



August 28th, 2019

**Notice Of Meeting**

You are requested to attend the Council meeting to be held on **Monday, 2nd September 2019** at **6:00 pm** in **Mourne Room, Downshire.**

# Agenda

## 1.0 Apologies & Chairperson's Remarks

## 2.0 Declarations of Interest

## 3.0 Action Sheet arising from Council Meeting held on 5 August 2019

 [Action Sheet from Council Mtg 05.08.2019.pdf](#)

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### *Council Minutes For Adoption and Signing*

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## 4.0 Minutes of Council Meeting held on 5 August 2019

 [Council Minutes 05.08.2019 .pdf](#)

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### *Committee Minutes for Consideration and Adoption*

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## 5.0 Minutes of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on 12 August 2019

 [ERT Minutes August 2019.pdf](#)

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## 6.0 Minutes of Strategy, Policy & Resources Committee Meeting held on 14 August 2019

 [SPR - August 2019 Final Minutes & Presentation.pdf](#)

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## 7.0 Minutes of Active & Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on 19 August 2019

 [AHC Minutes August 2019.pdf](#)

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## 8.0 Minutes of Neighbourhood Services Committee Meeting held on 20 August 2019

 [NS Minutes August 2019.pdf](#)

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## 9.0 Extract from Minutes of Planning Committee Meeting held on 21 August 2019

There were no issues referred from the Planning Committee Meeting held on 21 August 2019

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## Conferences/Events

### 10.0 NAC Local Government Conference

 *NAC UK Conference Details 13to15 Sept 2019.pdf* Page 83

 *NAC UK Booking form 13to15 Sept Conference.pdf* Page 84

## Correspondence

### 11.0 Correspondence dated 24 July 2019 regarding Animal Cruelty

 *Correspondence dated 24 July 2019 Office of Minister for Agriculture Food.pdf* Page 85

### 12.0 Correspondence dated 12 August regarding Animal Cruelty

 *Correspondence dated 12 August 2019 NIO.pdf* Page 86

### 13.0 Correspondence dated 6 August 2019 regarding Welfare Mitigation Schemes

 *PSC 0855.19 - Letter to Liam Hannaway SCORR 0750-2019.pdf* Page 87

### 14.0 Correspondence dated 21 August regarding 700MHz Spectrum Clearance Programme

 *Correspondence dated 21 August re. 700MHzSpectrum Clearance Programme.pdf* Page 89

## Notices of Motion

### 15.0 Notice of Motion - Live animals in circuses

Notice of Motion received from Councillor Brown:

"That this Council, in the interests of animal welfare, will not grant licences or other permissions to circuses featuring live animals. This Council states its opposition to the use of live animals in circuses in general and calls on the DAERA to consider a Northern Ireland wide ban on circuses with live animals".

### 16.0 Notice of Motion - Carers Allowance

Notice of Motion received from Councillor Brown:

"Council's Active and Healthy Communities Department will immediately recognise Carers Allowance as a means tested benefit enabling recipients of that benefit to qualify for concessionary rates at leisure facilities across the District"

## **17.0 Notice of Motion - Use of weed killer Glyphosate**

Notice of Motion received from Councillor Brown:

"Council will cease from using the weed killer Glyphosate and request that all subcontractors employed by Council also cease the use of Glyphos and all products containing Glyphosate in this Council district, in favour of a more environmentally friendly product and approach".

## **18.0 Notice of Motion - Disability access on to Newcastle Beach**

Notice of Motion received from Councillor Clarke:

"This Council provides disability access on to Newcastle beach to enable the facility to be inclusive, which will enhance the visitor experience for all, this initiative will build upon the successful partnership between the Mae Murray Foundation and Council in providing an inclusive destination at Cranfield beach."



**ACTION SHEET – COUNCIL MEETING – MONDAY 5 AUGUST 2019**

<b>Minute Ref</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Decision</b>	<b>Lead Officer</b>	<b>Actions taken/ Progress to date</b>	<b>Remove from Action Sheet Y/N</b>
C/108/2019	Action Sheet arising from Council Meeting held on 1 July 2019	The action sheet was agreed as an accurate record and adopted.	Democratic Services	<b>Actioned</b>	
C/109/2019	Minutes of Council Meeting held on 1 July 2019	The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted.	Democratic Services	<b>Referred to Equality and Good Relations Forum</b>	
C/110/2019	Minutes of Special Council Meeting held on 24 June 2019	The extract from the minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted.	Democratic Services	<b>Direct Line for NI Water forwarded to all Councillors</b>	
C/111/2019	Extract from Planning Committee Minutes held on 26 June 2019	The extract from the minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted.	Democratic Services	<b>Actioned</b>	
C/112/2019	Minutes of Audit Committee Meeting held on 3 July 2019	The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted.	Democratic Services	<b>Actioned</b>	
C/113/2019	Annual Seminar 2019 – New Municipalism	It was agreed for Councillor Andrews to attend APSE Annual Seminar 2019	Democratic Services	<b>Actioned</b>	
C/114/2019	Notice of Motion -Tree Strategy	"This Council produces a tree strategy to protect and enhance tree cover for future generations, Council recognises the importance of trees, the benefits they afford us and the increasingly important role they	R Moore	<b>For consideration at September NS Committee.</b>	

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
		<p>can play in mitigating the effects of climate change, flooding and pollution control.</p> <p>Furthermore council acknowledges that trees can greatly enhance the visual amenity of our environment, they are vital for people's sense of well-being and contribute to everyone's quality of life".</p> <p><b>The Motion was referred in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.6 to the NS Committee Meeting.</b></p>			
C/115/2019	Notice of Motion -TV Licensing for the over 75's	<p>"This Council notes with serious concern the plans that the British Broadcasting Corporation has announced relating to the means testing of the provision of TV licensing for the over-75s.</p> <p>The Council agrees to request that the BBC immediately cease these plans and agrees also that the Chairperson of Council convenes a meeting with BBC senior officials and the Newry and Mourne Senior Citizens Consortium to hear at first hand the impact that this decision will have on our most valued and respected Citizens of Newry, Mourne and Down."</p>	Democratic Services	<p><b>Letter sent to BBC requesting meeting</b></p> <p><b>Letters sent to NI Councils requesting support for the Motion</b></p>	
C/116/2019	Notice of Motion -NIHE Grass Cutting Service	"This Council is concerned at the obvious deterioration in the quality of the grass cutting service delivered by sub contractors on behalf of the NI Housing Executive at their many housing developments throughout the district. Furthermore, we will write to the NIHE seeking an explanation as to how this deterioration has been	Democratic Services	<b>Letters sent to NIHE and TNI</b>	

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
		<p>allowed to manifest itself and also seek assurances that measures are being undertaken by the NIHE to address these shortcomings"</p> <p><b>It was also agreed Council write to Transport NI expressing concern regarding the site lines not being adequately cut back.</b></p> <p><b>It was also agreed that Council should via Community Planning explore ways in which a cross agency approach could be adopted.</b></p>	<p>Democratic Services</p> <p>David Patterson</p>	<p><b>To set up meeting to include reps from Council, NIHE &amp; DFI Roads</b></p>	
C/117/2019	Notice of Motion -Policy Re: Planting Trees Of Remembrance	<p>"This Council undertakes a review of the policy that refuses to allow the planting of trees in our parks to remember deceased relatives and friends. There should be a flexible policy to allow families and friends to plant a tree in council owned parks, to honour loved ones who have passed away".</p> <p><b>The Motion was referred in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.6 to the SP&amp;R Committee Meeting.</b></p>	D Carville		
END					

**NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**NMD/C/**

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**Minutes of Council Meeting held on Monday 5 August 2019 at 6.00pm in the Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick**

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**In the Chair:** Councillor C Casey

**In attendance:**

Councillor T Andrews	Councillor G Bain
Councillor R Burgess	Councillor P Byrne
Councillor W Clarke	Councillor D Curran
Councillor Enright	Councillor M Gibbons
Councillor O Hanlon	Councillor G Hanna
Councillor V Harte	Councillor H Harvey
Councillor R Howell	Councillor L Kimmins
Councillor M Larkin	Councillor A Lewis
Councillor O Magennis	Councillor G Malone
Councillor C Mason	Councillor D McAteer
Councillor L McEvoy	Councillor H McKee
Councillor K McKevitt	Councillor G O'Hare
Councillor B Ó Muirí	Councillor H Reilly
Councillor M Savage	Councillor G Stokes
Councillor D Taylor	Councillor J Tinnelly

**(Officials)**

Mrs M Ward, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism  
 Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active & Healthy Communities  
 Mr R Moore, Director of Neighbourhood Services  
 Mr A Patterson, Asst. Director Tourism, Culture & Events  
 Mr G Byrne, Audit Services Manager  
 Mrs L Fitzsimons, Human Resources Manager  
 Mrs D Starkey, Democratic Services Officer  
 Mrs L O'Hare, Democratic Services Officer

**C/106/2019**

**APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

Apologies were received from Liam Hannaway and Dorrinnia Carville Councillors Brown, Devlin, Doran, Gallagher, Hearty, Mulgrew, Ruane and Sharvin

**C/107/2019**

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest.



**C/108/2019      ACTION SHEET ARISING FROM COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 1 JULY 2019**

**Read:** Action sheet arising from Council Meeting held on 1 July 2019 (copy circulated).

**C/096/2019 – Newry Pride Event**

Councillor Byrne asked for an update following on from the meeting held on 3 July 2019 regarding the proposed funding for the Newry Pride event.

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Clarke, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on this item 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 a 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 Clarke, seconded by Councillor Byrne it was agreed to ‘come out of committee’.

Marie Ward, Director Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism confirmed that whilst ‘in committee’ Councillors were briefed regarding the funding for Newry Pride Event and were advised that due to a number of governance related concerns the matter remained under investigation. The Council was not in a position to release any further funding and no further information could be provided at this time. A further update would be brought to Committee when available.

**Agreed:** The Action Sheet from Council Meeting held on 1 July 2019 was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Hanna, seconded by Councillor McAteer.

**COUNCIL MINUTES FOR ADOPTION AND SIGNING**

**C/109/2019      MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 1 JULY 2019**

**Read:** Minutes of Council Meeting held on 1 July 2019 (copy circulated).

**Agreed:** The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 1 July 2019 were agreed as an accurate record and adopted on the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Harvey.

C/104/2019 – Notice of Motion – WW2 Veterans

Councillor Walker expressed concern that the motion had been referred to the Good Relations Forum and asked that any agreement by the Forum be proceeded without having to be approved by Council.

Mrs Ward advised it was hoped the Good Relations Forum would meet at the end of August and therefore any decisions would be brought to September Council which would still be timely to deal with the matter.

Councillor Byrne stated he had seconded the proposal for the Motion to be referred to the Good Relations Forum and that it was not to cause delay but to allow open discussion.

Councillor Taylor stated his party supported the motion and that it was best to have matters resolved at committee and ratified by Council.

**Agreed:** It was agreed that the process be commenced to identify surviving WW2 veterans within Newry, Mourne and Down District Council area.

**C/110/2019** **MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 24 JUNE 2019**

**Read:** Minutes of Special Council Meeting held on 24 June 2019 (copy circulated).

**Agreed:** The Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on 24 June 2019 were agreed as an accurate record and adopted on the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Burgess.

**Agreed:** It was agreed to circulate details of NI Water direct line to Councillors.

**COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION**

**C/111/2019** **EXTRACT FROM MINUTES OF PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 26 JUNE 2019**

**Read:** Extract from Minutes of Planning Committee Meeting held on 26 June 2019 (copy circulated).

**Agreed:** The extract from the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 26 June 2019 were agreed as an accurate record and adopted, on the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Larkin.

**C/112/2019                    MINUTES OF AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 3 JULY 2019**

**Read:** Minutes of Audit Committee Meeting held on 3 July 2019 (copy circulated).

**Agreed:** The Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting held on 10 June 2019 were agreed as an accurate record and adopted, on the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Harvey.

Councillor Enright joined the meeting during the above discussion – 6.35pm.

**CORRESPONDENCE AND CONFERENCES**

**C/113/2019                    ANNUAL SEMINAR 2019 – NEW MUNICIPALISM**

**Read:** Correspondence on the APSE Annual Seminar 2019

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Casey, seconded by Councillor McAteer for Councillor Andrews to attend the APSE Annual Seminar 2019.

**NOTICES OF MOTION**

**C/114/2019                    NOTICE OF MOTION – TREE STRATEGY**

The following Notice of Motion came forward for consideration in the name of Councillor Clarke:

"This Council produces a tree strategy to protect and enhance tree cover for future generations, Council recognises the importance of trees, the benefits they afford us and the increasingly important role they can play in mitigating the effects of climate change, flooding and pollution control.

Furthermore Council acknowledges that trees can greatly enhance the visual amenity of our environment, they are vital for people's sense of well-being and contribute to everyone's quality of life".

The motion was seconded by Councillor Kimmins.

The Chairperson advised that in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.6 the Motion would be referred to the Neighbourhood Services Committee.

**AGREED:** The motion was referred to the Neighbourhood Services Committee in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.6.



**C/115/2019: NOTICE OF MOTION – TV LICENSING FOR THE OVER 75s**

The following Notice of Motion came forward for consideration in the name of Councillor Kimmins:

**“This Council notes with serious concern the plans that the British Broadcasting Corporation has announced relating to the means testing of the provision of TV licensing for the over-75s.**

**The Council agrees to request that the BBC immediately cease these plans and agrees also that the Chairperson of Council convenes a meeting with BBC senior officials and the Newry and Mourne Senior Citizens Consortium to hear at first hand the impact that this decision will have on our most valued and respected Citizens of Newry, Mourne and Down.”**

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Clarke.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Kimmins stated that from June 2020, the BBC would no longer allow the provision of free TV licenses for the over 75s, except for those in receipt of pension credits.

Councillor Kimmins said, she was very aware in her job as a social worker of how important TV was for many people and often it was the only contact they had with the outside world. Social and rural isolation was a huge problem and to add a financial burden to those over 75 was unacceptable, additionally, Northern Ireland had the lowest state pension in the whole of the developed world.

Councillor Kimmins advised she had included the Newry and Mourne Senior Citizen Consortium in the Motion as they worked closely with older people right across the District and they had expert knowledge of how much this would impact on the senior citizens of Newry, Mourne and Down District.

Councillors Trainor, Walker, Reilly and Taylor spoke in support of the Motion.

In welcoming the Motion, Councillor Walker proposed an amendment ‘that Newry, Mourne and Down District Council write to the other 10 Councils seeking their support for the Motion across Northern Ireland’.

In supporting the amendment, Councillor Kimmins confirmed Belfast City Council had already passed this Motion but that she was happy for all Councils to be written to.

Councillor Ó Muirí seconded the amendment.

**AGREED:** **It was unanimously agreed on the proposal of Councillor Kimmins, seconded by Councillor Clarke that this Council notes with serious concern the plans that the British Broadcasting Corporation has announced relating to the means testing of the provision of TV licensing for the over-75s.**



The Council agrees to request that the BBC immediately cease these plans and agrees also that the Chairperson of Council convenes a meeting with BBC senior officials and the Newry and Mourne Senior Citizens Consortium to hear at first hand the impact that this decision will have on our most valued and respected Citizens of Newry, Mourne and Down.

The Council writes to the 10 other Councils seeking their support for the Motion across Northern Ireland'

**C/116/2019:            NOTICE OF MOTION – NIHE GRASS CUTTING SERVICE**

The following Notice of Motion came forward for consideration in the name of Councillor Tinnelly:

"This Council is concerned at the obvious deterioration in the quality of the grass cutting service delivered by subcontractors on behalf of the NI Housing Executive at their many housing developments throughout the district. Furthermore, we will write to the NIHE seeking an explanation as to how this deterioration has been allowed to manifest itself and also seek assurances that measures are being undertaken by the NIHE to address these shortcomings"

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Gibbons.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Tinnelly raised the following points:

- The vast majority of people living in NIHE accommodation took great pride in their own areas and individual gardens.
- Since the maintenance service had been privatised, the level of service that had once been applied had deteriorated to an unacceptable level.
- Communal areas of grass were becoming repeatedly overgrown due to a reduction in the number of grass cuts throughout the growing season.
- Council was obliged to give voice to the frustrations of the residents throughout the District and should seek an assurance from NIHE that they endeavour to rectify the problems and return the service to the efficient levels that were once in place.
- Council was committed to keeping the District a clean, tidy and welcoming place for residents and visitors alike and this was evident by their recent submission of 18 towns, villages and settlements into the 2019 Ulster in Bloom competition.

Members spoke in full support of the Motion with the following points raised:

- Concerns had previously been raised with NIHE with no satisfactory outcome.
- There were too many agencies involved and a review needed to be carried out at Central Government level to ascertain where areas of responsibilities lay.

- There were health and safety issues due to overgrown banks, resulting in reduced visibility.
- Transport NI also had a responsibility in that the site lines were not being cut back sufficiently.
- Communal green spaces were very important to communities and therefore it was essential they were adequately maintained.
- Onus on Council to ensure regular street cleansing was carried out.
- Downpatrick DEA had discussed the establishment of a forum to include DFI, NIHE and Council in an effort to try and address these concerns.

Councillor Taylor fully supported the Motion and asked that an amendment be made to the Motion to include writing a letter to Transport NI regarding the cutting back of site lines.

Councillor Savage, in welcoming the Motion said Council should, through Community Planning explore ways in which a cross agency approach could be adopted. Councillor Savage asked that the proposal be amended to reflect this.

In summing up, Councillor Tinnelly said he was grateful for the widespread support from all the Members and he agreed to accept the amendments proposed by Councillor Taylor and Councillor Savage. Councillor Tinnelly continued, saying he hoped correspondence from Council would generate a speedy and satisfactory response and resolution.

#### **AGREED:**

**It was unanimously agreed on the proposal of Councillor Tinnelly seconded by Councillor Gibbons that this Council is concerned at the obvious deterioration in the quality of the grass cutting service delivered by subcontractors on behalf of the NI Housing Executive at their many housing developments throughout the district. Furthermore, Council write to the NIHE seeking an explanation as to how this deterioration has been allowed to manifest itself and also seek assurances that measures are being undertaken by the NIHE to address these shortcomings.**

**It was also agreed Council write to Transport NI expressing concern regarding the site lines not being adequately cut back.**

**It was also agreed that Council should via Community Planning explore ways in which a cross agency approach could be adopted.**



**C/117/2019:            NOTICE OF MOTION – POLICY RE: PLANTING TREES OF REMEMBRANCE**

The following Notice of Motion came forward for consideration in the name of Councillor Clarke:

**"This Council undertakes a review of the policy that refuses to allow the planting of trees in our parks to remember deceased relatives and friends. There should be a flexible policy to allow families and friends to plant a tree in council owned parks, to honour loved ones who have passed away".**

Councillor Gibbons seconded the motion.

The Chairperson advised that in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.6 the motion would be referred to the Strategy, Policy & Resources Committee.

**AGREED:                            The motion was referred to the Strategy, Policy & Resources Committee in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.6.**

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 7.10pm.

**Signed:**

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**Chairman**

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**Chief Executive**



## NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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**Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting  
held on Monday 12 August 2019 at 5.00pm in the Boardroom, District  
Council Offices, Monaghan Row, Newry**

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**Chairperson:** Councillor D Curran (Deputy Chairperson ERT)

**In Attendance:** **(Committee Members)**

Councillor T Andrews  
Councillor R Burgess  
Councillor W Clarke  
Councillor G Hanna  
Councillor M Larkin  
Councillor D McAteer  
Councillor H Reilly  
Councillor M Ruane  
Councillor G Stokes

**Officials in Attendance:** Ms M Ward Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism  
Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events  
Mr M Robinson Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration  
Mr A McKay Chief Planning Officer  
Mr C Jackson Assistant Director Building Control & Regulation  
Ms L Dillon Democratic Services Officer

**ERT/094/2019: APOLOGIES / CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

Apologies were received for:

Councillor R Mulgrew  
Councillor P Brown

Councillor Curran Deputy Chairperson ERT, extended condolences on behalf of the Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee, to Councillor Roisin Mulgrew and her family on the death of her husband Maurice.

Members and Officials then stood for a minute's silence as a mark of respect.

**ERT/095/2019:     DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were received.

**ERT/096/2019:     ACTION SHEET  
MINUTES OF ENTERPRISE, REGENERATION &  
TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETING  
- MONDAY 10 JUNE 2019**

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Read:           Action Sheet arising out of the Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 10 June 2019. **(Copy circulated)**

The following issues were raised arising from the above Action Sheet:

**ERT/078/2019 – Transfer of Tourism & Heritage Assets**

Councillor Clarke proposed and Councillor Larkin seconded that as meeting had now taken place regarding the future of Kilkeel Town Hall, that the Council now proceed and grant a request for the use of cinema seats at Kilkeel Town Hall.

Councillor Reilly proposed and Councillor Hanna seconded that the Council do not proceed to grant a request for the use of cinema seats at Kilkeel Town Hall as people within the Kilkeel community have indicated a desire to make use of the Town Hall facility in Kilkeel.

A vote was taken by way of a show of hands on the first proposal and voting was as follows:

For:            3  
Against:       3  
Abstentions: 3

The Chairperson had the casting vote and voted against the proposal and it was therefore agreed on the proposal of Councillor Reilly seconded by Councillor Hanna that the Council do not proceed to grant a request for the use of cinema seats at Kilkeel Town Hall as people within the Kilkeel community have indicated a desire to make use of the Town Hall facility in Kilkeel.

**AGREED:**     It was therefore agreed on the proposal of Councillor Reilly seconded by Councillor Hanna that the Council do not proceed to grant a request for the use of cinema seats at Kilkeel Town Hall as people within the Kilkeel community have indicated a desire to make use of the Town Hall facility in Kilkeel.

**AGREED:**     On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed to note the Action Sheet arising from the Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 10 June 2019.

## **ENTERPRISE, EMPLOYMENT AND REGENERATION ITEMS**

### **ERT/097/2019: BALLYNAHINCH BYPASS ART FEATURE**

**Read:** Report dated 12 August 2019 from Mr M Robinson Assistant Director Enterprise, Employment and Regeneration regarding the placement of a public art structure on the proposed A24 Ballynahinch Bypass.  
**(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor Andrews it was agreed that as a contribution to the Ballynahinch By-pass the Council proceed as follows:

- (a) Provide agreement in principle that the Council will provide an Art Feature for installation on a site to be agreed on the Ballynahinch By-Pass
- (b) Procure an artist to undertake the necessary consultation on potential design proposals
- (c) Development of the art feature to concept design stage
- (d) Subject to the confirmation that the funding has been secured for the By-pass and the road will be constructed, to undertake the fabrication of the Art Feature (subject to the necessary funding being secured in 2020/21 rate estimates)

### **ERT/098/2019: NI ECONOMY HOUSE OF COMMONS EVENT**

**Read:** Report dated 12 August 2019 from Mr M Robinson Assistant Director Enterprise, Employment and Regeneration regarding a NI Economy themed reception in London in September 2019 with an aim to promote Northern Ireland as a good place to shop, socialise, do business and invest. **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor Stokes proposed and Councillor McAteer seconded, that the Council appoint the Chairperson of Council plus 2 No. Officers to attend the NI Economy event at The House of Commons in September 2019, and use this opportunity to express the serious concerns regarding the potential impact of Brexit, or a no deal Brexit, will have on our economy going forward, at a cost of £1,000 plus travel, per delegate.

Councillor Reilly proposed and Councillor Hanna seconded, to accept the Recommendation as per Report dated 12 August 2019 from Mr M Robinson Assistant Director Enterprise Employment and Regeneration, that the Council participate in the NI Economy, House of Commons Event on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2019, which is being organised by Retail NI, Manufacturing NI and Hospitality Ulster at a cost of £1,000, plus travel per delegate.

A vote was taken on the first proposal, by way of a show of hands, and voting was as follows:

For: 7  
 Against: 3  
 Abstentions: 0

It was therefore agreed on the proposal of Councillor Stokes seconded by Councillor McAteer that the Council appoint the Chairperson of Council plus 2 No. Council Officers to attend the NI Economy event at The House of Commons in September 2019, and use this opportunity to express the serious concerns regarding the potential impact of Brexit, or a no deal Brexit, will have on our economy going forward, at a cost of £1,000 plus travel, per delegate.

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Stokes seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed the Council appoint the Chairperson of Council plus 2 No. Council Officers to attend the NI Economy event at The House of Commons in September 2019, and use this opportunity to express the serious concerns regarding the potential impact of Brexit, or a no deal Brexit, will have on our economy going forward, at a cost of £1,000 plus travel, per delegate.

**ERT/099/2019: PUBLIC REALM SCHEME/REVITALISATION PROJECT  
 IRISH STREET DOWNPATRICK**

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**Read:** Report dated 12 August 2019 from Mr M Robinson Assistant Director Enterprise, Employment and Regeneration regarding the Public Realm Scheme and Revitalisation Project for Irish Street Downpatrick.  
**(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Andrews seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed as follows:

- (a) To note that the Irish Street public realm scheme is now Complete.
- (b) Council to work with a Steering Committee, representative of members and traders, to develop an action plan, outlining proposed revitalisation projects. Action Plan to be submitted to DFC in August, as an application for Revitalisation funding of approx. £100,000. Council to provide from existing budgets, £10,000 (10%) match funding contribution to the Irish Street Revitalisation project.



**ERT/100/2019: NI APPRENTICESHIP WEEK**

**Read:** Report dated 12 August 2019 from Mr M Robinson Assistant Director Enterprise, Employment and Regeneration regarding NI Apprenticeship Week from 3 – 7 February 2020.  
**(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Andrews seconded by Councillor Hanna it was agreed as follows:

- (a) To accept the Terms of Reference for the NI Apprenticeship Week and to actively participate in the development and roll out of the first NI Apprenticeship week to take place between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> February 2020.
- (b) NMD District Council will work with stakeholders to plan a series of activities in the NMD and wider southern region. Any activity led by Council, will be funded via existing budgets.
- (c) Officers ensure that a wide range of stakeholders are identified in advance of NI Apprenticeship Week.

**TOURISM CULTURE AND EVENTS**

**ERT/101/2019: AUTUMN/WINTER EVENTS  
- SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS**

**Read:** Report dated 12 August 2019 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events, regarding the delivery of tourism events due to take place in Autumn and Winter which have been agreed by Council in March 2019 as part of the annual Tourism Events Programme. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Hanna seconded by Councillor Andrews it was agreed as follows:

- (a) SLAs for £5,000 each to be issued to Ballynahinch Community collective; Crossmaglen Community Association; Downpatrick Community Collective; Kilkeel Chamber with Kilkeel Development Association; Safer Warrenpoint Community for delivery of Halloween events.
- (b) SLAs for £5,000 each to be issued to Ballynahinch Community collective; Crossmaglen Community Association; Newcastle: Chamber of Commerce; Kilkeel Chamber with Kilkeel Development Association; WBR Chamber of Commerce for delivery of Christmas events.

- (c) **Hallowtides Halloween parade in Newcastle to be delivered with a Service Level Agreement issued to Newcastle Chamber of Commerce.**
- (d) **Downpatrick Culture Night events to be delivered in partnership with Down Community Collective via a Service Level Agreement for £6,000.**
- (e) **Officials to examine a possible increase in the budget for the delivery of tourism events as part of the Rates 2020/21 process.**

**ERT/102/2019: ARTS CULTURE & HERITAGE STRATEGY**

**Read:** Report dated 12 August 2019 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events, regarding details of the Council's new Arts Cultural & Heritage Strategy.  
**(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Stokes seconded by Councillor Clarke it was agreed to approve the Arts, Culture & Heritage Strategy and open a 12 week consultation in September 2019 to allow citizens and stakeholders an opportunity to feedback their views.**

**EXEMPT INFORMATION**

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor Andrews, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on the following matters 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).**

**ERT/103/2019: TENDER  
- COUNCIL DOG KENNELING SERVICES**

**Read:** Report dated 12 August 2019 from Mr C Jackson Assistant Director Building Control and Regulation, regarding Dog Kennelling Services for the Council. **(Copy circulated)**

**ERT/104/2019: TYRELLA AND MINERSTOWN ASSI  
- CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT WORKS**

**Read:** Report dated 12 August 2019 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events, regarding Tyrella and Minerstown ASSI Conservation Management Works. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Hanna seconded by Councillor Burgess it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.**

When the Committee came out of closed session the Chairperson reported the following decisions had been agreed:

**ERT/103/2019- Tender: Dog Kennelling Services**

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Andrews seconded by Councillor Clarke it was agreed as follows:**

- (a) That Council authorise the commencement of the tendering process with the view to putting in place a new Dog Kennelling Contract for stray and unwanted dogs for effective from 1<sup>st</sup> December 2019 until 30<sup>th</sup> November 2022. The cost of the contract is likely to be in the region of £30,000 per annum.**
- (b) In addition to seek authorisation to go out to tender to extend the provision of a holding centre within 20 miles of one of the main Council offices after the Kennelling contract has been awarded. The cost of the Holding Centre contract is likely to be in the region of £15,000 per annum.**

**ERT/104/2019- Tyrella and Minerstown ASSI  
- Conservation Management Works**

**On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor Andrews, it was agreed as follows:**

- (a) The Council agrees that the NIEA may carry out capital works to ensure the protection and management of the ASSI. Under the authority Article 34(3)(b) of the Environment (Northern Ireland) Order 2002 the Department will bear all reasonable costs of the works. The Council accepts responsibility for the future maintenance, repair and associated liability for the completed works. The Council will sign an agreement to this effect.**
- (b) The appointment of a suitable farmer for grazing purposes will be undertaken by public advertisement in the local press.**

- (c) The Council arrange for information boards to be cleaned at Tyrella Beach and clean up be carried out at Quoile Basin.

### **FOR NOTING**

#### **ERT/105/2019: PLANNING PERFORMANCE**

**Read:** Planning Committee Performance Report.  
**(Copy circulated)**

**Noted:** To note Planning Performance figures for June 2019.

#### **ERT/106/2019: LIVE HERE LOVE HERE - GRANT AWARD FOR SLLP**

**Read:** Report dated 12 August 2019 from Mr M Robinson Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding Live Here Love Here funding for SLLP Coastal Guardian Volunteers – Coast Care, Protect Our Seashore Project.  
**(Copy circulated)**

**Noted:** On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor Andrews it was agreed to note that SLLP have been awarded a grant of £5,000 from Live Here Love Here small grant scheme, to raise awareness of, and conserve key coastal vascular plant species with particular focus on the NI Priority species list. SLLP will now implement the project under the terms and conditions as laid out in the letter of offer.

#### **ERT/107/2019: CO-OPERATION PROJECT - PROMOTING LACE**

**Read:** Report dated 12 August 2019 from Mr M Robinson Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding a collaboration on promoting Lace as a cultural heritage and skill. **(Copy circulated)**

**Noted:** On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor Andrews it was agreed to note update as per Report dated 12 August 2019 from Mr M Robinson Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration, outlining the award of €5,000 from Co-operation with Northern Ireland Funding Scheme 2019 Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht to take forward a Co-operation Project promoting Lace as cultural heritage and skill.

**ERT/108/2019:     MADE IN MOURNE INTERNATIONAL VISIT**

**Read:**           Report dated 12 August 2019 from Mr M Robinson Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration providing an update on the Made in Mourne International Visit. **(Copy circulated)**

**Noted:**           **On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor Andrews it was agreed to note update from Mr M Robinson Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration, as per Report dated 12 August 2019, regarding the Made in Mourne International Visit.**

**ERT/109/2019:     BUSINESS BASE GROWTH**

**Read:**           Report dated 12 August 2019 from Mr M Robinson Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration providing an update on growth and retention of existing businesses within the District. **(Copy circulated)**

**Noted:**           **On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor Andrews it was agreed to note update from Mr M Robinson Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration, as per Report dated 12 August 2019, regarding Business Base Growth.**

**ERT/110/2019:     SCHEME OF DELEGATION**

**Read:**           Scheme of Delegation. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:**          **On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor Andrews it was agreed to note the Scheme of Delegation.**

**ERT/111/2019:     ACTION TRACKER  
ENTERPRISE REGENERATION & TOURISM**

**Read:**           Action Tracker Report for Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:**          **On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor Andrews it was agreed to note the Action Tracker Report for Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee.**

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 5.50pm.

For adoption at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 2 September 2019.

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**Signed:      Councillor D Curran**

**(Deputy) Chairperson of Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee**

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**Signed:      Ms M Ward**

**Director of Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee**

**NEWRY MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

23

**Minutes of Strategy Policy & Resources Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 14 August 2019 at 5.00pm in the Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick**

**In the Chair:** Councillor M Savage

**In Attendance:**

Councillor R Burgess	Councillor P Byrne
Councillor S Doran	Councillor H Gallagher
Councillor R Howell	Councillor A Lewis
Councillor C Mason	Councillor J Tinnelly
Councillor W Walker	

**Also In Attendance:** Councillor Andrews, McAteer, & Stokes

**Officials in Attendance:**

Mrs Marie Ward, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism

Mr Michael Lipsett, Director of Active & Healthy Communities

Mrs R Mackin, Assistant Director Corporate Planning & Policy

Mr K Montgomery, Assistant Director of Finance

Mr J McBride, Assistant Director of Waste Management (Acting)

Mrs Louise Fitzsimons, Human Resources

Mrs Martina Flynn, Safer Communities & Good Relations Manager

Mr A Grimshaw, Project Director

Ms L O'Hare, Democratic Services Officer

Mrs P McKeever, Democratic Services Officer

**SPR/093/2019: APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

An apology was received from Councillors Brown, O'Hanlon, Mulgrew, O'Muirí, Sharvin and Curran.

**SPR/094/2019: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest

**SPR/095/2019: ACTION SHEET OF THE STRATEGY, POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 13 JUNE 2019**

**Read:** Action Sheet of the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 13 June 2019. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Howell, it was agreed that the Action Sheet of 13 June 2019, be noted, and actions removed as marked.**



SPR/096/2019

**ACTION SHEET OF THE STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP WORKING GROUP COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 20 JUNE 2019 & 31 JULY 2019**

**Read:** Action Sheet of the Strategic Partnership Working Group Committee Meeting held on 20 June 2019 & 31 July 2019. **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor Stokes requested that a copy of the contamination report be made available to the Task and Finish Group as soon as possible so they have time to understand the report before the next meeting. Councillor Byrne supported the request and sought clarity on dates for meeting with Consultants.

Mrs Ward said the contamination report was very technical and would require a presentation to be set up. Mrs Ward continued saying all information would be made available to both the Task and Finish Working Group and Councillors, this would ensure adequate opportunity to digest the information before it would be brought back to SP&R for decision. Mrs Ward said she would endeavour to secure a date for a meeting with the consultants as soon as possible.

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Howell, seconded by Councillor Byrne, it was agreed that the Action Sheet of 20 June 2019 & 31 July 2019, be noted, and actions removed as marked.

**It was also agreed that a date for a meeting with the consultants be arranged as soon as possible.**

SPR/097/2019

**NEW CIVIC CENTRE/PUBLIC REALM/THEATRE AND CONFERENCE FACILITIES**

**Read:** Report dated 14 August 2019 from Mr A Grimshaw, Project Director, regarding City Centre Regeneration Project Civic Hub Abbey Way Site. **(Copy circulated)**

**Read:** Report dated 14 August 2019 from Mr A Grimshaw, Project Director, regarding City Centre Regeneration Project BRCD Public Realm. **(Copy circulated)**

**Read:** Report dated 14 August 2019 from Mr A Grimshaw, Project Director, regarding City Centre Regeneration Project Theatre/Conference RIBA Stage 1. **(Copy circulated)**

**Read:** Report dated 14 August 2019 from Mr A Grimshaw, Project Director, regarding City Centre Regeneration Project Theatre/Conference Sean Hollywood Arts Centre. **(Copy circulated)**

Presentation made by Mr Graham Ogle from Hamilton Architects and Mr Adrian Grimshaw, Project Director. **COPY TO FOLLOW**

Following the presentation, discussion took place and the following issues were raised:

- The Albert Basin park should remain a priority for Council.
- The proposed development of the civic centre, public realm, theatre and conference facilities had huge potential for the city of Newry in terms of regenerating the city centre.



- Public consultations had been held and Council would continue to consult widely with the public.
- Planning Department had been involved on all planning matters and the Historic Environment Division where historical buildings were involved.
- Council recognised the importance significance of the Cathedral located on Hill Street and they will liaise with representatives from the Cathedral regarding the cathedral gardens in an effort to seek a conclusion that is satisfactory to both parties.
- Acknowledgement that car parking issues were of concern, however it was the start of the process and proposals would be considered on how best to deal with this.
- The development would realise an investment of almost £30M.
- A public consultation was scheduled for October 2019 at which a lot more information would be available.
- The new civic centre would be 4,200 sq metres and will accommodate 180 staff, whilst allowing for flexible working for staff.

A discussion took place about the proposed site for the Civic Hub and the Chairperson put the matter to a vote, the results of which were as follows:

**FOR: 6**  
**AGAINST: 0**  
**ABSTENTIONS: 4**

**The proposal was CARRIED**

**Agreed:** **Civic Hub – Abbey Way Site**  
 On the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Doran, it was agreed to note the contents of the report and to approve the recommendation that Abbey Way site is selected as the location for the Civic Hub and associated public realm works.

**Agreed:** **BRCD Public Realm**  
 On the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Howell, it was unanimously agreed to note the contents of the report and to approve the proposals for Public Realm are further developed and tested by the Integrated Consultant Team in terms of their feasibility, including consultation through a series of stakeholder engagement sessions during Autumn 2019.

**Agreed:** **RIBA 1 Theatre / Conference**  
 On the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Doran, it was agreed to note the contents of the report and approve the recommendation to proceed with option 2, comprising demolition of the Sean Hollywood Arts Centre and complete new build, which has been recommended by the Integrated Consultant Teams RIBA Stage 1 report as the basis for ongoing design development.

**Agreed:** **Theatre / Conference Design Options**  
 On the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Doran, it was agreed to note the contents of the report and to approve the investigation of RIBA Stage 1 design Options are reliant on either the partial or total demolition of the existing Sean Hollywood Arts Centre.

**COMMUNITY PLANNING AND PERFORMANCE****SPR/098/2019: DEVELOPMENT TRUST NI PUBLIC SOCIAL PARTNERSHIP PROJECT**

**Read:** Report dated 14 August 2019 from Mr J McGilly, Head of Community Planning, regarding Participatory Budgeting: Facilitation of future Community Planning Initiatives. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Doran, seconded by Councillor Byrne, it was agreed that Council nominate through Party Rep's, 2 No elected members to sit on the steering group for the 2 year term of project.

**SPR/099/2019: RECRUITMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBERS TO THE POLICING & COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP (PCSP)**

**Read:** Report dated 14 August 2019 from Ms M Flynn, Safer Communities and Good Relations Manager, regarding Recruitment & Appointment of Independent Members to the Policing & Community Safety Partnership **(Copy Circulated)**

Councillor Walker proposed that 1 member be taken from SF, SDLP, DUP & UUP, 2 reserves from SF & SDLP party and the Chair a SF Member as they are the largest party, this was seconded by Councillor Lewis. All members agreed.

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Doran, seconded by Councillor Howell, it was agreed that the Committee

1. Note the report.
2. Agree to nominate a panel pf up to four political Members of the PCSP to participate in the recruitment and selection of new Independent Members of the PCSP.
3. Agree to nominate 1-2 reserve panel Members who, where possible, should also be political Members of the PCSP.
4. Agree the Chair of the panel from the nominated Members.

**CORPORATE PLANNING AND POLICY****SPR/100/2019 REVISED TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR COUNCILLORS' EQUALITY AND GOOD RELATIONS REFERENCE GROUP FOR PERIOD 2019 - 2023**

**Read:** Report dated 14 August 2019 from Mr L Hannaway, Chief Executive & Mr C Moffett, Head of Corporate Policy, regarding Revised Terms of Reference for Councillors' Equality and Good Relations Reference Group for period 2019 - 2023 **(Copy circulated)**

All Members agreed that Councillor Reilly and another Independent should be nominated.

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Byrne, it was agreed that Council agree to the revised Terms of Reference for the Councillors' Equality and Good Relations Reference Group with specific reference to membership.

**SPR/101/2019: PRESENTATION OF 2020 ANNUAL REPORT/NMD CONNECT**

**Read:** Report dated 14 August 2019 from Ms V Keegan, Head of Communications and Marketing, regarding Presentation of 2020 Annual Reporting/NMD Connect (**Copy circulated**)

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Doran, seconded by Councillor Gallagher it was agreed that the Council continues to publish the Annual Report/NMD Connect as one document, with versions in Irish and English published on the website and supported by a limited print run. This strategy has the advantage of ensuring the widest distribution across the district as well as ensuring value for money. The strategy will be supported by a marketing campaign.

**CORPORATE SERVICES**

**SPR/102/2019: ACQUISITION OF LAND AT GREENFIELD STEPS, ARDGLASS**

**Read:** Report dated 14 August 2019 from Mrs A Robb, Assistant Director Corporate Services (Administration), regarding Acquisition of land at Greenfield Steps, Ardglass (**Copy circulated**)

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Howell, seconded by Councillor Gallagher it was agreed that Council proceed based on recommended valuation and complete the necessary legal formalities in relation to this acquisition.

**FOR NOTING**

**SPR/103/2019 SECTION 75 POLICY SCREENING REPORT – QUARTERLY REPORT FOR PERIOD APRIL – JUNE 2019**

**Read:** Report dated 14 August 2019 from Mr C Moffett, Head of Corporate Policy regarding Section 75 Policy Screening Report – Quarterly Report for period April – June 2019 (**Copy circulated**)

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Howell it was agreed to note the contents of the report.

**SPR/104/2019 SOCIAL MEDIA FOR DEA'S**

Councillor Walker suggested that it would be beneficial for each DEA to have their own social media page to promote DEA events and funding opportunities.

**Agreed:** It was agreed to bring this item back to the Active and Healthy Committee for further discussion.

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

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Gallagher, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on the next matters 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 a particular person (including the Council holding that information) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

### **SPR/105/2019: NI PUBLIC SERVICES OMBUDSMAN**

**Read:** Report dated 14 August 2019 from Mr A McKay, Chief Planner regarding NI Public Services Ombudsman (**Copy circulated**)

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Gallagher, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Doran, seconded by Councillor Gallagher it was agreed to note the contents of the officer's report and approve the recommendations as set out in 3.1 of the report.

### **FOR NOTING**

#### **SPR/106/2019 MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS**

**Read:** Report dated 14 August 2019 from Mr K Montgomery, Assistant Director of Finance, regarding Managements Accounts to 30 June 2019 (**Copy circulated**)

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Gallagher, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

**Agreed:** It was agreed to note the Management Accounts to 30 June 2019.

#### **SPR/107/2019 UPDATE ON CHIEF EXECUTIVE HANDOVER ARRANGEMENTS**

Members were given a verbal update on the handover arrangements.

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Gallagher, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

**Agreed:** It was agreed to note the verbal update on the Chief Executive.

There being no further business, the Meeting concluded at 7.34pm

**Signed:**            **Councillor Michael Savage**  
                         **Chairperson**

**Signed:**            **Dorinnia Carville**  
                         **Director of Corporate Services**



# Newry City Centre Regeneration

14<sup>th</sup> August 2019

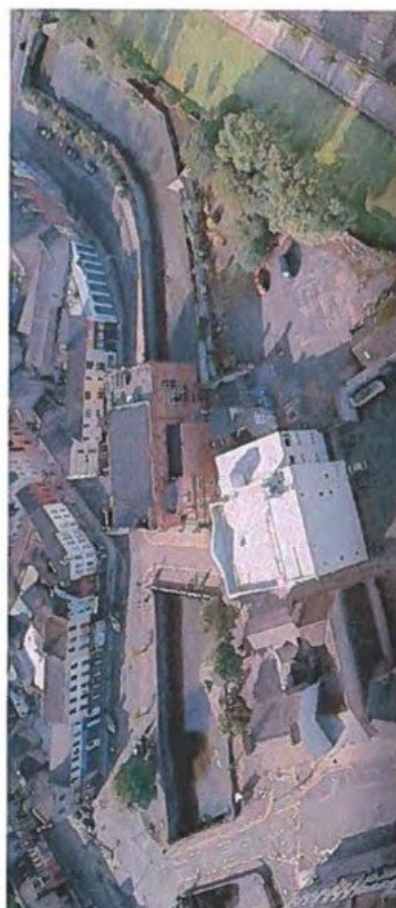


Ag freastal ar an Dún agus Ard Mhacha Theas  
Serving Down and South Armagh

HAMILTON ARCHITECTS | NEWRY SPWG

## Overview

- Connectivity between Theatre & Conference and new Civic Hub
- Proposed Public Realm works
- Newry Theatre and Conference Centre - update
- Civic Hub - update





HAMILTON ARCHITECTS | NEWRY THEATRE / CONFERENCE CENTRE

## Project Context

### Newry Urban Regeneration Project

- Civic Hub
- Arts / Conference Centre
- Public realm

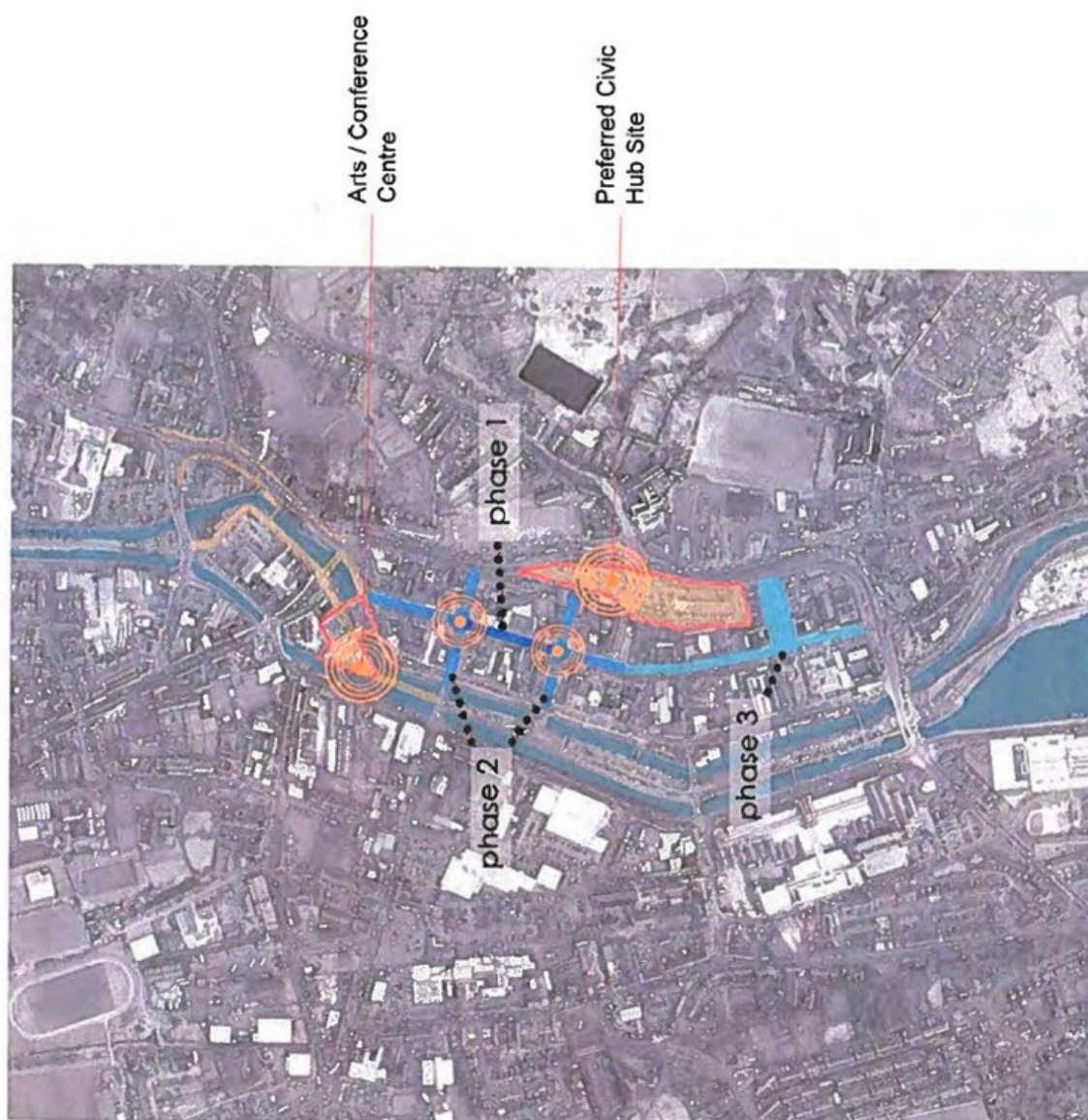




HAMILTON ARCHITECTS | NEWRY THEATRE / CONFERENCE CENTRE

# Urban Development

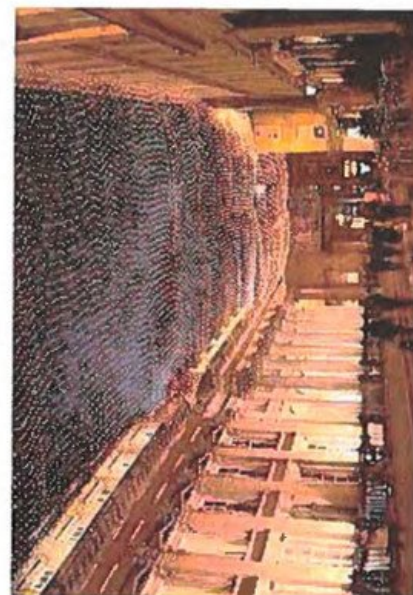
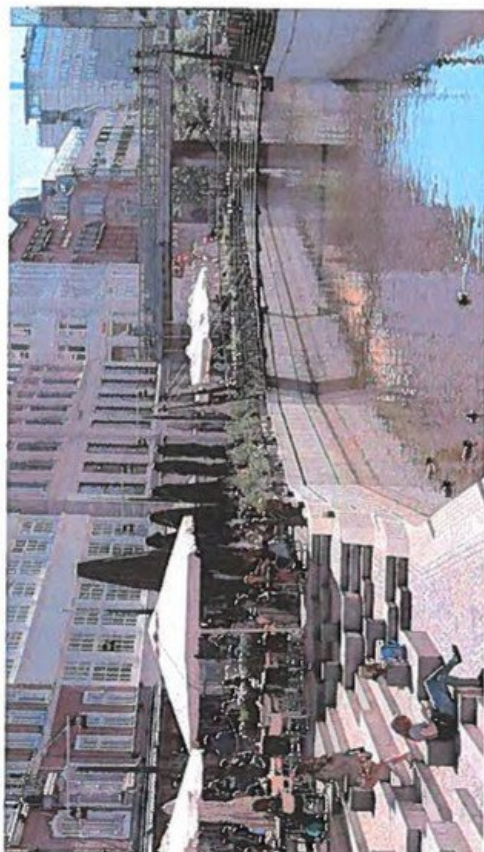
- Creation of new nodes, bookends
- Current public realm works
- New projects are integral in the expansion of the current public realm



## Public Realm Works

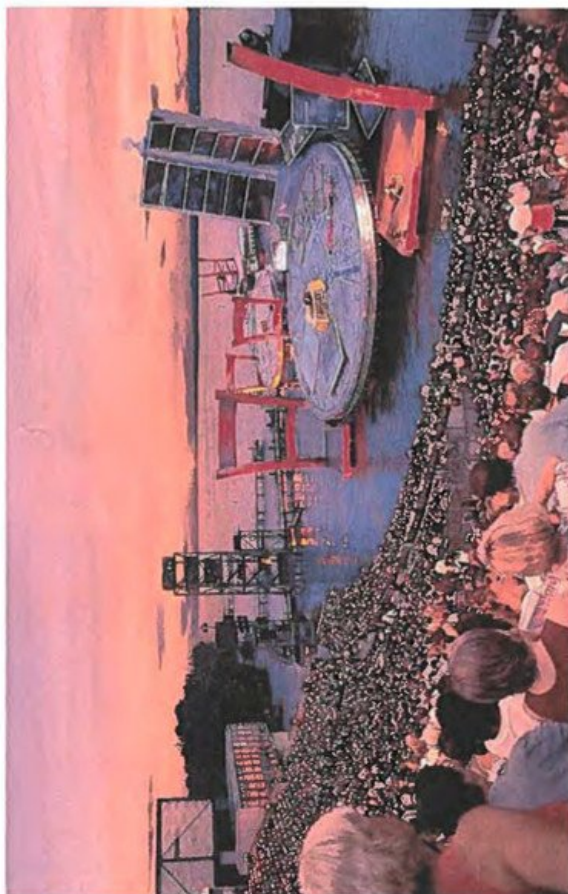






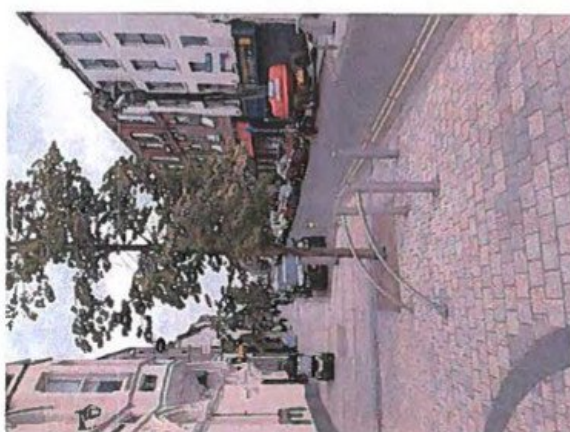
1. Civic Spaces - People centred destinations that capitalise upon their site-specific assets





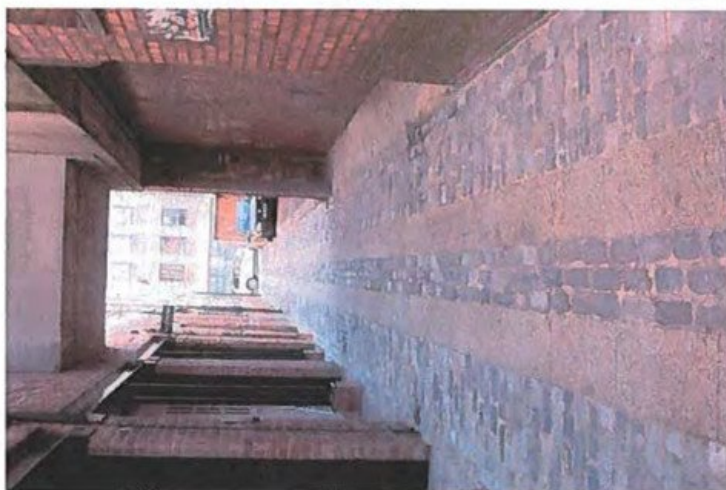
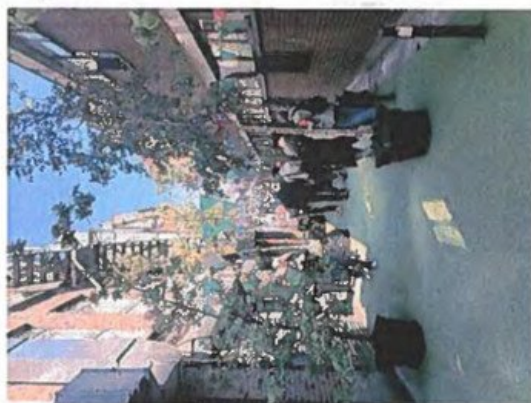
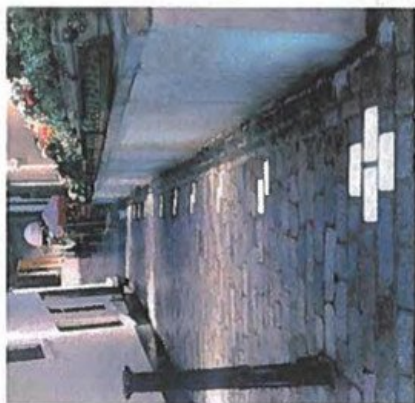
2. Performance Space - A place of creativity and excitement in the heart of the city





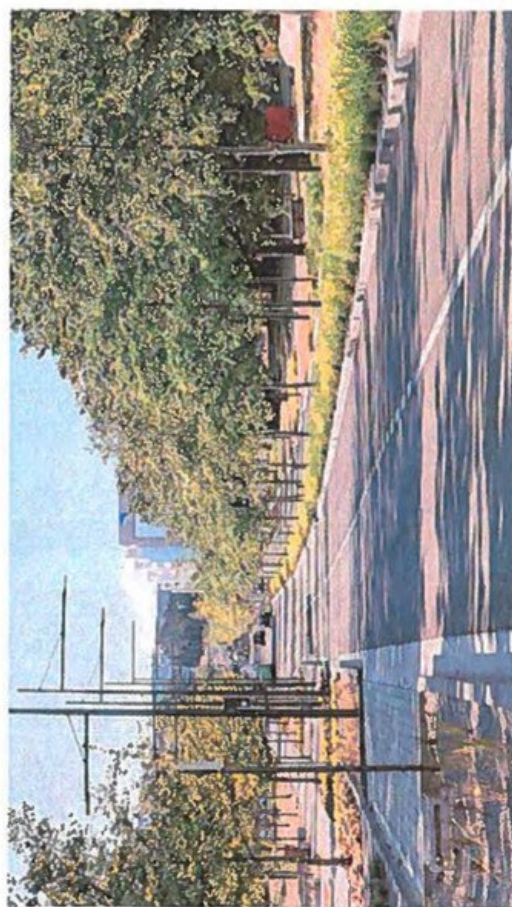
**3. Core Streets - The highest quality of city streets, uniquely Newry and balancing provision for all users**





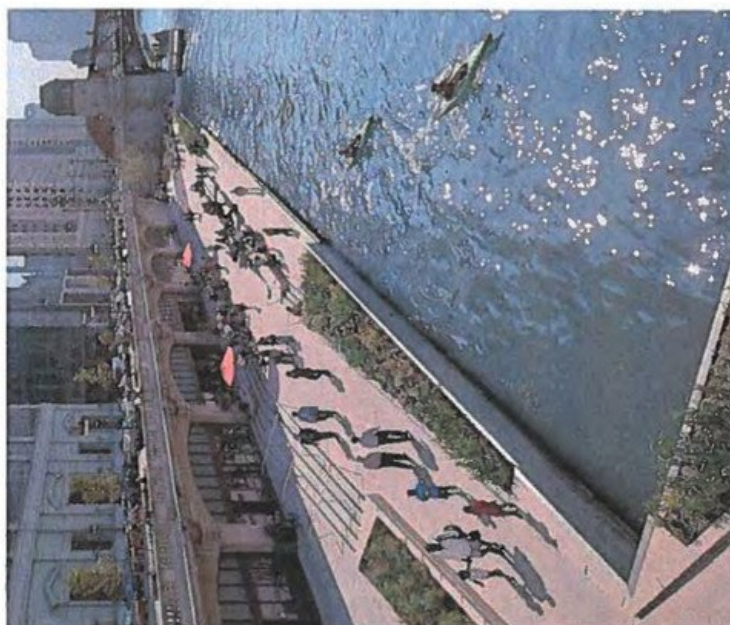
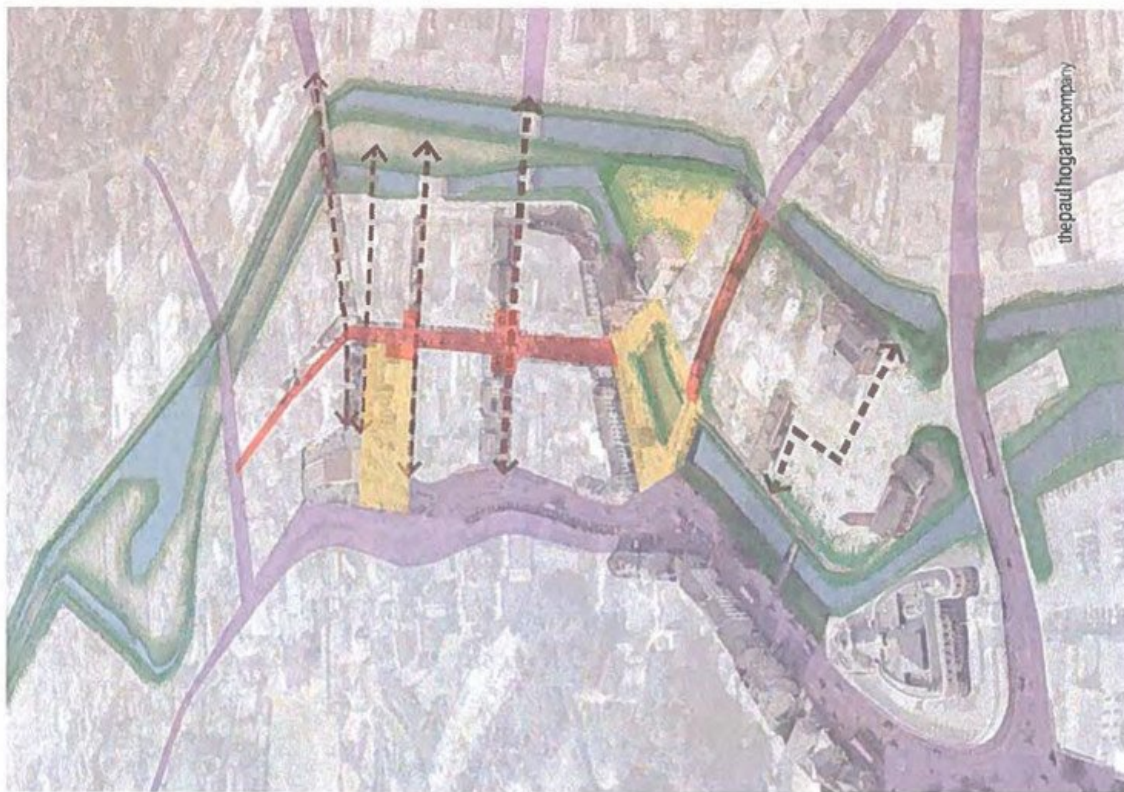
4. Connecting Lanes - Historic spaces with their own distinctive character and personality





5. Access & Welcome - Positive first impressions of the city and its centre





6. Waterfront Open Space - Maximising a unique asset. A quality waterfront environment connecting the city and beyond





1. **Civic Spaces** *People centred destinations that capitalise upon their site-specific assets*
2. **Performance Space** *A place of creativity and excitement in the heart of the city*
3. **Core Streets** *The highest quality of city streets, uniquely Newry and balancing provision for all users*
4. **Connecting Lanes** *Historic spaces with their own distinctive character and personality*
5. **Access and Welcome** *Positive first impressions of the city and its centre*
6. **Waterfront Open Space** *Maximising a unique asset. A quality waterfront environment connecting the city and beyond*

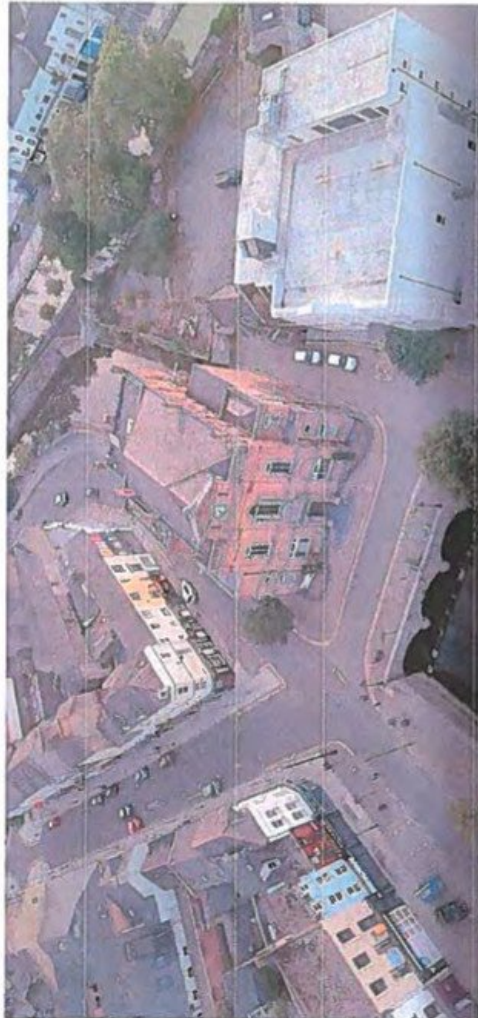
# Newry Theatre/Conference Centre



HAMILTON ARCHITECTS | NEWRY SPWG

# Introduction

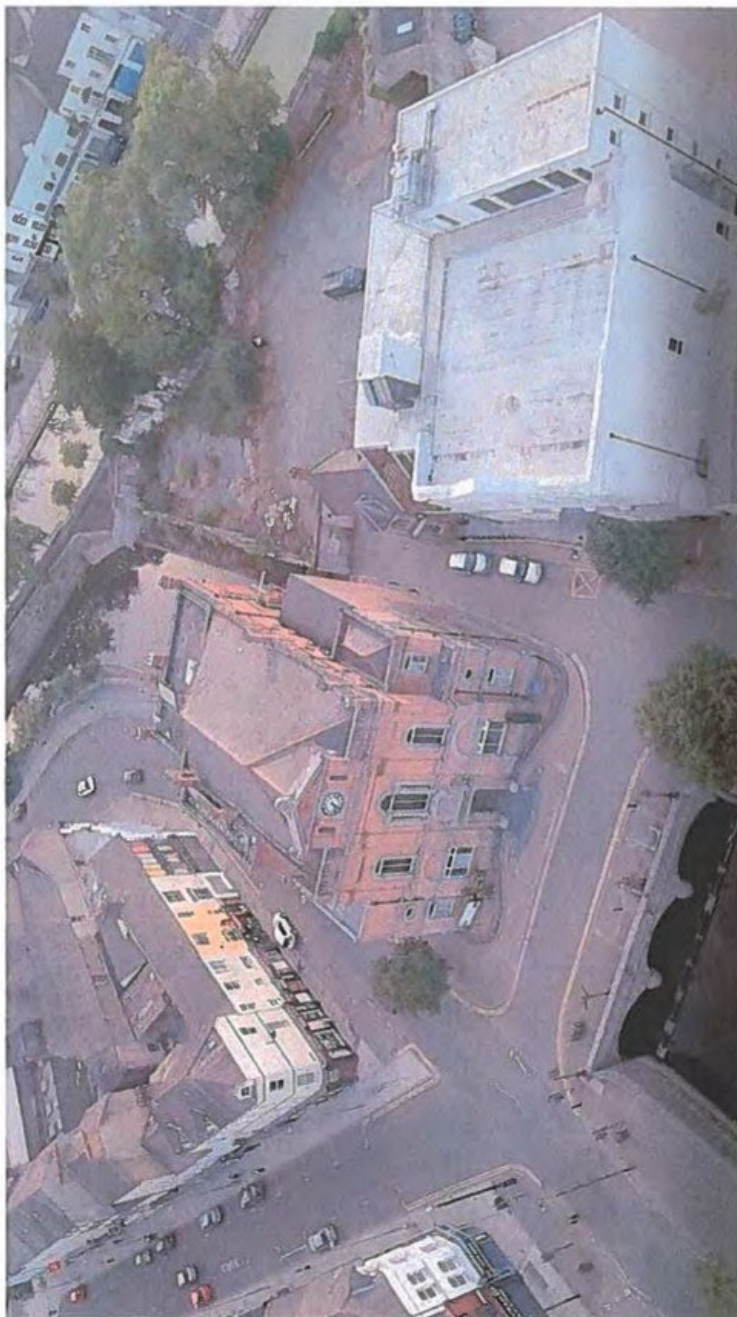
- Brief
- Site & Context
- Precedents
- Preferred Option





## Options explored

- Retention of SHAC
- Partial demolition of SHAC
- Full demolition and rebuilding of SHAC
- Retain façade of SHAC only
- Full demolition and new build

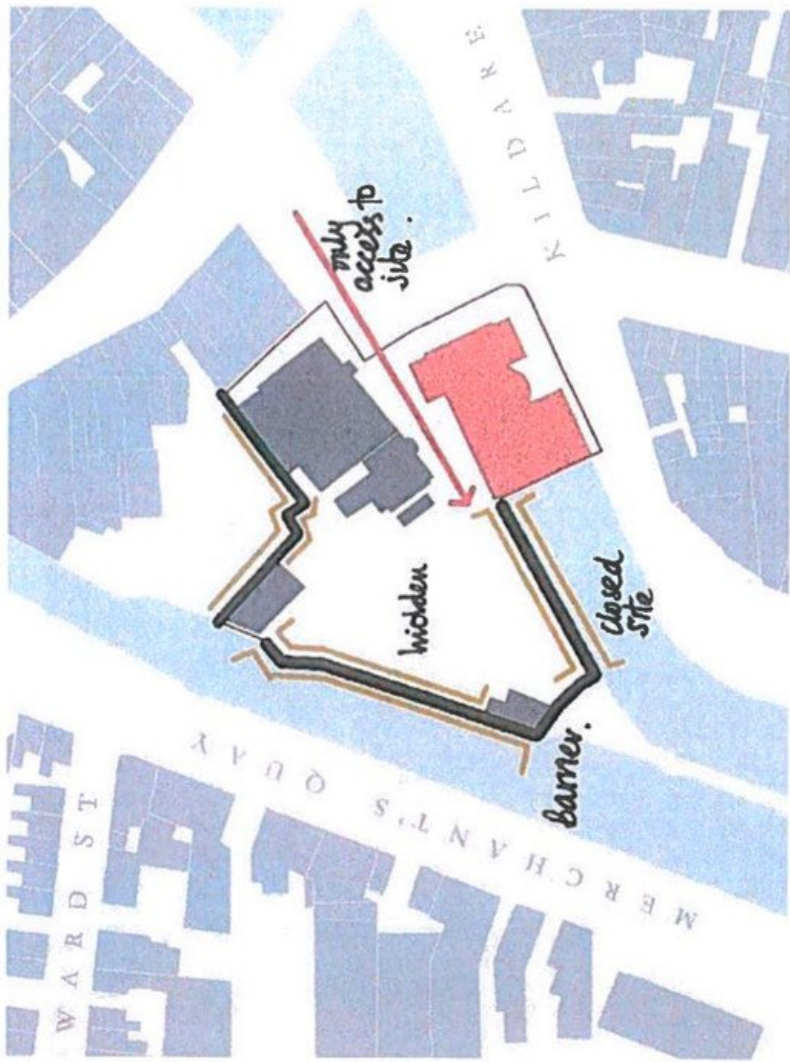




HAMILTON ARCHITECTS | NEWRY SPWG

# Site Analysis

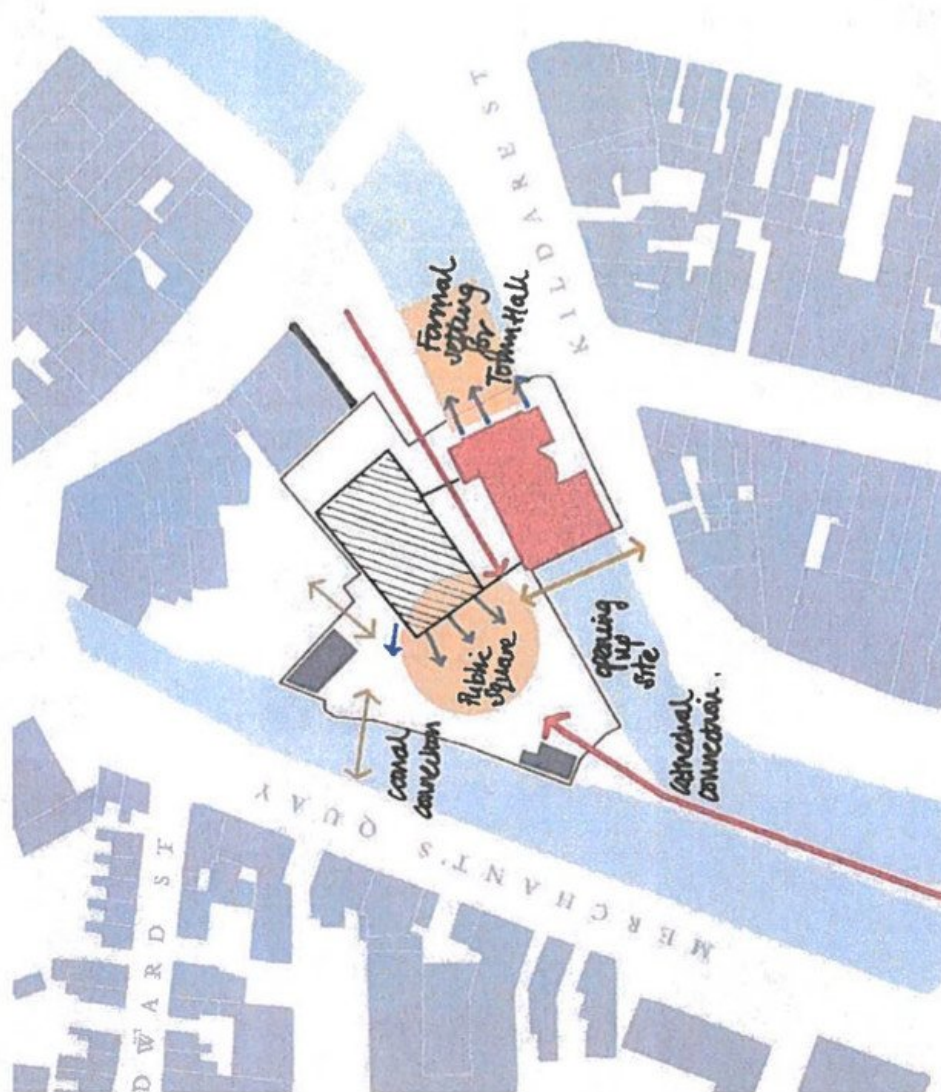
- Historic buildings and setting
- Hidden, concealed site
- Canal and Newry River are barriers
- Limited access from Newry Town Hall



HAMILTON ARCHITECTS | NEWRY SPWG

## Site Analysis

- Historic buildings and setting
- Canal opportunity
- Connection beyond – improved permeability to Newry Cathedral and beyond
- South-facing enclosed space
- Formal response to front of Town Hall





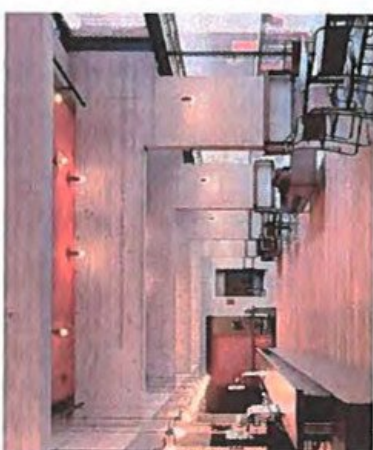
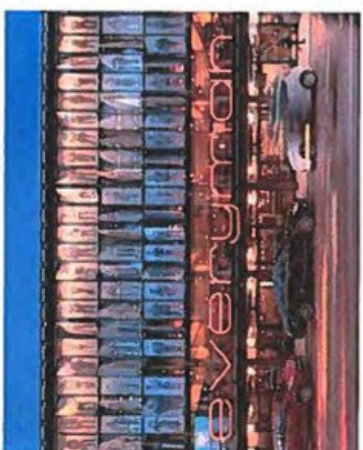
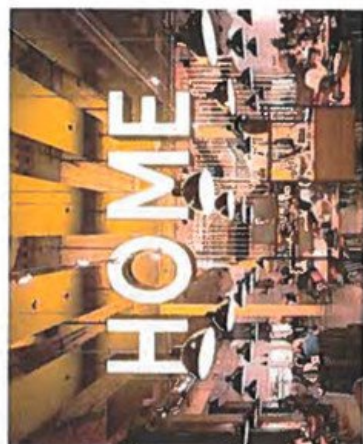
HAMILTON ARCHITECTS | NEWRY THEATRE / CONFERENCE CENTRE

## Precedents

- RIDDEL HALL, BELFAST
- ULSTER MUSEUM, BELFAST
- LANDSDOWN CLUB, LONDON
- EVERYMAN THEATRE, LIVERPOOL
- THE OLD VIC, BRISTOL
- HOME THEATRE, MANCHESTER

Visits undertaken to investigate:

- Function
- Spatial Requirement



## Preferred Option

## Refurbishment of Newry Townhall and new build-extension

*(demolition of Sean Hollywood Centre)*

- Based on revised Schedule of accommodation





HAMILTON ARCHITECTS | NEWRY THEATRE / CONFERENCE CENTRE

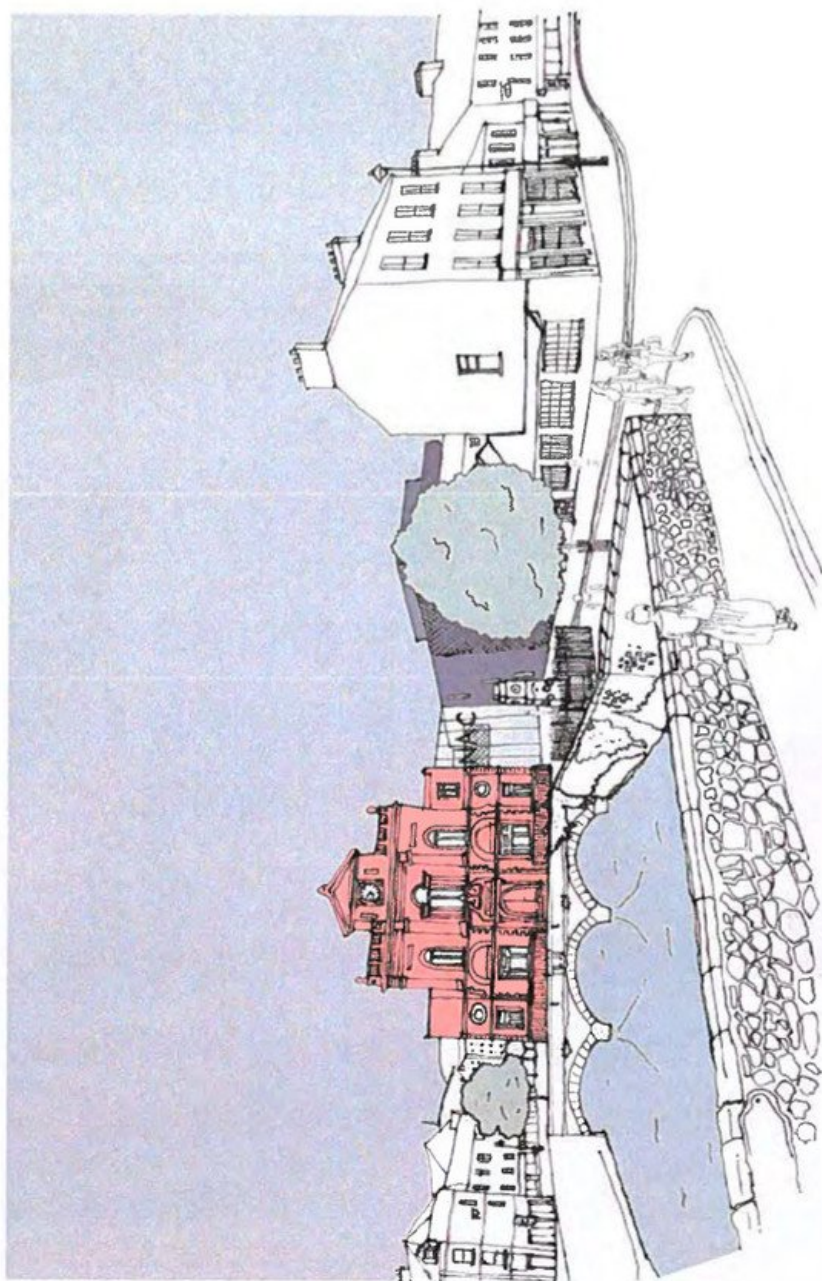
## Preferred Option

Refurbishment of Newry Townhall and  
new build extension

(demolition of Sean Hollywood Centre)

GIFA: 3375m<sup>2</sup>

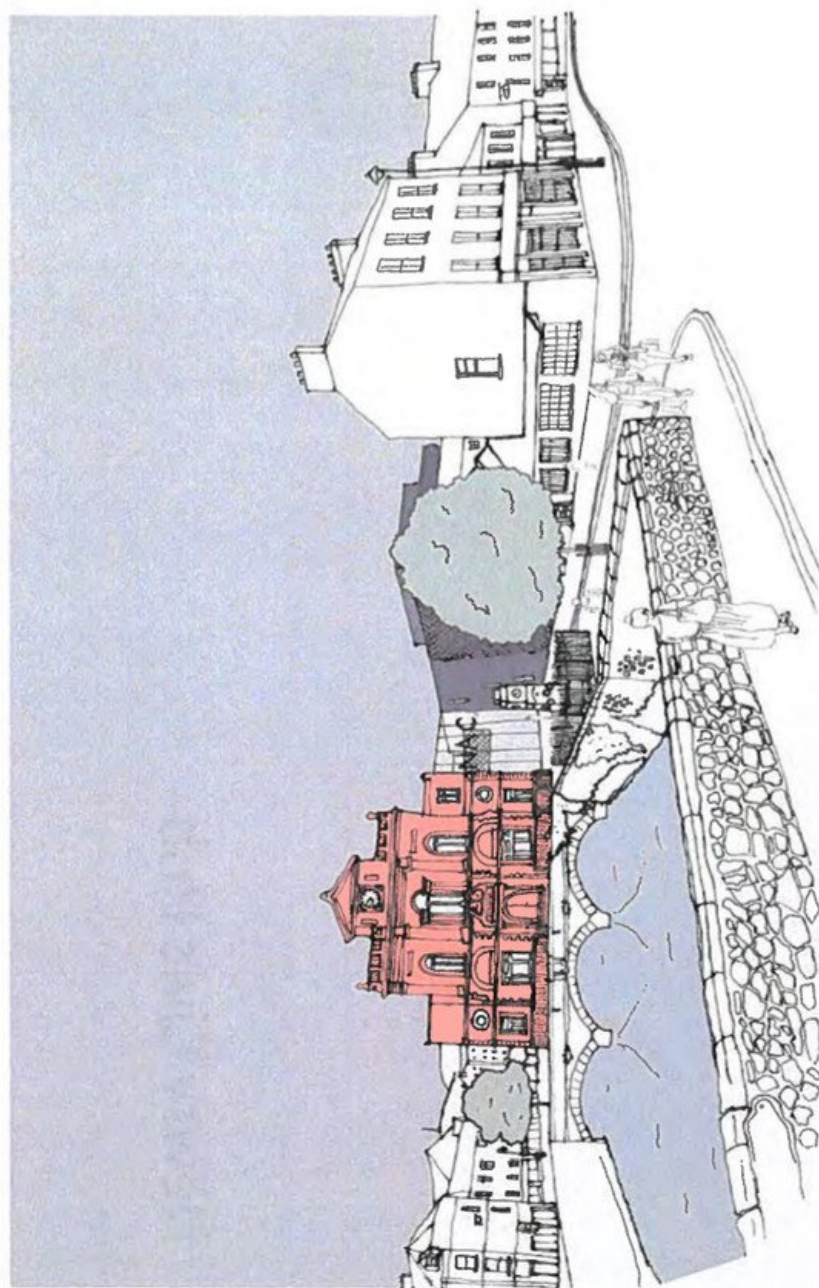
Cost: £9.9M



HAMILTON ARCHITECTS | NEWRY THEATRE / CONFERENCE CENTRE

## Preferred Option

- Creation of new building frontages to new public space to Bank Parade and performance square
- Design and cost efficiencies – value for money
- Legibility of new building and style can help enhance Town Hall
- Connectivity beyond to city centre, Cathedral and Bagnel's Castle, pedestrian ground linkages
- Ability to increase occupancy, 125-250 theatre



## Newry Civic Hub

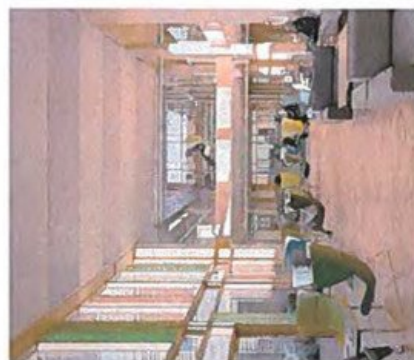




HAMILTON ARCHITECTS | NEWRY SPWG

# Introduction

- Brief
- Site & Context
- Topography
- Precedents
- Preferred Option

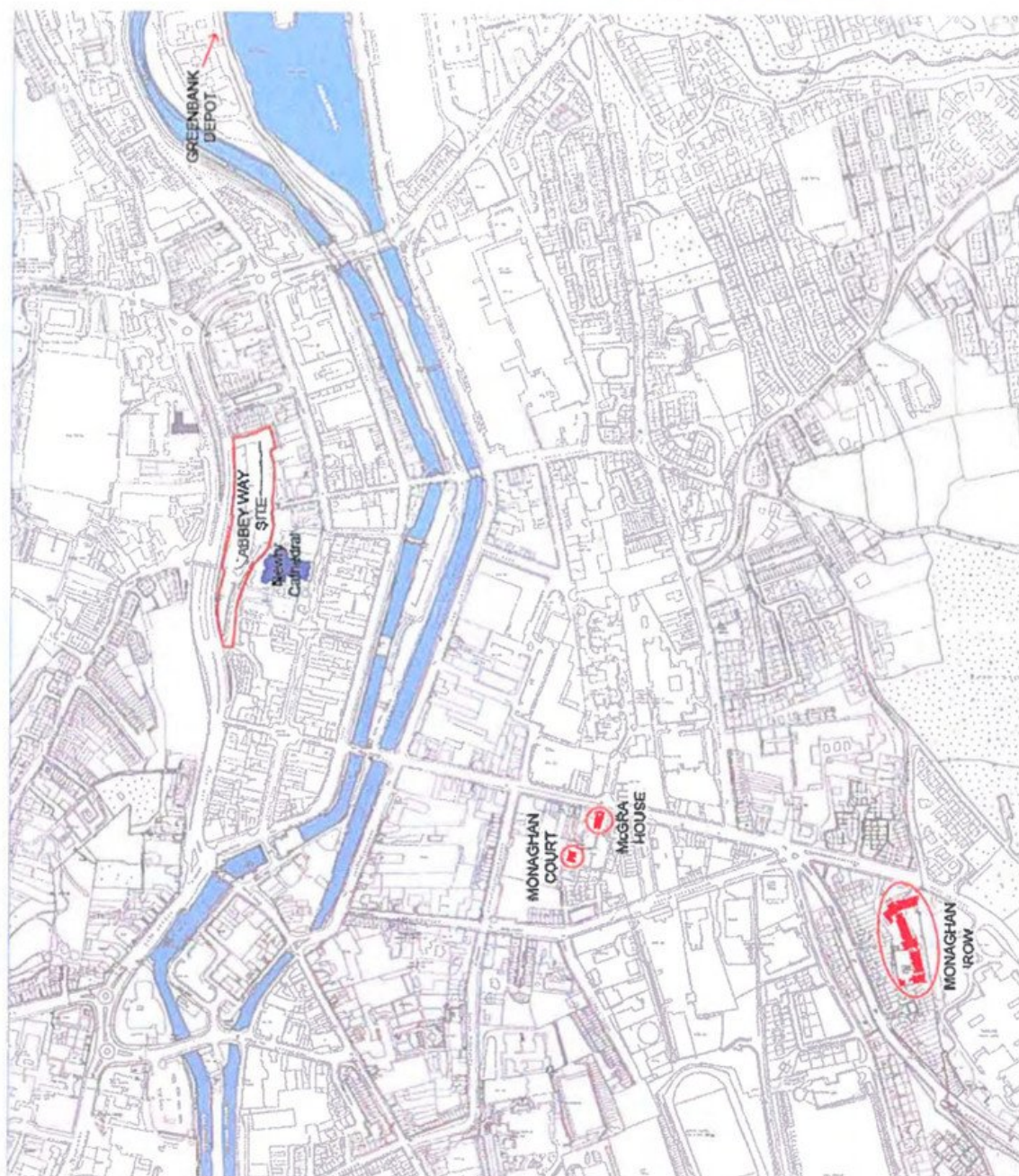




HAMILTON ARCHITECTS | NEWRY SPWG

## Brief

- Centralise Council services
- A building for the Council & public
- City centre regeneration
- Preferred Abbey Way Site
- Improve prominence of Cathedral
- Acknowledge parking issues

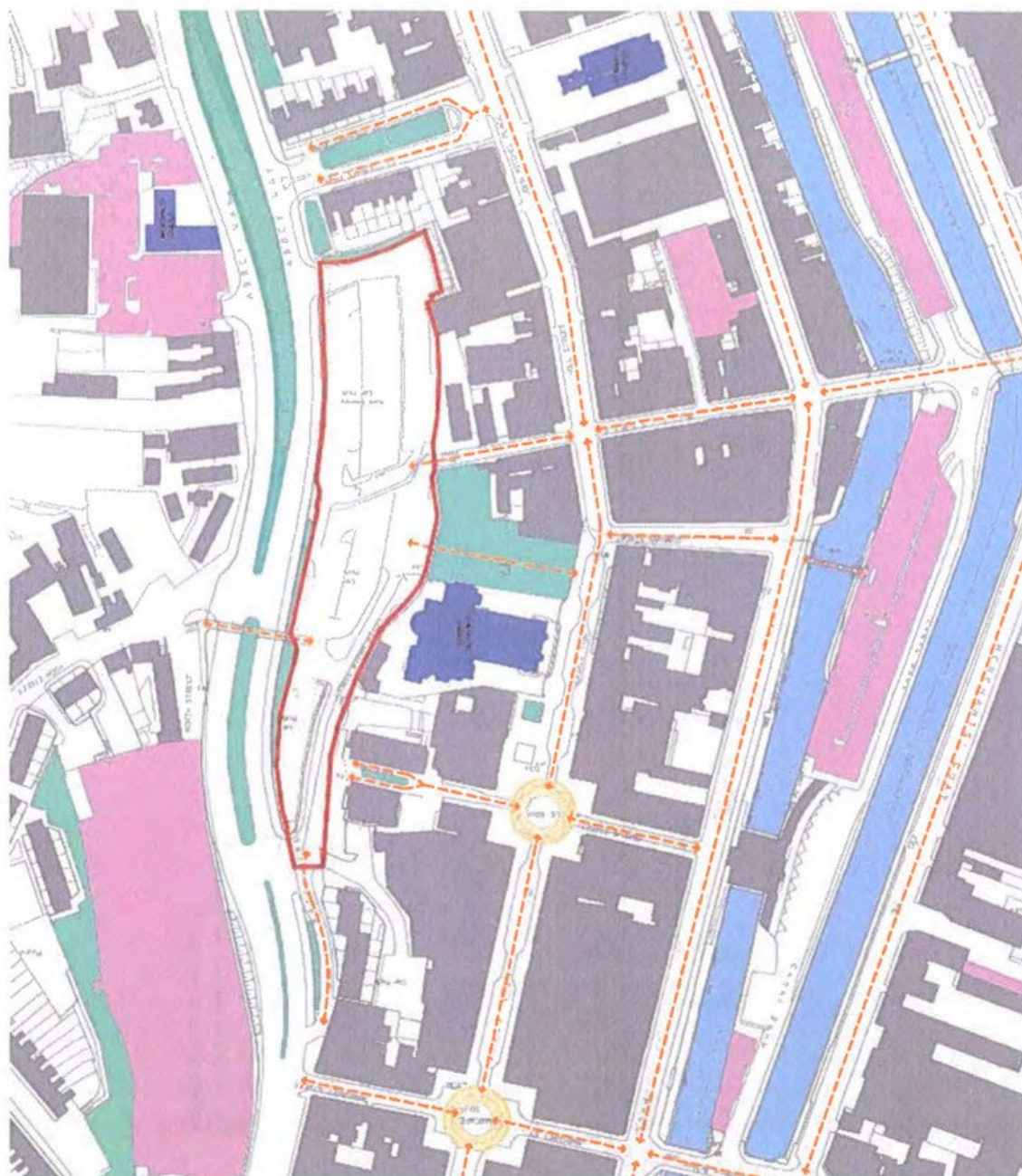




HAMILTON ARCHITECTS | NEWRY SPWG

## Abbey Way Car Park Site & Context

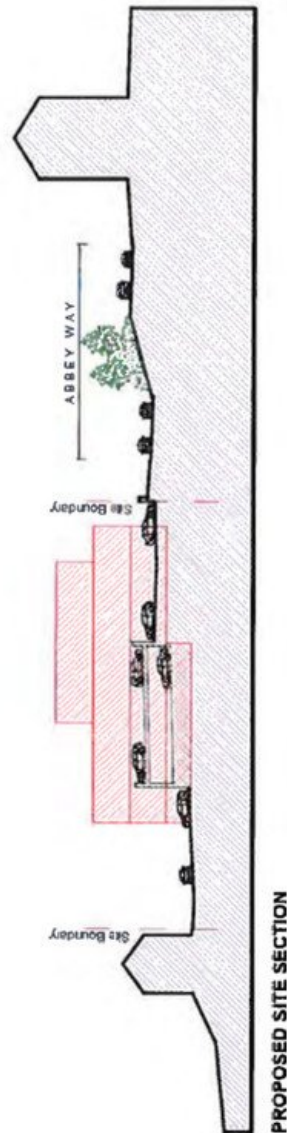
- Site Area: 0.96ha
- Building GIA: 4,270m<sup>2</sup>
- Cost: c.£7 million
- Connectivity to Cathedral, Bagenal's Castle, North Street car park, Town Hall and proposed Theatre & Conference Centre
- Movement and linkages
- Opportunity to promote presence of Cathedral within city
- Topography of site
- Parking provision



HAMILTON ARCHITECTS | NEWRY SPWG

## Topography

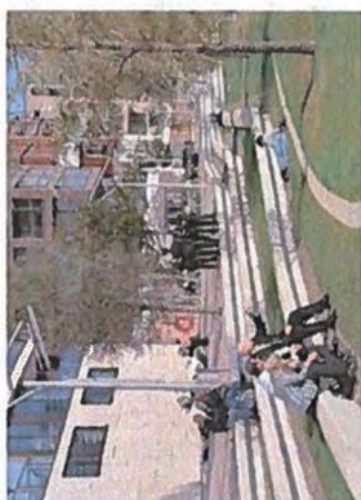
- New building to be cut into site contours as per existing car park
- Undercroft parking with public and office space above
- Stepped roofline to address topography of site





## Precedents

- HARD & SOFT LANDSCAPING
- TERRACING TO ADDRESS LEVEL CHANGE
- CIVIC BUILDING WITH CLEAR ENTRANCE & ASPECT TO 'CATHEDRAL SQUARE'
- WELCOMING FOYER & PUBLIC SPACES
- HUDDLE SPACES
- BREAK-OUT MEETING PLACES
- BUILDING & CIVIC SPACE PUBLIC CAN BE PROUD OF





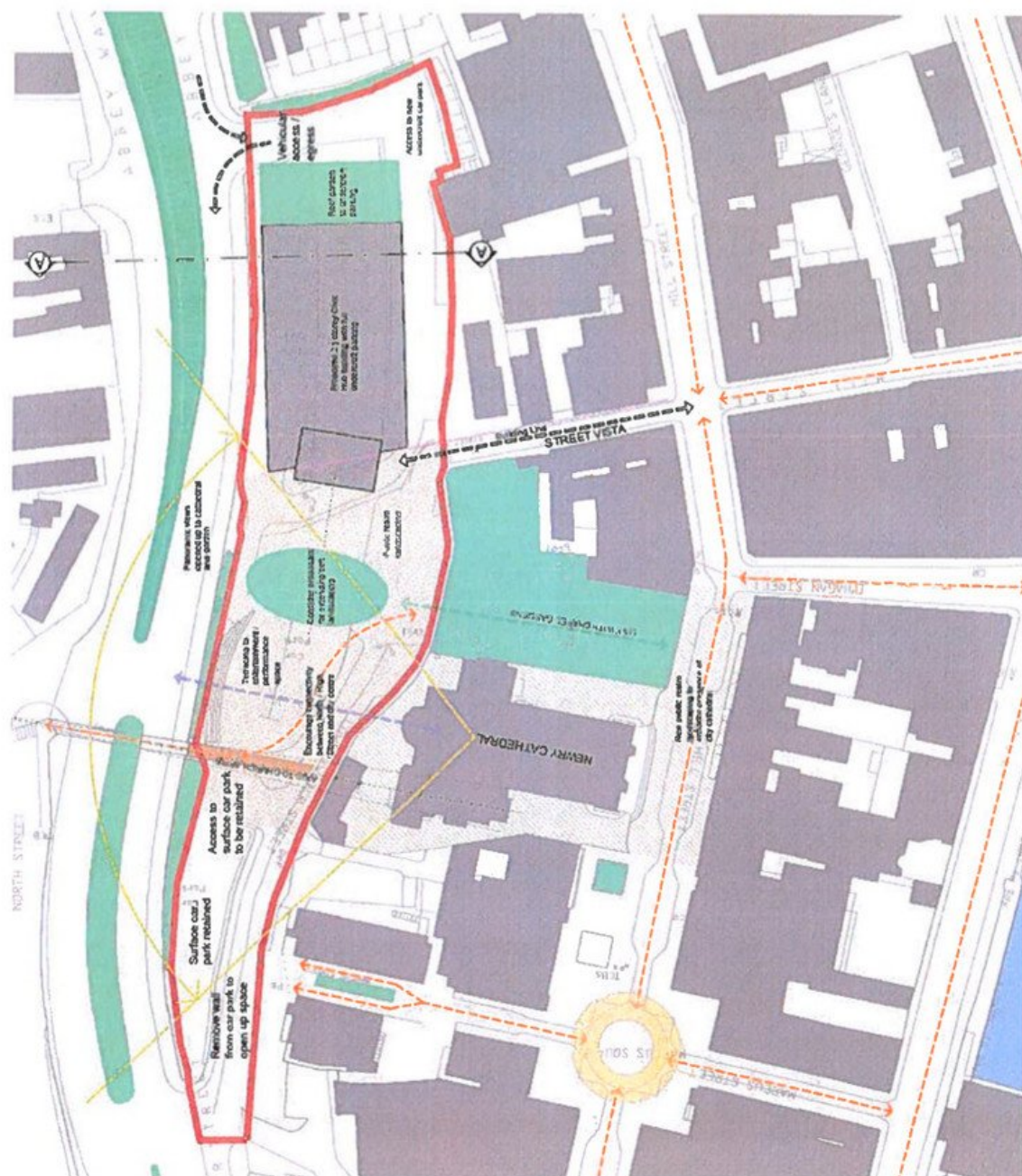
## Preferred Option

### Pros

- Site levels utilised to provide undercroft parking (c.165)
- Site opened up more to enhance presence of city cathedral and adjacent gardens.
- 'Cathedral Square' is created with additional public realm works
- Cathedral garden and new landscaping can be used as promotion for wedding facilities
- Public entrance to building clearly defined
- Existing vehicular access from Abbey Way retained
- Better connectivity of pedestrian routes to town centre

### Cons

- Existing decked car park to be demolished with loss of c.147 spaces
- 83 parking spaces lost due to public realm landscaping



HAMILTON ARCHITECTS | NEWRY SPWG

## Preferred Option

- Presence of city cathedral and gardens enhanced
- 'Cathedral Square'
- Abbey Way subway enhanced
- Better connectivity of pedestrian routes to town centre







# Civic Hub - Site Identification Process

- 2015 – 2019 Corporate Plan
- 2015 Deloitte Process
  - Single Site Envisaged
  - 23 Sites   8 Longlisted   4 Shortlisted
- 2017 CharcoalBlue Report
  - Retain Town Hall
  - Ross Thompson Theatre/ Conference site
  - June 2018 SP&R
- 2018 & 2019 Soft Market Engagement
  - Sought Site Development Opportunities
  - Procurement Strategy





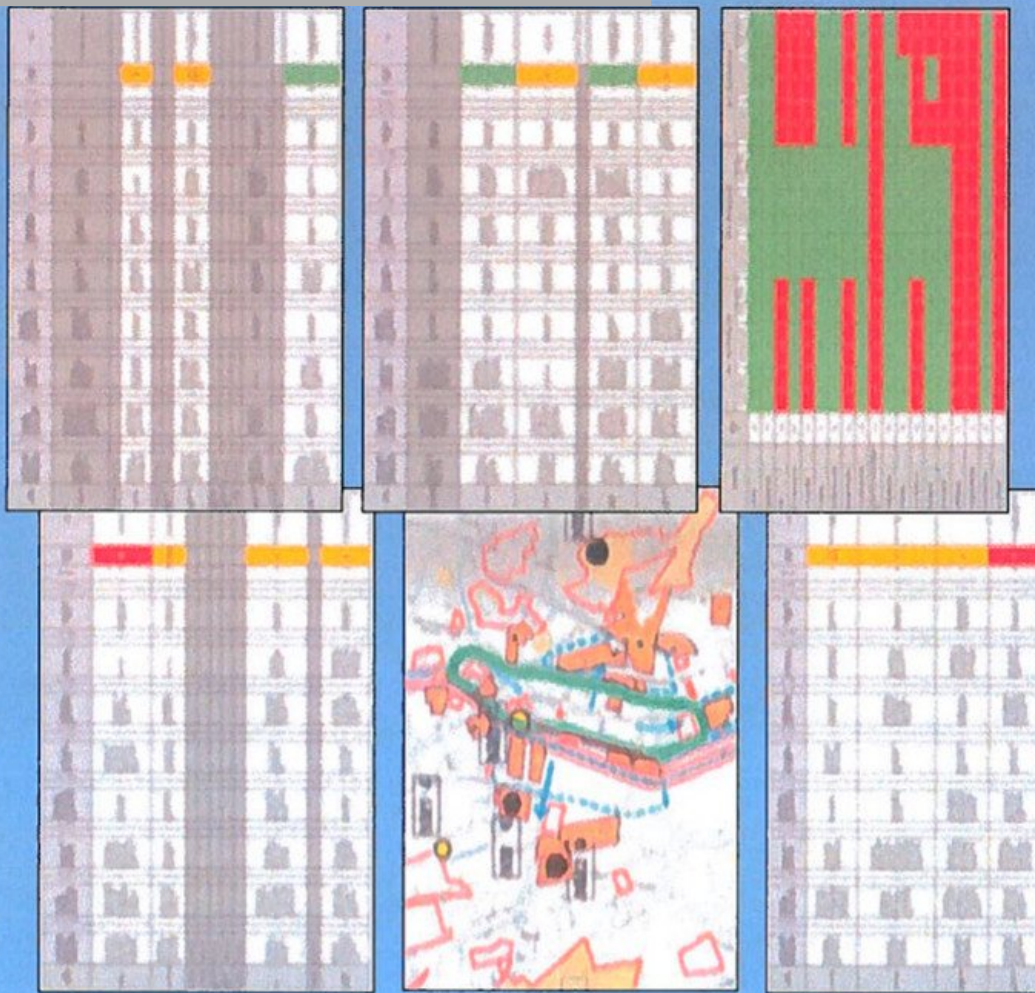
# 2018 – 2019 Site Analysis

**Criteria;** Regenerative Impact. Vehicular Access.  
Site Specific Considerations. Transportation.  
Availability. Planning. Sustainability

**Spatial Analysis;** Placemaking. Parking Provision.

## Summary;

- Total of 33 Sites considered
- 16 Long Listed
- 3 Immediately Available
- Abbey Way highest scoring Council ownership.





# Abbey Way - Pros & Cons

## Pros;

- No Acquisition Costs
- High Regenerative Impact
- Strong Abbey Way Transport Linkage
- Strong Civic Presence
- Newry Cathedral Place Making
- Direct Link to Hill Street & Wider Public Realm
- Strong Link to Mill Street/ Bus Station & Water Side
- Immediately Availability for Development

## Cons;

- Parking Displacement
- Existing Structures
- Sloping Topography
- Title Registration
- Noise/ Vibration Abbey Way

Item	Unit	Quantity	Rate	Total
1. Site Preparation	m²	100	100	10000
2. Foundation Work	m³	50	200	10000
3. Structural Steel	kg	1000	10	10000
4. Concrete Work	m³	200	50	10000
5. Masonry Work	m²	100	100	10000
6. Roofing Work	m²	100	100	10000
7. Electrical Work	hr	100	100	10000
8. Plumbing Work	hr	100	100	10000
9. Carpentry Work	hr	100	100	10000
10. Painting Work	hr	100	100	10000
11. Landscaping Work	hr	100	100	10000
12. Final Inspection	hr	100	100	10000
13. Total				100000







**NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**Ref: AHC/2019**

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**Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on  
Monday 19 August 2019 at 6.00pm in the Mourne Room, Downshire Civic  
Centre, Downpatrick**

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**Chairperson: Councillor L Kimmins**

**In attendance: (Councillors)**

Councillor G Bains	Councillor S Doran
Councillor M Gibbons	Councillor G Malone
Councillor L McEvoy	Councillor K McKevitt
Councillor G O'Hare	Councillor B Ó Muirí
Councillor M Ruane	Councillor M Savage
Councillor D Taylor	Councillor B Walker

**Also In Attendance: Councillor T Andrews**

**Officials in attendance:** Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active & Healthy Communities  
Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement  
Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director Health and Wellbeing  
Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director Leisure and Sport  
Miss S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager (Acting)  
Ms L O'Hare, Democratic Services Officer

**AHC/111/2019: APOLOGIES & CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

Apologies were received from Councillor Trainor.

**AHC/112/2019: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Gibbons declared an interest in item 9 - No 16 The Square Rostrevor, Councillor McKevitt declared an interest in item 8 - Ballyholland FMA and item 24 - Ballyholland Land Transfer.

**AHC/113/2019: ACTION SHEET OF THE ACTIVE & HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 17 JUNE 2019**

**Read:** Action sheet of the Active & Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Monday 17 June 2019 **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** It was agreed to note the action sheet.

**AHC/114/2019 AHC BUSINESS PLAN - ANNUAL REVIEW**

**Read:** AHC Mid-Year Assessment Business Plan 2018-19 **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor O Muirí, seconded by Councillor O'Hare it was agreed that Committee approve the Mid-Year Assessment of the AHC Business Plan 2018-2019.

**AHC/115/2019**      **DISTRICT ELECTORAL AREA (DEA) FORA UPDATE REPORT**

**Read:** Report dated 19 August 2019 from Mr D Brannigan, Head of Engagement, regarding District Electoral Area (DEA) Fora Update Report **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Gibbons, seconded by Councillor Doran, it was agreed to note the report and agree the action sheets from the following DEA Forum Private Meetings:

- Slieve Croob DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 18 June 2019.
- Crotlieve DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 18 June 2019.
- Mournes DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 18 June 2019.

**AHC/116/2019**      **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE CALL 1 2020/21**

**Read:** Report dated 19 August 2019 from Ms J McCabe, Head of Programmes, regarding Financial Assistance Call 1 – 2020/21 **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor O Muirí, seconded by Councillor O'Hare, it was agreed that the Committee:

- open the Financial Assistance Call 1 2020/21 prior to Christmas (subject to the confirmation of budgets);
- and note the outcomes of the Equality Screening of the Financial Assistance Policy.

**AHC/117/2019**      **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE – SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS FOR COMMUNITY CENTRES**

**Read:** Report dated 19 August 2019 from Ms J McCabe, Head of Programmes, regarding Financial Assistance – Service Level Agreements for Community Centres **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Doran, it was agreed to accept the following recommendations:

- to allocate legacy SLA groups 50% of legacy payments for 2019-2020 and 2020-2021;

- to allow all groups, including new groups to reapply to Financial Assistance interim SLA open call (April 2021 – March 2023).

Having previously declared an interest, Councillor McKeivitt left the room at this time – 6.10pm.

**AHC/118/2019**

**BALLYHOLLAND FMA**

**Read:** Report dated 19 August 2019 from Ms J McCann, Head of Community Services, Facilities and Events, regarding Ballyholland FMA (**Copy circulated**)

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor McEvoy, it was agreed to accept the following recommendations:

- that the Committee proceed with the leasing of Councils play area in Ballyholland to BHGAC in exchange for the leasing of separate lands from BHGAC to Council for the establishment of play park facilities in line with the Councils Play strategy.

Having previously declared an interest, Councillor Gibbons left the room at this point – 6.11pm and Councillor McKeivitt returned – 6.11pm.

**AHC/119/2019**

**NO16 THE SQUARE, ROSTREVOR: ADDITIONAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITY THROUGH RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME**

**Read:** Report dated 19 August 2019 from Ms J McCann, Head of Community Services, Facilities and Events, regarding No 16 The Square, Rostrevor: Additional Funding opportunity through Rural Development Programme (**Copy circulated**)

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor O Muirí, it was agreed to accept the following recommendations:

- that the Committee agree to submit a formal application (subject to funding becoming available), to the Mourne, Gullion and Lecale Rural Development Partnership (RDP) for refurbishment works at No 16 The Square, Rostrevor.

Councillor Gibbons re-entered the meeting at this stage - 6.12pm.

**AHC/120/2019:**

**APPLICATION TO DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITIES: NEW MODEL FARM COMMUNITY CENTRE PROPOSAL, DOWNPATRICK**

**Read:** Report dated 19 August 2019 from Ms K Hynds, DEA Coordinator, Downpatrick, regarding application to Department for Communities: New Model Farm Community Centre Proposal Downpatrick (**Copy circulated**)



- Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor McKevitt, seconded by Councillor McEvoy, it was agreed to accept the following recommendations:
- that the Committee agree to proceed with an application to DfC for a replacement facility for the Trojan Horse, Downpatrick. Including the development of a business case, design proposals and submission of a planning application.

#### **FOR NOTING – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

**AHC/121/2019: DOWNPATRICK NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL PARTNERSHIP (NRP) REPORT**

**Read:** Report dated 19 August 2019 from Mr D Brannigan, head of Engagement, regarding Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership (NRP) Report **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** It was agreed to note the contents of the report.

**AHC/122/2019: NEWRY NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL PARTNERSHIP (NRP) REPORT**

**Read:** Report dated 19 August 2019 from Mr D Brannigan, head of Engagement, regarding Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership (NRP) Report **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** It was agreed to note the contents of the report.

**AHC/123/2019 POLICING & COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP (PCSP) REPORT**

**Read:** Report dated 19 August 2019 from Mr D Brannigan, head of Engagement, regarding Policing & Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) Report **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** It was agreed to note the contents of the report.

**AHC/124/2019 COMMUNITY SERVICES STRATEGY**

**Read:** Report dated 19 August 2019 from Ms J McCann, Head of Community Services Facilities and Events, regarding Community Services Strategy Update **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** It was agreed to note the contents of the report.

**AHC/125/2019      PEACE IV LOCAL ACTION PLAN**

**Read:** Report dated 19 August 2019 from Ms J McCabe, Programmes Manager, regarding Peace IV Local Action Plan **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** It was agreed to note the contents of the report.

**LEISURE AND SPORT**

**AHC/126/2019      AUTISIM FRIENDLY SWIM SESSIONS**

**Read:** Report dated 19 August 2019 from Mr K Gordon, Director of Leisure and Sport, regarding Autism Friendly Swim Sessions **(Copy circulated)**

The Chairperson asked if the pilot scheme could be extended to Newry leisure centre. Councillor Doran also requested if Kilkeel could be included in this scheme.

Mr Tamati confirmed that they were anticipating implementing pilot programmes across the District in the future.

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Kimmins, seconded by Councillor McKeivitt to accept the following recommendation:

- to permanently introduce Autism Friendly Sessions at Downpatrick Leisure Centre (subject to closures and holiday arrangements) on Thursday evenings from 6pm to 7:00pm with a 6-month review period.

**AHC/127/2019      COMMUNITY TRAILS FUNDING**

**Read:** Report dated 19 August 2019 from Mr C Haughey, Head of Outdoor Leisure, Community Trails Funding Report **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Doran to accept the following recommendation:

- subject to the securing of external funding, Council will provide £289,626 match funding for Community Trails at Drumkeeragh Forest, Tievenadarragh Forest, Seaforde Plantations, and Corry Wood as per appendix 1.

**FOR NOTING LEISURE AND SPORTS**

**AHC/128/2019:      SWIM ULSTER POOL BOOKINGS**

**Read:** Report dated 19 August 2019 from Mr K Gordon, Director of Leisure and Sport, regarding Swim Ulster Pool Bookings **(Copy circulated)**

The Chairperson asked If it was possible to negotiate some of the swimming gala dates with Swim Ulster as they are all weekends and particularly the one in March which falls over St

Patrick's week. She advised there had been a number of complaints about the pool being closed to the public at peak times and especially conscious for full paying members, this was seconded by Councillor Savage.

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Kimmins, seconded by Councillor Savage, to go back to Swim Ulster and negotiate the dates requested for the Swim Ulster Gala.

## **HEALTH AND WELLBEING**

**AHC/129/2019: HOME TO HOSPITAL SCHEME FOR SLIEVE GULLION DEA**

**Read:** Report dated 19 August 2019 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director Health and Wellbeing, regarding Home to Hospital Scheme for Slieve Gullion DEA **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor O Muirí, seconded by Councillor Taylor, that the Committee agree to allocate £10000 to facilitate a Home to Hospital scheme for Older Persons within Slieve Gullion DEA and issue an Expression of Interest to suitable Community/Voluntary Groups to administer the scheme

**AHC/130/2019: SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT BEWTWEEN NEWRY MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL AND ARMAGH CITY, BANBRIDGE AND CRAIGAVON BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**Read:** Report dated 19 August 2019 from Ms S Trainor, Senior EHO (Health Improvement) regarding Service Level Agreement in relation to the Affordable Warmth Scheme **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Doran, that the Committee approve the signing of the attached Service Level Agreement with Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council in relation to the provision of the Affordable Warmth Scheme

## **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 Ruane, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on the next matters 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 a particular person (including the Council holding that information) and the



public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

**AHC/131/2019      YOUR SCHOOL YOUR CLUB FUNDING**

**Read:** Report dated 19 August from Mr C Haughey, Head of Outdoor Leisure Regarding Sport NI Your School Your Club Funding  
**(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor O'Hare, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor O'Hare to approve the recommendation as set out in para 3.1 of the officer's report.

**AHC/132/2019:      LAND AT BARCROFT COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**Read:** Report dated 19 August 2019 from Ms J McCann, Head of Community Services Facilities and Events, regarding land at Barcroft Community Centre **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor O'Hare, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Doran, that the Committee agree to extend the existing lease with Newry Felons to include the site marked G2 on the site plan (subject to a satisfactory valuation from LPS)

**AHC/133/2019      MULLAGHBANE COMMUNITY CENTRE LEASE**

**Read:** Report dated 19 August 2019 from Ms J McCann, Head of Community Services Facilities and Events, regarding Mullaghbane Community Centre Lease **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor O'Hare, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor O Muirí, seconded by Councillor O'Hare, that the Committee agree to changes to the original terms of the Mullaghbane Community Centre lease as per recommendations as set out in para 3.1 of the officer's report and that a deadline of all lease negotiations to be finalised by 31 December 2019 and agreement that failure to do so will result in lease not being renewed.

Having previously declared an interest, Councillor McKeivitt left the room at this point.

**AHC/134/2019      BALLYHOLLAND LAND TRANSFER**

**Read:** Report dated 19 August 2019 from Mr C Haughey, Head of Outdoor Leisure, regarding Ballyholland land transfer (**Copy circulated**)

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor O'Hare, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor O'Hare that the Committee agree to proceed with the leasing of Councils play area in Ballyholland to BHGAC in exchange for the leasing of separate lands from BHGAC to Council for the establishment of play park facilities in line with the Councils Play strategy.

Councillor McKeivitt re-entered the meeting at this stage.

**AHC/135/2019      PLAY PARK UPDATE**

**Read:** Report dated 19 August 2019 from Mr C Haughey, Head of Outdoor Leisure, regarding Play Strategy Upgrade/Transformation Schemes (**Copy circulated**)

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor O'Hare, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session

**Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor O'Hare that the Committee agree to proceed with the commencement of design consultation, capital works and spend for the play areas as per the Councils Play Strategy as set out in para 3.1 of the officer's report.

**AHC/136/2019      BALLYKINLAR COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**Read** Report dated 19 August 2019 from Ms J McCann, Head of Community Services Facilities and Events, regarding Relocation and Refurbishment of NIFRS Building from Strangford Road to Ballykinlar (**Copy circulated**)

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor O'Hare, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session

**Agreed:** It was agreed to note the contents of the report.

**AHC/137/2019**

**BANN ROAD PAVILLION**

Read

Report dated 19 August 2019 from Mr C Haughey, Head of Outdoor Leisure, regarding Bann Road Sports Pavilion, Castlewellan **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:**

**On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor O'Hare, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session**

**Agreed:**

**It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor O Muirí to proceed with the revised capital budget and commencement of works for the Bann Road Sports Pavilion in Castlewellan as set out in para 3.1 of the officer's report.**

**FOR NOTING**

**AHC/138/2019**

**SOCIAL INVESTMENT FUND UPDATE**

Read:

Report dated 19 August 2019 from Ms J McCabe, Head of Programmes, regarding Social and Investment Fund update **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:**

**It was agreed to note the contents of the report.**

There being no further business the meeting ended at 6.42pm.

Signed:

Councillor L Kimmins  
Chairperson

Signed:

Mr M Lipsett  
Director of Active and Healthy Communities



**NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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**Minutes of Neighbourhood Services Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 20 August 2019 at 6.00pm in the Boardroom, District Council Offices, Monaghan Row, Newry**

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**Chair:** Councillor H Harvey

**Deputy Chair:** Councillor G Stokes

**Members:**

Councillor T Andrews	Councillor D Curran
Councillor V Harte	Councillor T Hearty
Councillor L Kimmins	Councillor O Magennis
Councillor G Malone	Councillor C Mason
Councillor H McKee	Councillor K McKevitt
Councillor D Taylor	

**Officials in Attendance:** Mr R Moore, Director of Neighbourhood Services  
 Mr J Parkes, Assistant Director, Waste Management  
 Mr J McBride, Assistant Director, Waste Management (Acting)  
 Mr K Scullion, Assistant Director Facilities Management and Maintenance  
 Ms C McAteer, Democratic Services Officer

**NS/030/2019: APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

Councillor J Tinnelly and Councillor Clarke.

**NS/031/2019: DECLARATIONS OF "CONFLICTS OF INTEREST"**

There were no declarations of Conflicts of Interest.

**NS/032/2019: ACTION SHEET OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 19 JUNE 2019**

**Read:** Action Sheet of the Neighbourhood Services Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 19 June 2019. **(Circulated).**

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Kimmins, seconded by Councillor Curran, it was agreed the Action Sheet of the Neighbourhood Services Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 19 June 2019 be noted and actions removed as marked.

**Agreed:** Arising from the Action Sheet, Councillor Andrews advised that Councillor Stokes and Councillor McKevitt were the SDLP representatives on the Neighbourhood Services Working

**Group and Councillor Curran and Councillor Andrews were the SDLP representatives on the Sustainability and Climate Change Forum.**

# **FOR CONSIDERATION AND/OR DECISION**

## **NS/033/2019: NOTICE OF MOTION**

(Councillor M Gibbons and Councillor B O Muiri were invited to be in attendance for discussion on this item)

The following Notice of Motion came forward for consideration in the names of Councillors Gibbons and O'Muiri:-

**“Newry, Mourne & Down District Council will introduce a pilot scheme, similar to the NI Water led initiative #Refillution, and will actively promote the personal use of reusable water bottles and facilitate water refill stations – initially in Warrenpoint & Rostrevor – and then throughout the District as part of its ongoing commitment to the environment.”**

**Noted:** It was noted the Notice of Motion was referred from the Council Meeting held on 1 July 2019.

**Read:** Report dated 20 August 2019 from Mr Roland Moore, Director of Neighbourhood Services regarding the Notice of Motion.  
**(Circulated)**

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Stokes, seconded by Councillor Kimmins, it was agreed the previously established cross-departmental Officer Working Group develop an action plan for the Motion and report back to the Sustainability and Climate Change Working Group and relevant Committee(s) for approval.

## **NS/034/2019: REPORT RE: URBELAC TRIP**

**Read:** Report dated 20 August 2019 from Mr Roland Moore, Director of Neighbourhood Services regarding the URBELAC Network (Fourth Edition) – 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting Maribor. **(Circulated)**

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor McKevitt, seconded by Councillor Stokes, it was agreed as follows:

- (1) The Council continue its commitment to the URBELAC (4<sup>th</sup> Edition) and attendance at the next meeting in Hermosillo (Nov 2019).**
- (2) The Council continue to play an active role in the development of the manifesto by answering the questions posed by Professor Laura Gavinelli by the end Sept 2019.**

**(3) Once completed the Council will endeavour to promote elements of circular economy within the Council area.**

**NS/035/2019: SCHEME OF DELEGATION REPORT**

**Read:** Report dated 19 June 2019 from Mr Roland Moore, Director of Neighbourhood Services re: Scheme of Delegation Report.  
**(Circulated)**

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Kimmins, seconded by Councillor Stokes, it was agreed to note Report dated 19 June 2019 from Mr Roland Moore, Director of Neighbourhood Services regarding the Scheme of Delegation Report for period 1 October 2018 to 31 July 2019.

### **FACILITIES MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE**

**NS/036/2019: DEFECTIVE WALL  
- SHIMNA RIVER NEWCASTLE**

Mr Scullion gave a verbal update regarding the defective wall at Shimna River. He advised the technical report had been received from the Structural Engineer which confirmed a 15m section of the wall was moving outwards due to pressure of the retaining bank behind it. The wall had moved out about 10-15 cm at the bottom and about 30 cm at the top. There was also some erosion at the base of the wall itself.

Mr Scullion said that downstream of this location there has also been some movement of the sloping stone bank armouring and the retaining wall had cracked and broke, however stone armouring to the water side of the wall was restricting movement. There was not the same concern in relation to this section.

Mr Scullion advised the main recommendation from the report was to undertake works to the 15m section of wall by placing stone armoury to the river side to give it some level of protection and prevent further degradation. This would allow the area behind to be dug out and the wall could then be physically moved back into its original position. He said the downstream section would be monitored going forward to see what movement was taking place over time and act on it.

Mr Scullion said they had consulted with Rivers Agency and the works would require a Section 6 Application to be submitted to Rivers Agency for permission to undertake works within a water course – there would be a 3-month period from submission of the application before works could commence.

Mr Scullion said officers were currently working with the Structural Engineer to agree final costs including using their services to undertake a final design; assisting with the appointment of a contractor through a tender process and signing off on the works once completed. He anticipated having these costs by the end of the week and officials would take a view on it once all costs were available.

**AGREED:** It was unanimously agreed to note this update.



**NS/037/2019: OFFICIAL OPENING  
- LOUGH INCH CEMETERY**

**Read:** Report dated 20 August 2019 from Mr Kevin Scullion, Assistant Director Facilities Management & Maintenance regarding the Official Opening of Lough Inch Cemetery. *(Circulated)*

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor McKee, it was agreed as follows:

- (a) To proceed with an Official Opening Ceremony for the new Section in Lough Inch Cemetery Ballynahinch, as detailed in Report dated 20 August 2019 from Mr K Scullion Assistant Director, Facilities Management & Maintenance.
- (b) To permit only 2 burials per plot in Lough Inch Cemetery within Phase II of the Cemetery.

**WASTE MANAGEMENT**

**NS/038/2019: HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING CENTRES (HRCs)  
REVIEW (PHASE 1)**

**Read:** Report dated 20 August 2019 from Mr J McBride, Assistant Director Waste Management (Acting) regarding the Review of operations at Household Recycling Centres – Phase 1. *(Circulated).*

Mr McBride responded to queries/comments from Members as follows:-

- The 25kgs limit for rubble waste could not be increased as this waste was categorised as Industrial Waste and increased loads could not be accepted at HRCs in line with license conditions. Any variation to this had the potential to increase residual waste tonnages, thereby increasing costs and undermining recycling efforts.
- Proposals were included to increase the number of household doors from 4 to 8 per household.
- Officials had researched what other Councils in NI were doing and this was included in Appendix IV WRAP Guidance.
- Illegal dumping/fly tipping especially on rural roads surrounding HRCs – a Communications Plan would be published in the run up to the introduction of the new policies, especially in the former legacy Down area. There would be a period of grace of 31 days from the implementation date to allow users to become familiar with the new Policies and new signage would be erected in HRCs. Roads surrounding the HRCs would be monitored to ensure there was no increase in dumping/fly tipping after the new Policies were in place.

- Officials would look at the HRCs in Crossmaglen and Newtownhamilton being able to accept paint tins as part of Phase 2 of the review and report back to Committee.
- The pilot project for accepting old mattresses had to-date been very successful and officials would bring a report back to Committee on extending this pilot project.

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Hearty, it was agreed as follows:

- (a) New policies (provided at Appendix II) governing access to and the usage of the Council's HRCs, with an effective implementation date of the 1 October 2019 (1 November 2019 for the commercial permit system).
- (b) To schedule the official opening of the new Downpatrick HRC facility on a date in late September / early October 2019.

**NS/039/2019: REFUSE COLLECTION FLEET BUSINESS CASE**

**Read:** Report dated 20 August 2019 from Mr J McBride, Assistant Director Waste Management (Acting) regarding the Refuse Collection Fleet Business Case. *(Circulated)*.

Mr McBride responded to queries from Members in relation to concerns about the costs of vehicle rental' value for money for ratepayers; details of the current vehicle fleet and it's capacity and the implications of the Council's fleet renewal policy.

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Curran, seconded by Councillor Andrews, it was agreed to approve the Refuse Collection Fleet Business Case as per Report dated 20 August 2019 from Mr J McBride, Assistant Director Waste Management (Acting).

**NS/040/2019: DAERA NI LOCAL AUTHORITY COLLECTED MUNICIPAL WASTE MANAGEMENT STATISTICS**

**Read:** DAERA Northern Ireland Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste Management Statistics quarterly provisional estimates for January to March 2019. *(Circulated)*.

**AGREED:** It was unanimously agreed to note the above report.

**NS/041/2019: DAERA HOUSEHOLD WASTE RECYCLING COLLABORATIVE CHANGE PROGRAMME (2019-2022)**

**Read:** Report dated 20 August 2019 from Mr J McBride, Assistant Director, Waste Management (Acting) re: update on the DAERA Household Waste Recycling Collaborative Change Programme (2019-2022) which intended to provide capital funding assistance

for local Councils to improve recycling infrastructure and services.  
(Circulated).

Members raised the following issues:-

- The Council should consider participating in the Apprenticeship and Youth Justice Programmes.
- The Council needed to have a hard-hitting campaign and enforcement action against dog fouling.

**AGREED:** It was unanimously agreed to note the above report.

**NS/042/2019:** **KEEP NI BEAUTIFUL (KNIB)  
CLEANER NEIGHBOURHOODS REPORT 2018-19**

**Read:** Report dated 20 August 2019 from Mr J McBride, Assistant Director, Waste Management (Acting) re: summary of the issues for the Council arising from the annual Keep NI Beautiful: Cleaner Neighbourhoods Report 2018 – 2019. (Circulated)

**AGREED:** It was unanimously agreed to note the above report.

**NS/043/2019:** **APSE SERVICE AWARDS 2019**

**Read:** Report dated 20 August 2019 from Mr J McBride, Assistant Director, Waste Management (Acting) regarding APSE Service Awards 2019. (Circulated)

**AGREED:** It was unanimously agreed to note the above report and also noted that the Council had previously agreed that Councillor Andrews would be attending the APSE AGM/Service Awards 2019.

It was unanimously agreed that a Council Officer may also attend the APSE Service Awards 2019.

#### **FOR NOTING**

**NS/044/2019:** **ARC21 JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING  
THURSDAY 30 MAY 2019**

**Read:** Minutes of ARC21 Joint Committee Meeting held on Thursday 30 May 2019. (Circulated)

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Kimmins, seconded by Councillor Andrews, it was agreed to note the above Minutes.

**NS/045/2019:** **ARC21 MEMBERS MONTHLY BULLETIN  
27 JUNE 2019**



**Read:** ARC21 Members Monthly Bulletin – 27 June 2019. *(Circulated)*

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Kimmins, seconded by Councillor Andrews, it was agreed to note the ARC21 Members Monthly Bulletin – 27 June 2019.

**NS/046/2019:** NIEA RE: DRAFT NILAS RECONCILIATION 2018/2019

**Read:** Letter dated 25 July 2019 from NIEA regarding the Draft Landfill Allowance Scheme (NILAS) Reconciliation 2018-2019 *(Circulated)*.

**AGREED:** On the proposal of Councillor Kimmins, seconded by Councillor Andrews, it was agreed to note the above letter.

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

Items 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22 were 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.

**On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Hearty, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on these items.**

Councillor Kimmins left the meeting – 7.05 pm.

**NS/047/2019:** IN COMMITTEE ITEMS FROM ARC 21 JOINT COMMITTEE MINUTES 30 MAY 2019

**Read:** In Committee items from Arc21 Joint Committee Minutes – 30 May 2019. *(Circulated)*

**NS/048/2019:** APPOINTMENT OF DESIGN TEAM CEMETERY EXTENSION PROJECTS MONKSHILL / KILBRONEY CEMETERIES

**Read:** Report dated 20 August 2019 from Mr K Scullion, Assistant Director, Facilities Management & Maintenance, regarding the appointment of a Design Team for Cemetery extension projects at Monkshill and Kilbroney Cemeteries. *(Circulated)*.

**NS/049/2019:** MAINTENANCE OF TOWN CLOCKS

Councillor Taylor declared an interest in this report (clock at St. Patrick's Church, High Street, Newry) and left the meeting for discussion on this item.

**Read:** Report dated 20 August 2019 from Mr K Scullion, Assistant Director Facilities Management & Maintenance, regarding the maintenance of Town Clocks. **(Circulated)**.

Councillor Mason left the meeting (7.10 pm).

Councillor Taylor returned to the meeting (7.20 pm).

**NS/050/2019: MAINTENANCE WORKS  
KILFEAGHAN LANE**

**Read:** Report dated 20 August 2019 from Kevin Scullion, Assistant Director, Facilities Management and Maintenance regarding maintenance works to Kilfeaghan Lane. **(Circulated)**

**NS/051/2019: TENDER:  
MIXED DRY RECYCLABLE WASTE MATERIAL**

**Read:** Report dated 20 August 2019 from Johnny McBride, Assistant Director Waste Management (Acting) regarding a tender for the receipt, storage, transfer and haulage of Mixed Dry Recyclables Waste Material. **(Circulated)**

Councillor Curran left the meeting (7.35 pm).

Councillor Andrews proposed and Councillor McKevitt seconded to come out of closed session.

When the Committee was out of closed session the Chairman reported the following had been agreed:-

**In Committee Items from Arc21 Joint Committee Minutes – 30 May 2019**

On the proposal of Councillor McKee, seconded by Councillor Kimmins, it was agreed to note the In-Committee Items from the Arc21 Joint Committee Minutes of 30 May 2019.

**Appointment of Design Team: Cemetery Extension Projects  
Monkshill / Kilbroney Cemeteries**

On the proposal of Councillor McKevitt, seconded by Councillor McKee, it was agreed to note the content of the report dated 20 August 2019 and associated Business Case and to approve the conclusion of the Business Case that Option 3 be chosen as the preferred option in taking forward Phase 3 of Monkshill Municipal Cemetery and Phase 2 of Kilbroney Municipal Cemetery. Option 3 will see the appointment, through a tender process, of a competent Design Team who will provide technical support required to assist the Council in taking forward these projects.

### **Maintenance of Town Clocks**

On the proposal of Councillor Hearty, seconded by Councillor McKeivitt, it was agreed to note the content of the report dated 20 August 2019 and to agree to appoint a suitably qualified contractor to undertake a condition report on the 6 clocks referred to in the report to establish the current condition of the clocks, how they operate and likely future maintenance requirements. It was also agreed to approve the continuation of financial support to maintain the two clocks referred to above which are not in Council ownership.

It was also agreed to include the Town Clock at the Arts Centre, Downpatrick as part of the condition survey.

### **Maintenance Works – Kilfeaghan Lane, Killowen**

On the proposal of Councillor McKee, seconded by Councillor McKeivitt, it was agreed to note the content of the report dated 20 August 2019 and with agreement of landowners along the upper section of Kilfeaghan Laneway (0.3 miles) the Council to undertake maintenance of this surface to bring it into reasonable condition for vehicular and pedestrian access.

It was also agreed that the Council's AHC Directorate consider its continued need to retain the Kilfeaghan Picnic Area as one of its outdoor facilities. The assessment to include current usage of this facility. If deemed required, then the Council seek to agree with landowners along the lane how best the lane could be maintained to allow safe access and egress along the lane to the Amenity Area.

Should the Council agree to continue to provide this facility then Council Officers to investigate sources of funding which may be available for the future maintenance of the laneway and a report be brought back on these issues to a future Committee Meeting for consideration.

### **Tender: Receipt, storage, transfer and haulage - Mixed Dry Recyclable Waste Material**

On the proposal of Councillor McKeivitt, seconded by Councillor Hearty, it was agreed to note the content of the report dated 20 August 2019 and agree to the recommendation of Arc21 to award a contract to the Company named in the report for the delivery of a service for the Receipt, Storage, Transfer and Haulage of the Council's Mixed dry Recyclables (MDR) waste at a contract rate specified in the report (2.2) (exc VAT) (subject to pre-award conditions being met).

There being no further business the meeting ended at 7.40 pm.



For adoption at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 2 September 2019.

**Signed: Councillor Harvey**  
**Chairperson of Neighbourhood Services Committee**

**Signed: Mr R Moore**  
**Director of Neighbourhood Services**

## NAC Local Government Conference

### Community Hubs and Community Engagement

#### Hallmark Hotel Carlisle 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> September 2019

As the electorate demand better communications and more convenient services from local and national government departments, both local and national government departments are merging contact centres to create hubs where local and national services can be provided. These hubs are designed to be easier for our residents when multiple services are required.

We will discuss how they can be set up and how they improve the outcomes for the public, and local / national services.

I have invited speakers from government and the private sector who have experience in delivering hubs and community engagement.

The Hallmark Hotel is located next to the railway station in Carlisle centre and has ample car parking, Carlisle airport has just been reopened for passenger flights and has direct flights to Belfast City.

The England regional AGM will also be held during this weekend, all delegates are invited to attend.

Please find enclosed a booking form for your use. I have reserved rooms at the hotel and would advise to book places early as demand is expected to be high.

Councillor Brian Nelson  
General Secretary  
National Association of Councillors  
0191 3789947 office  
0779 1574879 mobile

# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILLORS

## Local Government Conference

### Community Hubs & Community Engagement

Hallmark Hotel, Carlisle 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> September 2019

#### Delegate Booking Form

Name of Delegate.....

Organisation .....

Delegate's Address.....

Postcode.....Telephone Number.....

Authorising Signature.....Order No if reqd.....

Printed Name.....

Position.....Organisation.....

**To Register – Complete the delegate details above, and either:-Email a copy of this form to Cllr Brian Nelson  
Generalsecretary@nationalassociationofcouncillors.org**

**or Post form to NAC Bookings, 16 Frederick St North, Meadowfield, Durham DH7 7NB**

Delegate Fees: £350 plus VAT – Metropolitan, County, Unitary, Borough & District Councils

£295 plus VAT - Town, Parish and Community Councils

INVOICE – please send invoice to .....

Accommodation is available for delegates at the Conference Hotel at the special NAC Conference Delegate rate of £60 plus VAT per night. The accommodation fee is payable by delegate on departure from the hotel unless otherwise indicated on the booking form.

**Delegate Accommodation Friday & Saturdays nights    YES / NO**

**Local Authority to be billed direct for accommodation    YES / NO**

Please note that double and family rooms are also available (prices available on request)





Office of the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Dublin 2.

Oifig an Aire Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara, Baile Átha Cliath 2.

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24 July 2019

Mr. Liam Hannaway  
Newry, Mourne & Down District Council  
O'Hagan House  
Monaghan Row  
Newry



PLEASE QUOTE REF NUMBER ON ALL CORRESPONDENCE.  
Our Ref: 2019/61866N /HV

Dear Mr. Hannaway

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your recent correspondence addressed to the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Michael Creed, TD concerning Animal Cruelty.

I will undertake to bring your correspondence to the Minister's attention at the next practical juncture. In the interim I have forwarded your correspondence for the attention of relevant Department officials.

Yours sincerely,

Graham Lennox  
Private Secretary

All personal data processed by this Office will take place in accordance with the law on Data Protection and will only be for the purpose(s) connected to the functions of the Office. Further information is available on the Department's Data Protection page:  
<https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/dataprotection/>



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Newry, Mourne & Down District Council  
District Council Offices  
O'Hagan House, Monaghan Row  
Newry  
BT35 8DJ  
[council@nmandd.org](mailto:council@nmandd.org)

12 August 2019

Dear Mr Hannaway,

Thank you for your letter dated 9 July to the Prime Minister regarding an all-Ireland Animal Abuse Register. I am replying on behalf of the Prime Minister.

This issue is devolved in Northern Ireland and therefore for the Northern Ireland Civil Service to consider in the absence of an Executive. The request has been brought to the attention of the relevant Northern Ireland Civil Service departments who will need to consider the practical and legislative implications of creating such a register, taking into account any views expressed by the Irish Government on the proposal.

Yours sincerely,

**RT HON JULIAN SMITH MP  
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR NORTHERN IRELAND**



Department for

**Communities**[www.communities-ni.gov.uk](http://www.communities-ni.gov.uk)

**From: Tracy Meharg**  
**Permanent Secretary**

**Level 9**  
**Causeway Exchange**  
**1-7 Bedford Street**  
**BELFAST**  
**BT2 7EG**

**Telephone: 028 90 823301**  
**E-mail: [tracy.meharg@communities-ni.gov.uk](mailto:tracy.meharg@communities-ni.gov.uk)**  
**Our Ref: PSC 0855.19**  
**Date: 6 August 2019**

**Mr Liam Hannaway**  
**Newry, Mourne and Down District Council**  
**O'Hagan House**  
**Monaghan Row**  
**Newry**  
**BT35 8DJ**

Via email [liam.hannaway@nmandd.org](mailto:liam.hannaway@nmandd.org)

Dear *Liam*

## **WELFARE MITIGATION SCHEMES**

Thank you for your letter of 16th July in which you detail the Notice of Motion that was agreed by Newry, Mourne and Down District Council on 1 July 2019 regarding the welfare mitigation schemes.

### **Mitigation schemes post 31 March 2020**

The legislation made following the Fresh Start Agreement which provides authority to make welfare supplementary mitigation payments will end from 31 March 2020. Similarly there is no funding for welfare mitigations allocated beyond this date. In the continued absence of the Assembly the Department is not able to make amendments to the existing welfare supplementary mitigations legislation (to enable the Department to continue the mitigation schemes beyond March 2020) as such regulations would be subject to Affirmative Resolution.

In line with the Fresh Start Agreement the Department completed a Review into the Welfare Mitigation Schemes that was published on 25 March 2019. This can be found on the Department's website at [www.communities-ni.gov.uk/publications/review-welfare-mitigation-schemes](http://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/publications/review-welfare-mitigation-schemes).

Following on from this the Department held a series of public engagement events with key stakeholders, primarily the Advice Sector, voluntary/community groups and Housing Associations, to gain feedback on the review into the mitigation schemes.

The Department is aware of the challenges likely to arise from the termination of the



welfare mitigation package and is currently considering all the evidence of the potential impact from the schemes ending.

Please be assured that we continue to give this issue our ongoing consideration.

I hope you find this response helpful.

Yours sincerely



**TRACY MEHARG**  
**PERMANENT SECRETARY**



Department for  
Digital, Culture,  
Media & Sport

Matt Warman MP  
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State  
for Digital and Broadband  
4th Floor  
100 Parliament Street  
London SW1A 2BQ

[www.gov.uk/dcms](http://www.gov.uk/dcms)  
[enquiries@culture.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@culture.gov.uk)

Liam Hannaway  
Newry Mourne and Down District Council

[liam.hannaway@nmandd.org](mailto:liam.hannaway@nmandd.org)

INT2019/08739/DC  
21 August 2019

Dear Liam

### **700MHz Spectrum Clearance Programme - Clearances: September 2019**

The way we use spectrum to transmit TV and phone signals is changing. These changes will support exciting new and innovative mobile services of the future, while continuing to provide spectrum for TV services. The UK government is investing up to £600m in the programme to deliver this.

This will involve a major programme of modifications to the Digital Terrestrial TV (DTT) transmission infrastructure in the UK. These changes will be rolled out in stages across the country and are due to be complete by mid-2020. This will impact viewers watching DTT services through an aerial rather than satellite, cable or broadband (e.g. Freeview). Following a clearance event, viewers in the affected area of the UK will need to retune their TV equipment to continue to receive services. A small number of households (we estimate around 1%) may need to re-point or replace their aerials. A support scheme, described below, will be available to viewers affected by clearance events.

The Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) maintains overall responsibility for the programme and is working in conjunction with Ofcom to deliver it.

During September 2019, clearance activity will get under way in Northern Ireland. This clearance activity will affect viewers who pick up coverage from transmitters in these areas which may include some of your constituents.

All events will be communicated to viewers ahead of them taking place. This will be done through notifications in local press, advice to local retailers, landlords and industry representatives as well as online communications (including social media). Additionally, around two weeks before an event, on-screen pop-up messages notifying viewers that a change is planned, as well as when the change will take place and how to get further information, will appear each time the TV is turned on. Viewers will be able to remove the message at the click of a button.

Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport

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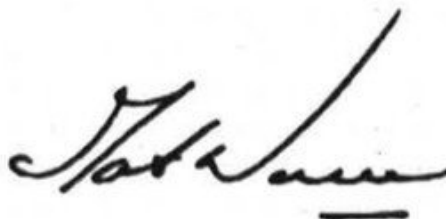
A support scheme will be available for any viewers who are struggling to re-tune their TV equipment. This will include a helpline for viewers to call if services are affected, with the possibility of arranging an aerial installer home visit if the problems are assessed to be related to the 700MHz clearance programme. This will be provided by Digital UK (which already provides support to viewers on behalf of the broadcasters under the Freeview brand), and Digital Mobile Spectrum Limited (which provides engineer home visits to assist with re-tuning or, where necessary, repoint or replace the aerial).

A series of events are required to clear the 700MHz spectrum band. This means some viewers may need to take action to restore their DTT TV services a number of times. In most cases this will be a simple retune.

Further information about this programme of clearance events and the 700MHz programme more generally is available at <https://www.freeview.co.uk/tvchanges>

If you receive queries from your constituents regarding the 700 MHz spectrum clearance events that may require us to investigate further, please ensure you gain the consent of the viewer in line with sharing personal information under the General Data Protection Regulations.

DCMS may need to share the viewer's personal details with our delivery partners Digital UK and Digital Mobile Spectrum LTD, who will look into each case to gain a better understanding of what has happened with the viewer's TV reception, whether it has been caused by the 700 MHz Programme, and what might be the best way forward to help viewers regain any lost TV services.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matt Warman', with a horizontal line underneath the name.

**Matt Warman MP**

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Digital and Broadband