



August 31st, 2016

Notice Of Meeting

You are requested to attend the Council meeting to be held on **Monday, 5th September 2016** at **6:00 pm** in **Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick.**

Agenda

- 1 **Apologies and Chairperson's Remarks**
- 2 **Declarations of Interest**
- 3 **Action Sheet arising from Council Meeting held on 1 August 2016**

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Council Minutes For Adoption and Signing

- 4 **Minutes of Council Meeting held on 1 August 2016**
- 5 **Minutes of Special Council Meeting held on 22 August 2016**

[Council Minutes 01-08-2016.pdf](#)

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[Special Council Meeting Minutes 22-08-2016.pdf](#)

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- 5b **Correspondence received from SONI re: presentation to Council on 22 August 2016**

[~2297494.pdf](#)

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Committee Minutes for Consideration and Adoption

- 6 **Minutes of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee Meeting held on 8 August 2016**
- 7 **Minutes of Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 11 August 2016**

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8 Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on 15 August 2016

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9 Minutes of Regulatory and Technical Services Committee Meeting held on 17 August 2016

RTS Minutes - 17 August 2016.pdf

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Correspondence and Consultation

10 Correspondence from Department for Communities regarding Widening the Definition of Carer in respect of Dependants' Carers' Allowance

Letter to all interested parties - seeking views on widening scope of eligibility for Dependants Carers Allowance.pdf

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For Noting

11 Appointment of Councillor Members to the Board of Warrenpoint Harbour Authority

Letter to Chief Exec.pdf

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WHA Councillors - News Release.pdf

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Sealing Documents

12 Sealing Documents

1. Lease Agreement - Newry Felons and Barcroft Community Association.
2. Licence Agreement - Newry Mourne and Down District Council to Silvery Light Sailing - use of portion of land at Albert Basin from 01/06/15-31/03/17 for the purposes of storage and restoration of the sailing vessel 'Silvery Light'
3. 9 month Licence Agreement - Newry Coarse Fishing and Angling Club - Albert Basin, Newry - Council have agreed to enter into a Licence Agreement with Newry Coarse Fish Angling Club in

relation to Albert Basin, Newry.

4. Licence Agreement - retrospective approval - Maiden of the Mournes

5. Release of Deed of Covenant and Charge between Council and Ardglass Golf Club - AD/LEG/100 - Ardglass Golf Club entered into a Deed of Covenant and Charge with Legacy Down District Council on 14 November 2000 in respect of a Council grant of £15,000 for the refurbishment of changing facilities. The Deed included a condition that upon the expiration of ten years from the date of last payment of the grant by Council the covenants and conditions shall cease to have effect. As the period of ten years has now passed since date of last payment of grant and Council's Active and Healthy Communities department has confirmed the provisions contained within the Deed of Charge have been adhered to for the duration of the Deed it is in order to enter into the Deed of Release, this was discussed and agreed at April 2016's SPR Committee Meeting and ratified at May's Council Meeting.

6. Licence Agreement - use of land at McClelland Park, Newry from 1-3 September 2016 for 'Pride in Newry' event.

Notices of Motion

13 Notice of Motion received from Councillor W Clarke

"We are proud to live in a diverse and tolerant society. Racism, xenophobia and hate crimes have no place in our country. We Newry, Mourne and Down, condemn racism, xenophobia and hate crimes unequivocally. We will not allow hate to become acceptable.

Newry, Mourne and Down will work to ensure local bodies and programmes have support and resources needed to fight and prevent racism and xenophobia.

We reassure all people living in Newry, Mourne and Down that they are valued members of our community."

14 Notice of Motion received from Councillor Walker

"That this Council totally opposes the threatened closure of Ballynahinch & Newcastle Social Security Offices. And calls upon the Minister for Communities to review the proposed closures."

15 Notice of Motion received from Councillor P Clarke

"That this Council supports the introduction of legislation by the Northern Ireland Assembly to specifically address and give the necessary legal powers and requisites to remove the unauthorised flying and unofficial display of any flags on public street-lighting lamp posts without the authorised permission and/or an approved licence or other forms of protocol established through an application process mechanism approved by the Department of Infrastructure.

Furthermore that this Council also now writes to both the Executive Offices of the First and Deputy First Minister and the Minister for Infrastructure with responsibility for public roads and public street lighting lamp posts to consider the drafting and bringing forward of the necessary legislation required to the floor of the Northern Ireland Assembly in order to tighten up the legal

framework and give stronger legislative powers to the Department of Infrastructure to address and remove any flags on public street lighting lamp posts that are deemed unauthorised by the Department of Infrastructure which the current Roads (Northern Ireland) Order 1993 legislation does not provide."

ACTION SHEET- COUNCIL MEETING – MONDAY 1 AUGUST 2016

AGENDA ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	OFFICER Responsible	FOR COMPLETION BY DIRECTOR – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed
C/145/2016	Minutes of Council Meeting held on 4 July 2016	Minutes were agreed.	DSO	Actioned
C/146/2016	Minutes of Special Council Meeting held on 27 June 2016	Minutes were agreed.	DSO	Actioned
C/147/2016	Minutes of Audit Committee Meeting held on 4 July 2016	It was agreed that the Audit Committee commencement times revert to those which had already been agreed for period 2016/17. Minutes were agreed.	DSO	Agreed.
C/148/2016	Draft Consultation – Northern Ireland Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery Strategy 2016/17	It was agreed that the matter be referred to Parties for comment.	DSO	Information circulated to Party Leaders.
C/149/2016	Letter from Department of Health re: Reinstatement of Emergency Department and Coronary Care Services at Downe Hospital	It was agreed that the Minister for Health be invited to attend a Cross-Party Delegation meeting, to include Down Community Health Committee at the Downe Hospital site.	DSO	Letter sent 9 th August 2016

AGENDA ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	OFFICER Responsible	FOR COMPLETION BY DIRECTOR – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed
C/150/2016	Draft Legislation to remove the requirement on NI Water to install Water Meters at all new domestic connections	The Draft Legislation was noted.		NOTED
C/151/2016	Policy Forum for Northern Ireland Keynote Seminar – Energy in Northern Ireland	It was agreed not to make any appointments to the above conference.		NOTED
C/152/2016	Northern Ireland Economic Conference	It was agreed that Councillors Curran and Murnin attend the Northern Ireland Economic Conference.	L Burns	Bookings made
C/153/2016	Sealing Documents	It was agreed to sign and seal the following documents: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Licence Agreement - 16 The Square, Rostrevor - Rostrevor Men's Shed 2. Priority Agreement with Newry Olympic Hockey Club 3. Transfer Document re Disposal of Land at 29 Belfast Road, Saintfield - Legacy Down District Council agreed to dispose in November 2014. 	DSO	Signed and sealed
C/154/2016	Notice of Motion received from Councillor Brown	It was agreed to refer the motion to the next Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting.	DSO	Referred to August AHC

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

NMD/C/

Minutes of Council Meeting held on Monday 1 August 2016 at 6pm in the Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick

In the Chair: Councillor G Fitzpatrick

In attendance: **(Councillors)**

Councillor T Andrews	Councillor N Bailie
Councillor P Brown	Councillor R Burgess
Councillor P Byrne	Councillor M Carr
Councillor C Casey	Councillor P Clarke
Councillor G Craig	Councillor D Curran
Councillor S Ennis	Councillor C Enright
Councillor G Hanna	Councillor V Harte
Councillor H Harvey	Councillor T Hearty
Councillor D Hyland	Councillor L Kimmins
Councillor M Larkin	Councillor K Loughran
Councillor J Macauley	Councillor D McAteer
Councillor K McAteer	Councillor R Mulgrew
Councillor M Murnin	Councillor P Ó'Grínbín
Councillor B O'Múiri	Councillor B Quinn
Councillor H Reilly	Councillor G Sharvin
Councillor G Stokes	Councillor D Taylor
Councillor JJ Tinnelly	Councillor J Trainor
Councillor B Walker	

(Officials)

Mr L Hannaway, Chief Executive
Mr E Curtis, Director of Strategic Planning and Performance
Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services
Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active and Healthy Communities
Mr C O'Rourke, Director of Regulatory and Technical Services
Mrs C Miskelly, Assistant Director, Human Resources
Miss S Taggart, Democratic Services Officer

C/142/2016

APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Apologies were received from Councillors W Clarke, Devlin, Doran and Ruane.

- The Chairperson offered the Council's condolences to the family of Mr Terry Fitzsimons who tragically died in a shooting accident recently at Lough Money.

- The Chairperson congratulated Councillor Devlin and her husband Sean on the birth of their baby boy, Tom Michael.
- The Chairperson offered the Council's congratulations to Carl Frampton and his team on his recent success. She stated that Carl would be a frequent visitor to Newry and sent congratulations to Barry and Shane McGuigan.
- The Chairperson welcomed the renewal of the Green Flag award to Slieve Gullion.
- The Chairperson advised a group of Scouting Ireland Venture Scouts from all over Ireland had recently visited the District, walking 100km to finish off at Ballyhornan Scout Centre. A number of the Scouts visited homes within the District and it was great for the young people to leave with a positive experience of the people of the District.
- The Chairperson congratulated Cathal Fegan and the School of Tai Kwan Do who recently took part in the World Championships in Brighton and won 9 Gold, 13 Silver and 18 Bronze medals.
- The Chairperson stated the Skiffie World Championships were held recently in Strangford Lough with international competitors from all over the world. She congratulated Dundrum who were the overall winners and advised an occasion would be held with the relevant Councillors being contacted.
- Councillor Reilly commended the Chairperson on the excellent job she had done on a very busy day on Saturday.

C/143/2016

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

C/144/2016

ACTION SHEET ARISING FROM COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 4 JULY 2016

Read:

Action Sheet from Council Meeting held on 4 July 2016 (copy circulated)

C/135/2016 – Minutes of RTS Committee – 22 June 2016 – RTS/105/2016 – Issues Raised by Councillor Casey

Councillor Casey asked when he would be receiving an update on the above issues.

Mr O'Rourke advised he would provide updates to the Councillor within the next day.

C/133/2016 – Minutes of SPR Committee – 16 June 2016 – SPR/146/2016 – Update on Decade of Centenaries

Councillor Hyland asked whether an update could be provided on the setting up of the Cross Party Working Group.

The Chief Executive advised an item has been placed on the next Party Representatives Forum meeting for Parties to supply names for the Cross Party Working Group.

C/133/2016 – Minutes of SPR Committee – 16 June 2016 – SPR/144/2016 – Irish Language Audit Report

Councillor Enright advised he felt that a section regarding Council's relationships with other partners such as Tourism NI and the St Patrick Centre, and that a meeting was to take place with the Irish Language section, in order to create an addendum to the report.

The Chief Executive advised the Audit was complete and agreed by Council and that Councillor Enright would have an opportunity to raise these issues as part of the Irish Language Strategy discussions.

C/139/2016 – Conference on Housing in Northern Ireland

Councillor Casey asked whether the issue of meetings being classed as conferences had been rectified.

Mrs Carville advised that the Finance Department had reviewed the headings and will ensure going forward that conferences and meetings are not grouped together.

AGREED: The Action Sheet from Council Meeting held on 6 June 2016 was agreed.

COUNCIL MINUTES FOR ADOPTION AND SIGNING

C/145/2016 MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 4 JULY 2016

Read: Minutes of Council Meeting held on 4 July 2016 (copy circulated)

C/133/2016 – Minutes of SPR Committee – 16 June 2016 – SPR/144/2016 – Irish Language Audit Report

Councillor Enright advised the minute states that the policy does not include specific reference to the funding for the Irish language and the audit did not pick up on the issue of Council's relationships with bodies such as Tourism NI and the St Patrick Centre, as mentioned above. He stated the Auditor had agreed that the Audit could not be concluded without referencing those significant points above.

The Chief Executive advised the report was agreed and the issues would be picked up as the strategy was developed.

Councillor Hyland stated an addendum had been proposed by Councillor Enright and he would like to see evidence of this being added onto the Audit Report.

The Chief Executive stated there had been no recommendation or seconder to the addendum and the Audit Report was to gather information, take this on board and for this to become part of the strategy. He advised the cross-party working group would be able to take the information included in the Audit Report as well as any other information, such as that proposed by Councillor Enright.

C/127/2016 – Apologies and Chairperson’s Remarks

Councillor Ó’Múiri asked whether any movement on the re-erecting of signage across the District which had been vandalised was forthcoming.

Mr O’Rourke advised 10 signs had been damaged and removed and are currently in storage. He stated that the PSNI have provided crime numbers and may wish to see the damaged signed.

Mr O’Rourke stated a plan is required on how to move forward on the issue in order that the signs are not damaged as soon as they are re-erected.

Councillor Reilly stated the Council was becoming more obsessed with the Irish Language and stated when the issues were originally discussed, the signage was to be erected on a trial basis in Irish however a more common sense approach was now required and the signage should be erected in English only to help build community relations. He stated the signs are terrible looking and should be redesigned to look more welcoming to everyone.

Councillor Reilly also stated that young people within the Kilkeel area are reporting to him that the Council are going to try to ban bonfires.

AGREED:

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted on the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Stokes.

C/145/2016 MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 27 JUNE 2016

Read: Minutes of Special Council Meeting held on 27 June 2016 (copy circulated)

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

COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION

C/146/2016 MINUTES OF AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 4 JULY 2016

Read: Minutes of Audit Committee Meeting held on 4 July 2016 (copy circulated)

AC/52/2016 – Commencement Times – Audit Committee Meetings

Councillor Hearty expressed concern that holding the Audit Committee Meeting on the same day as Council did not leave enough time for Parties to discuss items upcoming on the Council agenda and proposed that the Audit Committee commencement times revert to that which was already agreed for 2016/17.

Councillor Casey seconded this proposal.

AGREED: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Hearty, seconded by Councillor Casey that the Audit Committee commencement times revert to those which had already been agreed for period 2016/17.

AC/57/2016 – Review of Whistleblowing Policy

Councillor D McAteer questioned what was meant by 'no adjustments were required to the policy'.

Mrs Carville advised concerns had been raised at the previous Audit Committee Meeting that the Whistleblowing Policy did not relate to Members, only employees and had asked that this be investigated.

Mrs Carville stated the policy had been reviewed and due to the Public Interest Disclosure Order only being for the protection of employees, not extending to Elected Members, no changes were required to the policy.

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

CORRESPONDENCE AND CONSULTATION

C/147/2016 **DRAFT CONSULTATION – NORTHERN IRELAND HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND MODERN SLAVERY STRATEGY 2016/17**

Read: Correspondence received from Department of Justice regarding draft consultation on Northern Ireland Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery Strategy 2016/17 (Copy circulated).

AGREED: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Taylor, seconded by Councillor D McAteer that the matter be referred to Parties for comment.

C/148/2016 **LETTER FROM DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH RE REINSTATEMENT OF EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT AND CORONARY CARE SERVICES AT DOWNE HOSPITAL**

Read: Letter dated 20 July 2016 from Minister of Health regarding reinstatement of Emergency Department and Coronary Care Services at Downe Hospital (copy circulated)

Councillor Enright welcomed the correspondence received from the Minister and it was positive that the Trust have recognised the medical need within the District however Council need to maintain pressure on the Trust.

Councillor Walker proposed that a cross-party delegation demand a meeting with the Minister on the Downe Hospital site to ensure the rural community was not being discriminated against.

This was seconded by Councillor Sharvin who advised talking face-to-face with the Minister was a much better way of communicating than sending a letter.

Councillor Bailie proposed an amendment to the proposal asking that the Minister be invited to meet on the same day as the Down Community Health Committee and invite this group into the Cross-Party Meeting of the Council.

The amendment was accepted by Councillors Walker and Sharvin.

Councillor D McAteer asked that the invitation be extended to Daisy Hill Hospital also.

AGREED: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Sharvin that the Minister for Health be invited to attend a Cross-Party Delegation meeting, to include Down Community Health Committee at the Downe Hospital site.

C/149/2016 **DRAFT LEGISLATION TO REMOVE THE REQUIREMENT ON NI WATER TO INSTALL WATER METERS AT ALL NEW DOMESTIC CONNECTIONS**

NOTED: The Draft Legislation to remove the requirement on NI Water to install water meters at all new domestic connections was noted.

CONFERENCES/EVENTS

C/150/2016 **POLICY FORUM FOR NORTHERN IRELAND KEYNOTE SEMINAR – ENERGY IN NORTHERN IRELAND**

Read: Correspondence received from Policy Forum for Northern Ireland regarding Conference on Energy in Northern Ireland (Copy circulated).

NOTED: It was agreed not to make any appointments to the above conference.

C/151/2016 **NORTHERN IRELAND ECONOMIC CONFERENCE**

Read: Correspondence received from AgendaNI regarding Northern Ireland Economic Conference (Copy circulated).

AGREED: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Stokes, seconded by Councillor Andrews that Councillors Curran and Murnin attend the Northern Ireland Economic Conference.

SEALING DOCUMENTS

C/152/2016 **SEALING DOCUMENTS**

AGREED: It was agreed to sign and seal the following documents on the proposal of Councillor Casey, seconded by Councillor Kimmins:

1. Licence Agreement - 16 The Square, Rostrevor - Rostrevor Men's Shed
2. Priority Agreement with Newry Olympic Hockey Club

3. Transfer Document re Disposal of Land at 29 Belfast Road, Saintfield - Legacy Down District Council agreed to dispose in November 2014.

NOTICES OF MOTION

C/153/2016

NOTICE OF MOTION RECEIVED FROM COUNCILLOR P BROWN

“This Council is opposed to the discriminatory Breed Specific Legislation (BSL) and the obligation it places upon Council to cruelly end the life of dogs based on their breeding alone. It calls upon DAERA Minister, Michelle McIlveen, to repeal that legislation and replace it with legislation holding owners responsible for the actions of their animals.”

The Chief Executive advised the above motion should be referred to the Active and Healthy Communities Committee and that all Members would be invited to the Committee for that item.

AGREED: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Brown, seconded by Councillor Hyland to refer the motion to the next Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 6.50pm

Signed:

Chairperson

Chief Executive

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

NMD/SC/

Minutes of Special Council Meeting held on Monday 22 August 2016 at 6pm in the Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick

In the Chair: Councillor G Fitzpatrick

In attendance:

(Councillors)

Councillor T Andrews	Councillor N Bailie
Councillor P Brown	Councillor P Byrne
Councillor C Casey	Councillor P Clarke
Councillor W Clarke	Councillor G Craig
Councillor D Curran	Councillor G Hanna
Councillor H Harvey	Councillor T Hearty
Councillor D Hyland	Councillor M Larkin
Councillor K Loughran	Councillor J Macauley
Councillor D McAteer	Councillor K McAteer
Councillor R Mulgrew	Councillor M Murnin
Councillor B Ó'Muirí	Councillor B Quinn
Councillor M Ruane	Councillor J J Tinnelly
Councillor J Trainor	Councillor B Walker

(Officials)

Mr L Hannaway, Chief Executive
Mrs E McParland, Democratic Services Manager
Miss S Taggart, Democratic Services Officer
Mrs C Taylor, Democratic Services Officer

Also in attendance: Mr R McCormick, (SONI)
Mr M Hewitt, (SONI)
Ms N Sayee (SONI)

Ms J Donald, Deputy Chief Executive (Northern Ireland Federation of Housing Associations)
Mr M McGilligan, Policy Officer (Northern Ireland Federation of Housing Associations)

SC/36/2016

APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Apologies were received from Councillors Burgess, Carr, Devlin, Enright, Harte, Kimmins, Ó'Gribín, Reilly, Sharvin, Stokes and Taylor

The Chairperson requested Councils best wishes to be sent to Councillor Burgess who was in hospital.

SC/37/2016

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

SC/38/2016

PRESENTATION BY SONI

The Chairperson welcomed Mr R McCormick, Mr M Hewitt and Ms N Sayee from System Operator Northern Ireland (SONI) to the meeting and invited them to make their presentation.

Mr McCormick thanked the Council for the opportunity to present and explain who SONI are, what they do and the impact of their work across Northern Ireland.

Mr McCormick advised SONI were the System Operator for Northern Ireland, based in Belfast in a 24/7 control centre. He stated the basic premise of their operations was to 'keep the lights on' across Northern Ireland and ensure that the demand was in place for customers as required. SONI is regulated by the Utilities Regulator and has to demonstrate it runs its business efficiently.

Mr McCormick explained that SONI do not own or run generators, rather they send instructions to generators to tell them how much to output onto systems. He advised the hardware was owned by NIE Networks who own and operate the systems.

SONI, as highlighted by Mr McCormick, operate on an all-island basis and owned by a company in Dublin using a very small system, using the same amount of electricity as greater Manchester.

Mr McCormick stated customers require a reliable, secure supply of electricity and in order to entice foreign investors to the region, the supply needed to be in place.

The Chairperson thanked Mr McCormick for his presentation and invited questions from the floor.

Members asked the following questions:

- Had the organisation considered installing the link underground rather than overhead?
- Were there any plans to extend the 110kb circuit throughout the District towards Downpatrick/Ardglass area?
- Was the Moyle Interconnector functional?
- Was it safer to have the link installed underground?
- Would it be possible to link fibre broadband and mobile phone connection to the overhead cables especially throughout the rural areas?
- Had the organisation been consulted regarding the midterm review of the 2010 Energy Framework?
- Would the existing interconnector be able to be upgraded?

- Had any consideration been given to burying the cables at sea?
- Where was the projected electricity shortfall, was it Northern Ireland or Southern Ireland?
- What plans were in place to reinforce the electricity supply within the West of Northern Ireland?
- Who, what and why were the main opposers to the scheme?

Mr McCormick responded to the queries as follows:

- The overhead cables were tried and tested technology which had proved to be reliable and easily accessible. It could be up to 10 times more expensive to bury the powerlines. Direct current cables could be used however this may prove difficult when accessing the A/C system as a converter station would need to be built at both ends of the system.
- NIE Networks had responsibility to ensure the network across the District was suitable. There would be no evidence to show that extending the links across the District would solve the problem of providing additional electricity to Downpatrick and Ardglass areas.
- The Moyle Interconnector was functional however it had some difficulties at present due to work being undertaken at the Scottish end of the link.
- Overhead and underground power lines were safe and comply with guidelines however the cost, reliability and accessibility to operate the system was easier on an overhead line.
- There were no plans at present to integrate fibre broadband nor mobile phone connections however this may be done at another time. The drawback would be that if problems were to occur would people be content to be without their electricity in order to fix their broadband.
- SONI had engaged and encouraged the Department to finish the Energy Framework review as there was a huge amount of electricity generated from wind developments.
- There are restrictions on the existing interconnector as if it were to trip out, Northern Ireland would be sitting on its own without any electricity therefore it would be more beneficial to have a 2nd interconnector.
- The option of routing at sea had been explored as part of the options however the technology difficulties with the A/C and D/C systems would occur.
- Northern Ireland would have the projected electricity shortfall.
- There was huge interest in renewable energy projects with Northern Ireland doing very well out of the scheme, however the UK Government had withdrawn this funding and there was a rush of people wanting to get connected to the system to take advantage of the scheme before it finished.
- Opposers would be landowners whose land the scheme would cross and groups that had come together to share their concerns. All of these objections would be dealt with by the public enquiry.

The Chairperson thanked the delegation for their attendance and presentation to the Council.

SC/39/2016**PRESENTATION BY NIFHA**

The Chairperson welcomed representatives of NIFHA, Ms J Donald and Mr M McGilligan from Northern Ireland Federation of Housing Association (NIFHA) to the meeting and invited them to make their presentation.

Ms Donald thanked the Chairperson for the invitation to attend the meeting and provided some background to the work undertaken by NIFHA across the District.

Ms Donald stated that NIFHA was the representative body for the sector in Northern Ireland and they provide a range of services and support to their members as well as informing and influencing the strategic environment for affordable housing.

Ms Donald highlighted that there were 13 Housing Associations in the area and they manage 2000 social homes across the District. The houses they provide were built to a high quality with an emphasis on energy efficiency with 2/3rds of the stock built in the District after the year 2000.

Ms Donald shared some photographs of the current housing association buildings throughout the District which ranged from ecohomes to sheltered accommodation for elderly, young people leaving care and people with dementia.

Ms Donald stated that NIFHA were an independent organisation and were not part of the public sector. She stated that Housing Associations continue to be concerned with people and places, work closely with other organisations and with Community Planning and development plans hope to work more closely with the Council in terms of provision of additional social housing across the District.

The Chairperson thanked Ms Donald for her presentation and invited questions from Members.

Members asked the following questions:

- There was a lack of social housing in the Castlewellan area, possibly due to the shortage of land, what powers or influence would Housing Associations have to combat this?
- Within the South Armagh area, private developers were due to provide social housing, however there was a difficulty in proving social housing need as local people were reluctant to sign up to a Housing Association list in case they lost their place on the Housing Executive list. Was there anything that can be done to alleviate their fears?
- Was it the policy of Housing Associations to prefer brownfield sites for social housing?
- Were there any plans to develop a Fold in the Crossgar area?

- Zoning of housing for social houses had led to a ghettoization of social housing as people do not want to see social housing in their area, were there any discussions ongoing as to how this could be tackled?
- Flat accommodation for single people, perhaps with mental health issues, leaving prison, or domestic abuse victims, there was a lack of support for these people and floating services are failing. Single bungalow type accommodation would be ideal for these kind of people.
- Anti-social behaviour can occur around social housing estates, were there any information sharing protocols in place with PSNI and other organisations?
- There was a sheltered accommodation project in Kilkeel with the entrance through a small housing development, the people in the housing development objected to the entrance being placed there, could this be investigated?

Ms Donald responded to the queries as follows:

- NIFHA had lobbied around the availability of land and are working to put together proposals on how public land can be developed. Housing Associations were constrained as to how much they can pay for sites.
- The issue of testing does not always highlight need, however people should be encouraged to put their name down on Housing Association lists as this would not affect their standing on the Housing Executive list.
- Housing Associations' priorities would be to develop where appropriate infrastructure was in place to support it such as near shops, transport links etc. There was now more emphasis placed on building communities rather than just building homes in order to ensure that people feel connected within their community.
- The issue around a Fold in Crossgar could be explored and will respond to the Member in writing.
- There was often a stigma around social housing and this was one of NIFHA's biggest challenges and people think social housing in their area devalues their house. A film had been produced about the types of people who live in social housing in order to try to make the issue more real to people in communities. Zoning and key site requirements were not being used as efficiently as they could be.
- Floating support services were provided by Housing Associations and housing officers and any failure in these services should be reported in order that it can be passed onto the relevant association.
- As NIFHA was not a public authority they had been locked out of any information sharing protocols up until now however they were currently working with PSNI to have an information sharing agreement which should be signed off in September.
- Agreed to take the issue of Kilkeel access back to the association.

The Chairperson thanked the delegation for their attendance at the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 7.40pm.

For adoption at Meeting of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council to be held on Monday 5 September 2016.

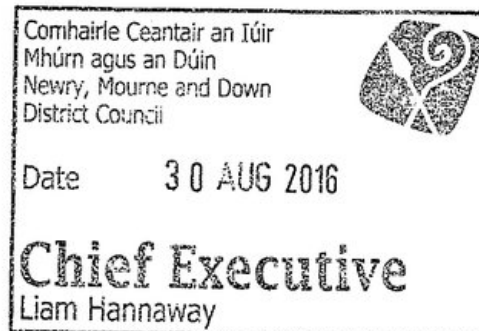
Signed:

Chairperson

Chief Executive

Mr Liam Hannaway
Chief Executive
Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
Monaghan Row
Newry
BT35 8DJ

Tuesday 30th August 2016



Dear Mr Hannaway,

RE: SONI Presentation to Newry, Mourne and Down District Council on 22nd August 2016

Thank you once again for facilitating SONI's presentation to last week's special Council meeting. It was greatly appreciated and we hope the members present found it useful.

As emphasised during my presentation, the proposed North South Interconnector is SONI's priority project and is urgently required to secure electricity supply in Northern Ireland in the coming years. It will also offer significant savings to consumers as it will enable the full implementation of the Single Electricity Market.

Based on its importance to the entire region, including the Newry, Mourne and Down area, I would appreciate if the Council will consider submitting a letter in support of the project to the Planning Appeals Commission and the Department for Infrastructure.

If you require any further information to assist the Council's decision on this please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

Robin McCormick
General Manager, SONI

NEWRY MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on
Monday 8 August 2016 at 3.00pm in the Boardroom, District Council Offices,
Monaghan Row, Newry**

Chairperson: Councillor R Burgess

Deputy Chairperson: Councillor D Curran

In Attendance: (Committee Members)

Councillor T Andrews
Councillor P Brown
Councillor W Clarke
Councillor S Ennis
Councillor G Hanna
Councillor H Harvey
Councillor T Hearty
Councillor D McAteer
Councillor M Ruane
Councillor J Tinnelly

(Non Committee Members)

Councillor P Clarke
Councillor B Walker

Officials in Attendance: Ms M Ward Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism
Mr M Mohan Senior Tourism Initiatives Manager
Mr A Patterson Tourism NI Regional Manager (NM&D)
Ms L Dillon Democratic Services Officer

ERT/113/2016: APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

The following apology was received:

Councillor G Stokes

ERT/114/2016: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were received

**ERT/115/2016: ACTION SHEET
MINUTES OF ENTERPRISE REGENERATION & TOURISM
COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY 13 JUNE 2016**

Read: Action Sheet arising out of the Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 13 June 2016.
(Copy circulated)

AGREED: It was agreed to note the Action Sheet arising out of the Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 13 June 2016.

Warrenpoint Baths

AGREED: It was agreed a report be tabled at the next Meeting of the Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting to be held on Monday 12 September 2016 regarding progress in relation to Warrenpoint Baths.

PRESENTATIONS

ERT/116/2016: STUDY VISIT - SCOTLAND

Mr A Patterson Tourism NI Regional Manager delivered a presentation on Tourism Business Development Opportunities and a study visit to Inverness/Loch Ness and Speyside in Scotland on 14-16 June 2016.

After Mr Patterson concluded the presentation the following issues were discussed:

- Benefits of digital technology
- Business Webinars and approximate costs
- Council role with regard to collaboration
- Discussions with Tour Operators and hotels/accommodation providers to develop holiday packages
- Air B&B
- Need for rural broadband programme

Mr Patterson explained that in the Scottish Highlands a number of different programmes existed to get tourism to come together ie, familiarization visits and Tourism forums. He said

the development of the Tourism Strategy would provide a basis for some of the collaboration going forward and would look at opportunities to work with Tour Operators.

He said tourists will search for on line packages to find things to do when on holiday. If such packages are available with will increase the opportunity for visitors to stay longer in an area and he said it was important for businesses to work closer together to create these soft packages.

Ms Ward said the Council are a facilitator to initiate collaboration and build the packages and the Tourism Strategy would be looking at these areas. She added that the Council also held events to promote the area but said it was businesses who actually played the major role in keeping tourists in the area.

Mr Patterson explained the process for certification for places of accommodation to be registered on AIR B&B. He said this certification ensured a basic level of quality and standards would be provided, including health and safety and fire safety, and he said there was no evidence that having to have this certification presented a barrier for people getting their places of accommodation registered on AIR B&B. He added that small businesses should make the best use of digital channels to promote their offering.

ENTERPRISE, EMPLOYMENT & REGENERATION ITEMS

ERT/117/2016: NIBSP PROPOSED INTERIM PROGRAMME

Read: Report dated 8 August 2016 from Martin Patterson, Enterprise Development Officer regarding the Northern Ireland Business Start Programme Interim Programme (NIBSP) **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews seconded by Councillor Hanna it was agreed that Newry Mourne 7 Down District Council implement an Interim Business Start Up Programme commencing on 22 October 2016 for up to a maximum of 12 months at a maximum total cost of £109,440, as per Report dated 8 August 2016 from Mr M Patterson Enterprise Development Officer.

ERT/118/2016: PLATO PROGRAMME

Read: Report dated 8 August 2016 from Mr M Patterson, Enterprise Development Officer regarding the PLATO Cross Border Business Programme.
(Copy circulated)

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Hearty seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed Newry Mourne and Down District Council provide

funding of up to a total of £16,000 to implement the PLATO Programme in the District as per Report dated 8 August 2016 from Mr M Patterson Enterprise Development Officer.

ERT/119/2016: REGENERATION PROJECT - WARRENPOINT MUNICIPAL PARK HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND

Read: Report dated 8 August 2016 from Mrs S Keenan, Project Development Officer regarding the Warrenpoint Municipal Park Heritage Lottery Fund Regeneration Project. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Hanna seconded by Councillor Brown it was agreed as follows, as per Report dated 8 August 2016 from Mrs S Keenan Project Development Officer:

- (a) To note and agree to the letter of offer from Heritage Lottery Fund dated 4 July 2016, and the pre conditions contained therein, with regard to a Regeneration Project at Warrenpoint Municipal Park.**
- (b) To implement the above project as per project application and requirements of funder to include:**
 - Recruit project staff**
 - Appoint consultancy team as per delivery phase of original tender**
 - Prepare tender documentation and procure contractor**
- (c) The Regeneration Project for Warrenpoint Municipal Park will report to the Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee via the Project Steering Group which is already in existence.**

ERT/120/2016: FUNDING DERRYMORE HOUSE & ESTATE

Read: Report from Mr C McCarney, Enterprise Development Officer regarding the funding for Derrymore House & Estate. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed as follows as per Report from Mr C McCarney Enterprise Development Officer:

- (a) **The Council prepares two funding applications for EU RDP Programme and Sport NI, for infrastructure investment in Derrymore House & Estate.**
- (b) **The Council re-allocates up to £10,000 from the existing budget of £50,000 reserved as match funding for the unsuccessful Space & Place to secure the technical assistance support required to prepare the two funding applications.**

ERT/121/2016: EU RDP – VILLAGE PLANS

Read: Report dated 27 July 2016 from Mr C McCarney, Enterprise Development Officer regarding application to EU RDP Programme for development of new Village Plans and updating existing Village Plans. **(Copy circulated)**

Ms Ward highlighted that if anyone was interested in applying for rural funding it is Mandatory that they attend a workshop.

She said the village plans were very much community driven and the Council would be working with community groups to draw up the plans.

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor Andrews seconded by Councillor W Clarke it was agreed in order to progress the development of new and updated Village Plans for at least 20 rural communities across the District, to approve the recommendations contained in Report dated 27 July 2016 from Mr C McCarney Enterprise Development Officer.**

NOTED: There would not be sufficient internal resources to draw up village plans 'in house'.

ERT/122/2016: MASTERPLANS

Read: Report dated 8 August 2016 from Mr J McGilly, Assistant Director of Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism regarding Masterplans across the District. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor Andrews seconded by Councillor Curran it was agreed as follows in relation to DEA Masterplans, as per Report dated 8 August 2016 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director of Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism:**

- (a) **Action Plans are tabled for discussion at relevant DEA Meeting to which all Councillors will be invited to attend.**

- (b) **Revised Action Plans following DEA consultation to be tabled at Council via Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting in September/October 2016.**
- (c) **Strategic Council Projects arising from the Plans be reported on via Strategic Projects Working Group.**
- (d) **All other projects be reported via Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee with a note of progress against each of the projects at (c) above.**
- (e) **Report to relevant DEAs every 6 months against progress on each of the Plans relevant to DEA.**

Ms Ward explained that in ensuring equal delivery for each DEA, the Councils Corporate Plan would be taken into account and action plans will all report back to Council via the ERT Committee to establish if delivery can be achieved in terms of financial or other resource.

TOURISM CULTURE & EVENTS ITEMS

ERT/123/2016: CAMLOUGH LAKE REHABILITATION CONTRACT & FUTURE DEVELOPMENT AT CAMLOUGH LAKE

Read: Report dated 1 July 2016 from Mrs M Boyle, Tourism Development Officer regarding Camlough Lake. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Harvey seconded by Councillor Hearty it was agreed as follows, as per Report dated 1 July 2016 from Ms M Boyle Tourism Development Officer, with regard to Camlough Lake Rehabilitation Contract:

- (a) **To consider Governance procedures for the Council and local user groups moving forward and make a recommendation to the ERT Committee.**
- (b) **To review vesting map.**
- (c) **To obtain an update on the timescale of vesting and update at the next meeting.**
- (d) **To consider funding opportunities for any future developments at Camlough Lake.**
- (e) **To determine if the Contractor can remove large boulders along the boardwalk which have emerged when the levels are low.**

ERT/124/2016: LEARNING JOURNEY TO SCOTLAND

- Read: Report dated 8 August 2016 from Mr M Patterson, Tourism NI Regional Manager regarding tourism business development opportunities arising from the Council led study visit to Inverness, Loch Ness and Speyside Scotland. **(Copy circulated)**
- AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor McAteer seconded by Councillor W Clarke it was agreed to note contents of Report dated 8 August 2016 from Mr A Patterson Tourism NI Regional Manager and that a digital tourism webinar initiative is brought forward for delivery to local tourism businesses in partnership with Tourism NI.**
- AGREED: It was also agreed Council consider the opportunities of developing a tourism bid.**

FOR NOTING

ERT/125/2016: FORWARD PLANNING – SLIEVE GULLION

- Read: Report dated 5 July 2016 from Mrs M Boyle, Tourism Development Officer regarding Report of Slieve Gullion DEA Meetings held on 25 January 2016, and 1 August 2016. **(Copy circulated)**
- AGREED: It was agreed to note the following recommendations agreed arising out of Slieve Gullion DEA Meetings held on 25 January 2016 and 1 August 2016, regarding forward planning at Slieve Gullion:**
- (a) To clarify with SMT regarding the appointment of a design team to oversee the new toilet block project.**
 - (b) Note update on the 'Footsteps in the Forest' event.**
 - (c) To erect temporary signs on the Aghadavoyle Road to urge traffic to drive slowly.**
 - (d) Agree recommended location proposed by Officials and outline design for toilet block/amenity at Slieve Gullion to facilitate detailed design to be prepared for consideration.**
 - (e) To consider minor aesthetic improvements to the attendant hut.**

ERT/126/2016: WARRENPOINT PUBLIC REALM SCHEME

- Read: Report dated 8 August 2016 from Mr Jonathan McGilly, Assistant Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism regarding Warrenpoint Public Realm Scheme (Church Street /The Square). **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: It was agreed to note the following recommendations agreed arising from the Task & Finish Public Realm Steering Group Meeting held on 22 June 2016 regarding Warrenpoint Public Realm Scheme (Church Street/The Square):

- (a) Transport NI to erect information signage on the Church Street Puffin Crossing to remind pedestrians of how the new signaling works.
- (b) Transport NI to review the sequencing/timing of the Church Street Puffin Crossing lights and carry out further education through various media sources as to the operation of Puffin Crossings.
- (c) To proceed with the Dock Street Puffin Crossing and work with Transport NI to see how the carriageway lining of the 3 lanes can be adjusted to bring more structure to the flow of traffic on the street.
- (d) Transport NI to continue to monitor traffic flow/parking on Dock Street, post the completion of the Public Realm Scheme.

ERT/127/2016: TRADE ENGAGEMENT TOUR OPERATOR

Read: Report dated 8 August 2016 from Ms W Warburton, Assistant Tourism Development Officer regarding Tour Operator and Industry engagement.
(Copy circulated)

Agreed: It was agreed to note that Tourism Officers continue to conduct Tour Operator and Industry appointments and communications and ensure that outcomes are contained within the Tourism Strategy and Action Plans.

The Meeting concluded at 3.50pm.

For consideration at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 5 September 2016.

Signed: Councillor R Burgess
Chairperson

Signed: Ms M Ward

Director of Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism

NEWRY MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of Strategy Policy & Resources Committee Meeting held on Thursday 11 August 2016 at 3.20pm in the Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick.

In the Chair: Councillor P Brown

In Attendance:	Councillor T Andrews	Councillor R Burgess
	Councillor P Byrne	Councillor M Carr
	Councillor W Clarke	Councillor S Doran
	Councillor C Enright	Councillor M Murnin
	Councillor B Ó'Múiri	Councillor B Quinn
	Councillor M Ruane	Councillor W Walker

Officials in Attendance:

Mr L Hannaway, Chief Executive
 Mr E Curtis, Director of Strategic Policy and Performance
 Ms D Carville, Director of Corporate Services
 Mr C O'Rourke, Director, Regulatory and Technical Services
 Mr E McManus, Capital Projects
 Ms S Burns, Programmes Manager
 Mrs E McParland, Democratic Services Manager
 Miss S Taggart, Democratic Services Officer
 Mrs C Taylor, Democratic Services Officer

SPR/160/2016 APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

An apology was received from Councillor Sharvin.

SPR/161/2016 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

SPR/162/2016 COMMITTEE START TIMES

It was proposed by Councillor Ó'Múiri that the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meetings should start at 5pm. This was seconded by Councillor Ruane.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ó'Múiri, seconded by Councillor Ruane, that Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meetings should start at 5pm.
It was also unanimously agreed that the start times of the Committee would not change again for the remainder of the 2016/17 year.

SPR/163/2016 IT STRATEGY

Noted: This item would be tabled at the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting on 15 September 2016.

SPR/164/2016:- ACTION SHEET OF THE STRATEGY, POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 16 JUNE 2016

Read: Action Sheet of the Strategy, Policy and Resources (SPR) Committee Meeting held on 16 June 2016 (circulated).

SPR/154/2016 – Report on Issue relating to Location of Big Screen, Hill Street, Newry

Councillor Carr asked for an update on the position regarding the Big Screen.

The Chief Executive advised that planning permission for the big screen had been granted to legacy Newry and Mourne District Council for a 2 year period ending 31 March 2017. However, arising from a judicial review, the original grant of planning permission had been quashed. Newry, Mourne and Down Council had subsequently agreed to leave the screen in situ and apply for retrospective temporary planning approval. In the interim, the Council was also seeking alternative sites for the screen, post March 2017.

SPR/144/2016 – Irish Language Audit Report

Councillor Andrews asked for an update on the Irish Language Website.

The Chief Executive advised the website was continuing to be developed. He said the Working Group may not have met recently due to holidays however he would ensure it meet at the earliest possible time.

Agreed: The Action Sheet of the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee held on 16 June 2016, was agreed.

SPR/165/2016:- MINUTES OF STRATEGIC PROJECTS WORKING GROUP – 31 MAY 2016

Read: Minutes of the Strategic Projects Working Group held on 31 May 2016 (circulated).

Agreed: **The Minutes of the Strategic Projects Working Group held on 31 May 2016 were agreed.**

As Mr E Curtis, Director of Strategic Policy and Performance had been delayed due to attendance at another meeting, it was agreed to consider item 20 as the next agenda item.

SPR/166/2016:- ADMISSION OF ARC21 TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME NI

Read: Report from Mr P Green, Legal Advisor, dated 11 August 2016 regarding Admission of arc21 to the Local Government Pension Scheme NI.

Mr O'Rourke advised the new arc21 Joint Committee was required to apply for membership of the Local Government Pension Scheme in Northern Ireland and recommended that Council complete the formal admission process for execution of the Guarantee Agreement as a Deed by the Joint Committee and each of the participant Councils.

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Murnin, seconded by Councillor Andrews that Council enter into the Guarantee Agreement with NILGOSC to facilitate membership of arc21s membership of the Local Government Pension Scheme.**

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND WELL-BEING

SPR/167/2016 NORTHERN IRELAND FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE CONSULTATION – INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN 2016-2021

Read: Report from Ms H McKee, Assistant Director, Community Planning, dated 11 August 2016, regarding the Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service Integrated Risk Management Plan 2016-2021 (copy circulated).

The Chief Executive advised the circulated report highlighted the link between the Northern Ireland Fire & Rescue Service and Community Planning and asked for any comments on the consultation to be forwarded to the officer responsible.

Noted: **The report and consultation papers were noted.**

SPR/168/2016 PARTNERS REPORTING AGREEMENT (SLA) FOR PARTICIPATION AT DISTRICT ELECTORAL AREA MEETINGS

Read: Report from Ms H McKee, Assistant Director, Community Planning, dated 11 August 2016, regarding the Partners Reporting Agreement (SLA) for participation at District Electoral Area Meetings (copy circulated).

The Chief Executive stated a meeting had been held with Party Representatives and Statutory Sector partners to discuss the Statutory Sector's input into the 7 District Electoral Area Fora. He advised a draft Partner Agreement/SLA was considered by the Party Representatives Forum at the end of June 2016 and he recommended that the resultant SLA be agreed on behalf of the Council.

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ó'Múiri, seconded by Councillor Andrews to approve the draft SLA contained in the officer's report and that following Council approval, the SLA be circulated to the Partner Agencies for signing.**

SPR/169/2016 COMMUNITY PLANNING EMERGING NEEDS DISCUSSION WITH MPS AND MLAS

Read: Report from Ms H McKee, Assistant Director, Community Planning, dated 11 August 2016, regarding Community Planning Emerging Needs discussion held with MPs and MLAs (copy circulated).

The Chief Executive advised a meeting had recently been held with Party Representatives plus MPs and MLAs representing the District. He stated the aim of the meeting was to discuss emerging community planning priorities and their connection with the Programme for Government.

The Chief Executive stated it had been agreed at that meeting that regular twice yearly meetings were to be held with MPs and MLAs, as well as regular constituency level meetings.

Members welcomed the document stating it was important that buy-in was forthcoming from MPs and MLAs.

Councillor W Clarke proposed that Council hold regular, twice yearly meetings with MPs and MLAs going forward. This was seconded by Councillor Brown.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor W Clarke, seconded by Councillor Brown that regular, twice yearly meetings, as well as constituency level meetings were held with MPs, MLAs and Council.

Mr E Curtis and Ms S Burns entered the meeting during the above discussions – 3.32pm

EQUALITY AND POLICY

SPR/170/2016 SECTION 75 POLICY SCREENING REPORT – QUARTERLY REPORT FOR PERIOD APRIL-JUNE 2016

Read: Report from Mr C Moffett, Equality Officer, dated 11 August 2016 regarding Section 75 Policy Screening Report – Quarterly Report for Period April-June 2016 (copy circulated).

The Director of Strategic Planning and Performance advised the report set out the equality screening of all policies Council proposed to adopt for the last quarter from April-June 2016 and asked the Committee to note the report.

Noted: The Section 75 Policy Screening Report was noted.

SPR/171/2016 NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL PUBLIC AUTHORITY STATUTORY EQUALITY AND GOOD RELATIONS DUTIES ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT 2015-16

Read: Report from Mr C Moffett, Equality Officer, dated 11 August 2016 regarding Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Public Authority Statutory Equality and Good Relations Duties Annual Progress Report 2015-16 (copy circulated).

Mr Curtis advised Council must provide an Annual Report to the Equality Commission on the progress made on implementation of the

arrangements set out in its equality scheme in order to discharge its Section 75 Statutory duties.

Councillor Quinn stated although the progress looked good on paper, officers should ensure that any Council organised events were fully accessible to people with disabilities in terms of car parking and access to events.

Agreed: **The Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Public Authority Statutory Equality and Good Relations Duties Annual Progress Report 2015-16 was noted and it was unanimously agreed that the report be submitted to the Equality Commission for NI.**

SPR/172/2016 **CORRESPONDENCE FROM DR EVELYN COLLINS CBE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE, EQUALITY COMMISSION FOR NORTHERN IRELAND (ECNI) RE: REVIEW OF DECISION REF NAMING RAYMOND MCCREESH PARK**

Read: Correspondence received from Dr Evelyn Collins, CBE, Chief Executive, ECNI, dated 30 June 2016 advising that the Commission, at its meeting of 29 June 2016, had rescinded the decision it took in March 2015 by which it accepted that the review undertaken by Newry and Mourne District Council of the naming of McCreesh Park had complied with the recommendation made by the Commissioner following its investigation of this matter. The Commission had subsequently concluded that the Council had not fully complied with the recommendation, specifically around transparency; and had rescinded the decision challenged in the Judicial Review application (copy circulated).

Read: Report from Mr C Moffett, Equality Officer, dated 11 August 2016 regarding correspondence received from Dr Evelyn Collins, CBE, Chief Executive, ECNI, dated 30 June 2016 re: Review of decision relating to naming of Raymond McCreesh Park. The report recommended:

1. Correspondence dated 30 June 2016 from ECNI be referred to the Councillors' Equality and Good Relations Reference Group for discussion and consideration on next steps in relation to the matter.
2. An application be made to the High Court seeking an adjournment of the Judicial Review in relation to the decision to name Raymond McCreesh Park. (copy circulated).

The Chief Executive cautioned that Council were still involved in the Judicial Review process.

Councillor Ó'Múiri proposed that the recommendations contained within the report dated 11 August 2016 from Mr C Moffett, Equality Officer be approved, this was seconded by Councillor Doran.

- Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ó'Múiri, seconded by Councillor Doran, that the recommendations contained within the report dated 11 August 2016 from Mr C Moffett, Equality Officer be approved:**
- 1. Correspondence dated 30 June 2016 from ECNI be referred to the Councillors' Equality and Good Relations Reference Group for discussion and consideration on next steps in relation to the matter.**
 - 2. An application be made to the High Court seeking an adjournment of the Judicial Review in relation to the decision to name Raymond McCreesh Park.**

FOR CONSIDERATION AND/OR DECISION

SPR/173/2016 GRILL'S HOUSE, DAISY HILL – SECURITY ISSUES

Noted: **This item would be tabled at the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting on 15 September 2016.**

SPR/174/2016 ROCK POOL, NEWCASTLE – ADVANCE NOTICE OF LISTING

Read: Correspondence dated 27 May 2016 from Department for Communities, Historic Environment Division advising that the Rock Pool, Newcastle was being considered for listing under Section 80(1) of the Planning Act (NI) 2011 and asking for the Council's comments on the proposed listing. (copy circulated).

Councillor W Clarke noted that comments were being sought within 6 weeks of receipt of the letter (1 June 2016) and he sought assurance that Council could still forward comments to the consultation. He stated the Rock Pool was a very worthy building to be listed as it was an important part of the built heritage in the harbour area of Newcastle.

Councillor W Clarke proposed to support the listing of the Rock Pool and that it be added to the list for restoration programmes. He also asked that officers investigate if listing the building would hinder any restoration

programme. Councillor Quinn seconded the proposal stating it was important to enhance and support the harbour area of Newcastle.

Mr Curtis advised he would communicate with NIEA to ensure any listing would not hinder restoration programmes in the future and would bring the response back to Committee.

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor W Clarke, seconded by Councillor Quinn that the listing of the Rock Pool be supported and that it be added to the list for restoration programmes.**

SPR/175/2016 STATUTORY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS & STANDARDS FOR 2015-16

Read: Report from Mr J McBride, Assistant Director, Transformation, Innovation and Performance, dated 11 August 2016, detailing, for Members' consideration and agreement, a self-assessment of the Council's performance during 2015/16 in relation to the three categories of Statutory indicators and Standards specified by the NI Assembly (copy circulated).

Councillor Andrews questioned why it was not possible for officers across the 11 Councils to assess other Councils, similar to the practice within the Elected Member Development Working Group.

Mr Curtis advised NI Audit Office held the monitoring and oversight role in relation to the performance indicators and standards.

Councillor Enright stated the performance indicators for the Planning Department were quite bad, particularly in relation to the length of time it took for letters and phone calls from Councillors to be responded to.

Councillor Murnin stated although some targets were not being met currently, performance was going in the right direction.

Councillor Murnin proposed that Council agree the self-assessment of Council performance in relation to the Statutory Performance Indicators and Standards for 2015-16. This was second by Councillor Ó'Múiri.

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Murnin, seconded by Councillor Ó'Múiri, that Council agree the self-assessment**

of Council performance in relation to the Statutory Performance Indicators and Standards for 2015-16.

SPR/176/2016 ANNALONG MARINE PARK – DEVELOPMENT OF ROADWAY

Read: Report from Mr E McManus, dated 3 August 2016 regarding Annalong Marine Park, Development of Roadway advising that a request had been received for Council to review its position in relation to the provision of financial assistance for the construction of a roadway extension at Annalong Marine Park by Cove Developments. (copy circulated).

Mr McManus stated there was no provision in the Capital Budget 2016/17 for a contribution such as this and there was no proposed Council capital scheme for the lower section of the Annalong Marine Park in the future.

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Doran, seconded by Councillor Ruane that no action be taken on the request for Council to review its decision on this matter.**

SPR/177/2016 SAINTFIELD COMMUNITY CENTRE PROJECT

Read: Report from Ms J McCabe, Diversity & Inclusion Projects Coordinator regarding Saintfield Community Centre Project recommending the nomination of two Elected Members from the Rowallane DEA as members of the new Saintfield Community Trust (copy circulated).

Mr Curtis stated a Development Trust was to be set up for the Saintfield Community Centre Project which required two Elected Members to sit on it going forward. He advised following a Rowallane DEA Meeting it had been agreed that 2 Rowallane DEA Councillors should be nominated to sit on this Development Trust.

Councillor Walker proposed that the recommendation to appoint two members to the Development Trust be approved and in order to have cross-community representation on the Trust, Councillors Andrews and Harvey to be nominated to sit on the Development Trust. This was seconded by Councillor Brown.

Councillor Ruane proposed, as an amendment, that Sinn Fein, being the largest party on the Council should also have a representative nominated onto the Trust. He said this would reflect arguments made in the past

about lack of representation in some areas and the need to accommodate such Parties onto various bodies and boards. This was seconded by Councillor Doran.

Members discussed the issue at length and the Chairperson put Councillor Ruane's amendment to a vote, results of which was as follows:

FOR: 6
AGAINST: 6
ABSTENTIONS: 1

The Chairperson held the casting vote and voted against, therefore the amendment was lost.

The Chairperson then put Councillor Walker's proposal to a vote, the results of which was as follows:

FOR: 7
AGAINST: 6
ABSTENTIONS: 0

The proposal was CARRIED.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Brown that Council nominate two Members to the Development Trust and that Councillors Andrews and Harvey be the nominees appointed.

SPR/178/2016 PROGRESS REPORT ON CAPITAL SCHEME

Noted: This item would be tabled at the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting on 15 September 2016.

SPR/179/2016 KILKEEL TOWN HALL/FORMER CINEMA

Read: Report from Ms B Magill, Administration Manager dated 11 August 2016 regarding Kilkeel Town Hall/Formers Cinema (copy circulated)

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Doran, seconded by Councillor Quinn that, as recommended in the officer's report, Council begin negotiations to enter into a Licence Agreement with the PSNI for Kilkeel Town Hall premises for a 6 month period, with an option to renew for a further 6 months, at a Licence fee to be agreed by the Council's Valuer.

SPR/180/2016 KILKEEL HOLIDAY PROVISION SCHEME

Read: Report from Ms A Rennick, Investing for Health Officer dated 11 August 2016 regarding Kilkeel Holiday Provision Scheme (copy circulated)

The Chief Executive advised 'Kilkeel Gets Active' was a pilot holiday provision scheme which had been developed to ensure 20 young people who would not normally be able to access traditional summer schemes could access a full programme of activities including physical activity, cooking and leadership/team building. He stated he had agreed under delegated authority to approve £500 for transport between Newry and Kilkeel for the 10 days of the programme and asked that Council endorse this expenditure.

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Doran, seconded by Councillor Brown to endorse the provision of transport costs of approx. £500 in respect of the 'Kilkeel Gets Active' scheme.**

GRANT AIDED PROGRAMMES**SPR/181/2016 EUROCITIES APPLICATION**

Read: Report from Ms S Burns, Programmes Manager dated 11 August 2016 regarding Eurocities and recommending that the application for Eurocities membership be postponed at this time, given the level of uncertainty which Brexit has brought to the potential for long term benefits to be obtained in respect of the £3000 (approx.) membership fee per annum. (copy circulated).

Councillor Byrne questioned if officers had made any contact with either Belfast or Lisburn City Councils which would be in the same position.

Mr Curtis advised he had spoken with Belfast City Council who were reconsidering their membership at this stage and he had asked them to keep him informed of their decision.

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Murnin, seconded by Councillor Ruane to accept the Officer's recommendation to postpone the Eurocities membership application.**

SPR/182/2016 PEACE IV

Read: Report from Ms S Burns, Programmes Manager dated 11 August 2016 regarding Peace IV, and recommending a targeted approach to the recruitment for the remainder of the Social Partners positions. (copy circulated).

Ms Burns advised the final partnership arrangement for Peace IV had been approved at the June SPR Committee Meeting with Social Partners being, as far as practically possible, representative of the demographics of the District. However, 2 calls for Social Partners had been completed with the quota of 9 people still not being reached. She recommended that a targeted approach to the recruitment of the remainder of Social Partners positions, particularly females and those not in the 41-60 age bracket, be undertaken and that approval was given to submit the stage 2 application by 14th September 2016.

Mr Curtis stated it was important that the stage 2 application was of a very high standard as there was only one opportunity to complete and he therefore asked that any assistance Ms Burns required to ensure the application was of a sufficient standard, should be afforded to her.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Burgess to accept the officer's recommendation to undertake a targeted approach to recruitment for the remainder of the Social Partners positions and that approval be given to submit the stage 2 application.

SPR/183/2016 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Read: Report from Ms S Burns, Programmes Manager dated 11 August 2016 regarding Financial Assistance, and recommending the following:

1. Extension of PIPS letter of offer to 30 September 2016.
2. Pending a site visit by Officers to confirm completion of works at Newry Hockey Club, that Council pays suppliers directly.

(copy circulated).

Ms Burns stated that Council had approved a capital scheme for the PIPS group through the Financial Assistance Capital Scheme. However due to extenuating circumstances the group had been unable to complete the

project within the letter of offer timeframe. She recommended that Council extend the letter of offer to 30 September 2016 to assist the group with completion.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Doran, seconded by Councillor Ruane to extend the letter of offer to PIPS to 30 September 2016 to assist the group with completion of their scheme.

Ms Burns advised that Newry Hockey Club were unable to expend on £20,000 invoices which were currently being held for their scheme and she recommended that, pending a site visit to confirm completion of works, Council pay the suppliers directly.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Doran, seconded by Councillor Ruane to accept the officer's recommendation that, pending a site visit to confirm completion of works at Newry Hockey Club, Council pay the suppliers directly.

ITEMS RESTRICTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 1 OF SCHEDULE 6 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (NI) 2015

SPR/184/2016 LANDS AT SHANDON PARK, NEWRY

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

Read: Report from Mrs A Robb, Assistant Director, Corporate Services, dated 11 August 2016, regarding Land at Shandon Park, Belfast Road, Newry (copy circulated).

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

Agreed: When the Committee came out of closed session, the Chief Executive reported that it had been agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor W Clarke that

Council request Land and Property Services to provide a valuation and a recommendation on the most appropriate way to dispose of the land. It had also agreed to advise the adjoining landowner and NI Property that no decision would be taken in respect of disposal of the land at this time and that the culverting of the adjoining water course be considered.

SPR/185/2016 VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION FUNDING – DOWNPATRICK IRISH LANGUAGE SUMMER SCHOOL

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

Read: Minute from AHC Committee Meeting held on 20th June 2016 (copy circulated).

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

Agreed: When the Committee came out of closed session, the Chief Executive reported that it had been agreed on the proposal of Councillor Brown, seconded by Councillor Enright, to refer this matter to the Irish Language Strategy Group for consideration.

SPR/186/2016 CORRESPONDENCE FROM LAND AND PROPERTY SERVICES ENCLOSING VALUATION OF SITE OF FORMER KINDLE INTEGRATED PRIMARY SCHOOL, BALLYKINLAR

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

of any particular person (including the Council holding that information).

Read: Correspondence received from Land and Property Services enclosing Valuation of site of former Kindle Integrated Primary School, Ballykinlar (copy circulated).

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

Agreed: When the Committee came out of closed session, the Chief Executive reported that it had been agreed on the proposal of Councillor Brown, seconded by Councillor Murnin that Council proceed to investigate the purchase of the site, subject to the development of a business case for the purchase and development of the site.

The meeting concluded at 4.38pm.

For consideration at the Council Meeting to be held on 5 September 2016.

Signed: **Councillor Patrick Brown**
Chairperson

Signed: **Eddy Curtis**
Director of Strategic Policy and Performance

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Ref: AHC/2016

**Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on
Monday 15 August 2016 at 6.00pm in the Mourne Room,
Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick**

Chairperson: Councillor M Carr

In attendance:

(Councillors)	
Councillor P Brown	Councillor S Burns
Councillor P Byrne	Councillor G Fitzpatrick
Councillor V Harte	Councillor H Harvey
Councillor L Kimmins	Councillor K Loughran
Councillor B Ó'Muiri	Councillor D Taylor
Councillor J Trainor	Councillor W Walker

Non-Committee Members: Councillor T Andrews Councillor C Casey

Officials in attendance:

Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active and Healthy Communities
 Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director of Active and Healthy Communities (Health and Wellbeing)
 Mr R Moore, Assistant Director of Active and Healthy Communities (Leisure and Sport)
 Mrs C Taylor, Democratic Services Officer

AHC/94/2016: APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Apologies were received from Councillor S Doran.

The Director advised Members he would be inviting them to attend a Play Strategy Workshop in the near future.

AHC/95/2016: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

AHC/96/2016: ACTION SHEET OF THE ACTIVE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 20 JUNE 2016

Read: Action Sheet of the Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on 20 June 2016. (Copy circulated).

The Director advised Members of the new format to the Action Sheet whereby previous actions would be kept on the action sheet until the Committee were content the actions had been completed.

In response to a query from Councillor Burns, the Director confirmed that Members of each DEA would shortly be invited on a tour around their community centres and leisure centres.

Agreed: The Action Sheet was noted.

AHC/97/2016 DIRECTORATE BUSINESS PLAN 2016-2017

The Director took Members through the Directorate Business Plan 2016-2017, drawing Members attention specifically to the areas that the directorate was responsible for and to the directorates' objectives for the year. He further advised the Members of the strategies and development plans that had been completed in the past year and the two policies that were being worked on with other departments.

Noted: The Directorate Business Plan 2016-2017 was noted.

NOTICES OF MOTION

AHC/98/2016 NOTICE OF MOTION RECEIVED FROM COUNCILLOR P BROWN

The following Motion had been presented to Council on 1 August 2016, proposed by Councillor Brown and seconded by Councillor Hyland, and subsequently referred to the AHC Committee for consideration:

“This Council is opposed to the discriminatory Breed Specific Legislation (BSL) and the obligation it places upon Council to cruelly end the life of dogs based on their breeding alone. It calls upon DAERA Minister, Michelle McIlveen, to repeal that legislation and replace it with legislation holding owners responsible for the actions of their animals.”

The Chair advised that pages 18 and 35 of The Dogs (NI) Order 1983 (as amended) – Guidance for Council Enforcement Officers had been circulated to Members to inform their consideration of this matter. He said it was his view the Motion would be better to have been debated by all 41 Members but the process being followed was in line with Council's Standing Orders.

Councillor Brown proposed that the Motion be approved. He said it had been inspired by the plight of Hank the dog, who had recently been taken by Belfast City Council from his owners without notice as they had reacted to reports he was a pit bull type dog. He said under BSL legislation, Council Dog Wardens were compelled to seize pit bull type dogs unless they met strict exemption criteria, details of which had been circulated to Members. Hank had been placed on the Council exemption

list due to his good temperament. Councillor Brown said that although Hank had been saved, the failures and inadequacies of the BSL legislation had been exposed.

Councillor Brown said the legislation was a reaction to a fatal dog attack in Bradford which had demonised entire breeds without adequate research into dog attacks. He said attacks were down to individual dogs and closely related to how a dog was treated by its owners. Councillor Brown said his preference was to see owners held responsible for all actions of dogs and for illegal breeds to be rehomed and naturalised in a different environment and this would discourage the breeding and sale of these dogs and it could also result in owners being more responsible.

Councillor Taylor seconded the motion stating his Party had been calling for a review in the BSL legislation.

Councillor Byrne stated he was against the BSL legislation and the wording of the motion concerned him. He said his preference would be for preventative measures to be put in place rather than owners held responsible after a dog attack. He said as a dog owner and someone with first-hand experience of an attack as a child, he believed a dogs' behaviour was down to how it was brought up, and not its breed.

Councillor Byrne went on to say that he was unaware of the behavioural tests dogs went through and there should be more transparency around this. If the motion was worded differently, then it would receive his support, it was not satisfactory that the legislation tackled attacks from certain dogs and held owners responsible. He stated his preference would be to review the legislation rather than repeal it.

Councillor Harvey advised that people's safety was paramount.

Councillor Carr concurred with the last 2 speakers saying the wording of the motion was inaccurate. He said it was not on breeding alone that Council ended the life of dogs', the behavioural tests were an important consideration.

Councillor Carr suggested writing to the Minister to review the legislation rather than repealing it and replacing it. Councillors Brown and Taylor indicated they were content with this amendment.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Brown, seconded by Councillor Taylor, that this Council write to DAERA Minister McIlveen to review the BSL Legislation taking into account preventative measures being put in place and more transparency around behavioural testing for dogs.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

AHC/99/2016

DEA FORA UPDATE

Read: Report from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director of Active and Healthy Communities, Community Engagement, dated 15 August 2016 regarding DEA Fora Update (Copy circulated).

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ó'Muiri, seconded by Councillor Walker, that the following be accepted:

- The recommendations outlined in the Action Sheets from the DEA forum meetings held in May and June 2016.
- To note the report of the DEA public meetings held in June 2016.
- The Statutory Partner Service Level Agreement.
- To adopt the amended DEA Terms of Reference.
- The DEA Operating Framework.

AHC/100/2016 UPDATE ON LIBRARIES NI FUNDING

Read: Correspondence from Libraries NI regarding Funding (Copy circulated).

Agreed: It was agreed to note the correspondence from Libraries NI regarding Funding.

AHC/101/2016 REPORT ON POLICING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

Read: Report from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement, dated 15 August 2016 regarding Policing and Community Safety Partnership (Copy circulated).

Agreed: It was agreed to note the Minutes, Reports and Action Plan to PCSP (including the appointment of Community Safety Warden Service following public procurement process).

AHC/102/2016 REPORT ON YOUTH MURAL AT THREE WAYS COMMUNITY CENTRE

Read: Report from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement, dated 15 August 2016 regarding Youth Mural at Three Ways Community Centre (Copy circulated).

Agreed: It was unanimously agreed that approval be given to the extension of Youth Arts Programme including a mural on the external wall, in Three Ways Community Centre (following discussion with Council Community Development Officer).

AHC/103/2016 CITIZENS ADVICE NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN MONTHLY STATISTICS

Read: Report from Mr D Brannigan, Community Relations & Development Manager, dated 15 August 2016, regarding the monthly statistics for Citizens Advice Newry, Mourne and Down.

Agreed: It was agreed to note the report regarding the monthly statistics for the Citizens Advice Newry, Mourne and Down.

LEISURE AND SPORTS

AHC/104/2016 SPORTS FACILITY STRATEGY UPDATE

Read: Report from Mr R Moore, Assistant Director, Leisure & Sport, dated 15 August 2016 regarding the Sports Facility Strategy Update (Copy circulated).

Mr R Moore advised Members that the Sports Facility Strategy was in draft format and had been taken to the Party Representatives Forum and would now be presented at the DEA Fora's, and then would be brought back to Committee.

Agreed: It was agreed that the Draft Facility Strategy would be sent to the 7 DEAs for consideration and comment, with a further report to AHC Committee as soon as possible thereafter.

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

AHC/105/2016 DOWN YOUR STREET/CIVIC PRIDE PROGRAMME

Read: Report from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health & Well-being, dated 15 August 2016 regarding Down Your Street/Civic Pride Programme (Copy circulated).

Mr Devlin advised Members that the scheme would be rolled out through the Councils Financial Assistance programme to allow groups and schools to apply for amounts of between £500 and £3,000. He added that the existing 'Down Your Street' programme would continue and this programme would include the Schools environmental calendar.

Councillor Walker said the Down Your Street programme had undertaken excellent work, particularly in the Saintfield area and this was money well spent.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Fitzpatrick, seconded by Councillor Ó'Muiri, that the Down Your Street/Civic Pride Programme would be rolled out across the District.

AHC/106/2016 REPORT ON DRINKING WATER QUALITY FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

Read: Report from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health & Well-being, dated 15 August 2016 regarding Drinking Water Quality Report for Northern Ireland (Copy circulated).

Councillor Burns requested a report based on incidents related to iron pipes to include how much iron piping was underground and how much had been replaced by plastic piping.

Agreed: It was agreed that the Drinking Water Quality Report for Northern Ireland be noted.

AHC/107/2016 REPORT ON LOCAL AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT

Read: Report from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health & Well-being, dated 15 August 2016 regarding Local Air Quality Management (Copy circulated).

Mr Devlin advised the DoE had funded this work in previous years, but funding had now come to an end. An application had been made to the Environment fund and officers had been successful in achieving £30,000, although this would only pay for 50% of the two replacement air quality monitoring analysers that were required.

In response to a query from Councillor Burns, Mr Devlin advised that the analysers were regularly calibrated, but the maintenance involved was high as they were worn out.

Councillor Walker expressed concerns, saying the Department was cutting funding and expecting Councils and the ratepayers to pick up the bill. He suggested writing to the Department and passing on these concerns. Mr Devlin said those representations had been made by all Councils at the time of the cuts.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Walker, that 50% of the cost be allocated to purchase two replacement air quality monitoring analysers for use by the Health and Wellbeing Department in the Canal Street, Newry Air Quality Monitoring Station.

AHC/108/2016 HEALTH AND WELL-BEING ANNUAL REPORT

Read: Report from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health & Well-being, dated 15 August 2016 regarding Health and Well-being Annual Report (Copy circulated).

In response to comments from Councillor Casey regarding smoking enforcement in workplace vans Mr Devlin advised Council's Tobacco Control Officers monitored these incidents. He further advised legislation would shortly be taken through the Assembly regarding smoking in cars carrying children.

Agreed: It was agreed to note the Health and Well-Being Annual Report.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 6.30pm.

For consideration at Meeting of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council to be held on Monday 5 September 2016.

Signed: Councillor M Carr
Chairperson

Signed: Mr M Lipsett
Director of Active and Healthy Communities

NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

RTS/M

Minutes of the Regulatory and Technical Services Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 17 August 2016 at 5.00 pm in the Boardroom, District Council Offices, Monaghan Row, Newry

Chairperson: Councillor R Mulgrew

Vice Chairperson: Councillor T Andrews

Members:

Councillor S Burns	Councillor C Casey
Councillor G Craig	Councillor D Curran
Councillor G Fitzpatrick	Councillor V Harte
Councillor D Hyland	Councillor J Macauley
Councillor P O'Gribin	Councillor G Stokes
Councillor D Taylor	Councillor J Tinnelly
Councillor J Trainor	

Non Committee Members: Councillor P Clarke

Officials in Attendance: Mr C O'Rourke, Director of Regulatory and Technical Services
 Mr J Parkes, Assistant Director of Waste Management
 Mr K Scullion, Assistant Director Facilities Management and Maintenance
 Mr C Jackson, Assistant Director of Building Control and Regulations
 Mr A McKay, Chief Planning Officer
 Mrs C Taylor, Democratic Services Officer

RTS/106/2016: **APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

The Chairperson commented that the start time of the Committee had been on Minute Pad as being 3pm instead of 5pm and she undertook to follow up on this query.

RTS/107/2016: **DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

RTS/108/2016: ACTION SHEET OF THE REGULATORY AND TECHNICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING – WEDNESDAY 22 JUNE 2016

Read: Action Sheet of the Regulatory and Technical Services Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 22 June 2016. **(Circulated)**.

Agreed: **It was unanimously agreed to note the Action Sheet.**

RTS/109/2016: 2016/2017 BUSINESS PLAN

Noted: Mr O'Rourke explained that the 2016/17 Business Plan was similar to the previous years' apart from the key actions which had been set by the Chief Executive and which in turn had been set by the Chief Executive Appraisal Sub-Committee.

Mr O'Rourke also advised Members of the Performance Metrics spread sheet which detailed the activities the directorate would carry out in the year. This would be reported back to Committee on a quarterly basis using a traffic light system.

In response to a query from Councillor Craig, Mr O'Rourke advised that the Planning Task and Finish Group had now completed its business but a 6 monthly review of the changes implemented would be brought back in September. The first meeting of the Strategic Waste Working Group would take place next week, and there was no Facilities Management Working Group set up yet. He further advised that the tier 3 positions were in place and job matching was underway for Heads of Service positions, which he hoped would be completed by the end of September.

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Craig, it was agreed to approve the 2016/17 Business Plan.**

BUILDING CONTROL

RTS/110/2016: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LICENSING OF PAVEMENT CAFES ACT (NI) 2014.

Read: Report from Mr Colum Jackson on the implementation of the Licensing of Pavement Cafes Act (NI) 2014. **(Circulated)**

Noted: Mr Jackson informed Members that the Licensing of Pavement Cafes Act (NI) 2014 would be implemented on 1 October 2016 and

business owners could apply to Council for a pavement café licence. He advised Members of the recommendation to leave a clear space of 1.5 metres clearance on the pavements for wheelchair/pram users and also a clear space at junctions.

Mr Jackson further advised the area should have demarcation from the rest of the footpath and a barrier to aid the public who were visually impaired or blind. He said sturdy furniture that could not blow away would be required and he advised that the licence would be for a 3 year period which would cost £280 plus £95 for 2 inspections over the 3 year period. He said the fee for renewal after 3 years would be £185 plus £95 for two inspections and a soft approach would be taken with any business owners who currently had tables and chairs outside their premises and officers would work with them over the first year.

Councillor Andrews expressed concerns, saying pubs and hotels already paid high rates and this was another tax on them. He said they should be able to have their say and be made aware of their obligations.

Councillors Hyland, Burns, Craig and Casey welcomed the implementation of the legislation.

Questions from Members were answered by Mr Jackson as follows:

- There would be a consultation process undertaken with the stakeholders including the PSNI, NI Tourist Board and Transport NI, whereby business owners would be invited in for a guidance session.
- All other councils in NI were setting similar fees with the exception of Belfast City Council, whose fees were much higher.
- Business owners who placed tables and chairs outside on the pavement for smokers would be guided by council officers as to alternatives.
- The barge restaurant outside the Buttercrane was being dealt with by officers in the Tourism section.
- The structures should be able to be removed within 20 minutes and if heavy, would fall outside of the legislation.
- Business owners with less than the 1.5m of clearance would be consulted with.
- There would be consultation with Planning. Branded signage outside the cafes would not be permitted, although the owners name on the awning/umbrella would be allowed.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Craig, it was agreed:

- To approve a 3 year initial licence duration.
- To approve the Licence Fees.

PLANNING

RTS/111/2016: **JULY 2016 PLANNING COMMITTEE PERFORMANCE REPORT**

Read: Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Planning Committee Performance Report, July 2016. (*Circulated*)

Noted: In response to queries from Councillor Craig, Mr McKay advised there were still 180 legacy planning applications dating back to 2014 and earlier in the system, which were impacting on the planning performance targets and he hoped that by the end of the year the backlog would be cleared.

Mr McKay said decisions on recent applications which were straight forward were being produced in 6 – 8 weeks.

Agreed: It was unanimously agreed to note the July 2016 Planning Committee Performance Report.

RTS/112/2016: **APPEALS AND DECISIONS**

Read: Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Planning Committee appeals and decisions 2016. (*Circulated*)

Agreed: It was unanimously agreed to note the Appeals and Decisions.

RTS/113/2016: **RECORD OF MEETINGS BETWEEN PLANNING OFFICERS AND PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES**

Read: Record of Meetings between Planning Officers and Public Representative. (*Circulated*)

Agreed: It was unanimously agreed to note the record of meetings between Planning Officers and Public Representatives.

RTS/114/2016: **MEETING WITH PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES 1ST QUARTER – APRIL/JUNE 2016**

Read: Meeting with Public Representatives; 1st quarter; 1 April 2016 to 30 June 2016. (*Circulated*)

Agreed: It was unanimously agreed to note the Meeting with Public Representatives 1st Quarter – April/June 2016.

RTS/115/2016: **PUBLICATION OF NORTHERN IRELAND PLANNING STATISTICS: 2015/16 ANNUAL STATISTICAL BULLETIN.**

Read: Report dated 30 June 2016 on the Publication of Northern Ireland Planning Statistics: 2015/16 Annual Statistical Bulletin. (*Circulated*)

Agreed: It was unanimously agreed to note the Publication of Northern Ireland Statistics 2015/16 Annual Statistical Bulletin.

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE

RTS/116/2016: **REQUEST FOR COUNCIL TO IMPROVE ENTRANCE TO ARDGLASS THROUGH PROVISION OF PLANTING**

Read: Report from Kevin Scullion on request for Council to improve entrance to Ardglass through provision of planting. (*Circulated*).

Noted: Mr Scullion advised this request had been received from Councillor Curran, who wished the Council to improve the road verge at the entrance to Ardglass.

Mr Scullion said the verge was split into 3 sections of land which was owned by Transport NI, but which Council maintained. He also said the grass verge bordered a fish factory whose fence was broken. Contact had been made with the factory owner to advise them of Council's concerns and to ask if the fence could be improved, but the owner had not responded. He also said Transport NI had historically paid Council to maintain the verge but due to financial constraints, this was no longer the case.

Mr Scullion advised that 2 of the verges were small as a footpath had been put through them and so if improvements were undertaken, this would only make a very small visual impact. The opinion of a professional gardener had been sought regarding the larger area, but the advice received was also that any improvement would make little or no impact. Mr Scullion explained that the Council could cut the grass verge but could not extend beyond what it currently provided for the verges in question.

In response to Councillor Curran's disappointment, Mr Scullion advised that the number of grounds staff had been reduced over

the past few years and they were struggling to maintain their current schedule. If two further sites were taken on, it would only exacerbate the problem.

In response to Councillor O'Gribin's query, Mr Scullion confirmed that the grass verges and roundabouts were owned by Transport NI but Council was maintaining them for no recompense.

In response to Councillor O'Gribin, Mr O'Rourke confirmed there had been no change of policy in the council regarding the maintenance of non-council lands, but if verges were not maintained, it would be detrimental to the picture of the District.

Councillor O'Gribin requested costings for the areas that council maintained for Transport NI and a map of each location. He also proposed council officers carry out a review on how much of rate payers money was being spent on the upkeep of upkeep of non-council lands. Councillor Curran seconded this proposal.

Councillor Fitzpatrick suggested the community take ownership of the maintenance of the 3 areas of verge and said grants were available for community groups for planting and maintenance. Councillors Taylor, Tinnelly, O'Gribin and Burns agreed with Councillor Fitzpatrick's comments regarding giving a community group ownership of the area. Councillor Burns said the communities should be empowered to take on the ownership of areas like the grass verges, to enable them to show civic pride in their areas.

The Chairperson asked Councillor Curran identify an active Community Group which could take on this project and the DEA Co-ordinator could assist in drawing down funding.

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Burns, seconded by Councillor Curran, it was agreed that given the current financial restrictions and staff resource limitations the Council will maintain its current level of grounds maintenance works of the Transport NI owned grass verges on the entrance to Ardglass but not extend this at present.**

Agreed: **it was further agreed on the proposal of Councillor O'Gribin, seconded by Councillor Curran, that details of how much was being spent on the upkeep of non-council lands be provided along with a map of each location.**

Agreed: It was unanimously agreed that an active community group would be identified to take ownership and civic pride in the areas of grass verges at the entrance to Ardglass and assistance be sought from the DEA Co-ordinator to draw down funding for planting.

RTS/117/2016: REPORT ON OPTIONS FOR SECURING THE AMENITY SPACE AT CASTLEWELLAN SQUARE, CASTLEWELLAN

Read: Report from Kevin Scullion on options for securing the amenity space at Castlewellan Square, Castlewellan. (*Circulated*).

Noted: Councillor Burns said Castlewellan Square had long been used as a kick about area for children and work was required to give the children a diversion to use one of the nearby pitches instead. He suggested putting in place dancing fountains which would be cheap to install, but would be attractive and would use recycled water. He advised there may be funds available through the PCSP.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Burns seconded by Councillor Casey, it was agreed to provide removable bench seating and a planter in the amenity area between the Library and Public Toilets in Castlewellan Square, as a means of preventing the amenity space being used for ball sports.

Agreed: It was further agreed that the suggestion of providing dancing fountains in Castlewellan Square would be investigated.

RTS/118/2016: REPORT ON BUS SHELTER REQUESTS

Read: Report from Kevin Scullion on bus shelter requests. (*Circulated*).

Noted: Mr Scullion advised that a suitable site had been identified for a new bus shelter at Clanvaraghan Road, Castlewellan, but it was in private ownership and the owner was not willing to sell or rent the site to Council.

In response to a request from Councillor Burns, Mr Scullion undertook to review the site at Clanvaraghan Road, Castlewellan with Transport NI and the Slieve Croob DEA Councillors to see if an alternative site could be found.

In response to Councillor O'Gribin's comments on the type of bus shelters used by Council, Mr Scullion undertook to bring a report back to Committee with the types of shelters required in the District.

He said if certain types of shelters were agreed, a select list of contractors could be drawn up which would save time each time a new bus shelter was required.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Burns seconded by Councillor Craig, it was agreed to :

- Approve a canteliver type bus shelter to be installed at Castlewellan Road, Clough which would include the provision of a seat subject to meeting Transport NI site requirements.
- Undertake a review of the site at Clanvaraghan Road, Castlewellan with Transport NI and Slieve Croob DEA Councillors to see if an alternative site can be found.

Agreed: It was further agreed that a report be brought back to Committee with the types of shelters required in the District

RTS/119/2016: **REQUEST FROM LISLEA COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

Read: Report from Kevin Scullion on request from Lislea Community Association. *(Circulated)*.

Noted: Councillor Burns referred to Council's Play Strategy, which would soon be out for consultation. He said it would identify gaps in provision of play parks, and as long as an area was identified in the Play Strategy as an area of need, then any community group could make a request to council for funding.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Burns seconded by Councillor Andrews, it was agreed to:

- Agree in principle to the Lislea Community request for Council to take on the responsibility of routine inspection/maintenance and insurance of the Lislea Play Park following its development, subject to formal written agreement, format of which to be agreed, and confirmation that the Council Insurers would include the facility as part of the Council's insured facilities.
- That as long as an area was identified in the Play Strategy as an area of need, then any community group could make a request to council for funding.

RTS/120/2016: REPORT RE: COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES' ATTENDANCE AT BRITAIN IN BLOOM RHS AWARDS PRESENTATION

Read: Report from Kevin Scullion on Council representatives' attendance at Britain in Bloom RHS Awards Presentation

Noted: Councillor Fitzpatrick suggested one of the Grounds Maintenance staff who carried out the work in Newcastle should attend the Britain in Bloom RHS Awards Presentation.

Councillor Hyland suggested 2 Officers and 1 Councillor should attend the awards presentation.

Councillor Taylor suggested, as Newcastle could win an award, it would be appropriate for either the Chair of Council (if available) or the Chair or Vice Chair of Committee to attend along with 2 officers.

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Hyland seconded by Councillor Fitzpatrick, it was agreed that either the Chair of Council (pending diary commitments) or the Chair or Vice-Chair of RTS Committee along with 2 Council officers (one of which from Grounds Maintenance who carried out the works) attend the Britain in Bloom RHS Awards Presentation.**

WASTE MANAGEMENT

RTS/1210/2016: NILAS SHARING PROTOCOL

Read: Report from Joe Parkes on NILAS 2015/16 Sharing Protocol. (*Circulated*)

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Craig seconded by Councillor Curran it was agreed to approve the transfer of 664 NILAS tonnes to Ards and North Down Council.**

RTS/122/2016: SUPPLY OF WHEELED REFUSE CONTAINERS, BOTTLE BANK TO THE SUPPLIERS CONTRACTS

Read: Report from Joe Parkes on the supply of wheeled refuse containers, bottle bank to the supplier's contracts. (*Circulated*)

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Craig seconded by Councillor Curran, it was agreed to approve the recommendations contained within the Arc21 Joint Committee of 30 June 2016, relating to the supply and delivery of wheeled refuse collection containers, bottle banks and other supplies contract.**

RTS/123/2016: NILAS FINAL RECONCILIATION

Read: Correspondence dated 28 July 2016 from the Northern Ireland Environment Agency regarding the NILAS final reconciliation.
(*Circulated*)

Agreed: It was agreed to note the correspondence received from the Northern Ireland Environment Agency regarding the NILAS final reconciliation.

RTS/124/2016: REPORT RE DRUMANAKELLY WIND TURBINE PROJECT

Read: Report from Joe Parkes on the Drumanakelly Wind Turbine Project.
(*Circulated*)

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Craig, seconded by Councillor Hyland, it was agreed to grant permission to approve single tender action relating to B9 Energy and Drumnakelly Wind Turbine Project.

RTS/125/2016: REPORT RE FINAL CAPPING TENDER – AUGHNAGUN LANDFILL SITE

Read: Report from Joe Parkes on the Final Capping Tender – Aughnagun Landfill Site.

Noted: In response to a query from Councillor O’Gribin, Mr O’Rourke advised that it was Council policy not to name the tender submissions.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Fitzpatrick, seconded by Councillor Hyland, it was agreed to grant permission to award Tender for final capping works at Aughnagun Landfill Site.

FOR NOTING

RTS/126/2016: ACTION TRACKING UPDATE

Read: Actions Tracking Update

Noted: Mr O’Rourke advised Members of the new Action Tracking system in place which would ensure all actions arising from the Committee were completed.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Taylor, seconded by Councillor O'Gribin, it was agreed that any actions marked 'completed', could now be taken off the Actions Tracking Update.

RTS/127/2016: **MARINE CONSTRUCTION LICENCE – VARIATION 1**

Read: Marine Construction Licence – Variation 1.

Agreed: It was agreed to note the Marine Construction Licence – Variation 1.

RTS/128/2016: **ARC 21 STEERING GROUP MEETING – MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 10 MAY 2016.**

Read: Arc21 Steering Group Meeting – Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 10 May 2016. (*Circulated*)

Agreed: It was agreed to note the Arc 21 Steering Group Minutes of the Meeting held on 10 May 2016.

RTS/129/2016: **ARC21 JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING – MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 19 MAY 2016.**

Read: Arc21 joint committee meeting – minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 19 May 2016. (*Circulated*)

Agreed: It was agreed to note the Arc 21 Steering Group Minutes of the Meeting held on 19 May 2016.

RTS/130/2016: **ARC21 STEERING GROUP MEETING – MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 21 JUNE 2016.**

Read: Arc21 steering group meeting – minutes of meeting held on Tuesday 21 June 2016. (*Circulated*)

Agreed: It was agreed to note the Arc 21 Steering Group Minutes of the Meeting held on 21 June 2016.

RTS/131/2016: **ARC21 JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING – MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 30 JUNE 2016.**

Read: Arc21 joint committee meeting – minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 30 June 2016. (*Circulated*)

Agreed: It was agreed to note the Arc 21 Steering Group Minutes of the Meeting held on 30 June 2016.

RTS/132/2016: ARC21 JOINT COMMITTEE MEMBERS' MONTHLY BULLETIN 30 JUNE 2016.

Read: Arc21 joint committee members' monthly bulletin 30 June 2016. (*Circulated*)

Agreed: It was agreed to note the Arc 21 Joint Committee Members' Bulletin dated 30 June 2016.

RTS/133/2016: ARC21 JOINT COMMITTEE MEMBERS' MONTHLY BULLETIN 28 JULY 2016.

Read: Arc21 joint committee members' monthly bulletin 28 July 2016. (*Circulated*)

Agreed: It was agreed to note the Arc 21 Joint Committee Members' Bulletin dated 28 July 2016.

RTS/134/2016: HISTORY OF DRUMANAKELLY WIND TURBINE

Read: History of Drumanakelly Wind Turbine. (*Circulated*)

Agreed: It was agreed to note the history of the Drumnakelly Wind Turbine.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 6.38pm.

For consideration at the Council Meeting to be held on 5 September 2016.

Signed: Councillor Roisin Mulgrew
Chairperson of Regulatory & Technical Services Committee

Signed: Mr C O Rourke
Director Regulatory & Technical Services



Department for
Communities
www.communities-ni.gov.uk

**Local Government Policy Division
Finance Branch**

**Level 4
Causeway Exchange
1-7 Bedford Street
Town Parks
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Telephone: 028 90 823375

Email: jeff.glass@communities-ni.gov.uk

Our Ref: CO1/16/239732

Your ref:

Date: 26 August 2016

Chief Executive and
Finance Officer of each District Council

Northern Ireland Local Government
Association

National Association of Councillors

Finance Working Group Members

Dear Sir/Madam

**Letter seeking views on widening the definition of carer in respect of Dependants'
Carers' Allowance**

Following a number of queries the Department is proposing to widen the definition of carer in respect of Dependants' Carers' Allowance. This allowance is open to all councillors who are the main carers of a dependant where care is required to enable the councillor to perform a council approved duty. Further details on this allowance can be found in Local Government Circular 04/2015 as amended.

Currently the relevant wording in the guidance is:

'... a carer is defined as a responsible person over 16 years old who does not normally live with the councillor as part of that household and is not a member of the immediate family.'

The definition of 'Immediate family' being:

'a spouse, civil partner or cohabiting partner of the councillor; or parent, child, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, uncle, aunt, nephew or niece of the councillor; or of the councillor's spouse, civil partner or cohabiting partner.'

The proposed wider definition of a qualifying carer is provided below:

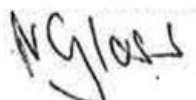
'A carer is defined as a responsible person over 16 years old who does not normally live with the councillor as part of that household; and is not a parent/guardian of the dependent child. '

This will mean that eligibility to Dependants' Carers' Allowance, as claimed by councillors, will be extended to anyone outside of the councillors household, who is over 16, except for the parent/guardian of a dependent child. For example, a grandparent or sibling who does not live in the same household as the councillor will then be an eligible carer in terms of the allowance. In addition any person, over 16, who does not live in the councillors household, would be eligible for the allowance for undertaking the caring role, on behalf of the councillor, for an applicable elderly relative.

The Department believes this proposed revision supports the policy intent of this allowance, which is to enable participation in public life; in particular trying to encourage those with caring responsibilities to engage in public service.

If you have any views on this revision please let me know, via the details in the letter heading, before 13th September 2016.

Yours faithfully,



JEFF GLASS

Cc: Northern Ireland Audit Office

Mr Liam Hannaway
Chief Executive
Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
Monaghan Row
NEWRY
BT35 8DJ

Your reference:
Our reference: DFI/SUB/1201/2016


24 August 2016

Dear Mr Hannaway

APPOINTMENT OF COUNCILLOR MEMBERS TO THE BOARD OF WARRENPOINT HARBOUR AUTHORITY

Following the resignation of one Councillor member of the Warrenpoint Harbour Authority, I am minded to offer Councillor Glyn Hanna, from the reserve list, an appointment subject to the satisfactory conclusion of the remainder of the appointment process.

I enclose a copy of a Press Release which provides full details of the appointments. The Press Release will issue at 4.15pm on 24 August 2016 and is embargoed until that time.



CHRIS HAZZARD MLA
Minister for Infrastructure



NEWS RELEASE

24 August 2016

Hazzard announces appointment to the Board of Warrenpoint Harbour Authority

Infrastructure Minister Chris Hazzard has announced the appointment of a Newry, Mourne and Down District Councillor to the Board of Warrenpoint Harbour Authority.

The Minister has appointed Councillor Glyn Hanna to serve a first term. The councillor was nominated by Newry, Mourne and Down District Council and appointed following a selection process. The appointment follows the resignation of Councillor Harold McKee.

Warrenpoint Harbour Authority is responsible for operating, maintaining and improving Warrenpoint Port.

Minister Chris Hazzard said: **“I congratulate Councillor Hanna on his appointment to the Board of Warrenpoint Harbour Authority. I am confident that his experience and knowledge of local issues will add significant value to the work of the Port in its aim to be the preferred location for import and export of goods and thus continue to be a major economic driver for its hinterland. I would also thank Councillor McKee for his work and wish him every success in the future”.**

The appointment will take effect from 22 August 2016 and will last for as long as the appointee remains on the Council, up to a maximum of four years. The appointment has been made in accordance with the Commissioner for Public Appointments for Northern Ireland Code of Practice.

Notes to editors:

1. Warrenpoint Harbour Authority is a corporate body, having perpetual succession and was first constituted by the Warrenpoint Harbour Authority Order (Northern Ireland) 1971. Its constitution is now enshrined in the Warrenpoint Harbour Authority Order (Northern Ireland) 2002. Warrenpoint Harbour Authority Orders of 1971 and 2002 conferred powers on the Authority to preserve, improve and manage the Port of Warrenpoint. The Authority also has the power to construct and maintain specific works, to levy dues, to deal with abandoned vessels and to make bylaws.
2. The Harbour Authority Board has a membership of a Chair, a Chief Executive and Finance Officer, and seven Non-Executive Directors, including the nominated three councillors from Newry, Mourne and Down District Council. The Non-Executive Directors currently receive remuneration of £7,117 per annum.
3. The appointment will be for a maximum of four years and will only remain valid while the person so appointed remain a member of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council.

4. All appointments are made on merit and political activity plays no part in the selection process. However, the Commissioner for Public Appointments for Northern Ireland requires the political activity of appointees to be published. Councillor Hanna has declared that he has undertaken political activities for the Democratic Unionist Party.
5. Councillor Hanna is a full time member of Newry, Mourne & Down District Council and represents The Mournes Electoral Area. He is a member of the Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourist Committee and the Planning Committee. He holds no other Public Appointment positions.
6. All media queries should be directed to the Department for Infrastructure Press Office on 028 9054 0372. Out of hours please contact the duty press officer via pager number 07699 715 440 and your call will be returned.