



June 30th, 2020

Notice Of Meeting

You are requested to attend the Council meeting to be held on **Monday, 6th July 2020** at **6:00 pm** in **Meeting via Skype**.

Agenda

1.0 Apologies and Chairperson's Remarks

2.0 Declarations of Interest

3.0 Action Sheet arising from Council Meeting held on 2 March 2020

 *Action Sheet from Council Mtg 02.03.2020 .pdf*

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4.0 Record of Decisions taken under Delegated Authority at Party Reps Meetings - March-May 2020

 *COUNCIL MARCH - MAY 2020.pdf*

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 *ERT March - May 2020.pdf*

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 *In Comm ERT Mar - May 2020.pdf*

Page 9

 *SPR March - May 2020.pdf*

Page 10

 *In Comm SPR March-May 2020.pdf*

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 *AHC March - May 2020 (003).pdf*

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 *NS March - May 2020.pdf*

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Council Minutes For Adoption and Signing

5.0 Minutes of Annual Meeting held on 1 June 2020

 *Annual Meeting Minutes 01.06.2020.pdf*

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Committee Minutes for Consideration and Adoption

6.0 Minutes of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee Meeting held on 8 June 2020

 *ERT Minutes 08 June 2020.pdf*

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7.0 Minutes of Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 11 June 2020

 *Minutes - SPR 11-06-2020.pdf*


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8.0 Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on 15 June 2020

 *AHC Draft Minutes 150620.pdf*

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9.0 Minutes of Neighbourhood Services Committee Meeting held on 17 June 2020

 *NS Minutes - 17-06-2020.pdf*

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10.0 Minutes of Special Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 25 June 2020

 *Special SPR Minutes 25-06-2020 (002).pdf*

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11.0 Extract from draft Minutes of Planning Committee Meeting held on 3 June 2020

There were no issues referred from the Planning Committee Meeting held on 3 June 2020.

Correspondence

12.0 N. Ireland Housing Council Bulletins - March 2020 & June 2020

 *NI Housing Council Members Bulletin - March 2020.pdf*

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 *NI Housing Council Members Bulletin - June 2020.pdf*

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13.0 Department for Communities Re: Motion C/058/2020 - Benefit System for Terminally Ill

 *C.058.2020 Reply Dept for Communities - Benefit System for Terminally Ill.docx*

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14.0 Fermanagh and Omagh District Council Re Motion C/037/2020 - A1 Junctions

 *Correspondence dated 05.05.2020 from Fermanagh & Omagh DC re NOM C.037.2020 A1 Junctions.pdf*

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Notices of Motion

15.0 Notice of Motion - Period Poverty Campaign

Notice of Motion received from Councillor Hanlon:

That this Council supports the "Period Poverty" campaign and charities such as the Homeless Period

and Red Box Project, the aim of these are to highlight the issue that sanitary products are not affordable for all females

As an initial step, that this Council looks at the feasibility of the introduction of free sanitary products in all council public conveniences.

We should strive to proactively help efforts to tackle period poverty and be part of bringing about such positive change

It should be the norm in schools, universities colleges, workplaces, football grounds, concert venues for free access to sanitary product provision.

We as a Council will also write to the to the relevant ministers to ask for an update on the introduction of free sanitary products in schools and education facilities. Currently the North is the only area of the UK where free products are not provided to those in need.

16.0 Notice of Motion - 100th Anniversary of the creation of Northern Ireland

Notice of Motion received from Councillor Hanna:

"As next year is 2021, the 100th anniversary of the creation of Northern Ireland. Newry, Mourne and Down Council should seek to secure any funding from Westminster, Stormont or elsewhere that becomes available in the current year, or in 2021, to support events in the council area".

17.0 Notice of Motion - Coarse Fishing

Notice of Motion received from Councillor Enright:

'Recognising the importance of Coarse fishing to tourism and the local economy, particularly in the Quoile River, and noting the proactive approach taken by other Councils in Northern Ireland to restock fish on behalf of anglers, this Council will commit to fund restocking of fish in line with other Council areas, carry out a review of Coarse fisheries across the District, and work with DEARA and other councils to develop a best practice approach.'

18.0 Notice of Motion - Universal Basic Income for Northern Ireland

Notice of Motion received from Councillor Brown:

'In the wake of the economic crisis caused by the coronavirus pandemic, this Council recognises the need for a reformed, fairer welfare system that protects everyone in society.

It recognises the need to provide economic security for all and invest in people to protect livelihoods and kickstart the economy.

Therefore, it calls on the Departments of Communities and Finance and the UK Treasury to design and deliver a recovery Universal Basic Income (UBI) for Northern Ireland.

Additionally, this Council supports in principle the investigation of a full, permanent UBI for Northern Ireland, recognising the need for a radical overhaul of the welfare state and the positive impact this would have on poverty alleviation, inequality and mental health in particular. Council will commit to producing a plan for how a pilot of a full UBI would be implemented within the District, and formally expresses its

support for said pilot.'

19.0 Notice of Motion - Covid 19 Impact and Recovery Strategy

Notice of Motion received from Cllrs. Mason and Clarke

That this council recognises the unprecedented impact that Covid-19 global pandemic is having on our society and economy; commends the invaluable contribution made by our front-line workers who have provided vital service, selflessly, throughout this pandemic; believes that a fair and just and green economic recovery strategy is required in the aftermath of this crisis; agrees that an economic recovery strategy must not only recognise but also demonstrate that we value our front-line workers and want to protect them, and the most vulnerable, through any impending recession; understands that workers' rights and public services must be protected; commits to existing economic challenges being tackled by a just and green transition to a more high-skilled, regionally balanced and sustainable economy which works for workers, their families, and businesses; and calls on the Executive to ensure that these principles underpin an economic and society-wide recovery guided by a social partnership approach involving government, Trade Unions, businesses and the Third Sector."

20.0 Notice of Motion - Environmental Wardens

Notice of Motion received from Councillor Clarke:

Whilst this Council recognises the strategic importance of sustainable tourism as a local economic driver; it notes with growing concern that increasing numbers of visitors to the district is creating stress on our local environment, including many areas of ecologically sensitive importance. In recognition of this, this Council will bring forward options towards the establishment of Environmental Wardens - including delivery model, resource implications and partnership opportunities with existing organisations.

21.0 Notice of Motion - New Civic Centre Project

Notice of Motion received from Councillor Malone:

The Council recognises that society has changed fundamentally within the last four months and there will most likely be austere times for many residents of our district for the foreseeable future, the Council also recognises the new financial realities in the time ahead for us as a local authority and therefore it is now time to postpone any further work on the proposed new civic centre project for the remainder of this term.

23.0 Notice of Motion - Distribution of Food Waste Bins

Notice of Motion received from Councillor Owen:

'As this Council is promoting recycling as a key strategic objective, we need to commit to how this is delivered operationally. Distribution of small brown bins for food waste throughout council area is an important part of achieving our objective by helping residents separate their waste.

Under covid19 restrictions normal practice of residents collecting these bins in person from Greenbank cannot occur at the moment, or in the near future. To ensure effective delivery of this service, council staff should commit to delivery of these bins to local areas and work with local

councillors to support delivery of this service where practical. All bins distributed should be to a recorded address'.

ACTIONS OUTSTANDING FROM PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETINGS

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
C/178/2019	Notice of Motion – C/131/2019: Live Animals in Circuses	At the request of Councillor McAteer it was agreed the motion remain on the action sheet.	Democratic Services		N

ACTION SHEET – COUNCIL MEETING – MONDAY 2 FEBRUARY 2020

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
C/043/2020	Action Sheet arising from Council Meeting held on 3 February 2020	C/035/2020 It was agreed to send a reminder letter to the Minister for Infrastructure in relation to Ballynahinch By-Pass if a response was not forthcoming within the next two weeks.	Democratic Services		
C/044/2020	Minutes of Council Meeting held on 03.02.2020	The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted.	Democratic Services		
C/045/2020	Minutes of ERT Committee Meeting held on 10.02.2020	The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted.	Democratic Services		
C/046/2020	Minutes of SPR Committee Meeting held on 13.02.2020	The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted.	Democratic Services		

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
C/047/2020	Minutes of AHC Committee Meeting held on 17.02.2020 Report dated 2 March 2020 regarding Inclusive Cities Project.	The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted. It was agreed to nominate the Chairperson as the strategic lead for the Inclusive Cities project.	Democratic Services J Hillen Democratic Services	Correspondence accepting NMDDC invitation and confirming the Chairperson issued.	
C/048/2020	Minutes of NS Committee Meeting held on 19.02.2020	The Minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted.	Democratic Services		
C/049/2020	Extract of Draft Minutes from Planning Committee Meeting held on 12.02.2020	The extract was agreed.	Democratic Services		
C/050/2020	Housing Council Bulletin – February 2020	The Northern Ireland Housing Council Bulletin was noted and it was agreed to feedback issues raised on the level of detail provided in the bulletins to Kelly Cameron.	Democratic Services		
C/051/2020	2020 C.F. Battlefield Tours	It was agreed that Councillors Burgess and Owen would attend the Somme Pilgrimage from 28 June 2020.	Democratic Services		
C/052/2020	AgendaNI – Northern Ireland Housing Conference	It was agreed that Councillor Ruane would confirm if he was able to attend the conference.	Democratic Services		

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
C/053/2020	APSE Cemeteries and Crematoria Seminar 2020	The correspondence was noted.	Democratic Services		
C/054/2020	APSE Climate Emergency Seminar	It was agreed Councillor Lewis would attend the Climate Emergency Seminar on 55 March 2020.	Democratic Services		
C/055/2020	Cross Border Tourism Conference 2020	It was agreed that Councillors Andrews, Curran, Devlin, Mulgrew, Murphy, McAteer and Reilly would attend the Cross Border Tourism Conference 2020.	Democratic Services		
C/056/2020	Notice of Motion – Dog Fouling	<p><i>The following Notice of Motion came forward for consideration in the name of Councillor Brown:</i></p> <p><i>'Recognising the extent of dog fouling across the District and the need to consider innovative solutions to tackle this problem, the Council will investigate the viability of using DNA testing to identify offenders and aid enforcement officers in issuing fines, alongside an enhanced public awareness campaign of the dangers of dog fouling similar to that of other councils.'</i></p> <p>The Motion was referred to the Neighbourhood Services Committee in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.6.</p>	R Moore		
C/057/2020	Notice of Motion – Changing Places Toilet Facilities	<p><i>The following Notice of Motion came forward for consideration in the name of Councillor McMurray:</i></p> <p><i>"That this Council will proactively enable Changing Places (CP) toilets within our council area by: committing to include CP toilets in all new council buildings and leisure facilities; to review and resource retro fitting of CP toilets to all our public buildings over the next 10 years; require all applications for new buildings, open to the public, to install CP toilet instead of a basic disability toilet; to resource a fund for local</i></p>	R Moore		

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
		<p><i>businesses and charities to retro fit or install a CP toilet."</i></p> <p>The Motion was referred to the Neighbourhood Services Committee in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.6.</p>			
C/058/2020	Notice of Motion – Benefit System for terminally ill people.	It was agreed that Council writes to the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) Minister Justin Tomlinson MP and to the Department of Communities Minister Deirdre Hargey to request that they prioritise the planned review into how the benefits system supports terminally ill people and that they conclude this review as quickly as possible so that people with illness such as Motor Neurone Disease can access benefits quickly and sensitively	Democratic Services		
C/059/2020	Notice of Motion – Street lighting	It was agreed that this Council welcomes the announcement from the Infrastructure Minister that an additional £3m will be allocated to fixing street lights and filling potholes in our roads; notes the positive impact that fixing these problems will have on the lives of ratepayers; further notes the severe pressure on maintenance budgets; and agrees to write to the Minister for Finance to outline the need for additional resource to tackle these and other pressures that are vital for improving lives across our communities.	Democratic Services		
C/060/2020	Notice of Motion – Dying to Work Campaign	<p><i>This Council believes that;</i></p> <p><i>Every employee, facing the trauma of a terminal illness diagnosis, should be treated with compassion</i></p>			

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
		<p><i>and understanding in order to assist them at such a distressing time.</i></p> <p><i>This Council resolves to;</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Support the TUC's Dying to Work campaign and sign up to its Charter outlining the principles in which terminally ill employees should be treated if they wish to continue to work.</i> <i>2. Ensure as an employer that our employees will be given the freedom to make an informed decision for themselves as to the best course of action for them and their families</i> <i>3. Ensure that all financial details, including death in service benefits, are fully explained so that any decision taken is an informed decision.</i> <i>4. Write the principles of the Charter into our procedures and train our staff accordingly</i> <i>5. Encourage employers throughout our city/town/borough/district/county to sign up to the Charter.</i> <p>The Motion was referred to the Strategy Policy and Resources Committee in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.6.</p>	D Carville		
END					

COUNCIL MARCH – MAY 2020	
23/03/2020	<p><u>COMMITTEES AND DECISIONS</u></p> <p>It was agreed to cancel all Council and Committee Meetings with immediate effect and the Council's Standing Orders, including the Protocol for the Operation of the Planning Committee, and the Constitution would be suspended until Party Groups Leaders or a majority agree that the normal governance procedures may be resumed. Minuted conference calls with Party Leaders to take place and agendas uploaded to Minutepad for Members to access. Minutes would then be circulated to all Members for their information.</p>
06/04/2020	<p><u>RATIFICATION OF MARCH COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MINUTES</u></p> <p>It was agreed to approve the following minutes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minutes of Council Meeting held on 2 March 2020; • Minutes of Emergency Council Meeting held on 16 March 2020; • Minutes of ERT Committee Meeting held on 9 March 2020, including Minutes of Hearing re: Street Trading Licence - The Square, Warrenpoint; • Minutes of SPR Committee Meeting held on 12 March 2020; • Minutes of AHC Committee Meeting held on 16 March 2020; • Minutes of NS Committee Meeting held on 18 March 2020
29/04/2020	<p><u>DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITIES - SECOND INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF THE PERSONAL INDEPENDENCE PAYMENT (PIP) ASSESSMENT PROCESS IN NORTHERN IRELAND REPORT</u></p> <p>The correspondence received from Department for Communities regarding Second Independent Review of the Personal Independence Payment (PIP) Assessment Process in Northern Ireland was noted.</p> <p><u>RNLI LIFESAVING UPDATE (22/02/2020) RESPONSE TO COVID-19</u></p> <p>The correspondence received from RNLI Lifesaving Update Response to Covid-19 was noted.</p>
20/05/2020	<p><u>ANNUAL MEETING PREPARATION</u></p> <p>The update on the Annual Meeting and Planning Committee Members was noted.</p>

ERT MARCH - MAY 2020	
Meeting Date	Agreed/Action
20/03/2020	<p><u>UPDATE FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE</u></p> <p>Delamont Country Fees to be cancelled temporarily - signage to ensure social distancing to be put in place.</p> <p>PlayParks to close - padlocks to be put on those that can be locked.</p>
23/03/2020	<p><u>FOREST PARKS</u></p> <p>It was agreed to close forest and country parks for a period of two weeks with a strong message being circulated regarding social distancing. It was also agreed to monitor the towpath, Greenway and promenade in Newcastle with given to having signs or banners advising the public of the need for social distancing at access points.</p>
24/03/2020	<p><u>SUSPENSION OF OFF-STREET CAR PARKING ENFORCEMENT AND CHARGING</u></p> <p>It was agreed to suspend off-street car parking enforcement action (i.e. remove traffic attendants) and suspend off-street car parking charges and review these aspects on a weekly basis.</p> <p>The update on Park Closures by DAERA was noted.</p>
27/03/2020	<p><u>BUSINESS ONLINE PROGRAMME</u></p> <p>It was agreed that Mr Mallon investigate the issue of small businesses trying to access the business online programme.</p>
30/03/2020	<p><u>TOURISM EVENTS PROGRAMME 2020</u></p> <p>It was agreed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • postpone this year's Festival of Flight, and Officers to consider alternative plans and dates for the Festival when feasible. • Officers to work with the recipients of the Financial Assistance Letters of Offer for tourism events, to confirm new dates for their events when this is feasible. The Council will continue to honour the Letters of Offer for spend on events in the 2020/21 financial year. • The Tourism Event's Programme (approved by Council in November 2019) with a budget allocation of £1.2 million to be reviewed by Officers in relation to ongoing restrictions,

	<p>with recommendations for a revised programme to be tabled at ERT Committee in due course.</p> <p>It was agreed that the Council issue letters of offer to the organisations listed within the officer's report regarding SLAs previously approved at ERT, subject to caveats, as required, by Council.</p>
02/04/2020	<p><u>SUNDAY TRADING</u></p> <p>It was agreed to approve the request for the Relaxation of enforcement of Sunday trading hours across the District and support the position agreed by all 11 Councils. Members to be kept informed when the position had been agreed by all Councils.</p>
17/04/2020	<p><u>SUNDAY TRADING</u></p> <p>The update on Sunday Trading was noted.</p> <p><u>FESTIVAL OF FLIGHT</u></p> <p>It was agreed to release a statement advising the public that the Festival of Flight would unfortunately need to be cancelled this year.</p>
22/04/2020	<p><u>RE-OPENING OF FOREST AND COUNTRY PARKS</u></p> <p>It was agreed that officers send a letter to Minister Poots highlighting Council's concern regarding the decision to reopen the forest parks, even for pedestrian access which would encourage residents to travel from outside their local area thus increasing the volume of traffic at these locations and increasing the further spread of COVID-19.</p>
13/05/2020	<p><u>UPDATE ON OUTDOOR AREAS</u></p> <p>The update was noted.</p>
20/05/2020	<p><u>FOREST PARK, COUNTRY PARK AND BEACHES</u></p> <p>It was agreed to reopen Council operated Forest Parks, Country Park, Beaches, Harbours and Slipways as outlined within the officer's report.</p>

In Committee - Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee **March - May 2020**

CC/62/2020

CONFIDENTIAL - FFNI CONTRACT AWARD PROCESS

This item is deemed to be exempt 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 a particular person (including the Council holding that information)

ERT - 29/04/2020 Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Clarke, seconded by Councillor Byrne to award the contract to the preferred bidder in early July to deliver the ultrafast fibre gigabit capable broadband across the District to the full value of the fund at the locations as outlined within appendix A of the officer's report.

SPR MARCH – MAY 2020	
Meeting Date	Agreed/Action
20/03/2020	<p><u>UPDATE FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE</u></p> <p>All vulnerable staff should be working from home by Monday. Those staff with vulnerable people at home is a challenge however we need to keep the essential services running.</p>
25/03/2020	<p><u>IRISH LANGUAGE BURSARY SCHEME 2020-2021</u></p> <p>It was agreed to suspend the Irish Language Bursary Scheme to be re-opened at a later date with those applications currently received to date being deemed as 'safe'.</p> <p><u>UPDATE ON COUNCILS REGISTRATION SERVICES</u></p> <p>It was agreed to note the update on Council's Registration Services.</p>
02/04/2020	<p><u>CORPORATE AND BUSINESS PLANS</u></p> <p>It was agreed to note the update on Corporate and Business Plans.</p>
06/04/2020	<p><u>SEFA SCHEME</u></p> <p>The update on Local Government Finance was noted.</p>
10/04/2020	<p><u>CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND BUSINESS PLANNING</u></p> <p>It was agreed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Corporate Plan 2020-23 was reviewed and updated by October 2020; • The development of Directorate Business Plans was delayed until October 2020; • Each Directorate develop an Emergency Business Plan for April-September 2020 to manage their response to COVID-19, by 30 April 2020; • Emergency Business Plans were to be formally reviewed in June 2020; • Services Plans were suspended until the 2021-22 financial year; • The organisation complies with the decision of Central Government in relation to compliance with the statutory Duty of Improvement 2020-21.
29/04/2020	<p><u>POST CAMPAIGN REPORT – COVID-19 – SOCIAL DISTANCING ONLINE CAMPAIGN</u></p> <p>The update on Social Distancing Online Campaign was noted.</p>

In Committee – Strategy Policy & Resources Committee **March – May 2020**

CC/19/2020

REPORT RE: AGENCY WORKERS

This item is deemed to be exempt under paragraph 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the Council or a government department and employees of, or office holders under, the Council.

27/03/2020

Agreed: It was agreed to await the outcome of the legal position regarding furloughing of agency workers.

CC/54/2020

FURLOUGHING & AGENCY WORKERS

This item is deemed to be exempt under paragraph 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the Council or a government department and employees of, or office holders under, the Council.

17/04/2020

Noted: The update on furloughing and agency workers was noted.

CC/63/2020

CONFIDENTIAL – COUNCIL

This item is deemed to be exempt 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 a particular person (including the Council holding that information)

29/04/2020

Noted: The update on Council Finances was noted.

CC/65/2020

AGENCY WORKERS AND TEMPORARY EMPLOYEES

This item is deemed to be exempt under paragraph 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the Council or a government department and employees of, or office holders under, the Council.

29/04/2020

Agreed: It was agreed that Party Leaders discuss the report within their Parties prior to the next meeting.

CC/71/2020

CONFIDENTIAL - FURLOUGHING

This item is deemed to be exempt under paragraph 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - Information relating to any consultations or

negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the Council or a government department and employees of, or office holders under, the Council.

01/05/2020 Noted: The update was noted.

CC/77/2020 CONFIDENTIAL - RENEWAL OF MICROSOFT ENTERPRISE AGREEMENT

This item is deemed to be exempt 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 a particular person (including the Council holding that information)

20/05/2020

Agreed: It was agreed to accept the officer's recommendation to appoint the Microsoft Licencing Solution Partner (LSP) as outlined in the officer's report and to renew its Microsoft Enterprise Agreement over 3 years within IT budget.

CC/82/2020 FURLOUGH – WORKERS & EMPLOYEES

This item is deemed to be exempt under paragraph 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 - Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the Council or a government department and employees of, or office holders under, the Council.

27/05/2020

Agreed: It was agreed unanimously to accept the recommendations contained with the officer's report.

AHC MARCH - MAY 2020	
Meeting Date	Agreed/Action
20/03/2020	<p><u>UPDATE FROM MR M LIPSETT</u></p> <p>Private creches within Council facilities need to remain closed as that is what was agreed by Council.</p> <p>Pool of casual workers potentially could be utilised going forward.</p>
24/03/2020	<p><u>COMMUNITY CO-ORDINATION HUB</u></p> <p>It was agreed to proceed with the establishment of a Community Coordination Hub.</p>
25/03/2020	<p><u>COMMUNITY CO-ORDINATION HUB</u></p> <p>The update provided on Community Hub was noted.</p>
27/03/2020	<p><u>COMMUNITY CO-ORDINATION HUB</u></p> <p>It was agreed to note the update on Community Coordination Hub</p> <p><u>SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY FOODBANKS</u></p> <p>The following was agreed with regard to support for community foodbanks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ringfence £20k Tourism underspend for immediate allocation to local foodbanks, to be distributed through existing SLA groups, such as CDRCN and CCG. • Encourage local groups to apply for immediate assistance through the newly established Community Foundation NI Small Grants Programme. • DEA Coordinators to continue to monitor foodbank operation and report back on issues. • Longer term review of committed Financial Assistance monies to determine potential underspend that may be utilised for future emergency/reactionary support mechanisms. <p><u>FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE</u></p> <p>The following recommendations were agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of an online process whereby groups can submit claims via email to include scanned invoices and copy of the bank statement along with any other claim requirements. • Acceptance of Call 1 2020-2021 letters of offer via email with a hard copy to be held on file and submitted later when normal service resumes.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advance requests for FMA's and SLA's will be dealt with on a case by case basis with applicants first being asked to use the payment holiday facilities available from utility providers during COVID-19. • No advances will be provided to Call 1 2020-2021 revenue projects until a reprofiling can take place when community engagement activities can recommence. • Extension for groups who have completed projects but are unable to submit claims. • Reprofile of Call 1 requests will be provided with a holding email. • Capital projects and Tourism events claims will be held and not processed at present given the volume of paperwork and monetary value involved in these. This will be kept under review. <p>It was also agreed that Mr Lipsett would circulate details of the Affordable Warmth Scheme to all Party Reps.</p>
02/04/2020	<p><u>COMMUNITY CO-ORDINATION HUB</u></p> <p>It was agreed to note the update on Community Coordination Hub</p>
06/04/2020	<p><u>COMMUNITY CO-ORDINATION HUB</u></p> <p>It was agreed to note the update on the Community Hub</p>
10/04/2020	<p><u>NEWCASTLE CAR PARK</u></p> <p>It was agreed to reduce the parking capacity in Castle Park, Donard and Downs Road carparks in Newcastle and to investigate reducing access to the towpath in Newry also to try to discourage people from travelling to these sites.</p>
17/04/2020	<p><u>DFC FUNDING - UPDATE ON MANAGEMENT OF FUNDS</u></p> <p>It was agreed to allocate £37,500 of the DfC-provided funding to both Confederation of Community Groups and County Down Rural Community Network through their existing SLAs, with Council retaining £23,300 for future assistance, possibly for a reactionary fund call</p> <p><u>REFERRAL PROCESS FOR HUB</u></p> <p>It was agreed that Members send referrals for the Hub through to the stakeholder forum, the details of which would be circulated to Members.</p>

	<p><u>FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE</u></p> <p>It was agreed that all projects (2019/20 & 2020/21) would be requested to either present an underspend or be provided with an extension to complete their existing project in line with previous approvals and if additional funding should become available for COVID- 19 response projects, then as per the foodbanks this should be managed either through the Community Coordination Hub or an open call.</p>
29/04/2020	<p><u>FOOD BOXES BY DEA RETURN (WEEK ENDING 24 APRIL 2020)</u></p> <p>The update on Food Boxes by DEA Return was noted.</p>
13/05/2020	<p><u>FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE 2020/21</u></p> <p>The report and recommendations on Financial Assistance 2020/21 was agreed.</p>
20/05/2020	<p><u>RE-OPENING OF OUTDOOR LEISURE FACILITIES</u></p> <p>It was agreed that the following outdoor leisure facilities would reopen from Wednesday 27th May 2020, in line with COVID-19 restrictions and guidance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Donaghguy reservoir (Warrenpoint fishing club) • Newry Tennis Courts • Warrenpoint Tennis Courts • Kilbroney Tennis Courts (subject to the main parkland being reopened) • Newcastle Tennis Courts <p>It was noted that Kilkeel and Annalong Tennis Courts to remain closed for casual hire, however this would be reviewed on an ongoing basis in line with Executive guidance.</p>

NS MARCH -MAY 2020	
Meeting Date	Agreed/Action
20/03/2020	<p><u>UPDATE FROM MR R MOORE</u></p> <p>Maintenance will continue to be carried out in terms of street cleansing/emptying of bins in parks etc.</p> <p>HRC summer hours to be put on hold at this stage.</p>
23/03/2020	<p><u>WASTE SERVICES</u></p> <p>It was agreed to implement the Household Recycling Centres restrictions as outlined in the minute above.</p>
24/03/2020	<p><u>HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING CENTRES</u></p> <p>It was agreed to continue to operate HRC sites until close of play on Friday at which stage they would be closed</p>
30/03/2020	<p><u>AMENDMENT TO RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE CONTROL OF THE PUBLIC CEMETERIES WITHIN NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC</u></p> <p>It was agreed to accept the amendments to the Rules and Regulations for the Control of Public Cemeteries within Newry, Mourne and Down District and the Standard Operating Procedures for Burials as presented within the officer's report. These amendments to become effective from midnight on 30th March 2020 until revoked by Council. It was also agreed to open discussions with local churches concerning burials during this time.</p>
10/04/2020	<p><u>BUSINESS SUPPORT DURING COVID-19</u></p> <p>It was agreed to note the contents of the officer's report.</p>
17/04/2020	<p><u>UPDATE REGARDING GENERAL CLOSURES - PARKS/HRCS</u></p> <p>The update on general closures was noted.</p>
22/04/2020	<p><u>HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING CENTRES</u></p> <p>It was agreed to accept the officer's report with a phased approach to re-opening when Ministerial guidance was forthcoming. It was also agreed that each Councillor be provided with two boxes of caddy liners for distribution to their constituents.</p>

	<p><u>CEMETERIES (AT THE REQUEST OF COUNCILLOR TAYLOR)</u></p> <p>It was agreed that officers report to NI Hub that there had been no consensus between parties for maintaining closure or reopening of cemeteries and a specific issue would be raised regarding access to cemeteries for contractors and suppliers.</p>
29/04/2020	<p><u>HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING CENTRES: UPDATE ON RE-OPENING</u></p> <p>The update on re-opening of Household Recycling Centres was noted.</p>
13/05/2020	<p><u>HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING CENTRES: UPDATE ON RE-OPENING</u></p> <p>The update on re-opening of Household Recycling Centres was noted.</p>

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

NMD/AGM/

Minutes of Annual Meeting of Council held on Monday 1 June 2020 at 2pm in the Newry Leisure Centre and Skype.

In the Chair: Councillor C Casey 2.00pm-2.32pm
Councillor L Devlin 2.33pm-2.51pm

In attendance: (Councillors)

Councillor T Andrews	Councillor P Brown
Councillor R Burgess	Councillor P Byrne
Councillor C Casey	Councillor W Clarke
Councillor D Curran	Councillor L Devlin
Councillor S Doran	Councillor C Enright
Councillor M Gibbons	Councillor O Hanlon
Councillor V Harte	Councillor R Howell
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 McKeivitt	Councillor A McMurray
Councillor Mulgrew	Councillor Murphy
Councillor Owen	Councillor G O'Hare
Councillor B Ó Muirí	Councillor H Reilly
Councillor G Sharvin	Councillor D Taylor
Councillor J Tinnelly	Councillor J Trainor
Councillor W Walker	

(Officials)

Mrs M Ward, Chief Executive
Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services
Mrs C Mallon, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism
Mr R Moore, Director of Neighbourhood Services
Miss S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager (Acting)
Mrs D Starkey, Democratic Services Officer
Ms L O'Hare, Democratic Services Officer

AGM/1/2020

APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

An apology was received from Councillor Savage.

The Outgoing Chairperson, Councillor Casey welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked his colleagues and officers for all the support he had received during his year as Chair, in particular the Democratic Services team, Sheila Kieran, Aoife McCreesh and Rebecca Webb who had been working with him at the start of his tenure.

Councillor Casey advised he had travelled the length and breadth of the district from Culloville to Saintfield and visited and hosted many schools, community associations, voluntary groups and individuals. It had been an absolute privilege to see the work carried out across the District especially by the community and voluntary sector.

Councillor Casey highlighted his chosen charities were on the family theme namely Autism Families, Birthwise and Cuan Mhuire and stated he was delighted to have been able to present them with cheques for £2,500 each, even though the fundraising had not been completed to its full potential in light of the current pandemic.

He advised that his year had been unfortunately curtailed due to the current pandemic, however Council had adapted to many changes and was able to continue with vital business and meetings through the use of modern technology such as Skype. He spoke of one of the highlights being able to host the Council's Annual Civic Awards night virtually on 27 May 2020. It was a magnificent event that showcased the unsung heroes in the District. He commented that due to the unprecedented times of COVID-19 it had never been more important to look after each other, showing care and consideration and reaching out to those in need and thanked all essential workers. The efforts of so many had been and continued to be critical to keeping the District functioning, making sure that every citizen was safe, healthy and had access to all the required resources.

Councillor Casey went on to wish Councillors Devlin and McKee the very best of luck as they took up their new roles.

The Outgoing Deputy Chairperson, Councillor Andrews stated it had been a privilege to serve the District over the last year and paid tribute and thanks to his colleague Councillor Casey, Chief Executive, Mrs Marie Ward and former Chief Executive, Mr Liam Hannaway along with the Democratic Services team and other party colleagues for their help and support. He wished Councillors Devlin and McKee good luck and best wishes for the year ahead. Also remembering those affected by the Coronavirus, Councillor Andrews paid tribute and thanked frontline staff and services in what was a very difficult time.

Councillors Clarke, Byrne, Walker and Taylor paid tribute to the work undertaken by Councillors Casey and Andrews during their tenure as Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson, how well they worked had together through all sectors of the community regardless of religion or politics. Councillor Byrne also put on record the tremendous financial support and recognition for the chosen charities.

AGM/2/2020

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

AGM/3/2020

TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO THE STATUTORY POSITIONS OF RESPONSIBILITY

Read: List of Statutory Positions of Responsibility (copy circulated)

The Chief Executive called upon Councillor Byrne as nominating officer for SDLP to nominate a Councillor for the position of Chairperson of Council for 2020/21.

Councillor Byrne nominated and proposed Councillor Laura Devlin for the position of Chairperson of Council for 2020/21. This was seconded by Councillor Brown and subsequently accepted by Councillor Devlin.

The Chief Executive called upon David Taylor as nominating officer for UUP to nominate a Councillor for the position of Deputy-Chairperson of Council for 2020/21.

Councillor Taylor nominated and proposed Councillor Harold McKee for the position of Deputy Chairperson of Council for 2020/21. This was seconded by Councillor Burgess and subsequently accepted by Councillor McKee.

The Chief Executive stated that Councillor Devlin and Councillor McKee had been duly nominated as Chairperson and Deputy-Chairperson respectively of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council for the year 2020/21.

Councillor Casey vacated the Chair at this point in the meeting – 2.32pm.

Councillors Devlin and McKee assumed the Chairperson and Deputy-Chairperson roles at this point – 2.33pm.

Councillor Devlin, in her acceptance speech as the newly appointed Chairperson of Council for the 2020/21 term, acknowledged that this would be a year like no other, taking up the position amidst the global fight against COVID-19.

The newly appointed Chairperson offered sincere and heartfelt prayers and thoughts to those many families across the district who were currently living with COVID-19 and who had lost loved ones to this virus.

Councillor Devlin also paid tribute and thanks to Councillors Casey and Andrews who had completed their year in office leaving an indelible mark, and stated she looked forward to working with Councillor McKee as Deputy Chair throughout the year to represent all of the people of Newry, Mourne and Down Council.

Councillor Devlin advised the time had come to unlock the tourism potential of Newry Mourne and Down, to unlock the Hospitality potential of the District which had never been challenged more than it was at present and to unlock the potential of local retailers. This was a year like no other. The challenges to be faced were propelled by the continuing climate crisis.

Councillor Devlin confirmed this was the first time since the formation of Newry, Mourne and Down Council in which both the Chair and Deputy Chair were representatives of the same District Electoral Area. Both herself and Councillor McKee were proud to serve the people of the Mournes and to represent all of the people of Newry, Mourne and Down Council.

Councillor McKee, in his acceptance speech, thanked his UUP colleagues for nominating him to his newly appointed position of Deputy Chairperson of Council and congratulated Councillor Devlin on her appointment as Chairperson. He looked forward to working alongside her together with all the Members and Officers' in the coming year. He paid tribute to Chairperson Councillor Casey and Deputy Chairperson Councillor Andrews for the hard work and dedication they showed in carrying out their duties during the 2019/20 term and he wished them well for the future.

The Chief Executive congratulated Councillor Devlin and Councillor McKee on their nominations as Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson of Council and stated that she very much looked forward to working with them together in what was going to be a challenging year ahead.

The Chief Executive then called upon the nominating officers of each of the parties to nominate to the following statutory positions of responsibility. The nominations were made by the respective nominating officers and formally accepted by the nominees as follows:

Chair of ERT	Councillor McMurray
Deputy Chair of ERT	Councillor Ruane
Chair of AHC	Councillor McEvoy
Deputy Chair of AHC	Councillor O'Hare
Chair of NS	Councillor Magennis
Deputy Chair of NS	Councillor Andrews
Chair of SPR	Councillor Sharvin
Deputy Chair of SPR	Councillor Hanlon
Chair of Planning	Councillor Burgess
Deputy Chair of Planning	Councillor Tinnelly

The Chief Executive advised Members that the remaining positions as listed on the agenda had been agreed as four-year terms in 2019 and were for noting.

Agreed: **It was agreed to approve the appointments to Statutory Positions of Responsibility.**

AGM/4/2019

TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO COMMITTEES

Read: List attached showing appointments to be made by Quota of Greatest Remainder and remaining positions to be filled using d'Hondt. (Copy of Committee list 2020/21 is appended to the minutes)

The Chief Executive advised it was agreed to use the default method of Quota of Greatest Remainder for appointment to Committees, with the remaining 12 positions being allocated by the d'Hondt method. The UUP and independent members were then asked to put forward their picks.

The 12 remaining positions were confirmed as follows:

UUP	SPR and NS
Councillor Malone	AHC
Councillor Reilly	ERT
Councillor Tinnelly	Deputy Chair of Planning
Councillor Gibbons	AHC
Councillor Enright	SPR
Councillor Malone	NS
Councillor Reilly	NS
Councillor Tinnelly	ERT
Councillor Gibbons	Audit
Councillor Enright	Audit

Agreed: It was agreed to approve the appointments to Committees using Quota of Greatest Remainder. (copy of Committee List 2020/21 appended to these minutes)

AGM/5/2020

EXTERNAL BODIES AND ORGANISATIONS

Read: External and Council Bodies List (excluding Statutory Positions of Responsibility - copy circulated)

Noted: It was agreed to note the External Bodies and Organisations List (excluding Statutory Positions of Responsibility) (copy of External Bodies and Organisations List 2020/21 appended to these minutes).

AGM/6/2020

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

Read: Schedule of Meetings for the year 2020/21 (copy circulated)

The Chief Executive advised the start times for the Schedule of Meetings for the year June 2020 - May 2021 would be agreed at the first Meeting of each Committee.

Agreed: It was agreed to approve the Schedule of Meetings for the year 2020/21.

There being no further business, the Meeting concluded at 2.51pm.

Signed: _____
Chairperson

Signed: _____
Chief Executive

2020-2021 Appointments

Chairperson:
Councillor Laura Devlin

Deputy Chairperson:
Councillor Harold McKee

1. Committee List

Active and Healthy Communities 2020-21

	Contact Details
Chairperson Leeanne McEvoy	61 Burrenreagh Road, Castlewellan, BT319HH leanne.mcevoy@nmandd.org
Deputy Chairperson Gerry O'Hare	10 Mourne View, Hilltown, Newry, BT34 5UT gerry.o'hare@nmandd.org
Terry Andrews	11 Woodside Gardens, Crossgar, Downpatrick, BT30 9DA terry.andrews@nmandd.org
Charlie Casey	Sinn Féin Office, 1 Kilmorey Terrace, Patrick Street, Newry, BT35 8DW charlie.casey@nmandd.org
Aoife Finnegan	TBC
Hugh Gallagher	8 Dundrine Gardens, Castlewellan, BT31 9UY hugh.gallagher@nmandd.org
Mark Gibbons	4 Pinewood, Rostrevor, Newry BT34 3FH mark.gibbons@nmandd.org
Gavin Malone	18 John Martin Gardens, Newry, BT35 8DZ gavin.malone@nmandd.org
Cathy Mason	14 Cloughley Road, Loughinisland, Downpatrick, BT30 8QG cathy.mason@nmandd.org
Karen McKevitt	2 Lower Corrags Road, Ballyholland, Newry, BT34 2NF karen.mckevitt@nmandd.org
Andrew McMurray	8 Mourne Gardens, Castlewellan, Co Down, BT31 9BY andrew.mcmurray@nmandd.org
Barra Ó Muirí	119A Newry Road, Crossmaglen, Newry, BT35 9ES barra.omuirí@nmandd.org
David Taylor	26 Main Street, Bessbrook, Newry, BT35 7DJ david.taylor@nmandd.org
John Trainor	41 Ardglass Road, Downpatrick, BT30 6JQ john.trainor@nmandd.org
William Walker	12 Grove Park, Killyleagh, BT30 9RR william.walker@nmandd.org

Audit 2020-2021

	Contact Details
Pete Byrne	6 Pinewood Glen, Crossmaglen, Newry, BT35 6BF pete.byrne@nmandd.org
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Laura Devlin	44 Drumee Road, Castlewellan, BT31 9HQ laura.devlin@nmandd.org
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Oonagh Hanlon	4 Malone Crescent, Downpatrick, BT30 6UJ oonagh.hanlon@nmandd.org
Alan Lewis	5 Claragh Court, Clough, BT30 8ND alan.lewis@nmandd.org
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Michael Ruane	Sinn Féin Office, 14 Charlotte Street, Warrenpoint, BT34 3LF michael.ruane@nmandd.org
Gareth Sharvin	42 Mearne Road, Saul, Downpatrick, BT30 7HY gareth.sharvin@nmandd.org

Plus Independent Chairperson – Ms Brona Slevin (2019-2023)

Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism 2020-2021

	Contact Details
Chairperson Andrew McMurray	8 Mourne Gardens, Castlewellan, Co Down, BT31 9BY andrew.mcmurray@nmandd.org
Deputy Chairperson Mickey Ruane	Sinn Féin Office, 14 Charlotte Street, Warrenpoint, BT34 3LF michael.ruane@nmandd.org
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Jarlath Tinnelly	3 Slievemartin Mews, Rostrevor, Newry BT34 3WH Jarlath.tinnelly@nmandd.org

Neighbourhood Services 2020-2021

	Contact Details
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David Taylor	25 Main Street, Bessbrook, Newry, BT35 7DJ david.taylor@nmandd.org

Strategy, Policy and Resources 2020-2021

	Contact Details
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Planning 2020-2021

	Contact Details
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Policing and Community Safety Partnership 2019 – 2023 (4 Year Term)

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John Trainor	41 Ardglass Road, Downpatrick, BT30 6JQ john.trainor@nmandd.org
William Walker	12 Grove Park, Killyleagh, BT30 9RR william.walker@nmandd.org

Plus Independent Members

2. Statutory Positions of Responsibility – Annual Meeting 1 June 2020

POSITION - Year 2		Councillor Name
Chair of Council Year 2	SDLP	Councillor L Devlin
Deputy Chair of Council Year 2	UUP	Councillor H McKee
Chair - ENTERPRISE, REGENERATION & TOURISM Year 2	Alliance	Councillor A McMurray
Deputy Chair - ENTERPRISE, REGENERATION & TOURISM Year 2	Sinn Féin	Councillor M Ruane
Chair - ACTIVE & HEALTHY COMMUNITIES Year 2	Sinn Féin	Councillor L McEvoy
Deputy Chair - ACTIVE & HEALTHY COMMUNITIES Year 2	Sinn Féin	Councillor G O'Hare
Chair - NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES Year 2	Sinn Féin	Councillor O Magennis
Deputy Chair - NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES Year 2	SDLP	Councillor T Andrews
Chair - STRATEGY, POLICY & RESOURCES Year 2	SDLP	Councillor G Sharvin
Deputy Chair - STRATEGY, POLICY & RESOURCES Year 2	Sinn Féin	Councillor O Hanlon
Chair - Planning Year 2	UUP	Councillor R Burgess
Deputy Chair - Planning Year 2	Ind	Councillor J Tinnelly
Partnership Panel for NI: 4 Year Term	UUP	Councillor R Burgess
NI Housing Council: 4 Year Term	Sinn Féin	Councillor M Ruane
Reserve Forces & Cadets' Assoc for NI: 4 Year Term	DUP	Councillor K Owen
Arc21 - Position 1: 4 Year Term	DUP	Councillor K Owen
Arc21 - Position 2: 4 Year Term	UUP	Councillor H McKee
Arc21 - Position 3: 4 Year Term	Sinn Féin	Councillor W Clarke
PCSP Position 1: 4 Year Term	Sinn Féin	Councillor W Clarke
PCSP Position 2: 4 Year Term	SDLP	Councillor H Gallagher
PCSP Position 3: 4 Year Term	Sinn Féin	Councillor O Hanlon
PCSP Position 4: 4 Year Term	SDLP	Councillor M Savage
PCSP Position 5: 4 Year Term	Sinn Féin	Councillor S Doran
PCSP Position 6: 4 Year Term	Sinn Féin	Councillor D Murphy
PCSP Position 7: 4 Year Term	UUP	Councillor A Lewis
PCSP Position 8: 4 Year Term	SDLP	Councillor J Trainor
PCSP Position 9: 4 Year Term	Sinn Féin	Councillor M Ruane
PCSP Position 10: 4 Year Term	DUP	Councillor W Walker

3. Council Project Boards and Forums 2020 – 2021

Brexit Forum

Membership	2019-2023
1 Sinn Fein	M Larkin
1 SDLP	G Stokes
1 DUP	K Owen
1 UUP	D Taylor
1 Alliance/Independent	H Reilly

Chief Executive Appraisal Group

Membership	2019-2023
1 Sinn Fein	B Ó Muirí
1 SDLP	P Byrne
1 DUP	G Hanna
1 UUP	R Burgess
1 Alliance/Indp	C Enright

Christmas Illuminations / Celebrations Group

Membership	2019 - 2023
2 Sinn Fein	W Clarke O Magennis
2 SDLP	T Andrews K McKeivitt
1 DUP	W Walker
1 UUP	H McKee
1 Alliance	P Brown
1 Smaller Party/Independent	J Tinnelly

Economic Forum

Membership	2019-2023
2 Sinn Fein	O Hanlon D Murphy
2 SDLP	M Savage D Curran
1 DUP	K Owen
1 UUP	R Burgess
1 Alliance/Independent	P Brown

Efficiency Working Group

Membership	2019 - 2023
1 SF	O Hanlon
1 SDLP	P Byrne
1 DUP	K Owen
1 UUP	R Burgess
1 Alliance / Indp	C Enright

Elected Member Development Working Group

Membership 2019 - 2023	
Sinn Fein	M Ruane
Sinn Fein	B Ó Muirí
SDLP	T Andrews
SDLP	M Savage
UUP	A Lewis
DUP	K Owen
Alliance/Indp	P Brown

Equality and Good Relations Reference Group

Membership	
Sinn Féin (2)	W Clarke
	B Ó Muirí
SDLP (2)	P Byrne
	K McKeivitt
UUP	D Taylor
DUP	W Walker
Alliance	P Brown
Independents (2)	H Reilly
	C Enright

Fair Trade Steering Group

Membership	
Sinn Fein	R Howell
SDLP	P Byrne

Health Working Groups

Membership 2019-2023	Southern Trust Area	SE Trust Area
3 Sinn Fein	C Casey D Murphy G O'Hare	W Clarke S Doran O Hanlon
3 SDLP	P Byrne D McAteer M Savage	T Andrews J Trainor D Curran
1 DUP	G Hanna	K Owen
1 UUP	D Taylor	A Lewis
1 Alliance	P Brown	P Brown
1 Independent	G Malone	C Enright

International Relations Forum

Membership	
Sinn Fein	M Ruane
Sinn Fein	O Magennis
SDLP	G Stokes
SDLP	K McKeivitt
UUP	R Burgess
DUP	W Walker
Alliance	P Brown
Independent	J Tinnelly

Local Development Plan Steering Group – (All Planning Committee Members)

Membership	
Sinn Fein	S Doran M Larkin G O'Hare V Harte D Murphy
SDLP	G Stokes D McAteer J Trainor
UUP	R Burgess
DUP	G Hanna
1 Alliance	P Brown
1 Independent	J Tinnelly

Neighbourhood Services Working Group

Membership	
2 Sinn Fein	A Finnegan O Magennis
2 SDLP	G Stokes K McKeivitt
1 DUP	K Owen
1 UUP	H McKee
1 All/Indp	G Malone

Appointments should come from the Neighbourhood Services Committee.

Newry Lower Hill Street Public Realm Scheme

Membership	
Newry DEA Councillors	C Casey V Harte R Mulgrew G Malone M Savage G Stokes

Plus representatives from Newry Chamber of Commerce

Newry and Mourne Travellers Forum

Membership 2019 - 2023	
3 Councillors appointed to Local Government Partnership for Travellers	C Casey G Stokes J Tinnelly
Plus 3 Councillors:	
1 Sinn Fein	R Mulgrew
1 SDLP	D McAteer
1 DUP/UUP	W Walker

Party Representatives Forum

Membership	
Sinn Fein (2 Members if not holding Chair of Council position)	W Clarke B Ó Muirí
SDLP (Chair of Council plus Party Rep)	P Byrne
1 UUP	D Taylor
1 DUP	W Walker
Chair of Council	L Devlin

- **One Special Responsibility Allowance to Sinn Fein and SDLP for role as Party Representative.**
- **Position of Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson, if on forum, count towards allocation of two places for Sinn Fein and SDLP**

Peace IV Partnership

Membership	
3 Sinn Fein	D Murphy M Ruane S Doran
2 SDLP	T Andrews K McKeivitt
1 DUP	W Walker
1 UUP	D Taylor
1 Alliance	P Brown
1 Independent	H Reilly

Plus 9 social partners

Planning Call in Panel

Membership June 2020-Dec 2020	
R Burgess	
M Larkin	
D McAteer	

***Membership to be rotated on 6 monthly basis**

Strategic Projects Working Group

Membership	
3 Sinn Féin	W Clarke D Murphy C Mason
2 SDLP	T Andrews G Stokes
1 UUP	R Burgess
1 DUP	K Owen

Sustainable Development and Climate Change Forum

Membership	
2 Sinn Féin	W Clarke C Mason
2 SDLP	T Andrews D Curran
1 UUP	D Taylor
1 DUP	G Hanna
1 Alliance	P Brown
1 Independent	C Enright

Agreed that the Sustainability and Climate Change Forum would be open to any additional Members who wished to attend.

All Party Group on Sustainable Development

Membership	
Sinn Féin	W Clarke
SDLP	T Andrews

4. Task & Finish Working Groups

Albert Basin Park Task and Finish Working Group

Membership	
Newry Councillors	C Casey
	TBC
	R Mulgrew
	G Malone
	M Savage
	G Stokes
Plus 1 Councillor from Unionist Grouping	D Taylor

Plus external representatives in accordance with Terms of Reference

Camlough Lake Task & Finish Working Group

Membership	
Slieve Gullion Councillors	P Byrne
	A Finnegan
	M Larkin
	O Magennis
	D Murphy
	B Ó Muirí
	D Taylor

Castlewellan Forest Park Task and Finish Project Board

Membership	
2 Sinn Fein	W Clarke
	R Howell
2 SDLP	L Devlin
	H Gallagher
1 DUP	G Hanna
1 UUP	A Lewis
1 All/Indp	A McMurray

Implementation of Irish Language Strategy Working Group

Membership	
Sinn Fein	B Ó Muirí
Sinn Fein	G O'Hare
SDLP	T Andrews
SDLP	D McAteer
1 UUP	No nomination
1 DUP	No nomination
2 Alliance / Independents	C Enright
	P Brown

St Patrick's Day Cross Party Working Group

Membership	
1 Sinn Fein	O Hanlon
1 SDLP	J Trainor
1 DUP	G Hanna
1 UUP	D Taylor
1 Alliance/Independents	C Enright

Tourism/Arts Task and Finish Project Board

Membership	
2 Sinn Fein	W Clarke O Magennis
2 SDLP	D Curran D McAteer
1 DUP	G Hanna
1 UUP	R Burgess
1 Alliance/Independent	P Brown

Warrenpoint Municipal Park Task & Finish

Crotlieve Councillors	M Gibbons
	D McAteer
	K McKeivitt
	G O'Hare
	M Ruane
	J Tinnelly

YAFTA Short listing

Membership	
Sinn Fein	V Harte
SDLP	P Byrne
DUP	K Owen
UUP	A Lewis
Smaller Parties/Indp	P Brown

5. Appointments to External Bodies/Organisation

APSE NI Executive Board 2019-2023

Membership	
1 Member	T Andrews

Carlingford Lough Commissioners Board 2019 – 2023

Sinn Fein	S Doran
SDLP	M Savage

Community Planning Partnership Board

Membership	
Sinn Féin 2 Members	W Clarke
	A Finnegan
SDLP 2 Members	T Andrews
	G Stokes
UUP 1 Member	H McKee

DUP 1 Member	W Walker
Alliance/Indp 1 Member	P Brown
Chairperson of Council	L Devlin

(Chairperson will change annually)

Diversity Champions 2019-2023

Councillors and Officer	
Sinn Féin 1 Member	A Finnegan
SDLP 1 Member	P Byrne
DUP/UUP 1 Member	W Walker
Council Officer	C Moffett

East Border Region

Sinn Féin	C Mason
Sinn Féin	D Murphy
Sinn Féin	M Ruane
SDLP	T Andrews
SDLP	D McAteer
UUP	R Burgess

East Border Region Board Directors 2019-2023

Sinn Féin	M Ruane
SDLP	T Andrews
UUP	R Burgess

FLAG Board

1 Member	D Curran
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LAG Board

Sinn Féin	L McEvoy
Sinn Féin	R Howell
Sinn Féin	A Finnegan
Sinn Féin	R Mulgrew
SDLP	T Andrews
SDLP	P Byrne
SDLP	D McAteer
SDLP	M Savage
DUP	W Walker
UUP	R Burgess
Alliance / Indp	J Tinnelly
	H Reilly

Local Government Partnership on Travellers Issues 2019-2023

Sinn Féin	C Casey
SDLP	G Stokes
Alliance / Indp	J Tinnelly

Louth, Newry, Mourne and Down (LNMD) Joint Committee 2019-2023

Sinn Féin	W Clarke
Sinn Féin	M Larkin
Sinn Féin	R Mulgrew
Sinn Féin	D Murphy
SDLP	D Curran
SDLP	D McAteer
UUP	H McKee
DUP	W Walker
Alliance / Indp	J Tinnelly

National Association of Councillors 2019-2023

3 Sinn Féin	C Casey
	V Harte
	M Ruane
3 SDLP	T Andrews
	D Curran
	H Gallagher
1 UUP	R Burgess
Alliance /Indp 1 Member	P Brown

NILGA 2019-2023

3 Sinn Féin	M Ruane
	C Casey
	V Harte
3 SDLP	T Andrews
	D Curran
	K McKeivitt
1 UUP	R Burgess
1 DUP	W Walker

Regional Elected Member Development Working Group

Membership	2019 - 2021
1 Member	W Walker

Ring of Gullion AONB Management Board/Ring of Gullion Landscape Partnership Management Board

Slieve Gullion Councillors	SDLP	P Byrne
	Sinn Féin	A Finnegan
	Sinn Féin	M Larkin
	Sinn Féin	O Magennis
	Sinn Féin	D Murphy
	Sinn Féin	B Ó Muirí
	UUP	D Taylor

Rural Community Network

SDLP	Pete Byrne
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SANDSA (South Armagh, Newry and Down Sports Association)

5 Councillors	Sinn Féin	O Magennis
	Sinn Féin	L McEvoy
	SDLP	D McAteer
	SDLP	G Sharvin
	UUP	A Lewis

Somme Advisory Council 2019 – 2023

Year 1 Walker / Andrews	Year 2 Burgess / Owen
Year 3 McKee / Andrews	Year 4 Lewis / Hanna

Strangford Lough and Lecale Partnership

Years 1 and 3 2019 / 2020 and 2021 / 2022

2 Councillors	SDLP	G Sharvin
	Alliance/Indp	C Enright

Years 2 and 4 2020 / 2021 and 2022/2023

2 Councillors	SF	O Hanlon
	DUP	K Owen

Warrenpoint Harbour Authority 2019 – 2023

Sinn Fein	S Doran
DUP	G Hanna

Elected Member Representation on Community Planning Thematic Groups

Health and Wellbeing	Elected Member
Sinn Féin	V Harte
SDLP	D McAteer
UUP	D Taylor
DUP	K Owen
Alliance/Independents	G Malone

Environment and Spatial Development	Elected Member
Sinn Féin	W Clarke
SDLP	J Trainor
UUP	H McKee
DUP	K Owen
Alliance/Independents	C Enright

NEWRY MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 08 June 2020 at 5.00pm via Skype.

Chairperson: Councillor A McMurray

In attendance: **(Committee Members)**

Councillor R Burgess

Councillor W Clarke

Councillor D Curran

Councillor G Hanna

Councillor V Harte

Councillor R Howell

Councillor M Larkin

Councillor D McAteer

Councillor R Mulgrew

Councillor H Reilly

Councillor M Ruane

Councillor M Savage

Councillor G Stokes

Councillor J Tinnelly

Non Members: Councillor T Andrews

Councillor P Brown

Officials in attendance: Ms M Ward Chief Executive
Mr C Mallon Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism
Mr R Moore Director Neighbourhood Services
Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events
Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration
Mr A McKay Chief Planning Officer
Mr C Jackson Assistant Director of Building Control & Regulation
Mr K Scullion Assistant Director Facilities Management & Maintenance
Ms S Taggart Democratic Services Manager
Ms L Dillon Democratic Services Officer

ERT/055/2020: APOLOGIES / CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

No apologies.

ERT/056/2020: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest.

**ERT/057/2020: START TIMES
ERT COMMITTEE MEETINGS
JUNE 2020 – APRIL 2021**

Read: Report dated 08 June 2020 recommending proposed start times for Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meetings from June 2020 to April 2021. (Copy circulated)

Councillor McMurray proposed and Councillor Savage seconded that the start time for ERT Committee Meetings from June 2020 - April 2021 be set at 6pm.

The above proposal was put to a vote and voting was as follows:

For:	9
Against	1
Abstentions	0

The proposal was declared carried.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor McMurray seconded by Councillor Savage it was agreed the start time for ERT Committee Meetings from June 2020 - May 2021 will be 6pm.

ERT/058/2020: ERT EMERGENCY BUSINESS PLAN

Read: Report dated 08 June 2020 from Mr C Mallon Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee regarding the ERT Emergency Business Plan. (Copy circulated)

Mr Mallon explained the ERT Emergency Business Plan outlined the key challenges that arose from Covid 19 and it would be reviewed and updated on a regular basis. With regard to working from home, Mr Mallon said that having flexibility for staff

to work from home during this period was essential and the Council was in a good position as a result. He said that while these arrangements would remain in place he could not say at this stage as to what degree the arrangements would continue.

He said a separate report would be tabled at the SPR Committee Meeting regarding the financial position of the Council as a result of the Covid 19 pandemic.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Hanna seconded by Councillor Stokes it was agreed to approve the ERT Emergency Business Plan April – September 2020.

**ERT/059/2020: ACTION SHEET
MINUTES OF ENTERPRISE, REGENERATION &
TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETING
- MONDAY 09 MARCH 2020**

Read: Action Sheet arising out of the Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 09 March 2020. **(Copy circulated)**

ERT/043/2020: International Relations Forum

Mr Mallon said with regard to twinning arrangements with Kirovsk and Southern Pines, whilst it was acknowledged the Covid 19 pandemic would impact these arrangements for the current year, communications remained open with both parties.

Noted: It was noted communications remained open with relevant parties regarding Twinning arrangements between Kirovsk and Southern Pines.

ERT/047/2020: ERT Service Level Agreements

Noted: It was noted Officers were working with all parties with whom the Council held Service Level Agreements with and that an update regarding these Agreements would be tabled at the SPR Committee Meeting.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Clarke seconded by Councillor Howell, it was agreed to note the Action Sheet arising from the Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 09 March 2020.

ENTERPRISE, EMPLOYMENT AND REGENERATION ITEMS

ERT/060/2020: CASTLEWELLAN FOREST PARK TASK & FINISH GROUP

Read: Report dated 08 June 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise, Employment and Regeneration regarding Castlewellan Historic Demesne. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Howell seconded by Councillor Hanna it was agreed as follows:

- (a) To review costs of the DAERA project and continue to liaise with IDT and DAERA.
- (b) Council to continue to review costs for the NLHF project with no detriment to the integrity of the project.
- (c) To approve the submission deadlines to NLHF. Council to submit on 1 September 2020, however if there are external forces that Council cannot mitigate for, Council will apply on 23 November 2020.
- (d) To approve the actions of the Task and Finish Board meeting on 21 February 2020.

ERT/061/2020: WARRENPOINT MUNICIPAL PARK

Read: Report dated 08 June 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise, Employment and Regeneration regarding Warrenpoint Municipal Park. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Ruane seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed as follows:

- (a) To approve the appointment for a pool of facilitators for activities in the Park. Once permitted officers to organise activities in the Park to encourage the use of green space and reconnection with nature.
- (b) To approve the appointment of digital management content facilitator to develop an online resource for the School's Programme in conjunction with Project Officers.

- (c) To approve the process for procurement of an art commission and installation for Warrenpoint Park.
- (d) To approve the appointment of a consultant to undertake a mid and final evaluation of the NLHF project.

ERT/062/2020: AONB MANAGEMENT REVIEW / GEOPARK

Read: Report dated 08 June 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise, Employment and Regeneration regarding AONB Management Review and update regarding the Geopark.
(Copy circulated)

Members raised concerns regarding:

- Ulster Farmers Union response to the Geopark
- Management of the Mourne area in relation to tourism hotspots and address issues regarding traffic, parking and toilets.
- More engagement needed with farmers regarding the Geopark
- Meeting required with Ulster Farmers Union

Noted: Mr Mallon said officers were currently arranging a meeting with relevant agencies including Mourne Heritage Trust; Mourne Mountain Rescue; PSNI; Translink; DFI; National Trust; Forestry Service, to discuss a multi agency approach to manage tourism hotspot locations and allow visitors to visit areas safely.

He added Officers have been responding to queries and concerns regarding the Geopark.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Mulgrew seconded by Councillor Larkin it was agreed:

- (a) To note the update regarding the following AONB initiatives:
 - Ring of Gullion AONB and Strangford and Lecale AONB Environment Fund project implementation
 - Ring of Gullion Landscape Partnership Scheme Legacy Phase
 - Atlantic CultureScape
 - Geopark

(b) To approve the AONB Management Review final report and the recommendations contained as per Appendix 1.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Clarke seconded by Councillor Reilly it was agreed Officers arrange to prepare a formal paper to be tabled at an ERT Committee Meeting regarding addressing the issues raised regarding the management of hotspot tourism areas within the Mournes.

Noted: Councillor Clarke requested that representation from the Mournes Councillors needs to be included at the Multi Agency Meeting to be arranged regarding management of locations within the Mournes.

Councillor Burgess requested that Officers consider arranging an urgent meeting with Ulster Farmers Union regarding Geopark issues.

ERT/063/2020: CONSULTATION RE: FREE PORTS

Read: Report dated 08 June 2020 from Mr C Mallon Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism regarding consultation on Free Ports. **(Copy circulated)**

Noted: The Council will be responding to the consultation at this stage and identify any potential benefits. Officers will report back to the ERT Committee regarding any application for Free Port status with Brexit forming an important element in the analysis of such an application.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Hanna seconded by Councillor Reilly it was agreed Council work with Warrenpoint Harbour Authority, Chambers of Commerce, and other key Stakeholders to develop a response to the consultation and put forward a proposal as to how the region – (Warrenpoint port and hinterland) could operate as a free port within the context of the proposed model.

EXEMPT INFORMATION

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Savage seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on the following matter which related to exempt information by virtue of

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

ERT/064/2020: WARRENPOINT BATHS

Read: Report dated 08 June 2020 from Mr G McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding Warrenpoint Baths – Conclusion of 2020 EOI Process. **(Copy circulated)**

ERT/065/2020: NEWCASTLE HARBOUR: LEASE OF SLIPWAY

Read: Report dated 08 June 2020 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events, regarding the lease of the Slipway at Newcastle Harbour. **(Copy circulated)**

ERT/066/2020: REVIEW OF MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAILS

Read: Report dated 08 June 2020 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events, regarding a review of Mountain Bike Trails. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed to come out of Closed Session.**

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

ERT/064/2020: Warrenpoint Baths

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor McAteer seconded by Councillor Tinnelly it was agreed:**

- (a) Council formally concludes the current EOI process.**
- (b) Officer review the above options and bring forward recommendations on the options outlined in the Report.**

ERT/065/2020: Newcastle Harbour – Lease of Slipway

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor Clarke seconded by Councillor Hanna it was agreed Council Lease the upper**

portion of the slipway from Newcastle Yacht Club at a peppercorn rent for a term of 8 years expiring in April 2028 to join both portions, with Council responsible for the entire slipway, to continue to permit access for locals and visitors alike.

The above decision is subject to a structural review of the slipway being carried out.

ERT/066/2020: Review of Mountain Bike Trails

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Tinnelly seconded by Councillor McAteer it was agreed that the 2no. Downhill Mountain Bike Trails in Rostrevor remain closed until further notice pending a review of the Mountain Bike Centres, to be tabled at ERT Committee in due course.

FOR NOTING

ERT/067/2020: TOURISM BUSINESS SUPPORT PROGRAMME

Read: Report dated 08 June 2020 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events, regarding the Tourism Business Support Programme. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: It was agreed to note the update provided in the above Report.

ERT/068/2020: EER REGENERATION PROJECTS

Read: Report dated 08 June 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment and Regeneration regarding EER Regeneration Projects. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: Council note the progress being made on EER section projects and report back to committee on individual projects as and when required.

ERT/069/2020: UPDATE RE: BUSINESS SUPPORT PROGRAMME

Read: Report dated 08 June 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director

Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding the Business Support Programme. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: It was agreed to note the update provided under the below business development initiatives between March 2020 and May 2020:

a) NMD Growth and Digital Growth – supporting 537 businesses between March 2020 and mid May 2020 with 521 mentoring hours delivered, 18 ½ day workshops and 6 Thematic programmes launched / implemented

b) Covid-19 Direct Support to businesses – engaging 110 businesses between 23 March and 22 May

c) Go for It – producing 295 business plans, promoting 182 jobs and 201 new business stats during the financial year April 2019 – March 2020

d) Tender for Growth – new procurement and supply chain programme appointed, to be launched June 2020, supporting 170 businesses up to December 2022

ERT/070/2020: **UPDATE RE: RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME**

Read: Report dated 08 June 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding the Business Support Programme. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: It was agreed to note the update regarding the Rural Development Programme.

ERT/071/2020: **UPDATE RE: SEA FLAG**

Read: Report dated 08 June 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding SEA FLAG. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: It was agreed to note the update regarding SEA FLAG.

Noted: Mr Mallon to update Councillor Hanna regarding the collapse of SEA FLAG applications.

ERT/072/2020: UPDATE RE: FULL FIBRE NORTHERN IRELAND (FFNI)

Read: Report dated 08 June 2020 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding Full Fibre Northern Ireland (FFNI). **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: It was agreed to note the update regarding FFNI.

ERT/073/2020: PLANNING PERFORMANCE FIGURES

Read: Report regarding Planning Performance Figures for March, April and May 2020. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: It was agreed to note the Planning Performance Figures for March, April and May 2020.

It was also agreed the Planning Department implement a Customer Satisfaction Survey.

ERT/074/2020: BUILDING CONTROL 6 MONTHLY REPORT

Read: Report regarding Building Control for 6 month period. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: It was agreed to note the Building Control 6 monthly Report.

It was also agreed the Building Control Department implement a Customer Satisfaction Survey.

ERT/075/2020: LICENSING 6 MONTHLY REPORT

Read: Report regarding Licensing for 6 month period. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: It was agreed to note the Licensing Report for 6 month period.

**ERT/077/2020: HISTORIC ACTION TRACKER
ENTERPRISE REGENERATION & TOURISM**

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

Noted: **To note the Historic Action Tracker Report for Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee.**

ERT/078/2020: RELAUNCH BUSINESS & INDUSTRY SUMMIT

Read: Report dated 08 June 2020 from Mr C Mallon Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism regarding the Relaunch Business & Industry Summit. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: **It was agreed the Council will proceed to partner with the Management and Leadership Network to organise and run this showcase event and follow up activity.**

ERT/079/2020: LIABILITY : QUES OUTSIDE SHOPS

Noted: Mr Mallon arrange to update Councillor Savage regarding liability issues for ques forming outside many on streets shops.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 6.35pm

For adoption at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 06 July 2020.

Signed: **Councillor A McMurray**

Chairperson of Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee

Signed: Mr C Mallon

Director of Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee

NEWRY MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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**Minutes of Strategy Policy & Resources Committee Meeting held on
Thursday 11 June 2020 at 6.00pm via Skype**

In the Chair: Councillor G Sharvin

In Attendance:

Councillor P Byrne	Councillor S Doran
Councillor C Enright	Councillor O Hanlon
Councillor R Howell	Councillor A Lewis
Councillor O Magennis	Councillor H McKee
Councillor A McMurray	Councillor D Murphy
Councillor B Ó Muirí	Councillor M Savage
Councillor W Walker	

Also in attendance:

Councillor T Andrews	Councillor P Brown
Councillor D Curran	Councillor A Finnegan
Councillor L McEvoy	Councillor G O'Hare
Councillor G Stokes	

Officials in Attendance:

Mrs M Ward, Chief Executive
 Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services
 Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active & Healthy Communities
 Mr R Moore, Director of Neighbourhood Services
 Mr C Mallon, Director or Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism
 Mrs C Miskelly, Assistant Director of Corporate Services (HR & S
 Safeguarding)
 Mrs A Robb, Assistant Director Corporate Services (Administration)
 Mrs R Mackin, Assistant of Director of Corporate Planning and
 Policy
 Mr K Montgomery, Assistant Director of Finance
 Mr C Quinn, Assistant Director of Estates & Capital Projects
 Mrs L Moore, Head of Legal Administration
 Mr F O'Connor, Legal Advisor
 Mr A Mc Kay, Chief Planning Officer
 Mr G Byrne, Audit Services Manager
 Ms S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager (Acting)
 Ms L O'Hare, Democratic Services Officer
 Mrs D Starkey, Democratic Services Officer
 Mrs C McAteer, Democratic Services Officer
 Mrs C Hanvey, Personal Assistant

SPR/52/2020: APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Apologies were received from Councillor Gallagher.

SPR/53/2020: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mrs Carville declared an interest in Item 26 - Annual Leave (Chief Officers) on behalf of all Chief Officers.

SPR/54/2020 **TO AGREE STARTING TIME FOR STRATEGY, POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Read: Copy of Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting Dates and Times (Copy circulated)

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Savage, it was agreed that the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meetings would commence monthly at 6.00pm.**

SPR/55/2020 **STRATEGY, POLICY & RESOURCES EMERGENCY BUSINESS PLANS**

Read: Copy of Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Emergency Business Plans (**Copy circulated**)

Mrs Carville advised Members that the report contained the Corporate Services and Chief Executive's Business Plans for April – September 2020 stating that due to the current situation, it had been agreed with Party Leaders to bring emergency business plans to Committee. She advised these plans were subject to change due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and would be revised on an ongoing basis.

Councillor Byrne queried when the delegated authority that had been passed at the Emergency Council Meeting in March would be ending given that the Committee structures were now back in operation.

Mrs Ward clarified that delegated authority had been needed during the period of major crisis, however now that the Committee structure was operational again, the delegated authority would be removed formally at the Council Meeting on 6 July 2020.

Councillor Savage took the opportunity to pay tribute to the senior management team and all staff for the manner in which they had navigated Council through these unprecedented times and thanked them for their hard work and diligence.

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Byrne, it was agreed to approve Chief Executive's Department Emergency Business Plan April – September 2020 and the Corporate Services Emergency Business Plan April – September 2020.**

SPR/56/2020: **ACTION SHEET OF THE STRATEGY, POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 12 MARCH 2020**

Read: Action Sheet of the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 12 March 2020. (**Copy circulated**)

Mrs Carville provided an update on three actions arising from the 12 March 2020 meeting that had not progressed as planned due to the impact of the COVID 19 pandemic, namely the Corporate Plan 2020 – 2023, the Performance Improvement Plan 2020- 2021, and the recruitment of a Director for Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Howell, seconded by Councillor Magennis, it was agreed that the Action Sheet of 12 March 2020, be noted, and actions removed as marked.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Ó Muirí, it was agreed to write a letter to Department for Communities to reconsider the decision on the Regeneration Bill.

CORPORATE SERVICES

SPR/57/2020 REPLACEMENT OF COUNCILLOR HARTE ON ALBERT BASIN TASK AND FINISH WORKING GROUP

Read: Report dated 11 June 2020 from Mr M Lipsett, Director of Actively and Healthy Communities, regarding replacement of Councillor Harte on the Albert Basin Task and Finish Working Group **(Copy circulated)**

Members discussed the issue at length with Councillor Savage proposing that the Albert Basin Task & Finish Group be retained in its current format until it would reach the project stage. This was seconded by Councillor Walker.

Councillor Brown proposed that Alliance take up the seat if it were to be relinquished by Sinn Féin as they were the original proposers of the motion. This was seconded by Councillor Enright.

Councillor O'Muirí advised that Councillor Harte, as a member of the Planning Committee said she had felt compromised on a number of occasions and that she would not want to have to step out of a Planning Meeting when discussions on the park would be taking place therefore felt it would be in her best interests to step aside from the Task & Finish Working Group. He advised he was content the membership stay within Newry DEA at present with further conversations to be held regarding members of the planning committee also sitting on this working group.

The Chairman put Councillor Savage's proposal to a vote the results of which were as follows:

FOR: 11
AGAINST: 3
ABSTENTIONS: 1

The proposal was CARRIED

Councillor Brown asked why the Committee was not voting on his proposal. Officers advised that as there was no seat to be taken up, the proposal was no longer valid.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor Walker, it was agreed to retain the membership of the Albert Basin Task and Finish Group in its current format.

SPR/58/2020 NOTICE OF MOTION – REFERRED FROM COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 2 MARCH 2020

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

“This Council believes that every employee, facing the trauma of a terminal illness diagnosis, should be treated with compassion and understanding in order to assist them at such a distressing time. This Council resolves to;

- 1. Support the TUC’s Dying to Work campaign and sign up to its Charter outlining the principles in which terminally ill employees should be treated if they wish to continue to work.**
- 2. Ensure as an employer that our employees will be given the freedom to make an informed decision for themselves as to the best course of action for them and their families**
- 3. Ensure that all financial details, including death in service benefits, are fully explained so that any decision taken is an informed decision.**
- 4. Write the principles of the Charter into our procedures and train our staff accordingly**
- 5. Encourage employers throughout our city/town/borough/district/county to sign up to the Charter.”**

Councillor Byrne, in presenting the above Notice of Motion, stated having his motion referred from Council to Committee was the correct process to follow as it allowed further information and discussion to take place. He advised following a meeting with officers to discuss the matter, he was satisfied that the Council’s Critical Illness Policy covered the elements in the Charter in all but one area, where the Council’s policy went over and above the provisions called for in the Charter. He raised a query about whether the Critical Illness Guide covered employees with terminal illness as there is a huge difference between critical and terminal illness.

Councillor Magennis stated she felt the Council’s procedures were possibly superior to those that were catered for within the Charter.

Mrs Miskelly confirmed there were special provisions within the guide for those where life expectancy was less than 12 months.

Councillor Byrne advised he was content that Council had suitable policy provision in place in this regard and stated the signing of the Charter was a visual thing and part of a movement to ensure Council could encourage others in the District to sign up to same. Councillor Byrne was content that the Council was following the provisions of the Charter and therefore did not need to sign up to it as such.

Noted: **It was agreed to note the contents of the officer’s report.**

CORPORATE PLANNING AND POLICY

SPR/59/2020 DAERA REPORT ON THE REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RURAL NEEDS ACT (NI) 2016

Read: Report dated 11 June 2020 from Mrs R Mackin, Assistant Director Corporate Planning and Policy, regarding report on DAERA on the review of the implementation of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016 **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor Byrne welcomed this report by DAERA, noting the huge importance of the Rural Needs Act in this Council. He welcomed the input of the Council officers to the working group and welcomed clarification provided around the level of stakeholder engagement undertaken by Council.

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Howell, seconded by Councillor Byrne, it was agreed that Council actively progress the implementation of the recommendations detailed in the report for Public Authorities.**

SPR/60/2020

SUSPENDED IRISH LANGUAGE BURSARY SCHEME

Read: Report dated 11 June 2020 from Mrs R Mackin, Assistant Director Corporate Planning and Policy, regarding Suspended Irish language Bursary Scheme **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor Ó Muirí advised his understanding from the Irish Language Working Group meeting was to open the scheme each year in October, rather than April as parents felt this was too late to avail of the funding. With the opening of the scheme in October, this would allow children to apply for funding for the Gaeltacht for next year.

Councillor Ó Muirí proposed to proceed with option 2 with a slight amendment i.e. to reopen the Irish Language Bursary Scheme for period 2020/2021, and to include the option for children to apply for Gaeltacht for next year using the unused budget from this year before the end of the financial year.

Councillor Savage spoke in support of Councillor O'Muirí's amendment highlighting it was a good opportunity to secure places for young people at Gaeltacht on what has been a very successful and positive scheme.

Mrs Carville referred to the governance of the scheme, which stated that only those that had booked, paid and attended the scheme could be reimbursed. She requested that the matter be examined further particularly around the governance issues.

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Enright, it was agreed to review the proposal and suggestion of payment in advance of attendance and that a report be brought back to the Irish language Working Group for consideration.**

FOR NOTING

SPR/61/2020

ALBERT BASIN ACTION SHEET 21 MAY 2020 & 29 MAY 2020

Read: Action Sheet from Albert Basin Task & Finish Working Group meeting held on 21 May 2020 & 29 May 2020 **(Copy circulated)**

Noted: **It was agreed to note the action sheet arising from the Albert Basin Task & Finish Working Group meeting held on 21 May 2020 & 29 May 2020.**

SPR/62/2020

MINUTES OF NEWRY CITY CENTRE REGENERATION PROGRAMME BOARD MEETING HELD ON 28 NOVEMBER 2019

Read: Minutes of Newry City Centre Regeneration Programme Board Meeting held on 28 November 2019 **(Copy circulated)**

Noted: **It was agreed to note the minutes of Newry City Centre Regeneration Programme Board Meeting held on 28 November 2019.**

SPR/63/2020

**MINUTES OF NEWRY CITY CENTRE REGENERATION
PROGRAMME BOARD MEETING HELD ON 15 JANUARY 2020**

Read Minutes of Newry City Centre Regeneration Programme Board Meeting held on 15 January 2020 **(Copy circulated)**

Noted: It was agreed to note the minutes of Newry City Centre Regeneration Programme Board Meeting held on 15 January 2020.

SPR/64/2020

**MINUTES OF NEWRY CITY CENTRE REGENERATION
PROGRAMME BOARD MEETING HELD ON 21 APRIL 2020**

Read Minutes of Newry City Centre Regeneration Programme Board Meeting held on 21 April 2020 **(Copy circulated)**

Noted: It was agreed to note the minutes of Newry City Centre Regeneration Programme Board Meeting held on 21 April 2020.

SPR/65/2020

**SECTION 75 POLICY SCREENING REPORT – QUARTERLY
REPORT FOR PERIOD JANUARY – MARCH 2020**

Read Report dated 11 June 2020 from Mrs R Mackin, Assistant Director Corporate Planning and Policy, regarding Section 75 Policy Screening Report – Quarterly Report for Period January – March 2020 **(Copy circulated)**

Noted: It was agreed to note the quarterly report for period January – March 2020 on Section 75 Policy Screening minutes of Newry City Centre Regeneration Programme Board Meeting held on 21 April 2020.

SPR/66/2020

**STATUTORY REPORTING – RURAL NEEDS ANNUAL MONITORING
REPORT FOR PERIOD 1 APRIL 2019 – 31 MARCH 2020**

Read Report dated 11 June 2020 from Mrs R Mackin, Assistant Director Corporate Planning and Policy, regarding Statutory Reporting – Rural Needs Annual Monitoring report for period 1 April 2019 – 31 March 2020 **(Copy circulated)**

Noted: It was agreed to note the Rural Needs Annual Monitoring report period for 1 April 2019 – 31 March 2020.

Councillor Brown left the meeting at this point – 7.08pm

SPR/67/2020

FOI/EIR/DP MONITORING STATISTICS

Read Report dated 11 June 2020 from Mrs A Robb, Assistant Director Corporate Services (Administration), regarding FOI/EIR/DP Monitoring Statistics **(Copy circulated)**

Noted: It was agreed to note report on FOI/EIR/DP Monitoring Statistics.

Councillor McKee left the meeting at this point – 7.12pm

SPR/68/2020 NMDDC ANNUAL MONITORING RETURNS 2 JANUARY 2019 – 1 JANUARY 2020

Read Report dated 11 June 2020 from Mrs C Miskelly, Assistant Director Corporate Services (HR & Safeguarding), regarding NMDDC Annual Monitoring Returns 2 January 2019 – 1 January 2020 **(Copy circulated)**

Noted: **It was agreed to note report on NMDDC Annual Monitoring Returns 2 January 2019 – 1 January 2020.**

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

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Hanlon, seconded by Councillor Savage, 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.**

FOR NOTING

SPR/69/2020 COUNCIL FINANCES

Read: Report dated 11 June 2020 from Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services, regarding Council Finances **(Copy circulated)**

Members discussed the report at length, welcoming the detailed analysis of Council's finances at such an uncertain time. Members welcomed the receipt of additional COVID 19 funding from the Department for Communities, and the actions taken by officers to date to maximise budget savings in year in light of the additional financial pressures of the pandemic.

Members agreed it was critically important that all Council financial expenditure, both revenue and capital, be reviewed going forward to assess the impact of COVID 19 pandemic on Council's future plans.

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

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Ó Muirí, it was agreed to revisit the Capital Programme at the next Strategy Policy and Resources meeting in August.**

SPR/70/2020 MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS – APRIL 2020

Read: Report dated 11 June 2020 from Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services, regarding Management Accounts **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Savage, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Noted: It was agreed to note the contents of the report.

FOR DECISION

SPR/71/2020 FURLOUGH - WORKERS AND EMPLOYEES

Read: Report dated 11 June 2020 from Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services, regarding Furlough – Workers and Employees **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Savage, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Howell, seconded by Councillor Savage, it was agreed, from July 2020, for any employees furloughed, the top up to 100% of the employees' contracted pay and casual workers' average monthly earnings will cease and fall into line with the Government's provisions of the scheme as outlined at 2.1.

SPR/72/2020 NI PUBLIC SERVICES OMBUDSMAN COMPLAINT

Read: Report dated 11 June 2020 from Mr A McKay, Chief Planner, regarding NI Public Services Ombudsman Complaint **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Savage, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Hanlon, it was agreed that Members accept the recommendations at 1.1, namely the retrospective approval of the issue of an apology and £500 consolatory payment made in respect of maladministration by the Council.

SPR/73/2020 REPLACEMENT PLANNING IT SYSTEM

Read: Report dated 11 June 2020 from Mr C Mallon, Director Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism, regarding Replacement Planning IT System **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Savage, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor Howell, it was agreed that Council support the preferred option, as set out in the Full Business Case & allow

a budget of up to £1.8m over 20 years towards the new IT system.

SPR/74/2020

IN HOUSE COST RECOVERY FOR LEGAL MATTERS

Read: Report dated 11 June 2020 from Mrs L Moore, Head of Legal Administration regarding In-House Cost Recovery for Legal Matters, **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Savage, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor Walker, it was agreed that Elected Member's agree to the introduction of an in- house process for legal cost recovery on the basis of £75 per hour for Legal Advisors and a fixed rate of £7.50 for telephone calls & correspondence.

SPR/75/2020

TENDER FOR THE PROVISION OF CORPORATE GRAPHIC DESIGN AND PRINT MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Read: Report dated 11 June 2020 from Mrs R Mackin, Assistant Director of Corporate Planning & Policy, regarding Tender for the Provision of Corporate Graphic Design and Print Management Services **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Savage, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Howell, it was agreed to accept the officer's recommendation that a tender competition was held for the Provision of Corporate Graphic Design & Print Management Services.

SPR/76/2020

RENTAL AGREEMENTS

Read: Report dated 11 June 2020 from Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active & Healthy Communities and Mr C Mallon, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism, regarding Rental Agreements **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Savage, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor Hanlon, it was agreed to accept the officer's recommendation set out in 3.1 of the report, namely a two-month rent relief for the four commercial leases listed in the officer's report.

Mrs Carville, Mr Lipsett, Mr Moore, Mr Mallon, Mrs Robb, Mrs Mackin, Mr Montgomery, Mr Quinn, Mrs Moore, Mr O'Connor, Mr McKay and Mr Byrne left the meeting at this point – 8:19pm

SPR/77/2020

ANNUAL LEAVE (CHIEF OFFICERS)

Read: Report dated 11 June 2020 from Mrs M Ward, Chief Executive, regarding Annual Leave (Chief Officers) **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Savage, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, it was agreed to accept the officer's recommendation that the recently negotiated and agreed changes to annual leave and public and statutory holiday entitlements is extended to Chief Officers and align to those noted in 2.2 & 2.4 of the officer's report.

Mrs Carville re-joined the meeting at this stage – 8:26pm.

There being no further business, the Meeting concluded at 8.32pm

Signed: **Councillor Gareth Sharvin**
Chairperson

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

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Ref: AHC/2020

**Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on
Monday 15 June 2020 at 6.00pm via Skype**

Chairperson: Councillor L McEvoy

In attendance: **(Councillors)**

Councillor T Andrews	Councillor C Casey
Councillor A Finnegan	Councillor H Gallagher
Councillor M Gibbons	Councillor C Mason
Councillor K McKeivitt	Councillor A McMurray
Councillor G O'Hare	Councillor B Ó Muirí
Councillor D Taylor	Councillor J Trainor
Councillor W Walker	

Also In Attendance: Councillor O Magennis
Councillor D McAteer
Councillor J Tinnelly

Officials in attendance: Mrs M Ward, Chief Executive
Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active and Healthy Communities
Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director Health & Wellbeing
Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director Community Engagement
Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director Leisure and Sport
Ms S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager (Acting)
Mrs D Starkey, Democratic Services Officer

AHC/54/2020: APOLOGIES & CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

An apology was received from Councillor Malone.

AHC/55/2020: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Gibbons declared an interest in relation to Men Shed, Rostrevor.

AHC/56/2020: TO AGREE A STARTING TIME FOR THE ACTIVE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Taylor, it was agreed to start the Active and Healthy Communities Committee meetings at 6pm.

AHC/57/2020: ACTION SHEET OF THE ACTIVE & HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 16 MARCH 2020

Read: Action sheet of the Active & Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Monday 16 March 2020. **(Copy circulated)**

AHC/043/2020 – Notice of Motion re: Domestic Violence

In response to a query from Councillor Mason, Mrs Hillen confirmed PCSP had a number of ongoing campaigns in relation to domestic violence and she would bring back an update to the Committee.

AHC/206/2019 – Adoption of Suicide Down to Zero

Councillor Gibbons enquired about the Suicide Down to Zero Working Group. Mr Devlin advised prior to the lockdown Council were working with the Health Trust in relation to the Council's aspiration for Suicide Down to Zero which would be picked up once restrictions eased. He added there was a financial assistance call which had £10,000 funding available to groups in relation to the work they do with suicide.

Councillor O'Hare spoke of the need to retain money for Suicide Down to Zero particularly given the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr Devlin confirmed it would be the intention to retain funding within the following years estimates.

AHC/202/2019 – Sport NI, Your School Your Club Funding

Councillor Taylor asked that the meeting with Newry City Football Club be arranged as soon as possible given that restrictions were beginning to ease. Mr Tamati confirmed there were ongoing communications with Newry City Football Club and he would report back to the Member directly with an update.

Councillor Taylor enquired if there would be an extension of timelines for Your School Your Club scheme due to the pandemic. Mr Tamati confirmed the Your School Your Club was likely to be extended subject to funding, the specific project the members refers to is led by the Education Library Board, at this stage funding would be likely be extended any successful project applications will be subject to planning permission and match funding being in place.

AHC/051/2020 – Summer Activity Programme for 2020

In response to a query from Councillor Trainor Mr Tamati indicated that it was unlikely the summer activity programme would proceed at this stage in its planned format, however depending on restrictions and budget there might be scope for outdoor activities. Mr Tamati added it was a fluid situation which required restrictions to be analysed as and when they changed.

AHC/053/2020 – Lease of Lands at Barcroft Community Centre

Councillor Casey asked if he could raise an issue on this item which had been held in closed session. Mr Lipsett advised this could be raised at the end of the meeting when the Committee was in closed session.

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Gallagher, it was agreed to note the Action Sheet of the Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Monday 16 March 2020.**

DIRECTORS PAPERS

AHC/58/2020: EMERGENCY BUSINESS PLAN APRIL – SEPTEMBER 2020

Read: Report dated 15 June 2020 from Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active and Healthy Communities, regarding the Active and Healthy Communities Department Emergency Business Plan, April – September 2020.

Members acknowledged the fluidity around COVID-19 and the easing of restrictions. Mr Lipsett commented how things were continuously changing and that it was likely to be gradual scaling up over a long period of time. The Active and Healthy Communities Emergency Business Plan would be regularly reviewed and updated in response to legislative changes from the Northern Ireland Executive.

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor O'Hare, seconded by Councillor Andrews to approve the emergency Active and Healthy Communities Business Plan, April – September 2020.**

It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor O'Hare, seconded by Councillor Andrews to write a letter of goodwill to the Minister for Communities, Ms Deirdre Hargey.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

AHC/59/2020 PEACE IV REPORT

Read: Report dated 15 June 2020 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement, regarding Peace IV Local Action Plan. **(Copy circulated)**

- Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor McKevitt, to agree to the following recommendations:
- **Shared Spaces and Services:**
Capacity Building Programme for Developing Shared Space - Post-Graduate Certificate in Public Administration for approximately 30 participants from statutory, community/voluntary sector. Estimated cost: £2,509.80 per participant. Approval has been granted by SEUPB to award this contract for up to £75,294.00 (ex VAT) to Ulster University.
 - **Youth Leadership Seasonal Projects (PCSP) - Procure and appoint a delivery company to deliver a youth leadership programme to include residential.**
Estimated cost: £92,775.
 - **Building Positive Relations:**
Procure and appoint providers for the delivery of BME engagement mechanisms. Estimated cost: £56,500.00

AHC/60/2020

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE – COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Read: Report dated 15 June 2020 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement, regarding Financial Assistance. **(Copy circulated)**

In response to a query, Mrs Hillen confirmed that in light of the ongoing COVID-19 situation staff within the Programmes Unit were contacting groups to provide any help and assistance.

- Agreed:** It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Andrews to agree to the following:
- **Approval for Call three which would be completed in line with the new Financial Assistance Policy and Electronic Grant Management System.**
 - **Approval for the processes being followed.**
 - **Approval for 2019-2020 claims to be submitted up to the end of September 2020.**

LEISURE AND SPORTS

AHC/61/2020 THE OUTDOOR PARTNERSHIP – MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Read: Report dated 15 June 2020 from Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director, Leisure and Sport, regarding the Outdoor Partnership, Memorandum of Understanding. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ó'Muirí, seconded by Councillor McMurray, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Council and The Outdoor Partnership and that Newry, Mourne and Down District Council is represented on the NI Stakeholder Group.

AHC/62/2020 REOPENING OF OUTDOOR LEISURE FACILITIES – PHASE 2

Read: Report dated 15 June 2020 from Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director, Leisure and Sport, regarding the reopening of outdoor leisure facilities, Phase 2.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ó'Muirí, seconded by Councillor Andrews, to approve to note the reopening of the following outdoor Leisure Facilities with restrictions from Monday 22 June 2020:

- Designated Bowling Greens: Bessbrook, Newry, Warrenpoint, Kilkeel, Annalong & Newcastle.
- Designated Artificial Surfaces: St Colman's Athletics Track and 3G Pitch, Donard and Saintfield Synthetic Pitches, Dunleath, Langley Road Shale Pitches, the Ropewalk in Newry, Castlewellan 3G pitch and Threeways Pitch along with designated Council owned community centre surfaces.
- Tennis Facilities: To move to phase 2 of the tennis Ireland guidance.
- Club and Commercial Coaching: To be allowed to commence at designated facilities in line with block booking requirements and subject to submission of all appropriate documentations.
- Councils scale of charges: Should be applied accordingly with a common-sense approach.
- Kilkeel, Warrenpoint park and Annalong Tennis Courts to remain closed for casual hire.

AHC/63/2020 UPDATE ON ENFORCEMENT OF CORONAVIRUS REGULATIONS AND SOCIAL DISTANCING

Read: Report dated 15 June 2020 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health and Wellbeing, regarding an update on enforcement of Coronavirus Regulations and Social Distancing.

AGREED: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Casey, seconded by Councillor Andrews that the Chief Executive sign the Memorandum of Understanding with the PSNI with the regard of the enforcement of the Coronavirus regulations in relation to premises.

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

AHC/64/2020 CASTLE PARK SEASONAL OPERATIONS – PUBLIC TENDER

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Casey, seconded by Councillor Trainor, 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 any particular person (including the Council holding that information) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

Read: Report dated 15 June 2020 from Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director, Leisure and Sport regarding Castle Park Seasonal Operations, Public Tender. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Trainor, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Trainor, it was agreed to agree to put on hold the progressing of the Public Tender and entering into a contract with the preferred bidder for the delivery of alternative and enhanced seasonal operations and services at Castle Park in Newcastle.

It was further agreed a report come back to Committee for approval on the next steps of this tender where there is further clarity in terms of COVID-19 restrictions.

AHC/57/2020: ACTION SHEET OF THE ACTIVE & HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 16 MARCH 2020

AHC/053/2020 Lease of Lands at Barcroft Community Centre

Read: Action sheet of the Active & Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Monday 16 March 2020. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Casey, seconded by Councillor Trainor, 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 any particular person (including the Council holding that information) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Trainor, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: In response to points raised by Councillor Casey, Mrs Hillen advised she would forward an update on the Barcroft Community Centre via email

There being no further business the meeting ended at 7.10pm.

Signed: Councillor L McEvoy
Chairperson

Signed: Mr M Lipsett
Director of Active and Healthy Communities

NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of Neighbourhood Services Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 17 June 2020 at 6.00pm via Skype.

Chair: Councillor O Magennis

Deputy Chair: Councillor T Andrews

Members:	Councillor C Casey	Councillor W Clarke
	Councillor D Curran	Councillor A Finnegan
	Councillor G Malone	Councillor C Mason
	Councillor D Murphy	Councillor H McKee
	Councillor K McKevitt	Councillor K Owen
	Councillor H Reilly	Councillor G Stokes
	Councillor D Taylor	

Non Committee Members:	Councillor Brown	Councillor Hanlon
	Councillor McMurray	Councillor Walker

Officials in Attendance:

- Ms M Ward, Chief Executive
- Mr R Moore, Director of Neighbourhood Services
- Mr K Scullion, Assistant Director Facilities Management and Maintenance
- Mr J McBride, Assistant Director, Waste Management (Acting)
- Ms L Moore, Head of Legal Administration
- Ms S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager (Acting)
- Ms C McAteer, Democratic Services Officer

NS/151/2020: APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

There were no apologies made.

Councillor Magennis welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Neighbourhood Services Committee, which was being held via skype due to the Covid crisis. She thanked Councillor Kathryn Owen, outgoing Chairperson for the professional manner in which she previously chaired the Committee which was unfortunately brought to an abrupt end due to the Covid 19 crisis.

Councillor Magennis also thanked Councillor Terry Hearty for his many years of service to the Council and in particular for his contribution to the Neighbourhood Services Committee and wished him enjoyment of a well-deserved retirement. She also welcomed Councillor Aoife Finnegan to the Committee and wished her well in her new role.

NS/152/2020: DECLARATIONS OF "CONFLICTS OF INTEREST"

No declarations of Conflicts of Interest were made.

NS/153/2020: START TIMES OF NS COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Clarke, it was agreed the start time of Neighbourhood Services Committee Meetings be 6.00 pm from June 2020 to May 2021.

NS/154/2020: ACTION SHEET OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 18 MARCH 2020

Read: Action Sheet of the Neighbourhood Services Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 18 March 2020. (*Circulated*).

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor McKee, it was agreed the Action Sheet of the Neighbourhood Services Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 18 March 2020 be noted and actions removed as marked.

In response to Councillor Andrews, Mr Moore advised contact had been made with the Insurance Company after the fire at the amenity buildings at Struell Cemetery and this will be progressing for repair.

Councillor Andrews asked that his thanks and appreciation to the Council's Cemetery staff, particularly during this difficult time, be placed on record.

FOR CONSIDERATION AND/OR DECISION

NS/155/2020: NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES EMERGENCY BUSINESS PLAN APRIL – SEPTEMBER 2020

Read: Neighbourhood Services Emergency Business Plan April-September 2020. (*Circulated*).

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Stokes, seconded by Councillor Andrews, it was agreed to approve the Neighbourhood Services Emergency Business Plan April-September 2020.

It was noted Members raised the following issues during discussion of the Emergency Business Plan:-

- Opening of HRCs at weekends and the reinstatement of the bulky refuse collection service (this would be dealt with via a report which was to be tabled later on the agenda)
- Tribute paid to the Director, Officers and front-line staff in Neighbourhood Services who had kept essential services such as the collection of bins and recycling going throughout the crisis.
- Business sponsorship of roundabouts (this had been impacted by Covid as resources were focused on maintaining key activities and it was unlikely sponsorship was a current priority for businesses but Officers would revisit this issue again later in the year)
- Illegal dumping was on the increase – how many convictions/fines had the Council issued for illegal dumping and could Council and Roads Service join up to do a one-off clean-up of grass verges, particularly to target discarded PPE items. Illegal dumping on an on-going basis in hot spot areas such as Bulls Hill and Upper Catherine Street, Newry – could CCTV not be put in at hot spot areas (did not have the detail relating to fines being issued for illegal dumping but could provide this to Members – focus has been on maintaining key services. The issue of discarded PPE was one which was affecting all 11 Councils and NIE and DEARA were looking collectively at this issue. Undoubtedly illegal dumping was a scourge and a challenge and Council did not currently have the technology to use CCTV at known hotspots – however as part of their Enforcement Improvement Plan Council were doing everything within their power to address this issue)
- Public conveniences closed and as a result people were urinating in laneways – specifically mentioned were the laneway at St. Mary's Newcastle; the laneway leading to the beach and the laneway at Valencia Place – request that Council power hose these to remove the odour (Council could not power hose any privately owned laneways but officers would look at the 3 areas referred to by Councillor Clarke to see if a previous commitment had been given to carry out any cleaning as a result of their involvement with streetscape works).
- An urgent need to have the public conveniences in Kilkeel re-opened to facilitate the large number of visitors to the area (Officers were actively working on moving to the next phase of re-opening and an update would be provided to Members).
- Local communities had been very pro-active during the Covid crisis in carrying out litter picks in their areas – has there been a change in Council policy which would allow such groups to be given black bags and litter pickers (relevant Officers would contact Councillor McKeivitt and Councillor Murphy about this issue)

**NS/156/2020: NOTICE OF MOTION –
DOG FOULING ACROSS THE DISTRICT**

The following Notice of Motion came forward for consideration in the name of Councillor Brown, seconded by Councillor Hanlon:-

"Recognising the extent of dog fouling across the District and the need to consider innovative solutions to tackle this problem, the Council will investigate the viability of using DNA testing to identify offenders and aid enforcement officers in issuing fines, drawing upon best practice from other Councils who have introduced this method. It will also roll out an enhanced public awareness campaign of the dangers of dog fouling including additional signage and introduce a 'Green dog walkers' scheme."

In formally proposing the Motion Councillor Brown said dog fouling issues impacted on citizens right across the District and the dangers of dog fouling more than just antisocial nuisance. There was significant health risk to both dogs and humans from dog waste including a high risk of toxocariasis which was a very serious health issue especially for young people and could result in seizures; stomach upset; respiratory problems and in severe cases, blindness. This was not something people should have to worry about when taking a child out to a play park or for a walk.

Councillor Brown said in particular over the last few months more people were at home and exercising outside and there had been a huge increase in dog fouling right across the District. He said despite numerous pleas by Councillors, as far as he is aware, the Council still only had one Enforcement Officer covering the entire district and on average only one or if not zero fines for dog fouling were issued every month. This compared with Ards and North Down Council which averaged 30 a month and sometimes more.

Councillor Brown said to aid Council in their enforcement of this issue DNA testing could potentially be a lot more cost effective in the long term than hiring additional enforcement officers. This additional DNA testing should be done on top of additional bins in hot spot areas, education and engaging signage and general public awareness campaigns around the risk of dog fouling. He said in terms of the cost of this initiative he had started looking into this and gave one example of Bio Pet Labs which operated globally with a cost of getting a sample tested about £50 which could easily be recouped through income from fines.

Councillor Brown said perhaps the more challenging part of this scheme would be to ensure dogs were registered. New registrations were easy as they could be added at the same time as the chipping procedure but there needed to be some sort of initiative to reregister other pets and it would take some time to build up a complete register. However he believed that at least looking into DNA testing as an option might deter people from allowing their dog to foul.

Councillor Hanlon formally seconded the Motion and said that sometimes keeping things simple helps. For example, a recently uncovered a dog fouling bin which had been overgrown with weeds and also in Killough she had secured Council signage to replace homemade signs. Councillor Hanlon said most dog owners act responsibly but reminders of fines and adequate litter provision were important to ensure the message is clear that dog foul must be collected and disposed of properly.

Councillor Clarke proposed and Councillor McKee seconded that the Motion be amended to also include that Council write to the NI Assembly asking for legislative changes to be made to ensure it was compulsory for dog owners to carry dog fouling bags otherwise enforcement action could be taken.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Clarke, seconded by Councillor McKee, it was unanimously agreed to approve the above amendment to the Motion.

A number of Members spoke on the Motion during the debate and highlighted a number of issues including:-

- Signage in hot spot areas
- Use of a quad with hoover type attachment to help keep the streets clean if irresponsible dog owners were not picking up their dog foul
- Need for additional enforcement staff
- Need to look at Council bye-laws in relation to dog fouling – consider naming and shaming offenders
- If there was to be data base the costs incurred should be shared with dog breeders. The data base would also need to be NI wide as dog owners travelled to different areas with their pets.
- Most dog owners act responsibly but a minority do not. All these issues had been raised at a recent workshop – costly to establish a data base; how to capture details of those dogs who were un-licensed; body cams for enforcement officers; the need for buy-in from the community for example community ambassadors for parks etc.
- Fines introduced for people who were walking dogs but did not have a means of collecting dog waste with them (Mr McBride advised he had previously sought advice on this issue and had been advised that the Act does not provide for the compulsory carrying of dog waste bags or the subsequent enforcement of this – this would require legislative change in the NI Assembly)
- Spray paint advisory stencils on pavements in hot spot areas.

In response Mr Moore said the Council had a Strategy as part of the Enforcement Improvement Plan which set out a road map forward on the issue of dog fouling. A number of reports had been brought to Committee and Officers would bring the Plan back to Committee by way of update. Mr Moore confirmed Council had undertaken a public awareness campaign and currently had 3 enforcement officers; were recruiting for an additional officer and hoped to add to staffing with the recruitment of 3 temporary seasonal enforcement officers

Read: Report dated 17 June 2020 from Mr J McBride, regarding the Notice of Motion and recommending Committee agree to the Notice of Motion and that Officers undertake necessary research and report back to NS committee presenting options for consideration and approval. (*Circulated*).

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Owen, seconded by Councillor Stokes, it was agreed to approve the above recommendation and also to write to the NI Assembly asking that legislative changes be made to the Act in relation to Dog Fouling and Dog Control to make it compulsory to carry dog waste fouling bags or it will become an enforcement matter.**

**NS/157/2020: **NOTICE OF MOTION –
CHANGING PLACES (CP) TOILETS****

It was noted the following Notice of Motion which had come forward for consideration in the name of Councillor McMurray:-

"That this Council will proactively enable Changing Places (CP) toilets within our Council area by: committing to include CP toilets in all new Council buildings and leisure facilities; to review and resource retro fitting of CP toilets to all our public buildings over the next 10 years; require all applications for new buildings, open to the public, to install CP toilet instead of a basic disability toilet; to resource a fund for local businesses and charities to retro fit or install a CP toilet.

In formally proposing the Motion Councillor McMurray said in these pre Covid times there may be constraints on what could be done and he understood the Council had already carried out some work in terms of providing these facilities in new Council buildings. However he said it was unacceptable that people who had perhaps suffered from a stroke or had some disability should have to change on the floor of a toilet but many had to do this because of physical restraints.

Councillor McMurray said he believed the lack of such facilities prevented people from visiting the area and he believed Newry, Mourne and Down Council could make a difference. He asked that officers explore sites that would be suitable for retro fitting of CP toilets and these be upgraded should funds become available.

Councillor McMurray also said that Stormont had a role to play in making legislative changes in Building Control requirements.

Councillor Clarke formally seconded the Motion and said this was what they wanted to see as part of the Council's Public Convenience Strategy.

Councillors Taylor and Andrews spoke in support of the Motion and Mr Moore confirmed the Strategy focused on Council owned PCs and dealt with this issue in part. He said there were a number of CP toilets provided in Council facilities and Officers were working through issuing the Strategy for public consultation and would report back to Committee later in the year.

Read: Report dated 17 June 2020 from Mr K Scullion, regarding the Notice of Motion and recommending Committee note the Notice of

Motion and the proposed action for each respective element as detailed within section 2.2 of the report. *(Circulated)*.

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Stokes, seconded by Councillor Clarke, it was agreed to approve the above recommendation.**

WASTE MANAGMENT

NS/158/2020: FLEET TRANSITION STRATEGY

Read: Report dated 17 June 2020 from Mr J McBride re: fleet procurement update and recommending the way forward to begin to transition the fleet to alternative "greener" fuels. *(Circulated)*.

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Clarke, seconded by Councillor Casey, it was agreed to note the content of the report dated 17 June 2020 and agree to:-**

- **The recommendation to appoint suitable external technical expertise for the purposes of developing a fleet transition strategy, estimated at a cost of £30,000 - £40,000; and**
- **The recommendation to prioritise specific vehicle registration numbers (VRNs) on a case-by-case basis for replacement until the fleet transition strategy exercise has been completed.**

In response to Councillor Andrews, Mr McBride confirmed he would speak to Cork County Council to hear feedback on their move towards use of electric vehicles.

NS/159/2020: HRCs UPDATE

Read: Report dated 17 June 2020 from Mr J McBride giving an update on HRCs re-opening plan. *(Circulated)*.

Mr McBride confirmed the first stage of the phased reopening of HRCs as agreed by Party Leaders had been successful and Council were now in a position to move to Phase 2 with effect from Monday 22 June 2020.

In response to queries from a number of Members about extended opening hours including Fridays and Saturdays, Mr McBride said the number of days and hours of operation was constantly being reviewed and officers hoped to be in a position to provide further updates next week.

In response to Councillor McKeivitt and Councillor Taylor, Mr McBride said it was hoped to open Hilltown and Newtownhamilton HRCs in Phase 3 of the process but this would be resource dependent and he was not able to give a date at present.

In response to Councillor Reilly regarding double axel trailers being able to use HRCs and the closing time of the site at Ballymageough, Kilkeel, Mr McBride said he would discuss these issues with Councillor Reilly outside of the meeting.

In response to Councillor McKee, Mr Moore said that as part of Phase 2 starting on 22 June 2020 all types of waste, with the exception of commercial waste, would be accepted at HRCs.

In response to Councillor Casey and Councillor Malone regarding the re-instatement of the bulky refuse collection service, Mr McBride said officers were actively looking at this and it was hoped the service would be re-instated as part of Phase 2 of the Refuse Collection & Cleansing recovery plan but this would be dependent on available resources.

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Stokes it was agreed to note the update in relation to the phased re-opening of the Council's Household Recycling Centres.**

FOR NOTING

NS/160/2020: **Arc21 MEMBERS MONTHLY BULLETINS
MARCH, APRIL AND MAY 2020**

Read: Arc21 Members' Monthly Bulletins for March, April and May 2020. *(Circulated)*.

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Casey, seconded by Councillor Owen, it was unanimously agreed to note the above Bulletins.**

NS/161/2020: **Arc21 JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING –
THURSDAY 27 FEBRUARY 2020**

Read: Minutes of Arc21 Joint Committee Meeting held on Thursday 27 February 2020. *(Circulated)*.

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Casey, seconded by Councillor Owen, it was unanimously agreed to note the above Minutes.**

NS/162/2020: **Arc21 JC BRIEFINGS –
MARCH AND APRIL 2020**

Read: Arc21 JC Briefings for 26 March and 30 April 2020. *(Circulated)*.

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Casey, seconded by Councillor Owen, it was unanimously agreed to note the above Briefings.**

NS/163/2020: **HISTORIC ACTIONS TRACKING SHEET**

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

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Owen, it was unanimously agreed the Historic Actions Tracking Sheet of the Neighbourhood Services Committee Meetings be noted and actions removed as marked.**

EXEMPT INFORMATION ITEMS

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

Items 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 and 28 are 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 Taylor, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on these items.

NS/164/2020: **BUSINESS CASE TO PROCEED WITH PHASE 2 EXTENSION OF WARRENPOINT MUNICIPAL CEMETERY AND UPDATE ON OTHER CEMETERY PROJECTS**

Read: Report dated 17 June 2020 from Mr K Scullion re: Business Case to proceed with Phase 2 extension of Warrenpoint Municipal Cemetery and update on other cemetery projects. (*Circulated*).

NS/165/2020: **BUSINESS CASE FOR THE COUNCIL CHRISTMAS ILLUMINATIONS AND AN ARTIFICIAL CHRISTMAS TREE**

Read: Report dated 17 June 2020 from Mr K Scullion re: Business Case for the Council Christmas Illuminations Displays and an artificial Christmas tree. (*Circulated*).

NS/166/2020: BUSINESS CASE FOR THE SUPPLY OF PPE AND STAFF UNIFORMS FOR NS DIRECTORATE

Read: Report dated 17 June 2020 from Mr K Scullion re: Business Case for the supply of PPE and staff uniforms for Neighbourhood Services Directorate. *(Circulated)*.

NS/167/2020: BUSINESS CASE FOR THE ANNUAL SERVICING AND MAINTENANCE OF LIFTS IN COUNCIL BUILDINGS

Read: Report dated 17 June 2020 from Mr K Scullion re: Business Case for the annual servicing and maintenance of lifts in Council Buildings. *(Circulated)*.

NS/168/2020: BUSINESS CASE FOR INSPECTION, TESTING AND MAINTENANCE OF COUNCIL FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS

Read: Report dated 17 June 2020 from Mr K Scullion re: Business Case for inspection, testing and maintenance of Council fire alarm systems. *(Circulated)*.

NS/169/2020: BUSINESS CASE FOR THE ANNUAL SERVICING AND MAINTENANCE AND MONITORING OF INTRUDER ALARM SYSTEMS IN COUNCIL BUILDINGS

Read: Report dated 17 June 2020 from Mr K Scullion re: Business Case for the annual servicing and maintenance and monitoring of intruder alarm systems in Council Buildings. *(Circulated)*.

NS/170/2020: WASTE CONTRACT CORRESPONDENCE

Read: Report dated 17 June 2020 from Mr J McBride re: Waste Contract Correspondence. *(Circulated)*.

NS/171/2020: BRING SITES REVIEW

Read: Report dated 17 June 2020 from Mr J McBride re: review of recycling bring bank provision. *(Circulated)*.

NS/172/2020: BUSINESS CASES FOR RCVs

Read: Report dated 17 June 2020 from Mr J McBride re: Business Cases for the replacement of 6 refuse collection vehicles. *(Circulated)*.

NS/173/2020: Arc21 JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING – 27 FEBRUARY 2020 IN COMMITTEE ITEMS

Read: Arc21 Joint Committee Meeting Minutes 27 February 2020 In Committee items. *(Circulated)*.

NS/174/2020: Arc21 JC BRIEFING – MARCH 2020

Read: Arc 21 JC Briefing held on 26 March 2020. *(Circulated)*.

NS/175/2020: Arc21 JC BRIEFING – APRIL 2020

Read: Arc 21 JC Briefing held on 30 April 2020. *(Circulated)*.

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

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

Item 17 – Business Case to proceed with Phase 2 Extension of Warrenpoint Municipal Cemetery and update on other Cemetery projects

On the proposal of Councillor Stokes seconded by Councillor McKeivitt it was agreed to note the content of the report and associated Business Case and to accept the conclusion of the Business Case that Option 2 be chosen. Option 2 would see the appointment, through a tender process, of a competent contractor to undertake the works required to complete Phase 2 of Warrenpoint Municipal Cemetery and make ready an additional 320 burial plots. It was also agreed to note the estimated total cost of this project (preliminaries/construction and Consultancy costs) plus a contingency sum and to agree to the transfer of a sum as outlined in the report from the Monkshill Municipal Cemetery Phase 2/3 budget should this be required to complete the project.

Item 18 – Business Case for the procurement of Christmas Illuminations and an artificial Christmas tree

On the proposal of Councillor Andrews seconded by Councillor Reilly it was agreed to note the content of the report and associated Business Case and accept the conclusion of the Business case that Option 2 was chosen as the preferred option. Option 2 would see the procurement of 145 pole mounted Christmas illuminations and a 12-metre-high artificial Christmas tree and also give authority to officers to carry out more detailed work to ensure that putting a 12m tree would not jeopardise use of the events space and would not be too big for the space.

(Councillors Stokes, Owen and Curran left the meeting 8.00 pm).

Item 19 – Business Case for the supply of PPE and staff uniforms for Neighbourhood Services Directorate

On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Clarke, it was agreed to note the content of the report and associated Business Case and accept the conclusion of the business case that Option 3 was chosen as the preferred option. Option 3 would see a tender or tenders issued to appoint one or several suppliers to provide the NS Directorate and the AHC Community Engagement Department with all PPE and staff uniform requirements through dividing the requirements into relevant Lots. This would be for a one-year period but may be extended by a further two years.

Item 20 – Business Case for Annual Servicing and Maintenance of lifts in Council buildings

On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Murphy it was agreed to note the content of the report and associated Business Case and accept the conclusion of the Business Case that Option 3 was chosen as the preferred option. Option 3 would see the appointment, through a tender process, of a competent contractor to service, maintain and complete safety checks on all 32 No. lifts in the Council asset register. It would also see the appointment of a consultant to assist with auditing the performance of the successful contractor and quotations for repairs outside the scope of the contract.

Item 21 – Business Case for Inspection, Testing and Maintenance of Council's Fire Alarm Systems

On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Murphy it was agreed to note the content of the report and associated Business Case and accept the conclusion of the Business Case that Option 2 was chosen as the preferred option. Option 2 would see the appointment, through a tender process, of a competent contractor to inspect, test and maintain Council Fire Alarms throughout Council premises at recommended intervals ensuring Councils legal compliance.

Item 22 – Business Case for Annual Servicing, Maintenance and Monitoring of Intruder Alarm Systems in Council Buildings

On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Murphy it was agreed to note the content of the report and associated Business Case and accept the conclusion of the Business Case that Option 3 was chosen as the preferred option. Option 3 would see the appointment, through a tender process, of a competent contractor to service, maintain and monitor all 45 No. intruder alarm systems in the Council asset register.

Item 23 – Report on Waste Contract correspondence

On the proposal of Councillor Clarke, seconded by Councillor Casey, it was agreed to note the content of the report dated 17 June 2020 and agree to Option 3.

Item 24 – Report on Bring Sites Review

On the proposal of Councillor Clarke seconded by Councillor Casey it was agreed to note the content of the report and agree to:-

1. A reduction in the current number of bottle bank "bring sites" across the District. Future provision to be restricted to the twenty-two (22) sites set-out at Appendix I as circulated.
2. The use of the contractor for the future safety inspection and maintenance of "bring sites" at a cost per annum detailed in the report; and
3. To authorise Officials to explore income generation opportunities attached to the disposal of the redundant stock of "bring sites"
4. It was also agreed that when removing the sites, that potential recycling options for Island Park, Newcastle be considered.

Item 25 – Business Case for RCVs

On the proposal of Councillor Andrews seconded by Councillor McKee it was agreed to approve the business cases for the replacement of the six Refuse Collection Vehicles (RCVs) as circulated at Appendix II.

Item 26 – Arc21 Joint Committee Meeting Minutes – 27 February 2020

On the proposal of Councillor Andrews seconded by Councillor McKee it was agreed to note the Arc 21 Joint Committee Meeting Minutes held on Thursday 27 February 2020.

Item 27 – Arc21 Joint Committee Briefing – 26 March 2020

On the proposal of Councillor McKee seconded by Councillor Andrews it was agreed to note the Arc 21 Joint Committee Briefing held on Thursday 26 March 2020.

Item 28 – Arc21 Joint Committee Briefing – 30 April 2020

On the proposal of Councillor McKee seconded by Councillor Andrews it was agreed to note the Arc 21 Joint Committee Briefing held on Thursday 30 April 2020.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 8.30pm.

Signed: Councillor O Magennis
Chairperson of Neighbourhood Services Committee

Signed: Mr R Moore
Director of Neighbourhood Services

NEWRY MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL**Minutes of Special Strategy Policy & Resources Committee Meeting held on
Thursday 25 June 2020 at 6.00pm via Skype****In the Chair:** Councillor G Sharvin

In Attendance:

Councillor P Brown	Councillor P Byrne
Councillor S Doran	Councillor H Gallagher
Councillor O Hanlon	Councillor R Howell
Councillor A Lewis	Councillor O Magennis
Councillor H McKee	Councillor D Murphy
Councillor B Ó Muirí	Councillor M Savage
Councillor W Walker	

Also in attendance:

Councillor D Curran	Councillor A Finnegan
Councillor A McMurray	Councillor G Stokes
Councillor J Tinnelly	

Officials in Attendance:

Mrs M Ward, Chief Executive
 Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services
 Mr R Moore, Director of Neighbourhood Services
 Mr C Mallon, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism
 Mrs R Mackin, Assistant of Director of Corporate Planning and Policy
 Mr C Quinn, Assistant Director of Estates & Capital Projects
 Mr F O'Connor, Legal Advisor
 Ms S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager (Acting)
 Ms L O'Hare, Democratic Services Officer

SPR/78/2020: APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

An apology was received from Councillor Enright.

SPR/79/2020: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

SPR/80/2020 SUSPENDED IRISH LANGUAGE BURSARY SCHEME 2020-2021

Read: Report dated 25 June 2020 from Mrs Regina Mackin, Assistant Director of Corporate Planning and Policy regarding, Suspended Irish Language Bursary Scheme 2020-2021 **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor Ó Muirí advised the Irish Language Working Group had asked that officers explore the possibility of young people applying for this year's budget to attend next year's Gaeltacht, if not able to receive the funding in advance, at least provide a letter of offer advising young people they had been successful in achieving the funding which would make it more affordable for them to attend. He stated there was still some way to go and officers were looking into the governance issues, however, he was happy to propose the recommendations as contained within the officer's report. This was seconded by Councillor Doran.

Councillor Lewis asked whether other schemes would also be ring-fenced in the same way as he felt all those schemes that had not been able to occur due to the pandemic should be treated in a similar manner.

Mrs Carville advised that ring-fencing of budgets would be subject to the rates process, however the recommendation from Irish Language Working Group was to ringfence the budget in question. She stated that other financial assistance schemes that had not been able to be spent in the current financial year, there was an intention to re-look at the potential for ringfencing these, however this would all be considered again when progressing through the rates process.

Councillor Savage spoke in support of the proposal from Councillor Ó Muirí and Councillor Walker advised although he was not opposed to this particular fund being ringfenced, Councillors need to be mindful that other schemes would merit ringfencing and Members should support these schemes also.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Doran, to agree to the following recommendations:

1. Council's Irish Language Unit proceed to re-open the Irish Language Bursary Scheme for period 2020/2021 for calls related to periods April – September 2020 and October 2020-March 2021.
2. Underspend within the Irish Language Bursary Scheme budget for the period April – September 2020 be ring-fenced for the next financial year (2021-2022).
3. Officers to give consideration as to the appropriate governance, including applicants' letters of offer and opening date of a call for applications to an Irish Language Bursary Scheme 2021-2022; this to be tabled for consideration at a future meeting of the Irish Language Strategy Cross Party Working Group.

SPR/81/2020

PAVEMENT CAFÉ AND PROVISION OF OUTDOOR SPACE

Read: Report dated 25 June 2020 from Mr Conor Mallon, Director of Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism regarding, Pavement Café and provision of outdoor space **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor Byrne proposed to amend the recommendation outlined in 3.1 of the officer's report that applications on Council sites would be assessed using the criteria being used to compile the list of open spaces, in parallel with compiling the list of open spaces that would be suitable to ensure those businesses ready to go can avail of the scheme immediately. He also proposed to amend 3.2 of the officer's report to waive the current Pavement Café license fee for 12 months to show support to the local traders within the District.

Councillor Savage seconded the proposal highlighting the need to work with and support the hospitality and license trade in the coming weeks.

Members spoke in support of the amendments and engagement with businesses assisting them to re-open and welcomed the creative potential across the District, but at the same time asked officers to be mindful of people with mobility issues and those with visual impairments across the District ensuring safe access on pavements.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Savage, to approve the following recommendations.

- That applications on Council sites would be assessed using the criteria being used to compile the list of open spaces, in parallel with compiling the list of open spaces that would be suitable.
- Members waive the current Pavement Café license fee for 12 months.
- If successful in securing a letter of Offer from the Department, members approve that officials develop and deliver a programme of revitalisation works in the form of seating, benches, tables, pergolas etc to facilitate outdoor gatherings in a socially distanced manner.

SPR/82/2020: BREXIT FORUM MEMBERSHIP

Read: Report dated 25 June 2020 from Mr Conor Mallon, Director of Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism regarding, Brexit Forum Membership (**Copy circulated**)

Mr Mallon advised the next meeting of the Brexit Forum would be held on Tuesday 30 June 2020 and asked that the names of the additional Members and confirmation of membership be received as soon as possible.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Magennis, Council to consider the current membership of the Brexit Forum and adopt a membership structure similar to Council Project Boards of 2 SF, 2 SDLP, 1 UU, 1 DUP, 1Ind/Alliance.

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

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Hanlon, seconded by Councillor Ó Muirí, 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/83/2020 ST PATRICK'S DAY PARADES - PERFORMER INVOICES

Read: Report dated 25 June 2020 from Mr Conor Mallon, Director of Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism regarding, St Patrick's Day Parades - Performance Invoices (**Copy circulated**)

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Savage, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor Gallagher, it was agreed to note the contents of

the report and officers to continue to engage with suppliers on outstanding payments to determine eligible costs incurred, and settle these invoices as soon as possible.

SPR/84/2020: RECOMMENCEMENT OF CHARGING AND ENFORCEMENT IN OFF STREET CAR PARKS

Read: Report dated 25 June 2020 from Mr Conor Mallon, Director of Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism regarding, Recommencement of Charging and Enforcement in off street car parks **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Savage, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Savage, it was agreed that Council delay the introduction of car parking charges until Monday 10th August 2020 and that this be reviewed before reintroduction of car parking charges. It was also agreed to recommence enforcement of parking compliance across the District on 1st July 2020.

SPR/85/2020 SURPLUS ASSETS AT JUNE 2020

Read: Report dated 25 June 2020 from Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services, regarding Surplus Assets at June 2020 **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Savage, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Byrne, the following was agreed:

1. Note the report and appendix A which had been attached to the officers report.
2. To remove 7 assets from the Surplus Asset listing and retain for Council use namely:
 - Mare's Field Recreation Area, Camlough
 - Art McCooey Play Park, Glassdrumman, Crossmaglen
 - Bog Road Amenity Area/Picnic Area/Play Area, Forkhill
 - Linkside Park Play Area, Newcastle
 - Carlingford Park Play Area/Bitmac Area, Newry
 - Surplus strip of land, Saintfield Community Centre
 - Gallows Hill, Struell Road, Upper Scotch Street, Downpatrick
3. To release 6 assets deemed surplus for open market sale:
 - Ashtree former Play Area, Rathfriland Road, Newry
 - Bleary Bungalows Play Area, Newry
 - Coreagh Refuse Site, Newry
 - Daisy Hill Nurseries, Carnagat Section, Newry
 - Lock Keepers Cottage, Newry Canal
 - Crown Villas Play Area, Crieve Road, Newry

**4. To release 1 asset on D1 process:
- Lismore Park, Playing Field, Crossmaglen**

SPR/86/2020

COMMERCIAL UNIT AT NEWRY VARIETY MARKET

Read: Report dated 25 June 2020 from Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services, regarding Commercial unit at Newry Variety Market (**Copy circulated**)

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Savage, it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Savage, seconded by Councillor Byrne, it was agreed that that members authorise the direct payment to LPS of the sum of £9,282.00 representing the arrears of rates on behalf of the tenant of unit 18B Newry Variety Market, and to note the proposed regularisation of legal agreements with all occupiers of these units.

There being no further business, the Meeting concluded at 19.19pm

Signed: **Councillor Gareth Sharvin**
Chairperson

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



MARCH HOUSING COUNCIL BULLETIN

The Northern Ireland Housing Council met on Thursday, 12th March 2020 at 10.30 am in Omagh Council offices.

For Information, a report of the attendance is undernoted:-

Members Present

Ald Tommy Nicholl	Mid & East Antrim Borough (Chair)
Cllr Anne-Marie Fitzgerald	Fermanagh & Omagh District (Vice Chair)
Cllr Nick Mathison	Ards & North Down Borough
Ald Jim Speers	Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough
Cllr Michelle Kelly	Belfast City
Ald John Finlay	Causeway Coast & Glens Borough
Ald Allan Bresland	Derry City & Strabane District
Cllr Michael Ruane	Newry, Mourne & Down District

Members Apologies

Cllr Mark Cooper	Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough
Ald Amanda Grehan	Lisburn & Castlereagh City
Cllr Catherine Elattar	Mid Ulster Borough

The Housing Council's considered various routine items at the Meeting, followed by detailed discussions on the undernoted matters:-

- Members received a presentation from the Housing Executive on the Continuous Tenant Omnibus Survey.
- Members also received a presentation on the Housing Executive's Working together for safer communities - Community Safety Strategy 2020-2023
- The Housing Executive's Chief Executive gave a verbal update on **Housing Executive's Business from the February Board Meeting**, which included the following items:-
 1. Presentations - The Board received presentations on the Draft Budget Submission 2020/21 and on the ARTES Project – NIHE Construction Skills and Learning Centre.
 2. Monthly Finance Report as at 31st February 2020
 3. HR Policies (Resourcing Policies and Procedures and Organisational Change Policy
 4. Approval to Award Contracts- Provision of Insurances

5. Provision of a Dispersed Intensively Managed Emergency Accommodation Service
6. Planned Maintenance Procurement Strategy
7. Transfer of land at Manse Way/Milewater Drive, New Mossley to Connswater Homes
8. Supporting People 2,4 & 8% Budget Adjustment and Associated Reinvestment
9. Core Landlord Benchmarking Activities
10. Landlord Rental Income Reserve and Stock Investment
11. Compliance/Health & Safety Assurance Report
12. Water Hygiene (Legionella) Strategy
13. Supporting People Programme – Progress Status Update
14. Land Acquisitions and Disposals Quarterly Update

- Members then received an update from Paul Price & David Polley Department for Communities, on the **Departments' Housing Top Issues** to date, which included:-

1. Social Newbuild starts
2. Co-ownership
3. Programme for Social Reform
4. Fundamental Review of Social Housing Allocations Policy
5. Reclassification of Northern Ireland Social Housing Providers
6. Supporting People Delivery Strategy
7. Homelessness Strategy
8. St Patrick's Barracks, Ballymena
9. Regulation of the Private Rented Sector
10. Increasing Housing Supply
11. Affordable Warmth Scheme
12. NIHE Rent Scheme
13. Welfare Reform Mitigation payments

Once the minutes of the meeting are ratified at the April Meeting, they can be accessed on the Housing Council website: www.nihousingcouncil.org

The next Housing Council Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 9th April at 10.30 am in the Island, Lisburn.

Should you require any further information or have any questions regarding the content.

Contacts

Chair

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Secretary

Kelly Cameron

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JUNE HOUSING COUNCIL BULLETIN

The Northern Ireland Housing Council met on Thursday, 11th June 2020 at 10.30 am via Conference Call.

For Information, a report of the attendance is undernoted:-

Members Present

Ald Tommy Nicholl	Mid & East Antrim Borough (Chair)
Cllr Anne-Marie Fitzgerald	Fermanagh & Omagh District (Vice Chair)
Cllr Mark Cooper	Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough
Cllr Nick Mathison	Ards & North Down Borough
Ald Jim Speers	Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough
Cllr Michelle Kelly	Belfast City
Ald John Finlay	Causeway Coast & Glens Borough
Ald Allan Bresland	Derry City & Strabane District
Ald Amanda Grehan	Lisburn & Castlereagh City
Cllr Michael Ruane	Newry, Mourne & Down District

Members Apologies

Cllr Catherine Elattar	Mid Ulster Borough
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The Housing Council's considered various routine items at the Meeting, followed by detailed discussions on the undernoted matters:-

- The Housing Executive's Chief Executive gave an update on the Housing Executive's position as a result of COVID-19, in relation to tenants; staffing; contracts and services still available.
- The Chief Executive then gave a verbal update on **Housing Executive's Business from the May Board Meeting**, which included the following items:-
 1. Corporate Risk Register (COVID-19)
 2. Finance Report as at 30 April 2020
 3. Housing Benefit Systems – Housing Management Development Budgets 2020-21
 4. CT045- Fence Painting Tender
 5. Irish Travellers Accommodation Strategy 2020-2025
 6. Undeveloped Land Schedule 2019/20
 7. Hope Street Development Proposal Update
 8. Business Performance Monitor as at end of April 2020
 9. Land Acquisitions and Disposals Quarterly Update
 10. Supporting People Monthly update

Continued.....

11. Department for Communities (DfC) Inspection Reports
12. Social Housing Development Programme (SHDP) Performance 2019/20 and Delivery Risk Assessment 2020/21

- Members then received an update from Paul Price & David Polley Department for Communities, on the **Departments' Housing Top Issues** to date, which included:-
 1. Social Newbuild starts
 2. Co-ownership
 3. Programme for Social Reform
 4. Fundamental Review of Social Housing Allocations Policy
 5. Reclassification of Northern Ireland Social Housing Providers
 6. Supporting People Delivery Strategy
 7. Homelessness Strategy
 8. St Patrick's Barracks, Ballymena
 9. Regulation of the Private Rented Sector
 10. Increasing Housing Supply
 11. Affordable Warmth Scheme
 12. NIHE Rent Scheme
 13. Welfare Reform Mitigation payments
 14. European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) Investment

Once the minutes of the meeting are ratified at the August Meeting, they can be accessed on the Housing Council website: www.nihousingcouncil.org

The next Housing Council Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 13th August at 10.30 am in the Housing Centre, Belfast.

Should you require any further information or have any questions regarding the content.

Contacts

Chair

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Secretary

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Department for
Communities
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Mr Mickey Kelly
Director of Pensions, Disability, Benefit Security
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Personal Secretary: Mel Maxwell-McIlroy

Marie Ward
Chief Executive
Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
Oifig Dhún Pádraig
Downpatrick Office
Downshire Civic Centre
Downshire Estate, Ardglass Road
Downpatrick BT30 6GQ

Email to: donnastarkey@nmandd.org

Our Ref: CST-0203-2020

Your Ref: C/058/2020

15 May 2020

Dear Ms Ward

Thank you for your letter of 25 March 2020 to Minister Hargey about the motion which was passed at the Newry Mourne & Down District Council meeting on 2 March 2020, "to request she prioritises the planned review into how the benefits systems supports terminally ill people, and that this be concluded as quickly as possible, so that people with illness such as Motor Neurone Disease can access benefits quickly and sensitively". Your letter has been passed to me as the Director with responsibility for this matter to reply. I want to apologise for the delay in replying however you will understand we have been focusing all our efforts in responding to the Pandemic.

I should explain that the Department has been working closely with counterparts in the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) on the evaluation of how the benefits system supports people nearing the end of their life and those with the most severe conditions. This review includes all benefits which contain what is known as special rules criteria which allows for fast tracking of benefit claims in certain circumstances. The review consists of three main strands of research:

- hearing directly from claimants and charities about their first-hand experiences;
- considering international evidence to find out what works in other nations and the support they provide; and
- reviewing current performance to better understand how Special Rules for Terminal Illness and Severe Conditions processes operate and perform.

Senior officials from the Department have been working to ensure that issues highlighted by stakeholders in Northern Ireland are fully captured and incorporated

into this review. As part of this, in December 2019, the Department held an engagement event in Belfast with expert stakeholders from Macmillan, Marie Curie NI, Age NI, Motor Neurone Disease Association NI and the British Medical Association, to ensure their views were captured and taken into account. The event was very well received as noted by the positive tweet from Marie Curie, "I attended an incredibly useful workshop with @CommunitiesNI and other voluntary sector reps this morning regarding the @DWP review of the benefits system and terminally ill people."

Work on the next phase of the review has been ongoing from January 2020, the first stage involved seeking the view of Clinicians via a UK wide survey which was open to all Northern Ireland Clinicians. The survey was open to 28 February and approximately 130 Clinicians in Northern Ireland responded. Work had commenced in DWP to examine and analyse the feedback provided.

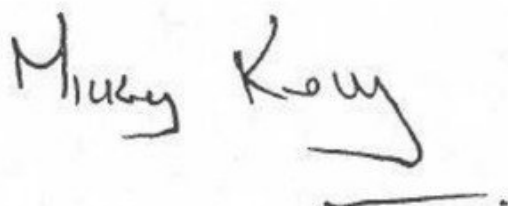
This phase of the review also included engagement with those who have first-hand experience of terminal illness. DfC officials in partnership with Marie Curie and Motor Neurone Disease had planned to host an engagement session with a number of carers/patients on 28 March 2020 but due to Coronavirus (COVID-19) and in agreement with Marie Curie and Motor Neurone Disease we had to postpone this meeting given the particular vulnerabilities of the people due to attend and the associated risks for those people.

However, we have just recently engaged again with Marie Curie and Motor Neurone Disease to explore how we best gather those views given the current restrictions to ensure these views feed into the wider review described above.

Just last week the Minister for Disabled people in DWP in responding to a Parliamentary question about the publication of the findings from the review, announced in July 2019 acknowledged that the evaluation and supporting people who are terminally ill remains an absolute priority for DWP. However, these are unprecedented times and the Westminster Government's immediate focus is on people affected by Covid-19 and getting support to them as quickly as possible.

I hope this response is helpful.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mickey Kelly', with a horizontal line underneath.

MICKEY KELLY

Director of Pensions, Disability, Benefit Security and Debt

From: Sonya McAnulla <sonya.mcanulla@fermanaghomagh.com>
Sent: 05 May 2020 15:24
To: Customer Services <customer.services@nmandd.org>
Subject: Support for Council Motion - A1 Junctions

Dear Ms Ward

At the Council meeting of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council held on 3 March 2020, Members considered your correspondence, Ref: C/037/2020, dated 10 February 2020 regarding the Motion - A1 Junctions. Members asked that I contact you to express this Council's support for the Motion as outlined in your correspondence.

The Council wishes you well in your representations to the public inquiry.

Regards

Sonya McAnulla
 Head of Democratic and Customer Services
 Fermanagh and Omagh District Council
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