

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Ref: NMD/DC

Minutes of the Inaugural Meeting of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Development Committee held on Wednesday 2 July 2014 at 6.00pm in the Boardroom, District Council Offices, Monaghan Row, Newry

In the Chair: Cllr W. Clarke

In attendance: (Councillors)

Cllr. T Andrews	Cllr. S Doran
Cllr. S Ennis	Cllr. M Larkin
Cllr. R Mulgrew	Cllr. B O'Muirí
Cllr. D Curran	Cllr. G Donnelly
Cllr. G Fitzpatrick	Cllr. K Loughran
Cllr. M Murnin	Cllr. B Quinn
Cllr. D Taylor	Cllr. G Hanna
Cllr. W Walker	Cllr. P Clarke

(Officials)

Mr L Hannaway, Chief Executive Designate
Mr J McBride, Change Manager
Mrs D Starkey, Committee Administrator

Mr J Farrell, Director of Environment, Health & Building Services
Mr M Lipsett, Director of Recreation and Community Services
Mr G McGivern, Director of District Development
Mr C O'Rourke, Director of Environmental Services
Mr R Moore, Waste Management Engineering Officer
Mrs M Ward, Group Chief Building Control Officer

Councillor W Clarke assumed the Chair and welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Development Committee.

DC/01/2014: APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors R Burgess, D Hyland, L Kimmins, D McAteer and Mr J McCorry, Director of Technical and Leisure Services.

DC/02/2014: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

DC/03/2014: TERMS OF REFERENCE AND WORK PLAN

Read: Report on Terms of Reference and Work Plan for the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Development Committee. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: **It was AGREED on the PROPOSAL of Councillor D Curran, SECONDED by Councillor P Clarke to approve the recommended Terms of Reference for the establishment and operation of the Development Committee, as circulated.**

The Chief Executive reminded Members it had been agreed at the Annual General Meeting for Committees to consider timings of meetings.

AGREED: **It was AGREED on the PROPOSAL of Councillor W Walker, SECONDED by Councillor G Donnelly for Development Committee Meetings to commence at 6.00pm as listed within the meeting schedule.**

SERVICE CONVERGENCE

DC/04/2014: REVIEW OF GROUP STRUCTURES

Read: Report on Review of Group Structures Post April 2015. **(Copy circulated)**

NOTED: The Chief Executive provided an overview of the proposed approach to service delivery of grouped functions within current Group Structures and Transferring Functions, as set out under section 2.3 of the report.

Councillor W Walker highlighted concerns regarding consistency of approach in the application, interpretation and enforcement of regulations, in particular Building Regulations.

The Chief Executive acknowledged the need to examine how best to ensure consistent application of regulations and undertook to examine how to formalise arrangements around regulations.

AGREED: It was **AGREED** on the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor D Curran, **SECONDED** by Councillor G Fitzpatrick to approve the report and that further detailed reports are presented for Member's consideration in due course in respect of all related financial, human resources, organisational design and legal matters.

It was further **AGREED** the Chief Executive would examine how to formalise arrangements to ensure consistency of approach regarding Regulations across all Councils.

DC/05/2014: **STANDARDISATION OF HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING CENTRES & BULKY WASTE SERVICES**

Read: Report on Waste Management Practices for Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Household Recycling Centres. **(Copy circulated)**

NOTED: Mr C O'Rourke, Director of Environmental Services provided an overview of a report and recommendation for Option 2: Four identified sites in Newry & Mourne DC to move to a seven day service in line with Down District Council sites. Option 2 would deliver the most acceptable balance between cost management and service provision for the standardisation of Household Recycling Centres going forward.

NOTED: In response to a query from Councillor G Fitzpatrick, the Chief Executive confirmed there would be consultation and negotiation with affected staff.

AGREED: It was **AGREED** on the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor P Clarke, **SECONDED** by Councillor R Mulgrew to approve Option 2 for the standardisation of Household Recycling Centres.

Read: Report on Waste Management Practices for Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Bulky Waste Services. **(Copy circulated under separate cover)**

NOTED: Mr C O'Rourke, Director of Environmental Services provided an overview of a report and recommendation to standardise all waste prices to the higher level of either Council (as previously agreed at the STC Policy & Resources Working Group).

AGREED: It was **AGREED** on the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor W Walker, **SECONDED** by Councillor G Donnelly to approve the recommendation for Bulky Waste for the new council to be charged at £10 per lift and to reflect value for money, the

number of items to be standardised at 5 per lift. For health & safety reasons the service would not allow for the collection of black bags.

DC/06/2014: STANDARDISATION OF DOG ENFORCEMENT AND DOG KENNELING SERVICES

Read: Report on Out of Hours Dog Control Enforcement. **(Copy circulated).**

NOTED: Mr J Farrell, Director of Environment, Health & Building Services provided an overview of a report and recommendation to provide an out of hours service for Dog Control Enforcement throughout the District. Members were advised this service was purely for emergencies such as dog attacks or sheep worrying, up to 11.00pm each evening and at weekends.

AGREED: It was **AGREED** on the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor G Donnelly, **SECONDED** by Councillor P Clarke to approve Newry, Mourne and Down District Council to provide an out of hours service for Dog Control Enforcement throughout the District.

DC/07/2014: BALLYWARD – PROVISION OF WASTE MANAGEMENT SERVICES

NOTED: Mr C O'Rourke, Director of Environmental Services provided a verbal update on the provision of waste management services for Ballyward.

Members were provided with an example of differences between Newry and Mourne District Council, Down District Council, and Banbridge District Council specifically in relation to Ballyward. Standardising the service at this stage would give serious risk of service degradation.

AGREED: It was **AGREED** on the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor K Loughran, **SECONDED** by Councillor R Mulgrew for waste management services to remain as is for the 1st year, and for Officials to explore Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon Council a Service Level Agreement for the provision of waste services to Ballyward.

DC/08/2014: RESIDUAL WASTE TREATMENT CONTRACT

Read: Report on Residual Waste Treatment Contract. **(Copy circulated).**

NOTED: Mr R Moore, Waste Management Engineering Officer referred to the report and advised due diligence checks were now complete and confirmation had been received to proceed to standstill for the contract for residual waste treatment for Newry and Mourne District Council.

AGREED: It was **AGREED** on the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor **G Fitzpatrick**, **SECONDED** by Councillor **B O’Muirí** to approve proceeding to preferred bidder status and commence standstill for the residual waste treatment contract for Newry and Mourne District Council.

DC/09/2014 TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR ECONOMIC REGENERATION STRATEGY 2015-2020

Read: A report on Terms of Reference for Economic Regeneration Strategy 2015-2010. **(Copy circulated).**

AGREED: It was **AGREED** on the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor **G Hanna**, **SECONDED** by Councillor **S Ennis** to approve the appointment of suitable external expertise to facilitate the formulation and development of an Economic Regeneration Strategy and allocate the required financial resources (estimated cost circa.£40,000).

DC/10/2014 EVENT PLANNING FOR THE IRISH OPEN

NOTED: The Chief Executive advised Members of a recommendation from the Finance & Resources Committee for a Sub Committee to be established to consider arrangements for the event planning for the Irish Open.

AGREED: It was **AGREED** on the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor **O’Muirí**, **SECONDED** by Councillor **B Quinn** for a Sub Committee to be appointed to consider arrangements for hosting the Irish Open and that Party Leaders advise the Chief Executive of nominees as follows:

- 2 Sinn Fein
- 2 SDLP
- 1 DUP
- 1 UUP
- 1 Alliance/Independent

Councillor Taylor left the meeting at this point – 6.55pm

DC/11/2014 **RECONSTITUTION OF PCSPS**

Read: Correspondence received regarding the reconstitution of PSCPS on 1 April 2015. **(Additional item - Copy circulated at the meeting).**

AGREED: It was **AGREED** on the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor W Walker, **SECONDED** by Councillor R Mulgrew to set up a panel comprising of four Councillors to shortlist and interview independent PCSP candidates. It was **AGREED** in order to ensure the panel is broadly representative in terms of gender and community that 1 representative be nominated by Sinn Fein, SDLP, DUP, and UUP, of which at least one member would be female.

TRANSFERRING FUNCTIONS

DC/12/2014: **TRANSFERRING FUNCTIONS UPDATE**

Read: Report on the Transferring Functions. **(Copy circulated).**

AGREED: The update report on the Transferring Functions was **NOTED.**

DC/13/2014: **DELOITTE DUE DILIGENCE REPORT**

Read: Report on the Deloitte Due Diligence Report, Transferring Functions. **(Copy circulated).**

AGREED The report on the Deloitte Due Diligence Report, Transferring Functions was **NOTED.**

DC/14/2014: **DSD FORWARD WORK PLAN**

Read: Report on DSD Forward Work Plan. **(Amended copy circulated at meeting).**

AGREED: It was **AGREED** on the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor S Ennis, **SECONDED** by Councillor G Donnelly to approve the following recommendations:

- 1) Continuation of Town Centre regeneration schemes (as listed at 2.0) and Neighbourhood Renewal Capital schemes (as listed at 3.0) for 2015/16.**
- 2) Extend 19 existing revenue schemes (listed in Appendix 1) for a minimum of 1 year, 2015/16, subject to a positive outcome of an evaluation to be conducted by DSD.**

- 3) Agree to circulation of letter from Minister McCausland regarding the delivery of revenue programmes from 1 April 2015 and requesting expressions of interest in continued funding at this date (no guarantee of funding) for all groups currently in receipt of DSD funding.

Councillor T Andrews joined the meeting at this point – 7.30pm

IN COMMITTEE

DC/15/2014: POTENTIAL SECONDMENT OF DSD STAFF

AGREED: It was **AGREED** on the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor W Walker, **SECONDED** by Councillor R Mulgrew to discuss this item 'In-Committee' due to staffing matters to be considered.

Read: Report on Secondment of DSD Staff to the Council. **(Copy circulated at the meeting)**

Read: Correspondence from Minister for Social Development re: Proposed Arrangements with New Councils to Support the Smooth Transition of DSD Powers to Local Government. **(Copy circulated at the meeting)**

AGREED: It was **AGREED** on the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor G Donnelly, **SECONDED** by Councillor R Mulgrew to come out of 'In-Committee'.

AGREED: It was **AGREED** on the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor D Curran, **SECONDED** by Councillor G Hanna to approve the recommendations contained within the report which were considered "In-Committee".

CONSULTATION

DC/16/2014: CONSULTATION ON PROPOSALS FOR AN OFF-STREET PARKING (FUNCTIONS OF DISTRICT COUNCILS) BILL

Read: Consultation document on Proposals for an Off-Street Parking (Functions of District Councils) Bill

NOTED: The Chief Executive highlighted the need for a collective response from Councils and recommended this be provided by the Local Government Association (NILGA).

AGREED: It was **AGREED** on the **PROPOSAL** of Councillor T Andrews, **SECONDED** by Councillor R Mulgrew for a collective response to the consultation to be provided by NILGA.

There being no further business the Meeting ended at **7.40pm**.

For consideration at the Shadow Council Meeting to be held on Tuesday 8 July 2014.

Signed: _____
Chairperson

Signed: _____
Chief Executive Designate