

October 13th, 2022

Notice of Meeting

You are requested to attend the **Strategy, Policy & Resources Committee 2022-23** to be held on **Thursday, 13th October 2022 at 6:00 pm** in **Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre**

Committee Membership 2022 - 2023

Chairperson - Councillor O Hanlon

Deputy Chairperson - Councillor R Howell

Councillor P Byrne

Councillor H Gallagher

Councillor M Gibbons

Councillor G Hanna

Councillor A Lewis

Councillor O Magennis

Councillor A McMurray

Councillor D Murphy

Councillor B Ó Muirí

Councillor M Rice

Councillor G Sharvin

Councillor D Taylor

Councillor J Trainor

Agenda

For Noting


1.0 Introduction and Apologies

 *Eats and Beats Event.pdf*

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2.0 Declarations of Interest

3.0 Action Sheet arising from SPR Committee Meeting held on 15 September 2022

 *SPR-Action Sheet arising from 15 September 2022.pdf*

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Notices of Motion

4.0 Notice of Motion – Cross Border Tourism & Active Travel

The following Notice of Motion, in the name of Cllr Enright, was referred from the Monthly Council Meeting in 5 September 2022:

Notice of Motion:

'This council recognises the opportunity presented by cross-border tourism and the importance of active travel for healthier, more sustainable lifestyles. It also recognises the key role that projects such as the Narrow Water Bridge and Albert Basin Park can play in supporting this. Council will appoint an officer responsible for identifying funding for cross border tourism and active travel in the area within a month of this motion being passed. and Council will formally write to the Southern Government's Shared Island Unit expressing their interest in submitting a formal application for a number of projects which will support cross border tourism and active travel in the area. This will specifically include applications for 1. the remainder of funding for the Albert Basin Park project, 2. an Omeath Road cycle expressway, and 3. connective cycle lanes and greenways between Newry city centre and Rostrevor to link to the Mourne Way as part of restoring the Ulster Way.'

 *Notion of Motion - Cross Border Tourism Active Travel.pdf*

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Corporate Planning and Policy

5.0 Revised Terms of Reference for Councillors' Equality and Good Relations Reference Group

 *Revised Terms of Reference for Councillors' Equality and Good Relations Reference Group.pdf*

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For Discussion/Decision

6.0 Request by Councillor Murphy

That consideration is given to potential plans to use Council's facilities and resources to ease the burden on those that are most impacted by the cost of living crisis.

Items deemed to be exempt under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014

7.0 DBEC Resources

For Decision

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 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.

DBEC Resources.pdf

Not included

8.0 Proposed Lease of lands at McClelland Park, Newry for a proposed new electricity substation.

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

Proposed Lease to NIEN for substation at McClelland Park Newry.pdf

Not included

Map - McClelland Park sub-station.pdf

Not included

9.0 Public Right of Way at Bell's Lane, Newry

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

Public Right of Way at Bells Lane Newry.pdf

Not included

Map 1 - Bell's lane Newry_.pdf






Not included

Map 2 - Bell's lane Newry - previous and current PROW routes.pdf

Not included

10.0 Surplus Assets Update

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 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.

 <i>Surplus Assets Update.pdf</i>	<i>Not included</i>
 <i>Copy of Appendix A - Overview Oct22.pdf</i>	<i>Not included</i>
 <i>Copy of Appendix A - Overview Oct22-to be retained.pdf</i>	<i>Not included</i>
 <i>Appendix B NED response and Meadowlands Siteplan.pdf</i>	<i>Not included</i>
 <i>Copy of Appendix C - List of Planning Applications Oct22.pdf</i>	<i>Not included</i>

11.0 Timing of Meetings and Working Groups

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 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.

 <i>Timing of Meetings.pdf</i>	<i>Not included</i>
 <i>Appendix 1.pdf</i>	<i>Not included</i>
 <i>Appendix 2.pdf</i>	<i>Not included</i>

12.0 Planning for the Future Tier 3 Voluntary Redundancy Call

This item is deemed to be exempt under paragraphs 3 & 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding this information) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business and information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the Council or a government department, and employees or, or office holders under, the Council; and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

CONFIDENTIAL REPORT

FOR NOTING Items deemed to be exempt under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014

13.0 Release of Deed of Covenant and Charge – 168 Newcastle

Road, Castlewellan

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 to the financial or business affairs of any particular person and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

 *Release of Deed of Covenant and Charge 168 Newcastle Road Castlewellan.pdf* **Not included**

 *Deed creating Covenant.pdf* **Not included**

For Noting

14.0 Eats and Beats Event

 *Eats and Beats Event.pdf* **Page 16**

15.0 Statutory reporting - Section 75 Policy Screening Report – Quarterly Report for period July – September 2022

 *Statutory reporting - Section 75 Policy Screening Report Quarterly Report for period July - September 2022.pdf* **Page 19**

 *Appendix I - Quarterly Screening Report July - September 2022.pdf* **Page 22**

Invitees

Cllr Terry Andrews

Mr Alan Beggs

Mr Caolain Boyd

Cllr Jim Brennan

Cllr Robert Burgess

Cllr Pete Byrne

Mr Gerard Byrne

Cllr Charlie Casey

Mr Andrew Cassells

Cllr William Clarke

Mrs Linda Cummins

Cllr Dermot Curran

Cllr Laura Devlin

Ms Louise Dillon

Cllr Cadogan Enright

Cllr Aoife Finnegan

Ms Joanne Fleming

Cllr Hugh Gallagher

Cllr Mark Gibbons

Cllr Oonagh Hanlon

Cllr Glyn Hanna

Cllr Valerie Harte

Cllr Roisin Howell

Miss Veronica Keegan

Mrs Josephine Kelly

Mrs Sheila Kieran

Cllr Mickey Larkin

Cllr David Lee-Surginor

Cllr Alan Lewis

Mr Michael Lipsett

Cllr Oonagh Magennis

Mr Conor Mallon

Cllr Gavin Malone

Colette McAteer

Cllr Declan McAteer

Cllr Leeanne McEvoy

Cllr Harold McKee

Patricia McKeever

Cllr Karen McKevitt

Cllr Andrew McMurray

Mr Colin Moffett

Cllr Roisin Mulgrew

Cllr Declan Murphy
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Cllr Barra Ó Muirí
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Mr Fearghal O'Connor
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Cllr Gerry O'Hare
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Cllr Kathryn Owen
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Cllr Henry Reilly
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Cllr Michael Rice
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Ms Alison Robb
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Cllr Michael Ruane
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Cllr Michael Savage
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Cllr Gareth Sharvin
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Donna Starkey
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Cllr Gary Stokes
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Sarah Taggart
.....
Cllr David Taylor
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Cllr Jarlath Tinnelly
.....
Cllr John Trainor
.....
Cllr William Walker
.....
Mrs Marie Ward
.....

Report to:	Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee
Date of Meeting:	13 October 2022
Subject:	Eats and Beats event
Reporting Officer:	Marie Ward, Chief Executive
Contact Officers:	Colin Moffett, Head of Corporate Policy

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

For decision	For noting only	X
1.0	Purpose and Background	
1.1	<p>The Eats and Beats Festival, a food and music festival, took place in Newcastle, County Down on 3 and 4 September 2022. This was an event with over 40 free performances and over 60 food and beverage outlets.</p> <p>At the Council's Monthly Meeting on 5 September 2022, Councillor Hanna advised that both himself and his colleagues had received a number of complaints regarding sectarian remarks made at the Eats and Beats Festival from the stage during a performance in Donard Park, Newcastle on Saturday evening 3 September 2022.</p> <p>Councillor Hanna called for an independent investigation into this matter.</p> <p>At the Council's Monthly Meeting on 5 September 2022, <i>"It was agreed that an investigation be launched into complaints regarding remarks made on stage at the Eats and Beats event."</i></p>	
2.0	Key issues	
2.1	<p>Council is committed to the provision of high-quality services. We acknowledge that occasionally, things can go wrong. When this happens, Council will investigate all complaints received.</p> <p>Details of how to make a complaint and the Council's complaints procedure is set out on Council's website https://www.newrymournedown.org/complaints-to-the-council</p> <p>Complaints may be raised directly or on behalf of someone else. When raising a complaint on behalf of someone else, the name of the complainant must be provided.</p> <p>In processing all complaints, Council will comply with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).</p> <p>How we will deal with personal information is set out within the Complaints Privacy Notice.</p>	

2.2	<p>As set out in section 1.1, Councillor Hanna advised that both himself and his colleagues had received a number of complaints regarding sectarian remarks made from the stage on Saturday evening 3 September 2022.</p> <p>It was alleged that during a performance at the Eats and Beats Festival in Donard Park, Newcastle, on Saturday evening 3 September 2022, a performer from the stage made the following remarks, <i>"Where's all the unionists now, there's no Orange Order here."</i></p> <p>Following the Council meeting of 5 September 2022, Councillor Hanna was asked to provide details of the complainant(s), or to advise the complainant(s) to raise the complaint directly with Council. Council have been advised that the complainant(s) do not wish to come forward.</p>
2.3	<p>No Council Officials at the event on 3 September 2022 have indicated they heard or are aware of the alleged remarks having been made by a performer.</p> <p>No complaints regarding the alleged remarks were raised directly with Council Officials on 3 September 2022 by people in attendance.</p> <p>As of 4 October 2022, no complaints in relation to the alleged remarks at the Eats and Beats Festival on 3 September 2022 have been received by Council through its Complaints Procedure.</p>
2.3	<p>No complaint has been raised and no evidence presented or established to inform an external investigation.</p> <p>Therefore, no basis has been established upon which Council should commission an independent investigation in relation to the alleged remarks.</p>
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	It is recommended Council take no further action and do not commission an independent investigation in relation to alleged remarks made on stage at the Eats and Beats event.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	None
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<p><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></p> <p>It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
5.2	<p><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>

	<p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/></p>
5.3	<p><i>Proposal initiating consultation</i></p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i></p>
6.0	<p>Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)</p>
6.1	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	<p>Appendices</p> <p>None</p>
8.0	<p>Background Documents</p> <p>None</p>

ACTION SHEET – STRATEGY, POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING (SPR) – THURSDAY 11 AUGUST 2022					
Minute Ref:	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Action taken/Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
SPR/136/2022	Action sheet of the Strategy Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 11 August 2022	It was agreed that the action sheet from the Strategy Policy and Resources Committee meeting held on 11 August 2022 be approved.	M Ward	NOTED	Y
SPR/137/2022	Assessment of Performance 2021-22.	It was agreed, that Elected Members approve the Assessment of Performance 2021-22, including the summary document 'Our Performance Looking Back Going Forward'. 3 Noted that the Assessment of Performance 2021- 22 is published by 30 September 2022, before full Council ratification, in order to meet the statutory deadline.	G Byrne	Approved	Y
SPR/138/2022	Conacre Agreements on respect of Castlewellan Forest park, Tyrella Beach, Delamont Country Park & Derrybeg Banks, Newry	<p>It was agreed that Elected Members approve the following recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> That an Expression of Interest is issued in respect of conservation grazing of the lands at Castlewellan Forest Park and that Council enter into a Conacre Licence Agreement for a period of 5 years with the highest bidder. 	F O'Connor	Approved	Y

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That an Expression of Interest is issued in respect of conservation grazing of the lands at Tyrella and that Council enter into a Winter Grazing Licence Agreement with the highest bidder for one year with the option to extend for a further year. • That an Expression of Interest is issued in respect of the grazing of the lands at Delamont Country Park and that Council enter into a 4 Conacre Licence Agreement with the highest bidder for a period of five years. • That an Expression of Interest is issued in respect of the grazing of the lands at Derrybeg Banks and that Council enter into a Conacre Licence Agreement with the highest bidder for a period of five years 			
SPR/139/2022	Car-Park at Church Hill, Jonesborough	It was agreed that Elected Members agree to the transfer of the carpark from Dfl.	F O'Connor	Agreed	Y
SPR/140/2022	Warrenpoint Community Centre: Project Governance Proposal	It was agreed, that Elected Members approve the project governance arrangements for the Warrenpoint Community Centre as detailed in the report.	J Hillen	Approved	Y
<u>ITEMS RESTRICTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 1 OF SCHEDULE 6 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (NI) 2014</u>					
SPR/141/2022	Local Government Staff Commission – Dissolution Funding and Continuing	It was agreed that Elected Members approve the 6 payment as recommended in the report and also to write to the Department for Communities asking for confirmation as to when these payments would cease.	M Ward	Approved	Y

SPR/142/2022	Lease of storage unit at Greenbank Industrial Estate, Newry	<p>It was agreed that Elected Members approve the lease of the storage unit at Greenbank Industrial Estate for a period of 12 months at the agreed rental cost subject to full lease terms.</p> <p>It was further agreed a caveat be added to include this issue be reviewed at SMT level prior to entering into any lease agreement and that Councillors be updated before the Council meeting in October 2022.</p>	F O'Connor	Approved	Y
SPR/143/2022	Renewal of lease of Hilltown Household Recycling Centre.	It was agreed that Elected Members approve to enter into a lease in respect of the HRC at Hilltown on the terms as set out in the report.	F O'Connor	Approved	Y
SPR/144/2022	Boundary Rectification – 6 Harbour Close, Kilkeel – amendment to rectification map previously approved	It was agreed that Elected Members agreed to note the content of the report.	F O'Connor	Approved	Y

END

Report to:	Strategic Policy and Resources Committee
Date of Meeting:	13 October 2022
Subject:	Notion of Motion – Cross Border Tourism & Active Travel
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Conor Mallon – Director of ERT
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Jonathan McGilly – Assistant Director of ERT

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

<table><tr><td>For decision</td><td>x</td><td>For noting only</td><td></td></tr></table>		For decision	x	For noting only	
For decision	x	For noting only			
1.0	Purpose and Background				
1.1	<p><u>Purpose</u> To note the report in response to the Notice of Motion and approve the recommendations in section 3.</p> <p><u>Background</u> Notice of Motion received from Councillor Enright</p> <p><i>'This council recognises the opportunity presented by cross-border tourism and the importance of active travel for healthier, more sustainable lifestyles. It also recognises the key role that projects such as the Narrow Water Bridge and Albert Basin Park can play in supporting this.</i></p> <p><i>Council will appoint an officer responsible for identifying funding for cross border tourism and active travel in the area within a month of this motion being passed. and Council will formally write to the Southern Government's Shared Island Unit expressing their interest in submitting a formal application for a number of projects which will support cross border tourism and active travel in the area.</i></p> <p><i>This will specifically include applications for</i></p> <p><i>1. the remainder of funding for the Albert Basin Park project,</i></p> <p><i>2. an Omeath Road cycle expressway, and</i></p> <p><i>3. connective cycle lanes and greenways between Newry city centre and Rostrevor to link to the Mourne Way as part of restoring the Ulster Way.'</i></p>				
2.0	Key issues				
2.1	<p>Across several Council Departments, namely AHC – Sustainability and ERT – Regeneration & Tourism teams, Officers are engaged in identifying and applying for funding for both Cross-border and Active Travel projects.</p> <p>Details of the successful applications for funding from DfI Blue/Greenways Fund include;</p>				

- Undertaking Feasibility Studies for a proposed 'Newry City Greenway' and proposed 'Newry to Warrenpoint and Rostrevor Greenway'
- Carrying out 1km of upgrade works to the 'Downpatrick Jane's Shore Blueway' along the Quoile River

Also following the June 2022 DFI funding call under Active Travel, the following projects have been put forward for Feasibility Studies;

1. Downpatrick to Ballydugan Greenway
2. Ballydugan to Newcastle Greenway
3. Maghera to Newcastle Greenway
4. Ballynahinch to Montalto Blueway
5. Tipperary Wood – Newcastle
6. Ballyroney to Newcastle Greenway
7. Active Travel Project (Cycle Parking and Pop-Up Cycle Maintenance Stations)

Examples of funding applications approved or currently being considered by the funding body are detailed below:

Shared Island Fund

- An application by Carlow County Council for a feasibility study for the development of the Columban Way / Turas Columbanus walking trail has been successful. (NMD are a partner in this project.)
- An application by Louth County Council has been successful in regards a 'Destination Carlingford Lough Initiative, which looks at Trials, Way Finding Signage, Tourism support Services and Water Based tourism around the Lough. (NMD are a partner in this project.)

These projects have secure development funding and work will commence with partners to develop the concepts to design stage and OBC.

It is important to note that in relation to the 'Shared Island Funding Criteria, a project must be led by a Council in the South and currently there are no calls for capital / infrastructure funding.

Levelling Up Fund (LUF) – pending applications

- Camlough Lake - Recreational Hub facility to provide facilities for water-based users. (ERT)
- Warrenpoint Baths – Mixed-use site redevelopment (ERT)
- Dunleath park - Recreational/Sporting facilities enhancement (AHC)

Peace + (Not yet open but pending applications include):

- Camlough Lake - Recreational Hub facility to provide facilities for water-based users.
- Warrenpoint Community Centre

Tripsi

- Fallows walking trails (Phase 1 & 2) received support from DAERA to provide a category 4 Walking Trail in Rostrevor
- Delamont walking trails – DAERA application pending

	<p>City Deal and Complementary funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Albert Basin Park £16.2m funding allocation, project currently at OBC assessment by DfC • Digital Transformation Flexible Fund (DTFF) -11 Council project lead by NMDDC, £7m support package to support SMEs digitally transform business model – OBC currently at appraisal stage <p>In relation to the Omeath Road Cycle Expressway, it should be noted that this is not a Newry Mourne and Down District Council Strategic Project.</p> <p>This project proposal has been developed by Narrow Water Bridge Community Network and would involve the closing the Fathom Line / Omeath Road to normal through traffic. This project involves an alteration to the current use of the existing road network managed and maintained by DfI Roads</p> <p>Council are currently progressing a greenway from Newry to Carlingford in partnership with Louth County council, this cross-border project will connect with the Narrow Water Bridge.</p>
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	Members are asked to consider the contents of the report and approve the recommendations below
3.2	The appointment of an officer is not approved, the current resource exists within Council to identify and submit successful applications for funding for cross border and active travel projects.
3.3	Council officers formally write to the Shared Island Unit expressing an interest in submitting applications for capital funding for projects which will support cross border tourism and active travel in the area.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	No new resource implementations at this stage.
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<p><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></p> <p>It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
5.2	<p><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p>

	<p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/></p>
5.3	<p><i>Proposal initiating consultation</i></p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i></p>
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)
6.1	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	Appendices
	N/A
8.0	Background Documents
	N/A

Report to:	Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee
Date of Meeting:	13 October 2022
Subject:	Revised Terms of Reference for Councillors' Equality and Good Relations Reference Group
Reporting Officer:	Colin Moffett, Head of Corporate Policy
Contact Officers:	Colin Moffett, Head of Corporate Policy Suzanne Rice, Corporate Policy and Equality Officer

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

For decision	X	For noting only	
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1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	<p>The Councillors' Equality and Good Relations Reference Group is a facilitated discussion space, serving as a 'barometer of opinion', playing a role in considering and discussing politically sensitive and contentious issues, with a view of reaching a common understanding, agreement and actions which will enhance and promote equality of opportunity and good relations.</p> <p>The Terms of Reference has been reviewed and updated to reflect the change in political party membership within Council.</p> <p>The revised Terms of Reference (Appendix I) was tabled for consideration and noted at the Councillors' Equality & Good Relations Reference Group meeting on 29 September 2022.</p>
2.0	Key issues
2.1	It has been necessary to review the membership of the Reference Group due to changes in the membership of political parties.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	To consider and agree to the revised Terms of Reference of the Councillors' Equality and Good Relations Reference Group
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	No financial or resources implications are anticipated.
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)

5.1	<p><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></p> <p>It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
5.2	<p><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/></p>
5.3	<p><i>Proposal initiating consultation</i></p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i></p>
6.0	<p>Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)</p>
6.1	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	<p>Appendices</p>
	<p>Appendix I - Draft revised Terms of Reference for Councillors' Equality and Good Relations Reference Group</p>

8.0	Background Documents
	Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Equality Scheme.

COUNCILLORS' EQUALITY AND GOOD RELATIONS REFERENCE GROUP

- Terms of Reference -

Scope:

The Councillors' Equality and Good Relations Reference Group will primarily be a facilitated discussion space. It will serve as a 'barometer of opinion', playing a role in considering and discussing politically sensitive and contentious issues, including those relating to events, centenaries, policy and procedure, single issues requiring specific consideration for advice, and guidance on the establishment of wider good relations fora etc with a view of reaching a common understanding, agreement and actions which will enhance and promote equality of opportunity and good relations.

Membership:

Membership shall be respectful of the party political representation on the Council, take account of the changing positions of Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson, and shall acknowledge majority/minority political party dynamics whilst taking account of the need to create a space for minority political voices.

No single political party shall hold more than two membership places in any year, with the two largest political parties and the independent grouping being entitled to hold two membership positions at all times. The two members from the Independent grouping will be nominated on a cross-community basis, with the 'independent nationalist' nomination being rotated on a periodic basis e.g. every six months, annually etc

Membership shall be composed of:

- One Councillor nominated from each of the following parties - Sinn Fein, SDLP, DUP, UUP, TUV, Alliance and Independent group.
- Further nominees, as required, from the two largest political parties and independent group in line with their entitlement to hold a maximum of two membership positions.
- Political parties can nominate a substitute in the event of a member not being available to attend a meeting.

Chairperson:

The meeting will select a Chair from those present.

Meetings:

The Equality and Good Relations Reference Group does not have decision making powers, it makes recommendations only. Recommendations arising will be tabled at the Council's Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee for consideration.

It does not operate to any quorum and meetings proceed regardless of numbers in attendance.

Meetings will be convened by the Chief Executive.

Officers:

Chief Executive, Director of Corporate Services, Head of Corporate Policy, Corporate Policy and Equality Officer.

Press:

Not open to the press.

Public:

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Report to:	Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee
Date of Meeting:	13 October 2022
Subject:	Eats and Beats event
Reporting Officer:	Marie Ward, Chief Executive
Contact Officers:	Colin Moffett, Head of Corporate Policy

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

For decision	For noting only	X
1.0	Purpose and Background	
1.1	<p>The Eats and Beats Festival, a food and music festival, took place in Newcastle, County Down on 3 and 4 September 2022. This was an event with over 40 free performances and over 60 food and beverage outlets.</p> <p>At the Council's Monthly Meeting on 5 September 2022, Councillor Hanna advised that both himself and his colleagues had received a number of complaints regarding sectarian remarks made at the Eats and Beats Festival from the stage during a performance in Donard Park, Newcastle on Saturday evening 3 September 2022.</p> <p>Councillor Hanna called for an independent investigation into this matter.</p> <p>At the Council's Monthly Meeting on 5 September 2022, <i>"It was agreed that an investigation be launched into complaints regarding remarks made on stage at the Eats and Beats event."</i></p>	
2.0	Key issues	
2.1	<p>Council is committed to the provision of high-quality services. We acknowledge that occasionally, things can go wrong. When this happens, Council will investigate all complaints received.</p> <p>Details of how to make a complaint and the Council's complaints procedure is set out on Council's website https://www.newrymournedown.org/complaints-to-the-council</p> <p>Complaints may be raised directly or on behalf of someone else. When raising a complaint on behalf of someone else, the name of the complainant must be provided.</p> <p>In processing all complaints, Council will comply with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).</p> <p>How we will deal with personal information is set out within the Complaints Privacy Notice.</p>	

2.2	<p>As set out in section 1.1, Councillor Hanna advised that both himself and his colleagues had received a number of complaints regarding sectarian remarks made from the stage on Saturday evening 3 September 2022.</p> <p>It was alleged that during a performance at the Eats and Beats Festival in Donard Park, Newcastle, on Saturday evening 3 September 2022, a performer from the stage made the following remarks, <i>"Where's all the unionists now, there's no Orange Order here."</i></p> <p>Following the Council meeting of 5 September 2022, Councillor Hanna was asked to provide details of the complainant(s), or to advise the complainant(s) to raise the complaint directly with Council. Council have been advised that the complainant(s) do not wish to come forward.</p>
2.3	<p>No Council Officials at the event on 3 September 2022 have indicated they heard or are aware of the alleged remarks having been made by a performer.</p> <p>No complaints regarding the alleged remarks were raised directly with Council Officials on 3 September 2022 by people in attendance.</p> <p>As of 4 October 2022, no complaints in relation to the alleged remarks at the Eats and Beats Festival on 3 September 2022 have been received by Council through its Complaints Procedure.</p>
2.3	<p>No complaint has been raised and no evidence presented or established to inform an external investigation.</p> <p>Therefore, no basis has been established upon which Council should commission an independent investigation in relation to the alleged remarks.</p>
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	It is recommended Council take no further action and do not commission an independent investigation in relation to alleged remarks made on stage at the Eats and Beats event.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	None
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<p><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></p> <p>It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
5.2	<p><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>

	<p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/></p>
5.3	<p><i>Proposal initiating consultation</i></p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i></p>
6.0	<p>Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)</p>
6.1	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	<p>Appendices</p> <p>None</p>
8.0	<p>Background Documents</p> <p>None</p>

Report to:	Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee
Date of Meeting:	13 October 2022
Subject:	Statutory reporting - Section 75 Policy Screening Report – Quarterly Report for period July – September 2022
Reporting Officer:	Colin Moffett, Head of Corporate Policy
Contact Officers:	Colin Moffett, Head of Corporate Policy Suzanne Rice, Corporate Policy and Equality Officer

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

For decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	For noting only	<input type="checkbox"/>	X	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	<p>In line with Council’s Section 75 statutory duties and commitments within our approved Equality Scheme, policy screening reports are published quarterly.</p> <p>The Quarterly Report for the period July – September 2022, including screening reports, is available on Council’s website www.newrymournedown.org. This information has also been forwarded to all equality consultees.</p>
2.0	Key issues
2.1	<p>As per the Council’s approved Equality Scheme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All policies Council proposes to adopt must be equality screened, prior to implementation, to assess the likely impact of the policy on the promotion of equality of opportunity and/or good relations. • Council must publish quarterly reports on equality screening which are available on Council’s website and forwarded to equality scheme consultees.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	To note the Section 75 Policy Screening Report – Quarterly Report for period July – September 2022.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	No financial or resources implications are anticipated.
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i>

	<p>It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
5.2	<p><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/></p>
5.3	<p><i>Proposal initiating consultation</i></p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i></p>
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)
6.1	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	Appendices
	Appendix I: Section 75 Policy Screening Report – Quarterly Report for period July – September 2022.
8.0	Background Documents

	Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Equality Scheme.

**Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Section 75 Policy Screening Report
Quarterly Report July – September 2022**

Policy	Details of policy	Screening Outcome
Establishment of a New Ireland Working Group	<p>At the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee meeting on 16 March 2022, approved at the Council meeting 4 April 2022, a Notice of Motion regarding an Irish Unity Working Group (SPR/039/2022) was tabled for consideration.</p> <p>It was agreed that this Council recognises that discussions about a constitutional change are now well underway and that Newry, Mourne and Down District Council have a duty to consult with its ratepayers on this important issue and the implications for the Council area and the wider border corridor. Therefore, this motion calls on the Council to establish a New Ireland Working Group and to begin a consultation with other Councils, ratepayers and community and business representatives to assess views on the issues related to constitutional change.</p>	No EQIA considered necessary
Provision of Newry Tennis Bubble	<p>The provision of a tennis bubble is referenced and set out as a specific recommendation within Council's Sports Facility Strategy. Recommendation 11 within the Council's Sports Facility Strategy is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider a partnership approach to the development of a bubble to cover 2 tennis courts at either Newry Tennis Club or Newcastle Tennis Club to provide a facility within the local authority that provides for all year round tennis <p>The subsequent action has been the development of an additional tennis bubble facility located within the grounds of Our Ladies Grammar School.</p> <p>For reference, the overall vision of Council's Sports Facility Strategy is:</p>	No EQIA considered necessary

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'Development of an evidence based assessment of facility need, which will inform and prioritise future investment in and development of, a network of high quality sports facilities, addressing the needs for increased community participation in Newry, Mourne and Down District Council' <p>The Strategy aim is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to develop a strategic framework for the future provision of sports facilities in Newry, Mourne and Down District Council. This identifies the need for provision and the priorities for investment into sports facilities, informed by evidence of need, consultation with key stakeholders and a supply and demand analysis. <p>The Strategy Objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To identify the existing range of facilities provided at local level in Newry, Mourne and Down. • To undertake consultation with strategic stakeholders to identify current and future facility needs and locations. • To undertake a supply and demand assessment to identify gaps in current provision, plus future needs. • To develop a facility framework reflecting identified current and future community needs. • To link this strategic framework where relevant to the network of local sports facilities. • To develop a set of strategic principles underpinning all future investment in sports facilities. • To link the identified sports facility needs in Newry, Mourne and Down into the priorities identified at national level, where appropriate. • To recommend priority investment(s) in sports facility provision in Newry, Mourne and Down. 	
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