



June 30th, 2023

**Notice Of Meeting**

You are requested to attend the Council meeting to be held on **Monday, 3rd July 2023** at **6:00 pm** in **Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre & MS Teams.**

# 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 2023

*For Approval*

[Action Sheet Council Meeting 05.06.2023.pdf](#)

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### *Council Minutes For Adoption and Signing*

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## 4.0 Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 5 June 2023

*For Approval*

[Minutes Annual Meeting 05.06.2023.pdf](#)

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## 5.0 Minutes of Council Meeting held on 5 June 2023

*For Approval*

[Council Minutes 05.06.2023.pdf](#)

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### *Committee Minutes for Consideration and Adoption*

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## 6.0 Minutes of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee Meeting held on 12 June 2023

*For Approval*

[ERT Minutes 12 June 2023.pdf](#)

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- (i) Minutes of Appeal Hearing re: Application for Entertainments Licence by Quinn's Bar, Newcastle held on Monday 12 June 2023

*For Approval*

[Minutes of Hearing re Quinns Bar Newcastle 12-06-2023.pdf](#)

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### *Committee Minutes for Consideration and Adoption*

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## 7.0 Minutes of Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 15 June 2023

*For Approval*

## 8.0 Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on 19 June 2023

*For Approval*

📄 Active and Healthy Communities Minutes 19 June 2023.pdf

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## 9.0 Minutes of Sustainability and Environment Committee Meeting held on 21 June 2023

*For Approval*

📄 Sustainability and Environment Minutes - 21-06-2023.pdf

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## 10.0 Planning Section

*For Information*

There were no issues to be considered.

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*For Consideration and/or Decision*

## 11.0 Amendment to Standing Orders

*For Approval*

📄 Amendment to Standing Orders.pdf

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*Correspondence*

## 12.0 Response from Department for Infrastructure re: C/084/2023: Emergency Notice of Motion - Fixed Bridge Design for Newry Southern Relief Road

*For Information*

Copy correspondence attached.

📄 STOF-0118-2023 - Newry Southern Relief Road - Emergency Notice of Motion - Fixed bridge Design - NMD DC - Reply.pdf

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## 13.0 Response from Secretary of State for Northern Ireland re: Notice of Motion C/075/2023 - Voting Age Reduction

*For Information*

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## ***Notices of Motion***

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### **14.0 Notice of Motion - Disposable Barbecues**

Notice of motion received from Councillor Clarke:

“Council notes with concern the damage caused by the irresponsible use of disposable barbecues to some council facilities as well as to vulnerable environmental areas;

In response to the situation, Council should explore options to reduce the use of disposable barbecues in all Council facilities and on Council land which is deemed to be environmentally sensitive;

Council should also seek to develop an awareness programme in partnership with relevant stakeholders to highlight the potential harm that disposable barbecues can cause to sensitive environmental areas”.

### **15.0 Notice of Motion - School Sports Programme**

Notice of motion received from Councillor Campbell:

“This Council opposes the recent decision taken by the Department of Education to end the funding for the Primary School Sports Programme in response to Tory budget cuts; Recognises the negative impact this will have on the physical and emotional well-being of thousands of children and young people across the district; Agrees to write to the Permanent Secretary of the Department of Education, outlining this Councils opposition to these funding cuts and to urge him to reconsider this proposal in advance of the new school term in the Autumn”.

### **16.0 Notice of Motion - Study of Languages**

Notice of motion received from Councillor O'Hare:

“This Council notes with concern the British Council’s Language Trends 2023 report which showed that pupils in the north are required to learn languages less than those in any other country in Europe; Council recognises the range of benefits which learning languages can have to a young person’s development; and agrees, in the absence of an Education Minister, to write to the Permanent Secretary of the Department of Education and encourage him and his officials to consider the report and to explore options which would increase the learning of languages in schools here”.

### **17.0 Notice of Motion - Leisure Centres**

Notice of motion received from Councillor Hanlon:



"This Council recognises that in the aftermath of Covid our local leisure facilities & services across the district are experiencing a number of significant challenges; Notes that residents and service users are not getting the services or access to the facilities that they are entitled to; And calls for an urgent and robust review of the planning; management; and delivery of Newry, Mourne & Down's leisure services to be undertaken in order to sustain an operation model that meets the needs of service users, ratepayers, and supports council staff in their ability to deliver first class services".

## **18.0 Notice of Motion - Accepting Electronic Copies of Valid Insurance Certificates for the purposes of Car Taxation throughout Northern Ireland Post Offices**

Notice of motion received from Councillor Lee-Surginor:

*"The practice of requiring paper copies of insurance certificates for car taxation purposes at Northern Ireland Post Offices, is considered obsolete and archaic, creating unnecessary burdens on individuals and organisations in our jurisdiction, when presentation of electronic copies are just as valid, efficient and more practical. I call on this council, in recognising the advantages of electronic documentations and best practice in Great Britain, proposes the following actions: This Council will contact other Northern Ireland councils, seeking their agreement that electronic copies of valid car insurance certificates or cover notes, should be accepted at Northern Ireland Post Offices. Additionally, a letter will be drafted to the Department of Infrastructure Permanent Secretary; to implement administrative changes, allowing the acceptance of electronic insurance certificates or cover notes, at all Northern Ireland Post Offices for car taxation purposes".*

## **19.0 Notice of Motion - University Graduations**

Notice of motion received from Councillor Rice:

*"This Council notes recent concerning reports that many university students may not be able to graduate and receive their qualifications as normal this summer; Council recognises that this is an issue for many students across this district who have worked hard over a number of years in their respective universities; Calls on Queen's University and Ulster University to use their influence to urge the Universities and Colleges Employer Association (UCEA) to engage constructively with workers on demands for fair pay and working conditions, fair pensions and an end to casualisation; and further calls on universities to end the uncertainty for the students who are set to graduate this year".*

## **20.0 Notice of Motion - Seasonal Workers**

Notice of motion received from Councillor Byrne:

*"This Council recognises the acute pressures that apple and mushroom producers are currently under as a consequence of the severe shortage of seasonal workers. This Council calls on the UK Government to relax immigration rules to allow for visas for seasonal agriculture workers to ensure that food can be fully harvested and to prevent the collapse of the horticulture industry as a consequence of the inability to acquire necessary workers".*

## 21.0 Notice of Motion - Conversion Therapy

Notice of motion received from Councillor Finn:

*“Acknowledging Council’s previous agreement to oppose conversion therapy practices; expressing its disappointment that the Executive failed to act on the outlawing of this practice; expresses further dissatisfaction that the practice of conversion therapy remains legal; stands in solidarity with members of the LGBT+ community and recognising the ongoing absence of an Assembly, Executive and Ministers, this Council reaffirms its opposition to conversion therapy and support for the LGBT+ community, and will write to the Permanent Secretaries of Health, Justice and Communities to detail what work can be undertaken by their offices to prepare for the implementation of such a ban in advance of a re-established Executive”.*

# Invitees

Cllr Terry Andrews  
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Cllr Callum Bowsie  
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Cllr Jim Brennan  
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Cllr Pete Byrne  
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Mr Gerard Byrne  
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Cllr Philip Campbell  
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Mr Andrew Cassells  
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Cllr William Clarke  
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Mrs Linda Cummins  
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Cllr Laura Devlin  
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Mr Eoin Devlin  
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Ms Louise Dillon  
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Cllr Cadogan Enright  
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Cllr Doire Finn  
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Cllr Aoife Finnegan  
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Ms Joanne Fleming  
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Cllr Conor Galbraith  
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Cllr Mark Gibbons  
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Cllr Oonagh Hanlon  
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Cllr Glyn Hanna  
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Cllr Valerie Harte  
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Mrs Janine Hillen  
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Cllr Roisin Howell  
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Cllr Jonathan Jackson  
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Cllr Geraldine Kearns  
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Miss Veronica Keegan  
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Cllr Tierna Kelly  
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Mrs Josephine Kelly  
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Mrs Sheila Kieran  
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Cllr Cathal King  
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Cllr Mickey Larkin  
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Cllr David Lee-Surginor  
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Cllr Alan Lewis  
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Cllr Oonagh Magennis  
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Mr Conor Mallon  
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Cllr Aidan Mathers  
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Cllr Declan McAteer  
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Cllr Leeanne McEvoy  
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Jonathan McGilly  
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Cllr Andrew McMurray  
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Catrina Miskelly  
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Maureen/Joanne Morgan/Johnston  
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Cllr Declan Murphy  
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Cllr Kate Murphy  
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Cllr Selina Murphy  
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Cllr Siobhan O'Hare  
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Mr Andy Patterson  
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Cllr Áine Quinn  
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Cllr Henry Reilly  
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Cllr Michael Rice  
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Cllr Michael Ruane  
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Cllr Michael Savage  
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Cllr Gareth Sharvin  
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Donna Starkey  
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Sarah Taggart  
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Paul Tamati  
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Cllr David Taylor  
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Cllr Jarlath Tinnelly  
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Cllr Jill Truesdale  
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Mrs Marie Ward  
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**ACTIONS OUTSTANDING FROM PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETINGS**

<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>
<i>C/178/2019</i>	<i>Notice of Motion – C/131/2019: Live Animals in Circuses</i>	<i>At the request of Councillor McAteer it was agreed the motion remain on the action sheet.</i>	<i>Democratic Services</i>		<i>N</i>
<i>C/084/2022</i>	<i>Minutes of Special Council Meeting held on 28.03.22 – with NIAS &amp; SHSCT</i>	<i>It was agreed to bring forth problem solving solutions to the NIAS in all facets of their work and for this action to be retained on the Action Sheet to keep track of progress</i>	<i>Democratic Services</i>		<i>N</i>

**ACTION SHEET – COUNCIL MEETING – MONDAY 5 JUNE 2023**

<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>
<i>C/108/2023</i>	<i>Chairpersons Remarks</i>	<i>Safety Policy in relation to Jet Skis to be looked at by relevant Directorate.</i>	<i>Democratic Services</i>	<b><i>ERT Officers to liaise with SHEP</i></b>	
<i>C/111/2023</i>	<i>Minutes of Council Meeting held on 03.04.23</i>	<i>The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted.</i>	<i>Democratic Services</i>	<b><i>Noted</i></b>	

<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>
<i>C/112/2023</i>	<i>Minutes of Special Council Meeting held on 27.0.23</i>	<i>The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted.</i>	<i>Democratic Services</i>	<b>Noted</b>	
<i>C/113/2023</i>	<i>Minutes of Audit Committee Meeting held on 04.04.23</i>	<i>The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted.</i>	<i>Democratic Services</i>	<b>Noted</b>	
<i>C/115/2023</i>	<i>Letter from Dept for Infrastructure re: Notice of Motion C.053.2023 School Street Schemes</i>	<i>The letter was noted.</i>	<i>Democratic Services</i>	<b>Noted</b>	
<i>C/116/2023</i>	<i>Letter from Mid Ulster Council re: Notice of Motion C.075.2023 Reduction in Voting Age</i>	<i>The letter was noted.</i>	<i>Democratic Services</i>	<b>Noted</b>	
<i>C/117/2022</i>	<i>Letter from Minister of State for Northern Ireland re: C.075.2023 Reduction in Voting Age</i>	<i>The letter was noted.</i>  It was agreed to write again to the Minister of State for Northern Ireland, as well as Isle of Man, Jersey, Guernsey and Scottish governments stating their disappointment in the response received and to strongly support the call for the right to vote for 16 year old plus to be extended.	<i>Democratic Services</i>  <i>Democratic Services</i>	<b>Noted</b>  <b>Actioned – Letters issued.</b>	

<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>
	<i>Suspension of Standing Orders:</i>  <i>Retention and enhancement of Services at Daisy Hill Hospital</i>	It was agreed that Council to write Directors and management of the Southern Health Trust to request a urgent meeting to discuss their future and emergency plans for the retention and enhancement of services at Daisy Hill hospital.	<i>Democratic Services</i>	<b>Actioned – Letter issued.</b>	
<i>END</i>					

**NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL****NMD/AGM/****Minutes of Annual Meeting of Council held on Monday 05 June 2023 at 5.30pm in the Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick**

**In the Chair:** Councillor M Savage 5.30pm - 6.06pm  
Councillor V Harte 6.06pm – 6.23pm

**In attendance:****(Councillors)**

Councillor T Andrews	Councillor A Lewis
Councillor C Bowsie	Councillor O Magennis
Councillor J Brennan	Councillor A Mathers
Councillor P Byrne	Councillor D McAteer
Councillor P Campbell	Councillor L McEvoy
Councillor W Clarke	Councillor A McMurray
Councillor L Devlin	Councillor S O Hare
Councillor C Enright	Councillor D Murphy
Councillor D Finn	Councillor K Murphy
Councillor A Finnegan	Councillor S Murphy
Councillor O Hanlon	Councillor A Quinn
Councillor R Howell	Councillor H Reilly
Councillor J Jackson	Councillor M Rice
Councillor G Kearns	Councillor G Sharvin
Councillor T Kelly	Councillor D Taylor
Councillor C King	Councillor J Tinnelly
Councillor M Larkin	Councillor J Truesdale
Councillor D Lee-Surginor	

**(Officials)**

Ms J Kelly, Director of Corporate Services  
Mr C Mallon, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism  
Mr A Cassells, Director of Sustainability & Environment  
Ms S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager  
Ms V Keegan, Head of Communications & Marketing  
Ms L Dillon, Democratic Services Officer  
Ms L Cummins, Democratic Services Officer

**AGM/001/2023****APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

The following apologies were received:

Ms M Ward, Chief Executive  
Councillor G Hanna  
Councillor C Galbraith  
Councillor M Gibbons  
Councillor M Ruane



The Chairperson, Councillor Savage, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Councillor Jackson said he wanted to officially forward an apology for Council colleague Councillor Hanna, who had been admitted to hospital and he asked that all colleagues join in wishing him a healthy and speedy recovery.

Councillor Savage echoed the sentiments expressed by Councillor Jackson and expressed warm wishes to Councillor Hanna.

Councillor Savage said this evening had drawn to a close what had been one of the most memorable and enjoyable years and said that to wear the chain of office for the Council had been an honour indeed.

He referred to the responsibilities of the role of Chairperson and the opportunity it gave him to connect with citizens across the entire District, some of who were most remarkable indeed, stating that "the sense of community, belonging, pride and basic humanity shone through like a beacon everywhere he went".

He referred to local festivals from Ardglass to Hilltown and paid tribute to community groups, volunteers, sports coaches, and local leaders of all ages, for their efforts working selflessly on the ground across our community.

Of the many highlights throughout his year in office, Councillor Savage expressed how the memories of the evening of the Chairperson's Civic Awards would stay with him forever, paying tribute to the truly remarkable people he met during the event.

He also referred to the Chairperson's Charity Ball, another highlight of which he was extremely proud and which raised £22,000 for his 4 chosen local charities, the Southern Area Hospice, Suicide Down to Zero, St Vincent De Paul and Simon Community and he expressed his thanks to everyone who attended and contributed.

He said on reflection he felt his year had been about people, the people he worked with, or met for the first time, and with whom he shared a laugh and a tear in equal measure and who have all filled him with the fondest of memories.

Councillor Savage expressed thanks to the Democratic Services Team, including Sheila for her guidance and support and to Sarah, Louise, Linda, Donna, Patricia and Colette for their support and willingness to help and he wished Patricia and Colette every happiness in their retirement.

He thanked Marie and the Management Team for their guidance, support and patience throughout the year.

He also extended thanks to the Members for the courtesy and respect they had shown for him throughout his term of office. He said he vowed to be a Chairperson for everyone and hoped he had been fair in doing so.

He paid tribute to former colleagues who either stood down or did not make re-election and wished them the very best for the future and he wished all new Councillors every success.

Councillor Savage extended thanks to outgoing Deputy Chairperson, Councillor Aoife Finnegan, for her support and willingness to step in when needed.

He paid tribute to his wife Noreen, who despite her own considerable challenges this year, had fully supported him in his role as Chair, and to his children Caolan, Tara and Ella adding he hoped he made them proud.

Finally Councillor Savage wished the new Chair every success for the year ahead.

Outgoing Deputy Chairperson, Councillor Aoife Finnegan extended her thanks to everyone for their support throughout her term in office. She extended thanks to Councillor Savage and wished the incoming Chair every success in their year ahead.

Councillor Sharvin, on behalf of the SDLP party grouping on Council, congratulated Councillor Savage on his year as Chairperson paying tribute to the Civic Awards and Charity Ball events. He also congratulated Councillor Finnegan on her year as Deputy Chair.

Councillor Taylor extended a genuine and personal thanks to the outgoing Chairperson on how he carried out his role and said he had been a first citizen for all, who when asked to participate, did so, and for this Councillor Savage was highly respected. He said the role of Chairperson was one with many demands in particular time away from family and he wished him a well earned break with his family.

Councillor Taylor also extended congratulations to Slieve Gullion colleague Councillor Finnegan on her role as Deputy Chair paying tribute to the energy she gave to the role and wished her enjoyable time with her family.

Councillor McMurray on behalf of the Alliance party grouping on Council, thanked both the outgoing Chair and outgoing Deputy Chair for their contribution throughout their term of office and wished them both good luck for the future.

Councillor Hanlon on behalf of the Sinn Fein party grouping on Council, congratulated both the outgoing Chair and outgoing Deputy Chair for a successful year working across the District for everyone and wished them well in future endeavors.

Councillor Jackson on behalf of the DUP party grouping on Council, congratulated both the outgoing Chair and outgoing Deputy Chair on their year in office and extended best wishes to them for the future.

Councillor Savage thanked the Members for their kind comments.

### **AGM/002/2023    DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest.

**AGM/003/2023**      **TO AGREE THE METHOD FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF STATUTORY RESPONSIBILITY USING D'HONDT BY QUALIFIED MAJORITY VOTE**

**Read:**                      Order of Pick by d'Hondt. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:**                      **It was unanimously agreed on the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Hanlon, to approve the method for the appointment of statutory responsibility using d'Hondt by qualified majority vote.**  
*(Copy of Recorded Vote appended to Minutes)*

**AGM/004/2023**      **TO AGREE THE METHOD FOR THE APPOINTMENT TO STATUTORY COMMITTEES FOR 2023/24 USING QUOTA OF GREATEST REMAINDER BY QUALIFIED MAJORITY VOTE**

**Read:**                      Appointment of Councillors to Committees – Quota Greatest Remainder. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:**                      **It was unanimously agreed on the proposal of Councillor McAteer, seconded by Councillor Andrews, to approve the method for the appointment to Statutory Committees for 2023/24 using Quota of Greatest Remainder with the remaining 7 positions determined using d'Hondt.**  
*(Copy of Recorded Vote appended to Minutes)*

**AGM/005/2023**      **APPOINTMENT OF STATUTORY POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY**

**Read:**                      Appointment to Committees 2023. **(Copy circulated)**

Ms Taggart explained the Appointments to Committees had been allocated and agreed at the Mock AGM held on Thursday 01 June 2023 and after approval at tonight's meeting, the nominating officers would be requested to reiterate their selections for Year One only.

**Agreed:**                      **It was unanimously agreed on the proposal of Councillor Hanlon seconded by Councillor McAteer to approve the Appointments to Committees 2023.**

Ms Taggart called upon Councillor Hanlon as nominating officer for Sinn Féin to nominate a Councillor for the position of Chairperson of Council for Year One 2023/24.

Councillor Hanlon nominated Councillor Valerie Harte for the position of Chairperson of Council for 2023/2024, which was seconded by Councillor McEvoy.

Councillor Harte subsequently accepted the post of Chairperson of Council for 2023-2024.

Ms Taggart called upon Councillor Devlin as nominating officer for SDLP to nominate a Councillor for the position of Deputy-Chairperson of Council for 2023/2024.

Councillor Devlin nominated Councillor Gareth Sharvin, which was seconded by Councillor Andrews.

Councillor Sharvin subsequently accepted the post of Deputy Chairperson of Council for 2023-2024.

Councillor Harte and Councillor Sharvin were duly nominated as Chairperson and Deputy-Chairperson respectively of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council for the year 2023-2024.

Ms Taggart 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 R Howell
Deputy Chair of AHC	Councillor P Campbell
Chair of ERT	Councillor M Ruane
Deputy Chair of ERT	Councillor G Kearns
Chair of S&E	Councillor T Andrews
Deputy Chair of NS	Councillor W Clarke
Chair of SPR	Councillor L McEvoy
Deputy Chair of SPR	Councillor C Enright
Chair of Planning	Councillor D Murphy
Deputy Chair of Planning	Councillor J Tinnelly

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

**Councillors Harte and Sharvin assumed the Chairperson and Deputy-Chairperson roles at this point.**

#### **AGM/006/2023      NEWLY APPOINTED CHAIR AND DEPUTY CHAIR ASSUME ROLES**

Incoming Chairperson of Council, Councillor Valerie Harte, addressed the meeting stating it was with great honour and pride that she accepted the nomination for the position of Chairperson of Newry, Mourne, and Down District Council and was humbled to be entrusted with such a crucial role for the upcoming year of 2023/2024.

She extended congratulations to outgoing Chairperson, Councillor Michael Savage, for his leadership during the past year.

She expressed a special thanks to Council staff who work hard on the ground through rain, hail or snow to ensure our streets were clean and our bins are emptied.

She said she was grateful for the opportunity to serve the District in the capacity of Chairperson of Council and pledged to work hard for all, striving to uphold the values and principles that our District held dear and looked forward to representing the Council within different communities promoting tourism and economic opportunities whilst attracting much needed investment.

Councillor Harte stressed that community was at the heart of what she did and assured this would be reflected during her tenure. As a strong advocate for disability, Councillor Harte

said she would be selecting charities from across the District that provide vital support and outlets for individuals and families of those with disabilities as she believed everyone deserved equal opportunities and access to resources, and she pledged to work to ensure this is echoed in all aspects of her work.

She made reference to the recent announcements which have cast a shadow over Daisy Hill Hospital as in spite of recent positive developments in terms of investment and the expansion of Daisy Hill, the recruitment and retention crisis still remained a threat to services and added that the health and wellbeing of our citizens had to be foremost in our actions as local representatives, including the wellbeing of our excellent health care workers. She said she was committed to working with the relevant parties and statutory bodies to protect and promote services at Daisy Hill Hospital.

She spoke of the many challenges facing the District but believed that with Members support and collaboration, the Council could bring about improvements in health, education, employment, community safety, the environment and social housing.

She said the Council had opportunities to build a better District for workers and families and deliver on key projects including Newry's city centre park and the many great projects either in the pipeline or on the aspirational list, from Crossgar to Culloville, which will be brought to fruition for the people of the District and in partnership with colleagues from other parties and Independents, drive fair regeneration, attract external investment and boost tourism potential.

Finally Councillor Harte stated that the people of Newry, Mourne, Down and South Armagh had entrusted Members with the authority and responsibility to deliver high grade public services and that for their part, Sinn Féin would endeavour to exercise its authority fairly and in the interests of the people who elected them and she thanked everyone for their trust and confidence in her and she looked forward to working to make a positive impact on the District.

Councillor Sharvin thanked the people of Downpatrick and Lecale for returning him to be their Councillor for the area.

He paid tribute to outgoing Chairperson, Councillor Michael Savage and to outgoing Deputy Chairperson, Councillor Aoife Finnegan, for their work ethic ensuring they represented the whole District.

He extended thanks to his SDLP colleagues for nominating him for the role of Deputy Chair of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council, and with reference to his term as Vice Chair of Down District Council in 2013/14, he said he remained committed to representing the entire community as he did back then.

He said he looked forward to the incoming year, stating that the District had a great opportunity to grow and support its tourism offering from the shores of Strangford Lough to the Mountains of Mourne and Ring of Gullion. He said while the District had the best to offer across Ireland to both residents and visitors, business and voluntary sectors continued to face an ever challenging landscape with increased costs and funding cuts.

He hoped the Council would be ambitious in developing the facilities the Council had to offer, but also supporting sporting clubs in growing their own facilities adding that the sports

hubs across DEAs had potential to provide a platform for local people to lead healthy and active lives by improving the quality of facilitates and open spaces.

As Deputy Chair of Council, he pledged to continue to provide a microphone to ensure the vulnerable are heard and issues are not ignored.

Councillor Sharvin congratulated Councillor Harte on her appointment as Chair of Council for the forthcoming year and said he would support the Chairperson in their role for the betterment of the District.

Finally, Councillor Sharvin expressed thanks to his family and friends for their support, the SDLP team both now and before, paying particular tribute to the late Eddie McGrady, Peter Craig, John Doris, Michael Carr, Geraldine Donnelly, Brian Quinn and Patsy Toman, who provided him with such knowledge and the ethos of being on the ground and in your community.

**AGM/007/2023      APPOINTMENTS TO STATUTORY COMMITTEES 2023/24**

Read:                      List of Committee picks 2023-24 (**Copy circulated**)

**Agreed:**                **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Devlin, seconded by Councillor Andrews to approve the appointments to Committees using Quota of Greatest Remainder.**  
*(Copy of Committee List 2024/23 appended to these Minutes)*

**AGM/008/2023      TO AGREE THE METHOD AND TO APPOINT REPRESENTATIVES TO EXTERNAL BODIES AND ORGANISATIONS (EXCLUDING STATUTORY POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY)**

Read:                      List of External Bodies and Organisations 2023/24.  
**(Copy circulated)**

**Noted:**                 Working Group Terms of Reference will require updating at their first meeting.

Ms Taggart said nominations were required for the following external bodies:

- APSE NI Executive Board
- Belfast Region City Deal
- Diversity Ambassadors
- East Border Region
- Somme Advisory Committee

**Agreed:**                **It was unanimously agreed to make the following nominations to the External Bodies below:**



**APSE NI Executive Board:**

- Councillor T Andrews (SDLP)

**Belfast Region City Deal:**

- Councillor Clarke (Sinn Fein)
- Councillor D Murphy (Sinn Fein)
- Councillor P Byrne (SDLP)
- DUP – to be forwarded

**Diversity Ambassadors:**

- Councillor P Byrne (SDLP)
- Councillor A Quinn (SF)
- Councillor D Lee-Surginor (Alliance)
- DUP – to be forwarded
- Mr C Moffett, Head of Corporate Policy

**East Border Region:**

- Councillor T Andrews (SDLP)
- Councillor M Larkin (Sinn Fein)

**Somme Advisory Council:**

On the proposal of Councillor Devlin seconded by Councillor Lewis it was agreed to appoint Councillor Andrews to the Somme Advisory Council in years 1 and 3.

**AGM/009/2023      CHAMBER SEATING ARRANGEMENTS**

**Read:** Proposed plan for seating arrangements in Council Chamber.  
(Copy circulated)

**AGREED:** It was unanimously agreed to accept the proposal plan for seating arrangements within Council Chamber.

**AGM/010/2023      SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS FOR INCOMING YEAR**

**Read:** Schedule of Meetings for the year 2023/24.  
(Copy circulated)

It was agreed the start times for the Schedule of Meetings for the year June 2023 - May 2024 be agreed at the first Meeting of each Committee.

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Hanlon seconded by Councillor Andrews it was agreed to approve the Schedule of Meetings for the year 2023/24.

**AGM/011/2023      PAYMENT OF SPECIAL RESPONSIBILIY ALLOWANCES**

**Read:**                      Newry Mourne & Down District Council Scheme of Allowances payable to Councillors. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:**                    **On the proposal of Councillor Hanlon seconded by Councillor Andrews it was agreed to approve the Newry Mourne & Down District Council Scheme of Allowances payable to Councillors.**

There being no further business, the Meeting concluded at 6.23pm.

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

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



**NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**RECORDED VOTE**

**DATE:** \_05 June 2023 \_\_\_\_ **VENUE:** Chamber Downshire Estate **MEETING:** Annual Meeting

**SUBJECT OF VOTE:** ITEM 3 : To agree the method for the Appointment of Statutory Responsibility using D'Hondt by qualified Majority Vote

COUNCILLOR	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
T Andrews	√			
C Bowsie	√			
J Brennan	√			
P Byrne	√			
P Campbell	√			
W Clarke	√			
L Devlin	√			
C Enright	√			
D Finn	√			
A Finnegan	√			
C Galbraith	Apology			
M Gibbons	Apology			
O Hanlon	√			
G Hanna	Apology			
V Harte	√			
R Howell	√			
J Jackson	√			
G Kearns	√			
T Kelly	√			
C King	√			
M Larkin	√			
D Lee-Surginor	√			
A Lewis	√			
O Magennis	√			
A Mathers	√			
D McAteer	√			
L McEvoy	√			
A McMurray	√			
S O'Hare	√			
D Murphy	√			
K Murphy	√			
S Murphy	√			
A Quinn	√			
H Reilly	√			
M Rice	√			
M Ruane	Ruane			
M Savage	√			
G Sharvin	√			
D Taylor	√			

<b>J Tinnelly</b>				
<b>J Truesdale</b>	√			
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	

**NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**RECORDED VOTE**

**DATE:** \_05 June 2023 \_\_\_\_ **VENUE:** Chamber Downshire Estate **MEETING:** Annual Meeting

**SUBJECT OF VOTE:** ITEM 4 : To agree the method for the appointment to Statutory Committees for 2023/24 using a quota of greatest remainder by qualified majority vote.

COUNCILLOR	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
T Andrews	√			
C Bowsie	√			
J Brennan	√			
P Byrne	√			
P Campbell	√			
W Clarke	√			
L Devlin	√			
C Enright	√			
D Finn	√			
A Finnegan	√			
C Galbraith	Apology			
M Gibbons	Apology			
O Hanlon	√			
G Hanna	Apology			
V Harte	√			
R Howell	√			
J Jackson	√			
G Kearns	√			
T Kelly	√			
C King	√			
M Larkin	√			
D Lee-Surginor	√			
A Lewis	√			
O Magennis	√			
A Mathers	√			
D McAteer	√			
L McEvoy	√			
A McMurray	√			
S O'Hare	√			
D Murphy	√			
K Murphy	√			
S Murphy	√			
A Quinn	√			
H Reilly	√			
M Rice	√			
M Ruane	Apology			
M Savage	√			
G Sharvin	√			
D Taylor	√			

<b>J Tinnelly</b>	√			
<b>J Truesdale</b>	√			
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	

	SF	SDLP	DUP	ALL	UUP	GIBBONS	TINNELLY	TOTALS
1st Preference Votes (LG Election May 2023)	37,032	13,170	9,124	7,176	4,062	1,111	1,043	
1 Number of Councillors	20	8	5	5	1	1	1	41
2 % Full Council Membership	48.78%	19.51%	12.20%	12.20%	2.44%	2.44%	2.44%	100.00%
3 <u>Quota</u> <i>(based on 4 x Standing Committees (15 each), 1 x Planning Committee (12) &amp; 1 x Audit Committee (10) = 82 places)</i>	0.5000	0.5000	0.5000	0.5000	0.5000	0.5000	0.5000	
4 Allocation	40.0000	16.0000	10.0000	10.0000	2.0000	2.0000	2.0000	
5 Allocation of Whole Numbers <b>(First Stage)</b> <i>(This can also be considered as the <u>minimum allocation</u> for each Party Grouping / Independent across the entire Committee structure)</i>	39	16	10	10	0	0	0	75
6 Greatest Residual Remainder <b>(Second Stage)</b> <i>Remaining places to be filled on the basis of the greatest, residual remainders at second stage, where the order of pick is determined by largest decimal number and so on, however this only works where Committees are of an equal size. At this stage six places remain to be allocated across the entire Committee structure</i>	1.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	2.0000	2.0000	2.0000	7

	Active & Healthy Communities			Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism			Sustainability & Environmental Services			Strategy, Policy & Resources			Planning			Audit			CHECK
	Min No	Total	% Check	Min No	Total	% Check	Min No	Total	% Check	Min No	Total	% Check	Min No	Total	% Check	Min No	Total	% Check	
SF	40	7.317	48.78%	7	7.317	48.78%	7	7.317	48.78%	7	5.854	48.78%	6	4.878	48.78%	5	4.878	48.78%	39
SDLP	16	2.927	19.51%	3	2.927	19.51%	3	2.927	19.51%	3	2.341	19.51%	2	1.951	19.51%	2	1.951	19.51%	16
DUP	10	1.829	12.20%	2	1.829	12.20%	2	1.830	12.20%	2	1.464	12.20%	1	1.22	12.20%	1	1.22	12.20%	10
ALL	10	1.829	12.20%	2	1.829	12.20%	2	1.830	12.20%	2	1.464	12.20%	1	1.22	12.20%	1	1.22	12.20%	10
UUP	2	0.366	2.44%	0	0.366	2.44%	0	0.366	2.44%	0	0.293	2.44%	0	0.244	2.44%	0	0.244	2.44%	0
GIBBONS	2	0.366	2.44%	0	0.366	2.44%	0	0.366	2.44%	0	0.293	2.44%	0	0.244	2.44%	0	0.244	2.44%	0
TINNELLY	2	0.366	2.44%	0	0.366	2.44%	0	0.366	2.44%	0	0.293	2.44%	0	0.244	2.44%	0	0.244	2.44%	0
<b>82 TOTAL</b>			<b>14</b>			<b>14</b>			<b>14</b>			<b>14</b>			<b>10</b>			<b>9</b>	<b>75</b>

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

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**Minutes of Council Meeting held on Monday 5 June 2023 at 6.00pm in Downshire Chamber**

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**In the Chair:** Councillor V Harte

<b>In attendance in Chamber:</b>	Councillor T Andrews	Councillor C Bowsie
	Councillor J Brennan	Councillor P Byrne
	Councillor P Campbell	Councillor W Clarke
	Councillor L Devlin	Councillor D Finn
	Councillor A Finnegan	Councillor O Hanlon
	Councillor R Howell	Councillor J Jackson
	Councillor G Kearns	Councillor T Kelly
	Councillor C King	Councillor M Larkin
	Councillor D Lee-Surginor	Councillor A Lewis
	Councillor O Magennis	Councillor A Mathers
	Councillor D McAteer	Councillor L McEvoy
	Councillor A McMurray	Councillor S O'Hare
	Councillor D Murphy	Councillor K Murphy
	Councillor S Murphy	Councillor A Quinn
	Councillor H Reilly	Councillor M Rice
	Councillor M Savage	Councillor G Sharvin
Councillor D Taylor	Councillor J Truesdale	

**In attendance via Teams:** Councillor C Enright**Officials in attendance in Chamber:**

Mr A Cassells, Director of Sustainability and Environment  
 Mr C Mallon, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism  
 Mrs J Kelly, Director of Corporate Services  
 Miss S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager (Acting)  
 Mrs L Cummins, Democratic Services Officer  
 Mrs L Dillon, Democratic Services Officer.

**C/108/2023      APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

Apologies were received from Councillors Galbraith, Hanna, and Ruane and Mrs Ward, Chief Executive.

Councillor Reilly requested the safety policy in relation to jet skis be updated and circulated as the district was now entering the peak busy period in particular the Cranfield and Newcastle areas. He stated there had been an unfortunate tragedy whereby a man recently lost his life in Carlingford lough in a jet ski accident. The Chairperson agreed that the matter would be looked at by the relevant directorate.

**C/109/2023      DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**C/110/2023      ACTION SHEET ARISING FROM COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 3 APRIL 2023**

Read:                      Action sheet arising from Council Meeting held on 3 April 2023 (copy circulated).

**Agreed:                      The Action Sheet from Council Meeting held on 3 April 2023 was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Hanlon, seconded by Councillor Andrews.**

**COUNCIL MINUTES FOR ADOPTION AND SIGNING****C/111/2023      MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 3 APRIL 2023**

Read:                      Minutes of Council Meeting held on 3 April 2023 (copy circulated).

**Agreed:                      The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 3 April 2023 were agreed as an accurate record and adopted, on the proposal of Councillor Lewis, seconded by Councillor McAteer.**

**C/112/2023      MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 27 MARCH 2023**

Read:                      Minutes of Special Council Meeting held on 27 March 2023 (copy circulated).





**Agreed:** **It was agreed to note the correspondence received from Department for Infrastructure regarding School Street Schemes dated 6 April 2023.**

**C/116/2023** **LETTER FROM MID ULSTER COUNCIL RE: C.075.2023 – REDUCTION IN VOTING AGE**

Read: Correspondence from Mid Ulster Council regarding reduction in voting age. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **It was agreed to note the correspondence received from Mid Ulster Council regarding reduction in voting age dated 28 March 2023.**

**C/117/2023** **LETTER FROM MINISTER OF STATE NORTHERN IRELAND RE: NOTICE OF MOTION C.075.2023 - REDUCTION IN VOTING AGE**

Read: Correspondence from Minister of State Northern Ireland regarding reduction in voting age. **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor Andrews thanked members for their support in relation to reduction of voting age to 16 and proposed that Council write again to the Minister of State for Northern Ireland stating their disappointment in the response received and to strongly support the call for the right to vote for 16 year old plus to be extended.

This was seconded by Councillor Devlin.

Councillor Quinn spoke in support of the proposal highlighting that a better process should be authorized to allow younger people to vote and to be able to input on matters that affect them.

Councillor Finn requested that Council also write to the governments of the Isle of Man, Jersey, Guernsey and Scotland to build a stronger case of why young people should be afforded the right to vote and participate within the democratic institution.

**Agreed:** **It was agreed to note the correspondence received from Minister of State regarding reduction in voting aged dated 21 April 2023.**

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Devlin to write again to the Minister of State for Northern Ireland, as well as Isle of Man, Jersey, Guernsey and Scottish governments stating their disappointment in the**

**response received and to strongly support the call for the right to vote for 16 year old plus to be extended.**

It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor Finn to suspend Standing Order 16.1.1 at this point of the meeting to discuss the future plans for the retention of services at Daisy Hill Hospital.

The Chairperson put the matter to a recorded a vote, the results of which were as follows:

**FOR: 36**  
**AGAINST: 0**  
**ABSTENTIONS: 0**

The Motion was carried.

Councillor Savage proposed that Council request an urgent meeting with Directors and management of the Southern Health Trust to discuss their future and emergency plans for the retention and enhancement of services at Daisy Hill Hospital.

This was seconded by Councillor Taylor.

Councillor Savage stated that Daisy Hill had lost nine of its key consultants over the last 12 months, services were crumbling, staff were fearful for their futures, plans seen so far were dependent on the generosity of other Trusts across the North who were already struggling and under severe pressure. He highlighted The Southern Trust appeared to have lost the run of itself on how it manages and contributes to the running and managing of the Daisy Hill Hospital. More importantly the healthcare of the people in the South Down, South Armagh and greater Newry area. He had been lead to believe that stroke patients would no longer be able to attend Daisy Hill if suffering a stroke to receive Thrombolysis treatment, instead they would have drive onto Craigavon Hospital.

Councillor Savage advised that the people in charge need to be held accountable for their decisions.

Councillor McAteer, Murphy, Jackson, Taylor, McMurray and Tinnelly spoke in support of Councillor Savages proposal stating it was a really bad worrying situation and GP's felt a real threat to Daisy Hill and people in the area. Hard questions needed to be asked of the people paid to do a job and why they haven't done their job.

Councillor Savage thanked members for their support.

**Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor Taylor that Council to write**

**Directors and management of the Southern Health Trust to request a urgent meeting to discuss their future and emergency plans for the retention and enhancement of services at Daisy Hill hospital.**

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 6.55pm.

For confirmation at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 3 July 2023.

**Signed:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Chairperson**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Chief Executive**

**NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**RECORDED VOTE**

DATE: 5<sup>th</sup> June 2023    VENUE: Downshire Civic Centre    MEETING: Council

SUBJECT OF VOTE: Qualified majority vote for Suspension of Standing Orders

COUNCILLOR	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
T Andrews	1			
C Bowsie	2			
J Brennan	3			
P Byrne	4			
P Campbell	5			
W Clarke	6			
L Devlin	7			
C Enright	8			
D Finn	9			
A Finnegan	10			
C Galbraith				1
M Gibbons				2
O Hanlon	11			
G Hanna				3
V Harte	12			
R Howell	13			
J Jackson	14			
G Kearns	15			
T Kelly	16			
C King	17			
M Larkin	18			
D Lee-Surginor	19			
A Lewis	20			
O Magennis	21			
A Mathers	22			
D McAteer	23			
L McEvoy	24			
A McMurray	25			
S O'Hare	26			
D Murphy	27			
K Murphy	28			
S Murphy	29			
A Quinn	30			
H Reilly				4
M Rice	31			
M Ruane				5
M Savage	32			
G Sharvin	33			
D Taylor	34			
J Tinnelly	35			
J Truesdale	36			
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>



## NEWRY MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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### **Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 12 June 2023 at 6.00pm in the Boardroom, Monaghan Row, and remotely via Microsoft Teams**

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**Chairperson:** Councillor M Ruane (Chamber)

**Deputy Chairperson:** Councillor G Kearns (Chamber)

**In attendance:** **(Committee Members)**  
 Councillor T Andrews (Chamber)  
 Councillor C Bowsie (Chamber)  
 Councillor P Campbell (Chamber)  
 Councillor W Clarke (Teams)  
 Councillor C King (Chamber)  
 Councillor D Lee-Surginor (Chamber)  
 Councillor S Murphy (Chamber)  
 Councillor A Quinn (Chamber)  
 Councillor J Tinnelly (Teams)  
 Councillor J Truesdale (Chamber)

**Non Members:** Councillor O Hanlon (Teams)  
 Councillor C Enright (Teams)  
 Councillor A McMurray (Teams)  
 Councillor H Reilly (Teams)

**Officials in Attendance:** Mr C Mallon Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism  
 Mr A Patterson, Assistant Director Tourism, Culture & Events  
 Mr J McGilly, Assistant Director Enterprise, Employment Regeneration  
 Mr C Jackson Assistant Director Building Control & Licensing  
 Ms L Dillon Democratic Services Officer  
 Ms L Cummins Democratic Services Officer

### **ERT/062/2023: APOLOGIES / CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

Councillor M Savage  
 Councillor C Galbraith

**ERT/063/2023: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest.

**ERT/064/2023: ACTION SHEET  
MINUTES OF ENTERPRISE, REGENERATION &  
TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETING  
MONDAY 13 MARCH 2023**

Read: Action Sheet arising out of the Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 13 March 2023. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Andrews seconded by Councillor Lee-Surginor it was agreed to note the Action Sheet arising from the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 13 March 2023.

**ERT/065/2023: ERT COMMITTEE – TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Read: Report dated 12 June 2023 from Mr C Mallon Director ERT, regarding the Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee Terms of Reference. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Andrews seconded by Councillor Lee-Surginor it was agreed to adopt the proposed changes as detailed in Appendix 1 – Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Terms of Reference.

**ERT/066/2022: START TIMES  
ERT COMMITTEE MEETINGS  
JUNE 2023 – MAY 2024**

Read: Paper recommending proposed dates and start times for Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meetings from June 2023 to May 2024. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Andrews seconded by Councillor Lee-Surginor it was agreed the start time for ERT Committee Meetings from June 2023 - May 2024 will be 6.00 pm.

**ERT/067/2022: ERT DIRECTORATE BUSINESS PLANS**

Read: Report dated 12 June 2023 from Mr C Mallon Director ERT, regarding ERT Directorate Business Plans. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Campbell seconded by Councillor Kearns it was agreed to approve the ERT Directorate Business Plans.

**NOTICE OF MOTION****ERT/068/2023: NOTICE OF MOTION**  
**RE: INVEST NI**

The following Notice of Motion came forward for consideration in the name of Councillor O Hanlon and Councillor D Murphy :-

*"That this Council notes the recent publication of the Department of Economy's review into Invest NI; Welcomes that the need for profound change within the organisation has been recognised; Notes with concern that Invest NI has not proactively promoted the benefits and opportunities of the Protocol for businesses, which given our councils geographic position represents missed opportunities; And calls on Council to work collaboratively with Invest NI to put a focus on: 1. Promoting a balanced regional economy; 2. Boosting productivity; 3. Targeting support to local small and medium businesses; 4. Bringing new and good quality jobs to our district; 5. Future proofing our local economy and investing in green jobs; 6. Unlocking the potential of our towns."*

Councillor Hanlon presented the Notice of Motion and made the following points:

- Invest NI have an annual budget of almost £140m and over 600 staff, therefore adequately resourced to develop the economy in towns and villages across the District.
- A vast majority of small businesses, particularly in Downpatrick, have been neglected, whereas large companies and consultants have been supported .
- Support should be given to a broad range of business with a partnership approach to sub regional economic development.
- Support for businesses to boost the local economy in Downpatrick and across the District remains a priority for Sinn Féin.



- Invest NI need to review how it conducts business focusing on attracting investment and creating new/good quality jobs in the area helping to unlock the potential of Downpatrick; kick start the night time economy; securing the status of our county town as a tourism and heritage hub and making it an even better place to live for our local community.
- Local businesses have huge opportunity with the north now having real competitive economic advantage as the recent deal between the EU and British Government has unlocked unique and unparalleled access for our businesses to both the EU and British markets.
- Political stability and a functioning Executive is needed to avail of this opportunity to create good jobs, grow businesses and strengthen the economy.

Read: Report dated 12 June 2023 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding a Notice of Motion on Invest NI. **(Circulated)**

**AGREED: It was unanimously agreed to adopt the Notice of Motion.**

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Campbell seconded by Councillor Quinn it was agreed to note the report and ensure as the Invest NI review is implemented, robust structures and processes of engagement are put in place to ensure progress is made against the key priorities outlined in the Notice of Motion.**

**ERT/069/2023: NOTICE OF MOTION  
RE: DOWNPATRICK TOWN**

The following Notice of Motion came forward for consideration in the name of Councillor C Enright and D Lee-Surginor:-

*" This Council recognises the disparity of Council investment between our County Town of Downpatrick when compared to large public-sector led investment proposals for Newry City or the Gateway Project in Newcastle. The recent flawed private sector-led project in our County Town failed to attract any private sector interest in redeveloping Downpatrick's Town Centre. This project aimed to sell off the land-bank built up by Down Council over 30 years including the old Police Station, the main town car-park and derelict properties in Irish Street under the 2011 Downpatrick Masterplan. Council notes NM&D's fresh opportunity to deliver a meaningful, large-scale public investment-led regeneration of Downpatrick's old retail centre in line with the 2011 Council-led*

*Downpatrick Masterplan. This Council directs Management to reinstate the original public-sector led project for the town centre aspect of the Downpatrick Masterplan. Including the in-town 2-lane one-way system, additional on-street parking, enhanced pedestrian areas from ASDA to Irish Street and improved access to the old retail centre of the town to make it competitive with out-of-town shopping, LIDL or ASDA. Council notes that original estimates suggest that this could be achieved with 10% of the estimated cost of the proposed major Newry development or less than half the budget for the so-called Mournes Gateway project in Newcastle."*

Councillor Enright presented the Notice of Motion making the following points:

- The Motion aims to copper fasten the public spending guarantees for the lands around the Irish Street Car park and old Police Station as envisaged by the former Down Council.
- Calls on NMDDC to renew the commitment to restoring the County town of Downpatrick by carrying through the aims of the 2011 Downpatrick Masterplan.
- Recent attempts by Council and DfC to sell several sites, including derelict properties in Irish Street, to the private sector, and abandon the original plan for a public sector led investment plan for the town, failed to attract any private sector investment.
- Calls for a new effort by Council to invest funding to ensure Downpatrick can develop as previously promised.
- Emerging consensus from all parties indicates the development of Downpatrick needs to be a public sector led project – these lands were assembled over 30 years with a view to a plan for the development of the town centre, improving access and revitalising the old retail centre of the town and make it competitive with out of town shopping.

Councillor Lee-Surginor concurred with Councillor Enright and indicated support for the Notice of Motion.

Read: Report dated 12 June 2023 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding a Notice of Motion on Downpatrick town. **(Circulated)**

Mr McGilly referred to initiatives undertaken by Council and DfC in partnership with local stakeholders from across the private sector, business community, community sector and the arts and culture sector.

He also added that the Development Plan was being revisited with the view to obtaining feedback from relevant stakeholders.

He also referred to engagement with wider stakeholders by way of workshops etc led through the Living High Streets initiative funded by DfC, with the Living High Streets Toolkit being launched this autumn.

Councillor Andrews supported the Notice of Motion.

Councillor Campbell said Sinn Fein supported the recommendations contained in the officer report highlighting the positive initiatives completed and ongoing in Downpatrick, Irish Street Public Realm Scheme, and Church Street Revitalisation Scheme which have benefited Downpatrick moving forward, including development of the new skate park and formation of the Regeneration Working Group. He added following engagement with residents and stakeholders including statutory, private and voluntary bodies, that everyone continue to work to improve our County town and move forward together.

**AGREED: It was unanimously agreed to adopt the Notice of Motion.**

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Lee-Surginor seconded by Councillor Truesdale it was agreed:**

- a) To agree the content of the Report, in particular the projects already implemented and those in planning and development phase and the role of the Downpatrick Regeneration Working Group as agreed by full Council.**
- b) To note the completion of the MAG / DfC Living High Street Toolkit in June and the formal launch in Autumn 2023.**
- c) Council Officials will present the outcomes of the MAG / DfC "co-designed" Living High Street Toolkit, as the framework / masterplan for regeneration of Downpatrick Town Centre, at the ERT Committee Meeting in August 2023.**

**ERT/070/2023: NOTICE OF MOTION**  
**RE: VAT FOR HOSPITALITY AND TOURSIM SECTOR**

The following Notice of Motion came forward for consideration in the name of Councillors L Devlin and G Sharvin:-

*" This Council unequivocally supports our hospitality and tourism sector and its vital contribution to the District's economy.*



*This Council puts on record our frustration that the recently announced Spring Budget failed to provide a lifeline to the Hospitality Sector by reducing the VAT rate.*

*This Council writes to the Chancellor calling for the issue to be reconsidered given the ever increasing rate of inflation and the fact that the Republic of Ireland's VAT rate for Hospitality and Tourism is 9% compared to our rate of 20%.*

*This Council writes to all 18 MP's calling on each to lobby for this much needed reduction in VAT ."*

Councillor Andrews presented the Notice of Motion and made the following points:

- VAT is one of the biggest issues facing businesses, in particular the hospitality sector with soaring costs in some cases tripled from a number of years previous.
- NMD district has one of the best food drink offerings, yet increasing costs are pushing businesses to a point of no return.
- Northern Ireland is one of only 3 European countries who do not offer a reduced VAT rate for tourism, and with inflation at a record high, and food seeing the biggest cost increase, this acutely affects the hospitality industry.
- As part of the Council's Corporate Plan, we are endeavouring to make the NMD district one of the premier tourist destination in Ireland which will be impossible without local home grown businesses.
- During the pandemic VAT on hospitality was reduced to 5%, then increased to 12.5% in October 2021 but is now sitting at 20% since last year while in the Republic of Ireland VAT is sitting at 9% therefore making competitiveness impossible.
- The island of Ireland is marketed as a single destination beyond these shores with many visitors going north and south making an unfair competitive advantage.
- Immediate Government support is required for the hospitality sector. In any other financial climate these businesses would be viable and profitable and would in turn support the economy and communities. A VAT reduction would ensure sustainability for these businesses which is vital to the economic fabric of the District.

Several Councillors indicated support for the Notice of Motion.

Read: Report dated 12 June 2023 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events regarding a Notice of Motion on reduction of VAT in the Tourism and Hospitality sector. **(Circulated)**

**AGREED: It was unanimously agreed to adopt the Notice of Motion.**

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Andrews seconded by Councillor Bowsie it was agreed:

a) Council write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer stating:

- This Council unequivocally supports our hospitality and tourism sector and its vital contribution to the District's economy.
- This Council puts on record our frustration that the recently announced Spring Budget failed to provide a lifeline to the Hospitality Sector by reducing the VAT rate.
- This Council calls for the issue to be reconsidered given the ever increasing rate of inflation and the fact that the Republic of Ireland's VAT rate for Hospitality and Tourism is 9% compared to our rate of 20%.

b) Council write to all 18 MPs calling on each to lobby for this much needed reduction in VAT.

## **ENTERPRISE EMPLOYMENT & REGENERATION**

### **ERT/071/2023: ARTISAN MARKETS**

Read: Report dated 12 June 2023 from Mr J McGilly, Assistant Director Enterprise Employment and Regeneration regarding an update on Artisan Markets in Downpatrick, Newcastle, Newry, Warrenpoint and Slieve Gullion pilot. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Campbell seconded by Councillor Lee-Surginor it was agreed:

- To note the annual attendance figures at the Artisan Markets and review market activity in Autumn.
- To note the delivery of a market in Slieve Gullion
- To recommend the sale of local craft alcohol products (unopened) at Artisan Markets, as per Licensing (Northern Ireland) Order 1996 – Local Producer's licence; sales not on licensed premises Article 52D of the Licensing (NI) Order 1996.

**ERT/072/2023: NI ENTERPRISE SUPPORT SERVICE PROGRAMME**

Read: Report dated 12 June 2023 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration, regarding NI Enterprise Support Service Programme. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews seconded by Councillor Lee-Surginor it was agreed:**

- **To note the update provided on the development of a NI Enterprise Support Service Programme.**
- **To approve that Council enters into a formal partnership agreement with the lead Council, subject to a successful funding bid to enable delivery of the programme.**

**TOURISM CULTURE & EVENTS****ERT/073/2023: BALLYKINLAR HUT RELOCATION**

Read: Report dated 12 June 2023 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events, regarding Ballykinlar Hut Relocation. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Truesdale seconded by Councillor Andrews it was agreed to approve the recommendations regarding the Ballykinlar Hut project as set out in above Report.**

**Noted:** It was noted removal of the hut will take place in the autumn to allow visitors to view the hut throughout the summer period.

**ERT/074/2023: BATHING WATER OPERATOR -SANDY BOTTOM WARRENPOINT**

Read: Report dated 12 June 2023 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events, regarding Bathing Water Operator for Sandy Bottom Warrenpoint. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Tinnelly seconded by Councillor Ruane it was agreed Council act as Bathing Water Operator for Sandy Bottom Warrenpoint.**

**ERT/075/2023: IRELAND GOLF TOUR OPERATOR ASSOCIATION**

Read: Report dated 12 June 2023 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events, regarding sponsorship for Ireland Golf Tour Operator Association. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Lee-Surginor seconded by Councillor Andrews it was agreed to approve Council sponsorship in the sum of £5,500 to the Ireland Golf Tour Operators Association National Golf Tourism and Gala Irish Golf Awards in October 2023.**

**ERT/076/2023: VISITOR SAFETY ADVISORY GROUP MEMBERSHIP**

Read: Report dated 12 June 2023 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events, regarding Visitor Safety Advisory Group membership. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Truesdale seconded by Councillor Andrews it was agreed to approve Council membership of the Visitor Safety Advisory Group at an annual cost of £1,150.**

**EXEMPT INFORMATION**

**Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews seconded by Councillor King it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on the following matters 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).**

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews seconded by Councillor Bowsie it was agreed to come out of Closed Session.**

**ERT/077/2023: UPDATE RE: SMALL SETTLEMENTS SCHEME**

Read: Report dated 12 June 2023 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding an update of the Small Settlements Scheme. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews seconded by Councillor King it was agreed:**

- **Available revitalisation funding is allocated to the below action plans to enable the delivery of identified reserve projects:  
(a) -Meigh  
(b) -Newtownhamilton  
(c) -Strangford / Killough**
- **Council enter into an agreement with DFI that establishes agreement for placement of planters at various locations throughout Dundrum village on DFI lands.**
- **Council establish a formal agreement with Dundrum Village Association, to acknowledge the purchase of planters by Council, that ownership of the planters will pass to Dundrum Village Association and outline that Dundrum Village Association will after completion of the revitalisation scheme, assume full responsibility for the planter boxes. The Agreement will pass on Council's responsibilities under the terms of the agreement with DFI to Dundrum Village Association.**
- **Council to 'note' the update on the 4 EI Schemes, with a further report brought back following conclusion of the Tender Stage.**

**ERT/078/2023: AONB & GEOPARK ENVIRONMENTAL FUND BUSINESS CASE**

Read: Report dated 12 June 2023 from Mr J McGilly, Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding AONB & Geopark Environmental Fund Business Case.  
**(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Quinn seconded by Councillor Truesdale it was agreed:**



- a) To note Council have submitted a funding application to NIEA Environment Fund 2023 -28 for provision of Management for the Ring of Gullion and Strangford & Lecale AONBs; and the Strangford Lough, Murlough and Carlingford Lough MPAs.
- b) Subject to a successful funding application Council approve the Business Case for 5-year implementation of the core programmes and proceed to carry out the required procurement exercises in line with budgets available

**ERT/079/2023: CARLINGFORD LOUGH GREENWAY**  
- **BUSINESS CASE FOR STAGE 1 WORKS**

Read: Report dated 12 June 2023 from Mr J McGilly, Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding the Business Case for Carlingford Lough Greenway – Stage 1 works.  
**(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Tinnelly seconded by Councillor Ruane it was agreed:**

- a) **Members approve the Business Case for the Carlingford Lough Greenway `Site Investigation Study`.**
- b) **Members note the Letter Of Offer from DFI Blue Green Fund.**
- c) **Members approve the overall Business Case and proceed with procurement exercises as required for the delivery of Carlingford Lough Greenway project.**
- d) **Council `note` the update on progress and programme for the scheme.**

**ERT/080/2023: THIRD PARTY TICKET SALES**

Read: Report dated 12 June 2023 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events regarding third party ticket sales. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Campbell seconded by Councillor Tinnelly it was agreed to approve the commission rates outlined in this report to third-party ticket sales for groups using Council's arts venues for performances & arts productions via the Council's Box Office.

**ERT/081/2023: TOURISM EVENTS SUPPLIERS**

Read: Report dated 12 June 2023 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events regarding tourism events suppliers.  
**(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Andrews seconded by Councillor Lee-Surginor it was agreed to approve business cases to appoint successful suppliers via a procurement process to deliver on key aspects of Council's annual Tourism Events programme as set out in this report.

**ERT/082/2023: ULSTER RALLY CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Read: Report dated 12 June 2023 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events, regarding Ulster Rally sponsorship.  
**(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Bowsie seconded by Councillor Lee-Surginor it was agreed Council enter into a sponsorship agreement with the event promoters as detailed in above Report.

**FOR NOTING**

**ERT/083/2023: BUILDING CONTROL  
6 MONTHLY REPORT**

Read: Building Control 6 monthly report. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Campbell seconded by Councillor Bowsie it was agreed to note the Building Control 6 monthly Report.

**ERT/084/2023: ERT HISTORIC ACTION TRACKER**

Read: Action Tracker Report for Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Campbell seconded by Councillor Bowsie it was agreed to note the Historic Action Tracker Report for Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee.**

**ERT/085/2023: FOREST PARK ENHANCEMENTS – DOG ENCLOSURES**

Read: Report dated 12 June 2023 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events regarding Forest Park Enhancements – dog enclosures. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Campbell seconded by Councillor Bowsie it was agreed to note the above Report.**

**ERT/086/2023: LIECNSING  
6 MONTHLY REPORT**

Read: Licensing 6 monthly Report. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Campbell seconded by Councillor Bowsie it was agreed to note the Licensing 6 monthly Report.**

**ERT/087/2023: PROPERTY CERTIFICATE FEES**

Read: Report dated 12 June 2023 from Mr C Jackson Assistant Director Building Control & Licensing, regarding Property Certificate fees. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Campbell seconded by Councillor Bowsie it was agreed to note the content of the Property Certificate Fees report.**

**ERT/088/2023: REPORT RE: SCHEME OF DELEGATION  
OCTOBER 2022 – MARCH 2023**

Read: Report regarding Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Department  
Scheme of Delegation 01 October 2022 – 31 March 2023.  
**(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Campbell seconded by  
Councillor Bowsie it was agreed to note the ERT Scheme of  
Delegation Report October 2022 – March 2023.**

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

For adoption at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 03 July 2023.

**Signed: Councillor M Ruane  
Chairperson  
Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee**

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**Signed: Mr C Mallon  
Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism**

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**NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL**


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**Minutes of Appeal Hearing re: Application for Entertainments Licence by  
Quinn's Bar Newcastle held on Monday 12 June 2023 at 5.00pm via  
Microsoft Teams**

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**Chairperson:** Councillor M Ruane (Chamber)

Deputy Chairperson: Councillor G Kearns (Chamber)

**In attendance:** **(Committee Members)**  
 Councillor T Andrews (Chamber)  
 Councillor C Bowsie (Chamber)  
 Councillor P Campbell (Chamber)  
 Councillor W Clarke (Teams)  
 Councillor C Galbraith (Teams)  
 Councillor C King (Chamber)  
 Councillor D Lee-Surginor (Chamber)  
 Councillor S Murphy (Chamber)  
 Councillor J Tinnelly (Teams)  
 Councillor J Truesdale (Chamber)

**Officials in attendance:** Mr C Mallon Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism  
 Mr C Jackson Assistant Director Building Control & Regulation  
 Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism  
 Mr P Rooney Acting Head of Legal Administration  
 Mr E Newell Head of Building Control & Licensing  
 Ms P Hughes Senior Licensing Officer  
 Mr D McAllister Licensing Officer  
 Mr C Toner Licensing Officer  
 Mr J Campbell Head of Environmental Health (Residential)  
 Ms S Cromie Licensing Business Support Officer  
 Ms L Dillon Democratic Services Officer  
 Ms L Cummins Democratic Services Officer

**Also in attendance:** Mr John Burke (Representative for Applicant)  
 Mr Paul McConnell (Objector)  
 Mr Kevin Feehan (Objector)

## **APOLOGIES**

No apologies.

## **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No Declarations of Interest.

## **HEARING**

### **RE: APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL OF ENTERTAINMENTS LICENCE PREMISES AT QUINN'S BAR 62-64 MAIN STREET NEWCASTLE BT33 0AE**

Read: Report dated 12 June 2023 from Mr C Jackson Assistant Director ERT regarding an application for the renewal of an Entertainment Licence for premises at Quinn's Bar 62-64 Main Street Newcastle BT33 0AE. **(Circulated)**

Mr Jackson explained the Council received an application for the renewal of an Entertainment Licence at Quinn's Bar Newcastle, in June 2022, and following notices in the local press, objections to the Licence were received due to noise complaints.

He gave the following background to the application:

- Environmental Health served a Noise Abatement Order on the said premises in relation to the playing of amplified music for prolonged periods.
- An Entertainments Licence was issued for a 3 month period on the basis noise levels would be monitored in accordance with the Abatement Order with special conditions implemented within the Entertainment Licence, ie, doors at side and rear of premises remain closed during entertainment and only opened in the event of an emergency.
- Further complaints were received (as documented in papers circulated to Members).
- The Council are obliged to conduct this hearing to give owners and objectors the opportunity to express their view with discussion by Council thereafter.

Mr J Campbell Head of Environmental Health (Residential) provided background in relation to the Noise Abatement Order.

Mr Paul McConnell and Mr Kevin Feehan gave a 10 minute presentation to Members, in objection to the application.

Mr John Burke, representative for the applicant, gave a 10 minute presentation to Members.

Following discussion by Members, it was agreed to proceed as follows:

**Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Clarke seconded by Councillor Campbell it was agreed:**

- a) To issue a Entertainment Licence to premise at Quinn's Bar 62-64 Main Street Newcastle BT33 0AE, on a temporary basis, for a 3 month period, with the inclusion of special conditions as follows:
- Requirement for a second noise test to be carried out by Owner.
  - Requirement that noise levels are in line with that previously agreed with Environmental Health on 23 November 2022.
  - Premises to be monitored for a 3 month period.
- b) Following the 3 month temporary period during which monitoring will be carried out, if Licence conditions are found to be adhered to, an Entertainments Licence be extended for one year.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 6.00pm.

For adoption at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 03 July 2023.

**Signed: Councillor M Ruane**

**Chairperson of Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee**

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**Signed: Mr C Mallon**

**Director of Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee**

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**NEWRY MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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**Minutes of Strategy Policy & Resources Committee Meeting held on  
Thursday 15 June 2023 at 6.00pm via Microsoft Teams &  
Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre**

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<b>In the Chair:</b>	Councillor L McEvoy (Chamber)
<b>In Attendance in Chamber</b>	Councillor J Brennan Councillor P Byrne Councillor C Enright Councillor O Hanlon Councillor R Howell Councillor T Kelly Councillor A Lewis Councillor A Mathers Councillor D McAteer Councillor S O'Hare Councillor A Quinn Councillor H Reilly Councillor G Sharvin
<b>In Attendance via Teams:</b>	Councillor D Taylor
<b>Non-Members:</b>	Councillor C Bowsie (via Teams) Councillor W Clarke (via Teams) Councillor D Lee-Surginor (via Teams) Councillor A McMurray (Chamber) Councillor J Tinnelly (via Teams) Councillor J Truesdale (via Teams)
<b>Officials in Attendance:</b>	Mrs J Kelly, Director of Corporate Services Mr C Boyd, Assistant Director Capital Projects and Procurement Mr G Byrne, Assistant Director Finance & Performance Ms V Keegan, Assistant Director, Corporate Planning and Policy (Acting) Mrs C Miskelly, Assistant Director Corporate Services (HR & Safeguarding) Mr C Moffett, Assistant Director, Corporate Planning and Policy (Acting) Mr A Patterson, Assistant Director, Tourism Culture & Events Mrs A Robb, Assistant Director Administration Ms E Cosgrove, Head of Compliance Mr P Rooney, Legal Advisor Mr G Scott, Safeguarding Coordinator Ms S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager (Acting) Mrs L Cummins, Democratic Services Officer





*SPR/040/2023 – Rebellion Anniversaries*

Councillor Brennan thanked officers for the work that had been completed following his motion and requested an update on events, with an increase in advertising of these type of events. He also requested that Council plan and adequately communicate the series of events to commemorate the 220th anniversary of the death of Thomas Russell which occurs on the 21<sup>st</sup> October 2023. Mrs Kelly agreed to email an update to Councillor Brennan.

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Hanlon, seconded by Councillor Howell to approve the action sheet from the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 16 March 2023.**

**SPR/063/2023****STRATEGY POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mrs J Kelly, Director of Corporate Services, regarding Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Terms of Reference **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor Byrne stated that SDLP had previously put forward a proposal stating if a report had a financial nature or any information that needed to be kept 'In Committee' it could be kept separate from the rest of report in order to reduce the amount of items not reportable. He asked for a formal response from management as to the reasons why a main paper couldn't be kept in open session and financials put into closed session. Mrs Kelly noted the comments and said each report was looked at on an individual basis and was guided by the legislation. She stated logistically it may lead to additional reports of the same item being placed on agendas but agreed to investigate further.

Councillor Enright commented that he was surprised to see that within the Terms of Reference there was no mention of Planning for expansion of rates base. Councillor Sharvin interjected stating that this was a matter for the Strategic Finance Working Group to consider which then feeds into Strategy Policy and Resources Committee.

The Chairperson confirmed that the matter fell under point 2 of the Terms of Reference – Responsible for the effective planning and stewardship of the Council's entire resources and assets (financials, employees, information technology and land/property assets).

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Quinn, seconded by Councillor Hanlon, to approve the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Terms of Reference.**

**SPR/064/2023****TO AGREE START TIMES FOR STRATEGY, POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2023-2024**

**Read:** Copy of Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting Dates and Times **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Howell, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, that the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meetings would commence monthly at 6.00pm.**

**NOTICE OF MOTION****SPR/065/2023:****NOTICE OF MOTION – MOURNES GATEWAY PROJECT****Read:**

Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr A Patterson, Assistant Director of Tourism Culture and Events, regarding Notice of Motion – Mournes Gateway Project **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor McMurray noted Mr Rooney's comments, asking for clarification that members and officers were voting exclusively on the motion as tabled rather than the officer's report.

The Chairperson confirmed that Councillor McMurray should continue with his motion with a proposer and seconder and if there were any amendments they would be dealt with as needed.

In presenting his motion, Councillor McMurray stated he was an outdoor person who was not opposed to the gondolas and had used gondolas in the past himself for many reasons in a mountain environment and in the correct context they were a welcome addition. He stated Council risked spoiling a recognised area of ASSI and AONB through the addition of an out of place visitor centre and advised the project would impact on many other areas of environmental interest eg. Glen River Walk. He advised that currently the only trend for upland visitor centres was their removal rather than their construction and the coach term market that formed a sizeable element of the project did not have the economic benefits that were assumed to go with it. Councillor McMurray stated the project should be paused until explicit consent has been gained from landowners, and until further clarity on the actual installation, running and maintenance costs were presented.

In proposing the motion Councillor Kelly requested a recorded vote on the motion. This was seconded by Councillor Enright.

Councillor Hanlon asked for clarity as to why a recorded vote was required at this point when the officer's recommendation had not yet been heard.

*The Chairperson paused the meeting at this stage – 18.29pm.*

*The meeting recommenced at 18.32pm.*

Mr Rooney advised Members that under standing orders, the motion had been referred to the committee for consideration, the motion would be debated and dealt with as a motion. In terms of the officer's report, it was a recommendation from officers to inform a decision and ultimately the motion had to be decided whether it was carried or not before the officer's recommendation became relevant.

He advised his understanding was that the usual debate should happen on the notice of motion, and the officer's report was there to assist if there were any queries.

The Chairperson queried if the recorded vote as requested as per Councillor McMurray's motion would take place after the debate if there was an amendment. Mr Rooney confirmed this was correct as per normal standing orders.

Councillor Hanlon thanked the Alliance Party for bringing the motion, welcoming the sentiments and sharing concerns around the project, she recognised there were a number of significant issues that needed addressed before a final decision could be made on the viability of the proposal in the months ahead. She stated, that she, along with all Parties and Councillors had been lobbied, however the mistruths circulated on social media about counter motions and votes on projects and votes on motions was unhelpful. She stated Council could not gauge the public views without full stakeholder involvement.

Councillor Hanlon proposed the following amendment:

“This Council notes with concern the continued lack of clarity regarding the Visitor Centre located at Thomas’ Mountain and ‘Gondola’ elements of the Mourne Gateway Project. Council will; revisit the stakeholder engagement process and undertake a robust consultation on the project with residents, workers and businesses within the district via the project board for approval and actively investigate and develop alternatives to the Mourne Gateway Project which will both meet the funding criteria while enhancing this Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Officers to bring back a paper to Committee that provides a full and comprehensive update on the status of the project thus far. A schedule of key stakeholder and interested parties should be provided as part of this update.”

Councillor Byrne seconded the amendment stating that the officer’s recommendation needed to be more robust and a recap of all procedures was required for new Councillors. He stated that the legal opinion given tonight on motions was confusing and a dangerous precedent was being set which needed further clarity.

Councillor Kelly did not accept the amendment.

In response to query raised by Councillor McAteer, Ms Taggart clarified that as there had been an amendment put forward, which was not agreed, the original motion needed to be dealt with as had been done with all previous motions that had come forward.

Councillor Byrne queried what exactly the vote was on as Members had not heard from the officer and there was confusion as to what was being requested.

Mr Patterson advised the report stated the current status and the proposed steps for carrying forward the project. He advised a Project Board had been established to keep members informed with detailed presentations and to update new members.

The original motion was put to a recorded vote the results were as follows (copy appended to these minutes)

<b>FOR:</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>AGAINST:</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>ABSTENTIONS:</b>	<b>3</b>

The Motion was lost.

Councillor Hanlon’s amendment was then put to a vote, the results of which were as follows:

<b>FOR:</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>AGAINST:</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>ABSTENTIONS:</b>	<b>4</b>

The Motion was carried.

A discussion took place and Members asked that a report be brought back to the next meeting on how Notice of Motions should be dealt with at committees.

**Agreed:** **Following a recorded vote, it was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Hanlon, seconded by Councillor Byrne, to adopt the Notice of Motion as amended: "This Council notes with concern the continued lack of clarity regarding the Visitor Centre located at Thomas' Mountain and 'Gondola' elements of the Mourne Gateway Project. Council will; revisit the stakeholder engagement process and undertake a robust consultation on the project with residents, workers and businesses within the district via the project board for approval and actively investigate and develop alternatives to the Mourne Gateway Project which will both meet the funding criteria while enhancing this Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Officers to bring back a paper to Committee that provides a full and comprehensive update on the status of the project thus far. A schedule of key stakeholder and interested parties should be provided as part of this update."**

#### **FOR CONSIDERATION AND OR DECISION**

**SPR/066/2023:** **REVISED ACCESS TO INFORMATION POLICY AND PROCEDURE**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Ms E Cosgrove, Head of Compliance, regarding Revised Access to Information Policy and Procedure **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Howell, seconded by Councillor Mathers, that Elected Members agree to approve the ATIPP.**

**SPR/067/2023:** **REVISED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST POLICY AND PROCEDURES**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Ms E Cosgrove, Head of Compliance, regarding Revised Conflicts of Interest Policy and Procedures **(Copy circulated)**

In response to a query from Councillor Sharvin, Ms Cosgrove clarified that senior officer declarations of interest were published on the website but their content was not, based on ICO guidance. High risk posts would not be published, however they would be monitored and evaluated internally for completion figures.

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Hanlon, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, that Elected Members agree to approve the COIPP.**

**SPR/068/2023:** **PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2023-24**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr G Byrne, Assistant Director: Finance and Performance regarding Performance Improvement Plan 2023-24 **(Copy circulated)**

In response to query from Councillor Hanlon, Mr Byrne advised it was a statutory requirement to report on each of the measures and a report would be brought back mid-year and end of year. He advised communication from the department advised that there was only funding for the Labour Market Partnership for quarter one, so after June there was no further funding. Mr Byrne confirmed he would email all committee members with an update before the Performance Improvement Plan was published in July and bring back a further report to the August Strategy Policy and Resources committee meeting.

In response to query from Councillor McAteer, Mr Byrne stated procurement regulations needed to be followed but were trying to make it more open to local companies by publishing on social media links to any tender uploaded and instructions on how to join the portal.

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Hanlon, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, that Elected Members approve the following recommendations:**

- **The Performance Improvement Plan 2023-24 (including the five performance improvement objectives), Consultation and Engagement Report 2023-24 and Objective Delivery Plans 2023-24.**
- **That the Performance Improvement Plan 2023-24 is published following full Council ratification in July 2023.**

**SPR/069/2023:** **DIRECTORATE BUSINESS PLANS 2023-24**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mrs J Kelly, Director Corporate Services regarding, Director Business Plan 2023-24 **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Howell, seconded by Councillor Quinn, that Elected Members approve the following recommendations:**

- **Assessment of the Chief Executive's Business Plan and Corporate Services Directorate Business Plan 2022-23**
- **Chief Executive's Business Plan and Corporate Services Directorate Business Plan 2023-24**

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

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Hanlon, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on items 11-27 which related to exempt information by virtue of para. 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local /Government (Northern Ireland) 2014 – Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Howell seconded by Councillor O’Hare, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

The Chairperson advised the following had been agreed while in closed session.

**SPR/070/2023: RENEWAL OF LEASE OF OFFICE AT DOWN ARTS CENTRE**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023, from Mr P Rooney, Head of Legal Administration regarding renewal of Lease of Office at Down Arts Centre (Copy circulated).

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Quinn, it was agreed that Elected Members approve to enter into a Lease in respect of the offices shown outlined in red on the map with Down Community Arts for a period of five years subject to the market rent set out in this report.

**SPR/071/2023: EXTENDED TO AREA LEASED AT DUNGORMLEY ESTATE, NEWTOWNHAMILTON**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr P Rooney, Head of Legal Administration regarding extension to area leased at Dungormley Estate, Newtownhamilton (**Copy circulated**).

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Taylor, seconded by Councillor Quinn, it was agreed that Elected Members approve to lease the lands outlined in green on the map attached to the report for a term of 961 years from 1st June 2023 paying the Lease Premium set out in this report.

**SPR/072/2023: REQUEST TO LEASE LANDS AT BUNKERS HILL, CASTLEWELLAN**



- Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr P Rooney, Head of Legal Administration regarding request to lease lands at Bunkers Hill, Castlewellan (**Copy circulated**).
- Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Howell, seconded by Councillor McAteer, it was agreed that Elected Members approve the following recommendations:**
- **That Council's external legal advisors who acted for Council in the acquisition of the lands at Bunkers Hill contact NIHE regarding the release of the restrictive covenant.**
  - **Once agreement has been reached to remove the restrictive covenant to lease the lands hatched red on the map attached to the report to the party identified within the report for the remainder of the Original Term subject to market value rent and / or premium to be determined by Council's valuer.**
- SPR/073/2023: SURRENDER OF LEASE OF PITCH AT CARRIGENAGH ROAD PLAYING FIELDS, KILKEEL**
- Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr P Rooney, Head of Legal Administration regarding surrender of lease of pitch at Carrigenagh Road playing fields, Kilkeel (**Copy circulated**).
- Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Reilly, seconded by Councillor McEvoy, it was agreed Elected Members approve to permit the Club named in the report to surrender the Lease in respect of a pitch at Carrigenagh Road Playing Fields subject to consent from the Lands Tribunal.**
- SPR/074/2023: PROPOSED LEASE OF SAINTFIELD COMMUNITY CENTRE**
- Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr P Rooney, Head of Legal Administration regarding proposed lease of Saintfield Community Centre (**Copy circulated**).
- Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Kelly, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, it was agreed Elected Members approve to extend the term of years previously agreed from 15 years to 25 years in respect of the proposed lease of Unit B Saintfield Community Centre.**
- SPR/075/2023: REQUEST TO DISPOSE OF STRIP OF LAND AT SAINTFIELD COMMUNITY CENTRE**



**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr P Rooney, Head of Legal Administration regarding request to dispose of strip of land at Saintfield Community Centre **(Copy circulated)**.

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Kelly, it was agreed that Elected Members approve to the sale of the lands outlined in red on the attached map to the party detailed in the report for the value determined by Council's valuer subject to the purchaser erecting at their own cost a suitable boundary to be agreed with Council Officers.**

**SPR/076/2023: REQUEST TO LEASE LANDS AT KILLOUGH PLAYING FIELDS, KILLOUGH**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr P Rooney, Head of Legal Administration regarding request to lease lands at Killough playing fields, Killough **(Copy circulated)**.

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Hanlon, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, it was agreed that Elected Members approve to lease the lands outlined in red on the map attached to the report to the party identified within the report for a term of three years subject to market value rent.**

**SPR/077/2023: REQUEST FOR WAYLEAVE AT SLIEVE GULLION FOREST PARK**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr P Rooney, Head of Legal Administration regarding, request for Wayleave at Slieve Gullion Forest Park **(Copy circulated)**.

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Quinn, seconded by Councillor Byrne, it was agreed Elected Members approve to enter into the Wayleave Agreement with Fibrus in respect of lands at Slieve Gullion Forest Park subject to market value consideration if any.**

**SPR/078/2023: LEASE OF OLD GASWORKS SITE, NEWRY**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr P Rooney, Head of Legal Administration regarding lease of The Old Gasworks Site, Newry **(Copy circulated)**.

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Mathers, seconded by Councillor McAteer, it was agreed to defer this item.**

**SPR/079/2023: RENEWAL LICENCE FOR PORTACABIN AT SHANDON PARK, NEWRY**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr P Rooney, Head of Legal Administration regarding renewal of Licence for portacabin at Shandon Park, Newry (**Copy circulated**).

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Taylor, seconded by Councillor Mathers, it was agreed Elected Members approve to enter into a Licence with the Club noted in the report in respect of the plot of land as is outlined in green on the attached map for a period up to 30th July 2024 with a one year extension running from 1st August 2024 until 30th July 2025 provided that planning is obtained at a peppercorn licence fee subject to Departmental Consent.**

**SPR/080/2023: LEASE OF BALLYNAHINCH MARKET HOUSE**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr P Rooney, Head of Legal Administration, regarding lease of Ballynahinch Market House (**Copy circulated**).

Mrs Kelly advised that Councillor Bowsie could contact her outside of the meeting should he require any further clarity on the matter.

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Hanlon, seconded by Councillor Kelly, it was agreed Elected Members approve to enter into a Lease with the successful Expression of Interest applicant noted in the report in respect of Ballynahinch Market House for a term of up to 25 years at the market rent noted in the report.**

**SPR/081/2023: RENEWAL OF LICENCES AT CROSSMAGLEN COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr P Rooney, Head of Legal Administration, regarding renewal of licences at Crossmaglen Community Centre (**Copy circulated**).

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Quinn, seconded by Councillor Byrne, it was agreed Elected Members approve to the granting of annual licence agreements with the parties identified in the report for a period of up to three years subject to the licence fees noted in the report, subject to Departmental Consent being obtained in respect of the Licensee paying less than the market value licence fee.**

**SPR/082/2023: CIVIL ENGINEERING MINOR WORKS FRAMEWORK PROCUREMENT**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr P Rooney, Head of Legal Administration, regarding Civil Engineering Minor Works Framework Procurement (**Copy circulated**).

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor McAteer, seconded by Councillor Howell, it was agreed Elected Members approve officers to conduct a 2 stage open tender procurement process including a PQQ and ITT process to select a Contractor(s) for a maximum period of 4 years and up to £12 million with a review and break clause on the second and third anniversary.**

**SPR/083/2023: NCCR – BRCD APPROVAL OF PUBLIC REALM COMPENSATION EVENT**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr P Rooney, Head of Legal Administration, regarding NCCR – BRCD Approval of Public Realm Compensation Event (**Copy circulated**).

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor McAteer, seconded by Councillor Mathers, it was agreed Elected Members approve the appointment of the incumbent design team of the NCCR programme to undertake the Public Realm design and delivery as set out in this report.**

**SPR/084/2023: PROVISIONAL OF INTERNAL AUDIT SERVICES 2023-2027**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr P Rooney, Head of Legal Administration, regarding provisional of Internal Audit Services 2023-2027 (**Copy circulated**).

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Quinn, seconded by Councillor Hanlon, it was agreed Elected Members approve the additional Internal Audit Spend as detailed in the officer's report to ensure Council has an adequate control environment.**

**FOR NOTING – The following items are deemed to be exempt under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the October 2022 Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014**

**SPR/089/2023: DFC BUDGET2023/24 – CONSULTATION RESPONSES**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr G Byrne, Assistant Director of Finance & Performance, regarding DfC Budget 2023/24 – Consultation Responses. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Hanlon, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, it was agreed to note the impact of the proposed Rates Support Grant cut and funding of the Labour Market Partnerships and to review the Councils EQIA responses at Appendix 3 and 4.**

**SPR/090/2023: MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS -YEAR END 2022/23**

**Read:** Circular dated 15 June 2023 from Management Accounts – Year End 2022/23. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Hanlon, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, it was agreed to note the Year End Management Accounts 2022/23 update.**

**FOR NOTING**

**SPR/091/2023: 2022/23 FOI/EIR/DP/RM MONITORING STATISTICS**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Ms E Cosgrove, Head of Compliance, regarding 2022/23 FOI/EIR/DP/RM Monitoring Statistics **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Reilly, seconded by Councillor Howell, it was agreed to note the monitoring statistics.**

**SPR/092/2023: ANNUAL REPORT PERIOD 1 APRIL 2022 – 31 MARCH 2023 – REQUESTS RELATED TO NAMING COUNCIL FACILITIES, PLANTING TREES AND TO LOCATE ARTWORKS/SCULPTURES ON COUNCIL PROPERTY**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr C Moffett, Assistant Director Corporate Planning and Policy (Acting) regarding Annual report period 1 April 2022 – 31 March 2023 – Requests related to naming Council facilities, planting trees and to locate Artworks/Sculptures on Council property **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Reilly, seconded by Councillor Howell to note the completed annual return prepared and submitted to DAERA on 30 May 2023 to meet their requested deadline of 20 June 2023:**

- **Appendix 1 – Newry Mourne and Down District Council Rural Needs Annual Monitoring Report for period 1 April 2022 – 31 March 2023.**

**SPR/093/2023: STATUTORY REPORTING - SECTION 75 POLICY SCREENING REPORT – QUARTERLY REPORT FOR PERIOD JANUARY – MARCH 2023**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr C Moffett, Assistant Director Corporate Planning and Policy (Acting) regarding Statutory Reporting – Section 75 Policy Screening Report – Quarterly Report for Period January – March 2023 (**Copy circulated**)

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Reilly, seconded by Councillor Howell to note the Section 75 Policy Screening Report – Quarterly Report for period January – March 2023.**

**SPR/094/2023: DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING ACTIVITY REPORT – LOCAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS COUNT, 19 & 20 MAY 2023**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Ms V Keegan, Assistant Director Corporate Planning and Policy (Acting) regarding Digital Communications and Marketing Activity Report – Local Council Elections Count, 19 & 20 May 2023 (**Copy circulated**)

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Reilly, seconded by Councillor Howell to note the contents of the report.**

**SPR/095/2023: THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND DEPARTMENT FOR JUSTICE DRAFT DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL ABUSE STRATEGY 2023 – 2030 AND ASSOCIATED EQUALITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS SCREENING**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr G Scott, Safeguarding Coordinator, regarding The Department of Health and Department of Justice draft Domestic and Sexual Abuse Strategy 2023 – 2030 and associated Equality and Human Rights Screening (**Copy circulated**)

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Reilly, seconded by Councillor Howell to note the consultation response on the draft Domestic and Sexual Abuse Strategy 2023 – 2030 and Equality and Rural Needs Screening (Appendix 1).**

**SPR/096/2023: THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE CONSULTATION ON FORMS OF EVIDENCE OF DOMESTIC ABUSE THAT SHOULD TRIGGER AN AUTOMATIC PROHIBITION ON CROSS-EXAMINATION IN PERSON IN FAMILY PROCEEDINGS AND ASSOCIATED EQUALITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS SCREENING**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr G Scott, Safeguarding Coordinator, regarding The Department of Justice consultation on Forms of Evidence of Domestic Abuse that should Trigger an Automatic Prohibition on cross-examination in person in family proceedings and associated Equality and Human Rights Screening. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Reilly, seconded by Councillor Howell to note The Department of Justice consultation on Forms of Evidence of Domestic Abuse that should Trigger an Automatic Prohibition on cross-examination in person in family proceedings and associated Equality and Human Rights Screening (as Appendix 1)**

**SPR/097/2023:** **MINUTES OF MOURNE GATEWAY PROJECT – PROJECT BOARD MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> MARCH 2023**

**Read:** Minutes of Mourne Gateway Project – Project Board Meeting held on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2023 **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Reilly, seconded by Councillor Howell to note the Minutes of Mourne Gateway Project – Project Board Meeting held on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2023**

**SPR/098/2023:** **MINUTES OF NEWRY CITY CENTRE REGENERATION PROGRAMME BOARD MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> MARCH 2023**

**Read:** Minutes of Newry City Centre Regeneration Programme Board Meeting held on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2023

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Reilly, seconded by Councillor Howell to note the Minutes of Newry City Centre Regeneration Programme Board Meeting held on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2023**

There being no further business, the Meeting concluded at 20.25pm.

For adoption at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 3 July 2023.

**Signed:** **Councillor Leeanne McEvoy**  
**Chairperson**

**Signed:** **Josephine Kelly**  
**Director of Corporate Services**

**NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**RECORDED VOTE**

**DATE:** 15 June 2023 **VENUE:** Downshire Civic Centre/Microsoft Teams **MEETING:** SPR Committee

**SUBJECT OF VOTE:** Notice of Motion: Mournes Gateway Project

COUNCILLOR	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
J Brennan		1		
P Byrne		2		
C Enright	1			
O Hanlon		3		
R Howell		4		
T Kelly	2			
A Lewis			1	
D McAteer		5		
L McEvoy		6		
A Mathers		7		
S O'Hare		8		
A Quinn		9		
H Reilly			2	
G Sharvin		10		
D Taylor			3	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>	

**NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Ref: AHC/2023

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**Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on  
Monday 19 June 2023 at 6.00pm in the Mourne Room, Downshire Civic  
Centre and via Microsoft Teams**

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**Chairperson:** Councillor R Howell (Chamber)

**In attendance in Chamber:**

Councillor D Finn  
 Councillor A Finnegan  
 Councillor C Galbraith  
 Councillor D Lee-Surginor  
 Councillor O Magennis  
 Councillor A Mathers  
 Councillor A McMurray  
 Councillor D Murphy  
 Councillor K Murphy  
 Councillor S O'Hare

**In attendance via Teams:** Councillor M Gibbons

**Non-Members  
 in attendance on Teams:** Councillor H Reilly  
 Councillor M Rice  
 Councillor G Sharvin

**Officials in attendance  
 in Chamber:**

Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement  
 Mrs A Robb, Assistant Director, Corporate Services  
 Mr B Rankin, Head of Sustainability  
 Mrs S Trainor, Head of Environmental Health  
 Ms S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager  
 Mrs D Starkey, Democratic Services Officer



**AHC/047/2023: APOLOGIES & CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

Apologies were received from Councillors Devlin, Jackson and Lewis.

Councillor Howell welcomed everyone to the Active and Healthy Communities Committee, her first as Committee Chairperson.

**AHC/048/2023: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor O'Hare declared an interest in item 6: Notice of Motion – Vaping and E Cigarette Retailers

Councillor Howell declared an interest in item 12: Financial Assistance.

**AHC/049/2023: ACTION SHEET ARISING FROM ACTIVE & HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 20 MARCH 2023**

Read: Action sheet of the Active & Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Monday 20 March 2023. **(Copy circulated).**

***AHC/171/2021: Minor Works Scheme at Cloughrea Community Centre***

In response for an update from Councillor D Murphy regarding Cloughrea Community Centre, Mrs Hillen confirmed works were continuing and she was not aware of any further delays to the scheme. Mrs Hillen undertook to provide more detail for Councillor Murphy after the meeting.

***AHC/010/2023: Upgrade Works at Barcroft and Threeways Community Centre***

Councillor Mathers voiced concern at the delays for the Community Centre and requested an urgent update be provided to the community association committee members with a clear timeline for the completion of works.

Mrs Hillen advised that whilst there had been ongoing delays to begin with, she was not aware of any further delays to the scheme at this stage and she would ensure a full update would be provided to the community association and Councillor Mathers.

**AHC/096/2022: Dunleath Park Enhancement**

Councillor Sharvin enquired if there had been any update given that the application for the levelling up fund had been unsuccessful.

Mrs Hillen advised she would ask Mr Tamati to provide a full update through the Downpatrick DEA on his return.

**AHC/200/2022: Newry Leisure Centre Swimming Pool**

In response for an update on work to the Newry Leisure Centre Swimming Pool from Councillor Finn, Mrs Hillen advised she would ensure Mr Tamati would provide a detailed response to her on his return.

**Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor D Murphy, seconded by Councillor Mathers to note the Action Sheet**

**of the Active and Healthy Communities Committee  
Meeting held on Monday 20 March 2023.**

**AHC/050/2023: ACTIVE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Read: Report dated 19 June 2023 regarding Terms of Reference for Active and Healthy Communities. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor D Murphy, seconded by Councillor Lee-Surginor to adopt the Active and Healthy communities Committee Terms of Reference as detailed within appendix 1 of the officer's report.

**AHC/051/2023: TO AGREE START TIME FOR AHC COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2023-2024**

Read: List of AHC Committee Meetings 2023-2024 **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Magennis, seconded by Councillor Lee-Surginor that the start time for AHC Committee Meetings 2023/24 will be 6.00 pm.

Councillor O'Hare left the meeting at this point having declared an interest in item 6 – 6.09pm.

**AHC/052/2023: NOTICE OF MOTION – VAPING AND E CIGARETTE RETAILERS**

Read: Report dated 19 June 2023 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health and Wellbeing presented by Mrs S Trainor regarding a Notice of Motion, Vaping and E Cigarette Retailers. **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor Rice presented his motion and advised he had brought this motion to Council in March 2023 and commended Council staff for their work in tackling the underage sale of these vape products. He spoke of how this had been an issue that had been increasingly brought to him from concerned parents with children as young as 13 or 14 gaining access to these products too easily. It was a problem on the rise and he believed there was a need to proactively educate shop owners, not just vape product stores. Shop owners also needed to be provided with information on the consequences of selling these products to underage children and that shopkeeper's needed training on how to ask people for ID.

Councillor Rice summed up by asking that if Committee agreed he believed a more proactive approach was needed to tackle this ongoing issue.

Councillor Finnegan proposed the motion and the recommendations of the report and this was seconded by Councillor K Murphy.

Councillor McMurray spoke in support of the motion and how the positioning of vape products within stores would need addressed as they can be found beside sweet aisles and problems associated with disposable vapes.

Mrs S Trainor, Head of Environmental Health thanked Members for their approval and that she would take on board comments made when writing to the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) to request that they write to tobacco and nicotine inhaling product retailers outlining the dangers associated with children using these products.

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Finnegan, seconded by Councillor K Murphy that Council to the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) to request that they write to tobacco and nicotine inhaling product retailers outlining the dangers associated with children using these products.**

Councillor O'Hare re-joined the meeting following the above discussion.

**AHC/053/2023:** **NOTICE OF MOTION – INCLUSIVE AND ACCESSIBLE LEISURE FACILITIES**

**Read:** Report dated 19 June 2023 from Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director, Leisure and Sport regarding a Notice of Motion, Inclusive and Accessible Leisure Facilities. **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor Sharvin commented he was disappointed with the report given it had been 3 months since the motion was tabled at Council. He touched on the importance of the training needs of Council staff and advised he would wait until a further report came back to comment further.

Councillor Magennis on behalf of Sinn Féin welcomed Councillor Sharvin's motion and also spoke of the importance of specialised training for staff to a high standard particularly for those with autism to make the experience for children and their families more enjoyable. She asked that Council use all resources available to see vast improvements for service users across the District.

Councillor McMurray welcomed the motion stating it was not only important for Council to be compliant but also proactive in the provision of these services and pointed out not all disabilities were visible.

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Magennis, seconded by Councillor McMurray to note that further scoping work was required in relation to this Notice of Motion and once completed a report would be tabled for consideration.**

**AHC/054/2023:** **AHC DIRECTORATE ANNUAL ASSESSMENT OF BUSINESS PLANS**

**Read:** Report dated 19 June 2023, regarding the Active and Healthy Communities Directorate Annual Assessment of Business Plans. **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor D Murphy enquired if there were any plans to improve on those areas where targets had not been reached. In his absence, Mrs Hillen confirmed she would ask Mr

Tamati to provide an update at the next meeting.

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Lee-Surginor, seconded by Councillor D Murphy to approve the assessment of the AHC Directorate Business Plan 2022-23 and the AHC Directorate Business Plan 2023-24.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

**AHC/055/2023: DISTRICT ELECTORAL AREA (DEA) FORUMS UPDATE REPORT**

**Read:** Report dated 19 June 2023 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding the District Electoral Area (DEA) Forums Update Report **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor D Murphy spoke at length about the detrimental impact changes to the budget would have on the work of DEAs.

Mrs Hillen by way of information advised Members the Executive Office provided funding which was directed down to DEAs by Council and that officers were extremely disappointed the external funding had been cut this year. She added a 50% cut had been indicated however nothing formal had been advised as yet and officers remained hopeful that given it was early in the financial year that any additional funding could be sent through.

Councillor O'Hare asked that when advertising for independent members, details of the role in terms of time commitment and benefits of becoming a member, be circulated at an earlier stage in order to help broaden the appeal of joining the DEA Fora.

Mrs Hillen agreed that was a valid point and that the recruitment process for independent DEA Members was currently ongoing. She also appealed to Members to encourage people get on board with DEAs.

Councillor Finnegan expressed concern at the barriers in place for community groups when applying for external funding e.g. in having to get quotations and the like.

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the approval of Councillor D Murphy, seconded by Councillor O'Hare to note the report and approve the actions in the action sheets for the following:

- Mournes DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 26 March 2023.
- Slieve Gullion DEA Forum Ad Hoc Meeting held on Monday 4 April 2023.

**AHC/056/2023: COMMUNITY COORDINATION HUB (CCH) UPDATE REPORT**

**Read:** Report dated 19 June 2023 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding an update on the Community Co-Ordination Hub. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor D Murphy, seconded by Councillor Lee-Surginor to note the report and approve the actions in the Action Sheet attached for:

- Community Coordination Hub (CCH) Meeting held on Wednesday 15 March 2023.
- Community Coordination Hub (CCH) Meeting held on Wednesday 19 April 2023.
- Community Coordination Hub (CCH) Meeting held on Wednesday 17 May 2023.

**AHC/057/2023: RECONFIGURATION OF BALLYNAHINCH COMMUNITY CENTRE – RIBA STAGE 7**

**Read:** Report dated 19 June 2023 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding the reconfiguration of Ballynahinch Community Centre, RIBA Stage 7. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Lee-Surginor, seconded by Councillor Galbraith to proceed to RIBA Stage 7 Detailed Design to construction phase and Handover.

The Chairperson left the meeting at this point having declared an interest in item 12 – 6.27pm.  
Councillor Magennis assumed the Chair.

**AHC/058/2023: FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

**Read:** Report dated 19 June 2023 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director Community Engagement regarding a Financial Assistance. **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor Finn commented that it was disappointing to note the number of non successful applicants for Arts and Culture in the Newry area and enquired if there were any recommendations to bring back to groups who had not received funding.

Mrs Hillen explained the policy for applications was score and rank right across the Council area and appealed to members to encourage all groups if unsuccessful to undertake a debrief with staff within the Councils Programme Unit and to attend capacity building workshops.

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Mathers, seconded by Councillor D Murphy to approve the following:

- Approve the appendices attached to the officer's report for revenue and capital projects and issue letter of offers post Council ratification and Call in.
- Pre-letter of offer conditions met prior to issue of full letter of offer issued and where this is not satisfied budget to be re-allocated.
- Overall allocation for Sports Capital Major and Minor – for major capital one was successful, for minor capital one was successful with the remaining budget allocation going to Minor Capital Items bringing the total amount of projects awarded to 12 (moving into the scored and ranked). The total allocation of £275,000 from the sports budget as per rates.
- Appeal panel recommendation to fund application 3568 for £1500 from the Community Engagement theme.
- EGMS – procurement of a new online grants management system.

Councillor Howell re-joined the meeting and assumed the Chair at this point – 18.31pm.

## HEALTH AND WELLBEING

**AHC/059/2023:**      **REQUEST FOR SUPPORT OF LIVE HERE LOVE HERE INITIATIVE AND ECO SCHOOLS PROGRAMME FROM KEEP NOTHERN IRELAND BEAUTIFUL FOR PERIOD 2023-24**

**Read:**                      Report dated 19 June 2023 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health & Wellbeing presented by Mr B Rankin regarding a request for support of Live Here Love Here initiative and Eco Schools programme from Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful for period 2023-24. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:**                      It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Lee-Surginor, seconded by Councillor D Murphy to approve the financial support and the signing of a Service Level Agreement for the period 2023-2024 to support the Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful (KNIB) Live Here Love Here campaign and Eco Schools Programme across the District.

**AHC/060/2023:**      **SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT STATEMENT, SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE STRATEGY 2024-2030 AND ANNUAL ACTION PLANS**

**Read:**                      Report dated 19 June 2023 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health & Wellbeing presented by Mr B Rankin regarding a Sustainability and Environment Statement, Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy 2024-2030 and Annual Action Plans. **(Copy circulated)**

In response to a query from Councillor McMurray regarding what all was included within the Sustainability and Environment Statement, Mr Rankin explained not

everything was set out within the statement as this was a summary holding statement whilst the Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy was being worked on.

Mr Rankin confirmed the Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy would be presented to Committee for approval.

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McMurray, seconded by Councillor Finn to approve the following:**

- **A sustainability and Environment Statement for NMDDC.**
- **The development of a Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy 2024-2030 along with the first annual Action Plan during 2023/24.**

**AHC/061/2023:** **PROCUREMENT OF CONSULTANCY SUPPORT TO SET A CARBON BASELINE AND FUTURE CARBON REDUCTION TARGETS**

**Read:** Report dated 19 June 2023 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health & Wellbeing presented by Mr B Rankin regarding the procurement of consultancy support to set a carbon baseline and future carbon reduction targets. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Magennis, seconded by Councillor D Murphy to approve the procurement of consultancy support in 2024 to set a carbon baseline for Council, along with future carbon reduction targets.**

**AHC/062/2023:** **SHIP SANITATION INSPECTION CHARGES**

**Read:** Report dated 19 June 2023 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health & Wellbeing presented by Mrs S Trainor regarding Ship Sanitation Inspection Charges. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor O'Hare, seconded by Councillor Magennis to agree to implementing the new charging regime with effect from 1 April 2023.**

**AHC/063/2023:** **FOOD SERVICE PLAN 2023/24**

**Read:** Report dated 19 June 2023 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health & Wellbeing presented by Mrs S Trainor regarding a Food Service Plan for 2023/24. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Mathers, seconded by Councillor O'Hare to adopt the Food Service Plan for 2023/24 as attached to the officer's report.**

**AHC/064/2023: SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND DISTRICT COUNCILS**

**Read:** Report dated 19 June 2023 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health & Wellbeing presented by Mrs S Trainor regarding a Service level Agreement between the Department of Justice and District Councils. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Lee-Surginor, seconded by Councillor Galbraith to approve Council signing the Service Level Agreement (SLA) between the Department of Justice and Newry Mourne and Down District Council.**

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

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Lee-Surginor, seconded by Councillor Magennis it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on items 19 and 20 which related to exempt information by virtue of para. Three of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local /Government (Northern Ireland) 2014 – Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.**

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Magennis, seconded by Councillor O'Hare, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.**

The Chairperson advised the following had been agreed whilst in closed session:

**AHC/065/2023 BALLSTOP REQUIREMENTS AT CASTLEWELLAN COMMUNITY CENTRE 3G**

**Read:** Report dated 19 June 2023 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Leisure and Sport regarding Ballstop requirements at Castlewellan Community Centre 3G. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McMurray, seconded by Councillor Magennis to approve an additional spend as outlined within the officer's report and the procurement of option 2 and install a Skynet at the 3G Pitch Castlewellan.**

**AHC/066/2023 PROVISION OF SWIMMING POOL MAINTENANCE AND SERVICING**

**Read:** Report dated 19 June 2023 from Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director, Leisure and Sport presented by Mrs J Hillen, regarding the provision of swimming pool maintenance and servicing. **(Copy circulated)**



**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Murphy, seconded by Councillor McMurray to agree the additional spend outlined within the officer's report for Swimming Pool Plants maintenance and Servicing and for Swimming Pool Moving Floor maintenance and servicing.

#### FOR NOTING – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

##### AHC/067/2023 POLICING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP (PCSP) REPORT

**Read:** Report dated 19 June 2023 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Development regarding a Policing and Community Safety Partnership. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor O'Hare, seconded by Councillor Lee-Surginor to note the report and the following Policing Committee and PCSP minutes: Minutes of the Policing Committee & PCSP Meeting held on Tuesday 31 January 2023, approved at the Policing Committee & PCSP Meeting on Tuesday 28 March 2023.

##### AHC/068/2023 NEWRY NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL PARTNERSHIP (NRP) REPORT

**Read:** Report dated 19 June 2023 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Development regarding Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor O'Hare, seconded by Councillor Lee-Surginor to note the report and the following Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership minutes:

- Minutes of Newry NRP Meeting held on Wednesday 18 January 2023, approved at Newry NRP meeting held on Wednesday 29 March 2023.
- Minutes of Newry NRP Meeting held on Wednesday 29 March 2023, approved at Newry NRP meeting held on Wednesday 24 May 2023.

**AHC/069/2023**      **DOWNPATRICK NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL PARTNERSHIP (NRP) REPORT**

**Read:**                      Report dated 19 June 2023 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Development regarding Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:**                      **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor O’Hare, seconded by Councillor Lee-Surginor to note the report and the following:**

- **Minutes of Downpatrick NRP Meeting held on Tuesday 29 November 2022, approved at Downpatrick NRP meeting held on Wednesday 29 March 2023.**
- **The Downpatrick NRP Action Plan for 2019-2022 (updated November 2022).**

**AHC/070/2023**      **PEACE IV LOCAL ACTION PLAN**

**Read:**                      Report dated 19 June 2023 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Development regarding Peace IV Local Action Plan. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:**                      **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor O’Hare, seconded by Councillor Lee-Surginor to note the report and Minutes from the Peace IV Partnership Meeting held on Thursday 26 January 2023.**

**AHC/071/2023**      **PEACEPLUS LOCAL ACTION PLAN**

**Read:**                      Report dated 19 June 2023 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Development regarding the PEACEPLUS Local Action Plan. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:**                      **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor O’Hare, seconded by Councillor Lee-Surginor to note it had been agreed by the Peace Plus Partnership: The Draft Action Plan includes an Expression of Interest process for identifying community enhancement and shared outdoor spaces projects (capital). SEUPB have indicated that they want identified projects to be named in the application. To expediate the application process we would recommend starting the EOI process to minimise delay to submission of application.**

**FOR NOTING – HEALTH AND WELLBEING****AHC/072/2023: CONSULTATION RESPONSE – DAERA CONSULTATION ON CLIMATE CHANGE REPORTING BY SPECIFIED PUBLIC BODIES, DEVELOPING NEW REGULATIONS**

**Read:** Report dated 19 June 2023 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health & Wellbeing regarding a DAERA consultation on climate change reporting by specified public bodies, developing new regulations. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor O’Hare, seconded by Councillor Lee-Surginor to note the consultation response as attached to the officer’s report.**

**AHC/073/2023: CONSULTATION ON THE MODERNISED FOOD HYGIENE DELIVERY MODEL IN NORTHERN IRELAND**

**Read:** Report dated 19 June 2023 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health & Wellbeing regarding a consultation on the new food hygiene model in Northern Ireland. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor O’Hare, seconded by Councillor Lee-Surginor to note the consultation response as attached to the officer’s report.**

**AHC/074/2023: CONSULTATION ON DRAFT SPIRIT DRINKS REGULATIONS (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2023**

**Read:** Report dated 19 June 2023 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health & Wellbeing regarding a consultation on draft Spirit Drinks Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2023. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor O’Hare, seconded by Councillor Lee-Surginor to note the consultation response as attached to the officer’s report.**

**AHC/075/2023:**            **CONSULTATION ON UPDATES ON THE FOOD STANDARDS AGENCY AND TECHNICAL GUIDANCE ON FOOD ALLERGEN LABELLING AND INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS**

**Read:**                      Report dated 19 June 2023 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health & Wellbeing regarding a consultation on updates on the Food Standards Agency and Technical Guidance on Food Allergen Labelling and Information Requirements. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:**                    **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor O’Hare, seconded by Councillor Lee-Surginor to note the consultation response as attached to the officer’s report.**

**AHC/076/2023:**            **AFFORDABLE WARMTH SCHEME – NEW DELIVERY MECHANISM**

**Read:**                      Report dated 19 June 2023 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health & Wellbeing regarding a new delivery mechanism for the Affordable Warmth Scheme. **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor Finnegan spoke at length about Sinn Féin’s opposition to the proposals for the Affordable Warmth Scheme and the adverse impact it would have on individuals across all section 75 groups and the profound effect on them.

Councillor Finnegan asked that if the scheme was moved to Northern Ireland Housing (NIHE) Executive would they be taking over 20 applications from this area or would it be 20 across six counties.

Mrs Trainor advised they had not been informed of the application numbers that the NIHE would be completing in any Council area at this early stage and that Council would still be working on the scheme until 31 August 2023.

The Chairperson supported the points raised by Councillor Finnegan and commended Council for the work undertaken for this scheme to date and highlighting that Council already had the skillset to deal with the scheme.

The Chairperson proposed Council write to the Permanent Secretary requesting that the Affordable Warmth Scheme stays within Council. Councillor Finnegan seconded the proposal.

**Agreed:**                    **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor O’Hare, seconded by Councillor Lee-Surginor to note the officer’s report.**

**It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Howell, seconded by Councillor Finnegan that Council write to the Permanent Secretary requesting that the Affordable Warmth Scheme stays within Council.**

**AHC/077/2023: SUMMER ACTIVITY PROGRAMME**

Read: Report dated 19 June 2023 from Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director, Leisure and Sport regarding the Summer Activity Programme for Leisure in July and August 2023. **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor Lee-Surginor enquired if any changes had been made given to address oversubscriptions to the Summer Activity Programme in the past.

Mrs Hillen advised she would ensure Mr Tamati would provide a detailed response to Councillor Lee-Surginor.

**Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor O’Hare, seconded by Councillor Lee-Surginor to note the planned Summer Activity Programme for July and August 2023 as per appendix 1 of the officer’s report.**

There being no further business the meeting ended at 18.53 pm.

For adoption at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 3 July 2023.

Signed: Councillor R Howell  
Chairperson

Signed: Janine Hillen  
Assistant Director Community Development

**NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL****Minutes of Sustainability and Environment Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 21 June 2023 at 6.00pm in the Boardroom, District Council Offices, Monaghan Row, Newry and via MS Teams.****Chair:** Councillor T Andrews (Chamber)**Members:** Councillor W Clarke (Teams)  
Councillor D Finn (Chamber)  
Councillor J Jackson (Chamber)  
Councillor G Kearns (Chamber)  
Councillor T Kelly (Teams)  
Councillor M Larkin (Chamber)  
Councillor O Magennis (Chamber)  
Councillor L McEvoy (Chamber)  
Councillor K Murphy (Chamber)  
Councillor H Reilly (Chamber)  
Councillor M Savage (Chamber)  
Councillor J Truesdale (Teams)**Officials in Attendance:** Mr A Cassells, Director Sustainability and Environment  
Ms S Murphy, Acting Assistant Director Waste Management  
Mr A Mallon, Head of Maintenance  
Ms G Kane, Head of Facilities  
Ms L Dillon, Democratic Services Officer  
Mrs L Cummins, Democratic Services Officer**SE/046/2023: APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

Apologies were received from Councillor Rice and Taylor.

The Chairperson welcomed everyone to his first meeting as Chair and thanked Councillor Magennis as the outgoing Chairperson for the excellent way in which she had conducted previous meetings. He also congratulated Councillor Clarke on his appointment as Deputy Chairperson and looked forward to working alongside him.

The Chairperson extended his condolences to the family, friends and colleagues of Elaine Coffey who worked in the Corporate Services Department in Downshire Civic Centre, who sadly passed away suddenly on Tuesday 13 June 2023.

The Chairperson also extended condolences to the family and friends of former colleague James Hamilton who was based in Newry who sadly passed away recently.

The Chairperson stated he was privileged to have recently attended the LGC Awards in London to represent Council who had won a prestigious award for retaining the site at Aughnagun, a former landfill site to improve biodiversity and helping to boost the Irish Black Bee's.

**SE/047/2023: DECLARATIONS OF "CONFLICTS OF INTEREST"**

There were no declarations of interest.

**SE/048/2023: ACTION SHEET OF THE SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 21 MARCH 2023**

Read: Action Sheet of the Sustainability and Environment Committee Meeting held on 21 March 2023. ***(Circulated)***.

*SE/032/2023 – Review of bus shelter requests being actioned by Council*

Mrs Kane agreed to revert to Councillor McEvoy regarding an update on the bus shelter at Slievenaman Road.

In response to a query raised by Councillor Savage regarding an update on Lisdrumgullion bus shelter, Mrs Kane advised that officers had contacted Translink with a number issues and would update Councillor Savage outside of the meeting.

*SE/036/2023 – Use of Herbicides across Council Estate*

Councillor Larkin asked if an alternative product had been sourced and if evasive species were still being contained and eradicated. Mr Mallon responded stating that officers had investigated numerous alternatives and methods and had not found a product which had the same capacity and effect as what was currently being used. Hogweed was one of the most prevalent of the evasive species and was continued to be managed with stem injection processes in Council owned areas within the 30% of glyphosate allocation, however this was to the detriment of other amenity areas where there was no capacity to use it.

In response to query from Councillor Finn, Mr Mallon advised a substantial risk assessment had been carried out and the herbicides used were contact neutral posing no risk to pets or wildlife. It was not used in playparks which were manually weeded instead.

In response to query from Councillor Truesdale, Mrs Kane advised that the Changing Places Facilities which Newcastle toilets as part off, was included in the Public Convenience Strategy and the outline business case had been completed and would be tabled at a future meeting for approval.

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor McEvoy it was agreed the Action Sheet of the Sustainability and Environment Committee Meeting held on 21 March 2023 be noted and actions removed as marked.**

**SE/049/2023: BRIEFING FOR NEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Read: Presentation and Briefing by Mr Cassells. ***(Circulated)***.

Mr Cassells provided a detailed overview of the Sustainability and Environment Directorate followed by an introduction of the roles of officer's within the department.

**AGREED:** **It was agreed to note the presentation and circulate same to Members.**

**SE/050/2023: REPORT RE: NOTICE OF MOTION**  
**-REDEEMABLE SURCHARGE ON BOTTLES, TINS, PLASTICS**

Read: Report dated 21 June 2023 from Mr Andrew Cassells, Director of Sustainability & Environment regarding a Notice of Motion on redeemable surcharge on bottles, tins, plastics. ***(Circulated)***.

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

*"That this Council requests that DEARA investigates the possibility of applying a redeemable surcharge on bottles, tins and plastic containers in order to reduce the amount of littering and to assist with recycling targets as set by central Government."*

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Jackson.

Councillor Reilly thanked Mr Cassells for a very informative and comprehensive report which addressed a lot concerns, asking what the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) policy was in the South of Ireland and was multipacks and cardboard containers included within the redeemable surcharge.

Mr Cassells advised that he was not up to speed with the policy in the South of Ireland but would research further and revert back to Committee on the matter. The Deposit Return Scheme would not cover things like coffee cups, it was containers that you buy fluids in. There would be an additional charge on each container whether it be a multipack or a single cell.

Councillor Truesdale supported the motion and queried if Council had any plans to introduce more water drinking fountains throughout the district. Mr Mallon confirmed Council had recently introduced 6 water refill fountains in the district and was working to further this project in the coming year.

Councillor Clarke, Savage and Larkin spoke in support of the motion. Mr Cassells acknowledged the points raised and advised members that Council would not be responsible for the collection of deposits, there would be reverse vending machines in supermarkets to collect the deposits. An indicative date from the department to roll out the scheme was 2025.



Councillor Reilly thanked Members for their comments and support, stating that perhaps Council could set an example by banning single use plastics going forward.

**AGREED:** **It was unanimously agreed to adopt the Notice of Motion.**

**AGREED:** **On the proposal of Councillor Reilly, seconded by Councillor Jackson, it was agreed:**

- 1. Acknowledge the work that DAERA is undertaking to introduce a Deposit Return Scheme.**
- 2. Seek further update reports from Officers in due course as the DAERA proposals unfold.**

**SE/051/2023:** **SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE 2023- 2027**

Read: Report dated 21 June 2023 from Mr Andrew Cassells, Director Sustainability & Environment regarding the Sustainability & Environment Committee Terms of Reference 2023 – 2027. *(Circulated)*.

**AGREED:** **On the proposal of Councillor Reilly seconded by Councillor, Savage it was agreed to approve the revised Terms of Reference for the Sustainable & Environment Committee as set out in Appendix 1 of the Report.**

**SE/052/2023:** **TO AGREE START TIMES FOR SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 023 - 24**

Read: Report dated 21 June 2023 from Mr Andrew Cassells, Director Sustainability & Environment regarding start times for the Sustainability & Environment Committee 2023-2024.

**AGREED:** **On the proposal of Councillor Reilly seconded by Councillor Magennis, it was agreed to approve a start time of 6pm for the Sustainability & Environment Committee for 2023-2024.**

**SE/053/2023:** **SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE BUSINESS PLANS**

Read: Report dated 21 June 2023 from Mr Andrew Cassells, Director regarding Sustainability & Environment Directorate Business Plans.

In response to queries raised by Members, officers advised there was an ongoing

bin review being carried out throughout the district to help address any issues regarding the solar bins and improve recycling, however Council were not as far ahead as they would like to be in terms of street recycling and was an area where there was room for improvement. Members could contact officer's directly with any areas where additional bins were required.

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

- **The Assessment of the NS Directorate Business Plan 2022-23.**
- **Sustainability and Environment Directorate Business Plan 2023-24.**

### **EXEMPT INFORMATION ITEMS**

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

**AGREED:**                    **On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Curran, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on items 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16 which related to exempt information by virtue of para. 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local /Government (Northern Ireland) 2014 – Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.**

**AGREED:**                    **On the proposal of Councillor McEvoy, seconded by Councillor Kearns, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.**

### **FACILITIES MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE**

The Chairperson advised the following had been agreed whilst in closed session:-

**SE/054/2023:**            **PROPOSED CHARGES FOR USE OF NEWRY MARKET AS EVENT SPACE**

Read:                        Report dated 21 June 2023 from Ms G Kane, Acting Assistant Director, Facilities Management & Maintenance, re: proposed charges for use of Newry Market as Event Space. ***(Circulated)***

**AGREED:**                   **On the proposal of Councillor Kearns, seconded by Councillor Magennis, it was agreed to defer this item for further consideration and an update be brought back to a future Sustainability and Environment Committee.**

**SE/055/2023:**    **UPGRADE TO PUBLIC SPACE CCTV CAMERAS – NEWRY; WARRENPOINT; KILKEEL**

Read:                    Report dated 21 June 2023 from Ms G Kane, Acting Assistant Director, Facilities Management & Maintenance, re: upgrade to public space – CCTV cameras – Newry; Warrenpoint; Kilkeel. *(Circulated)*

**AGREED:**                   **On the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor Reilly, it was agreed to defer until August 2023 meeting and PSNI be invited to present their case to committee.**

## **WASTE MANAGEMENT**

**SE/056/2023:**    **FLEET OPERATORS LICENSE COMPLIANCE UPDATE**

Read:                    Report dated 21 June 2023 from Ms S Murphy, Assistant Director Waste Management (Acting) re: Fleet Operators Licence – Fleet Management Action Plan. *(Circulated)*

**AGREED:**                   **On the proposal of Councillor Magennis, seconded by Councillor Kearns, it was agreed to approve the revised Fleet Operator Licence Action Plan update June 2023.**

**SE/057/2023:**    **BUSINESS CASE FOR PROCUREMENT OF TYRES**

Read:                    Report dated 21 June 2023 from Ms S Murphy, Assistant Director Waste Management (Acting) re: Business Case for Procurement of Tyres. *(Circulated)*.

**AGREED:**                   **On the proposal of Savage, seconded by Councillor McEvoy, it was agreed to approve the business case for the use of a supply, fit, servicing, call-out, delivery and disposal of tyres, tubes and ancillary products for all Council vehicles and plant.**

**SE/058/2023: BUSINESS CASE FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF MECHANICS TOOLS**

Read: Report dated 21 June 2023 from Ms S Murphy, Assistant Director re: Business Case for the Procurement of Mechanics Tools. *(Circulated)*.

**AGREED:** **On the proposal of Councillor Magennis, seconded by Councillor Finn, it was agreed to approve the business case for the use of a supply, fit, servicing, call-out, delivery and disposal of tyres, tubes and ancillary products for all Council vehicles and plant.**

**SE/059/2023: ECONOMIC APPRAISAL FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF FUEL**

Read: Report dated 21 June 2023 from Ms S Murphy, Assistant Director re: Economic Appraisal for the Procurement of Fuel. *(Circulated)*.

**AGREED:** **On the proposal of Councillor McEvoy, seconded by Councillor Magennis, it was agreed to approve the business case for the use of a sustainable supply framework to support the provision of liquid fuels corporate wide.**

**SE/060/2023: EXTENSION OF CONTRACT FOR THE RECEIPT, STORAGE, TRANSFER AND HAULAGE OF MIXED DRY RECYCLABLES CONTRACT**

Read: Report dated 21 June 2023 from Ms S Murphy, Assistant Director re: Extension of contract for the receipt, storage, transfer and Haulage of mixed dry recyclables contract. *(Circulated)*.

**AGREED:** **On the proposal of Councillor Reilly, seconded by Councillor Larkin, it was agreed to approve the contract for the receipt, storage, transfer and haulage of the Council's Mixed Dry Recyclables (MDR) waste be extended with the Council's current contractor from the 10 September 2023 until 31 March 2024.**

**SE/061/2023: SINGLE TENDER ACTIONS**

Read: Report dated 21 June 2023 from Mr A Cassells, Director, Sustainability and Environment re: Single Tender Actions. *(Circulated)*.

**AGREED:** **On the proposal of Councillor Reilly, seconded by Councillor Jackson, it was agreed to:**

1. Note the contents of the report.
2. Approve the Single Tender Actions that are in excess of £30,000 as set out in Appendix 1 and 2 and for the Chair and Vice Chair of the Committee to approve the individual STA proformas that relate directly to Appendices 1 and 2.
3. Continue to receive regular update reports on the Procurement Action Plan.

## **FOR NOTING**

### **SE/062/2023: FLEET REPLACEMENT UPDATE**

Read: Report dated 21 June 2023 from Ms S Murphy, Assistant Director re: Fleet Replacement Update. *(Circulated)*.

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor McEvoy, it was agreed to note the contents of the report.

### **SE/063/2023: UPDATE ON PUBLIC HOLIDAYS AND REFUSE COLLECTION CALENDARS**

Read: Report dated 21 June 2023 from Ms S Murphy, Assistant Director re: Update on Public Holidays and Refuse Collection Calendars *(Circulated)*.

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor McEvoy, it was agreed to note the contents of the report.

### **SE/064/2023: DISTRICT CLEANSING – SUMMER SEASON PREPARATIONS**

Read: Report dated 21 June 2023 from Ms S Murphy, Assistant Director re: District Cleansing – Summer Season. *(Circulated)*.

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor McEvoy, it was agreed to note the planned 2023 Summer Season Preparation plans outlined in 2.4 – 2.6.

### **SE/065/2023: HISTORICAL ACTION SHEET**

Read: Historic Actions Tracking Sheet *(Circulated)*.

**AGREED:**            **On the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor McEvoy, it was agreed the Historic Actions Tracking Sheet of the Sustainability and Environment Committee Meetings be noted and actions removed as marked.**

There being no further business the meeting ended at 8.16 pm.

For adoption at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 3 July 2023.

**Signed:**            **Councillor T Andrews**  
**Chairperson of Sustainability & Environment Committee**

**Signed:**            **Mr A Cassells**  
**Director of Sustainability & Environment**

<b>Report to:</b>	Council Meeting
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2023
<b>Subject:</b>	Amendment to Standing Orders
<b>Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):</b>	Marie Ward Chief Executive
<b>Contact Officer (Including Job Title):</b>	Sarah Taggart, Democratic Services Manager (Acting)

Confirm how this Report should be treated by placing an x in either: -

<b>For decision</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>For noting only</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose and Background</b>
1.1	At SPR Committee in March 2023 it was agreed to amend Standing Orders to take into account the changing title of Neighbourhood Services Committee.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Key issues</b>
2.1	Standing Order 27.2 requires that “any motion to, add to, vary or revoke Standing Orders will, when proposed and seconded, stand adjourned without discussion to the next ordinary meeting of the Council. The mandatory Standing Orders may not be added to, varied or revoked by the Council.”
2.2	It was agreed at the SPR Committee Meeting in March 2023 to adopt the amendment to the Standing Orders as follows: SO 21.3(4) (iii) reads “Neighbourhood Services Committee.” As a result of the Organisational Restructure carried out during 2022, it is recommended that this read “Sustainability & Environment Committee.”
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
3.1	It is recommended that Members agree to adopt the amendment to Standing Orders to reflect the changing title of Neighbourhood Services Committee to Sustainability & Environment Committee.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Resource implications</b>
4.1	None identified
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)</b>
5.1	<b><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></b>  It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5.2	<b><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></b>

	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/></p>
5.3	<p><b>Proposal initiating consultation</b></p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i></p>
6.0	<p><b>Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)</b></p>
6.1	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If no, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy / strategy / plan / public service is not influenced by rural needs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	<p><b>Appendices</b></p> <p>None</p>
8.0	<p><b>Background Documents</b></p>



**DfI Roads  
Southern Division**

85

Ms Marie Ward  
Chief Executive  
Oifig an Iúir  
Newry Office  
O'Hagan House  
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Newry BT35 8DJ

Via email: [Donna.Starkey@nmandd.org](mailto:Donna.Starkey@nmandd.org)

Marlborough House  
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Craigavon  
BT64 1AD  
Tele : 0300 200 7899  
E-mail : [southern.sri@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk](mailto:southern.sri@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk)

Your Ref:  
Our Ref STOF-0118-2023  
Date 19 April 2023

Dear Ms Ward,

**RE: EMERGENCY NOTICE OF MOTION – FIXED BRIDGE DESIGN FOR NEWRY SOUTHERN RELIEF ROAD**

Thank you for your letter dated 15 March 2023 to the Department's Permanent Secretary, Julie Harrison, regarding the Newry Mourne & Down District Council's emergency Notice of Motion about the Department's decision to adopt a non-opening 50-metre fixed bridge as the Department's preferred option for the Newry Southern Relief Road (NSRR). I am sorry that it has taken so long to reply. As this is an operational matter within my Directorate, it has been forwarded to me to respond.

In the absence of a Minister, the Permanent Secretary has taken this decision under the Northern Ireland (Executive Formation etc.) Act 2022. Her decision has been taken after detailed consideration of a range of factors, including engineering, economic, heritage impact and environmental assessments.

The Department is fully aware that several stakeholders, including elected representatives, have raised concerns about the proposed NSRR bridge structure over the Newry Ship Canal and its potential to impact vessel navigation on the canal. The Department has considered this matter in detail and a number of different bridge span and structural form options were considered. As the Newry Ship Canal has been scheduled under Article 3 of the Historic Monuments and Archaeological Object (NI) Order 1995, the Department has engaged with the Department for Communities (DfC) Historic Environment Division (HED) to assess the impact of the options on the Newry Ship Canal Scheduled monument.

In terms of the economic assessment, it has been assessed that the cost of providing an opening bridge far outweighs the potential benefits that an opening bridge would yield to the economy. It is therefore clear that the provision of any opening bridge option does not represent value for money.

Given the important strategic benefits that the Newry Southern Relief Road will bring to Newry and the surrounding area, by improving connectivity across this island while also reducing traffic flows, lowering emissions, and improving air quality within the city of Newry, the Major Projects South team will progress the scheme to the next development stage. This will include the production of draft Orders and an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) for the project, which will be subject to public consultation. The public consultation will provide a further opportunity for stakeholders and local representatives to provide their views on the proposed scheme.

I hope the detail above is helpful. If you require further detail, the NSRR project team will be happy to meet with you. The team can be contacted at:

[southern.sri@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk](mailto:southern.sri@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk)

Yours sincerely

**Jonathan Saulters**  
Deputy Director Major Projects

Fwd: Fw: Notice of Motion - Voting Age Reduction - Message (HTML)

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**Follow Up**  
Set a flag to remind you to follow-up on this item later.

Fwd: Fw: Notice of Motion - Voting Age Reduction



Correspondence Mailbox <correspondence@nio.gov.uk>  
To: Starkey, Donna

Reply Reply All Forward

Mon 26/06/2023 10:58

If there are problems with how this message is displayed, click here to view it in a web browser.

- C.075.2023 Letter to Sec of State.pdf .pdf File
- C.075.2023 Response to Sec of State.docx .docx File
- Letter from Minister of State for NI re C.075.2023 Reducing Minimum Voting Age to 16.pdf .pdf File

Good morning

Thank you for your email. The position in our previous correspondence remains unchanged.

Kind regards  
Shannon

**From:** Starkey, Donna <Donna.Starkey@nmandd.org>  
**Sent:** 19 June 2023 16:41  
**To:** HEATON-HARRIS, Chris <chris.heatonharris.mp@parliament.uk>  
**Subject:** Notice of Motion - Voting Age Reduction

Good afternoon

Please find attached correspondence from Newry, Mourne and Down District Council for your attention.

Windows taskbar with icons for File Explorer, Word, Chrome, Edge, and Outlook. System tray shows 20°C T-storms, 15:17, and 26/06/2023.