

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Ref: AHC/2022

**Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on
Monday 17 October 2022 at 6.00pm in the Mourne Room, Downshire Estate
and via Microsoft Teams**

Chairperson: Councillor H Gallagher (Chamber)

In attendance in Chamber: Councillor A Finnegan
Councillor L McEvoy
Councillor D McAteer
Councillor G O Hare
Councillor B O Muiri

In attendance via Teams: Councillor C Casey
Councillor D Lee-Surginor
Councillor K McKeivitt
Councillor J Tinnelly
Councillor G Malone
Councillor K Owen
Councillor A Lewis

**Non-Members
in attendance:** Councillor T Andrews (Chamber)
Councillor H McKee (Teams)

**Officials in attendance
in Chamber:** Mr M Lipsett Director Active and Healthy Communities
Mr E Devlin Assistant Director, Health & Wellbeing
Mrs J Hillen Assistant Director, Community Engagement
Mr P Tamati Assistant Director, Leisure & Sport
Ms S Taggart Democratic Services Manager
Ms L Dillon Democratic Services Officer
Ms L Cummins Democratic Services Officer

AHC/161/2022: APOLOGIES & CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

The following apologies were received:

Councillor J Brennan
Councillor G Sharvin

The Chairperson referred to a final event hosted by the Newry Mourne and Down District Council Peace IV Partnership to celebrate the success of the Peace IV funded Local Authority Action Plan which has delivered over 180 community, sporting cultural historical and capital projects since 2017 engaging over 4,000 participants from the Council area. He said the Action Plan was funded through the EU Peace IV Programme as managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB) designed to support peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland and border counties of Ireland and contribute to the promotion of social and economic stability through actions to promote cohesion between communities with match

funding provided by the NI Executive Office and Department for Rural Community Development in Ireland.

He further said that with a budget of £4.7m the programme supported 29 objectives with over 180 projects across 3 strategic themes, ie, Children and Young People, Building Positive Relations, and Shared Spaces & Services. He said that with over 4,000 children and adults engaging in the Peace IV Programme the action plan was managed by the Council's Peace IV Team with delivery partners in the Policing and Community Safety Partnership.

The Chairperson extended congratulation to Saval GAA on winning the Intermediate Final against Rostrevor and to Kilcoo GAC on winning their 10th county final in an 11 year season.

The Chairperson explained a late item had been added to the agenda regarding an update on the Play Strategy and would be tabled under Item 11.

AHC/162/2022: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

AHC/163/2022: ACTION SHEET: ACTIVE & HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING - THURSDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2022

Read: Action sheet of the Active & Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Thursday 22 September 2022. **(Copy circulated)**.

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Lee-Surginor seconded by Councillor O Muiri to note the Action Sheet of the Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Thursday 22 September 2022.**

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

AHC/164/2022: FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE REPORT – CALL 3 2022 AND CALL 1 2023

Read: Report dated 17 October 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding Financial Assistance Report for Call 3 2022 and Call 1 2023. **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor O Muiri stressed the importance of making the application process easier for the applicant and perhaps consider alerting applicants at an early stage in the application on areas that may require more focus and attention as he had received concerns expressed by community groups who found the process difficult.

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor O Muiri seconded by Councillor Lee-Surginor to approve the following:**

- **The recommendations for Call 3 as per appendixes attached and issue Letters to associated groups.**

- The recommendations as outlined in Section 1.1 of the officer's report to approve themes and timeframe for Call 1 2023-2024.
- To note the issues in Section 2.1 of the officer's report and undertake the recommendations associated with each to procure additional services through the EGMS delivery agent.
- To action the appeals panel outcome and issue a letter of offer to project 3462 if budget is available.

**AHC/165/2022: DISTRICT ELECTORAL AREA (DEA) FORUMS
- UPDATE REPORT**

Read: Report dated 17 October 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding District Electoral Area (DEA) Forums Update Report **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Lewis seconded by Councillor Lee-Surginor to note the report and approve the actions for:**

- **Slieve Croob DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 20 September 2022**

AHC/166/2022: COMMUNITY CO-ORDINATION HUB – UPDATE REPORT

Read: Report dated 17 October 2022 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding an update report for the Community Co-ordination Hub. (Copy circulated)

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor O Muiri seconded by Councillor McAteer to note the report and approve the actions in the Action Sheet attached for the Community Coordination Hub (CCH) Meeting held on Wednesday 21 September 2022.**

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

**AHC/167/2022 CONSULTATION RESPONSE:
DRAFT HSENI CORPORATE PLAN 2023-2028**

Read: Report dated 17 October 2022 from Mr Eoin Devlin, Assistant Director, Health and Wellbeing regarding a consultation on the draft HSENI Corporate Plan for 2023-2028. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor O' Muiri seconded by Councillor Lee-Surginor to agree to return the Consultation response, as attached to the officer's report. It was noted the response had been submitted by the required date (10 October 2022) on the proviso that it was subject to Council approval.**

AHC/168/2022

PROPOSED COSMETIC REGULATION

Read: Report dated 17 October 2022 from Mr Eoin Devlin, Assistant Director, Health and Wellbeing regarding better regulation of cosmetic treatments in Northern Ireland and the introduction of a licensing scheme for non-surgical cosmetic procedures. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McAteer seconded by Councillor Owen to approve the sending of the letter to the Department for Health as attached to the officer's report.

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

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor McEvoy seconded by Councillor O'Muirí it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on items 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 McAteer seconded by Councillor O'Muirí it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

LEISURE AND SPORTS

AHC/169/2022

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Read: Report dated 17 October 2022 from Mr Paul Tamati, Assistant Director, Leisure and Sport regarding Financial Assistance. **(Copy circulated).**

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor O'Muirí seconded by Councillor O'Hare to approve new financial assistance arrangements for Sports Capital as outlined in 2.1.A and 2.1.B of the Officer's Report with a review after a 2 year initial period.

AHC/170/2023

PLAY STRATEGY – REVIEW

Read: Report dated 17 October 2022 from Mr Paul Tamati, Assistant Director, Leisure and Sport regarding the review of Play Strategy. **(Copy circulated).**

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Lee-Surginor seconded by Councillor McAteer to appoint consultants to complete a desktop review of the Councils Play Strategy

2017/18 – 2022/23 as per the points outlined in section 2.1 of the officer’s report.

AHC/171/2023 PLAY STRATEGY – UPDATE

Read: Report dated 17 October 2022 from Mr Paul Tamati, Assistant Director, Leisure and Sport regarding an update on the Play Strategy. **(Copy circulated).**

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy seconded by Councillor Lee-Surginor to approve the revised project cost as outlined in 2.1.B of the Officer’s Report.**

AHC/172/2023 PUBLIC TENDER – PULSE FITNESS EQUIPMENT

Read: Report dated 17 October 2022 from Mr Paul Tamati, Assistant Director, Leisure and Sport regarding Public Tender for Pulse Fitness Equipment. **(Copy circulated).**

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor O’Muirí seconded by Councillor Lee-Surginor to approve the Business Case as per Appendix 1 of the officer’s report, for Fitness Equipment Servicing, Repairs and Maintenance in Kilkeel Leisure Centre, Newcastle Centre, Ballymote Sports and Wellbeing Centre and Bridge Centre Killyleagh and approve procurement via a public tender for these services and supplies.**

It was also agreed that officers undertake the appropriate evaluation of the above public tenders in line with procurement guidelines and appoint a preferred bidder and enter into a contract for up to 4 years to the value outlined on the business case.

AHC/173/2023 COMMERCIAL PROPERTY LEASE: MCGRATH HOUSE NEWRY

Read: Report dated 17 October 2022 from Ms Janine Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement, regarding the lease of commercial space at McGrath Centre Newry. **(Copy circulated).**

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McAteer seconded by Councillor Casey that the Council issue a lease following final discussions with Bidder A, for a 5 year period.**

FOR NOTING – LEISURE & SPORTS

AHC/174/2022

KILKEEL LEISURE CENTRE UPDATE

Read: Report dated 17 October 2022 from Mr Michael Lipsett, Director, Active and Healthy Communities regarding an update on Kilkeel Leisure Centre. **(Copy circulated)**

Mr Tamati explained that planning permission for a £1m upgrade project for Kilkeel Leisure Centre had now been secured and officers were in discussions regarding the appointment of design teams and thereafter a contractor, as per approval at the Active & Healthy Communities Committee Meeting in September 2022.

He referred to operational issues which have arose at Kilkeel Leisure Centre over the past number of months due to recruitment and said that an ongoing recruitment process was underway and it was hoped to make appointments to fulfil the staffing structure at this facility.

He made reference to a Leisure review as agreed by Council in April 2021, and said the recruitment process will ensure implementation of this review and he was confident operations at Kilkeel Leisure Centre will return to normal and also be enhanced once the Leisure review was complete in Kilkeel Leisure Centre.

He said the appointment of an additional Swimming Instructor at Kilkeel Leisure Centre will increase swimming lesson availability at the Centre and that an additional 60 new places were released and sold out in September. He said when recruitment of the vacant post is completed it is anticipated there will be additional places. He also added that currently there are 160 children in Council's weekly lesson and over 200 in school lessons.

He referred to the introduction of 19 new health classes in Kilkeel Leisure Centre as part of the Be Active Programme which is being rolled out across the district and confirmed additional funding had been secured from the Public Health Agency for the expansion of the Council's Exercise Referral Scheme where GPs can refer patients directly to an Exercise Referral Co-ordinator who will primarily be based in Kilkeel and also in Newcastle.

With regard to issues concerning bookings for swimming Mr Tamati said the booking process for general swimming can be made via the App, by telephone or in person. He said advanced booking via the app is encouraged to limit customers turning up unannounced and being disappointed due to no availability.

Councillor McEvoy welcomed the update regarding Kilkeel Leisure Centre and hoped the introduction of new classes and the recruitment process will provide reassurance to users of the facility.

Councillor McKee enquired when the contractor would be on site and asked for clarification regarding queries raised on the need for multi-skilled leisure attendants.

He also referred to the booking process for swimming and said problems with over the counter booking had been reported, and problems regarding reimbursement for bookings.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy seconded by Councillor O'Muiri to note the above report regarding Kilkeel Leisure Centre.

FOR NOTING – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

AHC/175/2022 PEACEPLUS LOCAL ACTION PLAN

Read: Report dated 17 October 2022 from Ms Janine Hillen Assistant Director Community Engagement regarding the Inaugural Meeting of the PEACEPLUS Partnership held on 08 September 2022 and the second meeting 06 October 2022. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy seconded by Councillor O’Muir, to note the above Report.**

AHC/176/2022 PEACE IV LOCAL ACTION PLAN

Read: Report dated 17 October 2022 from Ms Janine Hillen Assistant Director Community Engagement regarding the Peace IV Local Action Plan. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy seconded by Councillor O’Muir, to note the above Report.**

AHC/177/2022 NEWRY NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL REPORT

Read: Report dated 17 October 2022 from Ms Janine Hillen Assistant Director Community Engagement regarding the Report of the Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership Meeting held on Wednesday 29 June 2022. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy seconded by Councillor O’Muir, to note the above Report and note the Minutes of the Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Meeting held on Wednesday 29 June 2022, as approved at Newry NRP Meeting held on Wednesday 21 September 2022.**

AHC/178/2022 DOWNPATRICK NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL REPORT

Read: Report dated 17 October 2022 from Ms Janine Hillen Assistant Director Community Engagement regarding Minutes of the Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership Meeting held on Tuesday 24 May 2022. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy seconded by Councillor O’Muir, to note the above Report and note the Minutes of the Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Meeting held on Tuesday 24 May 2022, as approved at Downpatrick NRP Meeting held on Wednesday 21 September 2022.**

AHC/179/2022 POLICING COMMITTEE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP (PCSP)

Read: Report dated 17 October 2022 from Ms Janine Hillen Assistant Director Community Engagement regarding Minutes of the Policing & Community Safety Partnership Meeting held on Tuesday 26 July 2022. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy seconded by Councillor O’Muir, to note the above Report and note the Minutes of the Policing Committee and Policing & Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) Meeting held on Tuesday 26 July 2022, as approved at the Policing Committee and Policing & Community Safety Partnership Meeting held on Tuesday 27 September 2022.**

AHC/180/2022 UPDATE RE: UKRAINIAN ASSISTANCE CENTRE

Read: Report dated 17 October 2022 from Ms Janine Hillen Assistant Director Community Engagement regarding the Ukraine Assistance Centre in Newry Leisure Centre. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy seconded by Councillor O’Muir, to note the above Report.**

FOR NOTING – HEALTH & WELLBEING

AHC/181/2022 DRINKING WATER INSPECTORATE ANNUAL REPORT

Read: Report dated 17 October 2022 from Mr Eoin Devlin Assistant Director Health and Wellbeing regarding the Drinking Water Quality in Northern Ireland Report 2021. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy seconded by Councillor O’Muir, to note the above Report.**

It was agreed Mr Eoin Devlin Assistant Director Health & Wellbeing contact the Drinking Water Inspectorate to seek clarification on whether the timeline to address high levels of aluminium in drinking water at Druma Road are sufficient and that the lack of funding for this Department will not endanger public health.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 7.20pm.

For adoption at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 7 November 2022.

Signed: Councillor H Gallagher
Chairperson
Active & Healthy Communities Committee

Signed: Mr M Lipsett
Director Active & Healthy Communities
