

NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of Sustainability and Environment Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 22 August 2023 at 6.00pm in the Boardroom, District Council Offices, Monaghan Row, Newry and via MS Teams.

Chair: Councillor T Andrews (Chamber)

In Attendance in Chamber: Councillor W Clarke Councillor D Finn
Councillor J Jackson Councillor G Kearns
Councillor M Larkin Councillor O Magennis
Councillor K Murphy Councillor H Reilly
Councillor M Rice Councillor M Savage

In Attendance via Teams: Councillor T Kelly Councillor L McEvoy
Councillor D Taylor Councillor J Truesdale

Non-Members in Attendance
In Chamber: Councillor D McAteer

Officials in Attendance: Mr A Cassells, Director Sustainability and Environment
Ms S Murphy, Assistant Director Waste Management
Mr A Mallon, Acting Assistant Director: Facilities and Maintenance
Ms G Kane, Acting Assistant Director: Facilities and Maintenance
Ms S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager
Mrs S Kieran, Democratic Services Officer

SE/066/2023: APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

There were no apologies received.

SE/067/2023: DECLARATIONS OF "CONFLICTS OF INTEREST"

There were no declarations of interest.

SE/068/2023: ACTION SHEET OF THE SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 21 JUNE 2023

Read: Action Sheet of the Sustainability and Environment Committee Meeting held on 21 June 2023. *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor Magennis, it was agreed the Action Sheet of the Sustainability and Environment Committee Meeting held on 21 June 2023 be noted and actions removed as marked.**

FOR CONSIDERATION AND/OR DECISION

SE/069/2023: REPORT ON NOTICE OF MOTION IN RELATION TO RECYCLING

Read: Report dated 22 August 2023 from Mr A Cassells, Director of Sustainability & Environment regarding a Notice of Motion on Recycling. ***(Circulated)***.

Councillor McAteer presented the following Notice of Motion which was referred to the Sustainability and Environment Committee from the Council Meeting held on Monday 7 August 2023:

"Noting with concern estimations that while 9 in 10 people in the North recycle at home only 4 in 10 recycle while outdoors; further notes with concern DAERA estimates that consumers in the North use 420 million plastic bottles and 90 million cans every year, and welcomes that across the North the successful Hubbub CircleCity programme which has run across the UK and seen an additional 2.5million plastic bottles, glass bottles and cans recycled while outdoors, this Council agrees that more work is needed across out District to encourage recycling while outdoors, will seek a meeting with Hubbub to recommend Newry, Mourne and Down for a similar CircleCity scheme, will undertake an education programme for District residents on the benefits of outdoor recycling and will commence a pilot scheme for new recycling bins to be installed across key public spaces and parks."

Mr Cassells then presented the officer's report advising that he had included information from Hubbub. He said Hubbub have worked with a number of local Authorities and Belfast City Council along with Hubbub are rolling out a new initiative in Belfast City Centre, this has been made possible with funding from the Coca-Cola Foundation. Mr Cassells said the three-month trial aims to make it easier for residents and visitors to recycle their empty plastic bottles and cans, the bins have been installed in high-footfall locations and if they prove successful at increasing recycling, they will consider expanding them further across the city.

Members raised the following issues:

Councillor Truesdale said anything to do with recycling was to be welcomed but the overarching aim should be to phase out plastic altogether. She said Hubbub were a registered charity but also a Private Ltd Company. She stated the Circle City Scheme started in Belfast in July for a 3 month trial period but had been running in Dublin for 3 years and she suggested Council Officials liaise with Dublin and Belfast to find out more about the scheme.

Councillor Clarke said anything that improved recycling had to be welcomed. He said the scheme running in Belfast was a good model to follow and we should be looking at the areas in the district that had high footfall.

Councillor Reilly said anything to do with recycling to reduce the amount of plastic had to be welcomed. He said Fermanagh and Omagh Councils, as part of their summer collections, had plastic bins tied to railings which were collected by bin lorries. Councillor Reilly said the Council should also liaise with Fermanagh and Omagh to find out about their scheme.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Finn, seconded by Councillor Savage, it was agreed that officers liaise with officials in Belfast

City Council, Dublin and Fermanagh & Omagh County Council with regard to the Hubbub scheme and that a report would be brought back to the Committee.

SE/070/2023: OFFICE OF PRODUCT SAFETY AND STANDARDS (OPSS) GRANT FUNDING

Read: Report dated 22 August 2023 from Ms S Trainor, Head of Environmental Health (Commercial) re: Office of Product Safety and Standards (OPSS) Grant Funding *(Circulated)*.

In response to a query from Councillor Reilly regarding food sampling, Ms Murphy, Assistant Director, Environment confirmed she would provide relevant reports to Councillor Reilly.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor Clarke, it was agreed to accept the offer of OPSS Grant Funding for 2023/24.

EXEMPT INFORMATION ITEMS

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

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor Magennis, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on items 6-12 which related to exempt information by virtue of para. 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local /Government (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.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Magennis, seconded by Councillor Savage, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

The Chairperson advised the following had been agreed whilst in closed session:-

SE/071/2023: UPDATE FROM PSNI ON UPGRADE TO PUBLIC SPACE CCTV IN NEWRY, WARRENPOINT AND KILKEEL

Read: Report dated 22 August 2023 from Ms G Kane, Acting Assistant Director, Facilities Management & Maintenance, re: Upgrade to Public Space CCTV Systems. *(Circulated)*

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Clarke, seconded by Councillor Truesdale, it was agreed to note the report and associated

correspondence from PSNI and approve the findings of the Business Case presented at S&E Committee on 21st June 2023.

SE/072/2023: BUSINESS CASE FOR REFURBISHMENT AND UPGRADE TO PUBLIC CONVENIENCES, NEWCASTLE AND INSTALLATION OF CHANGING PLACE FACILITY

Read: Report dated 22 August 2023 from Ms G Kane, Acting Assistant Director, Facilities Management & Maintenance, re: Business Case for Refurbishment and Upgrade to Public Conveniences, Newcastle and Installation of Changing Place Facility. *(Circulated)*

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Truesdale, seconded by Councillor Clarke, it was agreed to proceed with Option 5 of the officer's report i.e. Upgrade to Donard Park and Central Promenade Public Toilet facilities in Newcastle. Refurbishment of public toilets at Downs Road, Newcastle together with the installation of a Changing Places facility was also agreed.

SE/073/2023: WASTE CONTRACT EXTENSIONS

Read: Report dated 21 June 2023 from Ms S Murphy, Assistant Director, Waste Management (Acting) re: Waste Contract Extensions *(Circulated)*

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor Clarke, it was agreed to approve the contact extensions as outlined in Appendix 1 of the officer's report for contracts 017/2021, 030/2021 (Lot 3), 045/2021 and 046/2021. It was also agreed to note an anticipated increase to contract rates in line with contractual provision for increases at the Consumer Price Index (CPI%) at associated contract extension dates as appropriate.

SE/074/2023: ARC21 BRING SITE SERVICE CONTRACTS

Read: Report dated 21 June 2023 from Ms S Murphy, Assistant Director, Waste Management (Acting) re: Bring Site Service Contracts *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor Magennis, it was agreed to approve the award of the contracts, as applicable to Newry, Mourne and Down District Council, to the entities named in the officer's report for a period of four years plus options to extend for a further four years:

- Lot 1 – Mixed Glass: Enva Northern Ireland Ltd, 1 Cloonagh Rd, Downpatrick, BT30 6LJ, County Down.
- Lot 2 – Textiles: Hotpursuits Enterprises T/A Cookstown Textile Recycling, 36 Magheralane Road, Randalstown, BT41 2NT, County Antrim
- Lot 3 – Mixed Paper: McQuillan Environmental, 15 Sycamore Rd, Belfast, Crumlin, BT29 4JE

- **Lot 4 – Mixed Cans: Enva Northern Ireland Ltd, 1 Cloonagh Rd, Downpatrick, BT30 6LJ, County Down.**

FOR NOTING – The following items are deemed to be exempt under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014

SE/075/2023: UPDATE ON CHRISTMAS ILLUMINATION ADDITIONS

Read: Report dated 21 June 2023 from Mr A Mallon, Acting Assistant Director: Facilities Management & Maintenance re: Update Report on Provision of Christmas Illuminations 2023 *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Magennis seconded by Councillor Truesdale, it was agreed to note the contents of the officer’s report.

SE/076/2023: ARC21 JOINT COMMITTEE MEMBERS’ MONTHLY BULLETIN – 29 JUNE 2023

Read: Arc21 Joint Committee Members’ Monthly Bulletin held on 29 June 2023. *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Magennis, seconded by Councillor Truesdale, it was agreed to note the Bulletin.

SE/077/2023: ARC21 JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING IN COMMITTEE MINUTES OF THURSDAY 20 MARCH 2023

Read: Arc21 Joint Committee Meeting In Committee Minutes held on 30 March 2023. *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Magennis, seconded by Councillor Truesdale, it was agreed to note the minutes.

FOR NOTING

SE/078/2023: SUSTAINABILITY SECTION UPDATE

Read: Report dated 22 August 2023 from Mr B Rankin, Head of Sustainability, re: Sustainability Section Update. *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Rice, seconded by Councillor Kearns, it was agreed to note the update on areas of work being carried out by the Sustainability Section.

**SE/079/2023: LETTER FROM DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE RE:
PROPOSED ABANDONMENT OF A STRETCH OF THE U6025
DONAGHMORE ROAD, JERRETPASS, NEWRY**

Read: Correspondence received from Department of Infrastructure re: Proposed Abandonment of a Stretch of the U6025 Donaghmore Road, Jerrettpass, Newry (*Circulated*).

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Rice, seconded by Councillor Kearns, it was agreed to note the correspondence.

SE/080/2023: OIL SPILL IN NEWRY CANAL AT WIN INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

Read: Report dated 22 August 2023 from Mr A Mallon, Acting Assistant Director: Facilities Management & Maintenance re: Oil Spill in Newry Canal at WIN Industrial Estate. (*Circulated*).

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Rice, seconded by Councillor Kearns, it was agreed to note the contents of the officer's report.

**SE/081/2023: ARC21 JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF
THURSDAY 20 MARCH 2023**

Read: Arc21 Joint Committee Meeting Minutes held on 30 March 2023. (*Circulated*).

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Rice, seconded by Councillor Kearns, it was agreed to note the above minutes.

SE/082/2023: HISTORICAL ACTION SHEET

Read: Historic Actions Tracking Sheet (*Circulated*).

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Rice, seconded by Councillor Kearns, it was agreed the Historic Actions Tracking Sheet of the Sustainability and Environment Committee Meetings be noted and actions removed as marked.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 7.05 pm.

For adoption at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 4 September 2023.

**Signed: Councillor T Andrews
Chairperson of Sustainability & Environment Committee**

**Signed: Mr A Cassells
Director of Sustainability & Environment**