to undertake an assessment of their area in relation to provision and location of shelters to facilitate smokers.

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Hyland, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, to approve the Council Smoke Free Policy to include the prohibition of electronic cigarettes/vapourisers.

**SPR/116/2017**      **NEWRY BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (BID)**

Read: Report from Mrs A Robb, Assistant Director, Corporate Services (Administration), dated 15 June 2017, regarding Debt Collection Officer – Newry BID (copy circulated).

In response to questions from Councillor Byrne, Mrs Carville advised that the 1.5% levy for the BID was an additional levy. She said that there was no evidence of any feedback from the businesses, but stressed that Council was the billing company and did not liaise directly with the businesses.

Councillor Byrne said more understanding of the perspective of the businesses was crucial.

Mrs Ward advised the Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism department was the liaison point with the BID organisation, but the responsibility for liaising with the businesses was with the BID. She said she was aware the BID manager was in constant liaison with businesses in Newry and had visited many of them.

Councillor Hearty expressed concerns over creating a bad working relationship with the businesses in Newry.

Councillor Byrne suggested further information be brought back to Members and asked for the number of letters the businesses had received.

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Hyland, that further information be brought back to Committee regarding Newry BID, prior to considering the recommendation in the officer's report.

**FOR NOTING**

**SPR/117/2017**      **CORPORATE SERVICES BUSINESS PLAN**

Read: Report from Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services, dated 15 June 2017, regarding Corporate Services Directorate Business Plan (copy circulated).

In response to comments from Councillor Sharvin, Mrs Carville said actions highlighted red indicated that the action had not been achieved. She said negotiations had stalled for a while with the Trade Unions regarding the terms and conditions, although they had now re-engaged and this was a key priority for the Corporate Services Directorate in 2017-18.

Mrs Mackin provided clarification on the business case for the recruitment of graphic designers.

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Doran, seconded by Councillor Ruane, that the Corporate Services Business Plan be noted.

**SPR/118/2017** **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE BUSINESS PLAN**

Read: Chief Executive Office Business Plan (copy circulated).

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Ruane, that the Chief Executive Office Business Plan be noted.

**SPR/119/2017** **REGIONAL PAY BRIEFING**

Read: Correspondence received from NILGA dated 23 May 2017, regarding the Regional Pay Briefing – Northern Ireland Councils – July 2017

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Hyland, seconded by Councillor Byrne, it was agreed that the Chair and Deputy Chair of Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee attend the Regional Pay Briefing on 27 July 2017.

Councillor Hearty left at this point – 6:16pm – and Councillor McMurray assumed the Chair.

**ITEMS RESTRICTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 1 OF SCHEDULE 6 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (NI) 2014**

**SPR/120/2017** **CHIEF OFFICER NOTICE PERIODS**

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Doran, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on this matter which related to exempt information by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the council or a government department and employees of, or office holders under, the council.

Read: Report from Mrs C Miskelly, Assistant Director of Corporate Services (HR), dated 15 June 2017 regarding Notice Periods for Chief Officers (copy circulated).



**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Doran, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

**Agreed:** When the Committee came out of closed session, the Chairperson advised that it had been agreed on the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Ruane, to note the contents of the Officer's report and approve the recommendation contained in paragraph 3.3 that the notice period for Chief Officers remains at three months.

Mr Hannaway declared an interest in the next item of business and left the meeting at this point – 6.24pm.

**SPR/121/2017**      **CHIEF EXECUTIVE APPRAISAL**

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Doran, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on this matter which related to exempt information by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the council or a government department and employees of, or office holders under, the council.

**Read:** Report from Mrs C Miskelly, Assistant Director of Corporate Services (HR), dated 15 June 2017 regarding Chief Executive Appraisal (copy circulated).

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Doran, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

**Agreed:** When the Committee came out of closed session, the Chairperson advised that it had been agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Doran, to note the contents of the Officer's report advising that the 2016-17 Performance of the Chief Executive had been completed and the objectives for 2017/2018 had been set.

Mr Hannaway re-entered the meeting at 6.29pm.

**SPR/122/2017**      **MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS**

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Doran, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on this matter which related to exempt information by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the council holding that information).

**Read:** Report from Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services, dated 15 June 2017 regarding Management Accounts to 31 March 2017 (copy circulated).

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Doran, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

**Agreed:** When the Committee came out of closed session, the Chairperson advised that it had been agreed to note the Management Accounts for the full year ending 31 March 2017.

**SPR/123/2017**      **REACTIONARY FUND SPEND**

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Doran, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on this matter which related to exempt information by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the council holding that information).

**Read:** Report from Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services, dated 15 June 2017 regarding Reactionary Fund Spend (copy circulated).

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Doran, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

**Agreed:** When the Committee came out of closed session, the Chairperson advised that it had been agreed on the proposal of Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Byrne, to note the contents of the Officer's report and approve the recommendation contained in paragraph 3.1 to make payment in the sum specified to SEUPB.

**SPR/124/2017**      **DOWN LEISURE CENTRE**

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Doran, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on this matter which related to exempt information by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the council holding that information).

**Read:** Report from Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active and Healthy Communities, dated 15 June 2017 regarding Progress Report on Down Leisure Centre (copy circulated).

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Doran, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

**Agreed:** When the Committee came out of closed session, the Chairperson advised that it had been agreed on the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Ruane, to note the contents of the Officer's report and agree to the Design Team and Senior Council Officers continuing to monitor and control the expenditure of the Optimism Bias in respect of this project in relation to the overall budget.

**SPR/125/2017**      **NMDDC V HAMILL – UPDATE**

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Doran, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on this matter which related to exempt information by virtue of paragraph 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - Information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.

**Read:** Report from Mr E McManus, dated 15 June 2017 regarding NMDDC v Hamill – Appeal to the High Court (copy circulated).

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Doran, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

**Agreed:** When the Committee came out of closed session, the Chairperson advised that it had been agreed on the proposal of Councillor Enright, seconded by Councillor Walker, to note the contents of the Officer's report and approve the recommendations in paragraph 3.1 and 3.2 in relation to the way forward in the case of the Council

**versus Francis Hamill, relating to a public right of way at  
Concession Road to the Border.**

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 7:00pm.

For consideration at the Council Meeting to be held on 3 July 2017

**Signed:                   Councillor Terry Hearty**  
**Chairperson**

**Signed:                   Dorinnia Carville**  
**Director of Corporate Services**

<b>Report to:</b>	<b>Council Meeting</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	Newry, Mourne and Down Local Development Plan:  Addendum to Report presented to the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee on 15 June 2017 re:  Options for undertaking the LDP Sustainability Appraisal, incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment.
<b>Date:</b>	3 July 2017
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Anthony McKay, Chief Planning Officer
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	Andrew Hay, Principal Planning Officer

### **Decisions Required**

Note the content of this report and agree the recommendation.

#### **1.0 Purpose & Background**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Council with an addendum to the 'Options Paper' report presented to the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee on 15 June 2017 re:  
'Options for undertaking the LDP Sustainability Appraisal, incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment'.

1.2 At the meeting the Committee disagreed with the recommendation of officers to proceed with the preferred option:

- Option 5: Engage the Shared Environmental Service (SES)\* to prepare the SA and take it through the entire LDP process.

(\* Note: SES is Mid and East Antrim Council's Environmental Planning Team. The Environmental Planning Team is a specialist service which was set up by the Department of the Environment to support and serve all councils, and is employed by Mid and East Antrim Borough Council.)

and agreed instead to proceed with:

- Option 3: Engage consultants to assist the Development Plan Team to prepare the SA in-house by providing independent advice and guidance during its production.

1.3 Officers consider that the 'Options Paper' which informed the Committee's decision provided members with some incorrect option considerations, in that it was not accurate in its review of Option 3, which was not fully costed in respect of the resource implications. Officers apologise for the inaccuracy of the costing information provided in respect of Option 3 which did not address the costs associated with the need for additional staff resources over and above the appointment of a consultant. This was an oversight that ill-advised the consideration of this option.

1.4	Following the Committee's decision, officers have revisited the 'Options Paper' and have now produced an addendum paper (Appendix 1) for members' consideration. The addendum paper gives a revised review of Option 3, providing a more accurate portrayal in respect of its costing and resource implications, and why it is considered that this option is not sustainable and would not be in the best interests of the Council. The addendum paper also provides more information and further clarification in respect of Option 5, and why this option is considered to be the preferred option in that it represents the most cost effective and advantageous option for the Council.
1.5	Officers apologise for any inconvenience caused in having to bring this matter back to members for their consideration, and trust the addendum paper allows the Council to make a more informed decision in respect of the recommendation to agree to the preferred option.
2.0	<b><u>Key Issues and Conclusions</u></b>
2.1	The 'Options Paper' has been reconsidered and the attached addendum paper (Appendix 1) provides a revised review of Option 3.
2.2	The addendum paper also provides more information and further clarification in respect of Option 5, the preferred option.
2.3	At a cost of at least £625k, Option 3 is not sustainable, and would not be in the best interests of the Council.
2.4	At a cost of approximately £50k, Option 5 represents the most cost effective and advantageous option for the Council. Option 5 represents the 'best fit' in respect of the Council's needs in preparing and progressing the LDP.
2.5	The preferred option is Option 5: Engage the SES/Mid and East Antrim Council's Environmental Planning Team to prepare the SA and take it through the entire LDP Process.
3.0	<b><u>Recommendations</u></b>
3.1	Members are requested to note the content of this report and agree the preferred option: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Option 5: Engage the Shared Environmental Service (SES)/Mid and East Antrim Council's Environmental Planning Team to prepare the SA and take it through the entire LDP process.</li> </ul>
4.0	<b><u>Resource Implications</u></b>
4.1	Details contained within the addendum report (Appendix 1).
5.0	<b><u>Appendices</u></b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appendix 1: LDP Sustainability Appraisal - Options for undertaking the LDP Sustainability Appraisal, incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment - Addendum</li> </ul>



Comhairle Ceantair  
an Iúir, Mhúrn  
agus an Dúin

**Newry, Mourne  
and Down**  
District Council

## **LDP Sustainability Appraisal**

Options for undertaking the LDP Sustainability Appraisal,  
incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment

Addendum

**June 2017**

## LDP Sustainability Appraisal

- **Options for undertaking the LDP Sustainability Appraisal, incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment - Addendum**

### 1.0 Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this addendum paper is to address inaccuracies in the 'Options Paper' as presented to the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee on 15 June 2017. It is considered that the 'Options Paper' contained some incorrect option considerations in that it was not accurate in its review of Option 3, which was not fully costed in respect of the resource implications.

1.2 The 'Options Paper' has been reconsidered and this addendum provides a revised review of Option 3.

1.3 The addendum paper also provides more information and further clarification in respect of Option 5, the preferred option.

1.4 Option 3 and Option 5 are as follows:

**Option 3** – Engage consultants to assist the Development Plan Team to prepare the SA in-house by providing independent advice and guidance during its production

**Option 5** – Engage the Shared Environmental Service (SES)\* to prepare the SA and take it through the entire LDP process.

\* Note: SES is Mid and East Antrim Council's Environmental Planning Team.

### 2.0 Review of Options

2.1 **Option 3** – Engage Consultants to assist the Development Plan Team to prepare the SA in-house by providing independent advice and guidance during its production:

This option would involve the appointment of a consultant to provide an overseeing role, guidance and advice to the Development Plan Team. This consultant could be a specialist environmental consultant from the private sector, or an experienced council official specialising in this area from another local authority. Their role would be to ensure that the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) was in accordance with current regulations, and to provide guidance and advice at critical times in the process. In this option the SA Report would be undertaken entirely by the Development Plan Team. Indicative costs for engaging a consultant to provide advice and guidance would be in the region of £25-£50k.

Whilst the benefit of having a third party provide an overseeing and critical role is recognised it would dependant on the Development Plan Team having the necessary staff resources in place, not only in staff numbers, but also in terms of having the necessary in house knowledge, expertise, and environmental planning skills required to progress a SA. The preparation of an SA is a specialism within the discipline of



planning which is undertaken by officers with an environmental planning qualification or background. With the available resources the intention would be to establish a small sub team as a dedicated environmental planning team, working alongside their Development Plan Team colleagues, but focussed solely on the preparation of the SA. To ensure the credibility of the SA, and reduce the risk of any legal challenge, there is the need for this sub team to work as independently as possible on the SA.

In terms of available resources, the Development Plan Team does not have the capacity to facilitate this option which would require staff to be devoted to the SA and diverted away from other necessary LDP duties. The Development Plan Team does not have available planning officers nor the necessary environmental planning skill set to undertake a SA; nor are these resources available in the wider Planning Department. In the absence of available resources, it would be time consuming to develop the necessary in-house skills required for such a specialised area, which could only be achieved through training. Such an approach would have further resource implications in diverting planning officers away from other core business areas in the preparation of the LDP, Development Management, and Planning Enforcement, thereby impacting on the level of service provided.

Given the availability of resources and the time constraints faced by the Development Plan Team in the preparation of LDP, additional staff resources would be required. The Planning Department would need to recruit additional planning officers with the necessary required skills. It is considered that the establishment of dedicated environmental planning team necessary to prepare the SA would consist of a senior planning officer and two planning officers (with environmental planning qualifications and/or background and expertise in this area of work). The cost of these additional staff would be an annual cost of approximately £120k (inclusive of NI and pension contributions), or £600k over the five year plan preparation period.

In summary the cost of Option 3 would be approximately £25-£50k for the appointment of a consultant, plus approximately £600k for the appointment of additional three staff required. This equates to at least £625k over the next five years.

## 2.2 **Option 5** – Engage the SES/Mid and East Antrim Borough Council’s Environmental Planning Team to prepare the SA and take it through the entire LDP Process:

As part of the review of public administration, the Shared Environmental Service (SES) was established by the Department of the Environment in April 2015 to support the new councils to meet their environmental responsibilities in connection with their role as planning authorities. SES is the Environmental Planning Team employed by Mid and East Antrim Borough Council and based in County Hall, Ballymena. The Environmental Planning Team is a specialist service to support and serve all councils.

The Environmental Planning Team has a centrally funded role to carry out Habitats Regulations Assessments on behalf of councils for Development Management and during the preparation of Local Development Plans to assess and advise on impacts on European sites (Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas) and Ramsar Sites. Each council has a Service Level Agreement with the Environmental Planning Team in the provision of this service.

The Environmental Planning Team has extended its services, and recruited additional specialist environmental planning officers, to now provide assistance to councils in the full preparation of their SAs for LDPs. The Environmental Planning Team will provide two dedicated environmental planning officers (senior environmental planning officer and environmental planning officer) to work with the Development Plan Team, and prepare the SA on its behalf. The Council would also benefit from oversight provided by the Head of Environmental Service and specialist input from other members of the Environmental Planning Team. The service is designed to be responsive to the needs of each individual council, and could complement and build in-house skills through the continued professional development of the Council's own planning officers. Although there is a cost to Council for this service, the Environmental Planning Team has advised that it is not seeking to make a profit, only looking to provide a good value service which is reflected in its pricing.

Another advantage of this option would be that the Environmental Planning Team would be preparing the SA independently, thus ensuring the credibility of the SA, and reducing the risk of any legal challenge

Engagement with the Environmental Planning Team to undertake the SA for the LDP would be the subject of a new Service Level Agreement. A number of other councils have already employed the Environmental Planning Team in respect of this service for their own LDPs – the feedback in terms of the working relationship and service provided in the preparation of the SA has been positive.

The cost of this option could be in the order of £50k, which would be spread over a five year period.

### 3.0 **Summary and Conclusion: Preferred Option**

- 3.1 At a cost of at least £625k, Option 3 is not sustainable, and would not be in the best interests of the Council.
- 3.2 At a cost of approximately £50k, Option 5 represents the most cost effective and advantageous option for the Council. Option 5 represents the 'best fit' in respect of the Council's needs in preparing and progressing the LDP.
- 3.3 The preferred option is Option 5: Engage the SES/Mid and East Antrim Council's Environmental Planning Team to prepare the SA and take it through the entire LDP Process.

#### 4.0 **Recommendation**

- 4.1 It is recommended that Members note the contents of this addendum paper and agree to the preferred Option 5 to engage SES/Mid and East Antrim Council's Environmental Planning Team to carry out the Sustainability Appraisal for the Council's LDP.

<b>Agenda Item:</b>	<b>8.2</b>
<b>Report to:</b>	<b>Council Meeting</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b><i>Debt Collection Officer – Newry BID</i></b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>Monday 3 July 2017</b>
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	<b>Dorinnia Carville, Director of Corporate Services</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Lyndsey Moore, Head of Legal Administration</b>

### **Decisions Required**

Members are asked to note the contents of the report, and agree to the appointment of a Debt Collection Officer to collect outstanding debt in relation to Newry BID (Business Improvement District). The appointment would be on a temporary basis, initially for three months.

#### **1.0 Purpose & Background**

- 1.1 Further to information provided at the Strategic Policy and Resources Meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2017, Officers have further considered the legal options available to the Council in relation to the collection of BID related debt.
- 1.2 The BID Operating Agreement between the Council and the BID company is clear in the duty it imposes on the Council to collect BID related debt. The Council is bound by the Agreement and therefore must take measures to collect the debt owed in order to comply with the legally binding provisions within the Agreement.
- 1.3 As the Council is legally bound to collect the debt, a decision is required only on how best to achieve the collection of debt.

- 1.4 In line with the BID Operating Agreement, the Council is able to pass any costs associated with collecting the debt to the BID company who will discharge them, this includes costs for staff time and legal costs.

- 1.5 The Newry BID company have agreed to discharge the salary of a dedicated Debt Collection Officer who would be appointed for this purpose.

2.0	<b><u>Key Issues</u></b>
2.1	Appointing a Debt Recovery Officer is a cost-neutral exercise for the Council and will allow Council to fulfill its obligation under the agreement, in a time efficient way.
3.0	<p><b><u>Recommendation</u></b></p> <p>That the Council agree to appoint a Debt Recovery Officer to collect debt associated with the Newry BID levy</p>
3.1	<p><b><u>Resource Implications</u></b></p> <p>Officer time in running an internal recruitment process. Office space for the successful candidate.</p>
4.0	<p><b><u>Appendices</u></b></p> <p>None</p>

**NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Ref: AHC/2017

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**Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on  
Monday 19 June 2017 at 6.00pm in the Mourne Room, Downshire Civic  
Centre, Downpatrick**

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**Chairperson:** Councillor Walker**In attendance:****(Councillors)**

Councillor Andrews	Councillor Brown
Councillor Burns	Councillor Enright
Councillor Fitzpatrick	Councillor Harte
Councillor Kimmins	Councillor Loughran
Councillor McMurray	Councillor Ó Muirí
Councillor Quinn	Councillor Taylor
Councillor Trainor	

**Officials in attendance:**

Mr M Lipsett, Director, Active & Healthy Communities  
 Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director of Active & Healthy Communities (Health & Wellbeing)  
 Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director of Active & Healthy Communities (Community Engagement)  
 Mr R Moore, Assistant Director of Active & Healthy Communities (Leisure & Sports)  
 Mr C Haughey, Head of Outdoor Leisure  
 Mr K Gordon, Head of Indoor Leisure  
 Ms C Burns, Programmes Unit  
 Miss S Taggart, Democratic Services Officer

AHC/80/2017:

**APOLOGIES & CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

There were no apologies received.

The Chairperson stated he was honoured that his party had chosen him to be Chair of the Committee and looked forward to working with everyone throughout the year. He advised Members would only be allowed to speak once per item and that all Members should show colleagues respect when speaking.

The Chairperson advised the Community Safety Wardens would be back on the street with nighttime patrols from 10pm to 3am beginning on Saturday

17<sup>th</sup> June in Newry, Downpatrick and Warrenpoint/Kilkeel areas.

The Chairperson extended his congratulations to John O'Hanlon from Newry Leisure Centre who will retire in June after 43 years' service with the Council.

The Chairperson advised Members of ongoing essential maintenance at Newry Leisure Centre in the leisure pool area which would remain unavailable to customers until 24<sup>th</sup> June.

**AHC/81/2017:        DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**AHC/82/2017:        ACTION SHEET OF THE ACTIVE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 15 MAY 2017**

Read:            Action Sheet of the Active & Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Monday 15 May 2017. **(Copy circulated)**

***AHC/14/2017 – Ballyhornan Coastal Improvements***

Councillor Enright asked whether the signs for Ballyhornan were to be erected soon.

Mr Devlin advised the matter was in progress and he would update the Member tomorrow.

***AHC/62/2017 – Disability Sports Hub Project***

Councillor Andrews asked for an update on the Disability Sports Hub Project.

Mr Moore advised the equipment for the hub would be portable and therefore could be transferred throughout the District.

**Agreed:            It was agreed to note the action sheet.**

**AHC/83/2017:        TO AGREE A START TIME FOR AHC MEETINGS FROM JUNE 2017-MAY 2018**

Read:            Schedule of Meetings Timetable June 2017-May 2018 (copy circulated)

**Agreed:            It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Brown that AHC Meetings start at 6pm.**

It was agreed to take item 30 on the agenda at this stage

**AHC/84/2017: COMMUNITY TRAIL SLA ORNI**

**Read:** Report from Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active and Healthy Communities dated 19 June 2017 regarding Community Trail Plans SLA with ORNI (copy circulated)

**Agreed :** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor McMurray to approve the Service Level Agreement with Outdoor Recreation NI (ORNI) for the 2017-18 financial year at the total cost of £69,000

**DIRECTOR'S PAPERS****AHC/85/2017: DIRECTORATE BUSINESS PLAN - FOR NOTING**

**Read:** Report from Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active and Healthy Communities dated 19 June 2017 regarding Directorate Business Plan 2017-18 (copy circulated)

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Andrews to note the Directorate Business Plan 2017-2018.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT****AHC/86/2017 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE REVIEW**

**Read:** Report from Mrs J McCabe, Head of Service: Strategic Programmes Unit dated 19 June 2017 regarding Financial Assistance Review (copy circulated)

Mrs Hillen advised the report recommended approval to implement interim, short-term and long-term solutions with the short term solutions for immediate implementation in Call 2; approve the introduction of Grant Management System and approval for Financial Assistance Call 2 (subject to funding).

Councillor Quinn asked whether there would still be opportunities for organisations to submit paper applications as not all would have access online.

Mrs Hillen stated there was a long term objective to work with groups to build their capacity to use the online system however there would be a dual system in place going forward.

Councillor Burns asked whether the fact that clubs and organisations who have expertise to be used in-kind contributions against match funding could be strengthened within the recommendations.



Mrs Hillen advised the second recommendation recognises in-kind contributions by groups as potential match funding.

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Enright, seconded by Councillor Burns to accept the officer's recommendations.

**AHC/87/2017**      **THE SHSSB USE OF CROSSMAGLEN COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**Read:** Report from Mrs J McCann, Head of Community Services, Facilities and Events dated 19 June 2017 regarding the SHSSB use of Crossmaglen Community Centre (copy circulated)

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Fitzpatrick to accept the recommendations in particular the reduction in income to Crossmaglen Community Centre.

**AHC/88/2017**      **INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR GROUPS USING COMMUNITY CENTRES**

**Read:** Report from Mrs J McCann, Head of Community Services, Facilities and Events dated 19 June 2017 regarding Insurance requirements for groups using community centres (copy circulated).

Mrs Hillen advised due to legacy arrangements in community centres across the District, a number of different insurance requirements were in place and there was a need to harmonise these across the District. She stated the decisions required were:

- Decide whether to remove the requirement for user groups to produce evidence of £5million insurance when booking Council owned community facilities (exceptions include: educational classes/training or coaching sessions/advice services);
- Decide whether a minimum of £5million Public Liability & Employers Liability Insurance would be required by Community Associations managing Community Centres on Council's behalf (exceptions include centres who plan to run activities considered High Hazard i.e. bouncy castles, crèches, nurseries – all of which require a minimum of £10m cover)

Members discussed the implications around removing this requirement and the positive effect it would have on community groups. They also stated most community groups who hire in bouncy castles do so from hire companies who would have the insurance cover in place.

**AGREED:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Harte to remove the requirement for user groups to produce evidence of insurance to book facilities and to continue requesting evidence of adequate insurance (£5m - £10m depending on activities) for Groups managing Council premises.

**AHC/89/2017**      **POLICY AND PROCEDURES FOR THE USE OF PLAY INFLATABLES IN/ON COUNCIL PREMISES**

**Read:** Report from Mrs J McCann, Head of Community Services, Facilities and Events dated 19 June 2017 regarding policy and procedures for the use of play inflatables in/on Council premises (copy circulated)

Mrs Hillen advised the Community Engagement Section of Council had established a cross departmental working group to look at the provision and use of play inflatables in Council owned premises/land and through funded events. She stated the recommendations were that Members agree to the draft Play Inflatables Policy and Procedures; approve the roll out of training for relevant Council staff and community/voluntary sector representatives.

**AGREED:**      **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Ó Muirí to accept the officer's recommendation approve the draft Play Inflatables Policy and Procedures; approve the roll out of training for relevant Council staff and community/voluntary sector representatives.**

**AHC/90/2017**      **PROPOSED COMMUNITY FACILITY FOR BALLYKINLAR**

**Read:** Report from Ms A Rennick, Investing for Health Officer, dated 19 June 2017 regarding proposed community facility for Ballykinlar (copy circulated)

Mr Lipsett advised the Council had the opportunity to purchase a sectional building located at Strangford Road, Downpatrick from Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service at a nominal fee. The building could be relocated to provide suitable community facilities in Ballykinlar at a cost that would be significantly lower than the provision of a new build and in a much shorter timeframe.

Mr Lipsett recommended that Council seek costings for the relocation of the building to the former Kindle Primary School site to include any necessary reassembly works, ground preparation and services provision. He also recommended that Council proceed to purchase the NIFRS building at Strangford Road, Downpatrick at a nominal fee, subject to a structural survey and confirmation that the building is suitable for transport to Ballykinlar.

Councillor Trainor proposed to accept the officer's recommendations however asked that officials still investigate the possibility of a long-term solution. This was seconded by Councillor Andrews.

Councillor Burns stated it was dissatisfactory that Kindle Primary School had to be demolished and was being replaced with something totally inadequate however asked that, when siting the replacement building, it be done so at the edge of the site to allow erection of potential new building on the site.

- Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Trainor, seconded by Councillor Andrews to accept the officer's recommendations as below, while officials investigate possibility of long-term solution:
1. Council seek costings for the relocation of the building to the former Kindle Primary School site to include any necessary reassembly works, ground preparation and services provision.
  2. Council proceed to purchase the NIFRS building at Strangford Road, Downpatrick at a nominal fee, subject to a structural survey and confirmation that the building is suitable for transport to Ballykinlar.

**AHC/91/2017**      **UPDATE REPORT ON LOGISTICAL SUPPORT FOR EVENTS 2016/17**

**Read:** Report from Ms J McCann, Head of Community Services, Facilities and Events dated 19 June 2017 regarding update report on logistical support for events 2016/17 (copy circulated)

**Noted:** It was agreed to note the update report on Logistical Support for Events 2016/17.

**AHC/92/2017**      **PEACE IV LOCAL ACTION PLAN**

**Read:** Report from Ms J McCabe, Programmes Unit dated 19 June 2017 regarding Peace IV Local Action Plan (copy circulated)

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Burns to approve the recommendations of the Peace IV Partnershi to formally appoint PCSP and the Education Authority as Partner Delivery Agents.

**AHC/93/2017**      **SOUTH ARMAGH/SOUTH DOWN PEACE CENTRE**

**Read:** Report from Ms J McCabe, Programmes Unit dated 19 June 2017 regarding South Armagh/South Down Peace Centre (copy circulated)

**Noted:** It was agreed to note the update provided on the submission of the application for the South Armagh/South Down Peace Centre.

**AHC/94/2017**      **EUROPEAN RURAL NETWORK FOR JOB MOBILITY – ERN4MOB PROJECT**

**Read:** Report from Ms J McCabe, Programmes Unit dated 19 June 2017 regarding European Rural Network for Job Mobility – ERN4mob Project (copy circulated)

**Noted:** It was agreed to note the contents of the report.

**AHC/95/2017**      **SOCIAL INVESTMENT FUND 'WORK IT' TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT PROJECT**

**Read:** Report from Ms J McCabe, Programmes Unit dated 19 June 2017 regarding Social Investment Fund 'Work It' Training and Employment Project (copy circulated)

**Noted:** It was agreed to note the update provided on Social Investment Fund 'Work It' Training and Employment Project.

**AHC/96/2017**      **SAINTFIELD COMMUNITY CENTRE PROJECT**

**Read:** Report from Ms J McCabe, Programmes Unit dated 19 June 2017 regarding Saintfield Community Centre Project (copy circulated)

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Brown, seconded by Councillor Burns to approve the business cases for Saintfield Community Centre, Indoor 3G facility and outdoor 2G surface and proceed with the delivery of the projects.

**AHC/97/2017**      **DEA UPDATE**

**Read:** Report from Mr D Brannigan, Head of Engagement dated 19 June 2017 regarding DEA Fora Update (copy circulated)

**Noted:** It was agreed to note the DEA Fora Update.

**AHC/98/2017**      **PCSP**

**Read:** Report from Ms S Fearon dated 19 June 2017 regarding Policing and Community Safety Partnership (copy circulated)

**Noted:** It was agreed to note the update on the on-going work of the PCSP.

**AHC/99/2017**      **LEASE OF LAND AT 16 THE SQUARE, ROSTREVOR TO MENS SHED FOR FURTHER ONE YEAR PERIOD**

**Read:** Report from Ms B Magill, Administration Officer dated 19 June 2017

regarding Lease of Land at 16 The Square, Rostrevor to Men's Shed for further one year period. (copy circulated)

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Ó Muirí to agree a one year extension to licence agreement to Men's Shed, Rostrevor, at a peppercorn rent. Area of licence to be extended to include all of ground floor and outdoor storage, subject to Estates Section being satisfied that all is in order.

## LEISURE AND SPORTS

### **AHC/100/2017      PLAY STRATEGY UPDATE**

**Read:** Report from Mr C Haughey, Head of Outdoor Leisure, dated 19 June 2017 regarding Play Strategy Update (copy circulated)

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Fitzpatrick, seconded by Councillor Burns to note the Play Strategy Update; approve tender process for fixed play equipment; approve commencement of Consultation process; commence non-fixed play recommendations within each DEA i.e. free play schemes and community training.

### **AHC/101/2017      CLUBMARK NI ONLINE SCHEME – OPERATING PROTOCOLS**

**Read:** Report from Mr C Haughey, Head of Outdoor Leisure, dated 19 June 2017 regarding Clubmark NI Online Scheme – Operating Protocols (copy circulated)

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Trainor to approve Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Clubmark NI Online Scheme-Operating Protocols and the licensing agreement with Sport Northern Ireland. It was also agreed that officials write to those clubs in the District whose membership of Clubmark has lapsed to remind them to renew same.

### **AHC/102/2017      SPORT NI'S SMALL GRANTS LETTER OF OFFER**

**Read:** Report from Mr C Haughey, Head of Outdoor Leisure, dated 19 June 2017 regarding Sport NI's Small Grants Letter of Offer (copy circulated)

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor McMurray to approve the offer from Sport NI small grants scheme to be controlled and managed directly by Council.

**AHC/103/2017     LEASING AND PURCHASING OF COUNCIL LAND**

**Read:** Report from Mr C Haughey, Head of Outdoor Leisure, dated 19 June 2017 regarding leasing and purchasing of Council land. (copy circulated)

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councilor Ó Muiri to agree with the amendment to previous report in April 2017 with regard to leasing/sale of Council lands.

**AHC/104/2017     LOOSE FIXTURES, FITTINGS AND EQUIPMENT NEEDED FOR THE NEW DOWNPATRICK LEISURE CENTRE**

**Read:** Report from Mr K Gordon, Head of Indoor Leisure, dated 19 June 2017 regarding Loose Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment needed for the new Downpatrick Leisure Centre – Operating Protocols (copy circulated)

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Taylor to agree to the procurement of loose fixtures, fittings and equipment that were not included within the tender contract award and that were needed for the new Downpatrick Leisure Centre.

**AHC/105/2017     NEWRY LEISURE CENTRE PHASE 2 TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS**

**Read:** Report from Mr K Gordon, Head of Indoor Leisure, dated 19 June 2017 regarding NLC Phase 2 Transitional Arrangements – Operating Protocols (copy circulated)

**Noted:** It was agreed to note the contents of the report.

**AHC/106/2017     NEW DOWNPATRICK LEISURE CENTRE OPERATING ARRANGEMENTS**

**Read:** Report from Mr K Gordon, Head of Indoor Leisure, dated 19 June 2017 regarding new Downpatrick Leisure Centre operating arrangements – Operating Protocols (copy circulated)

Councillor Burns asked whether it would be possible not to close both Downpatrick and Newry Leisure Centres for staff training on the same days.

Mr Moore advised it would depend upon what training was being delivered as to whether they would try to bring staff from both centres together.

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Taylor to approve the new Downpatrick Leisure Centre operating arrangements.

**AHC/107/2017     INDOOR LEISURE MARKETING PLAN**

**Read:** Report from Mr K Gordon, Head of Indoor Leisure, dated 19 June 2017 regarding new Indoor Leisure Marketing Plan (copy circulated)

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Taylor, seconded by Councillor Trainor to agree the Indoor Leisure Marketing Plan.**

**AHC/108/2017     INDOOR LEISURE FITNESS SUITE OPERATING ARRANGEMENTS**

**Read:** Report from Mr K Gordon, Head of Indoor Leisure, dated 19 June 2017 regarding indoor leisure fitness suite operating arrangements – Operating Protocols (copy circulated)

Mr Moore advised there were different arrangements in place for customers to the Council's five fitness suite facilities and a new consistent approach for access arrangements was required. The recommendations were:

- Committee agree to extend multi-site membership permissions to include the new Newry Leisure Centre fitness suite upon opening specific to customers' relevant membership access permissions;
- Committee agree to proceed with maintaining over 60 membership permissions to allow unlimited access to its swimming pools/sauna/steam room and promotion of a new over 60's gym membership category at £15 per month.

Councillor Enright stated the increase in price between £3.60 per year to £15 per month for over 60s was too steep.

Mr Moore advised there were two different models in existence and the £15 per month was the cheapest throughout all of the Councils in Northern Ireland.

Councillor Quinn asked what the impact would be on Kilkeel Pool.

Mr Moore advised there would be an increase for those currently using Kilkeel Leisure Centre. He stated Council would honour a year's membership that people were currently on before having to pay the increased fee for gym membership.

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Ó Muirí to agree to proceed with maintaining over 60 membership permissions to allow unlimited access to its swimming pools/sauna/steam room at £3.60 per year and promotion of a new over 60's gym membership category at £15 per month**

**AHC/109/2017      LICENCE – FISHING RIGHTS AT DONAGHAGUY RESERVOIR, WARRENPOINT**

**Read:** Report from Ms B Magill, Administration Manager, dated 19 June 2017 regarding Licence – Fishing Rights at Donaghaguy Reservoir, Warrenpoint (copy circulated)

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Fitzpatrick, seconded by Councillor Burns to extend the 1 year licence agreement with Warrenpoint, Rostrevor and District Angling Club – commencing 1 July 2017 – for fishing rights at Donaghaguy Reservoir. It was also agreed that conditions to be similar to the previous licence agreement but with the provision that the Club would be responsible for regular safety inspection of the site and in particular the fishing stands. It was also agreed to permit use of small Club boat to carry out maintenance works and re-stocking of reservoir with fish.

**HEALTH & WELLBEING**

**AHC/110/2017      REQUEST FROM KEEP NORTHERN IRELAND BEAUTIFUL FOR ECO SCHOOLS POST SUPPORT CONTRIBUTION FOR PERIOD 2017-18**

**Read:** Report from Ms S McEldowney, Senior EHO, dated 19 June 2017 regarding request from Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful for Eco Schools Post Support Contribution for period 2017-18 (copy circulated).

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Fitzpatrick, seconded by Councillor Taylor to approve the contribution of £1,500 for the period 2017-18 to Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful for Eco Schools Post Support Contribution for period 2017-18.

**AHC/111/2017      SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE STANDING FORUM**

**Read:** Report from Ms S McEldowney, Senior Environmental Health Officer, dated 19 June 2017, regarding Sustainable Development and Climate Change Standing Forum (copy circulated).

**Noted:** The report of the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Forum Meeting that was held on 15 May 2017 was noted.



**AHC/112/2017     CONSULTATION RESPONSE UK AIR QUALITY PLAN –  
NITROGEN DIOXIDE**

**Read:**            Report from Ms S McEldowney, Senior Environmental Health Officer, dated 19 June 2017, regarding consultation response UK Air Quality Plan – Nitrogen Dioxide (copy circulated).

**Agreed:**            **The submission of the consultation response to UK Air Quality Plan – Nitrogen Dioxide was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Taylor.**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**AHC/113/2017     LETTER RECEIVED FROM DEPARTMENT FOR  
COMMUNITIES RE THE AFFORDABLE WARMTH SCHEME**

**Read:**            Correspondence received from Department for Communities regarding The Affordable Warmth Scheme (copy circulated).

**Agreed:**            **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Brown to write a letter to Department for Communities expresses the Committee's disappointment at their response.**

**ITEMS RESTRICTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 1 OF SCHEDULE 6 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (NI) 2014**

**AHC/114/2017      SCHEME OF DELEGATION**

**Agreed:**            On the proposal of Councillor Kimmins, seconded by Councillor Brown, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on this matter which related to exempt information by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 – information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information)

**Read:**              Report from Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active and Healthy Communities dated 19 June 2017 regarding Scheme of Delegation Report (copy circulated).

**Agreed:**            On the proposal of Councillor Kimmins, seconded by Councillor Ó Muirí, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

**Agreed:**            When the Committee came out of closed session, the Chairperson advised that it had been agreed on the proposal of Councillor Enright, seconded by Councillor Brown, to note the contents of the Scheme of Delegation Report.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 7.10pm.

For consideration at Meeting of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council to be held on Monday 3 July 2017.

**Signed:**            Councillor W Walker  
Chairperson

**Signed:**            Mr M Lipsett  
Director of Active and Healthy Communities

**NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Regulatory and Technical Services Committee Meeting held on  
Wednesday 21 June 2017 in the Boardroom, District Council  
Offices, Monaghan Row, Newry**

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**Chairperson:** Councillor J Trainor

**Vice Chairperson:** Councillor V Harte

**Members:**

Councillor T Andrews	Councillor S Burns
Councillor C Casey	Councillor W Clarke
Councillor G Craig	Councillor D Curran
Councillor G Fitzpatrick	Councillor L Kimmins
Councillor J Macauley	Councillor M Ruane
Councillor G Stokes	Councillor D Taylor
Councillor J Tinnelly	

**Non Committee  
Members:** Councillor W Walker  
Councillor P Byrne

**Officials in Attendance** Mr L Hannaway, Chief Executive  
Mr C O'Rourke, Director of Regulatory and Technical  
Services  
Mr A Wilkinson, Interim Director Regulatory and Technical  
Services  
Mr A McKay, Chief Planning Officer  
Mr J Parkes, Assistant Director of Waste Management  
Mr K Scullion, Assistant Director Facilities Management and  
Maintenance  
Ms K Bingham, Head of Performance and Improvement  
Ms C McAteer, Democratic Services Officer

**RTS/68/2017: APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

It was noted there were no apologies.

Councillor Trainor welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked his Party and the Council for appointing him as Chairperson of the Regulatory and Technical Services Committee for the incoming year.

He welcomed Mr Adam Wilkinson as the newly appointed Interim Director of Regulatory and Technical Services and also wished Canice O'Rourke, the retiring Director a long and happy retirement.

Councillor Tinnelly said he would also like to extend his best wishes to Canice on his retirement. He said Canice had always been a very fair and respectful Council Officer and he wished him all the best in his new life.

**RTS/69/2017: DECLARATIONS OF "CONFLICTS OF INTEREST"**

**Noted:** There were no declarations of interest.

**RTS/70/2017 START TIME FOR R&TS MEETINGS FROM JUNE 2017-MAY 2018**

**Read:** Suggested timetable to agree a start time for R&TS Meetings from June 2017 – May 2018. **(Circulated).**

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Harte, seconded by Councillor Macauley, it was agreed to approve the proposed dates for the R&TS Committee Meetings for June 2017-May 2018 as circulated.**

**It was also agreed that the R & TS Committee Meetings would start at 6.00 pm.**

**Noted:** Councillors asked officials to ensure that in future the Planning Committee and the Regulatory & Technical Services Committee Meetings would not be held on the same day.

**RTS/71/2017: ACTION SHEET OF THE REGULATORY AND TECHNICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING – WEDNESDAY 21 May 2017**

**Read:** Action Sheet of the Regulatory and Technical Services Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 21 May 2017. **(Circulated).**

**Agreed:** **The Action Sheet was noted.**

**Noted:** In response to comments from Members, Mr Parkes said he would continue to ensure the messages to Elected Members regarding any interruptions to bin collections were up to date and relevant and that Councillors would be kept advised of the details for staff contacts.

**FOR CONSIDERATION AND/OR DECISION – WASTE MANAGEMENT****RTS/72/2017: REPORT RE: BROWN BINS IN URBAN AREAS**

**Read:** Report dated 21 June 2017 from Mr J Parkes, Assistant Director Waste Management, regarding provision of brown bins for food waste collection. **(Circulated)**.

Mr Parkes gave a detailed verbal update on the provision of brown bins to householders for food waste collection and responded to a number of queries and comments from Members.

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Burns, it was agreed to approve the recommendation in the report that as a set project to address food waste regulations and recycling targets, that the Council grant the issuing of 3,000 140L brown bins, caddies and liners to those households that require a food waste collection service. This would incur a non-budgeted cost of £39,150 but this cost however should be covered by reduced waste processing costs.**

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Craig, seconded by Councillor Burns, it was agreed under delegated authority from the Chief Executive, that any interested Councillor could attend a free seminar organised by WRAP on Thursday 22 June 2017 in the Hilton, and that they would be entitled to claim mileage for attending.**

**RTS/73/2017: REGULATORY AND TECHNICAL SERVICES BUSINESS PLAN 2017/2018**

**Read:** Regulatory and Technical Services Business Plan 2017/2018 **(Circulated)**.

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Craig, seconded by Councillor Burns, it was agreed to approve the Regulatory and Technical Services Business Plan for 2017/2018.**

**FOR CONSIDERATION AND/OR DECISION - PLANNING****RTS/74/2017: PLANNING COMMITTEE PERFORMANCE REPORT**

**Read:** Planning Performance Indicators for May 2017. **(Circulated)**.

**Agreed:**           **The above Report was noted.**

**Noted:**           Mr McKay advised the number of live applications was continuing to fall and there was a steady increase in the number of decisions issued per month. He said it was important to note that at the end of May almost 300 decisions had been issued, with a 90% approval rate and a 10% refusal rate.

**RTS/75/2017:**   **RECORD OF MEETINGS BETWEEN PLANNING OFFICERS AND PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES – APRIL/MAY 2017**

**Read:**           Record of Meetings between Planning Officers and Public Representatives for April/May 2017. **(Circulated).**

**Agreed:**           **The above Report was noted.**

**RTS/76/2017:**   **PLANNING PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK**

**Read:**           Report dated 21 June 2017 from Kate Bingham, Head of Performance and Improvement on the proposed draft response to the consultation on developing a Planning Performance Management Framework. **(Circulated).**

**Agreed:**           **On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Curran, it was agreed to approve the draft response to the consultation on the Planning Performance Management Framework and that the submission of the draft response to the Department for Infrastructure be made by 30 June in order to meet the consultation deadline.**

Councillor Craig left the meeting – 6.40 pm.

**FOR CONSIDERATION AND/OR DECISION**  
**-FACILITIES MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE**

**RTS/77/2017:**   **NEWCASTLE ENTRY INTO BRITAIN IN BLOOM, AUGUST 2017**

**Read:**           Report dated 21 June 2017 from Mr K Scullion, Assistant Director Facilities Management and Maintenance, regarding the Newcastle entry into Britain in Bloom **(Circulated).**

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Fitzpatrick, seconded by Councillor Clarke, it was agreed as follows regarding the Newcastle Entry into Britain in Bloom:-

- Council agree to supply 10 surplus metal hanging baskets, surplus bedding plants (max value £200), surplus rubber safety mats for use by Ark Community for their activities within their centre at Castlewellan Road, Newcastle.
- Council agree to have a four man squad of its Grounds Maintenance Squad assist Autism NI with works to turn their existing garden at Island Park into a sensory garden (maximum one Saturday).

**RTS/78/2017: ABANDONED BOAT IN DUNDRUM BAY, DUNDRUM**

**Read:** Report dated 21 June 2017 from Mr K Scullion regarding abandoned boat in Dundrum Bay, Dundrum. The report recommended the appointment of a Marine Engineer to assess the condition of the boat, whether it does or will in the future present an environmental or health and safety risk and to make recommendations for any action required to prevent the boat from becoming an environmental or health and safety risk. **(Circulated)**.

Councillor Clarke proposed and Councillor Burns seconded that the recommendation in the report should not be approved and that due to health and safety concerns, expressions of interest be sought for the removal of the abandoned boat from Dundrum Bay.

The proposal was put to a vote and voting was as follows:-

FOR:	7
AGAINST:	1
ABSTENTIONS:	5

The proposal was declared carried.

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Clarke, seconded by Councillor Burns it was agreed that the recommendation in the report dated 21 June 2017 should not be approved and that due to health and safety concerns, expressions of interest be sought for the removal of the abandoned boat from Dundrum Bay.

**Noted:** Mr Scullion advised that the Council would have to obtain a licence first from DAERA before the boat could be removed.

**RTS/79/2017: KILBRONEY CEMETERY CAPITAL PROJECT**

**Read:** Report dated 21 June 2017 from Mr K Scullion regarding the provision of capital budget for works at Kilbroney Cemetery, Rostrevor (**Circulated**).

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Tinnelly, seconded by Councillor Fitzpatrick it was agreed to transfer £30,000 capital surplus from capital projects within the Regulatory and Technical Services Directorate for works at Kilbroney Cemetery, Rostrevor.**

**Noted:** In response to queries from Members Mr Scullion advised the R & TS Committee had previously agreed, following complaints of moss and leaf debris, not to remove trees along the boundary of Kilbroney Cemetery but he said this could be looked at again as part of the capital project.

Mr Scullion also advised that officials from his Section would liaise with Newry Parish on measures that could be put in place on the day of the Annual Cemetery Mass at Monkshill Graveyard, Newry, to ensure access to resident's properties and driveways is maintained.

**FOR CONSIDERATION AND/OR DECISION – WASTE MANAGEMENT**

**RTS/80/2017: REPORT RE: OPTIONS FOR GLASS RECYCLING**

**Read:** Report dated 21 June 2017 from Mr J Parkes, Assistant Director Waste Management, regarding options for glass recycling – to agree a more standardised approach across the District relating to glass recycling and the blue bin service and to consider which glass collection is best to ensure recycling targets are met in an efficient manner. The report asked the Committee to consider additional options such as the introduction of a vehicle glass pod system into the refuse service system starting April 2018. (**Circulated**).

A detailed discussion followed during which Mr O'Rourke responded to queries and comments from Members.



Councillor Stokes proposed and Councillor Fitzpatrick seconded that Council appoint an Independent Consultant to provide an independent economic appraisal on the three Options outlined in the report presented to Committee and also that a fourth option be included and costed i.e. that the current arrangement for blue bin material to include glass which exists in the legacy Newry and Mourne area should be extended throughout the District.

The proposal was put to a recorded vote and voting was as follows:- **(Attached)**

FOR: 8  
 AGAINST: 6  
 ABSENCES: Nil

The proposal was declared carried.

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Stokes, seconded by Councillor Fitzpatrick it was agreed the Council appoint an Independent Consultant to provide an independent economic appraisal on the three Options for glass recycling, outlined in the report presented to Committee, and also that a fourth option be included and costed i.e. that the current arrangement for blue bin material to include glass which exists in the legacy Newry and Mourne area should be extended throughout the District.

### **FOR NOTING**

**RTS/81/2017: THE PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS (NI) 2017**

**Read:** Report re: The Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations (NI) 2017. **(Circulated).**

**Agreed:** It was agreed to note the above Report.

**RTS/82/2017: HISTORIC ACTION SHEET**

**Read:** Report re: Regulatory & Technical Services Committee Action Tracking Update (dated 17 May 2017) **(Circulated).**

Councillors raised a number of issues which they said required action:-

- Councillor Clarke expressed his disappointment that an issue he had requested on 20 April 2016 regarding an audit/review of Council owned

toilets to look at issues such as usage, upgrading, cleaning schedules, opening/closing times etc. had still not been actioned. He said the toilets in Newcastle had again been closed over the busy Easter holiday period and this was an unacceptable visitor experience.

- Arising from an issue raised by Councillor Tinnelly about the recent closure of the toilets in Warrenpoint Square, Councillor Fitzpatrick said if there was an issue with the closure of Council owned toilets that Councillors should be advised of this and also that a message be put on the Council's facebook page.

### **ITEMS RESTRICTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 1 OF SCHEDULE 6 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (NI) 2014**

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Curran, seconded by Councillor Kimmins, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on the following matters which related to exempt information under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 – information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information).

#### **RTS/83/2017: CHRISTMAS ILLUMINATIONS/CELEBRATIONS**

**Read:** Report dated 21 June 2017 from Mr K Scullion regarding Christmas Illuminations and Celebrations. **(Circulated).**

**Agreed:** When the Committee came out of closed session, the Chairman reported it had been agreed on the proposal of Councillor Clarke, seconded by Councillor Kimmins, to continue with the present arrangements for Christmas celebrations for the current year and that a Working Group be set up to consider options for 2018 and beyond.

It was agreed the Working Group meet in August/September 2017 and that the issue of Membership of the Group be referred to the Party Representatives' Forum for agreement.

#### **RTS/84/2017: VICTORIA LOCK GATES**

**Agreed:** At the request of Councillor Stokes it was agreed officers investigate and report back to Councillors on why the Lock Gates at Victoria Lough were not working and when it was anticipated that the gates would be operable again.

It was also agreed that boat owners who wanted to exit the Lough be kept advised of progress and if necessary temporary arrangements be put in place to enable them to leave if required.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 8.10 pm.

For consideration at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 3 July 2017.

**Signed:** **Councillor John Trainor**  
**Chairperson of Regulatory & Technical Services Committee**

**Signed:** **Mr A Wilkinson**  
**Interim Director Regulatory & Technical Services**

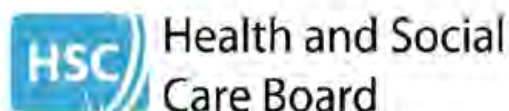
**NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**RECORDED VOTE**

**DATE:** 21-06-2017 **VENUE:** Boardroom, Newry **MEETING:** Regulatory and Technical Services

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**SUBJECT OF VOTE:** That the Council appoint an Independent Consultant to provide an independent economic appraisal on the three Options for glass recycling, outlined in the report presented to Committee, and also that a fourth option be included and costed i.e. that the current arrangement for blue bin material to include glass which exists in the legacy Newry and Mourne area should be extended throughout the District.

COUNCILLOR	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
T Andrews	X			
S Burns				
C Casey		X		
W Clarke		X		
G Craig				
D Curran	X			
G Fitzpatrick	X			
V Harte		X		
L Kimmins		X		
J Macauley	X			
M Ruane		X		
G Stokes	X			
D Taylor	X			
J Tinnelly	X			
J Trainor	X			
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Nil</b>	

**Directorate of Commissioning**

HSC Board Headquarters  
12-22 Linenhall Street  
Belfast  
BT2 8BS

**BY EMAIL:**

Tel : 028 9536 3054  
Website: [www.hscboard/hscni.net](http://www.hscboard/hscni.net)

Our Ref: Reshaping Stroke Services/  
Pre-consultation letters

Date: 13 June 2017

Dear Sir/Madam

**RE-SHAPING STROKE SERVICES: A PRE-CONSULTATION**

In *Health and Wellbeing 2026: Delivering Together*, the then Minister of Health, Michelle O'Neill, committed to a public consultation on proposals to develop sustainable stroke services and further improve the standard of treatment and care provided to stroke patients. In order to fully engage the population of Northern Ireland an initial pre-consultation process will be carried out prior to a formal consultation process.

This letter outlines the pre-consultation process and how you can make your views known.

**Pre-consultation process**

A pre-consultation document has been developed by a partnership of stroke experts, Health and Social Care organisations, service users and voluntary sector partners. This pre-consultation period will last for 13 weeks ending **Friday 15 September 2017**. An extensive public engagement process is planned, including public information evenings and a range of events aimed at involving key stakeholders such as service users, carers, staff and voluntary organisations. This will provide an opportunity for all stakeholders to consider and comment on the case for change, seven specific proposals and the benefits these would have for our population.

The HSC is committed to making information as accessible as possible and to promoting meaningful engagement with those who use the services we commission. All of the pre-consultation materials including documents,

easy read materials, videos, online response questionnaire, an animation, infographics, leaflets, frequently asked questions and press releases are available on a dedicated website and we will also make use of social media and digital publications.

A copy of the pre-consultation document is enclosed; additional copies are available at [www.hscboard.hscni.net/stroke](http://www.hscboard.hscni.net/stroke). Alternative formats e.g. braille, audio formats, and large print or minority languages to meet the needs of those for whom English is not their first language will be made available where reasonably practicable.

If you feel that it would be of benefit, my colleagues and I would be willing to meet with your organisation to provide further detail on the background to the process and the content of the consultation document.

### How to respond

Comments are invited on the consultation questions listed in section 6 of the pre-consultation document.

A separate response template is available at:

- [www.hscboard.hscni.net/response-form-stroke](http://www.hscboard.hscni.net/response-form-stroke)
- By e-mailing: [reshapingstroke@hscni.net](mailto:reshapingstroke@hscni.net)
- By phoning: 028 9536 3054

Written responses may also be sent to:

- E-mail: [reshapingstroke@hscni.net](mailto:reshapingstroke@hscni.net)
- Written: Reshaping Stroke Services  
Health and Social Care Board  
12-22 Linenhall Street  
Belfast  
BT2 8BS

The pre-consultation process will close at **5pm on Friday 15 September 2017**. All responses must be received by this date.

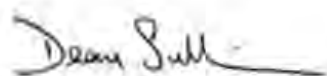
Before you submit your response, please read Annex 2 in the pre-consultation document regarding the confidentiality of responses to public consultation exercises in the context of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

### **What happens after the pre-consultation?**

Following the end of the pre-consultation period, the responses will be analysed. A report containing an analysis of the responses will be published. Recommendations on the future delivery of stroke services for the population of Northern Ireland will be developed. These will be considered by the Minister of Health before a decision is made to consult the public on the new model for stroke services.

I look forward to your views on the proposals for re-shaping stroke services in Northern Ireland.

Yours sincerely



**Dean Sullivan**  
**Director of Commissioning**

Enc: Pre-consultation document



# Reshaping Stroke Services



**For better recovery and more lives saved**

**Pre-consultation Commences 13 June 2017**

**Closes 15 September 2017**



## Foreword

*Much has been achieved in recent years in the field of stroke care in Northern Ireland. The clot-busting medicine, thrombolysis, is now available across all areas and Northern Ireland is at the forefront of introducing Thrombectomy, a new ground breaking clot removal treatment.*

*However, high quality stroke services are not yet available to everyone who could benefit from them. Evidence increasingly shows that we could make considerable improvements. Stroke is an area of medicine where the case for change is very compelling, and there is a great deal of evidence that changing the way we provide care can save lives and reduce the life changing physical, emotional and intellectual effects which a stroke can inflict.*

*A recent review by the Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority pointed out that a regional model for provision of specialist care should be provided and that care could be better coordinated. Stroke survivors and their carers have voiced their concerns that we need to place as much emphasis on prevention and supporting them in living well after a stroke as we have on developing new treatments.*

*The Health and Social Care transformation agenda, 'Health and Wellbeing 2026: Delivering Together', places a high priority on improving stroke services. This also requires that we fully involve the public and their representatives, as well as users of the service, staff and voluntary organisations, in any re-shaping of stroke care.*

*We encourage everyone to have their say as we seek to ensure we have excellent stroke services of which we can be proud.*



*Richard Pengelly*  
Permanent Secretary of the Department of Health and  
Chair of the Transformation Implementation Group

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## Introduction

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Stroke is the single largest cause of adult disability in the UK, the fourth largest cause of death, and two thirds of those who survive stroke have a life changing disability. Now, more than ever before, there is much that can be done to prevent a stroke or reduce its impact upon the lives of people. However, changes will be required so that people who live in Northern Ireland can benefit from high quality care regardless of where they live.

In the policy document 'Health and Wellbeing 2026: Delivering Together' clear direction is given that a wide range of stakeholders, including clinicians, patients and the public, should be involved in future decisions about the design of health services. We in Health and Social Care are committed to involving all stakeholders and the wider community in designing a new service model for stroke that delivers world class care for the population of Northern Ireland.

This process will be completed in two phases. The first phase is a widespread public engagement exercise called a pre-consultation; the findings of this will inform the design of a new model for stroke services. The second phase will be a formal public consultation on more detailed proposals for change, after which final recommendations will be submitted to the Minister of Health for consideration.

This document is a key part of this first phase of 'pre-consultation' and focuses on the need for change in stroke services and the potential opportunities to improve the care received by people after a stroke. The proposals contained within this document were developed with the extensive involvement of stroke survivors and carers, the Stroke Association, Northern Ireland Chest Heart and Stroke, stroke clinicians and the Northern Ireland

Stroke Network. They support the provision of accessible, sustainable and high quality stroke care both in hospital and in the community.

This pre-consultation exercise will last for 13 weeks starting on the **13<sup>th</sup> of June 2017** and ending on the **15<sup>th</sup> of September 2017**.

The remainder of this document is structured as follows:

### **Section 1: Background**

This section explains the background to this document.

### **Section 2: High Quality Stroke Care**

This section describes what excellent stroke care would look like.

### **Section 3: Current Services and the Case for Change**

This section describes the current provision of stroke care, the opportunities to provide better services and the supporting evidence.

### **Section 4: Proposals for Change**

This section outlines proposals for modernising stroke care in Northern Ireland.

### **Section 5: Next Steps**

This section includes information on the next steps and the proposed approach to designing services.

### **Section 6: How to respond**

This section describes how to respond to this pre-consultation document.

### **Section 7: Equality Good Relations and Human Rights**

This section describes the approach that will be taken to the consideration of equality issues, good relations and human rights.

# Section 1

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## 1.0 Background

Every year in Northern Ireland there are around 2,700 hospital admissions and 1,000 deaths due to stroke. Death rates from stroke have declined by around 50% in the past 20 years. Information obtained from general practices show that there are 34,000 stroke and Transient Ischemic Attack (TIA) survivors living in the community in Northern Ireland and it is known that more than half of these people are living with a long term stroke related disability.

The number of people in Northern Ireland experiencing stroke each year is likely to increase in future because of a growing older population with three out of four people who experience stroke being over the age of 65<sup>1</sup>. In 2013 there were estimated to be 279,000 people aged 65 and over, with 33,000 of them over 85 years. It is expected that this will increase in the next 20 years to 456,000 and 79,000 respectively<sup>2</sup>. It is likely the increasing number of people experiencing stroke could be minimised by a greater focus on stroke prevention strategies. Although the majority of strokes happen to older people, approximately one in ten strokes occur in people under 55 years of age<sup>3</sup>.

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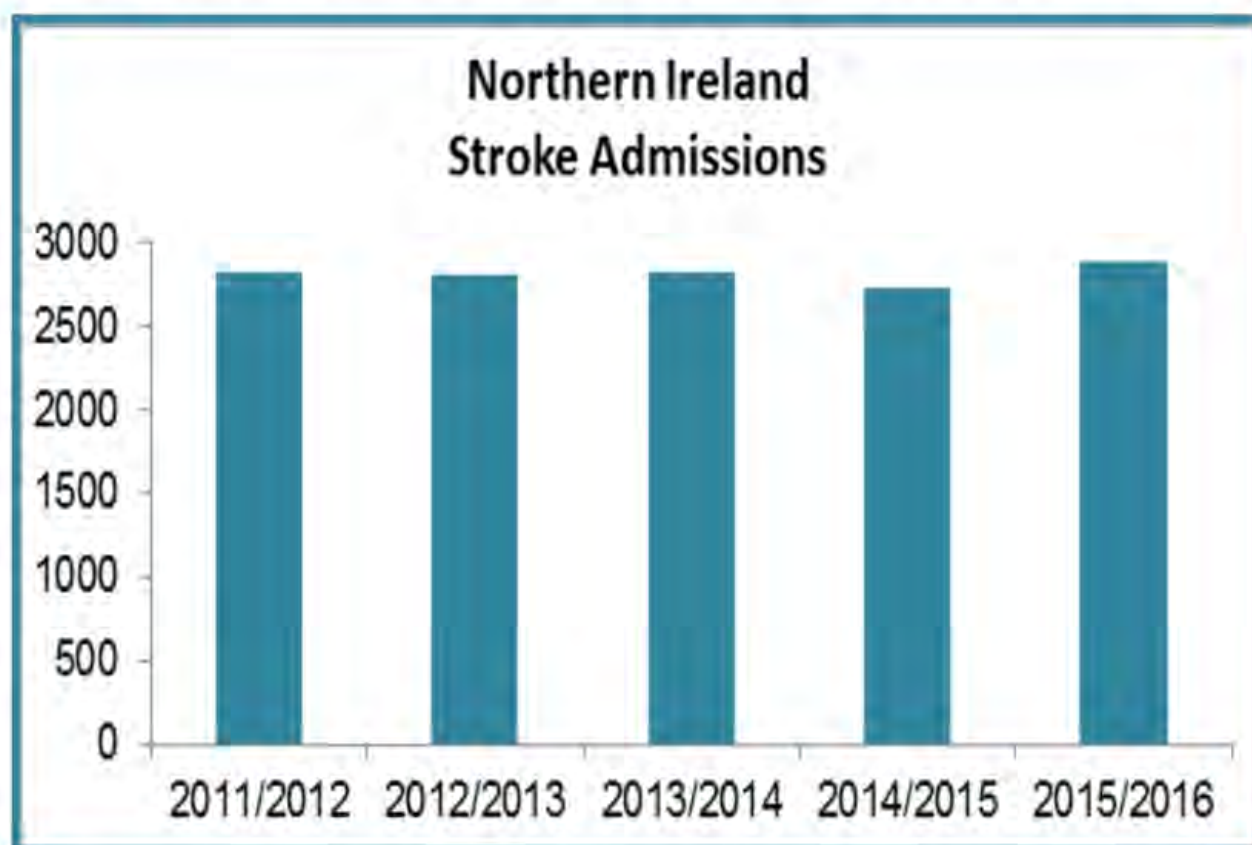
<sup>1</sup> Stroke Association (2017) State of the Nation Stroke Statistics.  
[https://www.stroke.org.uk/sites/default/files/state\\_of\\_the\\_nation\\_2017\\_final.pdf](https://www.stroke.org.uk/sites/default/files/state_of_the_nation_2017_final.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> DOH (2016) Systems not Structures; Changing Health and Social Care. Expert Panel Report.  
<https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/health/expert-panel-full-report.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> SSNAP (2015) Is Stroke Care Improving? The Second Annual Report, Sentinel Stroke National Audit Programme, Royal College of Physicians.

The number of people in Northern Ireland admitted to hospital with stroke, ranges from 2,600 to 2,800 each year (Figure 1). This number has remained stable over the last five years, and this may be because of better management of risk factors such as high blood pressure.

Figure 1 Hospital Admissions with Stroke in Northern Ireland (2011– 2016)



Many improvements have been made in stroke services in Northern Ireland in recent years as a result of the implementation of the 2008 Northern Ireland Stroke Strategy<sup>4</sup>. Since 2008 over £5 million pounds has been invested into stroke services in hospitals and in the community. Access to

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<sup>4</sup> DHSPSS (2008) Northern Ireland Stroke Strategy <http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/recommendations-stroke-services-in-ni.pdf>

clot busting medicine for eligible patients is now available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The newest technique to remove blood clots is available at the Royal Victoria Hospital. Community stroke teams are in place in each of the Health and Social Care Trusts and stroke patients spend less time in hospital than previously.

Despite these achievements, two reports were published which were highly critical of stroke services in Northern Ireland. These reports are the Regulatory Quality and Improvement Authority (RQIA) 2014 Review of Stroke Services in Northern Ireland<sup>5</sup> and the 2014 Sentinel Stroke National Audit Programme's 'Acute Organisational Audit'<sup>6</sup>. The RQIA report found that there was not a clear regional model for delivery of stroke care and that there seemed to be an unsustainable number of hospitals providing stroke care.

**“The review team found no evidence of a regionally agreed model for the delivery of stroke services within stroke units. The review team considered this may be related to the geography of the Health and Social Care Trusts and the patient numbers attending each hospital.”**

*RQIA 2014*

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<sup>5</sup> RQIA(2014) Review of Stroke Services in Northern Ireland <https://www.rqia.org.uk/RQIA/files/b8/b8f067de-3bf7-40c6-9297-b21a41a31811.pdf>

<sup>6</sup> SSNAP (2014) Acute Organisational Audit <https://www.strokeaudit.org/results/Organisational/Regional-Organisational.aspx>

The Stroke Sentinel National Audit Programme provides detailed ongoing assessment of the quality of care across the stroke pathway and allocates hospital services a score between an A and E grade. No stroke unit in Northern Ireland is achieving an A or B grade and no unit is consistently achieving the standards of care that we desire for our population<sup>7</sup>. This audit has also found that no unit in Northern Ireland has the correct number of staff on duty at the weekend and no unit has seven day rehabilitation services. This evidence further supports the case for changing how we deliver stroke care in Northern Ireland.

Research carried out in urban areas shows that providing higher quality care in larger specialist centres significantly reduces the number of deaths and the amount of disability associated with stroke. It is known that telemedicine can effectively support smaller hospitals to deliver early treatments such as clot busting therapies<sup>8</sup> and that some well organised smaller stroke services do currently deliver quality emergency stroke care .

In Northern Ireland, changing how services are organised, combined with improved public awareness measures and better stroke risk reduction measures, would greatly reduce the burden of stroke in our communities and improve quality of life for stroke survivors.

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<sup>7</sup> Stroke Sentinel National Audit Results April 2015-April 2016 <https://www.strokeaudit.org/results/Clinical-audit/Regional-Results.aspx>

<sup>8</sup> Kent and Medway Stroke services review group (2016) Case for Change  
<https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/documents/s53558/Case%20for%20Change%20-%20Stroke%20Review.pdf>



## Section 2

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### 2.0 High Quality Stroke Care

To understand why there is a need to change how we deliver stroke services it is important to first fully understand what excellent stroke care looks like. There are clear evidence based pathways for the type of care that is known to prevent strokes and maximise the chances of a good recovery for those patients who have suffered a stroke. The following sections take a step by step approach through a care pathway, describing what we should expect at each stage.

#### 2.1 Prevention of Stroke

It is known that many strokes can be prevented. People at a higher risk of stroke include those with high blood pressure, irregular heartbeat, heart disease and diabetes. Addressing lifestyle factors plays a key role in preventing strokes. This includes stopping smoking, healthy eating, maintaining a healthy body weight, reducing high blood pressure and taking regular exercise. Prevention may also include the treatment of people who have an atrial fibrillation with medicine to thin the blood, and prevent the clots that may cause a stroke.

The symptoms of TIA are the same as a stroke, but in the case of a TIA these symptoms will usually resolve within 30 minutes and always within 24 hours, whereas the symptoms of a stroke last much longer. TIA patients should be treated as a medical emergency because these individuals are at a much higher risk of experiencing a stroke in the following days and weeks. However, if treated quickly the risk of a stroke occurring can be greatly reduced. Guidelines recommend that TIA patients, who are at high

risk of a stroke, should be assessed by specialists within 24 hours of their first symptoms.

## 2.2 Emergency Care

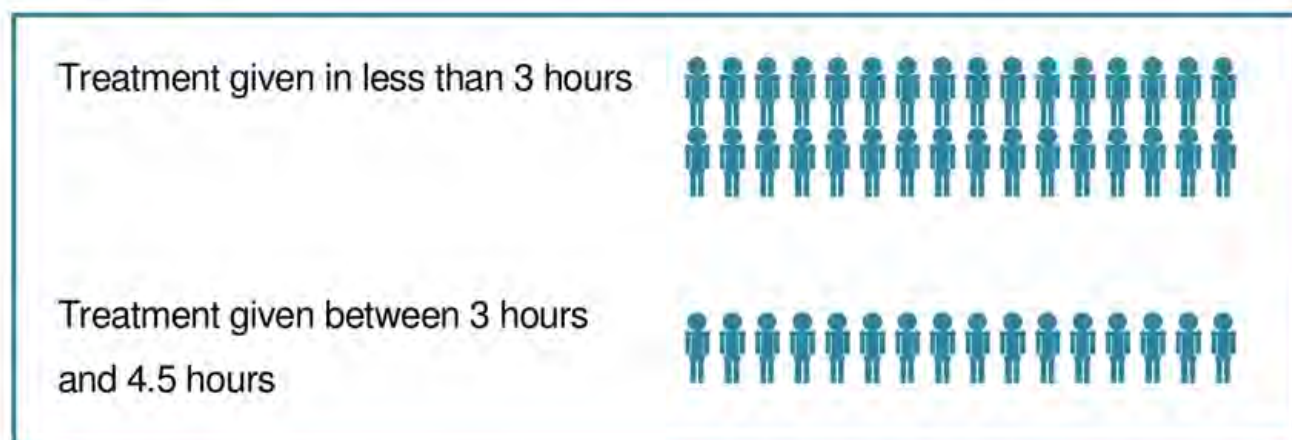
If a person is thought to be experiencing a stroke they should be taken to hospital by an ambulance as quickly as possible. The FAST public awareness media campaign aims to educate the public in recognising the symptoms of a stroke so that people make every effort to seek medical help immediately.

Soon after a stroke is confirmed, a person should be assessed for a treatment which breaks up blood clots called 'thrombolysis'. Around one in five stroke patients are suitable for this treatment. Thrombolysis can be provided up to four and a half hours after the first symptoms of stroke but is more effective the faster it is given. Figure 2 shows that for every 100 patients that are treated with clot busting therapy within 3 hours, 32 people achieve a better recovery. This number reduces to 16 people when treatment is given between 3 and 4 and half hours; showing that it is more effective the quicker it is given<sup>9</sup>.

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<sup>9</sup> Cheng and Kin (2015) Intravenous Thrombolysis for Acute Ischemic Stroke Within 3 Hours Versus Between 3 and 4.5 Hours of Symptoms Onset <http://europepmc.org/articles/PMC4530422>

Figure 2 Number benefiting for every 100 patients treated with clot busting therapy



New research has now defined the role of a procedure which can remove a large clot from the brain following stroke<sup>10</sup>. Around 40% of strokes are caused by a large clot and it is people with this type of stroke who tend to have the most severe disabilities after a stroke and the most limited recovery. A tiny tube is inserted into the blood vessel and is combined with a special type of brain scan, to remove the blood clot. This new treatment, known as 'thrombectomy', is typically delivered up to six hours after the first stroke symptoms and in some cases up to 24 hours. In Northern Ireland it is thought that at least 5 in every 100 stroke patients would potentially benefit from this procedure. This treatment is highly effective in reducing disability and can more than double the chances of a good recovery. For every 100 people who receive this treatment, 20 more will be independent and 38 will be less disabled after stroke. However, if we want to deliver this treatment to

<sup>10</sup> Goyal et al (2016) Endovascular thrombectomy after large-vessel ischaemic stroke: a meta-analysis of individual patient data from five randomised trials. *The Lancet*. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/26898852>

as many people as possible, regardless of where people live, changes will be required to how emergency assessment is delivered in Northern Ireland.

## 2.3 Hyperacute Stroke Units

Hyperacute Stroke Units are a special type of hospital stroke unit that provides high levels of monitoring, and expert care delivered by a range of professionals within the first three days after admission to hospital<sup>11</sup>.

**“A Hyperacute Stroke unit provides care and treatment for the first 72 hours after stroke and should be available 24 hours a day, seven days a week to everyone who has a stroke and not just those receiving clot busting treatment”.**

*Royal College of Physicians 5<sup>th</sup> Edition Stroke Guidelines*

There is strong evidence that patients are more likely to be alive, independent and living at home after one year, when they receive Hyperacute Stroke care during the first 72 hours. This is because they are more likely to receive all the key elements of acute stroke care such as swallow tests, early rehabilitation and specialist professional assessments. Professional and clinical guidelines recommend that every stroke patient is admitted to a Hyperacute Stroke Unit.

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<sup>11</sup> Royal College of Physicians (2016) Fifth Edition Stroke Guidelines.  
[https://www.strokeaudit.org/SupportFiles/Documents/Guidelines/2016-National-Clinical-Guideline-for-Stroke-5t-\(1\).aspx](https://www.strokeaudit.org/SupportFiles/Documents/Guidelines/2016-National-Clinical-Guideline-for-Stroke-5t-(1).aspx)

Services providing Hyperacute Stroke care should deliver the following nationally agreed standards seven days a week, and as appropriate, 24 hours a day:

1. Access to consultants with stroke expertise (including a rota of at least six doctors experienced in stroke care).
2. Availability of continuous physiological monitoring for all patients.
3. Immediate access to the full range of scans and investigations.
4. Direct admission from the Emergency Department to a stroke unit bed.
5. Acute stroke protocols and guidelines.
6. Nurses trained in swallow assessment and stroke care.
7. Specialists ward rounds and dedicated multidisciplinary teams, including Allied Health Professionals and nurses.

## 2.4 Acute Stroke Units

After the period of hyperacute stroke care around two in three stroke survivors will require continued care and rehabilitation in an Acute Stroke Unit. These units can either be located in the same place as a Hyperacute Stroke Unit or can be a distinct service located in another hospital.

**“An Acute Stroke Unit is a discrete area within a hospital that is staffed by a specialist stroke multidisciplinary team. It has access to equipment for monitoring and rehabilitating patients and regular multidisciplinary meetings occur for goal setting.”**

*NICE CG68*

Early treatment by a range of specialist staff, prompt recognition or prevention of complications and early access to rehabilitation, significantly improves a patient's level of recovery and the likelihood of returning home. This prepares patients for discharge to their home and local community teams. For every 100 patients treated in such a unit, five more people will survive at 12 months, and 13 more people will be independent at discharge, than if they had been admitted to a general medical ward<sup>12</sup>.

Acute Stroke Units should deliver the following nationally agreed standards:

1. Led by a consultant physician with responsibility for stroke.
2. Formal links with patients and carer organisations.
3. Multidisciplinary meetings at least weekly.
4. Provision of information to patients about stroke.
5. Access to stroke specific training and development for all staff<sup>12</sup>.

## 2.5 Community Rehabilitation Services

Around two thirds of survivors will require some continued support or rehabilitation in the community after discharge from hospital. Those who are able to walk and those with less severe strokes, may be suitable for 'Early Supported Discharge' which replicates the intensity of therapy normally provided in hospital within the home environment, this should be available over seven days.

Early Supported Discharge teams are made up of physiotherapists, occupational therapists, speech and language therapists, nurses and other

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<sup>12</sup> Trialists' Collaboration, S.U., 2013. Organised inpatient (stroke unit) care for stroke. Cochrane Database Systematic Review 9.

professionals with a particular expertise in stroke rehabilitation in the community setting. These teams should also have strong links with community and voluntary groups so that a person can access a range of services to assist with recovery or to adapt to living with the effects of a stroke. It is known that provision of this kind of service to stroke patients improves recovery, long term survival and reduces the length of time spent in hospital.

## **2.6 Continued Support for 'Life after a Stroke'**

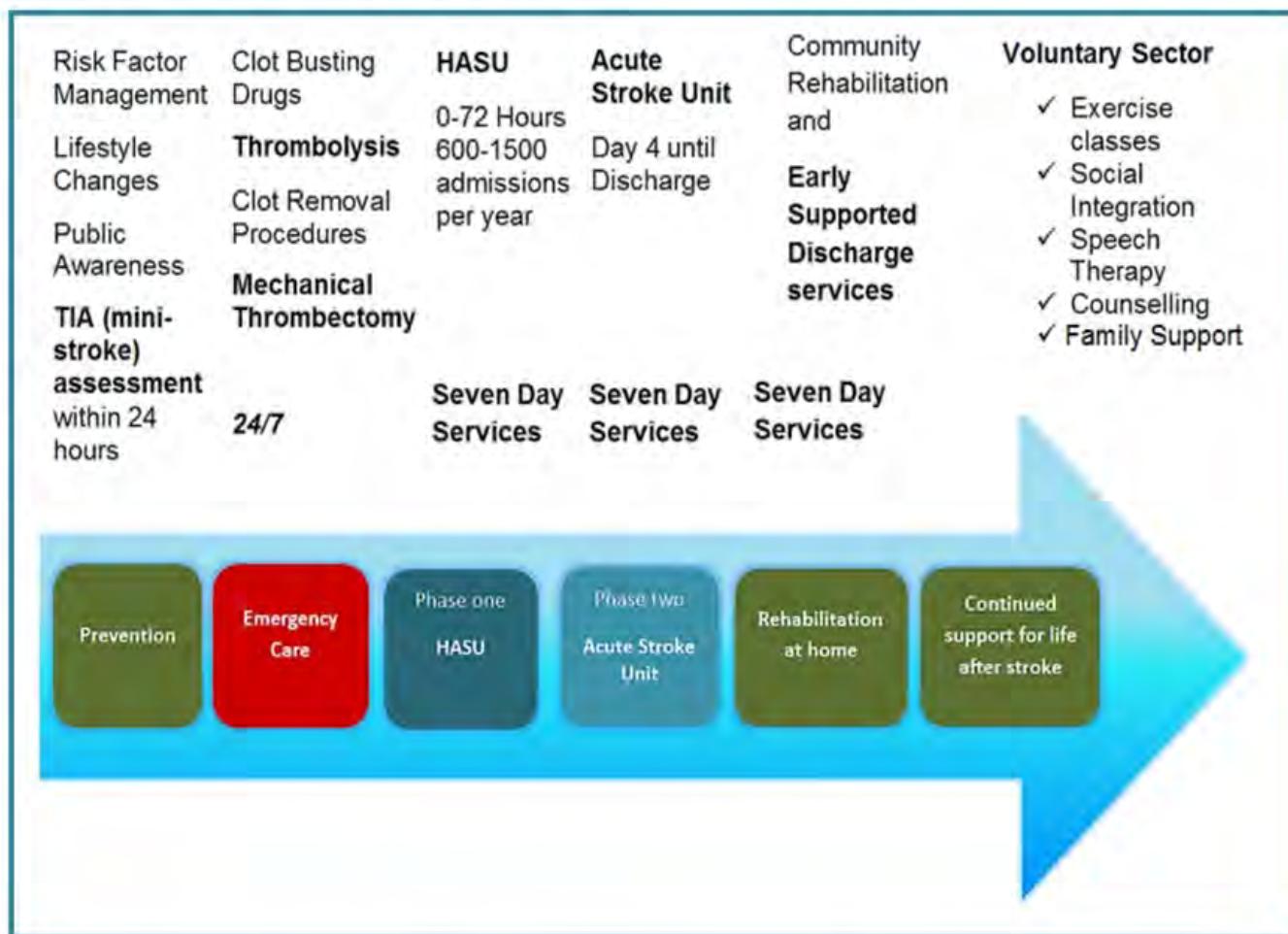
The 2014 RQIA report has acknowledged the significant benefits of the wide range of services offered to survivors and their families by the Stroke Association and Chest Heart and Stroke in Northern Ireland. These highly valued services enable patients to continue with a longer term recovery and adapt to life after stroke. Local community and voluntary groups can make an important contribution to stroke recovery. This may be through the provision of programmes which empower people to improve their general health and wellbeing but also specific programmes that enhance the recovery of physical function and communication after stroke.

## **2.7 Summary**

More generally, high quality inpatient stroke care requires the collective leadership of a team of professionals, including medical staff, nurses, allied health professionals and others, each with a key role to play in the delivery of services to the required standards.

Figure 3 summarises the type of high quality end to end services required to avoid stroke and increase the chances of a good recovery after stroke.

Figure 3 High Quality Stroke Care



It is known that many patients in Northern Ireland do not receive excellent stroke care as described above. As a result there are a large number of avoidable hospital admissions, nursing home admissions, disability and deaths as a result of stroke. The recently published report, by an expert panel led by Professor Bengoa, has identified Stroke Services as an example of a service where there is a significant opportunity to improve the health of patients by changing how services are organised and delivered<sup>13</sup>.

<sup>13</sup> DOH (2016) Systems not Structures; Changing Health and Social Care. Expert Panel Report. <https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/health/expert-panel-full-report.pdf>



In considering a response to these reports and to new evidence, we believe that stroke services in Northern Ireland should be re-organised to ensure they deliver excellent care to everyone who experiences a stroke in Northern Ireland.

## Section 3

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### 3.0 Current Services and the Case for Change

Stroke services in Northern Ireland are provided by skilled, dedicated and hardworking staff, but the current organisation of services sometimes makes it difficult for staff to consistently provide the very best care to patients. This section describes the current model of care and highlights where there are clear opportunities to improve the services provided to stroke patients.

#### 3.1 Prevention of Stroke

There are a number of community based and interagency initiatives designed to help people address lifestyle factors that may put them at greater risk of stroke and other cardiovascular diseases. GPs are encouraged to identify those people with risk factors and proactively manage those to reduce the chances of a stroke occurring.

TIA patients at high risk of stroke are referred by General Practice or Emergency Departments to one of 11 outpatient TIA assessment clinics. Currently, these clinics receive referrals only five days a week.

In Northern Ireland vital early assessment to diagnose and treat patients with a TIA is not currently available on an outpatient basis at the weekend, and patients are often not assessed within 24 hours. A recent audit of 150 TIA patients in Northern Ireland showed that 29% of high risk patients were not assessed within 24 hours. It is likely that delays in assessment result in avoidable strokes in our population.

If a person with a TIA is thought to be at a high risk of stroke at a weekend they will often be admitted to hospital to await the required investigations and treatment. There are currently more than 800 hospital admissions with TIAs

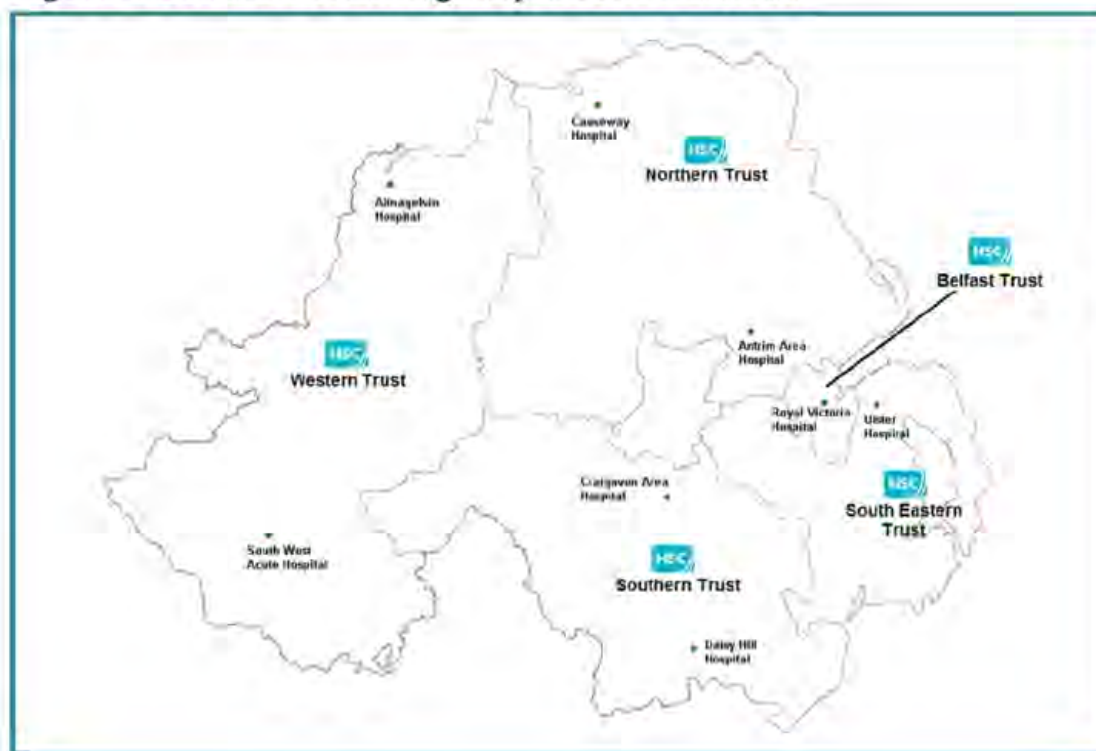
each year, some of which could be avoided if seven day, specialist TIA assessment services were available.

### 3.2 Emergency Care

#### *Clot Busting Medicine*

Individuals identified as being likely to have suffered a stroke are taken to one of eight Emergency Departments across Northern Ireland where they are assessed for suitability for clot busting treatment. These eight Emergency Departments are located at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Antrim Area Hospital, Causeway Hospital, Altnagelvin Area Hospital, South West Acute Hospital, Daisy Hill Hospital, Craigavon Area Hospital, and the Ulster Hospital (figure 4).

*Figure 4 Location of Emergency Stroke Services*



It is known that up to 20% of people are potentially eligible to receive clot busting drugs in Northern Ireland and around 15% currently receive this

treatment. This compares well with the UK average but within Northern Ireland it varies greatly between one hospital and another. For example 18% of stroke patients attending one hospital and 8% of patients at another hospital received thrombolysis treatment between the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 and the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017.

Clot busting medicine is known to be more effective if delivered quickly after arriving in hospital. It should always be delivered within a maximum of four and a half hours of the stroke occurring, ideally sooner, and less than one hour after arrival at hospital. In well organised services it can even be delivered in less than 20 minutes after arrival at hospital. Although patients should always receive this treatment within one hour of arrival, we know that between the 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2016 and the 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2017, only 65% of treatments were delivered within this time limit. This varies significantly between hospital sites with 5% of clot busting treatments in one hospital and 87% of treatments in another, being delivered within one hour of arrival between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 and the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017.<sup>14</sup>

One factor that sometimes affects how quickly treatment is delivered is the numbers of stroke patients attending each hospital and the experience gained by the local stroke teams. Research indicates that hospitals which admit higher numbers of stroke patients each year are both more likely to provide people with clot busting treatment and to deliver this more quickly. The time taken to deliver treatment was found to be much shorter when services deliver more than 50 treatments a year<sup>15</sup>. Figure 5 shows the

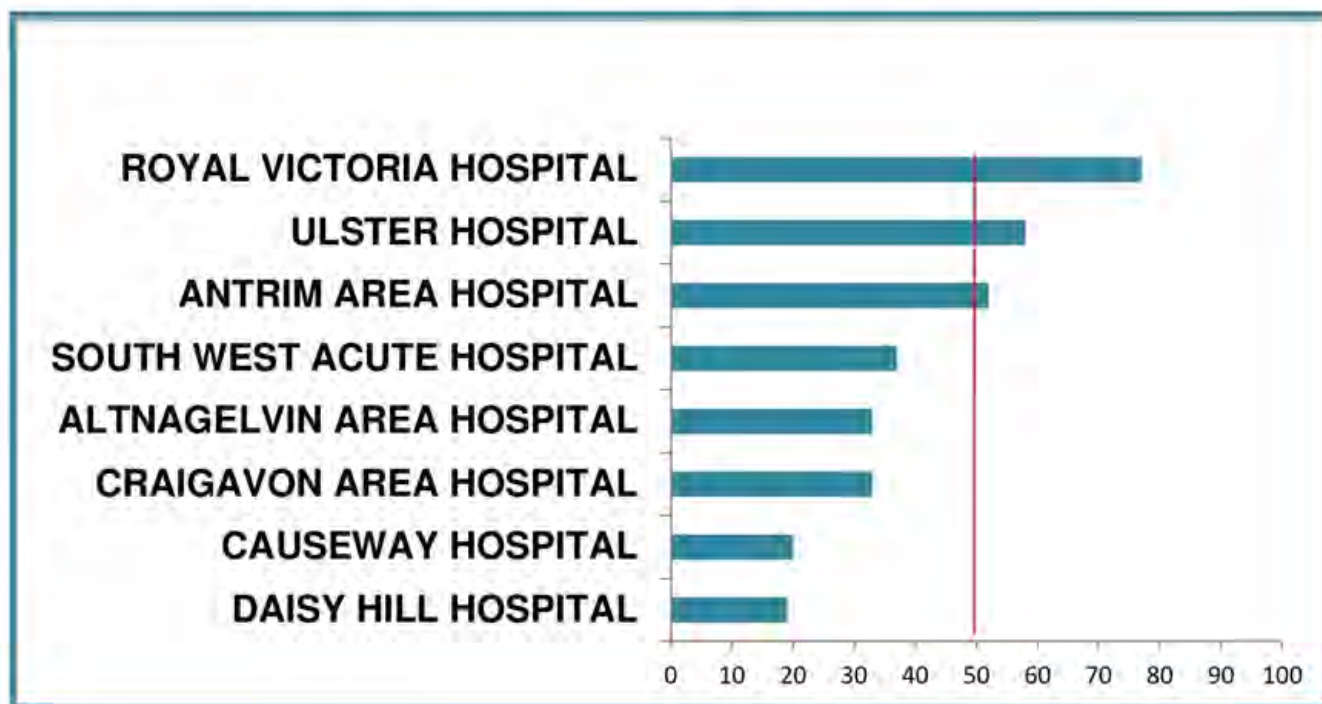
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<sup>14</sup> This analysis is based upon numbers of patients in Northern Ireland Hospitals with all types of stroke (ICD161-164) receiving thrombolysis between March 2016- April 2017

<sup>15</sup> Bray et al (2013) Associations Between Hospital Thrombolysis Volume and Speed of Thrombolysis Administration in Acute Ischemic

number of clot busting treatments delivered in each of the hospital sites in Northern Ireland between the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 and the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017. Only three hospitals: the Royal Victoria Hospital, Antrim Area Hospital and the Ulster Hospital, delivered over 50 treatments during this period.

Figure 5 Clot Busting Treatments 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017<sup>16</sup>



*Clot removal procedures*

The clot removal procedure ‘thrombectomy’ is a specialist service provided only at the Royal Victoria Hospital site. This is because it relies on other services that are only available at this regional centre for Northern Ireland. The treatment is currently available between Monday and Friday, 8.30 am to 5.30 pm and around 70 patients currently receive this treatment each year.

Stroke <http://stroke.ahajournals.org/content/44/11/3129.full>

<sup>16</sup> This analysis is based upon numbers of patients in Northern Ireland Hospitals receiving thrombolysis between March 2016 - April 2017, as detailed on trust returns

It is known that many more people could benefit from a thrombectomy procedure<sup>17</sup> and it is also much more effective when it is given quickly, but services need to be reorganised so that more people can be identified who may benefit. It is likely that a minimum of 150 additional patients would be eligible for this treatment if this service was available 24 hours a day and seven days a week preventing 15 deaths and 40 people from experiencing permanent disability each year. The better organised the system of care, the greater the number of people that will receive this treatment and experience an improved recovery from stroke.

### 3.3 Acute Hospital Care

In Northern Ireland, 11 hospital sites admit stroke patients for early treatment and assessment. The hospitals admitting stroke patients are the Antrim Area Hospital, Causeway Hospital, Craigavon Area Hospital, Daisy Hill Hospital, Altnagelvin Area Hospital, Southwest Acute Hospital, Ulster Hospital, Royal Victoria Hospital, Lagan Valley Hospital, Downe Hospital and the Mater Hospital. The unit admitting the highest number of stroke patients is the Royal Victoria Hospital with the least number of stroke patients being first admitted to the unit in the Lagan Valley Hospital (Figure 6). The average length of acute hospital stay is 13 days and ranges from 6 days to 21 days between hospitals.

Elements of hyperacute stroke care are provided to some patients in some hospitals, but are not provided to every patient in Northern Ireland. In smaller

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<sup>17</sup> Goyal et al (2016) Endovascular thrombectomy after large-vessel ischaemic stroke: a meta-analysis of individual patient data from five randomised trials. *The Lancet*. [http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(16\)00163-X/abstract](http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(16)00163-X/abstract)

units, it is more difficult to provide the specialist staff, and more expensive to deliver high quality services, in a sustainable way over seven days.

Although admission to a specialist unit is the single most important treatment for stroke patients, only around half are admitted to stroke units when they first arrive in hospital. Even when patients are admitted to stroke units many of these wards do not meet all of the required standards. Finally, as the number of stroke patients attending each hospital is often small, stroke is not recognised as a distinct speciality and patients are often admitted to the care of general medical or elderly medicine consultants.

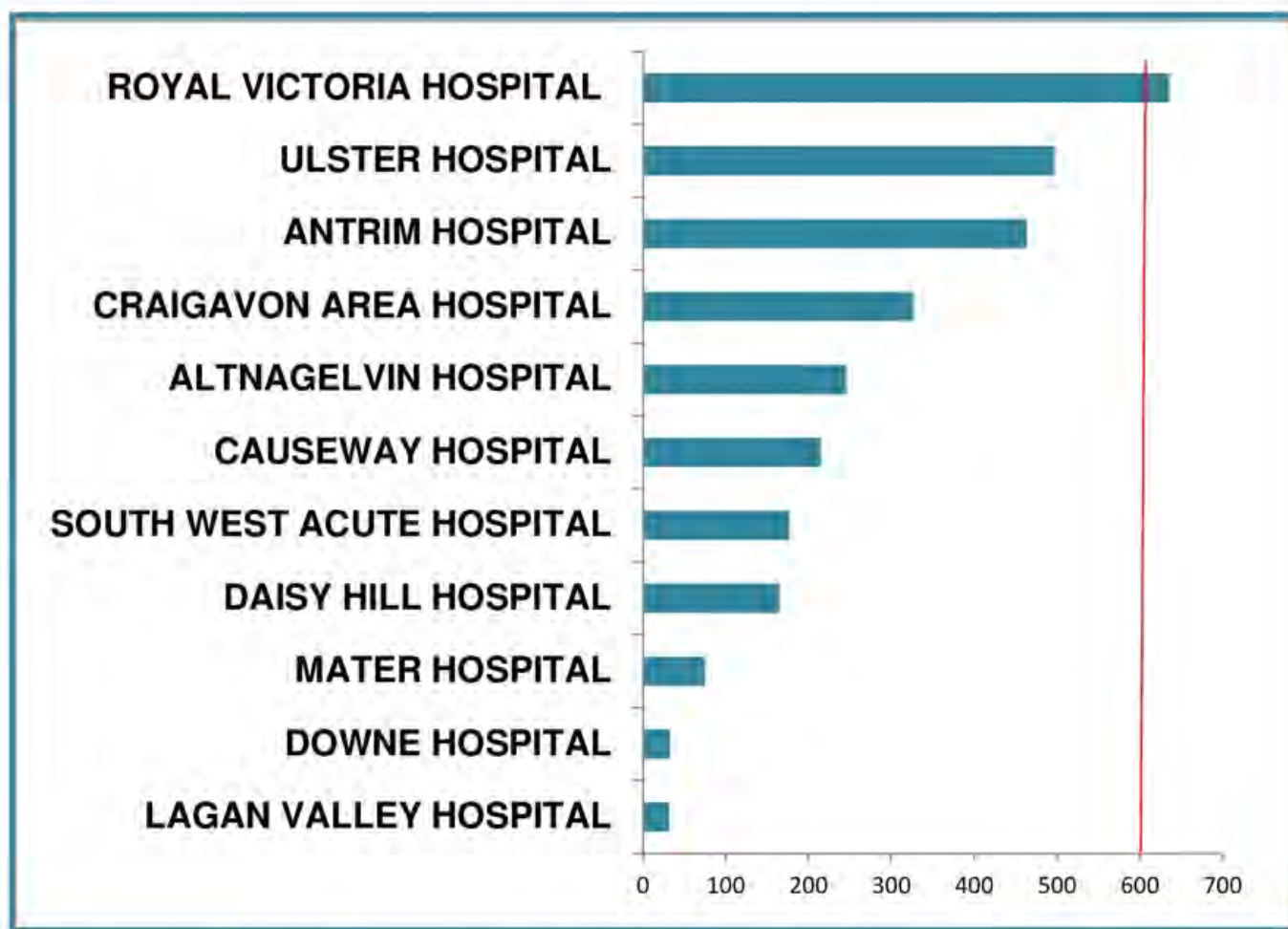
It was shown in a reorganisation of services in London and Manchester that centralising hospital stroke units to create units with more than 600 admissions per year resulted in less death and disability after stroke<sup>18</sup>. The learning from these reforms has also led experts to recommend that stroke units with more than 1,500 admissions per year can be difficult to manage effectively<sup>19</sup>.

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<sup>18</sup> Ramsay et al (2014) Effects of Centralizing Acute Stroke Services on Stroke Care Provision in Two Large Metropolitan Areas in England <http://stroke.ahajournals.org/content/46/8/2244.short>

<sup>19</sup> Hussain and Rudd (2015) Stroke services reconfiguration: Decision Support Tool Kit <http://www.yhscn.nhs.uk/media/PDFs/cvd/Stroke/Meetings/Oversight%20Group%2028.04.15/yhscn-stroke-NighanHussain-20150428.pdf>

Figure 6 Stroke Admissions between the 1st April 2015 and 31st March 2016 <sup>20</sup>



As shown above in figure six, only the Royal Victoria Hospital currently admits more than 600 stroke patients a year and five of the hospitals currently admit fewer than 200 patients each year. Providing stroke care on this number of sites means that Northern Ireland's stroke units are on average half the size of those in England. Although, it is recognised that Northern Ireland is unique, a recommended range of between 600 and 1,500

<sup>20</sup> \*This analysis is based on emergency admissions registered on the hospital databases and ICD codes 161, 162, 163, 164 only. It should be noted that this excludes those patients, transferred from another hospital and those admitted with stroke like symptoms that later are given a diagnosis other than stroke.



admissions each year is considered appropriate for the design of future stroke services.

### 3.4 Non-acute Inpatient Care

When a patient no longer requires acute hospital care but they are not able to go home, they are currently transferred to a non-acute hospital. This happens for approximately 13% of stroke patients. The non-acute hospitals most frequently used in this way are in Lurgan Hospital, Tyrone County Hospital, White abbey Hospital, Mid Ulster Hospital and South Tyrone Hospital. Stroke patients usually stay in these units for around 25 days. The Regional Brain Injury Unit at Musgrave Park Hospital also provides specialist rehabilitation services to a small number of stroke patients with very specific needs.

Stroke patients should be cared for in dedicated stroke units throughout their entire hospital stay. It is likely that there are opportunities to reduce the length of hospital stay and improve recovery for stroke patients if they remain within stroke units rather than being transferred to non-acute hospital units for hospital rehabilitation.

### 3.5 Community Rehabilitation Services

Every Trust in Northern Ireland has Community Stroke Teams in place, however not all Trusts provide 'Early Supported Discharge' or provide services seven days a week. Although NICE guidance recommends that patients who are referred to Community Stroke Teams should be reviewed between one and three days after hospital discharge<sup>21</sup>, audits have found

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<sup>21</sup> NICE (2013) CG162 Stroke rehabilitation in adults <https://www.nice.org.uk/Guidance/CG162>

that patients in Northern Ireland may wait up to five days after discharge before contact is made by a Community Stroke Team<sup>22</sup>.

Although patients are able to access specialist rehabilitation after leaving hospital, there is evidence that they do not receive the right amount of therapy. The RQIA reported that when additional therapy was needed after 12 weeks or after the planned six month review, it was difficult for patients to access and that community stroke services were not available at the weekend. Further development of community stroke services is much needed and there is a need for seven day access to these services in all five Health and Social Care Trusts.

### **3.6 Continued Support for 'Life after a Stroke'**

Stroke groups in each of the Health and Social Care Trusts ensure strong links between Health and Social Care Trusts and the voluntary sector. A wide range of services are provided on both a contractual and charitable basis. Many stroke survivors and their families benefit from speech therapy programmes, exercise programmes, health education, family support and social inclusion activities which are provided by Northern Ireland Chest Heart and Stroke and the Stroke Association in Northern Ireland.

However many stroke survivors report that they feel abandoned by Trust stroke services and continued support is often difficult to access and navigate. It is important that these valued services continue to be provided and are further developed.

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<sup>22</sup> SSNAP (2015) Post-acute organisational audit <https://www.strokeaudit.org/Documents/Results/National/2015/2015-PAOrgPublicReportPhase2.aspx>

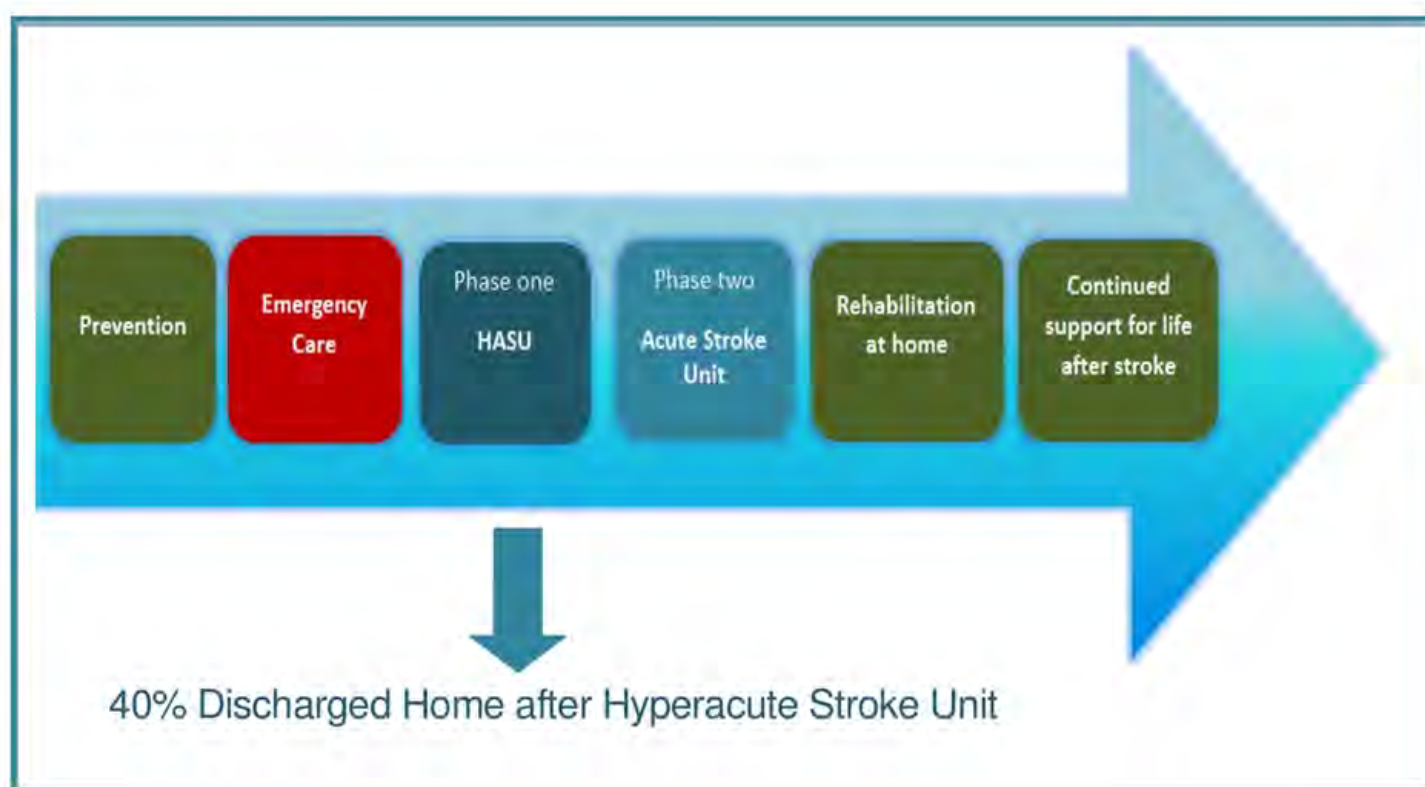
## Section 4

### 4.0 Proposals for Change

This section sets out the broad proposals for change in the organisation and delivery of stroke services in Northern Ireland, and it explains the rationale and expected benefits. These have been developed in partnership with stroke survivors, voluntary organisations and clinical staff. These proposals are not final and may change in response to the feedback received during wider stakeholder and public engagement in the process of co-designing a new service model.

The proposals suggest changes to the way stroke care is delivered across the entire pathway including preventative care, emergency care, in-patient hospital care and community services (Figure 7 below).

*Figure 7 Pathway of Stroke Care*



## 4.1 Prevention of Stroke

In order to prevent as many strokes as possible in Northern Ireland, rapid outpatient access to stroke specialists should be available at stroke units seven days a week for those people suspected of having a TIA. This will enable the NICE standards for the assessment of people with TIAs within 24 hours to be achieved. These services would ideally be located in hospitals where there are seven day acute inpatient stroke units because specialist staff are already working there. If there are fewer hospital stroke units in future, patients may need to travel further to receive a TIA assessment, but it would be provided seven days a week instead of five.

### Proposal 1

**Provide seven day assessment at an appropriate number of Stroke Units for patients experiencing a suspected TIA.**

## 4.2 Emergency Care

### *Clot Busting Treatment*

Time is of the essence when dealing with a stroke and all patients should receive assessment for clot busting treatment as soon as possible. Ideally all patients would be brought by ambulance directly to a hospital with a Hyperacute Stroke Unit for this assessment. This should ideally be within 60 minutes. However, it will be proposed that the number of hospitals admitting stroke patients is reduced in future. It may, therefore, be necessary that some patients who live further away from a Hyperacute Stroke Unit are

brought first to a hospital closer to their home for assessment for clot busting treatment.

The following factors should be considered when deciding which sites are best placed to deliver high quality emergency assessment of stroke patients:

- The number of people arriving at a hospital with direct access to an appropriately sized Hyperacute Stroke Unit.
- The number of people who have access to clot busting treatment within a maximum of a 60 minute drive time from home.
- If the distance travelled to the nearest Hyperacute Stroke Unit is greater than 60 minutes, there should be consideration of whether assessment and potential administration of clot busting medicine at a hospital closer to home is better for the patient than traveling directly to the Hyperacute Stroke Unit.

It is proposed to use these criteria and the clinical evidence to select an appropriate number of hospitals where assessment for clot busting medicine will be delivered.

It is important to work with key staff providing stroke care and service users, to determine which hospitals would be best placed to carry out this assessment.

## Proposal 2

**Provide assessment for clot busting treatment 'thrombolysis' on an appropriate number of sites.**

### *Clot Removal Procedures*

Currently around 70 patients each year receive the clot removal procedure 'thrombectomy'. However if this service were available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, it would enable many more patients to access it. Clot removal requires a number of co-located services such as: neuro-intensive care, neurology and neurosurgery, which are only available in the Royal Victoria Hospital.

#### **Proposal 3**

**Provide the clot removal procedure 'mechanical thrombectomy' 24 hours a day and seven days a week for suitable patients.**

### **4.3 Hyperacute Stroke Units**

The first three days of a hospital admission after a stroke is called the hyperacute phase. Hyperacute Stroke Units are most effective when they admit between 600 and 1,500 patients per year because the specialist teams will be able to develop their expertise and be present in sufficient numbers to provide a seven day service.

As the number of strokes per year in Northern Ireland is between 2,600 and 2,800, we need to reduce the number of hospitals which admit stroke patients to improve their effectiveness. This would mean ambulances transporting patients for longer distances in some cases. The Royal Victoria Hospital, as the only centre able to provide clot retrieval and neurosurgery, will require a Hyperacute Stroke Unit. Key staff providing stroke care and service users will be closely involved with the development of an option

appraisal that will determine which other hospitals would be best placed to admit stroke patients in future.

#### **Proposal 4**

**Provide an appropriate number of Hyperacute Stroke Units to deliver specialist early inpatient care to every stroke patient.**

### **4.4 Acute Stroke Units**

It is important to ensure there are always beds available in Hyperacute Stroke Units and in particular in the Royal Victoria Hospital site, as it is the only unit which provides both clot busting medicine and clot removal procedures. Hyperacute Stroke Units must be able to transfer patients, who are not ready to go home after 72 hours, to an Acute Stroke Unit.

These units would ideally be co-located with a Hyperacute Stroke Unit as it is considered that there is potentially a better experience and shorter hospital stay if patients receive both phases of hospital stroke care in one location. Combining Hyperacute and Acute Stroke Units within one site ensures that the units are large enough that the numbers of stroke specialists required to work seven days a week are available.

This would mean that stroke units are not provided in some hospitals where they are currently provided and may be at a greater distance from the patient's home. However, this would be balanced by a greater investment in rehabilitation which would mean that patients would spend fewer days in hospital and receive more intensive rehabilitation at home.

**Proposal 5**

**Establish an appropriate number of Acute Stroke Units co-located with Hyperacute Stroke Units whenever possible.**

**4.5 Community Rehabilitation Services**

The success of all the proposals in this document greatly depends on timely access to community services to support an early discharge from hospital. As additional resources are likely to be limited in future, a more efficient hospital-based stroke service is essential, in order to be able to invest in improving rehabilitation services. These should be provided in the patient's own home as far as possible.

It is proposed that community stroke services should be resourced so that they can provide the appropriate staffing levels and access to Early Supported Discharge services.

Access to Early Supported Discharge services are very important to ensure patients leave hospital earlier and have a seamless experience of care during their recovery. These services should provide the recommended amount of therapy, appropriate to the person's requirements, in the patient's own home and facilitate discharge from hospital even at the weekend.

**Proposal 6**

**Provide community stroke services that are resourced to deliver Early Supported Discharge, the recommended amounts of therapy and respond over seven days.**



## 4.6 Continued Support for 'Life after a Stroke'

Following the completion of a period of hospital and community rehabilitation, around half of stroke survivors will have some lasting problems which will affect their ability to be independent or resume their previous hobbies, employment, family commitments or other roles in society.

The role of carers in all phases is extremely important in assisting stroke survivors to achieve the best possible recovery. The 'Caring for Carers' strategy<sup>23</sup> which was published in 2006, details the types of support that stroke carers should receive. The RQIA Review of Stroke Services highlighted a variable provision of services to stroke survivors and carers during this phase.

We have engaged extensively with carers, stroke survivors and voluntary sector representatives in the development of this pre-consultation document. We have identified that this is a time when people experience difficulty accessing Health and Social Care Trust and Voluntary Sector services. In particular: physiotherapy, speech and language therapy, vocational rehabilitation, counselling, family support and psychological support that would ensure an optimal recovery.

It is important that pathways of care are developed that ensure a seamless experience for those rebuilding their lives after stroke. These pathways will ensure the right support in the right place at the right time and mean people have the chance to achieve their full potential after a stroke.

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<sup>23</sup> DHSPSS (2006) Caring for carers recognising supporting and valuing the caring role. <http://health-ni.gov.uk/publication/caring-carers>

Increasing the ability of stroke survivors to live as independently as possible is not only of benefit to the individual and their carers, but to society and the economy as a whole. We would look to our partners within community planning and to local community assets to provide support for stroke survivors and carers to enjoy as full a life as possible following a stroke.

### **Proposal 7**

**Ensure that stroke survivors and carers have timely access to services from both Health and Social Care and voluntary sector organisations to optimise recovery.**

## 4.7 Overview of Proposals

The seven proposals for modernising Northern Ireland's stroke services are:

1. Provide seven day assessment at an appropriate number of Stroke Units for patients experiencing a suspected TIA.
2. Provide assessment for clot busting treatment 'thrombolysis' on an appropriate number of sites.
3. Provide a clot removal service 'mechanical thrombectomy' 24 hours a day and seven days a week for suitable patients.
4. Provide an appropriate number of Hyperacute Stroke Units to deliver specialist early inpatient care to every stroke patient.
5. Establish an appropriate number of Acute Stroke Units co-located with Hyperacute Stroke Units whenever possible.
6. Provide community stroke services that are resourced to deliver Early Supported Discharge, the recommended amounts of therapy and respond over seven days.
7. Ensure that stroke survivors and carers have timely access to services from both Health and Social Care and voluntary sector organisations to optimise recovery.

## 4.8 Benefits of Proposals

There are a number of measurable benefits to patients should the proposals outlined within this section be implemented. These are:

- ✓ Prevention of avoidable strokes after a TIA.
- ✓ For every 100 additional people who receive the clot removal treatment 'thrombectomy', 20 more will be independent and 38 will be less disabled.
- ✓ For every 100 additional patients receiving the clot busting therapy 'thrombolysis' around 30 will make a better recovery.
- ✓ Admission of every patient to a Hyperacute Stroke Unit could result in 25 fewer deaths each year.
- ✓ Admission of all patients to a Hyperacute Stroke Unit would result in faster assessment and fewer stroke complications which will allow 40% of patients to be discharged home by the third day.
- ✓ Intensive and early rehabilitation, available seven days a week, will result in better recovery and less demand for long term care in the community.
- ✓ Ensuring Early Supported Discharge would reduce the need for hospital stroke beds in Northern Ireland by between 20 and 30 beds.

## Section 5

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### 5.0 Next Steps

This document is part of a number of steps aimed at improving stroke services:

1. Telling you about stroke services.
2. Telling you about the problems.
3. Telling you about some ideas for improving services.
4. Considering your views and working with key people and the public to design services.
5. Public consultation on recommendations for a future model.
6. Delivering the changes on the ground.

Following the design of a proposed model for stroke services a formal public consultation will be published. The responses to that future document will also be considered and final recommendations will be presented to the Minister for Health.

Final decisions will also consider potential opportunities for co-operation between the Health Services in the South and North of Ireland. In particular, opportunities for cross border provision of clot removal procedures, clot busting therapy and hospital care will be explored.

## Section 6

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### 6.0 How to respond

It is important to fully involve people and consider their opinions about these proposals. In particular we are keen to hear from people who may be using stroke services or those caring for people who have used stroke services, people who are working in affected services, and groups representing people who might be affected.

Here are some of the ways that you can respond to this document:

1. Email us at **ReshapingStroke@hscni.net**
2. Write to us at:  
Reshaping Stroke Services  
Commissioning Directorate  
12-22 Linenhall Street  
Belfast  
BT2 8BS
3. Complete the questionnaire online at  
**[www.hscboard.hscni.net/response-form-stroke](http://www.hscboard.hscni.net/response-form-stroke)**
4. Attend specially arranged meetings details of which can be found at  
**[www.hscboard.hscni.net/stroke](http://www.hscboard.hscni.net/stroke)**

Before you submit your response please read Annex 2 of this document regarding the confidentiality of responses in the context of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

## Section 7

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### 7.0 Equality, Good Relations and Human Rights

The purpose of this section is to describe the consideration given to the potential equality, good relations and human rights impacts of these proposals.

A draft Equality Impact Assessment has been prepared, a summary of which is published alongside this document on our website:

**[www.hscboard.hscni.net/stroke](http://www.hscboard.hscni.net/stroke)**

This assessment has found that the reshaping of stroke services would impact upon potential stroke patients, stroke survivors, carers and family members of stroke survivors. In particular it is noted that people who might experience a stroke are more likely to be living with a disability and have carers, be older people, and be of a black ethnic background than those in the general population. It is known that travelling further to receive some services will be a challenge for these groups and this must be balanced with the potential for fewer stroke related deaths and disability in our population.

We will seek to include these particular groups of people in our engagement activities, and in any decision about the future of services. We will consider these impacts fully in designing services and explore ways in which to minimise any negative impacts on these groups.

An Equality Impact Assessment is a continuous process and the information gathered as part of this pre-consultation stage will help inform the Equality Impact Assessment and our understanding of these impacts and how they might be reduced.

Staff working in stroke services now and in the future may also be affected by these proposals. Good relations with particular staff groups should be considered in the implementation of any changes and this approach should be consistent with good human resources practices and local organisational change policies.



# Glossary

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## **Acute Stroke Units**

These are dedicated hospital wards used for stroke patients and they require specially trained medical, nursing and therapeutic staff. They provide care and rehabilitation following discharge from Hyperacute Stroke Unit until a person is ready to go home.

## **Allied Health Professionals**

These are: Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists, Speech and Language Therapists, Dieticians, Podiatrists, Radiographers and other professionals who work as part of the multidisciplinary team.

## **Early Supported Discharge (ESD)**

This is a service provided by Community Stroke Teams. ESD responds quickly after discharge to continue rehabilitation and support, for those who no longer require hospital services. It should provide therapy at the same intensity as would have been provided in hospital.

## **Emergency Department**

These are departments within a hospital that provide emergency care to the public. They are sometimes known as accident and emergency departments. Ambulances bring patients here to receive emergency medical assessment.

## **Hyperacute Stroke Units**

These are units that provide care after admission usually up to three days. Hyperacute Stroke Units require a range of highly skilled staff, with access to diagnostic equipment 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

## **Stroke**

A condition caused by impaired blood flow to the brain following a blood clot or a bleed from a blood vessel. Impairments in movement, balance, speech, vision or thinking may result.

### **Specialist Stroke Teams**

Teams of health care staff that deliver care to stroke patients either in hospital or at home, and who have completed some specialist training and have experience in the treatment of stroke.

### **Thrombolysis**

This is also known as clot busting therapy and is a medicine which is delivered by intravenous drip to stroke patients, within four and a half hours of the first symptoms of stroke.

### **Thrombectomy or Clot Removal**

A non-invasive procedure performed by skilled doctors to remove large clots from blood vessels in the brain, usually within six hours.

### **Transient Ischemic Attack (TIA)**

A diagnosis given to some patients where there are temporary symptoms that are a like a stroke but resolve within 24 hours.

# Annex 1 Response Questionnaire

Please tell us if you are responding on your own behalf or on behalf of an organisation by placing a tick in the appropriate box:

I am responding as an individual

I am responding on behalf of an organisation

As a member of health and social care staff

Title	
Name	
Address	
Telephone	
Email	

May we contact you to get further information on your response?

Yes

No

**Question 1**

Do you agree with proposal 1?

Provide seven day assessment for patients at an appropriate number of Stroke Units for patients experiencing a suspected TIA.

Agree	Neither agree or disagree	Disagree

Comments

**Question 2**

Do you agree with proposal 2?

Provide assessment for clot busting treatment 'thrombolysis' on an appropriate number of sites.

Agree	Neither agree or disagree	Disagree

Comments

Large empty text area for providing comments.

**Question 3**

Do you agree with proposal 3?

Provide a clot removal service 'mechanical thrombectomy' 24 hours a day and seven days a week for suitable patients.

Agree	Neither agree or disagree	Disagree

Comments

**Question 4**

Do you agree with proposal 4?

Provide an appropriate number of Hyperacute Stroke Units to deliver specialist early inpatient care to every stroke patient.

Agree

Neither agree or disagree

Disagree

Comments

**Question 5**

Do you agree with proposal 5?

Establish an appropriate number of Acute Stroke Units co-located with Hyperacute Stroke Units whenever possible.

Agree

Neither agree or disagree

Disagree

Comments



**Question 6**

Do you agree with proposal 6?

Provide community stroke services that are resourced to deliver Early Supported Discharge, the recommended amounts of therapy and respond over seven days.

Agree	Neither agree or disagree	Disagree

Comments

Large empty text area for providing comments.

**Question 7**

Do you agree with proposal 7?

Ensure that stroke survivors and carers have timely access to services from both Health and Social Care and voluntary sector organisations to optimise recovery.

Agree	Neither agree or disagree	Disagree

Comments

**Additional Comments**

Additional comments on the information contained within this document can be included here.

[Empty text area for additional comments]

## Annex 2 Confidentiality of Responses

### Freedom of Information Act (2000) – Confidentiality of Consultations

It is expected that we will publish a summary of responses following the completion of this engagement exercise. Your responses and all other responses may be disclosed on request. We can only refuse to disclose information in exceptional circumstances.

**Before** you submit your response, please read the paragraphs below on the confidentiality as they will give you guidance on the legal position about any information given by you in response to this pre-consultation.

The Freedom of Information Act gives the public a right of access to any information held by a public authority, namely, the Health and Social Care Board (HSCB) in this case. This right of access to information includes information provided in response to this pre-consultation. The HSCB cannot automatically consider as confidential information supplied to it in response to this pre-consultation. However, it does have the responsibility to decide whether any information provided by you in response to this pre-consultation, including information about your identity should be made public or be treated as confidential.

This means that information provided by you in response to this pre-consultation is unlikely to be treated as confidential, except in very particular circumstances. The Lord Chancellor's Code of Practice on the Freedom of Information Act provides that:

The HSCB should not agree to hold information received from third parties "in confidence" which is not confidential in nature. Acceptance by the HSCB of confidentiality provisions must be for good reasons, capable of being justified to the Information Commissioner.

For further information about confidentiality of responses please contact  
The Information Commissioner's Office, or visit the website at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/information-commissioner-s-office>.



Department for

**Infrastructure**

An Roinn

**Bonneagair**
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Your reference:  
 Our reference: PSDFI 87/17  
 1 June 2017

From the Permanent Secretary  
**Peter May**

Mr Liam Hannaway  
 Chief Executive  
 Newry, Mourne and Down District Council  
 Downshire Civic Centre  
 Ardglass Road  
 Downpatrick  
 BT30 6GQ

*Dear Liam*

### **SMART PASS EQUALITY CAMPAIGN**

Thank you for your letter dated 11 May 2017 noting the establishment of the Smart Pass Equality Campaign and your Council's motion for a full fare concession to be extended for those who have refused a driving license on medical grounds.

I appreciate the difficulties that those people who have been refused a driving licence on medical grounds face and this is recognised through the current half fare concession that is provided through the Concessionary Fares Scheme.

For the financial year 2016-2017, the total budget allocated by the previous Executive to cover concessionary fares travel was £41.2m and my Department provided additional funding of £2.5m in March 2017. However, this still left a deficit of £0.6m which Translink was not reimbursed for.

You will be aware that the Department for Infrastructure continues to face significant financial pressures which mean that we are not able to deliver all the services we used to. The Concessionary Fares Scheme already costs around £44m per annum and is increasing annually with the growing population aged over 60.

The previous Infrastructure Minister was sympathetic to the case you make but had indicated the funding was not available to extend the scheme.

We will draw the case made by the Council for an extension of the Concessionary Fares Scheme to the attention of an incoming Minister. However the 2017/18 budget would not enable an extension and I do not think it likely that additional funds would be provided from the Block for this purpose.

*Your ever*

*Peter*

**PETER MAY**



**Policy Forum for Northern Ireland Keynote Seminar:****Priorities for the housing market in Northern Ireland**Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> October 2017

Venue: Belfast



POLICY FORUM  
FOR NORTHERN  
IRELAND

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Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chair's opening remarks**  
Senior Member of the Legislative Assembly
- 9.05 - 9.35 **The future for housing policy in Northern Ireland**  
**Ian Snowden**, Director of Housing Policy and Performance, Department for Communities  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.35 - 10.25 **Tackling issues relating to housing development: planning, construction and finance**  
*With delays in the planning system impacting developers' ability to build houses, what action is being taken by local authorities to improve the speed of processing applications and what other options might help to improve the speed of the process? To what extent would further prioritisation of housing development through councils' Local Development Plans - as well as further engagement with housing sector stakeholders - ensure each area's individual housing needs are met? Given the shortage of homes being built in Northern Ireland, what role might innovation - such as modular and fast-build homes - play in helping to increase supply and reduce costs? How far might the uncertainties surrounding Brexit impact on developers' ability to plan for the future and ultimately increase housing supply - particularly due to the effect on employment and the workforce, cross-border trade, building regulations and cost of materials? What steps can be taken to tackle the barriers to the greater utilisation of vacant and unused land for development - including publicly-owned land? What further action might be necessary to improve existing housing stock - including through upgrading and replacement? How can the current issues with access to finance - including the challenges for first-time buyers, those in negative equity and for large and small developers - be overcome, for example through schemes such as co-ownership?*  
**John Armstrong**, Managing Director, Construction Employers Federation  
**Conor Lambe**, Economist, Danske Bank  
Senior speaker confirmed from the **McAvoy Group**  
Senior representative, local authority  
Senior representative, legal  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.25 - 10.50 **Lessons in promoting development from the Rebuilding Ireland Action Plan**  
Senior speaker to be confirmed  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.50 - 10.55 **Chair's closing remarks**  
Senior Member of the Legislative Assembly
- 10.55 - 11.25 Coffee
- 11.25 - 11.30 **Chair's opening remarks**  
Senior Member of the Legislative Assembly
- 11.30 - 11.45 **Lessons from other jurisdictions in the development of affordable, integrated housing**  
*What lessons could Northern Ireland take from examples of greater collaboration between local authorities, housing developers and housing management companies in the provision of affordable and sustainable houses? What benefits can be gained - including through greater community integration - in the development of mixed housing, and should developers in Northern Ireland be encouraged to develop more social housing as part of new housing stock - for instance through schemes used in the UK which require minimum levels of affordable housing in new developments?*  
Senior speaker to be confirmed
- 11.45 - 11.55 **Next steps in social housing: ensuring quality, supporting wellbeing and building communities**  
**Professor Paddy Gray**, Emeritus Professor of Housing, Ulster University
- 11.55 - 12.05 **The Housing Executive and meeting the demands of a changing housing sector**  
**Clark Bailie**, Chief Executive, Housing Executive
- 12.05 - 12.15 **The future role of local authorities in social housing**  
Senior representative, local government
- 12.15 - 12.45 Questions and comments from the floor with senior speaker to be confirmed
- 12.45 - 12.55 **Concluding remarks**  
**Ian Snowden**, Director of Housing Policy and Performance, Department for Communities
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chair's and Policy Forum for Northern Ireland closing remarks**  
Senior Member of the Legislative Assembly  
**Sean Cudmore**, Deputy Editor, Policy Forum for Northern Ireland