

**NEWRY MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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**Minutes of Strategy Policy & Resources Committee Meeting held on Thursday 11 June 2015 at 6.00pm in the Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick.**

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**Chairperson:** Councillor R Burgess

**Vice Chairperson:** Councillor H Reilly

**In Attendance:** Councillor P Brown Councillor S Burns  
Councillor M Carr Councillor W Clarke  
Councillor G Craig Councillor D Curran  
Councillor G Donnelly Councillor L Kimmins  
Councillor B Ó'Muirí Councillor B Quinn  
Councillor M Ruane

**Non-Committee Members:** Councillor T Andrews Councillor C Casey  
Councillor D McAteer Councillor H McKee  
Councillor M Murnin Councillor JJ Tinnelly

**Officials in Attendance:** Mr L Hannaway, Chief Executive  
Mr E Curtis, Director of Strategic Planning & Performance  
Mr C O'Rourke, Director of Regulatory & Technical Services  
Mr R Dowey, Head of Finance  
Ms C Miskelly, Head of Human Resources  
Ms R Mackin, Assistant Director, Equality  
Ms H McKee, Community Planning Manager  
Mr C Moffett, Equality Officer  
Mr P Green, Legal Advisor  
Mr A Hay, Development Plan Manager  
Mr P Rooney, Principal Planning Officer  
Mr J Finnegan, Internal Auditor  
Mrs J Hillen, PCSP Manager  
Mrs E McParland, Democratic Services Manager  
Miss S Taggart, Democratic Services Officer

**SPR/51/2015:- APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

Apologies were received from Councillors Loughran, McGrath and Walker.

Councillor W Clarke entered the meeting at this stage – 6.01pm.

**SPR/52/2015:- DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No Declarations of Interest were received.

**SPR/53/2015:- ACTION SHEET OF THE STRATEGY, POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 14 MAY 2015**

**Read:** Action Sheet of the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 14 May 2015.

**Noted:** The Action Sheet was NOTED.

It was agreed to take item 5 on the agenda at this stage.

**PRESENTATION**

**SPR/54/2015:- Presentation by John Finnegan on Risk Management “Grace Software” Update**

Mr Finnegan, Internal Auditor, presented a report on Risk Management “Grace Software” with a recommendation that Council adopt the software.

Councillor Casey questioned whether the Audit Committee would still receive a presentation from the internal auditor as was commonplace in the legacy Councils.

Mr Dowey advised there would be an Audit Committee Meeting held on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2015 to pass the accounts for the legacy Councils and Shadow Council. He stated the new Auditors, ASM Howarth would be there to present their programme as well as the outgoing auditors.

It was agreed to take item 4 on the agenda at this stage.

**SPR/55/2015:- Presentation by Regina Mackin, Assistant Director: Corporate Planning and Policy – Newry and Mourne Age Friendly Strategy**

**Read:** Presentation by Mrs R Mackin, Assistant Director: Corporate Planning and Policy on the Newry and Mourne Age Friendly Strategy (Copy circulated)

Mrs Mackin presented a report on the Age Friendly Strategy following a request at the previous month’s Active and Healthy Communities Committee. She provided some background to the Strategy, outlined the journey to date and highlighted the vision, aims and outcomes of the Strategy going forward. (copy of presentation attached).

## **STRATEGIC PLANNING AND PERFORMANCE**

### **SPR/56/2015:- REPORT ON TIMELINE FOR THE AREA PLAN**

**Read:** Report from Mr A Hay, Development Plan Manager on Position Statement: Newry, Mourne and Down Local Development Plan (Copy circulated).

Mr Hay presented the above report stating its purpose was to provide Members with an update and current position in relation to the Newry, Mourne and Down Local Development Plan. He highlighted the four key stages in the Local Development Plan Process; Stage 1 – Initial Plan Preparation; Stage 2 – Preparation and Adoption of Plan Strategy; Stage 3 – Preparation and Adoption of Local Policies Plan; and Stage 4 – Monitoring and Review. Mr Hay stated the indicative timeframe for preparing a Local Development Plan from publication of the Plan Timetable in Stage 1 to the Local Policies Plan at the end of Stage 3 was 40 months.

Members raised the following queries:

- 40 months was not a long time to develop a plan given that the old area plan was published last year and was 20 years out of date at that stage. How feasible was the timescale?
- What impact did the number of planning staff allocated to work on the plan have on its development?
- Were members of the planning committee permitted to have an input into the development of the plan?
- Had evidence been gathered from the Republic of Ireland on how to handle rural dwellers in farming families?
- Was it possible to have an interim plan put in place to determine planning in towns and rural settings?
- What impact would the removal of 10 planning staff have on the Council's ability to approve planning applications, which were already lagging behind the rest of Northern Ireland's Councils?
- Had there been any special efforts made to try to reduce the backlog of planning applications that existed?
- Is there a role for other Councillors who are not on the Planning Committee to have an input?
- What were the financial resource implications?

Mr Hay and Mr Hannaway responded to the queries as follows:

- 40 months was very ambitious and challenging, however staff would endeavour to produce a realistic timetable and work to deliver preparatory papers and have evidence gathered in place before moving forward.

- There were 10 planners allocated to the development plan however only 7 were in post as 2 are currently off on maternity leave and 1 was absent due to ill health.
- Planning Committee members will be invited to future SPR Meetings when items regarding the development plan are on the agenda.
- As part of evidence based gathering exercise, planners would look at all best practice and at housing and industrial land supply and take up in respect of existing plans.
- In reference to the Planning Act and associated legislation there was no facility to put interim arrangements in place. The existing plans would remain until a new plan was in place even though some areas may be dated. The existing plans were one of the most recently adopted plans across Northern Ireland.
- There was a recognised need for additional planning staff. Council could decide to park the development plan work to concentrate on approval of planning applications, however this would leave the Council behind on its Area Plan. Additional resources would be in place by end of July, with additional administrative planning staff in place in Newry, and additional planners to cover maternity leave.
- Planning Committee would have responsibility for implementation of the area plan therefore they would be involved in the process. The plan would need to be agreed by the whole Council, therefore all Members would be involved in the process.
- Due to the continual growth there were more applications coming in resulting in additional fees, which will counteract the costs of the additional staff. Council were trying to be conservative and prudent however the need to clear the backlog was recognised and be acted upon.

**Noted: The report was noted.**

Councillors Brown, Burns and Kimmins left the meeting during the above discussions – 7.05pm.

**SPR/57/2015:- OPERATING PROTOCOL FOR THE OPERATION OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE AND MEMBERS' BRIEFING PANEL**

**Read:** Report from Mr A McKay, Head of Planning and Mrs E McParland, Democratic Services Manager regarding the operating protocol for the Planning Committee and Members' Briefing Panel (Copy circulated)

Mrs McParland advised Council had already agreed the structure and operating protocol which has been designed to assist with the efficient running and governance of the Planning Committee and Members' Briefing Panel. She advised at the most recent Planning Committee, Members had asked to include the following into the protocols:

1. Planning Committee Members to advise of all information and reports before the meeting took place.

2. Public should not be permitted to give information to Members during committee meetings.
3. Agree set cut off time in terms of receipt of items – with legal advice being sought if necessary.
4. Site visits should be agreed by Briefing Panel and not Planning Committee.

Mr Hannaway recommended when the agenda was circulated, as per the Fife Council model, no further information could be considered.

Councillor D McAteer questioned that, under paragraph 33 it stated that site visits were agreed by Briefing Panel only. However he said any major application automatically went to Committee not the Briefing Panel.

Mrs McParland advised the paragraph should be amended to reflect this position.

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor W Clarke, seconded by Councillor Ruane to accept the operating protocol with the additions outlined above, including the amendment to paragraph 33 to read: “site visits may be arranged subject to agreement by the Planning Committee and/or Members’ Briefing Panel” and to reflect this change also in the Protocol for the Briefing Panel.

Councillors Casey, D McAteer, McKee, Murnin and Tinnelly left the meeting at this stage – 7.45pm

## EQUALITY

### **SPR/58/2015:- COUNCILLORS’ EQUALITY AND GOOD RELATIONS REFERENCE GROUP**

**Read:** Report on Councillors’ Equality and Good Relations Reference Group – Terms of Reference (Copy circulated)

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Donnelly to agree the Terms of Reference for Councillors’ Equality and Good Relations Reference Group and to establish a Councillors’ Equality and Good Relations Reference Group and engage an external facilitator for the Group.

### **SPR/59/2015:- CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE EQUALITY COMMISSION FOR NORTHERN IRELAND, DATED 18 MAY 2015, RE: THE COMMISSION’S CONSIDERATION OF NEWRY & MOURNE DISTRICT COUNCIL’S FINALISED REPORT**

**Read:** Correspondence received from the Equality Commission for Northern Ireland, dated 18 May 2015, re: The Commission's Consideration of Newry & Mourne District Council's Finalised Report (Copy circulated)

**Noted:** **It was agreed to note the correspondence received from the Equality Commission for Northern Ireland re: The Commission's Consideration of Newry & Mourne District Council's Finalised Report**

**SPR/60/2015:-** **CORRESPONDENCE DATED 11 MAY 2015 FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, SOCIAL SERVICES AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

**Read:** Correspondence received from the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety dated 11 May 2015 re: Equality Screening Report – Quarter 4. (Copy circulated)

**Noted:** **It was agreed to note the correspondence received from the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety.**

**SPR/61/2015:-** **CORRESPONDENCE FROM LOCAL GOVERNMENT STAFF COMMISSION FOR NI, DATED 29 APRIL 2015 RE: EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IN LOCAL COUNCILS**

**Read:** Correspondence received from Local Government Staff Commission for NI, dated 29 April 2015 re: Equality and Diversity in Local Councils. (Copy circulated)

Mr C Moffett advised, following the last meeting, information had been sought on the level of representation and time commitment required for the Diversity Champions for Council. He stated there were 5 workshops for Diversity Champion events scheduled up to March 2016 which will be half day or full day sessions for all the Champions and the key role was to promote equality and diversity in the Council through behaviour and influence, and the Council may choose to hold specific events/activities which may require input from the Elected Member Diversity Champion.

Councillors discussed the issue and it was agreed that the matter be referred to the Group Leaders Meeting for nominations.

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Carr, seconded by Councillor W Clarke to refer the matter of Diversity Champions nominations to the Group Leaders Meeting.**

**SPR/62/2015:- LETTER FROM LGSC NI RE: INVITATION TO DIVERSITY CHAMPIONS SUPPORT PROGRAMME WORKSHOP 1 JULY 2015**

**Read:** Letter from LGSC NI re: Invitation to Diversity Champions Support Programme Workshop on 1 July 2015. (Copy circulated)

Mr E Curtis advised Councillors would not have been nominated in time to go to this workshop, however he recommended that Mr C Moffett attend the workshop on behalf of the Council.

**Agreed:** It was agreed that Mr C Moffett attend the Diversity Champions Support Programme Workshop on 1 July 2015 on behalf of the Council in lieu of Members being nominated.

**MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS**

**SPR/63/2015:- MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS – MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT (FOR NOTING)**

**Read:** Report dated 11 June 2015 from Ms V Keegan, Marketing Manager regarding Marketing and Communications – Monthly Activity Report. (Copy circulated)

Mrs Mackin presented the Marketing and Communications Report and invited questions from the Members.

Councillor Reilly asked whether the Irish Open event had been as successful as Council had hoped it would be.

Mrs Mackin advised the Irish Open had been a major success and had been broadcast to homes worldwide. She said money could not buy that type of publicity.

**Noted:** It was agreed to note the Marketing and Communications – Monthly Activity Report.

**SPR/64/2015:- MEDIA PROCEDURES**

**Read:** Report dated 11 June 2015 from Ms V Keegan, Marketing Manager regarding Draft Media Policy Procedures (Copy circulated).

**Noted:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor W Clarke to note the Media Policy Procedures.

## **COMMUNITY PLANNING**

### **SPR/65/2015:- STAFFING ARRANGEMENTS TO SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT OF DISTRICT ELECTORAL FORA**

**Read:** Report dated 11 June 2015 from Ms H McKee, Community Planning Manager regarding Community Planning/DEA Staffing Arrangements (Copy circulated)

Ms H McKee advised the new Community Planning responsibilities required Council to develop a mechanism for ongoing engagement with the community and voluntary sector which would contribute to the implementation and monitoring of the Community Plan. In order to fulfil this, she recommended that Council choose to approve allocation of either 5 DEA Coordinators to work with Crotlieve and Slieve Croob; Downpatrick and Rowallane; Mourne; Newry and Slieve Gullion or 7 Officers allocated to each one of the DEAs.

Following discussion it was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor W Clarke to approve allocation of 7 DEA Coordinators – one for each DEA.

Councillor Reilly questioned if DEA officers would service the DEA Meetings in terms of provision of minutes arising from said meetings.

Ms McKee advised the role may not be done by the officer as depending on the issues, items could be referred on. The officer would convene DEA meetings and outline agendas for the bi-monthly meetings.

**Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor W Clarke to approve the allocation of 7 DEA Coordinators.**

### **SPR/66/2015:- CONSULTATION RESPONSE ON PROPOSALS FOR THE FUTURE OF THE YOUTH COUNCIL**

**Read:** Report dated 11 June 2015, from Ms H McKee, Community Planning Manager, on Consultation on the Proposals for the Future of the Youth Council (Copy circulated)

Ms H McKee provided some background to the consultation advising that the Department of Education, through its restructuring of the regional and sub-regional youth service delivery wished to amalgamate youth service delivery within the new education administration arrangements.

Ms McKee advised in consultation with the youth sector, the preferred option was option 2 to protect, as far as possible, the functions currently undertaken by the Youth Council



which would be subsumed within the operation of the Education Authority and she asked that the proposed response be agreed.

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor W Clarke to accept the proposed response to the consultation on proposals for the future of the youth council.

Councillor Curran left the meeting at this stage – 8.05pm.

**SPR/67/2015:- COMMUNITY PLANNING ENGAGEMENT SUPPORT FROM COMMUNITY PLACES**

**Read:** Report dated 11 June 2015, from Ms H McKee, Community Planning Manager, on Community Planning Engagement Support from Community Places (Copy circulated).

Ms H McKee advised the Community Places had received confirmation of funding for their Civic Activism Project and would commence work with Newry, Mourne and Down District Council from August 2015 to support community engagement activity.

**Noted:** It was agreed to note the confirmation of funding to Community Places.

**SPR/68/2015:- APSE MEMBERSHIP**

**Read:** Report dated 11 June 2015, from Mr J McBride, Change Manager on Membership of the Association for Public Service Excellence (APSE) for 2015/16 (Copy circulated).

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Reilly, seconded by Councillor Craig to agree membership of APSE for the 2015/16 financial year at a cost of £3250.

**SPR/69/2015:- OUTCOMES FROM MEMBERS' WORKSHOP**

**Read:** Report dated 11 June 2015, from Mr J McBride, Change Manager on the report and recommendations of the Members' Workshop held on Friday 29 May 2015. (Copy circulated)

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor W Clarke, seconded by Councillor Donnelly that membership of the Member Working Group be agreed at the Party Representatives Forum.

### **CORPORATE SERVICES – FINANCE**

**SPR/70/2015:- LODGEMENT INDEMNITY FORMS TO BE SIGNED FOR NIGHT SAFES RE DANSKE BANK**

**Read:** Report dated 4 June 2015, from Mr R Dowey, Head of Finance on the need for signed forms to provide Night Safe Facilities. (Copy circulated)

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Donnelly, seconded by Councillor Ruane to accept the recommendation to complete Indemnity Forms to provide Night Safe facilities.

**SPR/71/2015:- LEGAL EXPENSES INSURANCE COVER RE: COMPLAINTS AGAINST COUNCILLORS – CODE OF CONDUCT**

**Read:** Report dated 4 June 2015, from Mr R Dowey, Head of Finance on the requirement for legal expenses insurance cover for Councillors (Copy circulated)

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Craig, seconded by Councillor Ruane to agree to take out legal cover for Councillors.

**SPR/72/2015:- FINANCE DEPARTMENT, UPDATE ON PROGRESS OF MERGING SERVICES OF LEGACY COUNCILS**

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

**Agreed:** When the Committee came out of closed session, it was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Craig, seconded by Councillor Quinn to accept the recommendations as set out in the report dated 4 June 2015 from Mr R Dowey and to agree to extend the additional IT staff member until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016.

## **CORPORATE SERVICES – DEMOCRATIC SERVICES**

**SPR/73/2015:- REPORT ON REQUEST FROM INDEPENDENT/SMALLER PARTIES GROUPING FOR 2 MEMBERS TO MAKE A CHANGE TO APPOINTMENTS ON THE LOUTH, NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN JOINT COMMITTEE AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP ON TRAVELLERS' ISSUES**

**Read:** Report dated 3 June 2015, from Mrs E McParland, Democratic Services Manager to consider request from the Independents/Smaller Parties Grouping for Councillor Kevin McAteer to replace Councillor Patrick Brown on the Local Government Partnership on Travellers' Issues and for Councillor Patrick Brown to replace Councillor Kevin McAteer on the Louth, Newry, Mourne and Down Joint Committee. (Copy circulated)

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor W Clarke to approve request from the Independents/Smaller Parties Grouping for Councillor Kevin McAteer to replace Councillor Patrick Brown on the Local Government Partnership on Travellers' Issues and for Councillor Patrick Brown to replace Councillor Kevin McAteer on the Louth, Newry, Mourne and Down Joint Committee.

**SPR/74/2015:- REPORT ON APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO EXTERNAL AGENCIES**

**Read:** Report dated 3 June 2015, from Mrs E McParland, Democratic Services Manager on the Appointment of Members to external organisations (Copy circulated)

Mrs E McParland advised the purpose of the report was to agree arrangements for the appointment of Members to a number of external organisations, based on discussions at the Party Representative Meeting in April 2015. She stated that following the ERT Meeting held on 8 June 2015, the report also addressed the issue of representation on ad hoc working groups based on projects and programmes based in specific geographical areas.

**Agreed:** The report was noted and it was agreed that:

- 1. The following appointments be made at the Council Meeting on 6 July 2015:**  
**Sports Association for District – 7 Members (1 from each DEA)**  
**Ring of Gullion Management Group – Slieve Gullion DEA**  
**Members**  
**NI Museums Council – 1 Member**

**Rural Community Network – Council to decide on number – currently Councillor Hearty - Statutory Representative and Councillor D McAteer - co-opted.**

**Carlingford Lough Commissioners – 2 Members**

- 2. In each instance where the Council is leading a project or programme within a DEA, all Members of that DEA to be invited to attend the Task and Finish Working Group Meeting – these arrangements to be reviewed over the next 12 months.**

The Chief Executive left the meeting at this stage – 8.20pm.

**SPR/75/2015:- REPORT ON APPOINTMENTS TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S APPRAISAL SUB-GROUP**

**Read:** Report dated 3 June 2015, from Mrs E McParland, Democratic Services Manager on the appointment of Members to sub-group for Chief Executive's appraisal. (Copy circulated)

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Donnelly to agree the current membership continue for the current Council term, ending May 2019: Councillors Casey, Murnin, Craig, Taylor and Enright.**

The Chief Executive re-entered the meeting at this stage – 8.25pm.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**SPR/76/2015:- LETTER FROM PA DUFFY & CO – MATTER OF AN APPLICATION BY MID ULSTER COUNCIL FOR LEAVE TO APPLY FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW**

**Read:** Correspondence from PA Duffy & Co – matter of an application by Mid Ulster Council for Leave to Apply for Judicial Review (Copy circulated).

**Noted:** **It was agreed to note the letter received from PA Duffy & Co.**

**SPR/77/2015:- RESPONSE RECEIVED FROM MINISTER DURKAN RE: SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY ALLOWANCES**

**Read:** Letter dated 12 May 2015, received from Minister Durkan re: Special Responsibility Allowances (Copy circulated).

**Noted:** It was agreed to note the letter received from Minister Durkan re: Special Responsibility Allowances.

**SPR/78/2015:- CORRESPONDENCE FROM MCSHANES RE: SOUTH DOWN RESCUE GROUP**

**Read:** Correspondence dated 20 May 2015 from McShanes re: South Down Rescue Group (Copy circulated).

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Quinn to accept the legal opinion not to grant a lease to South Down Rescue Group for use of Council land near Newry Canal.

**SPR/79/2015:- REQUEST TO LOCATE SMALL BUILDING WITH ADVERTISING PANELS ON THE ALBERT BASIN – EMAIL FROM OLIVER MCGAULEY**

**Read:** Request dated 25 May 2015 from Oliver McGauley, Newry Coarse Fishing/Angling Club to locate a small building with advertising panels on the Albert Basin (Copy circulated)

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Donnelly to allow a small building with advertising panels/temporary accommodation for fishing events to be located on the Albert Basin.

**FOR DISCUSSION**

**SPR/80/2015:- DOWNSHIRE COMMERCIAL UNIT 1 FIT-OUT**

**Read:** Report dated 28 May 2015 from Mr J Gordon, Assistant Project Manager on quotations received for the Downshire Civic Centre Commercial Unit 1 Fit-Out Mechanical and Electrical Quotation Report. (Copy circulated)

**Noted:** It was agreed to note the report on the Downshire Commercial Unit 1 Fit-Out.

**SPR/81/2015:- APPROVAL OF LEASING FOR 29 BELFAST ROAD, SAINTFIELD, VALUATION REPORT ENCLOSED**

**Read:** Valuation Report dated 1 June 2015 from NI Property Group, for leasing for 29 Belfast Road, Saintfield (Copy circulated)

Mr E Curtis advised a temporary lease was required for storage for Game of Thrones for a 17 week period and recommended that the Committee approve the request.

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Ruane to approve the leasing of 29 Belfast Road, Saintfield in line with the Valuation Report received from NI Property Group.

**SPR/82/2015:- LEASE OF UNIT – 1B, THE SQUARE, WARRENPOINT**

**Read:** Report dated 26 May 2015 from Ms B Magill re: Lease of Unit – 1B, the Square, Warrenpoint (Copy circulated).

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Donnelly to approve the request to change use of Unit 1B at Warrenpoint Square from beauty therapy to pet grooming at existing rental terms/conditions.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**SPR/83/2015:- REPORT ON DOWN LEISURE CENTRE**

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

**Agreed:** When the Committee came out of closed session it was agreed on the proposal of Councillor W Clarke, seconded by Councillor Craig to agree proposals to ensure the Down Leisure Centre project would commence in January 2016.

**SPR/84/2015:- REPORT ON NEWRY LEISURE CENTRE**

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Donnelly, seconded by Councillor Ruane it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on this matter which related to exempt

information by virtue of Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 – information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information).

**Agreed:** When the Committee came out of closed session it was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Donnelly, seconded by Councillor Ruane to agree proposals to ensure that Newry Leisure Centre (Phase 2) would commence in January 2016.

**SPR/85/2015:- REPORT ON NEWRY CIVIC BUILDINGS**

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

**Agreed:** When the Committee came out of closed session it was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Quinn, seconded by Councillor Ruane to agree to procure a suitably qualified consultancy to conduct an option appraisal on the location of the proposed Newry Civic Centre as detailed in the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council's Strategic Plan.

**SPR/86/2015:- DEVELOPMENT OF SWIMMING BATHS**

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

**Agreed:** When the Committee came out of closed session it was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Carr to agree the contents of the report and approve recommendations at Section 3.

**SPR/87/2015:- NEWRY COMMUNITY CARE AND TREATMENT CENTRE**

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

**Agreed:** When the Committee came out of closed session it was agreed to note the report.

**SPR/88/2015:- RECOMMENDATIONS FOR APPROVAL UNDER RPA STAFF SEVERANCE SCHEME FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Donnelly, seconded by Councillor Ruane it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on this matter which related to exempt information by virtue of Paragraph 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 – 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 of, or office holders under, the Council and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

**Agreed:** When the Committee came out of closed session it was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Reilly, seconded by Councillor Craig to agree to the recommendations regarding a phased approach to consideration of applications for voluntary severance.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**SPR/89/2015:- NOMINATION OF PARTNERSHIP CHAIRPERSON**

**Read:** Report dated 11 June 2015 from Mrs J Hillen, Partnership Manager on the nomination of PCSP Chairperson. (Copy circulated)

Mrs J Hillen recommended that the appointment of the Partnership Chairperson should be in the following order, taking account of legislative requirements and the Political make-up of the PCSP:

Year 1 – Sinn Fein

Year 2 – SDLP



Year 3 – DUP  
Year 4 – UUP

Following discussion it was agreed that the officer would investigate with the Policing Board whether the Parties could choose which year they wanted rather than the prescriptive year as set out above. It was further agreed that the matter be brought back to the Party Representatives' Forum.

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Ó'Muirí that the officer would investigate with the Policing Board whether the Parties could choose which year they wanted to take the Chair, rather than the prescriptive year as set out above. It was further agreed that the matter be brought back to the Party Representatives' Forum.

**SPR/90/2015:- NEWRY DISPLAY SCREEN – VERBAL UPDATE BY E CURTIS**

Mr E Curtis advised a display screen would be erected in Newry which would provide 6 hours of free advertising every week at no cost to the Council.

**Noted:** The information provided on the display screen in Newry was noted.

**SPR/91/2015:- ASSET ACQUISITION AND DISPOSAL PROCEDURES**

**Read:** Procedures for Acquisition and Disposal of Land Assets (Copy circulated).

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Donnelly to approve the procedures for Acquisition and Disposal of Land Assets.

**SPR/92/2015:- IMPERIAL RUSSIAN COUNCIL**

Mr E Curtis advised an invitation had been received from the Imperial Russian Council for 4 people from Council to attend the Imperial Ball in Dublin on 16 October 2015. He suggested if any Member was interested they should contact him as soon as possible.

**Agreed:** Any Member wishing to attend the Imperial Ball in Dublin on 16 October 2015 should inform Mr Curtis as soon as possible.

The Meeting concluded at 9.10pm.

For consideration at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 6 July 2015.

**Signed:**                   **Councillor Robert Burgess**  
                                  **Chairperson**

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