

August 17th, 2020

Notice Of Meeting

You are invited to attend the Neighbourhood Services Committee Meeting to be held on **Wednesday, 19th August 2020** at **6:00 pm** in **Skype.**

Committee Membership:

- Councillor O Magennis (Chair)
- Councillor T Andrews (Deputy Chair)
- Councillor C Casey
- Councillor W Clarke
- Councillor D Curran
- Councillor A Finnegan
- Councillor G Malone
- Councillor C Mason
- Councillor H McKee
- Councillor K McKevitt
- Councillor D Murphy
- Councillor K Owen
- Councillor H Reilly
- Councillor G Stokes
- Councillor D Taylor

Agenda

1.0 Apologies and Chairperson's Remarks.

- Cllr. Stokes
- 2.0 Declarations of "Conflict of Interest".

3.0 Action Sheet of the Neighbourhood Services Committee Meeting held on 17 June 2020. (Attached).

NS Committee Action Sheet - June 2020.pdf

Page 1

For Consideration and/or Decision

4.0 To consider the following Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor Owen and seconded by Councillor Hanna. (Attached).

"As the Council is promoting recycling as a key strategic objective, we need to commit to how this is delivered operationally. Distribution of small brown bins for food waste throughout Council area is an important part of achieving our objective by helping residents separate their waste.

Under Covid19 restrictions normal practice of residents collecting these bins in person from Greenbank cannot occur at the moment, or in the near future. To ensure effective delivery of this service, Council staff should commit to delivery of these bins to local areas and work with local Councillors to support delivery of this service where practical. All bins distributed should be to a recorded address".

Agreed: The Motion was referred to the Neighbourhood Services Committee in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.16 from the Council Meeting of 6 July 2020)

NS Committee - NoM Bin Caddy report Aug 20 v2 (002).pdf

Page 9

Facilities Management and Maintenance

5.0 Report on Rewilding and Wildflower Area across the Newry Mourne and Down District Council Estate. (Attached).

Report Rewilding Wildflower Landscapes.pdf

Page 12

6.0 Report on Christmas Illuminations/Celebrations Group July 2020. (Attached).

C Report Christmas Illuminations and Celebrations Group Meeting August 2020.pdf

Page 30

7.0	Report on update on Enforcement Improvement Plan. (Attached).	Dawa 20
	Report - Enforcement Improvement Plan Update 19 08 20.pdf	Page 38
8.0	Report on Recovery of the Bulky Collection Service. (Attached).	
	Report - Bulky Collection - 19 08 20.pdf	Page 81
9.0	Report on DAERA Consultation. (Attached).	
	NS Committee - DAERA consultation report Aug 20 v1.1RM.pdf	Page 84
10.0	HRCs re-opening plan update. (Attached)	
	NS - HRCs Re-opening Plan Update - App I - 19 08 20.pdf	Page 87
	For Noting	
11.0	ARC21 JC Members' Monthly Bulletin June 2020. (Attached).	Page 94
		r uge of
12.0	ARC21 JC Member's Monthly Bulletin July 2020. (Attached).	Page 98
13.0	ARC21 Corporate Plan 2020- 24 (Attached).	
	ARC 21 25June20-Item8 Corporate Plan 2020.pdf	Page 103
14.0	Historic Action Sheet. (Attached).	
	NS Historic Actions Tracker Sheet (updated June 2020).pdf	Page 125

Exempt Information Items

15.0 Report on recycling of mattresses. (Attached)

This item is deemed to be exempt under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - information relating Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information) - and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

16.0 Business Case for use of a suitable fuel supply framework to support the use of fuel card. (Attached)

This item is deemed to be exempt under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - information relating Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information) - and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

BC - External Fuelling Cover Report - 19 08 20.pdf

17.0 Business Case for Supply and Delivery of Biomass Wood Pellets. (Attached).

This item is deemed to be exempt under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - information relating Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information) - and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

Report Business Case for Biomass Wood Pellets.pdf

Not included

Not included

18.0 Business Case for Annual Servicing and Maintenance of Fire Fighting equipment in Council Buildings. (Attached)

This item is deemed to be exempt under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - information relating Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information) - and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

C Report Fire Fighting Equipment Business Case.pdf

Not included

19.0 Neighbourhood Services Procurement Action Plan. (Attached).

This item is deemed to be exempt under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - information relating Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information) - and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

NS Procurement Action Plan 19 08 20 vFINAL.pdf

Not included

20.0 Residual Waste Treatment Project ("the Project") Briefing paper on NOARC21 queries. (Attached).

This item is deemed to be exempt under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - information relating Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information) - and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

21.0 ARC21 JC Schedule Briefing. (Attached)

This item is deemed to be exempt under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - information relating Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information) - and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

ARC 21 Joint Comittee schedule briefing papers with links.pdf
 Not included

22.0 ARC21 JC – Virtual Meeting. (Attached).

This item is deemed to be exempt under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - information relating Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information) - and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

ARC 21 30July20-Joint Committee papers with links .pdf

Not included

ACTION SHEET ARISING FROM NS MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 17 JUNE 2020

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
NS/154/2020	Monthly Action Sheet	Noted and actions removed as marked.			
		FOR CONSIDERATION AND/OR DECISION	ł		
NS/155/2020	NS Emergency Business Plan – April to September 2020	Approve the Neighbourhood Services Emergency Business Plan April-September 2020. Officers to respond to a number of issues raised during discussion on this Plan	R Moore J McBride/K Scullion	Enforcement Improvement Plan update tabled at Committee Meeting, 18.08.20	
NS/156/2020	Notice of Motion – Dog Fouling across the District (Cllr. Brown)	Agree to the Notice of Notion and that Officers undertake necessary research and report back to NS committee presenting options for consideration and approval and also to write to the NI Assembly asking that legislative changes be made to the Act in relation to Dog Fouling and Dog Control to make it	J McBride	Letter has been sent.	Y

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
		compulsory to carry dog waste fouling bags or it will become an enforcement matter.			
NS/157/2020	Notice of Motion Re: Changing Places (CP) Toilets (Cllr McMurray)	Agreed to note the Notice of Motion and the proposed action for each respective element as detailed within section 2.2 of the report dated 17 June 2020	K Scullion	In Progress	N
		WASTE MANAGEMENT			
NS/158/2020	Fleet Transition Strategy	Note the content of the report dated 17 June 2020 and agree to:- The recommendation to appoint suitable external technical expertise for the purposes of developing a fleet transition strategy, estimated at a cost of £30,000 - £40,000; and The recommendation to prioritise specific vehicle registration numbers (VRNs) on a case-by-case basis for	J McBride	Specification currently being drawn-up to support a procurement exercise	N

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
		replacement until the fleet transition strategy exercise has been completed			
NS/159/2020	HRCs update	Note the update in relation to the phased re-opening of the Council's Household Recycling Centres.	J McBride		Y
		FOR NOTING			-
NS/160/2020	Arc21 Members Monthly Bulletins – March, April and May 2020	Noted	1.1.1	11	Y
NS/161/2020	Arc21 JC Meeting Minutes – 27 February 2020	Noted		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Y
NS/162/2020	Arc21 JC Brefing – March and April 2020	Noted			Y
NS/163/2020	Historic Actions Tracking Sheet	Noted and actions removed as marked.			
		EXEMPT INFORMATION ITEMS			
NS/164/2020	Business Case – Phase 2 extension of Warrenpoint Municipal Cemetery and update on other cemetery projects	Note the content of the report and associated Business Case and to accept the conclusion of the Business Case that Option 2 be chosen. Option 2 would see the appointment, through a tender process, of a competent contractor to undertake the works required to	K Scullion	To go to tender	Y

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
		complete Phase 2 of Warrenpoint Municipal Cemetery and make ready an additional 320 burial plots. It was also agreed to note the estimated total cost of this project (preliminaries/construction and Consultancy costs) plus a contingency sum and to agree to the transfer of a sum as outlined in the report from the Monkshill Municipal Cemetery Phase 2/3 budget should this be required to complete the project.			
NS/165/2020	Business Case – procurement of Christmas Illuminations and an artificial Christmas tree	Note the content of the report and associated Business Case and accept the conclusion of the Business case that Option 2 was chosen as the preferred option. Option 2 would see the procurement of 145 pole mounted Christmas illuminations and a 12-metre- high artificial Christmas tree and also give authority to officers to carry out more detailed work to ensure that putting a 12m tree would not jeopardise use of the events space and would not be too big for the space.	K Scullion	Out to tender.	Y

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
NS/166/2020	Business Case – Supply of PPE and staff uniforms for NS Directorate	Note the content of the report and associated Business Case and accept the conclusion of the business case that Option 3 was chosen as the preferred option. Option 3 would see a tender or tenders issued to appoint one or several suppliers to provide the NS Directorate and the AHC Community Engagement Department with all PPE and staff uniform requirements through dividing the requirements into relevant Lots. This would be for a one-year period but may be extended by a further two years.	K Scullion	In Progress	N
NS/167/2020	Business Case – Annual Servicing and Maintenance of Lifts in Council Buildings	Note the content of the report and associated Business Case and accept the conclusion of the Business Case that Option 3 was chosen as the preferred option. Option 3 would see the appointment, through a tender process, of a competent contractor to service, maintain and complete safety checks on all 32 No. lifts in the Council asset register. It would also see the appointment of a consultant to assist with auditing the performance of the successful contractor and quotations for repairs outside the scope of the contract.	K Scullion	In Progress	N

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
NS/168/2020	Business Case – Inspection, Testing and Maintenance of Councils Fire Alarm Systems	Note the content of the report and associated Business Case and accept the conclusion of the Business Case that Option 2 was chosen as the preferred option. Option 2 would see the appointment, through a tender process, of a competent contractor to inspect, test and maintain Council Fire Alarms throughout Council premises at recommended intervals ensuring Councils legal compliance.	K Scullion	In Progress	N
NS/169/2020	Business Case – Annual Servicing, Maintenance and Monitoring of Intruder Alarm Systems in Council Buildings	Note the content of the report and associated Business Case and accept the conclusion of the Business Case that Option 3 was chosen as the preferred option. Option 3 would see the appointment, through a tender process, of a competent contractor to service, maintain and monitor all 45 No. intruder alarm systems in the Council asset register.	K Scullion	In Progress	N
NS/170/2020	Waste Contract correspondence	Note the content of the report dated 17 June 2020 and agree to Option 3.	J McBride	1	Y
NS/171/2020	Bring Sites Review	Note the content of the report and agree to:-	J McBride	Contractor to be engaged re	N

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
		 A reduction in the current number of bottle bank "bring sites" across the District. Future provision to be restricted to the twenty-two (22) sites set-out at Appendix I as circulated. The use of the contractor for the future safety inspection and maintenance of "bring sites" at a cost per annum detailed in the report; and To authorise Officials to explore income generation opportunities attached to the disposal of the redundant stock of "bring sites" It was also agreed that when removing the sites, that potential recycling options for Island Park, Newcastle be considered. 		removal of redundant sites	
NS/172/2020	Business case – RCV's	Approve the business cases for the replacement of the six Refuse Collection Vehicles (RCVs) as circulated at Appendix II.	J McBride	Specification currently being drawn-up to support a procurement exercise	N
NS/173/2020	Arc21 JC Meeting Minutes – 27 February 2020	Note the Arc 21 Joint Committee Meeting Minutes held on Thursday 27 February 2020.	J McBride		Y

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
NS/174/2020	Arc21 JC Briefing – 26 March 2020	Note the Arc 21 Joint Committee Briefing held on Thursday 26 March 2020.	J McBride		Y
	Arc21 JC Briefing – 30 April 2020	Note the Arc 21 Joint Committee Briefing held on Thursday 30 April 2020.	J McBride		Y

Report to:	Neighbourhood Services Committee
Date of Meeting:	19 th August 2020
Subject:	Notice of Motion received from Councillor Owen
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Roland Moore, Director: Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Joe Parkes, Assistant Director: Waste Management

Confirm	n how this Report should be treated by placing an x in either:
For d	ecision X For noting only
1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	To Consider Motion referred from Council Meeting 6 th July 2020
	"As the Council is promoting recycling as a key strategic objective, we need to commit to how this is delivered operationally. Distribution of small brown bins for food waste throughout council area is an important part of achieving our objective by helping residents separate their waste.
	Under Covid19 restrictions normal practice of residents collecting these bins in person from Greenbank cannot occur at the moment, or in the near future. To ensure effective delivery of this service, council staff should commit to delivery of these bins to local areas and work with local Councillors to support delivery of this service where practical. All bins distributed should be to a recorded address".
1.2	Councillor Owen formally proposed the motion, which was seconded by Councillo Hanna and referred, in accordance with Standing Order 16.1 (6), to the NS Committee for consideration and report.
2.0	Key issues
2.1	The Notice of Motion and issue contained therein, if adopted, will require further research by Officers.
2.2	Should the NS committee agree to the motion, then Officers will report back with options relating to resources and costs.
2.3	The Notice of Motion put forward by Cllr Owens, at the start of the year, relating to the simplifying delivery of biodegradable bags to residents will also be jointly addressed.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	That the Committee agree to the notice of motion and that Officers undertake necessary research and report back to NS Committee presenting options and costs for consideration

4.0	Resource implications	
4.1	Additional resources might be required, depending on what option is agreed.	
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)	te
5.1	General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, spe equality and good relations outcomes	ecific
	It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations	\boxtimes
5.2	Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practic and / or sensitive or contentious decision.	ce
	Yes 🔲 No 🗔	
	If yes, please complete the following:	
	The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened	
	The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation	
5.3	Proposal initiating consultation	-
	Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves	
	Consultation period will be 12 weeks	
	Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided)	
	Rationale:	7
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)	
6.1	Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service	
	Yes 🔲 No 🖾	
	If yes, please complete the following:	

	Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed	
7.0	Appendices	
7.1	None	
8.0	Background Documents	_
8.1	Report on Notice of Motion "biodegradable bags distribution" – Jan 2020	

Report to:	Neighbourhood Services Committee
Date of Meeting:	19 th August 2020
Subject:	Rewilding & Wildflower Areas across the NM&DDC Estate
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Kevin Scullion, Assistant Director Facilities Management & Maintenance
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Jonathan Ellis, Grounds Maintenance Manager

For decision For noting only X			
1.0	Purpose and Background		
1.1	The purpose of this report to provide the Committee with a progress update on work being undertaken by the Council's Grounds Maintenance Section to create rewilding/wildflower areas and tree planting schemes across the district. The report is for noting.		
1.2	 A range of landscape improvement works have been undertaken over the past few months. Specifically, this is associated with: Creation of rewilding/wildflower schemes Planting of trees This work stems from the Councils current Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) 2018 – 2022 and approvals agreed through this Committee and subsequently by full Council. Within our LBAP we have committed to the following actions: Manage key Council owned sites to improve for pollinators and act as best practice examples Raise awareness of the plight of the bumblebee, the threats they face and how to help through the media and events Work in partnership to improve road side verges and other greenspace across the district. At this Committee in September 2019 and January 2020 the Councils draft Tree Strategy has been discussed and Officers continue to work to finalise this. The recent tree planting supports both the developing Tree Strategy and the actions within the LBAP. In addition, the Council has formally agreed to seek commercial sponsorship of several Council maintained roundabouts and primary gateway locations. These sites across the wider council area have many passing vehicles per day pass along the main arterial routes, creating immediate visual impact. The roll out of this sponsorship scheme has been delayed during this initial period of the pandemic		

	The current work being completed at these areas will hopefully increase interest from potential sponsors.	
	Funding from Department for Communities was utilised to progress landscape renovation & improvement schemes at these prominent locations.	
1.3	The following schemes have been progressed.	
	Newry Roundabouts Burren Roundabout Clough Roundabout Castlewellan Rd Newcastle Castlewellan Roundabout Roughal Park Downpatrick Saintfield Greenspace Kilbroney Layby - Rostrevor Whitewater Kilkeel Knocree Avenue Kilkeel. Victoria Locks Fathom Line	
	Future schemes include	
	Castlewellan Town Centre	
	Crossmaglen	
	Drumaness	
	Hilltown Dundrum	
	Newry Canal - Jerretspass	
1,4	These schemes are supporting the Council's future Tree Strategy work using specimen tree & herbaceous planting for immediate attractive landmarks unique to the area.	
	Community involvement is now developing - over 150 participated in the Kilkeel Tree Planting Event June 2020.	
	Schemes may be measured using the I Tree Calcuator with the Specific Long-term Environmental Benefits Detailed – a first in the country. This gives the specific values of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) sequestered and avoided, energy conserved, air pollutants captured and avoided storm water filtered	
	Interest has included BBC Newsline and Radio running full articles during June & July.	
	Attached at Appendix 1 are some photographs showing the work in progress at several sites.	
2.0	Key Issues	
2.1	 Council has approved plans to increase Council maintained areas given over to rewilding/wildflower through its LBAP. It also seeks to increase the level of trees planted within its estate as part of its future Tree Strategy. 	
	 Recognising the interest in commercial sponsorship of Council maintained high footfall areas at key roundabouts and gateways to Newry City and other towns, the Council has approved a sponsorship scheme for such areas. 	

	 Whilst this scheme has not been progressed during this pandemic period, work is progressing with improving these areas in line with the Councils Biodiversity Action Plan which commits to protecting our natural environment and the wildlife that depends on it. This report and attached appendices provides an update on these schemes.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	For Noting.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	Officer time – to progress, identify capital funding, design, cost & construct the landscape schemes. The revenue costs for the completed works to date have been approximately £29,500 which is being funded by the Department of Communities. All work (apart from limited excavation works at 1 location) undertaken by our own staff through the Councils salaries and wages revenue budget.
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes
	It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations
5.2	Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision Yes No If yes, please complete the following:
	The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened
	The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation
5.3	Proposal initiating consultation
	Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves
	Consultation period will be 12 weeks Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided)
	consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided)
	Rationale:

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6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)
6.1	Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service
	If yes, please complete the following:
	Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed
	If no, please complete the following:
	The policy / strategy / plan / public service is not influenced by rural needs
7.0	Appendices
7,1	Appendix 1: Landscape Improvement Scheme Photos.
8.0	Background Documents
8.1	Not applicable

Landscape Improvement Schemes

Trees Contact Growing in Nursery



Greenbank Roundabout Newry









Burren Roundabout - Warrenpoint









Rathriland Roundabout – Newry





Kilmorey Street - Newry



Warrenpoint – Newry Street.



George Street & Promenade Green Space Warrenpoint.





Clough Roundabout - Clough Village.







Castlewellan Roundabout



Belfast Road / Roughall Park Downpatrick





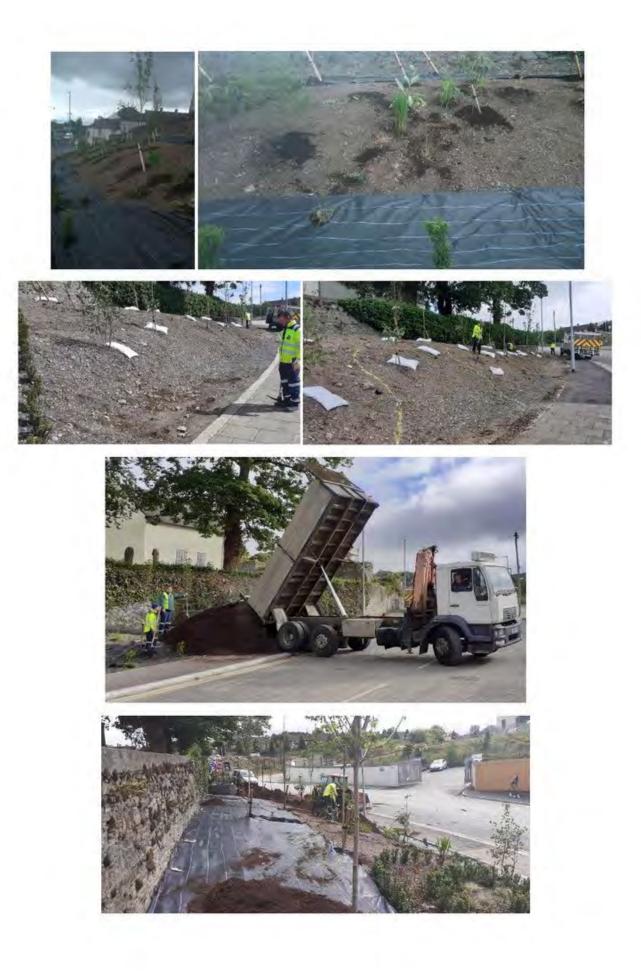
Pound Lane Downpatrick







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Warrenpoint Promenade



Burren Roundabout - Warrenpoint





Five ways - Newry





Carnbane Roundabout – Newry



Newcastle - Belfast / Castlewellan Road



Saintfield Green Space – Main Street / Lisburn Road



Report to:	Neighbourhood Services Committee
Date of Meeting:	19 th August 2020
Subject:	Report of Christmas Illuminations and Celebrations Group Meeting 28 th July 2020
Reporting Officer	Kevin Scullion, Assistant Director, Facilities Management & Maintenance Department
Contact Officer	Kevin Scullion, Assistant Director, Facilities Management & Maintenance Department

For decision X For noting only	
1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	The purpose of this report is to provide Councillors an opportunity to review the Actions Sheet (see Appendix 1) from the Councils Christmas Illuminations and Celebrations Group meeting which took place on the 28 th July 2020 and consider the recommendations from this meeting.
1.2	 The previous report on this matter was presented to this Committee in March 2020 with the following substantive recommendations approved. Officers to work with the local communities identified within the report who
	currently receive a cut Christmas Tree to move to having a planted Christmas Tree instead, subject to agreement on location of the tree, its future annual maintenance and dressing of the tree for Christmas.
	Action to date
	Contact has been made with the nine respective Communities (Finnis, Lislea, Whitecross, Belleek, Ballymartin, Annalong, Dorsey, Crossmaglen and Gargory).
	There was a positive response towards the scheme taken by all communities but for some it has been deemed currently not possible to progress due to an absence of a suitable location. This applies to Finnis, Dorsey and Gargory, for which it is proposed to provide a cut Christmas tree this year.
	For Lislea, Whitecross, Belleek, Crossmaglen, Ballymartin, and Annalong it is proposed to replace the cut Christmas tree with a sustainable Christmas tree subject to agreement on the future annual maintenance and dressing of the tree.
	 Officers proceed to issue an Expression of Interest (EOIs) to support a maximum of seven towns and villages to provide a recognised group with a planted sustainable Christmas Tree under the same terms as last year with the additional selection criteria referred to in Section 2 of this report, for the event that more than seven eligible applications are received. The programme to be delivered over a maximum eighteen-month period.

	Action to date
	This was delayed during this initial pandemic period, but it is now proposed to proceed in August.
	Expressions of Interest to be sought from a maximum of 7 towns and villages on the condition that any suitable EOIs can be delivered over an 18-month period.
	 Officers proceed to procure the required sustainable Christmas trees and supporting infrastructure to support this programme.
	Action to date
	Officers have been in contact with potential suppliers with intention of placing an order once the final number of trees is known.
1.3	At the Christmas Illuminations and Celebrations Group Meeting, Councillors asked for consideration of the following extensions to the current Christmas illuminations programme.
	Rostrevor: Proposal for enhanced lighting at Ross's Monument.
	<u>Newcastle Harbour</u> : Request on behalf of local businesses that the area, including the Oak tree could have enhanced lighting/illuminations and existing lights extended to the end of the Pier.
	<u>Newtownhamilton</u> : The Newtownhamiliton Community Association has contacted the Council requesting consideration of the installation of pole mounted Christmas illuminations on the street lighting poles (15 number) along Armagh Street and Dundalk Street, Newtownhamilton. Both these areas are part of an EI Scheme which is to be undertaken over the next few months. The Association appreciates that this will not be possible for this Christmas 2020 but seek consideration for Christmas 2021 and beyond.
	If agreed for these to be considered, Officers can report back to Committee in September on the practicalities and costs to undertake this additional work.
1.4	Unfortunately, two of the sustainable trees procured in 2019 have not survived; the tree in Bessbrook and the tree in Dundrum. With the agreement of this Committee both trees will be replaced with the trees to procured for this Christmas.
	In addition, there was vandalism carried out on the Christmas tree planted in Crossgar and it has been assessed that it will need to be replaced if it is to be used in the future as the focal point for Christmas celebrations. Council Officers have been in contact with the local community who have requested that the tree be replaced. Councillors at the Christmas Illuminations and Celebrations Group Meeting were supportive of this but indicated that should the tree be vandalised again that it should not be replaced again.
2.0	Key Issues
2.1	 The Council Christmas Illuminations and Celebrations Group was set up to agree on how Council will help local communities across the district celebrate Christmas. It has no decision-making powers with all recommendations coming to the Neighbourhood Services Committee for consideration.

	 In 2018 work arising from this Group led to rolling out of the Christmas Tree Pilot Project which saw the planting of 6 real Christmas trees for local groups who agreed to participate. This was extended in 2019 to include a further 14 sustainable Christmas trees.
	 This Committee has agreed to continue this programme in 2020/21 with a focus on replacing cut Christmas trees in nine towns and villages across the district. Officers are working with the identified groups.
	 It was proposed to issue an EOI to all groups in the council area in April 2020 to identify seven further sites which would be willing to accept and qualify to receive a planted sustainable Christmas tree. Due to the current pandemic this did not proceed. It is now proposed to issue this EOI in August. The programme to be delivered over a maximum eighteen-month period.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	
	 Note the contents of this report and the Action Sheet of the Christmas Illuminations Group Meeting held on 28th July 2020.
	 If agreed by the Committee, Officers to report back to the Committee in September on the practicalities and costs to undertake proposed extensions to the Christmas illuminations displays in Rostrevor, Newcastle and Newtownhamilton.
	 Agree to the replacement of the sustainable Christmas trees in Bessbrook, Dundrum and Crossgar.
	 Endorse other actions detailed in the report of the Christmas Illuminations Group Meeting held on 28th July 2020.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	Funding of this project will be through the joint revenue budgets held by the AHC and Neighbourhood Services Directorates.
	Estimated costs from AHC - £17,500 Estimated cost from NS – Not known at present, subject to site conditions and cost of trees.
	It is not expected that the spend will result in overspend of the respective Departmental budgets.
5,1	General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes
	It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations
	Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision
5.2	practice and y or scholare or contentious accision
5.2	

	The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened
	The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation
5.3	Proposal initiating consultation
	Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves
	Consultation period will be 12 weeks
	Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided)
	Rationale:
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)
6.1	Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service Yes No 🛛
	If yes, please complete the following:
	Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed
	If no, please complete the following:
	The policy / strategy / plan / public service is not influenced by rural needs
7.0	Appendices
7,1	Appendix 1: Action sheet of the Christmas Illuminations Group Meeting held on 28 th July 2020.
8.0	Background Documents
8.1	Not applicable

Action Sheet Working Group Meeting Christmas Illuminations: Tuesday 28th July 2020

Councillors in Attendance: Cllr H McKee (Chair) Cllr W Clarke, Cllr J Tinnelly Cllr T Andrews, Cllr O Magennis

Officers in Attendance: J Hillen, K Scullion, A Mallon, A Sweeney, G Torney, J Ellis, C Burns, S Burns, A Rennick, T McDonald, S Rice, C O'Neill(Admin)

Apologies: Cllr L Devlin, Cllr K McKevitt, A Patterson, C Moffett, A McGill, J McCann

Subject	Actions and Updates	Officer Responsible
Welcome, Introduction Apologies	Cllr H McKee Chaired the meeting in the absence of Cllr L Devlin and in line with Working Group Terms of Reference	Noted
Declarations of Interest	There were no declarations of interest.	Noted
Review of Action Sheet 9 th June 2020	Detailed map to be presented at next Working Group meeting highlighting location of cut trees vs sustainable trees.	1.00
	This action will be taken forward asap. A Mallon to set up a meeting with his team with a view to obtaining maps.	Ongoing A Mallon
Agenda Item 4 Update on local Agreements with Groups	The 9 groups suggested for Sustainable Trees were contacted regarding the replacement of the cut trees. See below next item for report on interest and progress.	A Rennick
	Confirmation that Crossgar Community Group would welcome a new Sustainable tree, the last having been vandalised. Consideration to be given by ClIrs and community representatives regarding:	A Rennick
	 Potential of finding an alternative site. Local assurances that all measures have been considered so that any new tree will not be vandalised. 	

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Agenda Item 5 Sustainable Trees		
Planting Update	Paper submitted to Neighbourhood Services and approved in March 2020	K Scullion/ J Ellis/
	The following nine areas were identified	A Mallon/ A Sweeney/
	Finnis – Land locked – will continue with a cut tree.	G Torney
	Lislea- Sustainable Tree proposed with agreement of local group to replace cut tree for Christmas 2020.	
	Whitecross- Sustainable Tree proposed with agreement of local group to replace cut tree for Christmas 2020.	
	Belleek- Sustainable Tree proposed with agreement of local group to replace cut tree for Christmas 2020.	
	Ballymartin- Sustainable Tree proposed with agreement of local group to replace cut tree for Christmas 2020.	
	Annalong – El scheme in progress & contractor to supply and plant tree.	
	Dorsey- no suitable site - Cut tree to continue.	-
	Crossmaglen- Sustainable tree will be planted (meeting tomorrow 29.7.20 to discuss a few issues).	
	Gargory- No public space: Cut tree will continue	
	It was agreed (Proposed Cllr Clarke/Seconded Cllr Magennis) that the remaining 3 of proposed nine sustainable Christmas tree replacements for cut trees be planted elsewhere	
	(subject to available electricity supply) It was further requested that communication continue with the contractor in Annalong to ensure the	

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Agenda Item 6 Financial Assistance Update & Legacy Payments	Expressions of Interest be sought from a maximum of 7 towns and villages on the condition that any suitable EOIs can be delivered over an 18-month period. It is proposed to open this by end of	A Rennick T McDonald
	August Legacy payments of £6,550 have been historically awarded to 15 groups. It is proposed to seek agreement at AHC to provide final payments for Christmas 2020.	C Burns
Agenda Item 7 ERT Christmas Programme Update	Agreed to seek an urgent update from ERT on planned Christmas events.	A McGill
Agenda Item 8 Council Christmas Trees & Illuminations Update	Tenders have gone out to appoint a Contractor/s to provide service of testing/repair/erection/removal of Council's Christmas Illuminations (one year with option of two further one year periods). Council has also agreed to use its Capital Budget to replace old illuminations. This is out to tender.	G Torney
	Kilkeel Christmas Tree: Agreed a report (including photographs) on the new Kilkeel artificial tree be circulated to the working group.	K Scullion
Agenda Item 9 e-mail from N Murray re Newtownhamilton	El Scheme will be starting but will not be in place for this Christmas. Community Group are aware of this. Paper will go to August Neighbourhood Services Committee.	K Scullion
Agenda Item 10 AOB	Cllrs raised the following issues for consideration at NS: Rostrevor: proposal for enhanced lighting at Ross's Monument. Newcastle Harbour: request on behalf of local businesses that the area, including the Oak tree could have enhanced	K Scullion

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extended to the end of the Pier.	
Dundrum Tree: Residents have raised concern over condition of the tree, It was agreed a site visit would be undertaken.	J Ellis
Thursday 15 th October 2020	C O'Neill
	Dundrum Tree: Residents have raised concern over condition of the tree. It was agreed a site visit would be undertaken.

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Report to:	Neighbourhood Services (NS) Committee
Date of Meeting:	19 August 2020
Subject:	Enforcement Improvement Plan - Update
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Johnny McBride, Assistant Director: Waste Management (Acting)
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Lim Dinsmore, Head of Waste Processing & Enforcement

	r Decision For Noting Only X
1.0	Purpose & Background
1.1	The purpose of this report is to provide an update the Committee on the status of the Enforcement Improvement Plan. Members will recall the Committee approved the Plan at its meeting on the 19 June 2019. The Plan itself followed previous Notices of Motion (February 2019), as well as a subsequent Elected Member workshop on the issue on the 22 March 2019.
2.0	Key issues
	Current Status
2.1	The primary purpose of the Plan was to secure a more strategic and co-ordinated response to the enforcement of illicit dumping (fly-tipping), littering and dog fouling in the District. Subsequently, it is underpinned by the desire to secure greater collaboration across a range of internal and external partners, including other Council Departments, as well as external agencies such as the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA), Dog's Trust etc.
2.2	The Plan itself is broken-down into what are considered short-term (0-6 months), medium-term (6-12 months) and longer-term (12 months +) actions. The Plan will continue to be an iterative process and will be further developed / refined over-time as new priorities are identified and agreed by the Council.
2.3	The key issue for the Committee to consider is the Plan has recently been negatively impacted by the current COVID-19 pandemic. This is particularly in relation to the unique resourcing challenges it has presented, coupled with the inability of the Council to progress specific plan initiatives, as well as the need to prioritise waste collection and disposal services in the Directorate.
2.4	Progress against the Plan is reported using a traffic light reporting method (i.e. RAG) showing the current status of each of the actions. Management commentary is also provided to assist with Elected Member scrutiny. A copy of the RAG status report is provided at Appendix I . Members will continue to be provided with regular updates concerning Plan implementation, as well as specific reports relating to the finalisation of specific Plan initiatives.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	Members are asked to:
	Note the contents of the report.

4.0	Resource implications	1
4.1	There will be resource implications attached to the on-going implementation of this improvement plan. Members are asked to note that although the majority of the short-te actions can be resourced from within existing resource provision, some of the other med longer-term actions will require future investment and / or future policy decisions from to Council in relation to changes to existing service models. These may have corresponding financial, as well as human resource implications and may be supported by business cas development. Members are asked to further note the role of the potential Street Scene resupport the successful implementation of this Plan.	lium to he I e
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete relevant sections)	the
5.1	General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, speci- equality and good relations outcomes	fic
	It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations	\boxtimes
5.2	Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice or sensitive or contentious decision Yes No Yes No If yes, please complete the following:	and /
	The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened	
	The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation	
5.3	Proposal initiating consultation	
	Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves	
	Consultation period will be 12 weeks	
	Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided)	
	Rationale:	
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)	
6.1	Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service	

	Yes 🗋 No 🖾	
	If yes, please complete the following:	
	Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed	
7.0	Appendices	-
	Appendix I – Enforcement Improvement Plan RAG Status Report	
8.0	Background Documents	_
	Elected Members' Enforcement Workshop Report to RTS Committee, 22 March 2019 Enforcement Improvement Plan Report to NS Committee, 19 June 2019	

Theme	Supporting Action	Timeframe	Comments	Progress	RAG Status
Management Information	Recording, categorisation & mapping of fly-tipping incidents and removal / processing costs	S/T (0-6 mths)	Analysis of this information will support the identification of "hot-spots" & the corresponding targeting of resources. Enabled by access to Tascomi system.	All fly-tipping incidents reported have been collated from the Tascomi System going back to 2016. This will now be subject to analysis by the Council's Evidence & Research Section. Asbestos related fly-tipping has also been filtered with a corresponding financial analysis to be completed.	•
	Mapping & analysis of Dog Licences	S/T (0-6 mths)	This will potentially identify specific parts of our District where take-up is under- performing. Subsequent analysis can also be used to identify high-volume areas & corresponding targeting of resources.	Mapping of all Dog Licences has been completed. This will be compared with dog fouling hot-spots to identify any potential relationship.	•
	Analysis of LEAMS (Local Environmental Audit & Management System) scoring for litter pollution & dog fouling.	S/T (0-6 mths)	Our on-going participation in this scheme (via Keep NI Beautiful) will enable our performance to be tracked over-time. Analysis of scores will identify areas for improvement.	We continue to work with Keep NI Beautiful (KNIB) to track our performance overtime. Previous analysis of trends will be published in the Performance & Improvement Plan Assessment 2019-20 (September 2020). This will be used by the service to identify future areas for improvement.	

	Collection & analysis of benchmarking information with other (NI) Councils	S/T (0-6 mths)	Continual performance & process (activity) benchmarking with other Councils, specifically in relation to LEAMS scoring & the issuing of Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) will inform the development of new actions.	The annual Cleaner Neighbourhoods Report by KNIB includes relevant benchmark information concerning the performance of the Council. This is supplemented by the Council's own benchmarking into innovative practice. APSE has recently been requested to identify Councils in GB who have benefited from the introduction of the DNA testing of dog faeces	•
Legal Provisions & Policy	Extend the number of Dog Control Orders to other locations	S/T (0-6 mths)	Enabled by The Clean Neighbourhoods & Environment (NI) Act 2011. Current geographical scope is limited. Opportunity to extend to other Council land assets. Partly supported by the identification of hot- spots & extending enforcement powers to other Council Officers.	Progress has been limited in this area. Detailed scoping of potential areas required in consultation with other Council Directorates and Legal Administration.	•
	Explore increased use of powers to require the removal of waste unlawfully deposited (fly-tipping)	M/T (6-12 mths)	Enabled by Article 28 of The Waste & Contaminated Land (NI) Order 1997. Will require legal clarification & (potentially) supporting protocols.	Initial scoping had been held with Environmental Health to identify areas of responsibility. However, initial progress delayed by COVID-19.	•

	Extend powers to issue Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) to other Council Officers	M/T (6-12 mths)	This has the potential to supplement existing Enforcement Officer resources. Potential human resource implications.	No progress in this area. Detailed scoping of potential areas required in consultation with other Council Directorates and Legal Administration. The recent recruitment of seasonal Enforcement Officers & the on-going recruitment of permanent Officers will improve service capacity.	•
	Litter Bin provision policy	M/T (6-12 mths)	Development of a litter bin provision policy (based on an assessment of need) governing kerbside and other Council land asset provision, as well as bin- type and frequency of emptying.	Policy has been developed and approved by the Council.	•
Awareness Raising & Education	Dog Fouling Strategy (Phases I & II)	S/T (0-6 mths)	Continue with the promotion of responsible dog ownership (Phase I) but officially launch Phase II (greater focus on enforcement). Supporting publicity campaign.	Phase II of the Strategy has been suspended due to COVID-19, however the Council has continued with the promotion of Responsible Dog Ownership (Phase I). This is facilitated by providing information on responsible dog ownership on the Council website and social media channels during the COVID-19 pandemic.	•
	Cleaner, Greener Communities pilot	S/T (0-6 mths)	Review the effectiveness of the recent pilot & prepare a	Successful pilot exercise undertaken in June 2019, however no budget provided	-

		business case to roll-out in future years.	to support the future roll-out of the scheme. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Department working with Environment Health has supported several
Temporary suspension of cleansing regimes	S/T (0-6 mths)	Consider the feasibility of suspending local cleansing regimes to highlight the scale of the problem in local hot-spots.	community clean-ups. No progress in this area. This is sensitive issue and will require further political and managerial consideration.
Signage	S/T (0-6 mths)	Consider the erection of suitable signage at all Council land assets (i.e. play parks etc.). Possible financial implications.	Additional signage has been erected at specific locations, however the future erection of signage at all Council land assets will be budget dependent.
Community Ambassadors	M/T (6-12 mths)	Opportunity to appoint local ambassadors to supplement Council enforcement activities to approach offenders in local areas. Will require legal clarification & risk assessment.	Initial work had been started with Tidy NI regarding a dog fouling pilot with local ambassadors, however this has been suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
Public reporting of performance information	M/T (6-12 mths)	Opportunity to highlight the scale of the problem in local areas by periodically reporting the number of recorded incidences and	Limited progress in this area. The analysis undertaken as part of the Assessment of Performance later this

		FPNs issued (District-wide & DEA). Enabled by short- term management information actions.	year provides an opportunity for analysis at a DEA-level.
Local Schools Education Programme	M/T (6-12 mths)	Develop an education programme for local schools highlighting the health and environmental hazards of dog fouling, littering & fly- tipping. Links with Environmental Health.	Initial scoping had been undertaken with Environmental Health, however progress has been suspended due to COVID-19 resourcing pressures.
Local Community Reporting (including naming & shaming of offenders)	M/T (6-12 mths)	Will require legal clarification & an assessment of data protection implications etc.	Legal clarification has been provided that it would not be appropriate to publicise the details of members of the public where fines have been paid. Details of Court fines are already published in the public domain. Initial discussions held with the Evidence & Research Section with regards to the publishing of performance at a postcode or DEA level.
Establishment of a Community Fund	M/T (6-12 mths)	Opportunity to explore the potential of a community fund (secured from grant- aid funding or from other income sources) to support anti-dog fouling, littering & fly-tipping activities.	No financial provision in the Council's 2020-21 budget. Opportunity to explore the inclusion of anti-dog fouling, littering & fly-tipping in "Live Here, Love Here" initiative.

Technology	CCTV	M/T (6-12 mths)	Explore the feasibility of using temporary / mobile CCTV to support enforcement activities.	Limited progress in this area. Initial discussions have been held to identify the data protection implications of deploying temporary / mobile CCTV. Will need to form part of a wider policy governing the use of CCTV. Currently being led by another Directorate.	•	
	Bodycams & Hand-held Devices	M/T (6-12 mths)	Explore the potential use of Bodycams to collate evidence & hand-held devices to process FPNs.	Limited progress in this area. Please refer above.		
	Mechanised Cleansing Equipment	L/T (12 mths+)	Explore the potential for the increased use of mechanised cleansing equipment (i.e. small scrubber sweepers & quad-type vehicles) to assist with cleansing activities. Enabled by Cleansing review.	This action is dependent upon the completion of a wider Cleansing Review. This forms part of the Street Scene model.	•	
Partnership Working	Louth County Council Joint Working	S/T (0-6 mths)	Prepare action plan with Louth County Council to address shared fly-tipping issues.	Several meetings held with Louth County Council to identify areas for collaboration. Last meeting was held on 13 March 2020 regarding a draft action plan, however due future work has been suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic.	0	

	NIEA / Neighbouring Councils	S/T (0-6 mths)	Explore the potential for collaboration with the NIEA and neighbouring Councils specifically in relation to support for the improvement plan.	Please refer above. Also, currently working with NIEA in relation to a joint NI Assembly / LG protocol for fly- tipping.	0
	Dog's Trust	S/T (0-6 mths)	Working with Building Control & Licensing and Environmental Health to develop a partnership agreement with The Dog's Trust (promotion of responsible dog ownership)	Currently working with the Dog's Trust to promote responsible dog ownership.	•
	Keep NI Beautiful	S/T (0-6 mths)	Work with Keep NI Beautiful to review improvement plan & support improvement initiatives.	Collaborating with KNIB in relation to LEAMs & FPN analysis and improvement.	0
Resources	Recruitment	S/T (0-6 mths)	Complete recruitment to seasonal & permanent posts.	Two seasonal Enforcement Officers have been successfully recruited. A recruitment process for two Permanent Enforcement Officers is currently on- going. Appointments expected imminently.	•
	Enforcement Workforce Plan	M/T (6-12 mths)	Identify future workforce requirements to support improved enforcement performance. Enabled by Neighbourhood Services	Current workforce plan provides for 4.0 FTE Permanent Enforcement Officer + 2.0 FTE Temporary Enforcement Officers.	0

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			Transformation Project (NSTP).	Additional Enforcement Officers will be subject to future financial provision.	
Performance Management	Performance Indicators	S/T (0-6 mths)	Develop a suite of performance indicators to support enforcement improvement plan.	Data is collated regarding FPN's and payment of fines, with a target of 10% increase by the end of 2020-21. Data is collated, analysed and currently reported by the Performance & Improvement Plan 2020-21.	

Enforcement Improvement Plan Update

Appendix 2

Dog Fouling & Litter Enforcement Information

Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful (KNIB)

KNIB Cleaner Neighbourhood Report 2019/20 provides a detailed analysis of Local Environmental Quality data since the establishment of the eleven new councils. This includes details of Fixed Penalty Notices issued by Councils relating to litter and dog fouling.

Below is a summary of Fixed Penalty Notices Issued 2019/20.

Council	Litter	Litter Paid	Dog Fouling Issued	Dog Fouling Paid	LEAMS	Taking part in Survey	
Antrim & Newtownabbey	155	129	9	. 9	68	Y	
Ards & North Down*	430	307	170	130	67	Y	
Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon*	131	115	12	11	68	N	
Belfast City	1687	1317	9	9	67	N	
Causeway Coast & Glens	21	14	1	1	70	N	
Derry City & Strabane	140	110	5	5	71	Y	
Fermanagh & Omagh	160	62	1	1	66	Y	
Lisburn & Castlereagh*	72	66	6	2	68	N	
Mid & East Antrim	162	154	3	3	72	Y	
Mid Ulster	10	9	4	4	70	N	
Newry, Mourne & Down	46	43	8	7	64	N	

Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful - Fixed Penalty Notices Issued 19/20

Louth County Council*

Info to follow

* Councils that border on Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

Link to KNIB

https://www.keepnorthernirelandbeautiful.org/cgi-bin/generic?instanceID=48

Neighbouring Councils

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council has four key councils that border it:

Ards & North Down Borough Council

Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council

Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council

Louth County Council

At present contact has been made with these councils to ascertain their approach to dealing with litter and dog enforcement. Information is being collated in relation to 'best practice' and will be included as part of future Enforcement Improvement Plan Updates.

Cleaner Neighbourhoods Report 2019/20

KEEP NORTHERN IRELAND BEAUTIFUL

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We all want to be healthy, happy and able to live in a clean and supportive environment. Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful works to help everyone, to come together to deliver a healthy lifestyle for you and the planet. Agenda 7.0 / Report - Enforcement Improvement Plan Update 19 08 20.pdf

Key facts and figures at a glance for the period 2019-2020

86%

The number of transects meeting the accepted standard for litter has increased to 86% from 80% in 2018/19







right to fly a Green Flag, 23% of all schools in the country (accurate as of 11/05/20)



of transects surveyed were completely free of litter (Grade A).

1.3M

From the results of our litter composition analysis we estimate that **1.3 million** items of litter are on our streets at any one time. 233 Adopt A Spot

Sites adopted as part of the adopt a spot programme in 2019 508

In 2019, there were an average of **508 litter** items of litter per 100m of Northern Irish beach, of which 76% were plastic. This equates to nearly **4 million** items of litter lying around our coast at any one time.



Blue flags awarded to Beaches and Marinas in Northern Ireland in 2019 **3,013** Fixed Penalties were issued for littering during 2018-19

(the last complete year for which records are available, up from 2,902 in 17/18)

278 😪 🚇

Fixed Penalties were issued for failing to clean up dog fouling during 2018-19

(the last complete year for which records are available, and decrease of 20% from 2017/18)

parks reached Green Flag Awards standard across Northern Ireland in 2019

£29M

Total street cleansing spend

(Actual Value: £29,566,052)

Foreword

Welcome to the Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful Cleaner Neighbourhoods Report, which has been written by our Local Environmental Quality team. This report provides some encouraging news showing significant improvements in levels of litter and dog fouling. The work of Councils, DAERA, eNGOs and many individuals has to be playing a part in what is a statistically significant shift in behaviour on both fronts.

There were many other positives in 2019, with a record amount made available by Live Here Love Here partners to the Small Grants Scheme, a record number of Eco-Schools achieving the international Green Flag standard and a new high in numbers of our parks and public open greenspaces able to raise the Green Flag Award.

Each of these achievements should be properly recognised and celebrated. They are all the result of an incredible amount of hard work, planning and passion.

The Litter Composition Analysis has given us a new level of detail on where the issues lie in terms of littering behaviour. The packaging and items of just a couple of dozen companies make up the vast majority of the estimated 1.3 million litter items on our streets at any one time. There is now clear evidence that we need to be focusing on cigarette related items and drinks related packaging, with each making up around 30% of the total count. All this provides useful information as we push to ensure that a post-Brexit Northern Ireland does not fall behind the EU when it comes to environmental legislation on waste and plastics.

As 2019 was coming to a close little did we know our world was about to change, and just as it looked as though the environmental message was starting to get through. Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful's new strategic plan, focusing on climate action, biodiversity recovery and pollution solutions is almost on hold as many hard fought environmental gains have taken a back seat. Yet these extraordinary changes to our lives are also instilling a sense of community spirit, not seen in a long time and a re-evaluation of what is important in life. The answers, it seems, don't necessarily require us to buy more stuff!

It will be interesting to see the impact of our imposed home working in the coming year, assuming we are allowed out to measure the litter of course. More interesting, and perhaps challenging for all of us, will be keeping new habits, formed during this crisis, that have big benefits for the environment – less travel, more working from home, and making do with less, none of which have to mean a less fruitful, productive and meaningful life.

Dr Ian Humphreys CHIEF EXECUTIVE, KEEP NORTHERN IRELAND BEAUTIFUL

4 Cleaner Neighbourhoods Report 2019/20

Executive summary

Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful is an independent charity which works with the Department for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA), local Councils, businesses and people to assist in improving our local environmental quality and increasing the quality of the environment in our towns and countryside.

Our role is to create the awareness, understanding and means to inspire the leaders, businesses and people of Northern Ireland to take action and drive change now.

Our work includes managing Live Here Love Here, the largest single civic pride and volunteering campaign in Northern Ireland, with over 100,000 supporters in 2019. We manage the Eco-Schools environmental education programme which is in every school in Northern Ireland and the marine litter survey, which can be viewed and downloaded at: www.keepnorthernirelandbeautiful.org/ marinelitter

We have been working to reduce use of Single Use Plastics (funded by DAERA). A key strand of this work has been the commission of a Litter Composition Analysis across Northern Ireland in order to understand which products and brands are disposed of on our streets and public places and also to understand current levels of action and potential problems and solutions from the perspective of the General public, Councils, Businesses and NGO's. This report can be downloaded at: www.keepnorthernirelandbeautiful.org

The Cleaner Neighbourhoods report is based on a number of sources: the litter and cleanliness data comes from a survey of 1,100 individual transects covering approximately 55km (or 34 miles) of streets and recreational spaces across all 11 Council areas; while fixed penalty records, spend on street cleansing data and information on enforcement and education activities was collected directly by Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful from individual local authorities.

Findings & insights

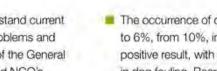
- 86% of transects surveyed in 2019 reached the acceptable standard for cleanliness (Grade A to B). This is a 6% increase than in 2018. This is a significant positive change and we hope that this trend continues in 2020.
- The occurrence of dog fouling has fallen to 6%, from 10%, in 2018. Again, another positive result, with a significant decrease in dog fouling. Recreational areas had the highest volume of dog fouling, although only 9% of the transects had dog foul present, with main roads having the highest percentage with 10% of the transects having dog foul present. Whilst the percentage of transects containing dog fouling has reduced, where dog fouling is present, it is a serious problem, with one location having 9 dog fouls within a 50m stretch: this could be due to the cluster effect i.e. the presence of one dog foul signals that it is acceptable in the area and therefore attracts more dog fouls.
- Rural roads and industrial shed and retail areas, are disproportionately affected by litter when compared to residential, recreational and primary retail areas. 24% of rural roads and 35% of industrial shed and retail transects failed to reach an acceptable standard for litter, compared to 5% of primary retail transects that failed. Although still a

problem area, there have been improvements compared to the 2018 results. Rural roads have to be cleaned manually and this has health and safety issues as well as being resource intensive; cleansing resources may also be focused on areas with higher footfall and greater visibility.

Only 1% of Low Obstruction Residential (where more than 50% of cars can pull off the road into driveways or similar) transects failed in 2019. High Obstruction Residential (where most cars park on street) transects had a 15% failure rate – 1% worse than last year. This could be due to the obstruction caused by parked vehicles, which prevent sweepers from reaching the kerb in these areas.

At the end of the report, a number of recommendations have been made as to how we can all move towards a litter free future together. They apply to both national and local policy makers, but it has to be stressed that we can all do our part when it comes to keeping Northern Ireland beautiful.

Cleaner Neighbourhoods Report 5 2019/20



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Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful



Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful is the charity that inspires people to create cleaner, greener and more sustainable communities.

Through our behaviour change campaigns and education on local, national and global environmental issues, we are working to improve the quality of people's lives, the places they live and the places they love.

Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful provides a range of programmes, services and initiatives that include:

Education:

Eco-Schools is the world's largest education programme. Focused on behaviour change, it encourages pupil-led action. Northern Ireland was the first country in the world to gain a Green Flag for one of its schools. 23% of schools currently fly the Green Flag, having reached the international standard.

Volunteering:

The BIG Spring Clean, a part of the Live Here Love Here Campaign, mobilises tens of thousands of people every year in cleaning up their parks, sports pitches, streets and beaches. Live Here Love Here is raising the bar on antisocial behaviour by building civic pride and stronger communities.

Local Environmental Quality Standards:

We audit a range of National and International standards including; Blue Flag for Beaches and Marinas; Seaside and Green Coast Awards; Green Flag for Parks; the Green Business Award and Green Key for the Hospitality Industry. Throughout the year, we carry out: Cleaner Neighbourhoods; Borough Cleanliness and Marine Litter surveys. The data collected from these surveys allows us to compare the local environmental quality of Northern Ireland year on year. We bring enforcement officers together at the Northern Ireland Environmental Quality Forum to encourage and support cohesive working between councils, to raise and maintain the quality of Northern Ireland's public places.



For more information on our work contact:

Dr Ian Humphreys CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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www.keepnorthernirelandbeautiful.org

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Northern Ireland Cleaner Neighbourhoods Survey

Introduction

The Northern Ireland Cleaner Neighbourhoods Survey is a country wide survey, carried out by Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful to assess the quality and cleanliness of our public spaces. The objective of the survey is to benchmark the cleansing performance of the councils by rating them against the same scale, thus ensuring a fair comparison. The results of the survey provide a picture of the levels of litter across Northern Ireland, how litter varies by area, and how littering trends vary over time.

In October 2007, the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government announced a new set of 198 National Indicators. The indicators which are assessed as part of the Northern Ireland Cleaner Neighbourhoods survey are "NI 195 Improved street and environmental cleanliness (levels of litter, detritus, graffiti and fly posting)" with staining being an additional indicator used in Northern Ireland. Records of these indicators have been collected by Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful since 2012.

Similar surveys are carried out across the whole of the UK although due to slight differences in land use zones, measuring and scoring, it is difficult to accurately compare the results between countries.

Definitions:

Litter

Anything that is dropped, thrown, left or deposited that causes defacement, in a public place.

Detritus

Detritus comprises dust, mud, soil, grit, gravel, stones, rotted leaf and vegetable residues, and fragments of twigs, glass, plastic and other finely divided materials. Detritus includes leaf and blossom falls when they have substantially lost their structure and have become mushy or fragmented.

Graffiti

Graffiti is defined as any informal or illegal marks, drawings or paintings that have been deliberately made by a person or persons on any physical element comprising the outdoor environment, with a view to communicating some message or symbol etc. to others.

Fly-posting

Fly-posting is defined as any printed material and associated remains informally or illegally fixed to any structure.

Staining

Defined as any substance that marks or discolours a pavement. Commonly includes chewing gum, oil, and drink stains.

Litter Pollution Index (LPI)

The Litter Pollution Index is the percentage of transects which failed to reach an acceptable standard of cleanliness (Grade B- to D).

LEAMS

LEAMS is an alternative method of measuring litter and other indicators which is used in both Scotland and Wales. Unlike the pass/ fail 'Performance Indicator' used in Northern Ireland, LEAMS scores are generated by assigning a value to each grade (A=3 B=2 C=1 D=0), and then calculating the average value of all the grades assigned. This average is presented as a percentage of the total available points for the transects surveyed. It differs from the Performance indicator in that LEAMS score takes account of how clean or littered a transect is, rather than just whether it is a pass or fail. Scores closer to 100 indicate better performance. It is easier to set a target under the LEAMS system; 66 is the point at which performance is considered acceptable, as it equates with an average grade B.





Build-up of detritus forming along the kerbside



An example of flyposting

Method

The Northern Ireland Litter Survey is carried out across all of the 11 council areas in Northern Ireland between July and September, covering 100 transects per council area.

These 1,100 surveys give a good representation of Northern Ireland, with a margin of error of +/- 3%.

The 100 transects are further distributed between eight land use types which are detailed on this page.



Primary Retail

Main town and city retail and commercial centers.



Secondary Retail

Retail and commercial areas located outside main city and town retail. Areas must contain a minimum, continuous retail or commercial frontage of 50 meters.

GRADES:



Grade A Completely free of indicator e.g. litter, detritus etc.



Grade B Predominantly free of indicator apart from some small items

Widespread distribution



of indicator with minor accumulations

Grade C



Heavily affected with significant accumulations

Three intermediate grades can also be used to further categorise transects. These are; B+, B- and C-.



Main Road

This comprises "A" roads: throughout rural areas (except where main roads run through larger settlements containing Main and Other Retail and Commercial Areas and High Obstruction Housing Areas); and in urban areas, except where main roads run through main and other retail and commercial areas, or through high obstruction housing.



Rural Road

This comprises all adopted highways that are located outside built up areas and which are not otherwise included in the Main Roads.



Recreational

Includes a wide range of open spaces that are freely accessible to the public and which are maintained by a local authority. Sites include parks, picnic sites, canals, lakes, riversides; municipal cemeteries and cycle ways.



Industry/Retail Shed

This Land use type includes industrial and warehousing developments and out-of-town retail parks (including food and non-food developments) which contain land that is owned or managed by the local authority, and which is freely accessible to the public.



High Obstruction Residential

Housing areas with less than 50% of dwellings with purpose-made off-street parking/garaging facilities.



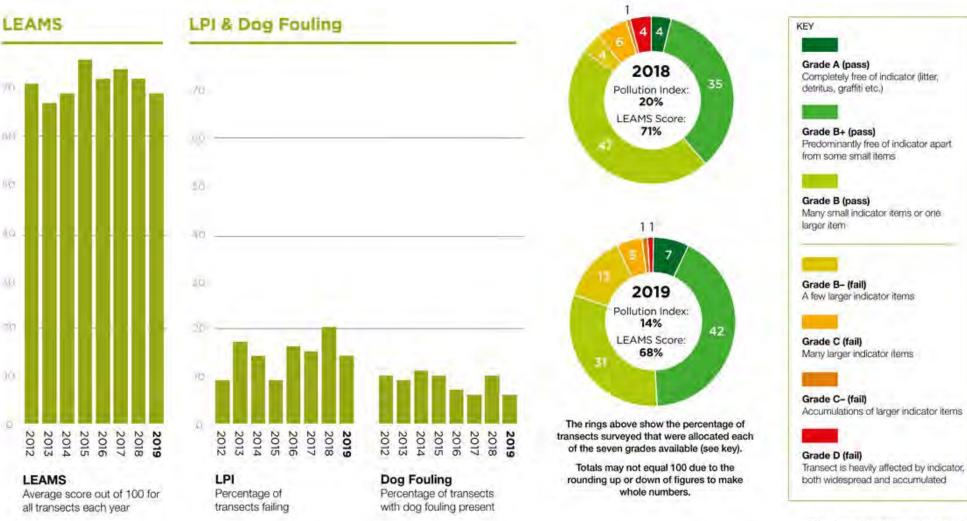
Low Obstruction Residential

Housing areas with more than 50% of dwellings with purpose-made off-street parking/garaging facilities.

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Northern Ireland Litter Trends at a Glance

This year the survey results show an improvement in the LPI score with only 14% of transects failing compared with the 20% that failed in 2018. Despite this statistically significant improvement, it is important to note that the LEAMS value has decreased from 71% in 2018 to 68% in 2019. This means that although fewer transects are failing to meet an acceptable standard of cleanliness, fewer transects are obtaining a grade of A or B+. We can interpret this trend by deducing that more resources are placed on cleansing areas that are consistently awarded grades B- or less, meaning less resources are therefore available to be applied to maintaining cleaner areas. This change cannot be considered significant though as there is a margin of error of 3%, meaning there has to be a greater variation to determine if the change hasn't just been caused by chance. Dog fouling results have improved again with only 6% of transects having dog fouling present.



LEAMS

Local Environmental Audit & Management System

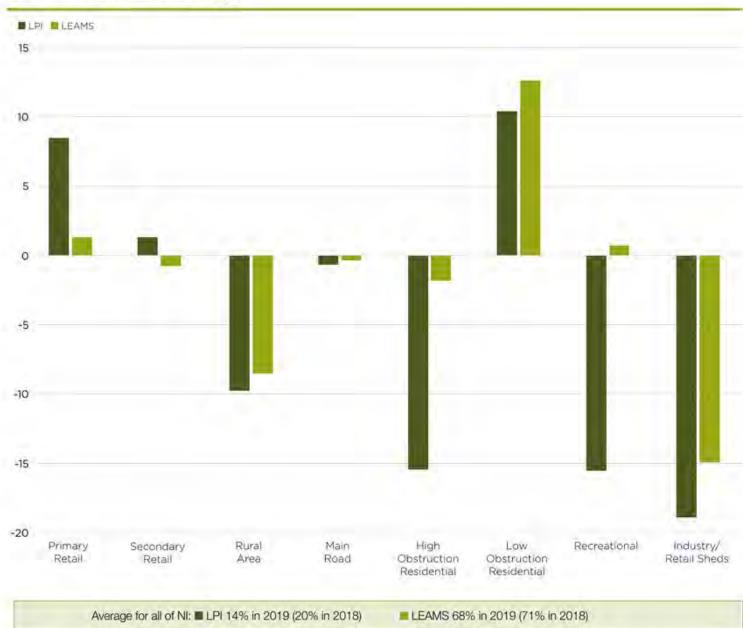
The graph adjacent depicts how clean the eight land-use types were during 2019, both in terms of their Litter Pollution Index and their LEAMS score, relative to the mean for each system.

If we look at primary retail, for example, we can see that the LPI suggests that the transects in this category are much cleaner than the average (+8%), whereas, the LEAMS score gives a more conservative figure (+2%); this indicates that although they had a high pass rate, they were not free of litter.

Although it can be seen that rural roads and industrial/retail shed areas are amongst the poorest preforming areas, both in terms of LPI and LEAMS score, it should be noted that both of these land use types had a much lower number of transects failing in 2019 than in the previous year reflecting an improvement.

There has been an improvement in the cleanliness of main roads, with 12 transects failing in 2019 compared to the 29 which failed to meet an acceptable standard in 2018.

The number of recreational transects failing to meet the acceptable standard is higher than the NI average; however, the average LEAMS score for recreational areas was above the NI average. This means that the transects that did fail to meet acceptable standard were only failing by a small margin, compared with the 'dirtier' industrial/retail' shed areas which will require greater resource investment to raise standards.



LEAMS vs LPI Landuse Type

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The Presence of Bins

Landuse Type	Percentage of transects with bins	Percentage of failed transects
Primary Retail	66%	5%
Secondary Retail	52%	13%
Rural Road	2%	24%
Main Road	14%	14%
High Obstruction Residential	2%	15%
Low Obstruction Residential	1%	2%
Recreational	63%	15%
Industry/Retail Shed	2%	37%
NI Average	25%	14%
Northern Ireland	422 litter bins (270 transects)	26 dog fouling bins (22 transects)
	4 over flowing bins	





Lack of available bins is often cited as a reason for dropping litter. During the surveys the number, placement and condition of any bins present on a transect is recorded. This includes whether the bin is impacting the litter on the transect due to it overflowing, leading to litter blowing out of the bins or people leaving rubbish beside it. Of the 448 bins that were observed along the 1100 transects only 4 were observed to be overflowing, and none of these bins were judged to be contributing to the litter observed on that transect.

Bins on average were found on over half of recreational, primary and secondary retail transects. Although the presence or absence of a bin was not statistically significantly linked (P= 0.35) to whether a transect passed or failed or to the likelihood of observing dog fouling. This is evident with over 10% of secondary retail and recreational transects failing to meet acceptable standards.

This suggests that areas with both a bin and a litter problem are prime sites for sustained action both by Enforcement Officers and through education and suggestion campaigns. Having a prompt or subconscious nudge toward using those bins already provided in the form of a poster, or simply making the bin more salient (by for example ,painting it a bright colour), could be a highly cost effective means of tackling littering in most land use types (Kolodko et al., 2016).

Although it has been found that having signage

available encourages people to use bins more, seeing others using the bin and noticing that the area is clean has an even greater impact. Caluni, Reno and Kallgren (1990) conducted a study which showed that when there are just one or two pieces of litter in an area, more people did not litter (90%) however as soon as there were three or more pieces visible the number of litterers increased to 41%.

This is affirmed by 'Focus Theory' (Cialdini et al., 1991) which suggests there are two types of social norms that influence individuals: injunctive and descriptive. An injunctive norm is an understanding of what should be done, whereas a descriptive norm is an understanding of what actually is done. Therefore to have effective influences on people to achieve pro environmental behaviour these need to align (Sussman and Giftord., 2011. Studies have shown that signs deliver an injunctive norm message, whereas people doing (models) help create the descriptive norm impression. Models in this case could simply be people using the bins in an area that is normally heavily littered and then communicating how their actions are leading to a cleaner environment.

Trends across landuse types for pollution indicators

The table below details the number of transects with a litter indicator present during the survey

Landusē	Total No. of Transects	Cigarettes	Fresh Gum	Takeaway Packaging	Glass	Drinks	Plastic Bags	Confectionary	Business Litter	Non- packaging	Food residue	Dog fouling	Other
Primary Retail	111	101	6	12	6	30	1	52	29	2	10	4	57
Secondary Retail	89	79	4	19	6	42	1	45	22	2	3	1	62
Rural Road	100	28	0	22	1	82	4	58	1	0	3	5	53
Main Road	111	65	5	33	7	55	2	61	13	5	2	12	79
High Obstruction Residential	200	167	6	33	5	101	6	105	35	7	5	11	168
Low Obstruction Residential	200	70	3	8	3	38	1	37	20	4	2	8	143
Recreational	200	84	9	23	19	87	8	132	8	6	8	18	132
Industry/Retail Shed	89	63	1	26	9	60	10	40	30	10	4	12	75
Total	1,100	657	34	176	56	495	33	530	158	36	37	71	769

The table shows that the most commonly observed items are cigarette butts. These appear in all land use types with 60% of transects having at least one cigarette butt present although there are often far more than that. Whilst they are present in all Landuse types some suffer more than others with 91% of primary retail, 89% of secondary retail and 83.5% high obstruction residential transects afflicted with this litter type. This comes as no surprise with the trillions of cigarettes that are produced annually in the world resulting in billions being thrown away carelessly (Torkashvand et al., 2020). Cigarette butts may seem small in comparison to some of the other litter types on the list but they have a large impact, especially due to the presence of toxic and chemical substances which leach from these into the environment (Dobaradaran et al., 2017).

Rural roads suffer mostly from the presence of drinks containers (plastic bottles, cans, take away coffee cups) with 82% of transects having at least one drink container present. This type of litter will almost always come from cars with passengers irresponsibly throwing their empty drinks out of the windows. In some areas of England they have introduced roadside bins for road users to put their litter in, although some believe that this just encourages the mentality that it is acceptable to throw litter out of their window.

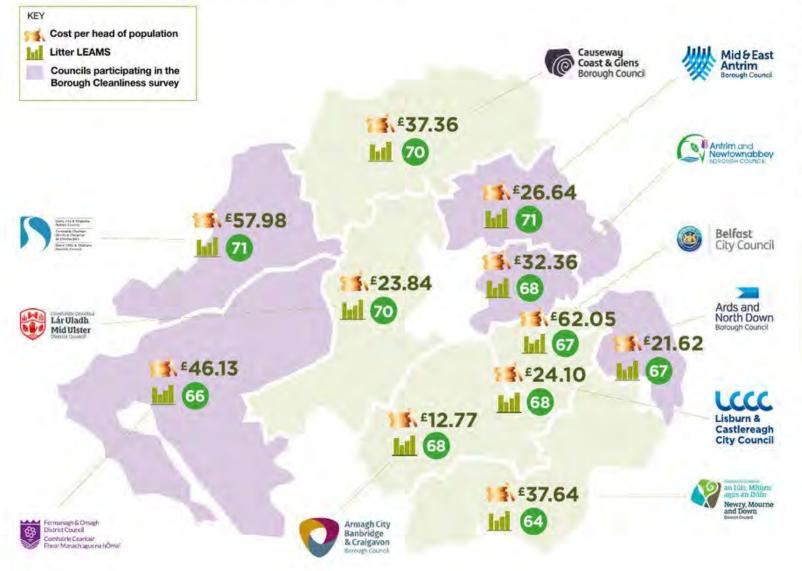
High obstruction and recreational transects hold the highest records of confectionary litter (sweet and crisp packets, lollypop sticks etc.) with 53% and 66% of transects having confectionary litter present. With high obstruction residential areas this large accumulation of confectionary may be due to the highest number of obstructions present, preventing a mechanical sweeper from reaching all of the street. For recreational areas this could be attributed to a mix of factors including; individuals having their lunch in parks, and young children watching others drop litter and believing that it is therefore acceptable to do the same.

'Other' litter includes all pieces of litter which does not appear in the other categories and can range from anything from large pieces of cardboard to small pieces of plastic.

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Cleansing spend vs LEAMS

Litter LEAMS was calculated from survey data collected by trained surveyors between August and October 2018. Spending figures per head of population were calculated using the projected population of each area from the NI Statistics and Research Agency and cleansing spend obtained from individual Councils upon request from Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful.

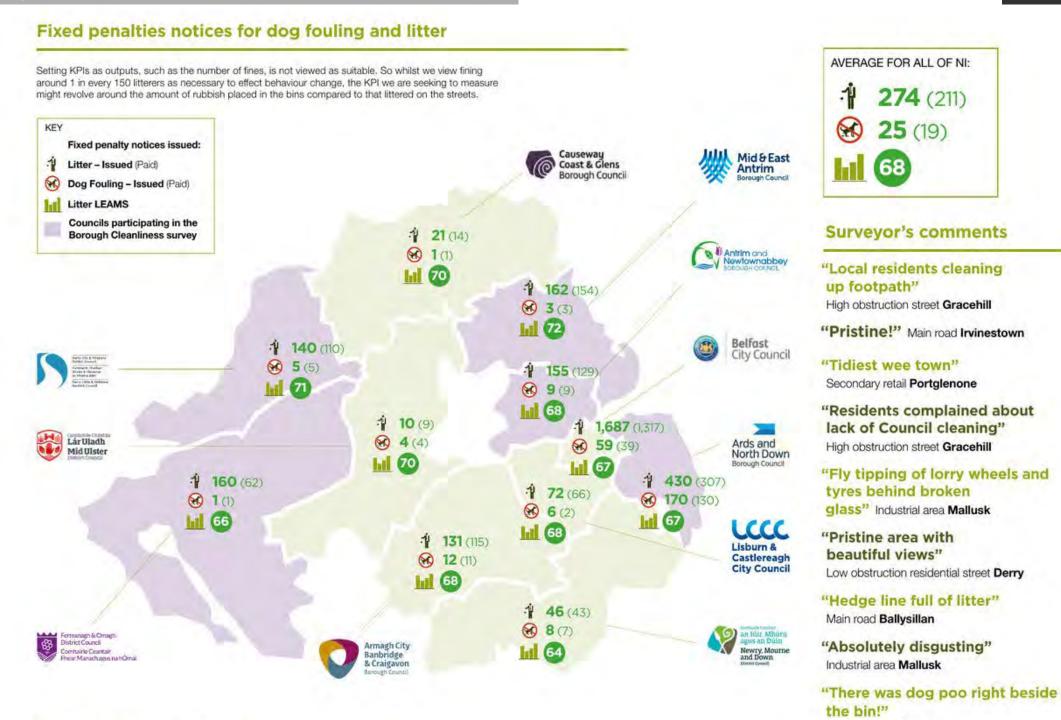


The total spend on street cleaning across all of Northern Ireland in 2017/18 was £29,566,052. With an estimated population of 1,864,570 people in 813,789 Households in Northern Ireland* this means that on average every rate payer was charged £36.33 for cleaning the streets, even if they are not personally a litterer. Please note that these figures relate to 2018/19, and are therefore one year behind the figures in the rest of this report. Because of careful auditing and the public presentation process public finances go through, the approved figures are only made available in autumn of the following year.



* NISRA Population and Household Projections for Northern Ireland (for 2019), 2016-2041 (HHP16_NI)

Public Park Holywood



Dog Fouling

Landuse	Total No. of Transects	Number of transects on which dog fouling observed	Percentage of transects with dog fouling present	Total number of dog fouls observed	Number of transects with nudge signs present	Number of transects with nudge signs and dog fouling present
Primary Retail	111	4	4%	5	5	0
Secondary Retail	89	1	1%	1	7	0
Rural Road	100	5	4%	5	0	0
Main Road	111	12	10%	19	19	3
High Obstruction Residential	200	11	5%	18	47	2
Low Obstruction Residential	200	8	4%	11	33	2
Recreational	200	18	9%	36	53	5
Industry/Retail Shed	89	12	9%	13	5	0
Total	1,100	71	6%	108	169	12

One in four transects which fail to meet the standard for litter do so because of high levels of dog fouling. Dog fouling was observed on 6% of all transects surveyed. This reflects quite an improvement on last year, where 10% of transects were observed to have dog fouling present. Although it fluctuates from year to year, since 2012, dog fouling has been on a downward trend with 6% being the lowest percentage of dog fouling observed.

Similar to 2018, the hotspots for dog fouling were along high obstruction residential and recreational transects. Although compared to previous years the number of dog fouls observed have improved significantly. In 2018, along high obstruction residential areas, 29 transects had dog fouling present compared, to just 10 transects in 2019. This is the same with recreational areas with 17 transects having dog fouling present compared to 32 transects in 2018.

The data on dog fouling continues to appear to show clustering behaviour; while relatively few transects have been affected by dog fouling, they tend to be heavily affected, with an average of two deposits observed on these transects. The highest number recorded was nine separate deposits in one recreational area. This supports the idea that a failure to clean up dog fouling is influenced by 'signalling'; the presence of dog fouling indicates to other owners that fouling is accepted in that area, and they do not need to clear up after their pet.

In 2019, Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful

recorded the presence of nudge signage, for the prevention of litter and dog fouling, if it was clearly visible from the transects.

Although this is the first year in which we have collected this information, the result do indicate that the presence of nudge signs make a significant difference (P=0.02) to the amount of dog fouling observed on transects across Northern Ireland.

Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful offers opportunities for further surveys within councils to identify and assess dog poo hotspots so behaviour change initiatives can be trialled while not changing the existing cleansing regime to test what is effective in the local area.



Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful offers these and other posters as well as offering support and advice on their optimum use. https://keepnorthernirelandbeautiful. etinu.net/cgi-bin/resources?instanceID=1

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Waste Composition Analysis

In light of the forthcoming European Union (EU) Directives on litter, with UK legislation following closely behind, Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful commissioned an independent litter composition analysis.

The results alongside our public focus groups, which highlighted one in three people admit to littering in NI, provide great insight into the scale of the NI litter problem. The legislation coming into force puts greater responsibility on producers to cover the clean-up costs of their littered products, as well as paying for communication and awareness campaigns on litter prevention. As market leaders, innovators and investors in Corporate Social Responsibility businesses can play a significant role in proactively tackling this growing social problem.

The independent litter composition analysis took place between the 21st January–4th March 2019 and was designed and delivered by RPS Consulting Engineers. The analysis aims to measure the composition of different types of litter and estimate the number of littered items on NI streets at any one time. No similar analysis study has been conducted in NI to date.





1 The figures outlined above highlight both littered items and items placed in bins.

² This analysis does not cover every possible transect throughout NI. However, we can gauge how well it represents the litter problem on a national scale by using two important statistics – the survey's margin of error and confidence level. Surveying 1,108 transects and using an industry standard confidence level of 95%, provides a resulting margin of error of plus or minus 2.95%.

^a Northern Ireland is split into 890 SOAs. SOAs were developed by Northern Ireland Statistics & Research (NISRA) to improve the reporting of small area statistics.

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We estimate that...

1.3 million

items of litter are on our streets at any one time

28 tonnes

of litter are on our streets at any one time

71% of littered items contain plastic

£45 million

annual cost of street cleansing In Northern Ireland

From our litter analysis we estimate that...

368,610 drink items are littered

on our streets

137,437

are non-alcoholic drinks packaging

114,693

are plastic bottles

Other items included in drinks packaging are: single-use disposable cups; alcoholic drink packaging; Tetrapaks; polystyrene drink cups; drinking glasses 164,404

food packaging items are littered on our streets

115,018

are confectionery/crisp foil wrappers

20,469

are items such as yoghurt and sandwich containers

Other items included in food packaging are: polystyrene packaging and card packaging

⁴ The number of littered items is extrapolated to show how much litter is potentially on our streets, at any one time, Extrapolated figures are based on 9,000 km of roads across NI.

⁵ Most recent figures suggest cleansing costs could be lower than this. However, after investigation, these more recent figures are not believed to be a true reflection of costs. This cost currently fails on local authorities. It does not include costs incurred by other bodies who play a part in the removal of litter from our environment, such as other major landowners, Translink and NGOs supporting voluntary clean-ups. OUTLINE OF LITTER ON NORTHERN IRELAND STREETS

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These figures are extrapolated to show how much litter is potentially on our streets at any one time.

AT ANY ONE TIME THERE ARE NEARLY **1.3 million** ITEMS OF LITTER ON OUR STREETS

c bottles 114,693

#1/10/

FAECES

0.7%

9,58

GLASS

OTHER

Cleaner Neighbourhoods Report 17 2019/20

Marine litter

Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful conducts seasonal surveys on reference beaches every year on behalf of the Department for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs.

As part of the OSPAR Convention over 70 beaches, in the North-East Atlantic, monitor litter on 100m stretches of the beach, following common monitoring guidelines. In Northern Ireland 11 beaches are currently being surveyed for litter four times a year. The monitoring records all litter within 112 predefined item classifications, across 11 categories: plastic, metal, paper, wood, sanitary waste, cloth, rubber, glass, pottery/ceramic, medical waste and faeces. Our results provide a baseline figure against which to measure progress towards what is termed Good Environmental Status (GES) under the European Marine Strategy Framework Directive.

The 2019 Marine Litter Report is available on our website – www.keepnorthernirelandbeautiful.org/ marinelitter. The report highlights the main effects of marine litter and plastic pollution, including the harm it poses to wildlife, along with the particular issue of microplastics.



Volunteers enjoying a beach clean. In 2019 There was on average 508 items of litter per 100m beach per survey of which 78% were plastic. The figures in the bubble diagram (right), just show an average breakdown combining all beaches and seasons. Visit: www.keepnorthernirelandbeautiful.org/marinelitter

Key



Construction Material

Wood

Plastic Rope

21

03

Other cloth

Other Ceramic

Cotton Bud

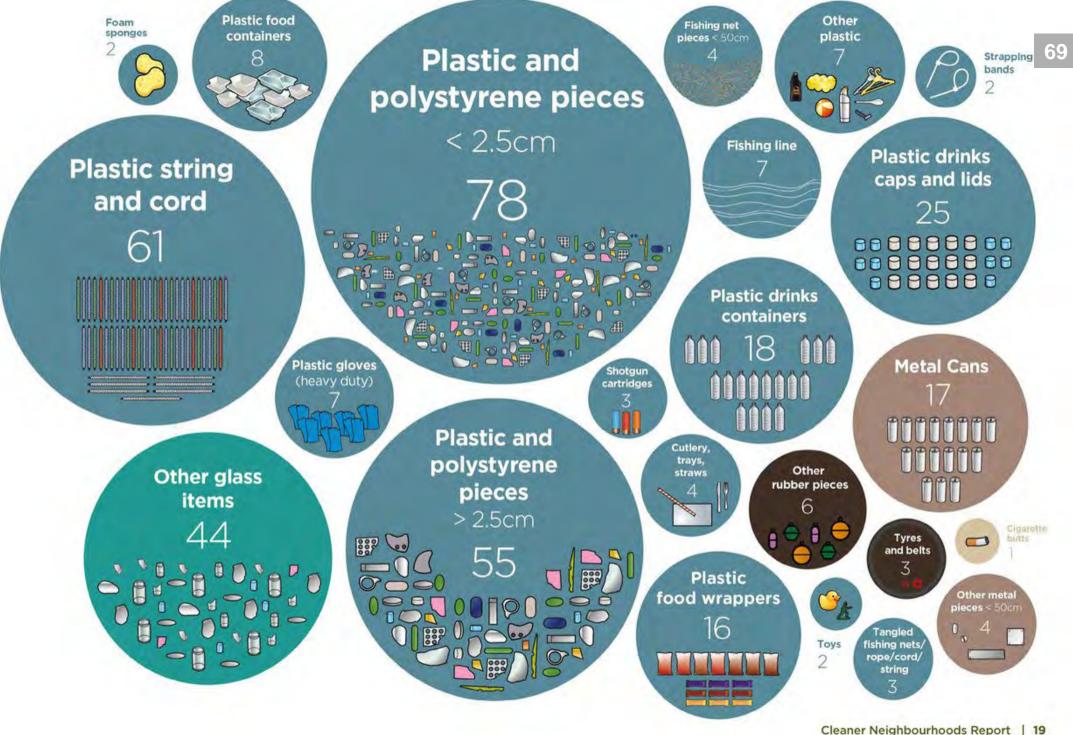
sticks

4

Plastic carrier bags



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Live Here Love Here

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70 Live Here Love Here Partners (2019)Antrim and Newtownabbey Ards and North Down Borough Council y City & Strakane omhairle Chathait Serry Cittle & Strikbary Housing Executive Lisburn &

44,820 litter bags collected Armagh City Banbridge & Craigavon 271 brough Council metric tonnes of rubbish 0 0 collected equivalent to Belfast approximately 22 Ulster **City Council** buses Adopt[®] A Spot AF epartment of Agriculture. Wromment and Rural Attains 233 Fermanagh & Omagh groups supported \$ District Council by the Adopt A Spot Comhairle Ceantair programme Fhear Manach agus na hÓmaí 1,504 hours of volunteer time KEEP (each group carries out NORTHERN 4 clean ups a year) IRELAND BEAUTIFUL £65.800 financial support for Adopt A Spot groups across Northern Ireland Comhairle Ceantair Lár Uladh Mid Ulster District Council www.keepnorthernirelandbeautiful.org

130,128

volunteers

initiative is underpinned by a growing movement of people who are together building community pride and improving local environments through positive practical action.

The Live Here Love Here

Media Campaign

Through partnership working and 'one voice' messaging across a strong variety of media channels such as TV, social media and billboards, we can build strong relationships with the public as we develop the kind of place we want to live.

In 2018, we introduced an unforgettable irate, magenta puppet - disgusted by all things litter and not afraid to tell you so! The character delivers memorable messages and appeals to all age ranges, raising awareness and driving the behaviour change we all need in our communities.



Cleaner Neighbourhoods Report 20 2019/20



IS DISGUSTIN'I

ISUULTY A

RAGIN

live herelove here.org

Bild

Spring Clean

For more information on our work contact: Emma Johnston

OPERATIONS MANAGER

emma.johnston@keepnorthernirelandbeautiful.org

Castlereagh **City Council**







Fermanagh and Omagh Litter Heroes Award Winner 2019 Trevor Foster (Blue Green Yonder)

Keen canoeist, Trevor has made a significant impact on the appearance of the waterways in and around Enniskillen with the help of his group Blue Green Yonder, organising young people and groups from local businesses such as BT staff to undertake the collection and removal of debris and litter from the waterways in canoes.

Trevor has been quietly and diligently organising the clean ups of Enniskillen's waterways, removing debris and items like shopping trolleys, tyres, plastic and other types of litter for many years. This type of clearance is difficult and not without risk, but saves the council significant costs, for which they are very grateful.



Mid Ulster Litter Heroes Award Winner 2019 Vicky Seviour-Crockett

Vicky has carried out litter picks for nearly 5 years, showing her dedication to Adopt A Spot and her example has motivated others to get involved. She has even introduced "plogging" to her running group. She recycles what she finds on litter picks with Terracycle who in turn make a donation to her chosen charity. She has raised over £1000 for "Kicks Count" from biscuit wrappers alone, a charity that promote baby movement awareness to reduce still birth, without which her son William may not be here today to help litter pick beside her. Now William is at school, she child minds and teaches the children about protecting the environment.



"Winning the Mid Ulster Litter Hero award was incredible. It was such an honour to be recognised (for things that have become part of my everyday life) and it spurred me on to keep going and encourage others to get involved in their communities"

Vicky Seviour-Crockett Winner of Mid Ulster Litter Heroes Award 2019.

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Beach and Marina Awards

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Blue Flag Award

A Blue Flag is a symbol of excellence worldwide. In 2019 12 beaches and marinas around Northern Ireland were awarded the Blue Flag. Beaches and Marinas with a Blue Flag are demonstrating their commitment to sustainability. Every year Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful carry out control visits to ensure each site is fulfilling strict criteria based on water quality, environmental management, education, safety and access. The Blue Flag programme is operated under the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) and every year each Blue Flag beach and marina must provide special activities and events to help visitors understand the importance of our coastal and marine environments, and what we can all do to protect them. A Blue Flag can only be flown at sites where all the Blue Flag criteria have been met.

Seaside Award

The Seaside Award is the national standard for beaches across the UK. The flag ensures visitors are guaranteed to find a clean, safe, attractive and well managed coastal environment with varied levels of facilities provided depending on the location of the beach. Seaside Award beaches are likely to have facilities such as toilets and parking. In 2019, 11 beaches were awarded the Seaside Award.



Green Coast Awards

This Award recognises beaches where the local community has made a commitment to protecting and promoting the environment, rather than developing visitor infrastructure. As such this Award aims to recognise more rural, natural beaches that retain their unspoilt character and excellent bathing water quality. In 2019 1 beach was awarded the Green Coast Award.



Green Flag



Green Flag Awards

The Green Flag Award recognises and rewards well managed parks and green spaces, setting the benchmark standard for the management of recreational outdoor spaces across Northern Ireland, the UK and around the world.

Any green space that is freely accessible to the public and has a site specific management plan is eligible to apply for a Green Flag Award. Parks and Green Spaces are judged against set criteria in areas including biodiversity, sustainability, standards of management and cleanliness.

As the population grows accessing safe, quality green space is increasingly important for local communities, visitors, people's health, outdoor learning and of course, leisure activities.

The Green Flag Awards in Northern Ireland

The Green Flag Award scheme was launched in Northern Ireland in 2008, Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful has locally managed the Green Flag Award scheme since 2012. There are currently 76 Green Flag Award Sites in Northern Ireland and these include both heritage sites and community sites.

Each Green Flag site is assessed on eight key criteria:

- 1. A welcoming Place
- 2. Healthy, Safe and Secure
- 3. Well Maintained and Clean
- 4. Environmental Management

- 5. Conservation and Heritage
- 6. Community Involvement
- 7. Marketing and Communication
- 8. Management

Sites can apply to be a Green Heritage Site which focuses more on good conservation standards, historic features given prominence and the restoration / re-creation of landscape features. There is also the Green Flag Community Award, which does encompass seven of the eight criteria for Green Flag (is not assessed on Marketing and Communication) but is more focused on the work of the community groups involved at the site.



For more information on keep Northern Ireland Beautiful's certifications programmes, including the Beach and Marina Awards and the Green Flag Award please visit our website or contact our Local Environmental Quality manager Jamie Miller.

Jamie Miller LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY MANAGER

Jamie. Miller@keepnorthernirelandbeautiful.org

www.keepnorthernirelandbeautiful.org



Carnfunnock Country Park





Slieve Gullion Forest Park

Cave Hill Country Park



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STATISTICS FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

man



Eco-Schools is the largest global sustainable schools programme - it starts in the classroom and expands to the community by engaging the next generation in action-based learning.

The Eco-Schools programme was developed by the Foundation for Environmental Education, is actively run in 67 countries around the world and is in 51,000 schools. It provides an excellent foundation for delivering the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. There are now 269 schools across Northern Ireland that have been awarded the coveted Green Flag, the pinnacle of the programme and all schools in Northern Ireland have registered to work towards this goal. As well as undertaking detailed learning on three environmental topics, schools must maintain a litter free environment to achieve their Green Flag. Schools are reassessed every two years, ensuring that all participating pupils receive regular anti-litter messaging.



Young Reporters for the Environment





Young Reporters for the environment

Young Reporters for the Environment (YRE) is an international award-winning programme coordinated by the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE). The programme empowers young people to take an educated stand on environmental issues they feel strongly about and gives them a platform to articulate these issues through the media of writing, photography or video. Youth between the age of 11–25 can join the programme in their countries through their school, youth group or as individuals by contacting the relevant National Operator. In Northern Ireland Young Reporters for the Environment is delivered by Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful.

A Youth Strategy for the Environment

Forty young activists, including some Young Reporters for the Environment from St Dominic's Grammar School for Girls and Ulidia Integrated College, met with policy makers at Stormont on 17th January to set out their demands for safeguarding the environment, as they play their part in shaping Northern Ireland's first ever environment strategy, which is currently out for public consultation. Students gave suggestions about what they thought should be included in the strategy by working in groups to answer questions on this topic.

Supported by Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful, Ulster Wildlife and the Belfast Hills Partnership, the passionate and environmentally conscious young people, aged 11 to 24, have already been taking action to improve hundreds of local green spaces and tackle environmental issues, such as climate change. Some of these improvements have been possible through litter pick events and community action days supported by Wrigley Mars Foundation. A representative of these young activists advocated to act now on the climate crisis, because catastrophes, such as the fires in Australia, will become more commonplace across the world, changing ecosystems beyond repair. They also commented on the need to improve the recycling facilities in Northern Ireland, so we can stop wasting money, energy, and resources by making things from scratch. It is possible: Sweden recycle 99% of their waste, so why can't we? Young people have great ideas too; they just need to be listened to more!

The youth-led movement is calling for three key asks to be included in the forthcoming strategy: more time for young people learning in and about nature, more support for young people to get environmental jobs, and more opportunities for young people to be heard and play an active role in society. It's time to speak up!



For more information contact: Francesca Di Palo ECO-SCHOOLS PROJECT OFFICER

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www.keepnorthernirelandbeautiful.org

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Volunteers Taking Action

Big Spring Clean Competition Winner 2019

"The answer to why I get involved is quite simple : It is the correct thing to do if we want to have the chance to preserve some dignity to our neighbourhoods. I don't want to live in an environment filled

with litter. It is an eye sore. It is unhygienic and it is a threat to flora and fauna. I know there are many others who feel this way. On top of that, the adopt-the-spot scheme encourages me to get out and exercise, to meet other people, to help communities and to promote our concern. Being part of an organisation like "Live here, love here" has transformed my life positively because it keeps acknowledging that what we do is helpful and valued."

Hubert Giraudeau Greencycling and Greenthinking, Lurgan.



Ards and North Down, Holywood Residents Association, Holywood Recycles Gum and Butts

poster campaign, surveys of cigarette butt and chewing stain numbers on the streets and a litter pick up for the butts. There will be a launch meeting for local societies, groups, businesses and Ards and North Down Borough Council representatives. Schools will be offered a visit to promote the project.

"For the Residents' Association our plastics recycling project has led to strong connections within the town and has been a catalyst for action by others. The local council really liked the cigarette Ballot Bin and has installed 35 throughout the Borough. We have developed strong links with our location partners. For example we recently planted up a litter hotspot in partnership with Translink. Priory College, a location partner for Gumdrop bins, made some enormous cigarette butt models to help us publicise our bins. And, to date, 11,600 cigarette butts have been sent for recycling, thanks to the small grant scheme."

Holywood Residents' Association

This project is a recycling initiative

for the Holywood community.

Using eye catching receptacles local adults and children will have

the opportunity to contribute in

a novel way to recycling plastic

Well labelled bins for cigarette

butts and for chewing gum will

be placed at selected locations

in Holywood which have been

The contents will be sent to the

Prominently placed Ballot Bins will

invite smokers to make a choice

which may appeal to some. The

project will be launched through a

identified through research.

specialist recycling partners

(Terracycle and Gumdrop).

and as a result, to reduce littering.

Enagh Youth Forum, Derry and Strabane District Council

Our Live Here, Love Here project took place between Monday 22nd of July and Saturday 27th of July. The week long programme of events formed the 'Strathfoyle One Big Clean Up Week' 2019. The project engaged 47 young people aged 14-17 throughout the week. 71 people including young children and families participated in the 'Window Box Challenge' event held at Strathfoyle Library which was a great success. One notable highlight of the project was the extent of improved partnership working that occurred between local youth and community groups working together with the Northern Ireland Grounds Maintenance Team and Derry City & Strabane Council Street Cleansing Team, both of whom were on the ground doing their bit throughout the week. The message was that it is everyone's responsibility to help keep Strathfoyle Safe, Clean & tidy! A total of five community clean ups were held and included litter picks, graffiti removal and a summer clean-up of Enagh Lough. This project has helped promote environmental awareness amongst young people and their families and we would like to thank the Live Here Love Here team for their continued support!



Local businesses tackling pointless plastic

As part of our Tackling Plastic NI project we've been reaching out to local business communities across Northern Ireland to tackle pointless plastics. We've created a toolkit that businesses can use to help them get started in reducing their own pointless plastic, either customer facing, internally, or both. Businesses can easily adapt templates and use materials to suit their business – demonstrating their commitment to helping the environment.

The toolkit is a handy guide with 5 easy steps and it's self -assessed. Since we issued the Litter Composition Report in March 2020, we've had an influx of local businesses seeking advice on changes they can make to their daily business routines to join the effort to tackle plastic. In response, we've created this toolkit that gives businesses the tools they need to understand how they can make changes for the better as a business and as a member of our community.

The toolkit help businesses audit their current situation and highlight where change is needed – it then rewards their efforts with official certificates and stickers to promote to customers and other businesses that they are joining this fight and evoking change. Businesses will also be added to our new interactive app, showcasing 'local businesses doing good' throughout NI.

In Northern Ireland alone, nearly 80% of litter found on our beaches contains plastic. We all need to play our part – be part of the solution and tackle plastic in your workplace.





Want to join this environmental initiative? To find out more please contact:

Claire Hudson SINGLE USE PLASTIC COORDINATOR

T 028 9073 6920

www.keepnorthernirelandbeautiful.org

Policy developments

With Stormont back in action it is time for new legislation to be developed and enacted to help move towards a cleaner country. It is time for a new decade and new approach to protecting our environment.

Northern Ireland:

New-decade-new-approach

Stormont's first policy since returning aims to find a coordinated and strategic approach to the challenge of climate change. As part of the executive plan, a plan will be created to eliminate plastic pollution.

 Environment Strategy for Northern Ireland

DAERA's Environment Strategy acknowledges the issues of litter and dog fouling as both an aesthetic issue but also as a health issue. Although there is currently no litter strategy there is currently a Marine Litter Strategy. This is an opportunity for a joined up approach with policies as 80% of marine litter on the beaches comes from land based sources.

Deposit Return Scheme

Initial consultation has occurred for a Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) to be introduced in Northern. Currently a second consultation is being considered in 2020, following this the DRS would be introduced in 2023. The DRS would mean that consumers pay an up-front deposit for an item such as a sealed drink at purchase and is redeemed on return of the empty drinks container.

United Kingdom:

25 year environment plan

Two major outcomes of this are to work towards a target of eliminating avoidable plastic waste by the end of 2042. The second is to significantly reduce and where possible prevent all kinds of marine plastic pollution.

UK Marine Strategy

The goal of this strategy is to ensure that the U.K. as a whole work towards creating and maintaining "Good Environmental Status" for our seas.

Packaging waste: changing the UK producer responsibility system for packaging waste

DAERA intend to progress with this policy proposal and introduce an extended producer responsibility scheme for packaging in 2023. The policy will place the responsibility on producers for the cost of managing their products once they reach the end of their life and gives producers an incentive to design their products to make it easier for them to be re-used or dismantled and recycled at the end of their life.

 Single Use Plastic: banning the distribution and/or sale of plastic straws, stirrers and plastic-stemmed cotton buds in England

Ban on the above items will come into force in England in October 2020.

Recommendations

These are some of the recommendations that Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful believe are necessary to meaningfully reduce littering, dog fouling and related environmental damage to Northern Ireland.

1. Litter legislation

There is a need for a joined-up approach in the creation of a litter strategy to help tackle the causes of litter in Northern Ireland. This would need to include education, enforcement, public engagement, working closely together and sharing scare resources.

- 2. Compliance with the EU Plastics Directive and Waste Directive changes There is a need to incorporate all actions on litter included in the EU Plastics Directive and Waste Directive. This includes the creation of a circular economy around recycled items.
- 2. Courts must produce coherent guidelines for the treatment of litterers This needs to include which fines and penalties can be issued during court proceedings. This is to ensure that fair and reasonable penalties are applied consistently to avoid anyone from finding ways around the system to receive a smaller cost than the original fixed penalty notice.
- Support campaigns which are directed at the reduction of common and harmful litter

More work needs to be invested in supporting those that are creating and running campaigns that address the issue of litter and offer viable eco-friendly solutions and best practices. 5. Joined-up approach for councils on the enforcement of litter issues

There needs to be a harmonisation across all councils to ensure that best practices on enforcement of litter and dog fouling is followed. These practices need to be made clear for all to follow and rule out any ambiguity for the public regarding the treatment of offenders.

6. Prioritising behaviour change above additional disposal facilities

Behaviour change through education needs to be a priority for tackling the issues of dog fouling and litter. The results from this report have shown that the presence of extra bins and disposal facilities do not affect the amount of litter counted along a transect. With this in mind more work needs to be put in to rewarding people for better behavioural changes around litter.

7. Funding behavioural change

As great as it is for funding to be invested in cleaning up litter this is not the solution as it is only funding us to stand still. This is an opportunity for funding to be reallocated into projects and campaigns which work towards changing the behaviour of individuals as well as corporations. 79

 Act to make your own council single use plastic free by 2023 and ensure alignment with requirements in legislation

Encourage supply chains and the high street to adopt these policies, Invest resources in developing a circular economy to reduce waste and save resources. Eliminate materials identified in the policy from all their properties and all events taking place on their land.

9. Clear obstructions from streets to improve cleansing outcomes

In 2019 approximately half of all transects surveyed were fully obstructed preventing mechanical sweeping from occurring. Encouraging more people to use parking that is off street and manage any on street parking to maximise value.

10. Be active in tackling pollution: Live Here Love Here

Tackling litter pollution at the source is the best solution and this can be as easy as education and encouraging everyone to use less, recycle more and be more conscious about their waste.





To discuss how we can work together to tackle littering please contact:

Conor Bush LOCAL ENVIRONMENT QUALITY OFFICER

conor.bush@keepnorthernirelandbeautiful.org

T 028 9073 6920

www.keepnorthernirelandbeautiful.org





Email enquiries@keepnorthernirelandbeautiful.org Registered Address Bridge House, 2 Paulett Avenue, Belfast BT5 4HD Registered Charity No XR36767 NI Charity No NIC 102973 Company No NI38848 VAT Reg No 860 2036 57

Report to:	Neighbourhood Services (NS) Committee
Date of Meeting:	19 August 2020
Subject:	Recovery of the Bulky Collection Service
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Johnny McBride, Assistant Director: Waste Management (Acting)
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Peter Whyte, Head of Refuse & Cleansing

1.0	r Decision For Noting Only X
1.0	Purpose & Background
1.1	The purpose of this report is update the Committee on the recovery of the Council's bulky collection service. Members will be aware this service was suspended in March 2020 due to the current COVID-19 pandemic.
2.0	Key issues
	Recovery
2.1	Members are asked to note the service recommenced on Monday, 10 August 2020, however due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, several restrictions have been placed on the service. This limited service also includes the introduction of several additional infection control measures to ensure the safety of the public and Council staff.
	Restrictions
2.2	Currently, the Council is able to collect:
	 Large Electrical Appliances - fridges/freezers/washing machines/white goods;
	ii. Wooden Items – wardrobes/chest of drawers/tables/chairs; and
	lii. Bicycles.
	However, and again due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, it is unable to collect:
	iv. Sofas and Arm chairs;
	v. Mattresses and Beds; and
	vi. Soft furnishings and Carpets
2.3	Both permissible and restricted items will be kept under constant review, in-line with COVID-19
	risks and the on-going availability of staffing resources. However, Members are asked to furthe
	note that residents can still dispose of these items via the Council's Household Recycling
	Centres (HRCs).
	Service Requirements, Collection Days & Fees
2,4	To support the recovery of the service, several additional infection control measures have
	been introduced to ensure the safety of the public and Council staff. These include: (1) a
	requirement for items to be placed outside for a minimum of 72 hours before collection; (2)
	the disinfectant spraying of the items by Council staff prior to removal; and (3) a requirement
	for householders to notify the Council, prior to the scheduled collection date, should any
	member of their household be self-isolating.

2.5	The collection days are recovered to pre-COVID-19 arrangements whereby in Newry a se will be provided on a Tuesday to Thursday, and in Down a service will be provided on a Wednesday and Thursday.	ervice
2.6	A charge of ± 10.50 will continue to be payable, in advance for each bulky waste collection with a maximum of five items continuing to be permitted per collection.	in,
3.0	Recommendations	
3.1	Members are asked to note the content of the report.	
4.0	Resource implications	
4.1	The recovery of this service also recovers an income stream for the Council. This income used mitigate any additional costs that may be incurred, as part of the same recovery of service, and which are attached to potential additional staffing or vehicle resources.	
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete relevant sections)	the
5.1	General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specified equality and good relations outcomes	fic
	It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations	\boxtimes
5.2	Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice a or sensitive or contentious decision	and /
	Yes 🔲 No 🖾	
	The second s	
	If yes, please complete the following:	
	The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened	
	The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality	
5.3	The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to	
5.3	The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation	
5.3	The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <i>Proposal initiating consultation</i> Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate	

÷	Rationale:	
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)	-
6.1	Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service	
	Yes 🔲 No 🖾	
	If yes, please complete the following:	
	Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed	
7.0	Appendices	
	None	
8,0	Background Documents	
-	None	

Report to:	Neighbourhood Services Committee
ate of Meeting:	19 th August 2020
iubject:	DAERA - Consultation
leporting Officer Including Job Title):	Roland Moore, Director: Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Joe Parkes, Assistant Director: Waste Management

For d	ecision For noting only X
1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	The Department of Agriculture, Environment & Rural Affairs (DAERA) is seeking views on a public discussion document on the "Future Recycling and Separation of Waste of a Household Nature in Northern Ireland" (Appendix 1 <i>Abridged Version</i>). The document sets out the current position of recycling in Northern Ireland, and the current and new regulatory, climate change and market drivers that will influence policy in the future. It seeks views on a range of proposals, which will help shape the landscape of waste management in Northern Ireland. It should be read in conjunction with the WRAP report on Municipal Recycling Potential in Northern Ireland 2020.
	This discussion document will not introduce any new policies, but rather seek views on steps towards improving the quality and quantity of household and non-household recyclates in Northern Ireland and cut landfill rates whilst having minimal impact on businesses and householders. It seeks views on a series of proposals for what our recycling environment could look like in the future and makes suggestions on possible ways to improve the quality and quantity of municipal waste recycled in Northern Ireland.
	DAERA has requested replies to the discussion document are returned by early October.
2.0	Key issues
2.1	Management of waste as part of the Circular Economy Package. This includes requirements around recycling and the separate collection of waste.
2.2	Businesses who produce mixed waste and waste which is similar in nature and composition to waste from households will be required to present their waste for recycling. This will have an impact on service delivery as significantly more business recycling is required.
2.3	Improve recycling from households in Northern Ireland. Key recycling targets are still to be met: 55% by 2025; 60% by 2030; 65% by 2035. Landfill rates to 10% by 2035
2.4	The key proposals that are being consulted on are; weekly food waste collection,

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1.1	segregation of dry recyclates at kerbside (kerbside sort),
	restrictions on capacity for residual waste (black bin)
	statutory legislation for how recycling services are operated.
2.5	Should any of the proposals be implemented, then this will have significant financial and operational implications. The Department will provide a certain amount of capital funding, however this will require bidding and still the likelihood of increased capital spend by the Council.
2.6	As part of the consultation, forty-nine questions are being asked. Waste Mgt will prepare draft response for September NS committee following a serious of NI workshops taking place towards the end of August.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	The NS Committee is asked to note the report. Waste Management will start collating a reply on behalf of Council and prepare draft for NS committee in September.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	It is not envisaged any additional resources will be required as part of replying to the DAERA Consultation.
4.2	The outcome of the DAERA Consultation, if going by the present steer, could have a major impact on resource requirements. The Council could find itself having to make major changes to its waste/recycling collection service.
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes
	It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations
5.2	Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision.
	Not at present, but likely at a later date.
	Yes No
	If yes, please complete the following:
	The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened

Back to Agenda

1	The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation	
5.3	Proposal initiating consultation	
	Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves	
	Consultation period will be 12 weeks	
	Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided)	
	Rationale:	
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)	
6.1	Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service Yes No X	
	If yes, please complete the following:	
	Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed	
7.0	Appendices (7.1 Can also be found on the link below)	_
7.1	Future Recycling and Separate Collection of Waste of a Household Nature in Northern Ireland. Public Discussion Document (Abridged Version))
8.0	Background Documents https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/consultations/discussion-future-recycling-and-separate- collection-waste-household-nature-northern-ireland	
8.1	Municipal Recycling Potential in Northern Ireland 2020 (WRAP Report)	
8.2	Future Recycling and Separate Collection of Waste of a Household Nature in Northern	11

Report to:	Neighbourhood Services (NS) Committee
Date of Meeting:	17 June 2020
Subject:	HRCs Re-opening Plan Update
Reporting Officer:	Johnny McBride, Assistant Director: Waste Management (Acting)
Contact Officer:	Liam Dinsmore, Head of Waste Processing & Enforcement

For	Decision X For Noting Only
1.0	Purpose & Background
1.1	The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the Committee on the re-opening of the Council's HRCs, in accordance with the relaxation of social distancing measures by the NI Executive and resource availability.
2.0	Key Issues
	Re-opening of the HRCs
2.1	Members will be aware that that eight (8) of the Council's ten (10) HRCs re-opened on the 18 May 2020 in accordance with a phased recovery of the service.
2.2	This has proved successful and Members are now asked to note that future changes are now being implemented in accordance with the original plan presented to the Party Representatives' Forum. Further information on the phased implementation is provided at Appendix I .
2.3	Members are asked to note that the final step in the plan would be a move back to normal operations (noting there is currently a review of HRC operations underway). Officers are continuing to develop this review and any move to normal operations will be based on the new operating model, to be agreed with the Committee at a future date.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	Members are asked to: • Note the update in relation to the phased re-opening of the Council's Household Recycling Centres (HRCs)
4.0	Resource Implications
4.1	There are no additional resource implications contained within this report as the resourcing of the re-opening plan is currently being met from within Directorate resources.
5.0	Equality & Good Relations Implications
5.1	There are no equality and good relations arising from this specific report.
6.0	Rural Proofing Implications
6.1	There are no rural proofing implications arising from this specific report.

7.0	Appen	ndices
	•	Appendix I – phased re-opening of the HRCs

Appendix I

Phase	Level of Service	Types & Quantities of Waste Material Accepted
Phase One	As presented to the Party Representatives' Forum on the 22 April 2020.	
1a	Continue to operate the current 7 sites on Monday – Thursday (10.00am – 4.00pm) & Crossmaglen HRC from Tuesday – Thursday (also 10.00am – 4.00pm). Increase the types & quantities of wastes accepted Continue with the 3-person operation in accordance with current risk assessment & social distancing measures.	 Waste materials accepted & vehicle restrictions in Phase 1 plus: Wood / Metal waste (maximum of 6 bags) Empty paint tins 2 x 5 litres of waste paint (domestic only) 2 x 5 litres of waste oil Small WEEE items Larger items of re-use (i.e. bicycles) Home furnishings (wood) provided they are broken down for disposal to wood waste container Mattresses (maximum two per week per property) Large WEEE items (maximum two items)
Phase Two	Increase the number of days across the 7 sites to 5-days Monday to Friday (10.00am – 4.00pm). Crossmaglen to continue Tuesday to Thursday. Increase the types & quantities of wastes accepted Continue with the 3-person operation.	Continue as above plus: Home furnishings (i.e. beds, three-piece suites) Quantities increased to a maximum of 8 bags (previous materials) Larger items of wood Larger items of scrap metal
2a	As per above + Saturday opening for 4 of the current sites (Camlough, Kilkeel, Downpatrick & Castlewellan)	Continue as above

	Opening hours Monday – Friday (10.00am – 4.00pm) & Saturday (8.00am – 12.00pm) 2-person operation (based on the completion of a new risk assessment).	
2b	As per above + Saturday opening for 7 of the current sites (8.00am – 12.00pm), excluding Crossmaglen HRC.	Continue as above
Phase Three	Re-opening of Hilltown & Newtownhamilton HRCs. To be reviewed upon the full implementation of the Phase One & Two recovery plan. May be subject to resource availability.	Continue as above + acceptance of commercial waste at three designated sites

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Report to:	Neighbourhood Services (NS) Committee
Date of Meeting:	19 August 2020
Subject:	Household Recycling Centres (HRCs) Re-opening Plan Update
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Johnny McBride, Assistant Director: Waste Management (Acting)
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Liam Dinsmore, Head of Waste Processing & Enforcement

For Decision For Noting Only X 1.0 Purpose & Background		
	Fulpose & Background	
1.1	The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the Committee on the re-opening of the Council's Household Recycling Centres (HRCs), in accordance with the relaxation of social distancing measures by the NI Executive and resource availability. A previous update on the implementation of this plan was considered by the Committee at its meeting on the 17 June 2020 (Appendix I).	
2.0	Key issues	
2.1	Members will be aware that eight (8) of the Council's ten (10) HRCs have re-opened since the 18 May 2020 in accordance with a phased recovery of the service.	
2.2	The current status of this plan is at Phase Two (effective from the 22 June 2020), whereby seven (7) of the sites are currently open on a 5-day basis (Monday to Friday) from 10.00am – 4.00pm, with the Crossmaglen site also open on a 3-day basis (Tuesday to Thursday) based on the same public opening hours. This current phase also saw increases in the types, as well as the quantities of waste material accepted, and is dependent upon a three-person staffing operation due to the current COVID-19 infection risks.	
	Next Phase	
2,3	 Members are asked to note that from the 24 August 2020, the next phase of the re-opening plan will be implemented. This is slight change to that previously presented to the Committee and now involves the following service changes: Continuing to operate the Newry, Kilkeel, Camlough, Warrenpoint, Downpatrick, Castlewellan & Ballynahinch sites on a 5-day basis (Monday – Friday) from 10.00am – 4.00pm, based on the continuation of a three-person staffing model; Changing the public opening days of the Crossmaglen site, effective from Monday, 24 August 2020, from a Tuesday-Thursday to a Monday-Wednesday arrangement in order to enable a dual-staffing operation to be implemented. This will also enable the reopening of the Newtownhamilton site; The re-opening of the Newtownhamilton site on an initial 2-days per week basis (Thursday-Friday), effective from the 27 August 2020; and The closing of the Warrenpoint, Crossmaglen and Newtownhamilton sites for 30 minutes during the day (from 12.30pm-1.00pm with last permitted entry at 12.15pm), again to enable a dual-staffing operation. 	

2.4	Members are asked to further note that Officials continue to keep under constant review plans to recover the next phase of the re-opening plan, as well as the ultimate recovery of the service. Successfully achieving this will be dependent upon the continual mitigation of COVID- 19 related risks, the continuing availability of staffing resources, as well as successful consultation with Trade Union representatives. This will include extending opening hours, including Saturday opening, as well as the re-opening of the Hilltown site.	
2.5	Elected Members, as well as the general public, will be kept informed of future service changes once the details of the next phase of the service recovery plan are confirmed. External communications will also be supported via the use of the Council's social media channels and website.	
3.0	Recommendations	
3,1	Members are asked to: Note the update in relation to the next phase of the re-opening of the Council's Household Recycling Centres (HRCs) 	
4.0	Resource implications	
4.1	There are no additional resource implications contained within this report as the resourcing of the re-opening plan is currently being met from within Directorate resources.	
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)	
5.1	General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes	
	It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations	
5.2	Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision	
	Yes 🔲 No 🖾	
	If yes, please complete the following:	
	If yes, please complete the following: The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened	

5.3	Proposal initiating consultation	
	Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves	
	Consultation period will be 12 weeks	
	Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided)	
	Rationale:	
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)	
6.1	Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service Yes No 🛛	
	If yes, please complete the following:	
	Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed	
7.0	Appendices	
-	Appendix I – previous update to the NS Committee, 17 June 2020	
8.0	Background Documents	
1	None	

arc21 June 2020 - JC051

MEMBERS' MONTHLY BULLETIN

The purpose of this Bulletin is to provide Members with an executive summary of the various items which are to be considered by the Joint Committee in June.

The titles highlighted in blue relate to the various items.

Item 1 - Notes of Chair and Acting CEX Briefing 050 held on 29 May 2020

For approval

The Joint Committee meeting No 050 that was scheduled to be held on Thursday 28 May was cancelled due to the coronavirus emergency. The papers were circulated as is normal practice however and Members were asked to provide any comments, concerns or queries on any of the reports directly to the Chair, Alderman Robert Gibson, by email or telephone by 12 noon on Thursday 28 May.

Under the arc21 Scheme of Delegation, put in place during the current emergency to ensure business continuity, the Chair and the Acting Chief Executive discussed the papers on Friday 29 May.

The Joint Committee's approval is sought for the notes and approvals of this briefing.

COMMERCIALLY CONFIDENTIAL - ITEMS 2-3

Item 2 - Notes of Chair and Acting CEX Briefing 050 held on 29 May 2020 'in confidence'

For approval

The Joint Committee's approval is sought for the notes and approvals of this briefing held 'in confidence'.

Item 3 - Contract Extensions

For approval

The report recommends extensions to the Municipal Waste Disposal Contracts Lots 1 and 2 and the WEEE and Battery Services in line with provisions contained within existing contracts.

arc21 JUNE 2020 - JC051

It is recommended that through the use of delegated powers, the Acting Chief Executive, following discussion with the Chair of the arc21 Joint Committee, extends:

(a) The Municipal Waste Disposal Contracts - Lots 1 and 2 until 31 July 2020;

and

(b) The WEEE and Battery Services Contracts for the collection and processing of the following items, until 7 August 2021:

- Large Household Appliances (Category 1) other than cooking appliances;
- Cooling Appliances in Category 1;
- Gas Discharge Lamps;
- All other WEEE; and
- Batteries.

Item 4 - Contracts and Operations Briefing Report

For noting

The report provides an update to the Joint Committee on operational issues and contract tonnages.

The Joint Committee is asked to note the report.

Item 5 - Council Covid-19 Financial Losses

For noting

Local Government is facing an unprecedented financial crisis because of the impact of the Covid-19 emergency and will run out of cash in a number of months without the support from the Executive.

The Chief Executive's Group (SOLACE), supported by the Finance Officers Group (ALGFO), have been pressing Government for financial assistance to provide the substantial level of support needed by Councils.

As Members will be aware, the Executive announced two packages of funding support from the Departments responsible for local government, DfC and DAERA. Estimates of the losses being incurred by councils for the initial March to June period have been provided to both DfC and DAERA for funding support.

The Executive awarded £20.3M to support councils primarily with lost income and also £3.8M to support councils specifically with the management of waste. The DAERA Minister is also proposing to top up the waste management funding support by 900K, but this has not yet been officially announced.

arc21 Joint committee June 2020 – JC051

In addition, councils have been able to access the furlough scheme and the estimated sums recoverable through that support mechanism, directly from HMRC, is around £16M.

Finance Officers continue to engage with both DfC and DAERA, to ensure that the financial crisis impacting on local government is kept updated as it unfolds and to maximise the level of funding assistance required to support the long term sustainability of council services.

Engagement with Departments, following the recent welcome funding support packages awarded, continues and the focus is now on the estimated losses for the next period – July to September – which will be presented to DfC and DAERA for consideration for further support.

Other potential sources of funding support for councils are also being discussed with DfC.

The Joint Committee is asked to note the report.

Item 6 - Review of the Waste Management Plan

For noting

Verbal discussion between the Acting Chief Executive and the Chair about the review of the Waste Management Plan for noting.

Item 7 - Benchmarking Review

For noting

Members are provided with a copy of a benchmarking report produced to assist arc21 with the implementation of the new four year Corporate Plan. The next stage involves implementation: the operational activities required to achieve the Corporate Strategic Objectives (CSOs), managing the Corporate Risks and measuring performance using relevant Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). This report focuses on the KPIs and the underlying financial operations and performance of the organisation.

The aim of the benchmarking review was to provide the Joint Committee with assurances in terms of performance, identifying good practice and for opportunities to improve our services to partner councils and others, particularly as we embark on delivery of the Corporate Plan over the next four years – to March 2024.

The benchmarking review has now been completed and a copy of the benchmarking report is appended to this report (see Appendix B). In brief, the report demonstrates that arc21 compares favourably with these waste management groups, and the specific KPIs we have adopted are also being used across these organisations. These will continue to be applied to measure our performance going forward.

arc21 Joint committee June 2020 – JC051

Going forward it is our intention to measure and report our performance so that we can identify, and take advantage of, good industry practice to improve our services to partner councils.

The benchmarking exercise was a very useful one and, as recommended, consideration will now be given to the establishment of an industry wide benchmarking club to ensure that over the next four years there is the opportunity to continue looking for ways to improve our services.

The Joint Committee is asked to note the report.

Item 8 - Corporate Plan 2020-2024

For approval

The draft Corporate Plan for the four year period from April 2020 to March 2024 was presented to the Joint Committee in March.

The Joint Committee approved the draft Corporate Plan and then arc21 progressed the document to the final design stage, which has just been concluded.

In the meantime, with the outbreak of the Covid-19 virus, and the consequent major disruption to waste management services, arc21 decided that it was prudent to review the impact on the strategic plans for the services provided by the organisation.

That review has taken place and the Corporate Plan has been updated to ensure that the implications of the Covid-19 pandemic on the Corporate Strategic Objectives has been taken into account.

The Joint Committee is asked to approve the updated Corporate Plan.

Item 9 - arc21 Steering Group Meeting 16 June 2020 - Notes from Virtual Meeting

For noting

The Joint Committee is updated on the monthly Steering Group meeting which was held with Council Officers on Tuesday 16 June 2020.

The Joint Committee is asked to note the report.

Item 10 - Next reports by 24 July 2020

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arc21 JOINT COMMITTEE 30 July 2020

MEMBERS' MONTHLY BULLETIN

The purpose of this Bulletin is to provide Members with an executive summary of the various agenda items which will be considered by the Joint Committee at its forthcoming meeting.

The titles highlighted in blue relate to the various agenda items.

Item 1 - Conflicts of Interest

The Joint Committee are reminded of their personal responsibilities and asked to declare any conflicts of interest that might arise during the meeting.

Item 2 - Apologies

Item 3 - Governance Arrangements Update

For approval

Due to the coronavirus emergency, the Joint Committee meetings have not been held since February 2020.

Each month, the reports for the meetings scheduled from March to date have continued to be issued as a briefing note to Members.

To ensure the continuity of business during the Covid-19 emergency and in the absence of the Joint Committee being able to meet, the arc21 Scheme of Delegation was enacted which provided the Acting Chief Executive with authority to make decisions.

Arrangements were made for the Acting Chief Executive to liaise with the Chair (or Vice Chair) in regards to decision-making from March, and a list of the decisions taken to date under this arrangement are presented to the Joint Committee for noting.

With the Joint Committee now able to resume its meetings, it is now deemed no longer necessary for the Acting Chief Executive to apply the Scheme of Delegation for decision-making purposes.

It is recommended therefore that the regular decision-making arrangements be reinstated for the Joint Committee with effect from 30 July 2020.

The Joint Committee is asked to approve the recommendation.

arc21 JOINT COMMITTEE 30 July 2020

Item 4 - Minutes of Joint Committee Meeting 047 held on 27 February 2020

For approval

The Joint Committee's approval is sought for the minutes of the meeting JC047 held on 27 February 2020.

Item 5 - Matters Arising

Item 6 - Notes of Joint Committee Briefing 04 held in June 2020

For noting

The Joint Committee's approval is sought for the notes of Briefing 04 held in June 2020.

'IN COMMITTEE' ITEMS - COMMERCIALLY CONFIDENTIAL

Item 7 - Minutes of Joint Committee Meeting 047 held on 27 February 2020 'in committee'

For approval

The Joint Committee's approval is sought for the minutes of the meeting JC047 held on 27 February 2020 'in committee'.

Item 8 - Matters Arising

Item 9 - Notes of Joint Committee Briefing 04 held in confidence in June 2020

For noting

The Joint Committee's approval is sought for the notes of Briefing 04 held in confidence in June 2020.

Item 10 - Residual Waste Treatment Project

For noting

Planning Application - The planning application continues to be considered by officials within the Department for Infrastructure. A statutory consultee response is still outstanding from DAERA.

arc21 JOINT COMMITTEE 30 July 2020

Community Liaison – Over the past couple of months, the Acting Chief Executive has been engaging with MLA Members from the Executive AERA and Infrastructure Committees, and has been in correspondence with several Ministers.

Studies have also been commissioned by the Consortium to increase information about the economic case for the Project, along with how the process of awarding planning permission compares with that elsewhere in the British Isles. The results from these papers has been publicised and used to engage with the media.

In response to representations made by the objector group, Noarc21, to Members in arc21 councils in the form of queries which were subsequently forward on to arc21, we have prepared a response which is being reviewed by officers prior to finalisation and release to each of the councils for issue to their Members. We have also been contextualising last year's Noarc21 presentation and site visits. It is planned that, following engagement with councils' officers, this will be presented to the Joint Committee August or September meeting for consideration.

Decarbonisation Opportunities - Using the Project's outputs, a scheme to capture additional decarbonisation opportunities has been developed and this is now featuring in the communications associated with the Project.

Covid-19 – the vulnerability of Northern Ireland, in the absence of its own regional scale waste treatment infrastructure, risks being compromised presently and in future as a result of the ongoing pandemic.

The Joint Committee is asked to acknowledge the conceptual scheme to capture additional decarbonisation and climate change mitigation opportunities for arc21 and note the report.

Item 11 - Commercially Sensitive Procurement and Contract Issues

For approval

The contract for Procurement and Contract Legal Services provides ad hoc support and advice on legal issues that arise from time to time in relation to procurement and contract law. The contract is coming towards the end of its initial term of two years and an extension of 2 years is recommended.

The Joint Committee is asked to approve the recommendation.

arc21 JOINT COMMITTEE 30 July 2020

OUT OF COMMITTEE & RETURN TO MAIN AGENDA

Item 12 - Contracts and Operations Briefing Report

For noting

arc21 continues to manage and monitor the impact of COVID-19 on its contracts. Operationally the contracts continue to perform effectively with some ongoing issues regarding processing and market availability in relation to the Bring Bank Textile contract. The new contracts for Municipal Waste Disposal have been approved and steps taken to commence those contracts from 1 August 2020.

The Joint Committee is asked to note the report.

Item 13 - Council Covid-19 Waste Management Financial Losses

For noting

Meetings continue weekly with DAERA to ensure that the Department is kept up to date with the issues impacting local government in terms of waste management from a financial point of view. The Chair of the Association of Local Government Finance Officers (ALGFO), Mr A Dallas, and Mr G Craig (arc21) attend these meetings on behalf of the councils.

A claim for £5.7m has been submitted to DAERA in respect of the estimated losses incurred by the 11 Councils in the period from mid-March (when the outbreak of Covid-19 forced councils to implement their emergency plans) until June.

The Executive has awarded £3.8M to councils for waste management support and DAERA has provided a further £0.9M making a total funding package of £4.7M available so far, leaving a shortfall of funding of £1M.

DAERA officials await the Minister's approval before the funds can be released to councils.

The initial claiming process for the period to June is now underway with application forms having to be completed by each council, as the first stage of the process, and submitted to DAERA. The next key step will involve DAERA issuing each council with a Letter of Offer (LOO) and claim form to progress with each individual claim.

The estimated losses for the next quarter (Jul-Sept) have also been submitted to the Department - £4.3M. DAERA has been asked to consider providing funding support for the Qtr 2 estimated losses as well as the £1M shortfall in Qtr 1.

Preparations are now underway within the Department to present the case for further financial support of £5.3M to the Minister and, subject to his approval, a bid will be submitted to the Executive for consideration.

arc21 JOINT COMMITTEE 30 July 2020

The emphasise of funding support by the Executive for Qtr 2 will be on economic recovery themes and the submission of the Qtr 2 claim has included a number of specific economic recovery schemes specific to waste management.

The overall total estimates losses incurred by councils on waste management activities from March to September is £10M.

DAERA have put in place a stringent governance regime to deal with council losses which have arisen as a consequence of the Covid-19 emergency, including an Oversight Board, in contrast to the light touch approach adopted by Department for the Communities.

The Joint Committee is asked to note the report.

Item 14 - Audit Committee Meeting 27 July 2020 Report

For noting

The Audit Committee is a sub committee of the Joint Committee. The purpose of the Audit Committee is to provide an independent assurance on the adequacy of arc21's risk management framework and associated control environment. The Audit Committee also oversees arc21's financial reporting process.

The next meeting of the Audit Committee is scheduled to take place on Monday the 27th July 2020 and the issues presented to the Audit Committee for consideration are set out in the Executive Summary attached at Appendix C.

The Joint Committee is asked to note the report.

Item 15 - DAERA Public Discussion Document: Collection of Waste of a Household Nature in Northern Ireland (written report) Tim Walker (for noting) (pages x-x)

For noting

The Department of Agriculture, Environment & Rural Affairs (DAERA) is seeking views on a public discussion document on the "Future Recycling and Separation of Waste of a Household Nature in Northern Ireland". The document sets out the current position of recycling in Northern Ireland, and the current and new regulatory, climate change and market drivers that will influence policy in the future. It seeks views on a range of proposals, which will help shape the landscape of waste management in Northern Ireland.

The Joint Committee is asked to note the report.

Item 16 - AOB

Item 17 - Next Meeting: Thursday 27 August

ITEM 8 Corporate Plan 2020-24

Purpose of Report

To provide Members with an update of the new Corporate Plan taking into account the Covid-19 implications on the Corporate Strategic Objectives set out for the next four years, for approval.

In addition, as the design stage has been completed Members are provided with the final publication of the Corporate Plan.

Executive Summary

The draft Corporate Plan for the four year period from April 2020 to March 2024 was presented to the Joint Committee in March.

The Joint Committee approved the draft Corporate Plan and then arc21 progressed the document to the final design stage, which has just been concluded.

In the meantime, with the outbreak of the Covid-19 virus, and the consequent major disruption to waste management services, arc21 decided that it was prudent to review the impact on the strategic plans for the services provided by the organisation.

That review has taken place and the Corporate Plan has been updated to ensure that the implications of the Covid-19 pandemic on the Corporate Strategic Objectives has been taken into account.

The Joint Committee is asked to approve the updated Corporate Plan.

Report

The draft Corporate Plan for the four year period from April 2020 to March 2024 was presented to the Joint Committee in March.

The Joint Committee approved the draft Corporate Plan and then arc21 progressed the document to the final design stage, which has just been concluded.

In the meantime, with the outbreak of the Covid-19 virus, and the consequent major disruption to waste management services, arc21 decided that it was prudent to review the impact on the strategic plans for the services provided by the organisation. This resulted in a greater focus on not just environmental protection and compliance but also the parallel responsibility of articulating more clearly arc21's duties to ensure that we commit to managing the councils' wastes and resources in a manner which ensures that public health is not compromised.

That review has taken place and the Corporate Plan has been updated to ensure that the implications of the Covid-19 pandemic on the Corporate Strategic Objectives (CSOs) has been taken into account.

The updated Corporate Plan is now provided to the Joint Committee for approval (see Appendix F).

Action to be Taken

The Joint Committee is asked to approve the updated Corporate Plan.

Officer to Contact

Tim Walker Acting Chief Executive Email: tim.walker@arc21.org.uk

APPENDIX F

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2020-2024 Corporate Plan



Steps from waste to the circular economy



Nurdles are the raw material for almost all of our plastic products. The industrial term for a 'nurdle' is a raw material plastic pellet. They are tiny disc- or lentil-shaped pellets, weighing a fraction of a gram and measuring 5mm or less. With over 300 million tonnes of plastic being created every year globally, countless trillions of pellets are produced and transported around the world, then melted down to make anything from plastic bottles to wheelie bins.

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Balance Scorecard Strategic Objectives Making it Happen

The direction of travel is clear...

Foreword



The coronavirus pandemic has reminded us all that the resilience of our waste infrastructure is indispensable to the protection of public health and the environment, and the provision of recycled materials for essential businesses such as food packaging. We are all indebted to those key workers in the waste sector who have kept these essential services going under the most difficult of circumstances.

The pandemic has also reinforced the pressing need to get on with the job of reshaping our waste sector, something which the climate crisis had already laid bare. Radical steps must be taken if we are to keep temperature increases below 1.5C. The complex and multi-faceted challenge we face will require urgent action and collaborative leadership from a number of stakeholders. Government's ambitious target to bring greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050¹ will require immediate action. Major transformative change will be required. This will lead to a revolution in how we improve our resource efficiency, develop a circular economy, generate energy and continue to safeguard public health.

Amid increasing interest and concerns from ever-growing numbers of the public, it is inherent on us to act responsibly and manage the consequences of previous decisions. In this regard, brave decisions must be taken to build new infrastructure in both the short and longterm, to reuse and recover as many resources as possible and prevent illegal activities, such as another Mobuoy dump, happening again.

The changes must take place in tandem with major innovations in waste management. We are increasingly involved in a supply chain that seeks to realise the most value it can from the resources we consume. Change in behaviour is required across society.

¹ Last year (2019), the UK Government was the first major economy to legislate for net zero by 2050 (see www.theccc.org, uk/publication/net-zerothe-uks-contribution-tostopping-global-warming/) It is incumbent on us to support, promote and showcase what's needed to reduce, reuse, recycle and recover as much resource as possible. The outcome is that this can and will deliver economic advantage through employment creation in new industries. Notwithstanding the challenges identified, other regions in Europe have already demonstrated how sustainability can be delivered. With the right policies and commitment, Northern Ireland can close the gap with these regions and join them as an exemplar of what can be achieved. We must look to collaborate with bodies who share the aspiration of arc21 councils to enable meaningful reductions in green-house gas emissions, provide alternatives to fossil derived hydrocarbons and improve the efficiency in the use of energy we all rely on.

arc21 has been at the forefront of waste planning and infrastructure development in Northern Ireland. As an organisation, we will explore ways to encourage the range of materials that can be recycled, in line with our commitment to the Circular Economy Package and the need to drastically reduce the amount of waste going to landfill and will align the utilisation of any assets we create to achieve this.

As Chair of arc21. I would like to take this opportunity to recognise the dedication the previous Chief Executives. John Quinn and Ricky Burnett. gave in pursuing this agenda. I would also like to recognise the hard work and commitment from the small team of staff who have worked tirelessly to procure many new contracts and ensure they deliver for the councils in the arc21 partnership.

The climate crisis and coronavirus pandemic have moved centre-stage. For our new Acting Chief Executive – Tim Walker – there is now a greater sense of urgency and the challenges have rarely been clearer. It's time to recognise that the desire for improved resource efficiency, the circular economy and zero waste, published in so many plans, will only be realised when it is allied to action. To be successful, such approaches need to ensure that our infrastructure is resilient and that residual waste along with all other waste streams is appropriately managed to minimise public health and climate change risks - this is what a sustainable Northern Ireland needs.

Alderman Robert Gibson

Chair of the Joint Committee

Introduction



During the term of the past Corporate Plan, arc21's portfolio of activities provided critical infrastructure and services for one million of Northern Ireland's residents. The services were provided on behalf of our six council partnership at a cost of around £30M per annum. Key successes were diverting around 380,000 tonnes of waste through recycling contracts during this time (the previous Corporate Plan 2018-2020), saving the six councils in the region of £16m compared to landfill. Fifteen major contracts were delivered with an estimated value of £110m and the long-term composting contract until 2029 was also finalised.

We also said farewell to two extremely professional Chief Executives and continued to provide reliable services to our partner councils. Echoing the Chair's remarks, I would like to start this foreword by thanking them, the wider arc21 team for their diligence during this period of change, and to set on record my personal thanks and admiration for my colleagues in the waste sector who, as key workers, have worked tirelessly to serve their communities during this pandemic.

Elaborating on the earlier comments made by the Chair, two of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals - 12 (Ensure Sustainable Consumption & Production patterns) and 13 (Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts) map out the precarious position we face. We have now arrived, in 2020, at a situation where the consequences of previous actions are being experienced by everyone ².

It is increasingly apparent that what's needed is a fundamental change in attitude from policymakers, industry and society. We must develop and implement well thought out longer-term strategies that will achieve greater resilience and improve Northern Ireland's sustainable economic prospects.

Bold actions must be taken to curb the rate of current consumption. limit temperature rise and address the real risk attached to both the climate crisis and the coronavirus pandemic. Business-asusual is no longer an option. The risk of inaction will be considerable. Negative consequences for both our health and climate will arise with increasing rapidity if insufficient waste treatment and disposal infrastructure is not built and uncontrolled carbon emissions are not curbed. For Government, managing the coronavirus pandemic and delivering the Paris Agreement commitments will see new facilities being needed to ensure the safe disposal of waste, and the introduction of carbon taxes. As a consequence, beyond what is desirable, new critical infrastructure must be built and, as non-renewable fuel sources will be increasingly costly, difficult choices must be taken. Relying on our existing arrangements will become not only unsustainable, but also increasingly expensive and will not meet the needs of a modern, 21st century economy.

For many years, arc21 has been recognised as being at the forefront of waste and resource management in Northern Ireland. The reputation arc21 has developed also creates a responsibility to keep delivering change. Current events are driving change at an ever-faster pace while the national and international policy and legislative landscape and infrastructural needs lag behind.

We can however use these changes as an opportunity to catalyse the replacement of inefficient technology and infrastructure; support behaviour change; develop a "green" response and scale up our efforts beyond merely disposing of waste to one which makes a valuable contribution to the local circular economy while improving public health and reducing Northern Ireland's carbon impact.

What arc21 is doing is tilting this balance by securing contracts that increasingly maximise the inherent value in the wastes we are managing. whilst, at the same time, providing budget certainty with contracts of a realistic duration, from reliable contractors. We are also acting as a market maker in developing the capacity of the waste and resources sector within Northern Ireland. The benefits of acting proactively will be long-lasting, far reaching and contrasts starkly with the risk and cost of maintaining the status quo.

I would like us to particularly focus on delivering the following outcomes to help tackle the pandemic and climate crisis that translate into:

² For a summary of these actions, see https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgs

addressing unsustainable consumption;

- minimising the amount of waste we send to landfill;
- securing critical infrastructure to maximise the contribution that reuse, recycling and recovery can make in providing quality secondary materials and energy; and
- minimising public health, financial risk, and demonstrating improvements in our carbon footprint.

For greatest impact, we will require new activities and new partnerships to extend our collaboration and achieve more than we can on our own. We will also need to go further to promote new awareness and attitudes beyond the tired dump and dispose mind-sets of the past.

We must look to collaborate with organisations who share arc21 councils aspirations. The infrastructure arc21 develops should be seen as a platform for the Circular Economy, and future decarbonisation initiatives by playing a role in the sustainable green hydrogen economy. We must reach out to a range of Northern Ireland bodies such as Translink and Northern Ireland Water to see what synergies could be delivered to enable meaningful reductions in greenhouse gas emissions to be achieved, providing alternatives to fossil fuels and improving efficiencies in the use of our resources while also producing new sources of energy for us.

Within our Corporate Plan we acknowledge the ongoing work with the council Waste Forum and SIB under the direction of SOLACE, as part of the policy landscape, alongside the Waste Plan.

In terms of household waste, we passed the 50% recycling mark in October 2019 so I believe it is no longer appropriate to talk about "waste" anymore, it is now a resource!

The relationship between green infrastructure, the environment and public health has never been clearer. The challenge before us is stark but recent shifts in attitude give me hope that our organisation can play a leading role in harnessing the momentum for change for the benefit of the people of Northern Ireland, UK and beyond. were diverting around 380,000 tonnes of waste through recycling contracts during this time (the previous Corporate Plan 2018-2020), saving the six councils in the region of £16m compared to landfill.

Mey successes

Tim Walker

Acting Chief Executive

The term of this Corporate Plan - the next four years - will be an exciting time.

The Context for the Corporate Plan

Challenges & Opportunities

This plan has been developed to take a forward-facing and ambitious approach to assist in addressing the coronavirus pandemic and realise the opportunities to get greater value from waste which exist as we enter the next decade. In 2020, we can expect significant change in the local, regional, national and indeed international political, economic and societal spheres. Given this complexity, we recognise the importance of having a clear vision and ambitious objectives for the next four years that add value to our key stakeholders - our partner councils.

In developing the Corporate Plan, we consulted our stakeholders, listened to the challenges they face and their expectations of us in terms of the services they need us to provide. We are all too aware of the difficulties facing our partners and of the need for us to work closely with them to provide efficient, effective and value-formoney services that contribute to the ambitions they have set.

We have also considered how we can develop and refine our own services to offer them to a wider audience – and this will require some fundamental changes.

Cleanest, greenest (country) on earth"

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The Policy Landscape

In addition to the pandemic, major policy changes are taking place in the environmental and economic space, as outlined by the Chair and Chief Executive. The climate crisis has moved up the political agenda and there is now an appreciation of the urgency to act to curtail the impact that we all are having upon the Earth – the steps are likely to be increasingly stark when gauged against the type of steps being used to tackle the coronavirus. These steps are necessary not only to reduce our carbon emissions, but also our consumption patterns.

Referring specifically to waste and resources management, the Acting Chief Executive has already referenced the UN's Sustainable Development Goals 12 and 13. At a granular basis, there will be key challenges for Northern Ireland in terms of managing our residual waste over the next few years within the consented landfill space available here, or through energy-from-waste/ incineration facilities in use elsewhere in Europe. Notwithstanding cost implications, both these options have varying levels of CO2 emissions.

Beyond residual waste, the Prime Minister pledged to have the "cleanest, greenest (country) on earth" through several initiatives including an aim to lead the world in tackling plastic pollution and to end the export of plastic waste to non-OECD countries (Conservative Manifesto, 2019).

An Environment Bill is now being considered by Committee before being re-presented to Parliament. It will set in law new powers for Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), consistency of recycling collections (England), measures to further tackle waste crime and a Deposit Return Scheme (DRS). Additional measures include legal targets on air quality and levies to increase the proportion of recyclable plastics in packaging. The revised Waste Framework Directive (rWFD, 2018) introduces the Circular Economy and a range of material specific measures, as well as new targets to boost domestic recycling to 65% by 2035.

In Northern Ireland. "New Decade New Approach" (2020) – the agreement agreed by the political parties to restore devolved government includes measures to tackle climate change. The Executive plans to introduce legislation and targets for reducing carbon emissions in line with the Paris "Climate Change" Accord. Here, using waste and resources better provides us with an opportunity to contribute positively to the priorities on climate change and "green jobs" likely to be contained within a finalised Programme for Government.

In recent months, Department of Agriculture Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) issued a series of consultations, including "The Environment Strategy" which references the Circular Economy and highlighted that further consultations on EPR and DRS are due later this year. DAERA also produced a light touch Waste Management Plan to ensure Northern Ireland met the requirements of the rWFD. A more substantive review is anticipated shortly as is a review of NI Residual Waste Arisings.³ At the time of writing, as a Waste Forum. the eleven councils are considering how to draft a suitably compliant. one-council waste management plan for the whole of Northern Ireland. arcz1 is assisting in this process through organising planning events which could contribute to this development, offering its services as a contracting authority and we stand ready to provide additional support and services as and when requested.

As highlighted by the Acting Chief Executive in the Introduction, opportunities now exist for arc21 to refocus from managing the treatment and disposal of wastes and the assets it creates on behalf of its partner councils to a wider, more-resource management focused, risk-aware approach in line with meeting public health needs, the Sustainable Development Goals and rWFD. In so doing, there may be scope for arc21 to extend its services and utilisation of any assets it creates to others in the public sector and generate additional revenue streams.

The future relationship between the EU and UK, and between Northern Ireland and Ireland, means there is some uncertainty regarding the future legislative and policy landscape for waste and resources management at this time. This predicates that it is now more important than ever to adopt a flexible Corporate Plan to enable arc21 to be agile and responsive to change.

arc21 is a lean organisation with the ability to provide considerable knowledge and expertise to the partner councils. There is an economy of scale in the current. and potential, services it provides to local government.

The organisation has a positive reputation for sound financial management and governance and has quality management systems in place (ISO 9001) that provide assurances to its stakeholders in terms of probity and accountability.

³ This is likely to highlight that, notwithstanding recent recycling rate success, there will be considerable pressure upon residual waste disposal capacity in Northern Ireland within this upcoming decade. Using prospective growth rates, it is probable that a significant increase in recycling capacity will be needed to meet the CEP targets (65% household waste recycling by 2026) and that there is increasing risk around the disposal of residual waste even with the development of all current proposals.

Currently, arc21 provides five distinct services:

(i) advocacy -

developing a common agenda on behalf of the partner councils on a wide range of waste, resources, procurement and other environmental matters and presenting and promoting these to different audiences and potential external partners as appropriate.

(iii) procurement -

selecting and overseeing a variety of statutory processes to purchase goods and/ or services on behalf of the partner councils. This has frequently involved litigation reflecting a very litigious market place.

(ii) planning & policy -

assisting partner councils to identify compliance issues and determine what facilities are needed, what delivery methods are available and what procurement actions to take and resources to apply to deliver these.

(iv) compliance & contract management -

managing the creation, execution and analysis of contracts to maximise operational and financial performance while reducing risk for the partner councils.

(v) outreach -

providing education, information services and resources to the partner councils to supplement their waste and environmental education programmes.

How does arc21 support its Councils?

CONTRACTS AND PROCUREMENT

arc21 procures and manages contracts on behalf of its Councils to the value of circa £28 million per annum

RECYCLING AND COMPOSTING

Through its contracts arc21 has helped its Councils to reach a sub-regional recycling rate of 50% by handling circa 205,0000 tonnes of material through its contracts for recycling and composting Out of that tonnage over 80% remained in NI contributing to the local circular economy

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SUPPORT AND POLICY

arc21 liaises with local and central government in NI, the waste management sector, NGO's and trade associations and networks with local authorities across the UK

Ŭ.

arc21, on behalf of its Councils, responded to 18 public consultations in the last two years

EDUCATION AND PROMOTION

Over the last year the arc21 education officer visited a variety of schools, youth organisations, summer schemes, and community groups, serving all areas within the arc21 region and delivering in excess of 700 presentations and talks promoting waste minimisation, re use, recycling and composting Corporate Plan 2020 - 2024

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Strategic Overview

As part of the preparation of our Corporate Plan, we have undertaken a robust sectoral analysis of the present and future context and have identified our **strengths/opportunities/aspirations** and **results** which we have captured below.



1. STRENGTHS

- Expertise in procurement and contract management
- Access to performance data
- Economies of Scale
- Networks across the sector
- Strong track record in probity and good governance



2. OPPORTUNITIES

- To support councils in NI with waste management expertise
- To create markets in waste and revenue through acting as an Intermediary for councils with contractors
- To educate for environmental change
- To provide innovative best practice in waste management solutions
- To become an advocate for the sector on policy

SOAR



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3. ASPIRATIONS

- To raise the profile of arc21 and to partner with councils to deliver waste management fit for the 21st century
- To become the waste management partner of choice
- Best practice in waste management solutions resource management



4. RESULTS

- Provide value for money services
- Deliver improvements in environmental performance
- Contributing to councils climate action through the delivery of our services
- An agile and fit for purpose organisation
- Enhanced leadership across the whole organisation

From this exercise, we have redrafted our Vision and Mission to:



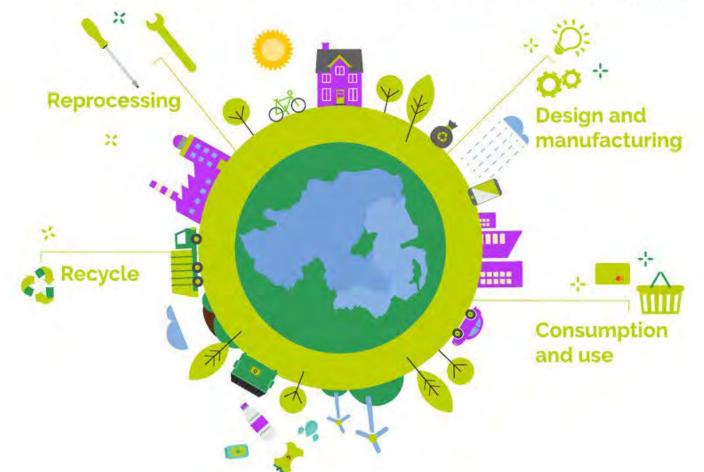
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To be the partner of choice on waste and resources.

Mission

To provide a platform for councils to collaborate on waste/resources. We develop and deliver solutions that meet the partner councils' needs. We actively contribute to creating a circular economy and addressing the climate crisis in Northern Ireland.



Corporate Plan 2020 - 2024

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Our Values

As part of this process, we also refreshed our values.

Collaborative

outcome focused, inclusive, sharing, representative

Authentic

honest, open, genuine, trusted, responsible

Entrepreneurial

resilient, adaptable, collaborative, transformative, future focused, progressive

Customer focused

responsive, approachable, supportive, reliable, valued Corporate Plan 2020 - 2024

The Value Chain

Waste is changing profoundly and, as more than 50% of our waste is now being recycled, we are entering a new paradigm. As this new world evolves more clearly into the Circular Economy, we will increasingly be suppliers to manufacturers. For many years, the language of the value and supply chain has defined relationships and expectations.

For arc21, the diagram below provides an initial overview of how we can refocus our activities to deliver better value for money services to our partner councils and summarises our primary and support activities for the next four years.

The Support Activities of governance and audit, health and safety, legal, communications, finance, human resources and technology, will be strengthened and refocused to meet the changing needs of our stakeholders.

The Primary Activities of advocacy, planning and policy, procurement, compliance and contract management, and outreach, demonstrate how we

can enhance our services – we will add value by reframing arc21's contribution to helping councils address the climate crisis through taking a lead role in implementing the Circular Economy in Northern Ireland.

We will use our market intelligence and data to support councils in performance reporting and in demonstrating value for money in service delivery. The profile of arc21 will be enhanced through supporting capacity building and understanding of emerging legislative changes and how better resource management can be accelerated with key partners at Officer and Councillor level.

The expertise of our team will be used intelligently to support partner councils by providing professional representation, advice and guidance as well as value for money services on resource management. We will develop our policy and advocacy role and use our expertise to advocate on behalf of the sector. Our outreach role will be further developed to provide an enhanced service offer to partner councils, and others.

Stakeholder Value - We will create enhanced value through exploring new opportunities in developing markets and deliver innovative, quality, value for money services for our stakeholders.

Stakeholder Value

Stateholder Lalle

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Value Chain Analysis

Governance and Aud	it Regulatory Framework suppo	rting Decision Making Process Assurance a	nd Risk Management Processes and Pro	ocedures				
Health and Safety	Assurance on health, safety ar	ssurance on health, safety and welfare including programme of Health and Safety Audits of external Contractor sites for additional assurance						
Legal	Commercial and Constitutiona	al Legal Issues						
Communications	Process for effective engagem	nent strategies – internal and external						
Finance		ns and Controls providing financial assuran ment, compliance and Contract Managem						
Human Resources	Human Resources - Experience	ed Staff Resources, Recruitment, Training	and Development to support continuous	s improvement in service deliver				
Contraction of the second second		ed Staff Resources, Recruitment, Training nagement, analytics databases, managem		s improvement in service deliven				
Contraction of the second second				s improvement in service deliver				
Human Resources Technology Advocacy	IT Platform for information ma	nagement, analytics databases, managem	ent systems and communications					
Technology Advocacy Meeting with	IT Platform for information ma Planning & Policy Monitoring the external	nagement, analytics databases, managem Procurement Maintaining a procurement	ent systems and communications Compliance & Contract Management Overseeing the	Outreach Supporting councils				
Technology Advocacy	IT Platform for information ma Planning & Policy Monitoring the external environment and establishing what that	nagement, analytics databases, managem Procurement Maintaining a procurement programme	ent systems and communications Compliance & Contract Management	Outreach Supporting councils Education promotion				
Technology Advocacy Meeting with stakeholders Articulating the councils requirements	IT Platform for information ma Planning & Policy Monitoring the external environment and establishing what that means for councils	nagement, analytics databases, managem Procurement Maintaining a procurement programme Establishing procurement route Developing specifications to	eent systems and communications Compliance & Contract Management Overseeing the implementation of the service delivery plan Monitoring performance	Outreach Supporting councils				
Technology Advocacy Meeting with stakeholders Articulating the councils requirements Showcasing what the	IT Platform for information match Planning & Policy Monitoring the external environment and establishing what that means for councils Supporting the councils on the development and	nagement, analytics databases, management Procurement Maintaining a procurement programme Establishing procurement route Developing specifications to meet council needs	nent systems and communications Compliance & Contract Management Overseeing the implementation of the service delivery plan Monitoring performance (including on site)	Outreach Supporting councils Education promotion and marketing School visits and community outreach				
Technology Advocacy Meeting with stakeholders Articulating the councils requirements	IT Platform for information match Planning & Policy Monitoring the external environment and establishing what that means for councils Supporting the councils	nagement, analytics databases, managem Procurement Maintaining a procurement programme Establishing procurement route Developing specifications to	eent systems and communications Compliance & Contract Management Overseeing the implementation of the service delivery plan Monitoring performance	Outreach Supporting councils Education promotion and marketing School visits and				
Technology Advocacy Meeting with stakeholders Articulating the councils requirements Showcasing what the sector requires Acting as a point of reference	IT Platform for information match Planning & Policy Monitoring the external environment and establishing what that means for councils Supporting the councils on the development and implementation of the Waste Management Plan Formulating and	nagement, analytics databases, management Procurement Maintaining a procurement programme Establishing procurement route Developing specifications to meet council needs Procuring infrastructure, services and supplies Contracting Authority,	eent systems and communications Compliance & Contract Management Overseeing the implementation of the service delivery plan Monitoring performance (including on site) Managing contract variation and extension processes Financial management	Outreach Supporting councils Education promotion and marketing School visits and community outreach Communication				
Technology Advocacy Meeting with stakeholders Articulating the councils requirements Showcasing what the sector requires Acting as a point of	IT Platform for information match Planning & Policy Monitoring the external environment and establishing what that means for councils Supporting the councils on the development and implementation of the Waste Management Plan	nagement, analytics databases, managem Procurement Maintaining a procurement programme Establishing procurement route Developing specifications to meet council needs Procuring infrastructure, services and supplies	nent systems and communications Compliance & Contract Management Overseeing the implementation of the service delivery plan Monitoring performance (including on site) Managing contract variation and extension processes	Outreach Supporting councils Education promotion and marketing School visits and community outreach Communication planning				

Corporate Plan 2020 - 2024

Strategic Objectives & Priorities for Action

The priority for arc21 is to support councils with the development and delivery of the Waste Management Plan and the activities undertaken by us will be focused on this ambition.

For some years, arc21 has used a balanced scorecard to define its objectives within the Corporate Plan to support its partner councils. This Plan is no different; the Corporate Strategic Objectives set out below will frame our activities over the period 2020-2024. Each year, we will review our objectives to ensure they remain fitfor-purpose against the changeable environment we are operating in.

We will also produce an Annual Report to review our achievements against each of our Strategic Objectives.

Balanced Scorecard

Stakeholder Focus

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Improving Processes Delivery of the Waste Management Plan

Learning and Growth

Operations and Finance and Governance

Strategic Objectives

Stakeholder Focus (SF)

SF.1

Monitoring, influencing and adapting to the external environment, and establishing what it will mean and how we can contribute to the future development and implementation of a Waste Management Plan in a value-added manner for our partner councils.

Improving Processes (IP)

1P.1

Refocusing our role and services to stakeholders by redefining the relevance of what we do and ensuring we exceed expectations and demonstrate this through an annual performance report (Annual Report).

SF.2

Developing our role in supporting partner councils to address climate change and maximising the economic potential of waste and resource management and available assets through stakeholder working to minimise risk.

SF.3

Enhancing our advocacy role on behalf of the sector through strengthening our relations with stakeholders and building a cadre of champions who recognise arc21 as the go-to organisation for waste and resource management solutions.

SF.4

Expanding the outreach services we provide to our stakeholders in terms of education and awareness supported by a robust communications strategy.

IP.2

Maintaining the quality requirements of ISO 9001, seek other relevant quality assurance accreditations and place these at the core of risk management and assurance in terms of quality service.

IP.3

Benchmarking and build an appropriate database to develop our improvement plan.

Corporate Plan 2020 - 2024

Strategic Objectives

Operations, Finance and Governance (OFG)

OFG.1

Procuring appropriate waste infrastructure, services and supplies to deliver the Waste Management Plan, supported by appropriate contract management.

OFG.2

Maintaining a high standard of financial assurance, governance and risk management.

OFG.3

Identifying efficiency measures, utilisation of assets, new revenue streams and reporting on financial performance.

OFG.4

Ensuring appropriate governance arrangements are in place to deliver the Corporate Plan.

Learning and Growth (LG)

LG.1

Developing and implementing a Human Resources strategy.

LG.2

Strengthening capacity building on waste and resources management, climate crisis, energy and the circular economy.

LG 3

Developing a more collective leadership approach with stakeholders.

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Making it Happen

This Corporate Plan will place us in good stead to continue supporting the development and delivery of the councils strategic waste management objectives

The Corporate Plan sets out how we will organise ourselves to serve our key stakeholders, over the next four years, with the development and delivery of the Waste Management Plan.

In terms of next steps, a range of detailed activities and tasks will now be identified and actioned to ensure that operations are aligned to the Corporate Strategic Objectives in a formal structured manner, with responsibilities allocated to relevant staff members.

Taking into account the likely significant changes which will impact upon waste management, particularly within local government, the Corporate Plan is designed to be flexible and adaptable to meet these challenges as they emerge. In this event, we will present any major changes proposed to this Corporate Plan to the Joint Committee for consideration.

We will regularly monitor and review our activities and priorities to ensure we are on track to achieve what we have set out in this strategic plan over the four-year period and take corrective action, should it be required.

We will continue to present an Annual Report at the end of each year, to the Joint Committee and other key stakeholders, which will provide an update on our performance and the progress we are making towards delivering our Corporate Strategic Objectives.

As stated in the Introduction, the next four years are going to be exciting for arc21 with many challenges and opportunities, and this Corporate Plan will place us in good stead to continue supporting the development and delivery of the councils strategic waste management objectives - the Waste Management Plan now and into the future.

NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES COMMITTEE

HISTORIC ACTIONS TRACKING SHEET

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
		NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICE MEETING – 19 JUNE 209	ES		
NS/011/2019	Defective wall at Shimna River, Newcastle	Note the contents of the above report and, depending on the outcome of the Structural Engineer's Report, if there were emergency issues, that authority be given to officers to proceed quickly with the necessary works.	K Scullion	In progress – Application submitted to Rivers Agency for proposed works- not approved – further discussion with Rivers Agency ongoing. Report in September to NS Committee,	N
		NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES ME 23 OCTOBER 2019	ETING -		
NS/070/2019	Notice of Motion – Memory Gardens	Approve the Notice of Motion and that Officers identify two locations for Memorial Gardens in the district, one in each Health Trust area and Officers to develop designs for such locations to include plants, materials	K Scullion	In Progress Currently seeking availability of sites within Heath Trust. Delayed due to current pandemic priorities.	N

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
		requirements and costs to establish and maintain Further report to be brought back to the December Meeting of the NS Committee			
NS/071/2019	Memorandum of Understanding Partnering Arrangements for the removal of snow and ice from Town Centre footways and pedestrian areas	Agreed to review the Agreement and Schedule of the Memorandum of Understanding Partnering Arrangements for the Removal of Snow and Ice from Town Centre Footways and Pedestrian areas during prolonged winter weather and the Agreement would be extended for a further 12 months in accordance with the "Scope of the Agreement" Clause 3 and Appendix 1 as amended. Also agreed officials meet with representatives from Dfi to review the priority list of locations, with a view to adding towns/villages that had increased in population and other relevant factors and also to raise the provision of grit to local communities by Dfi, for spreading themselves, in extreme weather situations.	R Moore	Correspondence received on 20 May 2020 from DFI Southern Division agreeing MOU with NMDDC.	N

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
NS/073/2019	Proposed Property Maintenance Policy and Strategy 2019 to 2023	Council's Facilities Management and Maintenance Department develop for agreement with the NS Committee a Property Maintenance Policy and Strategy for the Council to cover the term of this Council 2019 to 2023. If required to assist officers in the development of this Strategy, external support to be procured in accordance with Council Procurement Procedures.	K Scullion	On hold as part of Neighbourhood Services Review.	N
NS/074/2019	Provision of new bus shelter in Jonesborough Village	Agreed Council remove the bus shelter located at the junction of Finnegans Road and Edenappa Road, Jonesborough, and replace it with a Council cantilever type bus shelter with the addition of two side panels and a seat.	K Scullion	Complete	Y
NS/075/2019	Household Recycling Centres (HRC) Update	To further illustrate changes at the new HRC site at Downpatrick, a HRC competition to be promoted at all primary schools at Downpatrick.	J Parkes/ J McBride	Final recommendation concerning Phase 2 of HRC review to be presented to committee upon completion of re- opening plan	N

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Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
		Photocalls to be arranged to further publicise initiatives e.g. Official Opening, changes in procedures of sites at Castlewellan and at Ballynahinch and commencement of Permit System. Reference FAQ'S to be drawn up relating to Permit System and placed on Web-site. Investigation to be made through WRAP Capital Fund for grant-aid toward additional container capacity at selected sites.		Intent to extend to both Castlewellan and Ballynahinch areas, Meeting scheduled with Marketing Officers to agree Comms. Meeting scheduled for 15 Nov. Meeting complete further meeting required. Currently being developed to coincide with launch Currently underway/	N
		NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES ME 17 DECEMBER 2019	ETING -	Ongoing	
NS/119/2019	Review of Bring Sites across the District	Note the content of the report dated 17 December 2019 and that the Council grant approval to Council to undertake a review	J Parkes/ J McBride	Report approved at the June 2020 Committee meeting.	Ŷ

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
		regarding the current provision of the bring-sites currently provided by the Council. The review to examine: Current usage at bring-site locations Cost benefits associated with provision of bring-site locations Options for repositioning of bring-banks Options for income-generation and licence considerations Maintenance costs Potential contractual issues Disposal options for any redundant stock The review would consider removal of the banks which were not at the designated household recycling centres.			
		NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES ME 22 JANUARY 2020	ETING -		
NS/005/2020	Notice of Motion – Food Waste Collection	Agreed to adopt the Notice of Motion that "this Council will maximise food waste collection contributing to our recycling targets and reduction of our	J Parkes/ JMcBride	To be considered at a future Committee Meeting	N

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
		carbon footprint by simplifying it's biodegradable bag delivery system to residents" and that officers undertake necessary research and report back to the NS Committee presenting options for consideration and approval.			
NS/112/2020	Evaluation of alternatives to use of Herbicides containing glyphosate for controlling weeds and invasive species on Council property	It was agreed the following proposed amendments to the Officer's report: - To undertake a 12-month review with a target to phase out completely the use of use of herbicides containing glyphosate for controlling weeds and invasive species on Council property within 3 years.	K Scullion	To be undertaken at 12-month review period January 2021	N
		Officers prevent the use of herbicides containing glyphosate at Council play areas and use alternative methods only for these areas.		Actioned	
		Council write to the relevant Stormont Minister stating the Council's position on this issue		Complete – No response to date	

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
		and seeking the position of all Government Bodies in Northern Ireland.			
		NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES MI 19 FEBRUARY 2020	EETING	-	
NS/121/2020	Draft Public Convenience Strategy	Agreed to note the content of the above report and recommend approval for the draft Public Toilet Strategy as presented and approve the commencement of a 12-week public consultation on the recommendations from the draft Strategy. Also agreed a Rowallane DEA Councillors site visit be organised with relevant Council Officials to discuss public convenience provision in Saintfield and that a report be brought back to the Neighbourhood Services Committee for consideration.	K Scullion	In progress – Delayed due to current pandemic priorities.	N
NS/126/2020	DAERA Waste Prevention Programme 2019 – Stopping Waste In Its Tracks	Agreed arc21 would be responding on behalf of the 6 Councils who are members and also that if	J McBride	Awaiting finalisation of Arc21 response	N

	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
		Councillors had any additional comments they should advise Mr Moore/Mr McBride.			
NS/127/2020	Study visit to Dulkeek EFW Plant	Agreed to visit the Indaver Facility, Duleek, County Meath on Thursday 4 April 2020 and also agreed the proposed programme	J McBride	Postponed due to COVID-19	N
NS/129/2020	Historic Actions Tracking Sheet	Agreed an update report on proposed memory gardens would be brought back to the Neighbourhood Services Committee	K Scullion	In progress - Delayed due to current pandemic priorities	N
NS/130/2020	Fleet Replacement (Capital) – approval of business cases to replace chassis cab vehicles	Agreed to note the content of the report dated 19 February 2020 and that Council approves the recommendation that those vehicles, as listed in Appendix 1, be prioritised for replacement and also that the Council approves the individual business cases relating to vehicles listed in Appendix 2 with an amendment that Officers bring a report back to the March Neighbourhood Services Committee Meeting detailing alternative options and costs.	J McBride	Report approved at the June 2020 Committee meeting.	Y

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
NS/137/2020	Christmas Illuminations & Celebrations Group Meeting – 13 Feb 2020	Note the contents of this report and the Action Sheet of the Christmas Illuminations Group Meeting held on 13 th February 2020.	K Scullion		
		-Officers to work with the local communities identified within the report who currently receive a cut Christmas Tree to move to having a planted Christmas Tree instead, subject to agreement on location of the tree, its future annual maintenance and dressing of the tree for Christmas.	K Scullion	Report to be provided to NS Committee August 2020	Ŷ
		-Officers proceed to issue an Expression of Interest to support a maximum of seven towns and villages to provide a recognised group with a planted sustainable Christmas Tree under the same terms as last year with the additional selection criteria referred to in Section 2 of this report, for the event that more than seven eligible applications are received. The programme to be delivered over a maximum eighteen-month period.	J Hillen	To be issued August 2020	N
		-Officers proceed to procure the required sustainable Christmas trees	K Scullion	Report to be provided to NS Committee August 2020.	N

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
		and supporting infrastructure to support this programme.			
NS/139/2020	Presentation Re: Green Fleet	It was agreed to note this item be deferred.	J McBride	Report approved at the June 2020 Committee meeting. Specification currently being drawn-up to support a procurement exercise.	N
END					