

February 15th, 2023

**Notice of Meeting**

You are requested to attend the **Strategy, Policy & Resources Committee 2022-23** to be held on **Thursday, 16th February 2023 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

## 1.0 Introduction and Apologies

## 2.0 Declarations of Interest

## 3.0 Action Sheet arising from SPR Committee Meeting held on 19 January 2023

 [SPR-Action Sheet 19.01.23 - Final.pdf](#)

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### *Notices of Motion*

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## 4.0 Notice of Motion – Daisyhill Hospital

The following Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr Gerry O'Hare was referred to SPR committee at the Council Meeting on 6th January 2023

“That this Council acknowledges the announcement on the 19th October 2022, by the then Health Minister, Robin Swann that Daisy Hill Hospital would become an Elective Overnight Stay Centre for patients requiring intermediate complexity surgery with an overnight stay. Accepts that this announcement demonstrates the confidence of the Minister, Department of Health and clinicians that Daisy Hill Hospital can provide this regional service and improve access and reduce waiting times for planned elective surgical care for the people of Newry, Mourne, South Armagh and Down. Further accepts that key to implementing plans to make Daisy Hill an Overnight Elective Stay Centre will require acquisition of the Monaghan Row Council site. Commits as a matter of priority, to make public its plan to facilitate the transfer of the Monaghan Row site to the Southern Trust, so that Daisy Hill can join the Elective Care Centre model and play an important role in tackling our lengthy waiting lists and improving outcomes for our patients.”

 [SPR Feb 23 - DHH NOM.pdf](#)


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### *Corporate Services*

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## 5.0 Request for name to be added to Castlewellan War Memorial

 [SPRC16022023WarMemorial.pdf](#)

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### *Start of Closed Session*

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

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## 6.0 Business Case for Procurement of a Valuation Service

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

 *ReportSPRTenderVal16022023.pdf*

*Not included*

 *Appendix 1 - BusinessCaseSFValService.pdf*

*Not included*

## **7.0 Service Level Agreement – Belfast City Council Legal Services Department**

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

 *SPRC16022023SLABLS.pdf*

*Not included*

## **8.0 Sale of lands at Clanrye Avenue, Newry**

This item is deemed to be exempt under paragraph one of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - information relating to any individual and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

 *SPR Report - Proposed sale of lands at Clanrye Avenue Newry - Feb 23.pdf*

*Not included*

 *Appendix 1 - Slae of Lands Clanrye Avenue NM415-G-1-20.pdf*

*Not included*

## **9.0 Renewal of Microsoft Enterprise Agreement**

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

 *Microsoft EA Renewal Paper 2023 (002).pdf*

*Not included*

## **10.0 Camlough Lake Recreational Hub**

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

 *Camlough Recreational Hub\_.pdf*

*Not included*

## **11.0 2023/24 Insurance Premiums**

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

 *SPR Report Insurance Premiums 202324 (002).pdf*

*Not included*

## **12.0 NCCR – Monaghan Row Office Site**

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

 *SPR Feb 23 - Monaghan Row Site (sale).pdf*

*Not included*

## **13.0 Council Chambers Conference Solution**

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.

 *Council Chambers Conference Solution.pdf*

*Not included*

 *Appendix 1 - DelegateSolution Business Case SPR Feb2023.pdf*

*Not included*

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

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## **14.0 Strategic Finance Working Group Action Sheet - 26 January 2023**

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.

 *SFWG Action Sheet 26.1.23.pdf*

*Not included*

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

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## **15.0 Redundancy Approval**

This item is deemed to be exempt under paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - information relating any individual, information which is likely to

reveal the identity of an individual and 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.

📄 *SPRC - Redundancy Approval Feb 2023 FINAL.pdf*

*Not included*

## **16.0 NILGOSC Rule 85 Report**

*For Approval*

This item is deemed to be restricted by virtue of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - Information relating any individual; information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual; 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.

📄 *Pension Discretions Paper 160223 (002).pdf*

*Not included*

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***End of Closed Session***

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***For Noting***

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## **17.0 Establishment of New Ireland Working Group**

📄 *Officer Report - Establishment of New Ireland Working Group.pdf*

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📄 *Appendix I - Equality Screening Establishment of a New Ireland Working Group.pdf*

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## **18.0 Minutes of Newry City Centre Regeneration Programme Board Meeting held 2nd February 2023**

📄 *Minutes of Newry City Centre Regeneration Programme Board Mtg 02.02.2023.pdf*

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📄 *19048-HAM-XX-XX-DR-A-00724\_Civic Hub Floor Plans Layout (draft).pdf*

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# Invitees

Cllr Terry Andrews  
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Cllr Callum Bowsie  
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Mr Caolain Boyd  
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Cllr Jim Brennan  
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Cllr Robert Burgess  
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Cllr Pete Byrne  
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Mr Gerard Byrne  
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Mr Andrew Cassells  
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Cllr William Clarke  
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Mrs Linda Cummins  
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Cllr Dermot Curran  
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Cllr Laura Devlin  
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Ms Louise Dillon  
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Cllr Cadogan Enright  
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Cllr Aoife Finnegan  
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Ms Joanne Fleming  
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Cllr Hugh Gallagher  
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Cllr Mark Gibbons  
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Cllr Oonagh Hanlon  
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Cllr Glyn Hanna  
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Cllr Valerie Harte  
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Cllr Roisin Howell  
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Ms Catherine Hughes  
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Cllr Jonathan Jackson  
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Cllr Geraldine Kearns  
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Miss Veronica Keegan  
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Mrs Josephine Kelly  
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Mrs Sheila Kieran  
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Cllr Cathal King  
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Cllr Mickey Larkin  
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Cllr David Lee-Surginor  
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Cllr Alan Lewis  
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Mr Michael Lipsett  
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Mrs Regina Mackin  
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Cllr Oonagh Magennis  
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Mr Conor Mallon  
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Cllr Gavin Malone  
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Colette McAteer  
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Cllr Declan McAteer  
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Cllr Leeanne McEvoy  
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Cllr Harold McKee  
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Patricia McKeever  
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Cllr Karen McKeivitt  
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Cllr Andrew McMurray  
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Catrina Miskelly  
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Mr Colin Moffett  
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Cllr Declan Murphy  
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Cllr Barra Ó Muiri  
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Cllr Gerry O'Hare  
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Mr Andy Patterson  
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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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Mr Peter Rooney  
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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  
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Cllr David Taylor  
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Cllr Jarlath Tinnelly  
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Cllr John Trainor  
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Mrs Marie Ward  
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**ACTION SHEET – STRATEGY, POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING (SPR) – THURSDAY 12 DECEMBER 2022**

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

SPR/192/2023	Ardglass Rowing Club	It was agreed Elected Members it was agreed to defer this item to the January SP&R Committee Meeting.	P Rooney	N	
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**ACTION SHEET – STRATEGY, POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING (SPR) – THURSDAY 19 JANUARY 2023**

SPR/003/2023	Action Sheet arising from SPR meeting on Thursday 15 December 2022	It was agreed to approve the action sheet from the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on ber 2022.	J Kelly	Approved	Y
SPR/004/2023	Notice of Motion – Kings Coronation	It was agreed that Elected Members give consideration to establishing a King Charles III Coronation financial assistance programme within the existing budget and be brought back to the next Strategic Finance Working Group for consideration and ratification at full Council.	R Mackin	Agreed	N
SPR/005/2023	Notice of Motion – Establishment of an all Ireland Citizens Assembly	It was agreed that Elected Members consider the Notice of Motion – Establishment of an All-Ireland Citizens’ Assembly noting the content of the report.	R Mackin	Agreed	Y



SPR/006/2023	New Ireland Working Group	<p>It was agreed that Elected Members approve the following recommendations from the meeting of the New Ireland working group:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) To collate and gather all the relevant research, reports, presentations and articles in relation to the issue of Constitutional Change from government agencies and academia and upload these to the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council website. Where possible, the information should be categorised and include those related to economic, environmental, cultural and social policy impacts, including health and education.</li> <li>2) Council increase engagement with Intertrade Ireland.</li> <li>3) An Executive summary to be produced on the Newry-Dundalk-Drogheda economic zone research.</li> <li>4) Engage with local Councils on an annual basis to share information and best practice.</li> </ol>	C Moffett	Approved	Y
<b><u>ITEMS RESTRICTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 1 OF SCHEDULE 6 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (NI) 2014</u></b>					
SPR/007/2022	Request to dispose of lands at Heather Park, Newry	<p>It was agreed Elected Members agree to the sale of the lands outlined in blue on the attached map to the party detailed in the report for the value determined by Council's valuer subject to the interested party paying Council's legal and valuation costs. The purchaser shall erect at their own cost a suitable boundary to be agreed with Council Officers.</p>	P Rooney	Agreed	Y

SPR/008/2023	Play Park at Riverside, Leitrim	It was agreed that Elected Members approve the transfer of the Riverside Play Park from Armagh Banbridge Craigavon Council to ensure compliance with the Scheme of Transfer and subject to the Assignment of Lease.	P Rooney	Approved	Y
SPR/009/2023	Ardglass Rowing Club	It was agreed that Elected Members approve to continue to encourage and support Ardglass Rowing Club and additional water sports provision across the district via Councils Sport and Community Leasing Policy and Financial Assistance Programme.	P Rooney	Approved	Y
SPR/010/2023	Asset Disposal	It was agreed Elected Members approve to auction non-fixed assets as detailed in the report.	A Patterson	Approved	Y
SPR/011/2023	Director Recruitment	It was agreed Elected Members approve the following: A) The Recruitment for Director: Active and Healthy Communities. B) The decision in relation to 2.3 of the report. C) The nominations to the selection panel.	M Ward	Approved	Y
<b><u>FOR NOTING – This item is deemed to be exempt under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014</u></b>					
SPR/012/2023	Notice of Motion C/205/2022 Broadening Rates Base, Increasing Direct Income and Reducing Costs	It was agreed to note the recommendations contained within the officer's report.	J Kelly	Agreed	Y
SPR/013/2023	Strategic Finance Working Group Action Sheet – 12 January 2023.	It was agreed to note the Strategic Finance Working Group Action Sheet – 12 January 2023.	J Kelly	Noted	Y

FOR NOTING					
SPR/014/2023	Statutory reporting – Section 75 Policy Screening Report – Quarterly Report for period October – December 2022	It was agreed Elected Members note the Statutory reporting – Section 75 Policy Screening Report – Quarterly Report for period October – December 2022	R Mackin	Noted	Y
SPR/015/2023	Rates Support Grant Allowance dated 22 December 2022	It was agreed Elected Members note the Rates Support Grant Allocation 2022/23, and Council write to the Permanent Secretary and the Secretary of State urging them to provide further financial assistance giving the challenges we as a Council face to strike a rate and to lessen the burden to the ratepayer.	J Kelly	Noted	Y

END

<b>Report to:</b>	Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	16 <sup>th</sup> February 2023
<b>Subject:</b>	Notice of Motion – Daisyhill Hospital
<b>Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):</b>	Josephine Kelly, Director of Corporate Services
<b>Contact Officer (Including Job Title):</b>	Conor Mallon Director of Economic, Regeneration and Tourism

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

<b>For decision</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>For noting only</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose and Background</b>
1.1	<p><u>Purpose</u></p> <p>The purpose of this report is to seek committee approval for the recommendations set out in section 3.1 of this report</p> <p><u>Background</u></p> <p>The following Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr Gerry O'Hare was referred to SPR committee at the Council Meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2023</p> <p><b><i>"That this Council acknowledges the announcement on the 19th October 2022, by the then Health Minister, Robin Swann that Daisy Hill Hospital would become an Elective Overnight Stay Centre for patients requiring intermediate complexity surgery with an overnight stay. Accepts that this announcement demonstrates the confidence of the Minister, Department of Health and clinicians that Daisy Hill Hospital can provide this regional service and improve access and reduce waiting times for planned elective surgical care for the people of Newry, Mourne, South Armagh and Down. Further accepts that key to implementing plans to make Daisy Hill an Overnight Elective Stay Centre will require acquisition of the Monaghan Row Council site. Commits as a matter of priority, to make public its plan to facilitate the transfer of the Monaghan Row site to the Southern Trust, so that Daisy Hill can join the Elective Care Centre model and play an important role in tackling our lengthy waiting lists and improving outcomes for our patients."</i></b></p> <p>The Council Corporate Plan 2015-2019 set out as one of the key actions the establishment of a new Civic Centre for Newry to help attain a number of strategic objectives.</p> <p>The Civic Centre project has evolved into a package of City Centre Regeneration projects that include a Civic Centre and Regional Hub, Theatre/ Conference facility incorporating digital innovation hub, public realm, and Grade A office accommodation.</p>

	<p>An Outline Business Case (OBC) has been approved to support the Capital funding commitment by Council and to secure the funding allocation through the Belfast Region City Deal.</p> <p>RIBA Sate 3 Design Development work is progressing on the Civic and Regional Hub project as part of the NCCR programme of works, part of this project involves delivery of high quality Public Realm supported by the investment from BRCD.</p>
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Key issues</b>
2.1	The Regional and Civic Hub element of the project has been developed to deliver the provision of high quality office accommodation to support the delivery of modern, high quality public services.
2.2	Moving to a new office facility within the City Core of Newry will release the current site at Monaghan Row, it has been the intention of the council that the site should be offered to our community planning partners and in particular the Southern Health and Social Care Trust.
2.3	Council officials have been engaging with the Trust Officials
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
3.1	Members agree to make public its plan to facilitate the transfer of the Monaghan Row site to the Southern Health and Social Care Trust, so that Daisy Hill can join the Elective Care Centre model and play an important role in tackling our lengthy waiting lists and improving outcomes for our patients.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Resource implications</b>
4.1	Officer time
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)</b>
5.1	<p><b><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></b></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><b><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></b></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><b><i>Proposal initiating consultation</i></b></p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i></p>
6.0	<p><b>Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)</b></p>
6.1	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Yes <input 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><b>Appendices</b></p> <p><b>None</b></p>
8.0	<p><b>Background Documents</b></p> <p><b>None</b></p>



<b>Report to:</b>	Strategy, Policy & Resources Committee
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	16 February 2023
<b>Subject:</b>	Request for name to be added to Castlewellan War Memorial
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	Alison Robb, Assistant Director Corporate Services (Administration)
<b>Contact Officers:</b>	Alison Robb, Assistant Director Corporate Services (Administration)  Kevin Scullion, Assistant Director Facilities Maintenance & Management

<table border="1"> <tr> <td><b>For decision</b></td> <td><b>x</b></td> <td><b>For noting only</b></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>		<b>For decision</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>For noting only</b>	
<b>For decision</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>For noting only</b>			
<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose and Background</b>				
1.1	Council has received a request to add the name of a deceased serviceman who died in World War One to Castlewellan War Memorial.				
1.2	The purpose of this report is to set out Council's powers in this matter and seek approval in relation to the request.				
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Key issues</b>				
2.1	Legislative provision relating to Council's powers in relation to War Memorials is contained within the following: Section 42 Public Health Acts Amendment Act 1890; Section 7 Local Government Act (NI) 1923; Section 8 Public Health and Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1955 and Schedule 3 to The Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (NI) Order 1985.				
2.2	The 1923 Act, as amended, gives Council the power to maintain, repair, protect and light War Memorials within the District whether vested in it or not. These are discretionary powers. Council is also permitted to incur reasonable expenditure in the alteration of any War Memorial to make it serve as a Memorial in connection with which it was erected and in the correction of any error or omission in the inscription on any such Memorial.				



2.3	Traditionally Council has carried out repair works to War Memorials, replaced names missing from War Memorials, added additional names upon request, organised power washing and painted surrounding railings. Requests to add additional names are rare, the last one being back in 2021.
2.4	Council's traditional approach to War Memorials as set out in 2.3 above was previously confirmed by DOE and legal opinion from Belfast City Council Legal Services Department.
2.5	There are no formal criteria laid down nationally which cover the names to be included on a War Memorial. It is not however common practice for Councils to include on War Memorials the names of those killed whilst serving elsewhere than in international conflicts such as the two Great Wars and Korean War. The practice is for the names of soldiers and others killed in other conflicts to be added to the Roll of Honour of their individual Army Regiment/organisation.
2.6	The current request has been received from the nephew of a soldier born in Castlewella who was killed in action in Flanders on 10 April 1918. The application meets Council's criteria with supporting evidence provided in relation to the birthplace, service and death details of the deceased.
2.7	There is sufficient space on the current War Memorial in Castlewella to add the additional name, but consent will be required from Libraries NI to undertake the inscription work as the War Memorial is attached to the Library building.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
3.1	As the application meets the criteria for a name to be added to a War Memorial it is recommended that Council accede to this request subject to consent being obtained from Libraries NI to undertake the inscription work.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Resource implications</b>
4.1	It is estimated that the proposed cost to Council in this matter will not exceed £250. Whilst no budget allocation has been made to facilitate such applications it is proposed to use Council's General Maintenance budget to cover the cost, and therefore no additional expenditure will be incurred.
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)</b>

<p>5.1</p>	<p><b>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</b></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>
<p>5.2</p>	<p><b>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</b></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>
<p>5.3</p>	<p><b>Proposal initiating consultation</b></p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/></p>
	<p><i>Rationale:</i></p>

<b>6.0</b>	<b>Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)</b>
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>
<b>7.0</b>	<b>Appendices</b>
	None
<b>8.0</b>	<b>Background Documents</b>
	None

<b>Report to:</b>	Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	16 February 2023
<b>Subject:</b>	Officer Report – Establishment of New Ireland Working Group
<b>Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):</b>	Regina Mackin, Assistant Director Corporate Planning & Policy
<b>Contact Officer (Including Job Title):</b>	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:-

<b>For decision</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>For noting only</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose and Background</b>
1.1	<p>At the Council's Monthly meeting held on 6 February 2023 Councillor Reilly requested Council conduct an equality impact assessment of the decision to establish a New Ireland Working Group.</p> <p>The purpose of this report is to set out the background to the establishment of Council's New Ireland Working Group, the Council's Section 75 statutory duties, Equality Scheme commitments regarding equality screening and equality impact assessment and the context of the decision that the establishment of a New Ireland Working Group not be subject to an equality impact assessment (with no mitigating measures required).</p>
1.2	<p><b>Background to the establishment of Council's New Ireland Working Group</b></p> <p>The decisions to establish the New Ireland Working Group and agree a Terms of Reference have been undertaken as per Council's agreed Standing Orders and governance.</p> <p>Following consideration of a Notice of Motion at the 16 March 2022 Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee meeting, approved at the Council Monthly meeting on 4 April 2022 (subject to the required five-day call-in period), it was agreed to establish a New Ireland Working Group to begin a consultation with other Councils, ratepayers and community and business representatives to assess views on the issues related to constitutional change.</p> <p>The New Ireland Working Group's Terms of Reference was considered and agreed at the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee meeting on 11 August 2022. This decision was approved at the Council Monthly meeting on 5 September 2022 and was subject to the required five-day call-in period.</p> <p>While the purpose of the New Ireland Working Group will be to inform and oversee engagement and consultation to establish the views of ratepayers and community and business representatives, in the Council area, on issues related to constitutional change and the implications for the Council area, it should be noted the Terms of Reference clearly state that, "<i>...actions undertaken in relation to the Notice of Motion do not presuppose a corporate position, support or endorse an outcome in relation to constitutional change.</i>"</p>

<p>1.2</p>	<p><b>The Section 75 statutory duties</b></p> <p>Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 requires Newry, Mourne and Down District Council to comply with two statutory duties:</p> <p>Section 75 (1)                  In carrying out our functions relating to Northern Ireland we are required to have due regard to the need to promote equality of opportunity between:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• persons of different religious belief, political opinion, racial group, age, marital status or sexual orientation</li> <li>• men and women generally</li> <li>• persons with a disability and persons without</li> <li>• persons with dependents and persons without.</li> </ul> <p>Section 75 (2)                  In addition, without prejudice to the obligations above, in carrying out our functions in relation to Northern Ireland we are required to have regard to the desirability of promoting good relations between persons of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group.</p>
<p>1.3</p>	<p><b>Equality screening and equality impact assessment (EQIA)</b></p> <p>Chapter 4 of Council’s Equality Scheme sets out commitments regarding equality screening and equality impact assessment. Equality screening and equality impact assessment are tools to assess the likely impact of a policy on the promotion of equality of opportunity and good relations.</p> <p>The purpose of screening is to identify those policies that are likely to have an impact on equality of opportunity and / or good relations, and one of the following decisions is reached:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Not be subject to an EQIA (with no mitigating measures required)</li> <li>2. Not be subject to an EQIA (with mitigating measures /alternative policies)</li> <li>3. Not be subject to an EQIA at this time</li> <li>4. Be subject to an EQIA</li> </ol> <p>Should the outcome of screening be that a policy be subject to an EQIA, Council is committed to conducting an EQIA.</p> <p>An equality impact assessment (EQIA) is a thorough and systematic analysis of a policy, whether that policy is formal or informal, and irrespective of the scope of the policy. The primary function of an EQIA is to determine the extent of any impact of a policy upon the Section 75 categories and to determine if the impact is an adverse one.</p>
<p><b>Key issues</b></p>	
<p>2.1</p>	<p>As stated in section 1.1, at the Council’s Monthly meeting on 6 February 2023 Councillor Reilly requested that Council conduct an equality impact assessment of the decision to establish a New Ireland Working Group.</p>
<p>2.2</p>	<p>It should be noted that the establishment of a New Ireland Working Group was equality screened, and that the outcome of the equality screening undertaken on 18 July 2022 was that the establishment of a New Ireland Working Group not be subject to an equality impact assessment (with no mitigating measures required).</p>

	<p>As set out within the equality screening document (Appendix I), this decision has been reached on the basis that, in terms of due regard to promoting equality of opportunity and regard towards the desirability of promoting good relations, Council has sought to mitigate potential adverse impact through committing to support people of different constitutional backgrounds and that membership of the New Ireland Working Group will be open to all Elected Members of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council.</p> <p>This outcome was reported within Council's Section 75 Policy Screening Report – Quarterly Report for period July – September 2022 which was tabled for noting at the Council's Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee meeting on 13 October 2022.</p>
2.3	<p>In relation to Council Reilly's request that Council conduct an EQIA of the decision to establish a New Ireland Working Group, Council if minded may give consideration to this request and agree to initiate an EQIA.</p> <p>However, it should be noted that Council's present corporate position is that establishment of a New Ireland Working Group not be subject to an equality impact assessment (with no mitigating measures required).</p> <p>In relation to screening decisions, as per section 4.14 of the Council's Equality Scheme, <i>"If a consultee, including the Equality Commission, raises a concern about a screening decision based on supporting evidence, we (Council) will review the screening decision."</i></p> <p>The Corporate Policy Section has not received a request, setting out areas of concern with supporting evidence, to review the screening decision.</p>
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
3.1	Members are asked to note the contents of this report in relation to considering Councillor Reilly's request that Council conduct an EQIA of the decision to establish a New Ireland Working Group.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Resource implications</b>
4.1	No anticipated resource implications.
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)</b>
5.1	<p><b><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></b></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><b><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></b></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><b><i>Proposal initiating consultation</i></b></p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i></p>
6.0	<p><b>Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)</b></p>
6.1	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	<p><b>Appendices</b></p>
	<p>Appendix I: Equality Screening Establishment of New Ireland Working Group</p>
8.0	<p><b>Background Documents</b></p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998</li> <li>• Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Equality Scheme</li> </ul>

## Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Policy Screening Form

### Policy Information

Name of the policy	Establishment of a New Ireland Working Group
Is this an existing, revised or new policy?	New - decision
What is it trying to achieve (aims/outcomes)	<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>
Are there any Section 75 categories which might be expected to benefit from the intended policy? If so, explain how.	While it is intended that all section 75 categories will benefit from the establishment of a New Ireland Working Group, people of different political opinion (nationalist/republican), religious belief (Roman Catholic) and racial group (Irish national identity) might be expected to benefit from the proposal.
Who initiated or wrote the policy?	The decision emanates from a Notice of Motion
Who owns and who implements the policy?	Marie Ward, Chief Executive

### Implementation factors

	Yes	No
Are there any factors which could contribute to/detract from the intended aim/outcome of the policy/decision?		
If yes, are they Financial	X	
If yes, are they Legislative	X	
If yes, and they are Other please specify:		



### Main stakeholders affected

Who are the internal and external stakeholders (actual or potential) that the policy will impact upon?

	Yes	No
Staff	X	
Service users	X	
Other public sector organisations	X	
Voluntary/community/trade unions	X	
Other, please specify:	Community in general	

### Other policies with a bearing on this policy

What are they? Who owns them?	NMDDC Equality Scheme The Belfast Agreement 1998
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### Available evidence

What evidence/information (both qualitative and quantitative) have you gathered to inform this policy? Specify details for relevant Section 75 categories.

Section 75 Category	Details of needs/experiences/priorities					
Religious belief	<b>LGD</b>	<b>All usual residents</b>	<b>Catholic</b>	<b>Protestant and other Christian</b>	<b>Other religions</b>	<b>None</b>
	<b>Northern Ireland</b>	1,810,863	817,385 (45.14%)	875,717 (48.36%)	16,592 (0.92%)	101,169 (5.59%)
	<b>Newry, Mourne &amp; Down</b>	169,211	122,544 (72.42%)	40,273 (23.8%)	861 (0.5%)	5533 (3.3%)
(Source: Census Data 2011 - Religion or Religion Brought Up In: KS212NI).						
Political opinion	Elected political party representation is an approximate barometer of political opinion of people within the Council area.  The party breakdown of the Council's elected members is as follows:					

	<p>Sinn Féin 16 seats                  SDLP 11 seats                  Democratic Unionist 3 seats                  Independents 5 seats                  Ulster Unionist 3 seats                  Alliance 2 seats                  TUV 1 seat</p> <p><b>Political Attitudes in Northern Ireland after Brexit and under the Protocol (ARK, Research Update, Number 147, May 2022)</b></p> <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Belfast/Good Friday Agreement is seen as the best basis for governing NI, either as it stands or with revisions (65%), with only 6 per cent wanting to see it gone altogether.</li> <li>• 'Irish not British' is now the dominant identity (26%), compared to 21 per cent 'British not Irish'.</li> <li>• 'Neither unionist nor nationalist' remains the largest self-described political identity at 37% (42% in 2020). There has been a drop in the reporting of unionist identities (from 35% in 2020 to 32% in 2021), and an increase in nationalist identities (from 19% in 2020 to 26% in 2021).</li> <li>• There has been a strengthening of both nationalist and unionist identities: 69% of nationalists now identify as 'very' or 'fairly strongly' so, while the same is true of 63% of unionists.</li> <li>• Nearly one half of respondents (49%) believe that the long-term policy for Northern Ireland should be to remain part of the UK, although this has fallen since 2020.</li> <li>• One third (34%) state they would vote for a united Ireland tomorrow.</li> <li>• 63% of respondents believe that a united Ireland is more likely after Brexit.</li> <li>• 37% of respondents feel that Brexit has made them more in favour of a united Ireland.</li> <li>• Awareness of, and support for, the Protocol has increased markedly since 2020. 65% claim knowledge of it and the proportion who think that it is 'on balance a good thing' has more than doubled to 33%. 33% think it a 'mixed bag' while 21% think it 'on balance a bad thing'.</li> <li>• There are clear differences between unionists, nationalist and 'neithers' in their opinions on the Protocol. The plurality of unionists think it on balance bad for NI (44%) although 40 per cent think it 'a mixed bag'. The plurality of 'neithers' think the Protocol is 'a mixed bag' (41%). The clear majority of nationalists think that the Protocol is on balance good (69%).</li> </ul>
<p>Racial group</p>	<p>According to the 2011 Census, 1.8% (32,400) of the usually resident population of Northern Ireland belongs to minority ethnic groups; this is more than double the proportion in 2001 (0.8%).</p> <p>The minority ethnic language profile within the area serves as a possible indicator of the BME community profile.</p> <p>The composition of language groups in the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area is noted by NISRA (2011) as follows:</p> <p><b>Minority Ethnic Language Profile of the Newry, Mourne and Down LGD</b></p>

	<b>Area</b>		
	Main language of residents in Newry, Mourne and Down District LGD	Number	Percentage %
	English	156794	97.15
	Polish	2100	1.18
	Lithuanian	836	0.47
	Irish	367	0.24
	Portuguese	86	0.05
	Slovak	134	0.08
	Chinese	121	0.07
	Tagalog/Filipino	55	0.03
	Latvian	208	0.25
	Russian	109	0.06
	Malayalam	87	0.05
	Hungarian	74	0.04
Other	755	0.46	
Age	The age profile of the Newry, Mourne and Down LGD area at Census Day 2011 is as follows:		
	Age Profile	NI	Newry, Mourne & Down
	0-4	124382	12721
	5-7	67662	6876
	8-9	43625	4595
	10-14	119034	12287
	15	24620	2599
	16-17	51440	5260
	18-19	50181	4570
	20-24	126013	11570
	25-29	124099	11805
	30-34	373947	35122
	45-59	347850	32556
	60-64	94290	8624
	65-74	145600	12817
	75-84	86724	7453
	85-89	21165	1849
	90+	10231	829
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The total population is projected to increase to 191,282 in 2025 and to 205,000.</li> <li>➤ The number of children (i.e. those aged under 16) is projected to increase from 39,740 in 2015 to 41,924 in 2025 and then to reduce slightly in 2037 to 40,811.</li> <li>➤ The working age population is projected to increase from 109,777 in 2015 to 117,398 in 2025 and then to increase to 121,102 in 2037.</li> <li>➤ The number of those aged 65 and over is projected to increase from 28,378 in 2015 to 32,511 in 2025 and to 42,358 in 2037.</li> </ul>		

Marital status	The table below illustrates the marital status profile of the Newry, Mourne and Down area:		
	Marital Status	Newry, Mourne and Down LGD	NI
	All usual residents: Aged 16+ years	132455	1431540
	Single (never married or never registered a same-sex civil partnership) Aged 16+ years	47722	517393 (35.14%)
	Married: Aged 16+ years	65255	680831 (47.56%)
	In a registered same-sex civil partnership: Aged 16+ years	102	1243 (0.09%)
	Separated (but still legally married or still legally in a same-sex civil partnership): Aged 16+ years	4697	56911 (3.98%)
	Divorced or formerly in a same-sex civil partnership which is now legally dissolved	6271	78074 (5.45%)
	Widowed or surviving partner from a same-sex civil partnership: Aged 16+	8408	97088 (6.78%)

	years																	
Sexual orientation	<p>Analysis of the Census 2011 indicates that between 2% and 10% of the population may be lesbian, gay or bisexual.</p> <p>There are no official statistics in relation to the number of gay, lesbian or bisexual people in Northern Ireland. However, research conducted by the HM Treasury shows that between 5% - 7% of the UK population identify themselves as gay, lesbian, bisexual or 'trans' (transsexual, transgendered and transvestite) (LGBT). This is a sizeable proportion of the population here in Northern Ireland.</p>																	
Men and women generally	<p>The gender profile for the Newry, Mourne and Down LGD is as follows:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>LGD</th> <th>Male</th> <th>Female</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Northern Ireland</td> <td>887323</td> <td>923540</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Newry, Mourne and Down LGD</td> <td>83866</td> <td>85345</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			LGD	Male	Female	Northern Ireland	887323	923540	Newry, Mourne and Down LGD	83866	85345						
LGD	Male	Female																
Northern Ireland	887323	923540																
Newry, Mourne and Down LGD	83866	85345																
Disability	<p>According to the 2011 Census 19.62% of people in the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area have a long-term health problem or disability that limits their day-to-day activities;</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>LGD</th> <th>All usual residents</th> <th>Long-term health problem or disability: Day-to-day activities limited a lot</th> <th>Long-term health problem or disability: Day-to-day activities limited a little</th> <th>Long-term health problem or disability: Day-to-day activities not limited</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Northern Ireland</td> <td>1810863</td> <td>215232 (11.89%)</td> <td>159414 (8.8%)</td> <td>1436217 (79.31%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Newry, Mourne and Down</td> <td>171533</td> <td>19579 (11.4%)</td> <td>14102 (8.22%)</td> <td>135530 (79.01%)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>In Northern Ireland the profile of people with a disability is cited as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More than 1 in 5 or 21% of the population in Northern Ireland has a disability The incidence of disability is higher in Northern Ireland than any other part of the UK</li> <li>• 1 in 7 people in Northern Ireland have some form of hearing loss</li> <li>• 5,000 sign language users who use British Sign Language (BSL) and/or Irish Sign Language (ISL)</li> <li>• In Northern Ireland there are 57,000 blind people or people with significant visual impairment</li> <li>• 52,000 people with learning disabilities</li> </ul> <p>(Source: Disability Action)</p>			LGD	All usual residents	Long-term health problem or disability: Day-to-day activities limited a lot	Long-term health problem or disability: Day-to-day activities limited a little	Long-term health problem or disability: Day-to-day activities not limited	Northern Ireland	1810863	215232 (11.89%)	159414 (8.8%)	1436217 (79.31%)	Newry, Mourne and Down	171533	19579 (11.4%)	14102 (8.22%)	135530 (79.01%)
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Dependants	<p>Persons with dependants may be people who have personal responsibility for the care of a child (or children), a person with a disability, and / or a</p>																	

	<p>dependent older person.</p> <p>There are 61,998 households in Newry, Mourne and Down, 37.5% of which have dependents. With regard to these figures, dependents are defined as those aged 0-15 years or those aged 16-18 years who are in full-time education and living with their parents or grandparents. Similar to the regional trend, the proportion of households with dependents in the District has declined from 50% in 1981 to 37.5% in 2011.</p> <p>There are 5,466 lone parent households with dependent children in Newry, Mourne and Down which equates to almost 9% of number of total households in the District and is the fourth highest in Northern Ireland, after Belfast (17,036), Derry and Strabane (6,337) and Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon (6,337). Half of the parents in lone parent household in Newry, Mourne and Down are unemployed, almost a quarter are in full time employment and over a quarter are in part time employment. 89% of the parents in lone parent households are female compared to 11% who are male.</p> <p>In 2012, the teenage conception rate was 1.02 per 1,000 mothers, which is the third lowest in N.Ireland before Lisburn and Castlereagh and Fermanagh and Omagh.</p>
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### Needs, experiences and priorities

Taking into account the information referred to above, what are the different needs, experiences and priorities of each of the following categories, in relation to the particular policy/decision? Specify details for each of the Section 75 categories

Section 75 Category	Details of needs/experiences/priorities
Religious belief	<p>In general:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People from a Protestant community background, people who designate as Unionist, and people of British national identity predominantly support the status quo and maintenance of Northern Ireland's constitutional position within the United Kingdom.</li> <li>• People from a Roman Catholic community background, people who designate as Nationalist or Republican, and people of Irish national identity predominantly support Northern Ireland leaving the United Kingdom to join Ireland (Irish unity).</li> </ul> <p>The Belfast Agreement 1998 sets out Constitutional Issues including to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1(i) recognise the legitimacy of whatever choice is freely exercised by a majority of the people of Northern Ireland with regard to its status, whether they prefer to continue to support the Union with Great Britain or a sovereign united Ireland."</li> <li>• 1(ii) recognise that it is for the people of the island of Ireland alone, by agreement between the two parts respectively and without</li> </ul>
Political opinion	
Racial group	
Age	
Marital status	
Sexual orientation	
Men and women generally	
Disability	
Dependants	

	<p>external impediment, to exercise their right of self-determination on the basis of consent, freely and concurrently given, North and South, to bring about a united Ireland, if that is their wish, accepting that this right must be achieved and exercised with and subject to their agreement and consent of a majority of the people of Northern Ireland.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1(iii) acknowledge that while a substantial section of the people in Northern Ireland share the legitimate wish of a majority of the people of the island of Ireland for a united Ireland, the present wish of a majority of the people of Northern Ireland, freely exercised and legitimate, is to maintain the Union and, accordingly, that Northern Ireland's status as part of the United Kingdom reflects and relies upon that wish; and that it would be wrong to make any change in the status of Northern Ireland save with the consent of the majority of its people.</li> </ul> <p>Schedule 1, Polls for the Purpose of Section 1, sets out that it is for the Secretary of State who may by order direct the holding of a poll. The Secretary of State shall exercise this power if at any time it appears likely to him that a majority of those voting would express a wish that Northern Ireland should cease to be part of the United Kingdom and form part of a united Ireland.</p> <p>The ARK Research Update (May 2022) on <i>Political Attitudes in Northern Ireland after Brexit and under the Protocol</i> sets out the following key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Belfast/Good Friday Agreement is seen as the best basis for governing NI, either as it stands or with revisions (65%), with only 6 per cent wanting to see it gone altogether.</li> <li>• 'Irish not British' is now the dominant identity (26%), compared to 21 per cent 'British not Irish'.</li> <li>• 'Neither unionist nor nationalist' remains the largest self-described political identity at 37% (42% in 2020). There has been a drop in the reporting of unionist identities (from 35% in 2020 to 32% in 2021), and an increase in nationalist identities (from 19% in 2020 to 26% in 2021).</li> <li>• There has been a strengthening of both nationalist and unionist identities: 69% of nationalists now identify as 'very' or 'fairly strongly' so, while the same is true of 63% of unionists.</li> <li>• Nearly one half of respondents (49%) believe that the long-term policy for Northern Ireland should be to remain part of the UK, although this has fallen since 2020.</li> <li>• One third (34%) state they would vote for a united Ireland tomorrow.</li> <li>• 63% of respondents believe that a united Ireland is more likely after Brexit.</li> <li>• 37% of respondents feel that Brexit has made them more in favour of a united Ireland.</li> <li>• Awareness of, and support for, the Protocol has increased markedly since 2020. 65% claim knowledge of it and the proportion who think that it is 'on balance a good thing' has more than doubled to 33%. 33% think it a 'mixed bag' while 21% think it 'on balance a bad thing'.</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are clear differences between unionists, nationalist and 'neithers' in their opinions on the Protocol. The plurality of unionists think it on balance bad for NI (44%) although 40 per cent think it 'a mixed bag'. The plurality of 'neithers' think the Protocol is 'a mixed bag' (41%). The clear majority of nationalists think that the Protocol is on balance good (69%).</li> </ul> <p><b>(Political Attitudes in Northern Ireland after Brexit and under the Protocol, ARK, Research Update Number 147, Hayward, Komarova and Rosher, May 2022)</b></p>
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### Screening Questions

1. What is the likely impact on equality of opportunity for those affected by this policy, for each of the Section 75 grounds?

Section 75 category	Details of policy impact	Level of impact? Major/minor/none
Religious belief	<p>The decision of Council is the establishment of 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> <p>The implementation will be underpinned by the Working Group's Terms of Reference, a draft of which has been prepared for consideration by Council's Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee.</p> <p>The draft Terms of Reference states the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The purpose of the New Ireland Working Group will be to inform and oversee engagement and consultation to establish the views of ratepayers and community and business representatives, in the Council area, on issues related to constitutional change and the implications for the Council area.</li> <li>It should be noted the actions undertaken in relation to the Notice of Motion do not presuppose a corporate position,</li> </ul>	Minor
Political opinion		
Racial group		
Age		
Marital status		
Sexual orientation		
Men and women generally		
Disability		
Dependants		



	<p>support or endorse an outcome in relation to constitutional change.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It will play a role in supporting people of different constitutional backgrounds</li> <li>• Membership of the New Ireland Working Group is open to all Elected Members of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council.</li> </ul>	
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2. Are there opportunities to better promote equality of opportunity for people within the Section 75 equality categories?

Section 75 category	If Yes, provide details	If No, provide details
Religious belief		<p>No.</p> <p>As noted, in terms of equality of opportunity to participate, Council has sought to mitigate potential adverse impact through committing to support people of different constitutional backgrounds and that membership of the New Ireland Working Group will be open to all Elected Members of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council.</p>
Political opinion		
Racial group		
Age		
Marital status		
Sexual orientation		
Men and women generally		
Disability		
Dependants		

3. To what extent is the policy likely to impact on good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group?

Good relations category	Details of policy impact	Level of impact? Major/minor/none
Religious belief	<p>The decision of 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 has potential to indirectly impact upon good relations.</p> <p>However, it should be noted the implementation will be underpinned by the Working Group's Terms of Reference, a draft of which has been prepared for consideration by Council's Strategy, Policy</p>	Minor
Political opinion		
Racial group		

	<p>and Resources Committee.</p> <p>The draft Terms of Reference states the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The purpose of the New Ireland Working Group will be to inform and oversee engagement and consultation to establish the views of ratepayers and community and business representatives, in the Council area, on issues related to constitutional change and the implications for the Council area.</li> <li>• It should be noted the actions undertaken in relation to the Notice of Motion do not presuppose a corporate position, support or endorse an outcome in relation to constitutional change.</li> <li>• It will play a role in supporting people of different constitutional backgrounds</li> <li>• Membership of the New Ireland Working Group is open to all Elected Members of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council.</li> </ul>	
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**4. Are there opportunities to better promote good relations between people of different religious belief, political opinion or racial group?**

Good relations category	If <b>Yes</b> , provide details	If <b>No</b> , provide details
Religious belief		No.
Political opinion		
Racial group		It should be noted that the Working Group's draft Terms of Reference notes the actions undertaken in relation to the

		<p>Notice of Motion do not presuppose a corporate position, support or endorse an outcome in relation to constitutional change.</p> <p>In addition, in terms of regard towards the desirability of promoting good relations, Council has sought to mitigate potential adverse impact through committing to support people of different constitutional backgrounds and that membership of the New Ireland Working Group will be open to all Elected Members of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council.</p>
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## Additional considerations

### Multiple identity

Generally speaking, people can fall into more than one Section 75 category. Taking this into consideration, are there any potential impacts of the policy/decision on people with multiple identities? (For example; disabled minority ethnic people; disabled women; young Protestant men; and young lesbians, gay and bisexual people).

N/A

Provide details of data on the impact of the policy on people with multiple identities. Specify relevant Section 75 categories concerned.

### Screening Decision

In light of your answers to the previous questions, do you feel that the policy should (please underline one):

1. **Not be subject to an EQIA (with no mitigating measures required)**
2. Not be subject to an EQIA (with mitigating measures /alternative policies)
3. Not be subject to an EQIA at this time
4. Be subject to an EQIA

If 1. or 2. (i.e. not be subject to an EQIA), please provide details of the reasons why:

The outcome of the equality screening is that the establishment of a New Ireland Working Group not be subject to an equality impact assessment (with no mitigating measures required).

This decision has been reached on the basis that, in terms of due regard to promoting equality of opportunity and regard towards the desirability of promoting

good relations, Council has sought to mitigate potential adverse impact through committing to support people of different constitutional backgrounds and that membership of the New Ireland Working Group will be open to all Elected Members of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council.

If 2. (i.e. not be subject to an EQIA), in what ways can identified adverse impacts attaching to the policy be mitigated or an alternative policy be introduced?

In light of these revisions, is there a need to re-screen the revised/alternative policy? Yes / No. If No, please explain why

If 3. or 4. (i.e. to conduct an EQIA), please provide details of the reasons:

### Timetabling and prioritising EQIA

If 3. or 4, is the policy affected by timetables established by other relevant public authorities? NO

If YES, please provide details:

Please answer the following questions to determine priority for timetabling the EQIA. On a scale of 1-3, with 1 being the lowest priority and 3 being the highest, assess the policy in terms of its priority for EQIA.

Priority criterion	Rating (1-3)
Effect on equality of opportunity and good relations	
Social need	
Effect on people's daily lives	
Relevance to a public authority's functions	

Note: The Total Rating Score should be used to prioritise the policy in rank order with other policies screened in for EQIA. This list of priorities will assist you in

timetabling the EQIA. Details of your EQIA timetable should be included in the quarterly Section 75 report.

Proposed date for commencing EQIA: \_\_\_\_\_

### Monitoring

Effective monitoring will help identify any future adverse impacts arising from the policy which may lead you to conduct an EQIA, as well as help with future planning and policy development.

Please detail proposed monitoring arrangements below:

Council will monitor the implementation of the New Ireland Working Group

### Approval and Authorisation

Screened by:	Position/Job Title	Date
Approved by:		
Colin Moffett	Head of Corporate Policy	18 July 2022

Note: The completed policy screening template, signed off by the appropriate policy lead within the Council, and approved by the senior manager responsible for the policy, should be forwarded to the Head of Corporate Policy who will arrange for it to be included in the Council's Quarterly Report on Screening and made available on the Council's website.

**NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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**Minutes of Newry City Centre Regeneration Programme Board Meeting  
held on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2023, 11.00am  
Hybrid: Council Chamber, Newry & MS Teams**

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**In Attendance:****Programme Board Members**

**Councillor Pete Byrne - Chair (Teams)**  
**Councillor David Taylor**

**NMDDC Officials**

**Conor Mallon, Director of Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism**  
**Josephine Kelly, Director of Corporate Services**  
**Andy Patterson, Assistant Director, Tourism Culture & Events**  
**Jonathan McGilly, Assistant Director, Enterprise, Employment & Regeneration**  
**Anthony McKay, Chief Planner**  
**Conor McGeown, Strategic Capital Projects Manager: Capital Projects & Procurement**  
**Conor Haughey, Head of Outdoor Leisure**  
**Tracie McLoughlin PA**

**External Members**

**Damian Mulholland, DFC**

**Apologies**

**Councillor Gary Stokes**  
**Councillor Geraldine Kearns**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and highlighted there wasn't a quorum present therefore no decisions could be agreed.

**NCCR/152: Project Board Action Sheets**

- a) NMD & BRCD Project Board Mtg – 26<sup>th</sup> Jan 2023
- b) Newry City Park Project Board Mtg – 31<sup>st</sup> Jan 2023

The Chair enquired if there had been any delays due to meetings being cancelled and if planning application available to the public. Conor McGeown clarified it was meeting with the design team there was no effect on cancellations. He assured members that work on the theatre/conference and civic hub was progressing following feedback

Anthony McKay confirmed application was received on 19<sup>th</sup> Jan 2023 and being processed.

The Chair asked if the images of the civic hub shown recently on press social media channels had been issued by the council.

Conor Mallon confirmed the external civic hub image recently shared on social media had not been issued to media outlets directly by Council.

There was an action from a previous OBC Working Group meeting that the images would be shared with members of the Working Group, this had been actioned.

Mr Mallon said it is hoped that Council will have updated images in the coming weeks.

**Members in attendance 'Noted' Action Sheets of NMD & BRCD Project Board Mtg 26<sup>th</sup> Jan 2023 and Newry City Park Project Board Mtg 31<sup>st</sup> Jan 2023**

### **NCCR/153: Draft Civic Hub Design Layout**

Mr Mallon discussed the draft proposals for accommodation as follows:

Ground Floor: comprises of Foyer, reception, ceremony room, registration office, open plan office space, range of Meeting Rooms, breakout space, Teapoint / Kitchen, toilets and showers.

Also a Changing Places Facility for internal and external use which can be accessible 24hrs

First Floor: Open plan office space, range of meeting rooms, break out areas, teams call booths.

Second Floor: Council Chamber, Chairperson's Room, Members/Meeting Rooms, Members/Conference Room, breakout areas, open plan offices.

The Chair said as there were only 2 Programme Board Members present at the meeting, they were unable to approve the draft drawings. The Chair proposed the Draft Drawing should be attached as an appendix with the minutes of this meeting for consideration at the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting.

The Chair asked if there was discussion in respect of future tenants. Mr Mallon confirmed that office space on the ground floor is still under consideration as potential space for lease to a public sector body or for the BRCD Innovation Regional Hub. These discussions will be ongoing.

Cllr Taylor asked if the Chamber will accommodate 41 members. Mr Mallon confirmed the chamber is designed for 41 members plus officials, press and members of the public.

**In the absence of a quorum, it was agreed to recommend that the drawing of civic centre internal hub be attached as an appendix to these minutes for consideration at Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting to be held on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2023.**

**RESTRICTED –**

**NCCR/154: NCCR Programme Dashboard and Graphics (Conor McGeown)**

- a) Programme Dashboard Report (Encl)
- b) Programme Dashboard Graphics (Encl)
- c) Risk Register (Encl)
- d) Issues Log (Encl)

The Chair asked if there were any notable changes to the Risk Register.  
Mr McGeown said:

- CMG advised that they were no notable changes to the risk register. Whilst the planning application had been submitted until approval was granted it would remain on the register.

**NCCR Update**

- There was an increase in the spend due to the planning fees.
- PQQ and ITT documents to be drafted.
- Workshops were held this week.
- Newry Park OBC finalised and submitted to DFC.

The Chair said the Programme Board can look at the timelines at the next meeting when more members are in attendance.

The Chair asked what is the update on the Grade A Office Accommodation.

Mr Mallon advised that we are working with the DfC on this with the expectation that the details of the fund and how it will be administered will be announced in the summer.

**NCCR/155: Newry City Park Stakeholders Group Membership**

Conor Haughey advised it was agreed the membership of the Newry City Park Stakeholders groups be reviewed, expressions of interest have been received and those applications that met the criteria were approved at the Newry City Park Project Board in January 2023. Following a query from Cllr Byrne, Mr Haughey advised this included some members who were on the previous Stakeholders Group. *(A copy of the successful applications was circulated with the Agenda).*

The Chair asked if substitutes are permitted to attend meetings in the event the nominated representative is not available. Conor Haughey said there are 2 representatives agreed per organisation/group and only these members will be eligible to attend meetings and that organisations/groups will be advised of this.

Following comment from the Cllr Taylor, it was agreed that reference to Our Lady's Grammar School be amended to say 'Newry Schools Representative' to reflect



members are participating on behalf of all Schools in the Newry area as agreed by the School Principals.

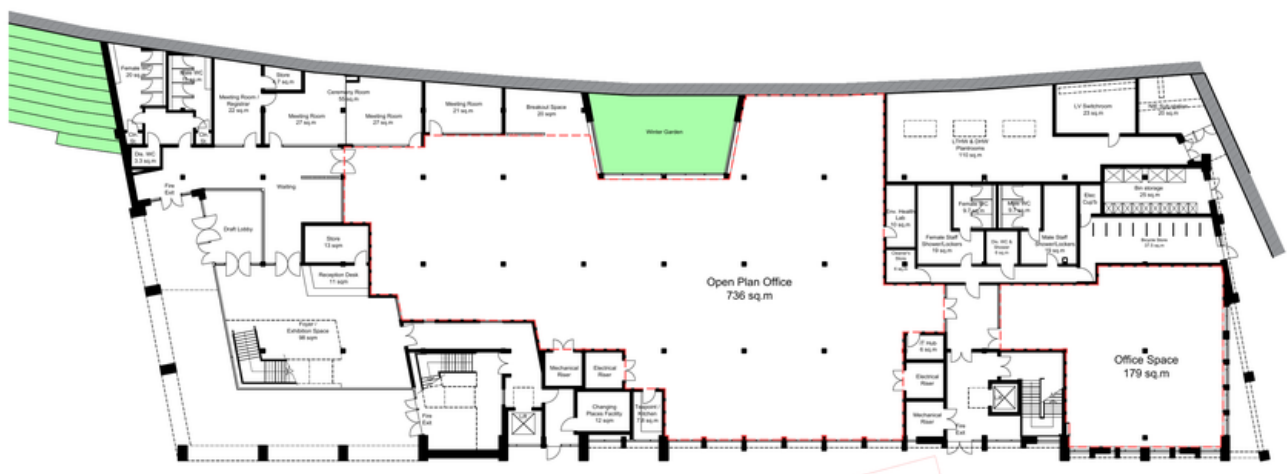
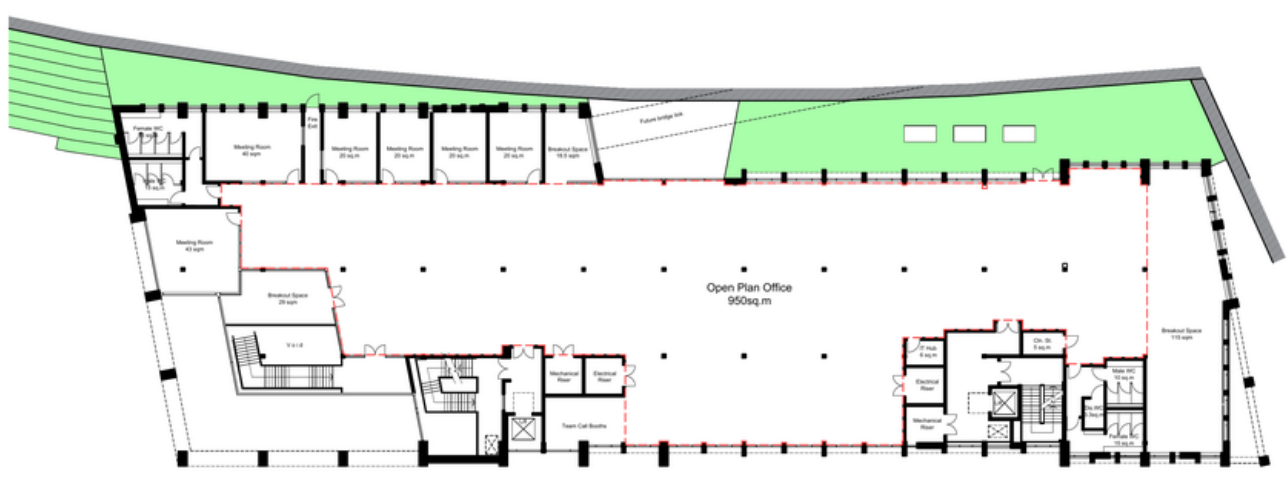
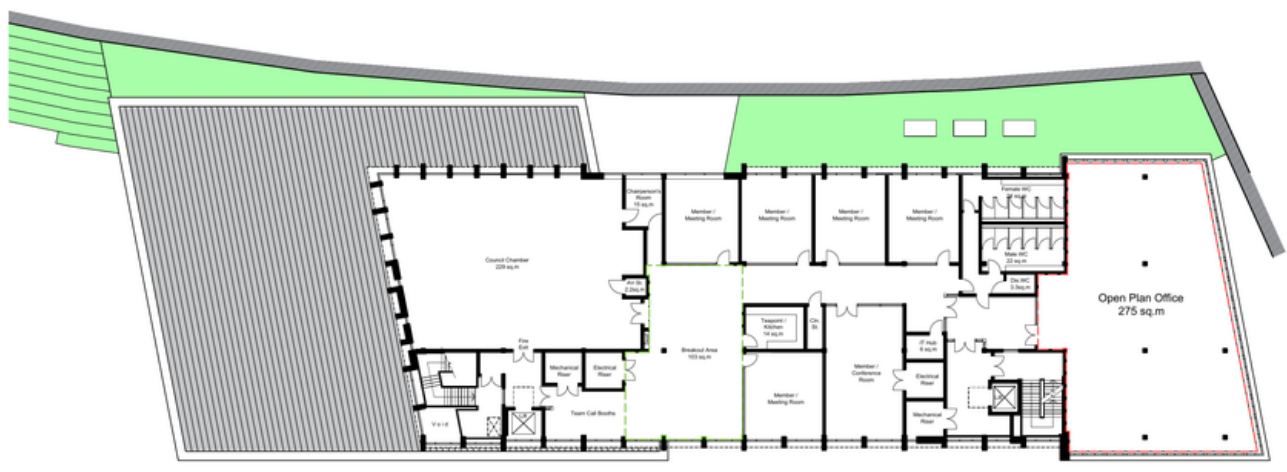
**In the absence of a quorum, it was agreed to recommend that the Officer's recommendation and the list of successful applicants be forwarded to absent Programme Board Members for approval and thereafter attached as an appendix to these minutes for consideration at Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting to be held on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2023.**

**NCCR/156: Date for Next Meeting**

**Noted** - Next meeting scheduled for Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2023 10am.

This concluded the business of the Meeting. The Meeting ended at 11.43am

**Approved by Newry City Centre Regeneration Programme Board.  
For Noting at the Strategy Policy and Resources Committee 16<sup>th</sup> February 2023**



DRAFT  
For Discussion Only

Notes:  
 1. Do not scale.  
 2. Contractor to check all dimensions and report variations and errors to the Architect.  
 3. Hamilton Architects LLP accepts no liability for use of this drawing for purposes other than those for which it was prepared.  
 4. This drawing is issued for approval. It is not an offer of any professional services and the recipient is responsible for their own professional responsibilities for which they are solely responsible. This drawing is based on project information current at the time of issue. Hamilton Architects LLP accepts no liability for any omissions or additions to or changes made during or after the drawing is issued. Information that occurs after it is issued by Hamilton Architects LLP.  
 5. The drawing does not contain detailed construction details to be used for construction purposes.

Rev	Description	Date	Initial	CHK'd	Rev	Description	Date	Initial	CHK'd
P18	Plans revised following client meeting 20.01.21	02.02.21	MP	MP	P18	Plans revised following client meeting 20.01.21	02.02.21	MP	MP
P15	Final audit added to First Floor above Chamber	08.12.20	MP	MP	P15	Final audit added to First Floor above Chamber	08.12.20	MP	MP
P12	Structure grid revised to Council Chamber	26.10.20	MP	MP	P12	Structure grid revised to Council Chamber	26.10.20	MP	MP
P12	Plans updated following client feedback	12.10.20	MP	MP	P12	Plans updated following client feedback	12.10.20	MP	MP
P12	Internal layout updated	12.08.20	MP	MP	P12	Internal layout updated	12.08.20	MP	MP
P11	Floor plans revised as per HED email 24.07.20	20.08.20	MP	MP	P11	Floor plans revised as per HED email 24.07.20	20.08.20	MP	MP
10	Council Chamberwork added	20.08.20	MP	MP	10	Council Chamberwork added	20.08.20	MP	MP
9	Public lift moved & plans updated	20.08.20	MP	MP	9	Public lift moved & plans updated	20.08.20	MP	MP
8	Plans updated as per client email 10.08.20	20.08.20	MP	MP	8	Plans updated as per client email 10.08.20	20.08.20	MP	MP
7	Floor plans updated to reflect relocations	10.08.20	MP	MP	7	Floor plans updated to reflect relocations	10.08.20	MP	MP
6	Departmental rooms added	21.05.20	MP	MP	6	Departmental rooms added	21.05.20	MP	MP
5	Floor plans updated	11.05.20	MP	MP	5	Floor plans updated	11.05.20	MP	MP
4	Agreement received from client revised	11.05.20	MP	MP	4	Agreement received from client revised	11.05.20	MP	MP
3	Furniture revised & layouts updated	07.05.20	MP	MP	3	Furniture revised & layouts updated	07.05.20	MP	MP
2	Internal layout added & Section A-A added	07.04.20	AC	MP	2	Internal layout added & Section A-A added	07.04.20	AC	MP
1	Floor Plans & Section A-A added	05.04.20	AC	MP	1	Floor Plans & Section A-A added	05.04.20	AC	MP

Newry Civic Hub  
 Abbey Way, Newry  
 Sketch Design  
 Proposed Floor Plans (Option 5)  
 S2 - For Information 1:200@A1  
 19048 HAM XX XX DR A 00724 P24  
 06.12.2022

