



January 5th, 2022

Notice Of Meeting

You are requested to attend the Council meeting to be held on **Monday, 10th January 2022** at **6:00 pm** in **Hybrid - Downshire Chamber & via Microsoft Teams**.

Agenda

1.0 Apologies and Chairperson's Remarks

2.0 Declarations of Interest

3.0 Action Sheet arising from Council Meeting held on 8 December 2021

 [Action Sheet Council Meeting 08 12 2021.pdf](#)

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Council Minutes For Adoption and Signing

4.0 Minutes of Council Meeting held on 6 December 2021

 [Council_Minutes_06-12-2021.pdf](#)

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5.0 Minutes of Council Meeting held on 8 December 2021

 [Council_Minutes_08-12-2021.pdf](#)

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Committee Minutes for Consideration and Adoption

6.0 Minutes of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee Meeting held on 13 December 2021

 [ERT Minutes 13.12.2021.pdf](#)

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7.0 Minutes of Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 16 December 2021

 [SPR Committee Minutes 16.12.2021.pdf](#)

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8.0 Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on 20 December 2021

 [AHC Committee Minutes 20.12.2021.pdf](#)

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9.0 Minutes of Neighbourhood Services Committee Meeting held on 21 December 2021

 [NS Committee Minutes - 21-12-2021.pdf](#)

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10.0 Planning Section

Extract from Planning Committee Meeting - 17 November 2021

 *Planning Section - To Council 10.01.2022.pdf*

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Correspondence and Conferences

11.0 N. Ireland Housing Council Minutes dated 11 November 2021

 *Housing Council Minutes 11th November 2021.pdf*

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12.0 N. Ireland Housing Council Bulletin - December 2021


 *Members Bulletin - December 2021.pdf*

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Correspondence and Conferences

13.0 Correspondence from Minister of Health re. NOM C/111/2021

Letter dated 11 December 2021 attached.

 *Letter from DoH re NOM C.111.2021.pdf*

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14.0 Correspondence from Minister for Infrastructure re. NOM C/202/2021

Letter dated 6 December 2021 attached.

 *Letter dated 6.12.2021 from DfI re NOM C.202.2021.pdf*

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15.0 N. Ireland Planning Conference - March 2022

 *Northern Ireland Planning Conference 2021 Wednesday 2nd March 2022.pdf*

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Notices of Motion

16.0 Notice of Motion - Livestreaming / Video Recording Full Council Meetings

Notice of Motion received from Councillor Brown:

'This council laments the fact that it is one of just two local authorities across Northern Ireland not to offer livestreams or video recordings of its full council meetings. It notes the detrimental impact this has on transparency and public engagement with council business. It will immediately begin the process of ensuring either live streams or pre-recorded videos of full council meetings and statutory committees are uploaded to the council website, whichever is simpler to implement and offers best value for ratepayers.'

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 4 NOVEMBER 2021

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
C/230/2021	Action Sheet arising from Council Meeting held on 01.11.21	The action sheet was agreed.	Democratic Services	Noted	
C/231/2021	Minutes of Council Meeting held on 01.11.21	The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted.	Democratic Services	Noted	
C/232/2021	Minutes of Special Council Meeting held on 25.10.21	The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted. Dates to be provided for special meeting for the Southern Health Forum	Democratic Services E Devlin	Noted	
C/233/2021	Minutes of ERT Committee Meeting held on 08.11.21	The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted.	Democratic Services	Noted	

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
C/234/2021	Minutes of SPR Committee Meeting held on 11.11.21	The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted.	Democratic Services	Noted	
C/235/2021	Minutes of AHC Committee Meeting held on 15.11.21	The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted. Mr Lipsett to speak to Councillor Trainor regarding taking a uniformed approach to the reopening of leisure services.	Democratic Services M Lipsett	Noted	
C/236/2021	Minutes of NS Committee Meeting held on 16.11.21	The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted, subject to amendment. Democratic Services to check and advise Cllr. Reilly if he is a member of the NS Committee	Democratic Services Democratic Services	Noted Actioned	
C/237/2021	Planning Committee	The extract from the Planning Committee Meeting held on 20 October 2021 was noted.	Democratic Services	Noted	
C/238/2021	Northern Ireland Housing Council	The minutes were noted.	Democratic Services	Noted	

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
	Minutes dated 14 October 2021				
C/239/2021	Bulletin dated November 2021 from Northern Ireland Housing Council	The bulletin was noted.	Democratic Services	Noted	
C/240/2021	Correspondence from Derry and Strabane DC regarding Parental Pay and Leave	The correspondence was noted.	Democratic Services	Noted	
C/241/2021	Correspondence from PSNI re. NOM C/202/2021 Permanent 20 mph Speed Limits	The correspondence was noted.	Democratic Services	Noted	
C/242/2021	Notice of Motion – Down High School	<p>The following Motion as presented by Down High School, was agreed:</p> <p>“We are here as members of Down High School Eco group because we understand it is our generations duty to tackle climate change. We are very concerned about the increasing levels of CO2 emissions, and the low density of woodland. We would love to see the extension of the Downpatrick Schools’ Community Woodland Project to plant 2026 trees as part of Cop26.</p>	Democratic Services	Noted	

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
		<p>We want Newry, Mourne & Down District Council to help support us in the organisation a Community Eco Fun Day to get the community and local schools involved in supporting tree planting and raising awareness of Climate Change. This project will help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Raise awareness about the climate crisis · Provide habitat for wildlife · Provide a new recreational area for our community <p>We need our Council to show leadership in promoting Climate Change within the community”.</p> <p>We ask that Council write to the NI Assembly asking that a tree be provided for every pupil in N. Ireland and that we write to the other 10 Councils asking them to support this initiative.</p>	Democratic Services	Letters sent	
C/243/2021	Notice of Motion – Fuel Poverty Task Force	It was agreed this Council notes with concern the significant increase in the cost of energy; recognises this will adversely affect many households across Northern Ireland and calls on the Minister for Communities to work with her colleagues in Finance and Economy to establish	Democratic Services	Letters sent	

Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
C/246/2021	Notice of Motion – Meeting Government Targets for EVs	The Motion was referred to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.6.	Democratic Services D Carville	Noted	
END					

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

NMD/C/

Minutes of Council Meeting held on Monday 6 December 2021 at 6.00pm via Hybrid in Downshire Chamber and Microsoft Teams

In the Chair: Councillor C Mason (Chamber)

In attendance in Chamber:

Councillor T Andrews	Councillor C Casey
Councillor D Curran	Councillor A Finnegan
Councillor O Hanlon	Councillor V Harte
Councillor R Howell	Councillor O Magennis
Councillor L McEvoy	Councillor R Mulgrew
Councillor D Murphy	Councillor G O'Hare
Councillor B Ó Muirí	Councillor M Ruane
Councillor W Walker	

In attendance via Teams:

Councillor P Brown	Councillor R Burgess
Councillor P Byrne	Councillor W Clarke
Councillor M Gibbons	Councillor G Hanna
Councillor M Larkin	Councillor A Lewis
Councillor G Malone	Councillor D McAteer
Councillor K McKeivitt	Councillor A McMurray
Councillor K Owen	Councillor M Savage
Councillor G Sharvin	Councillor D Taylor
Councillor J Tinnelly	Councillor J Trainor

Officials in attendance in Chamber:

Mrs M Ward, Chief Executive
Miss S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager (Acting)

Officials in Attendance Via Teams:

Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services
Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active & Healthy Communities
Mr C Mallon, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism
Mr J McBride, Director of Neighbourhood Services (Acting)
Mrs P McKeever, Democratic Services Officer

C/225/2021 APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Apologies were received from Councillors Devlin, Enright, Gallagher and Stokes.

C/226/2021 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

C/227/2021**TRIBUTES TO THE LATE COUNCILLOR SEAN DORAN**

Due to the recent sad passing of Councillor Sean Doran the Chairperson proposed that, following tributes by Members, the Council Meeting be adjourned as a mark of respect and reconvened on Wednesday 8 December 2021. Councillor Ruane seconded the proposal.

The Chairperson also offered her condolences to Sinead Ennis on the recent sad passing of her mother Jacqueline Morgan.

The Chairperson led the tributes to the late Councillor Doran acknowledging that many Councillors had known Sean a lot longer than she had. She said Sean had worked with Councillors Ruane and Casey in the legacy Newry and Mourne Council and had been a fellow Mournes Councillor with Councillor Clarke for over a decade. The Chairperson acknowledged the great working relationship Sean had had with Councillor Hanna and how they had worked very well together for the good of the Mournes area and she said Sean's family had taken great strength from that relationship.

The Chairperson said in the short time she had known Sean, it was obvious how much his family meant to him and she extended her condolences to his sons Ruairi and Neill, mother Teresa and sister Mary.

The Chairperson said Sean had been a rebel, a fighter for freedom and a champion for the underdog. Sean understood the need for reconciliation and how important it was to build new and lasting friendships with his unionist neighbours throughout the Mournes and it was clear he built positive and productive relationships with his unionist colleagues and the wider unionist community in the Mournes. Sean took great pride in delivering for the people of the Mournes irrespective of background or political persuasion. She said Sean had left behind a powerful and enduring legacy.

The Chairperson thanked Members for attending the meeting tonight and said the high attendance was testament to the esteem in which Sean was held.

The Chairperson thanked those Councillors who had called to Sean during his illness and said this had meant a great deal to both him and his family.

The Chairperson thanked the medical staff in Daisy Hill Hospital and Southern Area Hospice and the carers who had visited him in Kilkeel. She said Sean had praised the care he had received, and it meant a great deal to his family and friends.

The Chairperson then invited Members to offer their tributes, firstly to his party colleagues in Sinn Féin.

Councillor Ó'Muirí paid tribute on behalf of the Sinn Féin party and thanked the other party leaders and council management for the many words of sympathy and support over what had been a very difficult time. He said Sean had been a hard-working dedicated Sinn Féin activist who was proud to be a Councillor for the people in the Kilkeel area and his efforts to build community spirit were greatly appreciated by the people in Kilkeel. Sean had a great sense of humour and his loss was a huge blow to his family, friends and the Sinn Féin party.

Councillor Hanlon said the Sinn Féin party were heartbroken to lose Sean. She said Sean had been a tireless worker and an inspiration to all who knew him. Councillor Hanlon said Sean had been a fantastic mentor to her as a new Councillor, offering her guidance, support and advice. He had a ferocious work ethic and always put the interests of the people of his beloved Mournes first. She said she was privileged to have had Sean as a friend and mentor and he would be

greatly missed.

Councillor Ruane said he had the honour of reading out what would have been Sean's last words at the end of his funeral mass. He said it had been very difficult to do and the content was both humorous and heart breaking. Councillor Ruane extended his deepest condolences to Sean's two sons Ruairi and Neill, his mother Teresa and his sister Mary. He said Sean was a true friend and he would be greatly missed.

Councillor Clarke said Sean was a loyal, confidential person who set a high benchmark for all Councillors. He said his passing would be a huge loss for the Mournes, his party colleagues, Newry Mourne and Down District Council and not least his two sons Ruairi and Neil, his mother Teresa and his sister Mary.

Councillor McEvoy said she echoed the sentiments of her Sinn Féin Colleagues and that whilst Sean was a man of few words, he had a great wit and a ready smile. She said he had been her mentor when she first became a Councillor and he was always more than ready to offer guidance to her when she needed it.

Councillor Mulgrew, speaking on behalf of Councillors Casey and Harte acknowledged the past few weeks had been extremely difficult and the news of Sean's death had been a devastating blow. Councillor Mulgrew said Sean had dealt with his illness with great courage and humour and she expressed her enormous gratitude that Sean had never been alone during his illness and this, she said was due to how much he meant to all his colleagues. She said Sean was an amazing man who had been held in great esteem. She extended her deep condolences to his family and said she was honoured to have known him and she would miss him greatly.

Councillor Byrne offered his deep condolences on behalf of the SDLP party to Sean's family and colleagues and in particular to his Sinn Féin colleagues who he acknowledged were deeply saddened by his passing. He said Sean was a decent lovely man and it was quite a fitting tribute to him that council business had been adjourned this evening.

Councillor Brown said he agreed with the sentiments of his colleagues. He said Sean had had a strong commitment to politics and especially to the Mournes. Councillor Brown passed his condolences on to Sean's party colleagues, family and friends.

Councillor McKevitt, speaking on behalf of Councillor Devlin and her colleagues said she agreed with all the sentiments voiced and said it was a very sad and difficult time. She said Sean had been a real family man, who had a great sense of humour and she agreed it was appropriate that council business be suspended this evening. Councillor McKevitt also offered condolences to Sinead Ennis on the sad passing of her mother.

Councillor Andrews said he had been very saddened to hear of Sean's passing. He said he was a quiet, unassuming gentleman and a dedicated Councillor who would be greatly missed by all. Councillor Andrews then read a poem called 'Afterglow' as a tribute to Sean.

Councillor Curran said Sean had been a gentleman and a great listener and his deepest sympathies went to Sean's family, friends and colleagues.

Councillor Savage echoed the sentiments of all the previous Members and said Sean was an excellent Councillor who had a superb work ethic and a deep love for the people of the Mournes. He said Sean was a decent man with a deep sense of social justice and a desire to look after the vulnerable and people in need in the community. Councillor Savage acknowledged the deep sense of loss felt by Sean's Sinn Féin colleagues and said Sean would be greatly missed by his family and the people of the Mournes.

Councillor McAteer conveyed his sympathy to Sean's Sinn Féin colleagues who he said were

clearly very saddened by Sean's passing. He said Sean was an impartial Councillor who worked tirelessly for his area and who was held in the highest esteem by all in the District and he said Sean fully deserved tonight's reflections.

Councillor Malone offered his condolences to Sean's Sinn Féin colleagues and family, saying he was a lovely man, hugely popular and would be greatly missed.

Councillor Walker on behalf of the DUP grouping expressed his sincere sympathies to Sean's family and Sinn Féin colleagues. He said Sean was a hard-working Councillor and his passing would be a huge loss to all who knew him. Councillor Walker said although he and Sean had very different political beliefs, he said Sean was decent, mild mannered man who never spoke ill of anyone. He acknowledged Sean worked closely with Councillor Hanna for the good of the Mournes and said he would be sorely missed.

Councillor Taylor offered his condolences on behalf of the UUP grouping to Sean's Sinn Féin colleagues saying they had lost a trusted colleague and friend. He said Sean had fought his illness bravely and said his thoughts and prayers were with Sean's family at this very sad time. Councillor Taylor said Sean was a well-respected colleague and a true gentleman. He said it was a fitting tribute to him that the meeting be adjourned this evening as a mark of respect.

Councillor Tinnelly offered his sincere condolences to Sean's Sinn Féin colleagues. He said he had known Sean a long time and always found him to be a humble and decent person. He said Sean had a great sense of humour and always had a kind word for all. Councillor Tinnelly said in spite of Sean and Councillor Hanna's political differences they worked really well together in doing what they could to improve the Mournes area.

Councillor Gibbons said he had known Sean well for a long time and he always had a very strong work ethic. He said Sean loved the Mournes and he was a man of honesty and integrity. Councillor Gibbons expressed his deepest sympathy to Sean's family and Sinn Féin colleagues.

Councillor Hanna paid tribute to Sean, saying they had worked well together and that Sean was a hard worker who worked for all the people in the Mournes area. He said Sean had a big heart and would be greatly missed.

Councillor McMurray said he was saddened to hear of Sean's passing. He said Sean always demonstrated a calm demeanour and was very succinct in the Council chamber. Councillor McMurray paid tribute to Sean's family and his Sinn Féin colleagues and said all 41 Councillors were united in sadness this evening. Councillor McMurray also offered condolences on the passing of Sinead Ennis's mother Jacqueline Morgan.

The Chairperson thanked the Members for their tributes and then invited Ms Ward to add her sentiments and those of the senior management team.

In paying tribute to Councillor Doran, Ms Ward said Councillor Doran had lived out the principles of good conduct in public office, working in the interests of the community with great integrity, respect, openness and honesty. Councillor Doran also conducted business with all council employees in a respectful, courteous manner and it had been a pleasure to have worked with him.

Ms Ward said during Sean's time in Council he worked tirelessly on many campaigns and projects and he had held positions on the Mourne Heritage Trust, Warrenpoint Harbour Authority, and Newry Mourne and Down Policing and Community Safety Partnership along with many other Council Working Groups, all to deliver for the people of Newry Mourne and Down.

Ms Ward said on behalf of the Senior Management Team and all Council employees, she wished to pass on deepest condolences to Sean's family, his sons Ruairi and Neill, his mother Teresa

and his sister Mary and wider family circle, his Sinn Féin colleagues and his colleagues across the entire Newry Mourne and Down District Council. She said Councillor Doran would be missed in the Council chamber, the Mournes and the wider District.

The Chairperson thanked everyone for their kind words of sympathy and said on behalf of the entire Sinn Féin team, the sentiments expressed were very much appreciated.

The Chairperson said it was only fitting to conclude the meeting with one minute of silent reflection in memory of the late Councillor Sean Doran.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 18:52.

Signed:

Chairperson

Chief Executive

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

NMD/C/

Minutes of Council Meeting held on Wednesday 8 December 2021 at 6.00pm via Hybrid in Downshire Chamber and Microsoft Teams

In the Chair: Councillor C Mason (Chamber)

In attendance in Chamber: Councillor T Andrews Councillor D Curran
Councillor C Enright Councillor O Hanlon

In attendance via Teams:

Councillor P Brown	Councillor R Burgess
Councillor P Byrne	Councillor C Casey
Councillor L Devlin	Councillor A Finnegan
Councillor M Gibbons	Councillor O Hanlon
Councillor G Hanna	Councillor V Harte
Councillor R Howell	Councillor M Larkin
Councillor A Lewis	Councillor O Magennis
Councillor G Malone	Councillor L McEvoy
Councillor H McKee	Councillor McKeivitt
Councillor A McMurray	Councillor R Mulgre
Councillor D Murphy	Councillor B Ó Muirí
Councillor K Owen	Councillor H Reilly
Councillor M Ruane	Councillor G Sharvin
Councillor G Stokes	Councillor D Taylor
Councillor J Tinnelly	Councillor W Walker

Officials in attendance in Chamber: Mrs M Ward, Chief Executive
Miss S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager (Acting)

Officials in Attendance Via Teams:

Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services
Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active & Health Communities
Mr C Mallon, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism
Mr J McBride, Director of Neighbourhood Services (Acting)
Mr F O'Connor, Head of Legal Administration
Mr C Boyd, Assistant Director, Estates & Capital Projects.
Mrs Linda Cummins, Democratic Services Officer
Mrs P McKeever, Democratic Services Officer

C/228/2021**APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

Apologies were received from Councillors Gallagher, Hanna, McMurray, Owen and Stokes.

The Chairperson welcomed very special guests to the chamber, Asha, Cherith, Sara and Anna from Down High School who were presenting a Notice of Motion later in the meeting.

The Chairperson acknowledged the sad passing of former party member Michael McKeown from Warrenpoint.

The Chairperson advised that for the month of December she would be focusing on the mental health of workers including those in emergency services; GP facilities; hospitality and all front-line staff. She said frontline workers keep communities moving, fight to keep the health service going, ensure public transport operates, and work hard often in understaffed environments due to self-isolation, to serve food and drink, or to keep our supermarket shelves stocked.

The Chairperson highlighted due to the disruption to accessing services such as GP appointments; staff had been battling a tide of abuse. GP surgeries were frequently being pushed to the point of collapse and a growing number of staff were quitting. She said the abuse of GPs and their staff was indefensible, and it had a significant and detrimental impact to workers health and well-being.

The Chairperson stated there had been reports from hospitality staff stating they had also faced an increase in abuse since the onset of the pandemic due to restrictions and business owners saying they were concerned over the welfare of their staff. She said this was unfair on workers who deserved to be treated with decency as they tried to earn a living for themselves and their families and whilst she could understand people were frustrated and wanted to see a return to normal services, there was simply no justification for anyone to harass staff.

The Chairperson said harassment via social media platforms was despicable and this form of abuse could have a huge impact on a person's mental health and it was important that we all stand united in tackling this behaviour.

The Chairperson asked all elected representatives and the people of the District to take time to reflect on how they had been treated in their role, how they had communicated with others and the impact this may have had. She said to build a better, stronger community we must all play our part in treating each other with common decency and respect and ensure that as we faced difficulties, we all helped each other to get through such times with kinder words and actions.

Councillor McAteer expressed his delight to the Chairperson for taking the opportunity to note what the local hospitality industry was going through and the leadership the Council had taken putting this in the public domain. He said, as councillors it was imperative to send a strong message that it was not acceptable to abuse the people

who are trying to implement the law and to facilitate people, regardless of their views on vaccinations.

C/229/2021

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

C/230/2021

ACTION SHEET ARISING FROM COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 1 NOVEMBER 2021

Read: Action sheet arising from Council Meeting held on 1 November 2021 (copy circulated).

Councillor Enright referred to a Motion that had been referred to Finance regarding setting a target for renewable energy for Council over the next 10 years and asked for an update.

Mrs Carville confirmed that it was to be tabled at the next Strategy Policy and Committee meeting.

Agreed:

The Action Sheet from Council Meeting held on 1 November 2021 was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Curran, seconded by Councillor Enright.

COUNCIL MINUTES FOR ADOPTION AND SIGNING

C/231/2021

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 1 NOVEMBER 2021

Read: Minutes of Council Meeting held on 1 November 2021 (copy circulated).

Councillor McAteer asked that the minutes be amended to reflect he had attended the meeting.

Agreed:

The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 1 November 2021 were agreed as an accurate record and adopted, subject to the agreed amendment, on the proposal of Councillor Hanlon, seconded by Councillor McEvoy.

C/232/2021

MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 25 OCTOBER 2021

Read: Minutes of Special Council Meeting held on 27 October 2021 (copy

circulated).

Councillor Byrne asked if dates could be provided as soon as possible for the special meeting for the Southern Health forum.

The Chief Executive confirmed dates would be provided for the meeting before Christmas, however the meeting would most likely take place in the new year.

Agreed: **The Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on 25 October 2021 were agreed as an accurate record and adopted, on the proposal of Councillor Hanlon, seconded by Councillor Byrne.**

COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION

C/233/2021 MINUTES OF ENTERPRISE, REGENERATION AND TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 8 NOVEMBER 2021

Read: Minutes of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee Meeting held on 8 November 2021 (copy circulated).

Councillor Devlin welcomed the funding boost regarding the Visitor Access Project especially since the huge spike in footfall due to the pandemic, stating it would hopefully build on the good work of the Mourne multi agency going forward so people could enjoy the beautiful outdoors and district but at same time respect the landscape and those who work and reside there.

Councillor Devlin expressed her delight that Newcastle would now been included in the scope of the work being done with regards beach facilities especially in light of the increased uptake of cold water therapy and open water swimming and hopefully there would be benefits moving forward.

ERT/218/2021: Update Re: E-Charge

Councillor Trainer welcomed the work being done in relation to the feasibility of residential charging points, and asked if officers had identified other funding streams that would allow Council to increase capacity for free charging across the District.

Mr Mallon confirmed officers were constantly scanning for funding opportunities for a range of initiatives including charging of electric vehicles and would continue to do so.

Agreed: **The Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee Meeting held on 8 October 2021 were agreed as an accurate record and adopted, on the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Howell.**

C/234/2021

**MINUTES OF STRATEGY, POLICY AND RESOURCES
COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 11 NOVEMBER 2021**

Read: Minutes of Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 11 November 2021 (copy circulated).

Councillor Devlin acknowledged and thanked officers for their hard work and endurance to get the Castlewellan project over the line.

Mr Mallon updated Members confirming the lease had now received agreement from National lottery Heritage Fund and all outstanding issues had been resolved with the Forestry Service.

Agreed: **The Minutes of Strategy, Policy Committee Meeting held on 11 October 2021 were agreed as an accurate record and adopted, on the proposal of Councillor Howell, seconded by Councillor Magennis.**

C/235/2021

**MINUTES OF ACTIVE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES
COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 15 NOVEMBER 2021**

Read: Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on 15 November 2021 (copy circulated).

AHC/230/2021: Leisure Reopening Plan

Councillor Trainor requested that officers engage with their counterparts in other Councils and take a uniformed approach with regards to the reopening of leisure services. Mr Lipsett agreed to speak to Councillor Trainor outside of the meeting.

AHC/228/2021: Newcastle Centre Capital Project

Councillor Devlin stated many people had expressed their disappointment at the demolition of the Tropicana slide and emphasised Councils commitment in delivering a new fit for purpose centre in Newcastle stating the process had already commenced to proceed with a business case.

AHC/225/2021: 2021/22 DFC areas at risk funding for Bessbrook and Crossmaglen – Additional Funding secured.

Councillor Byrne welcomed the additional funding for the educational programmes, and asked if following on from recent social media training would it be possible to reduce the amount of text and include more images when posting information flyers on social media platforms, regarding grants, in an effort to reduce an overload of information and make the content more interesting and thereby more successful in reaching a bigger target of groups.

Agreed: **The Minutes of Active and Healthy Committee**

Meeting held on 15 November 2021 were agreed as an accurate record and adopted, on the proposal of Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor McKevitt.

C/236/2021 MINUTES OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 16 NOVEMBER 2021

Read: Minutes of Neighbourhood Services Committee Meeting held on 16 November 2021 (copy circulated)

NS/175/2021: Mixed Dry Recyclables Contract

Councillor McAteer asked if soft plastics were included in the recycling programme or if this was this being dealt with separately.

Mr McBride confirmed the report referred to the kerbside collection service i.e. blue bin, certain plastics were included but not all. Mr McBride would follow up with Councillor McAteer after the meeting on the matter.

Councillor Reilly asked Democratic Services to check that he was a member of Neighbourhood Services Committee and expressed his thanks to staff for restoring the Christmas tree in Kilkeel so quickly.

Agreed: The Minutes of Neighbourhood Services Committee Meeting held on 16 November 2021 were agreed as an accurate record and adopted, on the proposal of Councillor Curran, seconded by Councillor Andrews.

C/237/2021 PLANNING MINUTES

Read: Extract from Minutes of Planning Committee Meeting held on 20 October 2021 (copy circulated)

Noted: The extract from the Planning Committee Minutes of Meeting held on 20 October 2021 was noted on the proposal of Councillor Trainer seconded by Councillor McAteer.

FOR NOTING

C/238/2020 NORTHERN IRELAND HOUSING COUNCIL MINUTES OCTOBER 2021

Read: Northern Ireland Housing Council Minutes dated 14 October 2021. (Copy circulated)

Agreed: **The Northern Ireland Housing Council Minutes dated 14 October 2021 were noted on the proposal of Councillor Curran, seconded by Councillor McEvoy.**

C/239/2021 **NORTHERN IRELAND HOUSING COUNCIL BULLETIN – NOVEMBER 2021**

Read: Bulletin dated November 2021 from Northern Ireland Housing Council. (Copy circulated)

Agreed: **The Northern Ireland Housing Council Bulletin was noted on the proposal of Councillor Curran, seconded by Councillor McEvoy.**

C/240/2021 **CORRESPONDENCE FROM DERRY & STRABANE DISTRICT COUNCIL REGARDING PARENTAL LEAVE AND PAY**

Read: Correspondence dated 27 October 2021 regarding Parental Leave and Pay. (Copy circulated)

Councillor Howell supported the sentiments of the letter received from Derry City and Strabane Council saying the loss of a child was hugely traumatic and devastating regardless at what stage it happened. She said all parents needed to be supported and given compassionate leave to grieve without the added worry of financial insecurity.

Agreed: **The correspondence from Derry & Strabane District Council was noted on the proposal of Councillor Murphy seconded by Councillor Howell.**

C/241/2021 **CORRESPONDENCE FROM PSNI REGARDING PERMANENT 20MPH SPEED LIMITS REF: NOM - C/202/2021**

Read: Correspondence dated 28 October 2021 regarding Notice of Motion Permanent 20mph Speed Limits. (Copy circulated)

Agreed: **The correspondence from the PSNI regarding the Notice of Motion – Permanent 20mph Speed Limits was noted on the proposal of Councillor Murphy seconded by Councillor Howell**

NOTICES OF MOTION

C/242/2021

NOTICE OF MOTION – DOWN HIGH SCHOOL

19

The Chairperson welcomed the pupils from Down High School who had competed with five other schools across the District and had been selected to debate a Notice of Motion on the theme: 'Protecting the environment, local communities take action' as part of Local Democracy Week 2021

Councillor Finnegan, as Chair of the Women's Working Group proposed the Motion be heard and Councillor McKeivitt seconded the Motion.

The following Motion was then presented by the pupils of Down High School:

"We are here as members of Down High School Eco group because we understand it is our generations duty to tackle climate change. We are very concerned about the increasing levels of CO2 emissions, and the low density of woodland. We would love to see the extension of the Downpatrick Schools' Community Woodland Project to plant 2026 trees as part of Cop26.

We want Newry, Mourne & Down District Council to help support us in the organisation a Community Eco Fun Day to get the community and local schools involved in supporting tree planting and raising awareness of Climate Change. This project will help to:

- **Raise awareness about the climate crisis**
- **Provide habitat for wildlife**
- **Provide a new recreational area for our community**

We need our Council to show leadership in promoting Climate Change within the community".

Councillor Finnegan thanked the pupils for bringing the Motion to Council and said it was very encouraging to see young women coming forward speaking so passionately and confidently on such an important issue. She said she was extremely proud of them and they were the voice of the future.

Councillor McKeivitt said it was a pleasure to hear such passion and enthusiasm from young people and she called on Officers to do all they could to identify suitable land so this project could become a reality. She said Local Democracy Week had taken a massive step forward this year in the contributions from schools right across the District and Down High School had set a very high standard as the first Local Democracy Week winners.

The pupils received a very enthusiastic positive response from the Members who fully supported the Motion and commended the pupils saying it was fantastic to see young people being so passionate about such an extremely important topic and that Council should do all in their power to fully support the Motion to bring it to fruition.

Councillor Walker, on behalf of the DUP said he fully supported the Motion. He said the Welsh Assembly had recently adopted an initiative whereby a tree was provided for every

pupil in Wales and he asked if the Motion could be amended to include that Council write to the NI Assembly to request a tree be provided for every pupil in N. Ireland and to write to the other Councils in N. Ireland asking them to support this request.

The pupils accepted the amendment to the Motion, as did Councillors Finnegan and McKeivitt.

Councillor Enright expressed full support for the Motion but said it was important it did not detract from the targets that needed to be set up for our Council in terms of sustainability.

The Chair congratulated the pupils and thanked them for bringing the Motion forward. The Chair also commended Sarah Taggart and Sheila Kieran for their hard work in organising the Local Democracy Week.

Agreed: The following Motion as presented by Down High School, including the amendment proposed by Councillor Walker was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Finnegan and seconded by Councillor McKeivitt:

"We are here as members of Down High School Eco group because we understand it is our generations duty to tackle climate change. We are very concerned about the increasing levels of CO2 emissions, and the low density of woodland. We would love to see the extension of the Downpatrick Schools' Community Woodland Project to plant 2026 trees as part of Cop26.

We want Newry, Mourne & Down District Council to help support us in the organisation a Community Eco Fun Day to get the community and local schools involved in supporting tree planting and raising awareness of Climate Change. This project will help to:

- Raise awareness about the climate crisis**
- Provide habitat for wildlife**
- Provide a new recreational area for our community**

We need our Council to show leadership in promoting Climate Change within the community".

We ask that Council write to the NI Assembly asking that a tree be provided for every pupil in N. Ireland and that we write to the other 10 Councils asking them to support this initiative.

The following Notice of Motion was received from Councillor Taylor:

"That this Council notes with concern the significant increase in the cost of energy; recognises this will adversely affect many households across Northern Ireland and calls on the Minister for Communities to establish a departmental led fuel poverty task force to assist the department in developing solutions to support those impacted and prevent many more people from falling into fuel poverty.

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Lewis.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Taylor said Friday 3 December was Fuel Poverty Awareness Day and never had this issue been so relevant as it was now. He said the cost of living was soaring and the sky-rocketing rise in the cost of energy was placing untold pressures on many families across N. Ireland.

Councillor Taylor said the UUP had been lobbying the Communities Minister and other Executive colleagues to put a scheme in place to support the most vulnerable in our society and said a Motion brought by the UUP to the Assembly at the start of November calling a winter emergency fund to be established had passed unanimously and it had been confirmed a scheme was to be launched by the Minister before Christmas.

Councillor Taylor said the establishment of a Fuel Poverty Taskforce was needed to deal with the short, medium and longer-term challenges. He said time was of the essence and he urged the Minister to ensure the support fund and Taskforce was put in place urgently as many across N. Ireland desperately needed solutions and support.

Councillor Taylor said many families faced the unacceptable choice between heating and eating this winter, which he said was wholly intolerable and reinforced the need for swift action.

Councillor Taylor said there was a moral responsibility to act swiftly on this most urgent issue and asked that Council colleagues support the Motion.

In seconding the Motion, Councillor Lewis said the 'heat or eat' term was now a reality and increasingly, people across the District were relying on food banks on a weekly basis.

Councillor Andrews said it was a good and worthwhile scheme and he referred to a 9 point plan published by the SDLP designed at supporting families and individuals facing this unprecedented cost of living crisis.

Councillor Andrews asked the Motion be amended to read:

"That this Council notes with concern the significant increase in the cost of energy; recognises this will adversely affect many households across Northern Ireland and calls on the joint First Ministers to establish Fuel Poverty Task Force to provide an executive wide response to this crisis and assist in developing solutions to support those impacted and prevent many more people from falling into fuel poverty. Council calls on the Department for Communities to extend the winter fuel payment to all households that receive

Universal Credit and investigate the introduction of a warm homes discount scheme.”

Councillor Taylor said some of the amendments proposed by Councillor Andrews touched on major policy issues and as such he could not accept the amendments without first consulting with his party colleagues.

Councillor Andrews said he was happy to support the sentiments as set out in Councillor Taylor’s Motion.

Councillor Hanlon welcomed the Motion and said whilst the fuel crisis was a global problem, the increased costs had coincided with the decision by government to cut £20 from Universal Credit and Tax Credits and raise the National Insurance contributions resulting in many more families being forced into poverty. Councillor Hanlon commended the Minister for Communities for the work done to date on developing an Anti-Poverty Strategy but she said a long term sustainable strategy was needed to address the poverty crisis. She highlighted the importance of the affordable warmth scheme, which she said was funded by DfC and delivered by Councils and was available to both home owners and private renters.

Councillor Hanlon asked Councillor Taylor if he would accept an amendment to the Motion to include that Council write to the Executive calling for a Taskforce to be urgently established and to broaden it out to include the Ministers for Finance, Communities and Economy to agree actions to protect and support the people in the face of the spiraling energy crisis. Councillor Hanlon said the Council should acknowledge the international scale of the energy crisis and the response required from the British Government and also to call on them to remove the VAT from energy bills during the crisis and to implement a windfall tax on highly profitable energy companies. Councillor Hanlon also asked Officers to explore schemes within the Council that could support struggling families in the District.

Councillor Taylor said there was a lot of detail in the amendments proposed by Councillor Hanlon and as he considered the matter was ultimately an issue for the DfI, he did not want to dilute the Motion. Councillor Hanlon said she could exclude the amendments that had tax implications. Councillor Taylor said he would be content to amend the Motion to include that Council called on the Minister for Communities to work with her colleagues in Finance and Economy. Councillor Hanlon agreed to this.

Councillors Walker, Enright and McKee all voiced support for the Motion and Councillor McKee said Council had in the past supported a bulk fuel buying scheme which had resulted in lower fuel costs to the consumer.

Councillor Taylor thanked Members for their support of the Motion and agreed the Motion to be amended as follows:

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Taylor seconded by Councillor Lewis that this Council notes with concern the significant increase in the cost of energy; recognises this will adversely affect many households across Northern Ireland and calls on the Minister for Communities to work**

with her colleagues in Finance and Economy to establish a departmental led fuel poverty task force to assist the department in developing solutions to support those impacted and prevent many more people from falling into fuel poverty.

C/244/2021

NOTICE OF MOTION – ROAD NETWORK

The following Notice of Motion was received from Councillor Magennis:

“That this Council acknowledges the unacceptable condition of our road network; notes that the allocations from the Finance Minister allowed for the structural maintenance budget to be £120 million this year; regrets that resurfacing contracts have now been delayed until next year in the Newry Mourne and Down council area due to a legal challenge; is frustrated that badly needed investment for our roads is now delayed until next year and that this area has missed out on a year of proper investment in resurfacing; and calls for badly needed investment to be forthcoming for our roads as a matter of urgency and as soon as possible.”

The Motion was seconded by Councillor O’Hare

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Magennis said road resurfacing in the four Council areas of Newry, Mourne and Down, Mid Ulster, Derry and Strabane and Omagh were being delayed due to a legal challenge and because of this, DfI were now developing a new interim procurement strategy for resurfacing contracts. The resulting impact was the £120 million of structural maintenance originally allocated had now fallen to around £80 million.

Councillor Magennis said although small scale road repairs were still ongoing in these Council areas via the Rural Roads Fund, the larger resurfacing projects had been delayed. She said many of the roads in the District were already in an unacceptable condition and much-needed investment into our network had been delayed.

Councillor O’Hare said due to the ongoing legal challenge, the DfI could only do road repairs up to a maximum of £15K and he asked if the SDLP could speak with Minister Mallon in an effort to get this situation resolved as soon as possible.

Councillor Walker said he fully agreed with the Motion and it was important that any unspent monies be rolled out when the legal challenge had been finalised. He agreed with Councillor O’Hare that responsibility lay with the Minister and she needed to act swiftly.

Councillor Byrne said he considered the Minister had done all in her power to find ways around the problems now being faced as a result of the legal challenge. Councillor Byrne said he agreed with the sentiment of the Motion, and he agreed investment was urgently needed for our roads, but he said the legal process could not be challenged as the Court of Appeal had made the ruling and he said we should work with the interim policy that was currently in place.

Councillor Byrne proposed an amendment to the Motion to include writing to the Minister of Infrastructure asking for clarification on the timeline for the delivery of schemes under the new interim policy.

Councillor Magennis accepted the Councillor Byrne's amendment to the proposal.

Councillors Burgess, Malone, McAteer and Ó Muirí all expressed full support for the Motion and Councillor Ó Muirí said he fully agreed with Councillor Byrnes amendment to the Motion.

Councillor McKee expressed full support for the Motion and asked if it could be amended to add the words 'which includes the £120 million reclaimed and reinvested in 2022' at the end of the Motion.

Councillor Magennis accepted Councillor McKee's amendment to the proposal.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Magennis seconded by Councillor O'Hare that this Council acknowledges the unacceptable condition of our road network; notes that the allocations from the Finance Minister allowed for the structural maintenance budget to be £120 million this year; regrets that resurfacing contracts have now been delayed until next year in the Newry Mourne and Down council area due to a legal challenge; is frustrated that badly needed investment for our roads is now delayed until next year and that this area has missed out on a year of proper investment in resurfacing; and calls for badly needed investment to be forthcoming for our roads as a matter of urgency and as soon as possible which includes £120 million reclaimed and reinvested in 2022.

Council write to the Minister for Infrastructure asking for a timeline for the delivery of the schemes under the new interim policy.

C/245/2021

NOTICE OF MOTION – FREE CAR PARKING FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLES

The following Notice of Motion was received from Councillor Brown:

"In the interest of encouraging people to reduce their carbon footprint and incentivise the ownership of Electric vehicles in the District, Council will introduce free car parking for electric vehicles in all council-owned car parks."

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Enright

Agreed: The Motion was referred to the Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.6.

C/246/2021

NOTICE OF MOTION – MEETING GOVERNMENT TARGETS FOR EVS

The following Notice of Motion was received from Councillor Enright:

Councillor Enright advised at the time of writing the Motion, the number of designated car parking spaces was correct, however this number had now increased.

"In the Newry Mourne and Down District Council area there are over 7000 officially designated parking bays spread over 180 car parks between Carryduff and County Monaghan. Mostly managed by AHC with a small number managed by ERT. These have a total of 13 charging points with 6 of these not currently working. This means that only people with large front gardens with the capacity for charging points can have electric cars in Newry Mourne and Down.

Council sets a target for every car park to have one charging point within one year, and for 5% of all Council-managed parking bays to have charging points by the year 2022/23. Ramping up from there to meet the Government's target (both North and South) of no new diesel or petrol cars being sold by 2030. If possible, this program of investment will mimic Dundee Council and be a long-term revenue generator for Council."

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Brown.

Agreed: The Motion was referred to the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.6.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 19.41.

For confirmation at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 10 January 2022.

Signed:

Chairperson

Chief Executive

NEWRY MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 13 December 2021 at 6.00pm in the Mourne Room Downshire Estate Downpatrick, and remotely via Microsoft Teams

Chairperson: Councillor R Howell (Chamber)
Deputy Chairperson: Councillor T Andrews (Chamber)

In attendance: **(Committee Members)**
Councillor R Burgess (via Teams)
Councillor D Curran (Chamber)
Councillor G Hanna (via Teams)
Councillor V Harte (Chamber)
Councillor M Larkin (via Teams)
Councillor R Mulgrew (Chamber)
Councillor A McMurray (Chamber)
Councillor M Ruane (via Teams)
Councillor G Stokes (via Teams)

Non Members: Councillor J Tinnelly (via Teams)
Councillor P Byrne (via Teams)

Officials in Attendance: Mr C Mallon Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism
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 Building Control & Regulations
Ms S Taggart Democratic Services Manager
Ms L Dillon, Democratic Services Officer
Ms P McKeever Democratic Services Officer

ERT/226/2021: APOLOGIES / CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Councillor W Clarke
Councillor M Savage

ERT/227/20201: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest.

PRESENTATIONS**ERT/228/2021: DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITIES
RE: ENABLING PLAN**

Mr Damian Mulholland Department for Communities delivered a presentation to Members regarding the Newry Enabling Plan.

Mr Mulholland explained he worked on urban regeneration projects and the presentation focused on Newry. He referred to the amount of projects that were in the pipeline for Newry and the substantial level of public and private investment for these projects.

He then elaborated on the following key points contained in the Enabling Plan for Newry:

- To understand private and public sector planned investment for Newry over the next 15 years together with the Council's growth aspirations.
- Establish if Newry's infrastructure network can support future development.
- Enable public sector to prioritise proposals.
- Identified key projects.
- Identified the reasons for change
- Identify risks that may prevent achieving potential
- Develop strategic actions needed to ensure development can be brought forward.
- Recommend the next steps

Mr Mulholland highlighted the following drivers for change, and risks that may hamper development and added that a substantial amount of investment could potentially be available for Newry city over the next 15 years.

- Housing growth
- COVID 19
- Climate Change
- Brexit
- Changing high street

With regard to transport and movement, he said the Southern Relief Road scheme would have a major impact on Newry city eliminating all the south down, and Port traffic, and removing congestion in the area at the bottom of Hill Street. He also referred to issues which needed to be examined in order to enable future development, ie, carparking;

frequency of transport services; active travel; sewage systems capacity; flood risk.

He said Newry had a high number of people living close to and within the town centre and highlighted the importance of community engagement with future development planning as studies have shown in England that many young people now want to live in town centres as opposed to living in the country.

Mr Mulholland gave detail on the following actions that would be required to address the impact of future growth:

- A joint approach from Council's, the Department and the business community to work with NI Water to establish needs and solutions to network issues.
- A collaborative partnership to provide homes.
- A strategy to enhance connectivity/movement across the city to address impact on the public transport system.
- Engagement with Translink regarding the key projects and the impact these will have on increasing car dependency in the absence of an accessible public transport system.

He said it was hoped to achieve £400m - £500m of investment over the next 15 years but it was important to identify infrastructure issues that will have a negative impact on future growth, and establish the actions required to overcome these issues creating a frameworks where all stakeholders will work together.

Discussion took place during which Member raised a number of points as follows:

- Newry's geographic location along the Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor
- Opportunities within Newry city centre
- Lack of investment by NI Water to address flood risk and waste water capacity resulting in negative responses from NI Water regarding Planning applications.
- Need for more housing.
- Need for investment to provide adequate public transport connections for Newry's satellite communities.
- Car Parking technology
- Identify reuses for vacant town centre buildings.
- Lack of investment for the regeneration of basic infrastructure.
- How will all the desktop exercises carried out by the various departments/bodies link up to bring delivery and ensure an enabling plan for Newry will connect with all the outlying surrounding areas.
- Changes to development plans for towns and cities in light of Brexit, Covid 19 and climate change.

Mr Mulholland responded as follows:

- NI Water have been making a case for increased investment over the past number of years - important to continue to engage with NI Water to ensure Newry is made a priority in terms of NI Water's future infrastructure plans, and bring forward a Living with Water and Sewage strategy for Newry.
- Out of town Park n Ride facilities need to facilitate people coming to Newry and not only the people travelling to Dublin/Belfast.
- The Department are now for the first time looking to see what is needed to achieve and drive forward the potential that exists for Newry and create a body of people to bring this forward.
- Out of town retailing and more use of online shopping has already brought fundamental change which has been accelerated by Covid19 and has created a problem for town and city centres. We need to make town centres places that people want to live in which will in turn attract people who will want to visit.

The Chairperson thanked Mr Mulholland for delivering his presentation and spoke of the importance of engaging with those who live and work in the area in terms of planning for the future and she welcomed the announcement from the Minister for Finance approving £16m for the development of a city centre park at the Albert Basin Newry.

AGREED: **A copy of Department for Communities "Newry City Centre Development Enabling Plan 2035" and "Newry Enabling Action Plan", to be forwarded to Councillors for information.**

ERT/229/2021: ACTION SHEET
MINUTES OF ENTERPRISE, REGENERATION &
TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY 08 NOVEMBER 2021

Read: Action Sheet arising out of the Minutes of the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 08 November 2021. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor Curran seconded by Councillor Andrews it was agreed to note the Action Sheet arising from the Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 08 November 2021.**

**ERT/230/2021: MID YEAR ASSESSMENT
BUSINESS PLANS 2021-2022**

Read: Report dated 13 December 2021 from Mr C Mallon Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism regarding Directorate Business Plan 2021-2022 in respect of the ERT Department. **(Circulated)**

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor Howell seconded by Councillor Andrews it was agreed to approve the Mid-Year Assessment of the ERT Directorate Business Plan 2021-2022.**

ENTERPRISE EMPLOYMENT & REGENERATION

ERT/231/2021: NEWRY CHAMBER CROSS BORDER CONFERENCE

Read: Report dated 13 December 2021 from Mr J McGilly, Assistant Director Enterprise Employment and Regeneration regarding the Newry Chamber Cross Border Conference in March 2022.
(Copy circulated)

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor Mulgrew seconded by Councillor Curran it was agreed the Council issue an SLA to Newry Chamber of Commerce and Trade for Sponsorship of £5,000 towards a Cross Border conference to be held in March 2022.**

**ERT/232/2021: RING OF GULLION AONB
WATER IMPROVEMENT GRANT**

Read: Report dated 13 December 2021 from Mr J McGilly, Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration, regarding grant for water improvement at Ring of Gullion AONB.
(Copy circulated)

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor McMurray seconded by Councillor Mulgrew it was agreed as follows:**

- a) To note that Council have successfully received £25,500 at up to 85% of eligible costs from Northern Ireland Environment Agency through their Water Improvement Fund.**

- b) **To approve a Service Level Agreement of £2,500 value with the Dundalk Institute of Technology for delivery of their H2O Hero's Education Programme with schools in the Ring of Gullion area, including engagement with local secondary schools in GIS mapping of the rivers.**
- c) **Officers examine the possibility of extending this programme to provide water improvements to other areas in view of the poor statistics issued by the Water Framework Directive with regard to water standards in lakes and rivers etc in other parts of the District.**

ERT/233/2021: SALES ACCELERATION PROGRAMME TRADE VISIT

Read: Report dated 13 December 2021 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment Regeneration regarding attendance at the two Sales Accelerator Programme Trade Visits. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor Andrews seconded by Councillor Mulgrew it was agreed to approve the attendance of the Chairperson (or their nominee) and one Officer at the two Sales Accelerator Programme Trade Visits: the first to be held in Edinburgh for 2 nights (1 – 3 February 2022 - proposed dates), with the second to be held in South of Ireland (dates / venue to be agreed).**

ERT/234/2021: SOUTHERN REGIONAL COLLEGE BIG APPRENTICESHIP EVENT 2022

Read: Report dated 13 December 2021 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment Regeneration regarding a Service Level Agreement for the SRC Big Apprenticeship Event in February 2022. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor Mulgrew seconded by Councillor McMurray it was agreed to issue of a Service Level Agreement (SLA) to Southern Regional College (SRC)**

for sponsorship towards the delivery of their Big Apprenticeship Event scheduled to take place during Northern Ireland Apprenticeship Week 2022 in February 2022, at a cost of £5,000.

ERT/235/2021: UUJ RESEARCH - CROSS BORDER CONNECTIVITY AND CO-OPERATION

Read: Report dated 13 December 2021 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment Regeneration regarding an amendment to the Council's Memorandum of Understanding with Ulster University to include the completion of a research on cross-border connectivity and cooperation. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor Andrews seconded by Councillor Curran it was agreed to approve an amendment to the Council's Memorandum of Understanding with Ulster University to include the completion of a further research on cross-border connectivity and cooperation at a cost of £12,000.**

BUILDING CONTROL & REGULATIONS

ERT/236/2021: ENTERTAINMENT LICENSING - EXTENDED OPENING HOURS

Read: Report dated 13 December 2021 from Mr C Jackson Assistant Director Building Control & Regulations, regarding. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor Howell seconded by Councillor Andrews it was agreed to take into consideration the extended opening hours that can be applied for under the amendments to the Act and to process applications for extended Entertainment to process requests in line with current practices. ie to approve extended hours applications under delegated authority and to refer refusals to committee for consideration.**

EXEMPT INFORMATION

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

ERT/237/2021: BANN ROAD CASTLEWELLAN - PARK & RIDE

Read: Report dated 13 December 2021 from Mr C Jackson Assistant Director Building Control & Regulations, regarding the development of a Park 'n' Share facility within Castlewellan, in partnership with DFI. **(Copy circulated)**

ERT/238/2021: CLEANING SERVICES CONTRACT - TOURISM FACILITIES

Read: Report dated 13 December 2021 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events regarding procurement/appointment for a cleaning services provider to Council tourism facilities. **(Copy circulated)**

ERT/239/2021: CAR PARK DOWNPATRICK STREET SAINTFIELD

Read: Report dated 13 December 2021 from Mr C Jackson Assistant Director Building Control & Regulations regarding the refurbishment of Downpatrick Street Car Park Saintfield. **(Copy circulated)**

ERT/240/2021: GREENWAY AND ACTIVE TRAVEL - DFI FUNDING

Read: Report dated 13 December 2021 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding confirmation of funding for Greenway and Active Travel projects. **(Copy circulated).**

ERT/241/2021: MANAGEMENT LEADERSHIP NETWORK (MLN) EVENT

Read: Report dated 13 December 2021 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration, regarding

sponsorship for a high-profile leadership event in 2022 that will seek to build on the theme of empowering potential, focusing on the opportunities around talent, skills and employability.

(Copy circulated)

ERT/242/2021: PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEOGRAPHY SERVICES

Read: Report dated 13 December 2021 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events regarding tender for a 2 year contract for videography and photography. **(Copy circulated)**

ERT/243/2021: PROJECT DEVELOPMENT RESOURCE - LEVELLING UP FUND

Read: Report dated 13 December 2021 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding resources to assist the ERT Directorate with funding submission, including the Levelling Up Fund. **(Copy circulated)**

ERT/244/2021: SMALL SETTLEMENT REGENERATION PROGRAMME

Read: Report dated 13 December 2021 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding COVID 19 Recovery Small Settlements Regeneration Programme. **(Copy circulated)**

ERT/245/2021: WARRENPOINT PONTOON

Read: Report dated 13 December 2021 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events regarding appointment of a supplier to repair the pontoon at Warrenpoint Breakwater. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Curran seconded by Councillor Hart it was agreed to come out of Closed Session.

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

ERT/237/2021: Bann Road Castlewellan - Park & Ride

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Howell seconded by Councillor McMurray it was agreed:

- a) Committee members approve the attached business case for a Capital spend to develop a 72 bay Park 'n' Share facility at Bann Road, Castlewellan.
- b) Members approve the revised Capital budget as set out in Section 4.1 of Report dated 13 December 2021 from Mr C Jackson Assistant Director Building Control & Regulations.

ERT/238/2021: Cleaning Services Contract - Tourism Facilities

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Curran seconded by Councillor Howell it was agreed to procure and appoint a cleaning services provider to Council's four Forest Parks and Tyrella Beach between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2025.

ERT/239/2021: Downpatrick Street Car Park Saintfield

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor Andrews it was agreed to approve the business case for the Capital spend required to carry out the refurbishment project for Downpatrick Street car park, Saintfield.

ERT/240/2021: Greenway and Active Travel - DFI Funding

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

- a) Subject to DFI Business Case sign off, Council to accept DFI Letters of Offer once received for the Newry City Greenway, Newry to Warrenpoint Greenway and Downpatrick Green/Blue Way Feasibility/Design Studies.

- b) To approve attached Business Case, to appoint consultants to deliver the feasibility & costed options for all 3 outlined schemes.
- c) To approve a contribution from the Capital programme to match fund DFI grant aid as set out in section 4.1 of Report dated 13 December 2021 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration.

ERT/241/2021: Management Leadership Network (MLN) Event 2022

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Mulgrew seconded by Councillor Howell it was agreed to approve that Council sponsors Podium / MLN for the development, management and implementation of a high-profile leadership event in 2022.

ERT/242/2021: Photography and Videography Services

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Mulgrew seconded by Councillor Howell it was agreed to appoint a supplier via tender for a two-year contract using an existing Council Framework for videography and photography to assist the tourism and arts sectors by creating videography and photography content.

ERT/243/2021: Project Development Resource - Levelling Up Fund

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Burgess seconded by Councillor Andrews it was agreed to approve the procurement and appointment of a suitably qualified consultant to assist council officials with the preparation and submission of bids to the Levelling up fund.

ERT/244/2021: Small Settlement Regeneration Programme

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

- 1) To accept the letter of offer.

- 2) To approve 10% match funding required by DfI, DAERA and DfC.
- 3) To submit outline proposals by 31 December 2021 with detail finalised early in 2022 via engagement with DEAs and report back to the ERT Committee.

ERT/245/2021: Warrenpoint Pontoon

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Ruane seconded by Councillor Harte it was agreed to approve the appointment of a supplier via the existing Council framework to repair the pontoon at Warrenpoint Breakwater and to undertake the dredging of the pontoon pocket area by Warrenpoint Harbour Authority.

FOR NOTING

**ERT/246/2021: CONSULTATION
RE: BUILDING CONTROL PRESCRIBED FEES**

Read: Report dated 13 December 2021 from Mr C Jackson Assistant Director Building Control & Regulations regarding a consultation on Building Control Prescribed Fees.
(Copy circulated)

AGREED: It was unanimously agreed to note the Council is broadly in favour of the proposed uplift in the Building Control fees for Schedule 1 and 2 applications in a two-phase process with a full review proposed within the next 5 years.

**ERT/247/2021: CONSULTATION
RE: BUILDING REGULATIONS PART F**

Read: Report dated 13 December 2021 from Mr C Jackson Assistant Director Building Control & Regulations regarding a consultation on Building Control Regulations Part F.
(Copy circulated)

AGREED: It was unanimously agreed to note the Council is broadly supportive of Option 3, the recommendation to provide a

40% betterment for new houses and 25% for new flats and 15% for new buildings other than dwellings within NI.

ERT/248/2021: BUSINESS NEEDS SURVEY

Read: Report dated 13 December 2021 from Mr J McGilly, Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding the findings of NMD Business Needs Survey 2021. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: **It was unanimously agreed to note the update provided on findings from the Business Needs Survey 2021.**

ERT/249/2021: DAERA RURAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT GRANT - TRPSI UPDATE

Read: Report dated 13 December 2021 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding the DAERA Rural Business Development Grant Scheme 2021. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: **It was unanimously agreed to note the update provided on the Rural Business Development Grant Scheme 2021 regarding application numbers and total grant value awarded.**

ERT/250/2021: ERT HISTORIC ACTION TRACKER

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

AGREED: **It was unanimously agreed to note the Historic Action Tracker Report for Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism Committee.**

ERT/251/2021: MARKETING PLAN

Read: Report dated 13 December 2021 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events regarding an update on Visit Mourne Marketing Plan 2021-2023. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: **It was unanimously agreed to note the report on the Tourism Marketing Plan for the district for 2021-23.**

ERT/252/2021: NEWRY AND DOWNPATRICK REVITALISATION SCHEMES

Read: Report dated 13 December 2021 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding an update on Revitalisation Schemes for Newry and Downpatrick.
(Copy circulated)

AGREED: **It was unanimously agreed to note the update on the implementation of 2 revitalisation schemes:**
-Lower Hill Street, Newry
-Church Street, Downpatrick

ERT/253/2021: PLANNING PERFORMANCE FIGURES

Read: Report regarding Planning Performance Figures for November 2021.
(Copy circulated)

AGREED: **It was unanimously agreed to note the Planning Performance Figures for November 2021.**

ERT/254/2021: REGIONAL INNOVATION DATA HUB

Read: Report dated 08 November 2021 from Mr J McGilly, Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding Community Renewal Fund - Southern Regional Data Innovation Pilot Project. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: **It was unanimously agreed to note the update provided on the Community Renewal Fund – Southern Regional Data Innovation pilot project and the roll out of pilot projects across the NMDDC region.**

ERT/255/2021: TRADE SHOWS

Read: Report dated 13 December 2021 from Mr A Patterson Assistant Director Tourism Culture & Events regarding tourism trade shows

attended by NMDDC Officers . **(Copy circulated)**

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

ERT/256/2021: TRADITIONAL ARTS PARTNERSHIP EXCHANGE VISIT

Read: Report dated 13 December 2021 from Mr J McGilly Assistant Director Enterprise Employment & Regeneration regarding tourism trade shows attended by NMDDC Officers . **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: **It was unanimously agreed to note the Ring of Gullion Traditional Arts Partnership (TAP) have been invited to take part in Irish Arts week at Celtic Junction Arts Centre, St Pauls Minnesota and their exchange visit will be supported with a contribution from the Ring of Gullion Landscape Partnership Scheme Legacy Fund.**

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 7.30pm.

For adoption at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 10 January 2022.

Signed: **Councillor R Howell**
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 16 December 2021 at 6.00pm via Microsoft Teams (Hybrid)

In the Chair: Councillor O Hanlon (Chamber)

In Attendance in Chamber: Councillor R Howell
Councillor O Magennis
Councillor D Murphy
Councillor B Ó Muirí
Councillor W Walker

In Attendance via Teams: Councillor P Byrne
Councillor M Ruane
Councillor G Sharvin
Councillor J Tinnelly

Also in attendance: Councillor T Andrews
Councillor C Enright

Officials in Attendance

In Chamber: Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services
Mr C Boyd, Assistant Director, Estates & Capital Projects
Mrs L Fitzsimmons, HR Manager
Mrs L Cummins, Democratic Services Officer

Officials in Attendance

Via Teams: Mr C Mallon, Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism
Mrs A Robb, Assistant Director, Corporate Services
Mrs R Mackin, Assistant Director, Corporate Planning & Policy
Mr G Byrne, Assistant Director Finance (Acting)
Mr F O'Connor, Head of Legal Administration (Acting)
Mr A Patterson, Assistant Director Tourism, Culture & Events
Mrs E Cosgrove, Head of Compliance
Mrs C Hanvey, Personal Assistant
Ms S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager (Acting)

Also in Attendance:

Via Teams: Mr C Campbell, Legal Advisor, Belfast City Council

SPR/191/2021: APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Apologies were received from Councillors Brown, Gallagher, Savage and Taylor.

The Chairperson confirmed that Councillor Brown was unable to attend the meeting and Item 4, Notice of Motion - Contactless payment solutions to tackle homelessness had been deferred until the next meeting.

SPR/192/2021: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interests.

SPR/193/2021: ACTION SHEET ARISING FROM STRATEGY, POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD ON THURSDAY 11 NOVEMBER 2021

Read: Action Sheet of the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on Thursday 11 November 2021. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Murphy, seconded by Councillor Magennis that the action sheet from the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 11 November 2021, be approved.

SPR/194/2021: NOTICE OF MOTION – REVENUE TARGETS FROM RENEWABLES

Read: Report dated 16 December 2021 from Mr G Byrne, Assistant Director of Finance (Acting), regarding Notice of Motion, Revenue targets from renewables. **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor Enright spoke at length on his notice of motion and advised members he wished to add the following amendment to his motion:

‘Council officials will seek revenue sources and savings and come back to Strategy Policy and Resources committee meeting in April 2022, with more flesh on the above aspirational targets with a view to long term planning and action for consideration by Strategy Policy and Resources committee’.

Councillor Tinnelly proposed the motion as amended, stating that it was understandable that officers could not commit to hard and fast figures when Council was not at a stage where that could be assigned, however as a corporate body seemed to be lagging behind in comparison to other local authorities. Councillor Tinnelly queried if the 2022 target of £1 million was realistically achievable or would the 2025 target of £5 million be more realistic?

Councillor Ó Muirí seconded the amended motion.

The Chairperson stated that it was her understanding that officer’s would bring back a tangible paper with potential targets and how they could be reached.

Councillor Enright agreed with the Chairperson and in summing up confirmed he had posted to members a summary of rates income for councils across Northern Ireland. Only 14% of energy in Northern Ireland came from renewables which generated £20 million a year in rates spread across the 11 councils, 86% of energy was imported fossil fuel generating rates of approximately only £6 million per year. A zero carbon Northern Ireland would generate £140 million of rates spread over the 11 council in 10 to 15 years’ time and this would only increase with the electrification of transport, heat and hot water.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Tinnelly, seconded by Councillor Ó Muirí that Elected Members agreed to approve that Council continue to follow avenues for increasing revenue from renewables. The Sustainability and Climate Change forum will lead on all proposals and will report progress through the Active and Healthy Communities Committee. Once a funding stream has been agreed, the

revenue can then be factored into Councils estimates process. Council officials will seek revenue sources and savings and come back to Strategy Policy and Resources committee meeting in April 2022, with more flesh on the above aspirational targets with a view to long term planning and action for consideration by Strategy Policy and Resources committee.

CORPORATE SERVICES

SPR/195/2021: PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT AUDIT AND ASSESSMENT 2020-21

Read: Report dated 16 December 2021 from Mrs D Carville Director of Corporate Services, regarding Performance Improvement Audit and Assessment 2020-21. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Murphy to approve the Performance Improvement Audit and Assessment Report 2020-21 (Appendix 2)

SPR/196/2021: DRAFT NEWRY AND MOURNE DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL RETENTION AND DISPOSAL SCHEDULE

Read: Report dated 16 December 2021 from Mrs E Cosgrove, Head of Compliance, regarding draft Newry Mourne and Down District Retention and Disposal Schedule. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Howell, seconded by Councillor Byrne to consider and approve the draft Retention and Disposal Schedule.

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

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Howell, seconded by Councillor Magennis, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on the next matter 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/197/2021: EXTENSION OF LEASE WITH NORTHERN IRELAND FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE (NIFRS) – DOWNSHIRE CIVIC CENTRE, DOWNPATRICK

Read: Report dated 16 December 2021 from Mrs A Robb, Assistant Director Corporate Service (Administration) **(Copy circulated)**

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

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, it was agreed that Elected Members approve the extension of NIFRS's current lease of office accommodation in Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick for the term of 2 years from 1/8/22 until 31/7/24 with an option of 3rd year following this, on the same terms but subject to review of the current rental by Council's Valuer. Rental valuation to be brought back to committee for approval.

SPR/198/2021: **PROPOSED RENEWAL OF A LICENCE OF ISLANDS AT CASTLE PARK, NEWCASTLE TO NATIONAL WESTMINSTER BANK FOR A MOBILE BANK UNIT**

Read: Report dated 16 December 2021 from Mr F O'Connor, Head of Legal Administration (Acting) regarding, proposed renewal of a licence of Islands Castle Park, Newcastle to National Westminster bank for a mobile bank unit **(Copy circulated)**

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

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Howell, seconded by Councillor Magennis, it was agreed that Elected Members agreed to grant a Licence to National Westminster Bank to operate a mobile banking unit at Castle Park each Thursday from 10am until 12pm for a 2-year period from 27th February 2021 subject to a yearly Licence Fee to be determined by Council's valuer and payment of the cost of the valuation report.

SPR/199/2021: **REPROFILING OF UNDERSPEND WITHIN COUNCIL'S IRISH LANGUAGE BURSARY SCHEME**

Read: Report dated 16 December 2021 from Mrs R Mackin, Assistant Director of Corporate Planning & Policy, regarding Reprofiting of underspend within Council's Irish Language Bursary Scheme **(Copy circulated)**

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

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Murphy, it was agreed that Elected Members approve to proceed to reprofile the underspend of £90k within the Irish Language Bursary Scheme 2021/22 to implement Projects 1-5 as set out within Section 1.3 of the officer's report.

SPR/200/2021: CASTLEWELLAN FOREST PARK

Read: Report dated 16 December 2021 from Mr A Patterson, Assistant Director of Tourism Culture and Events, regarding Castlewellan Forest Park. **(Copy circulated)**

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

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Howell it was agreed that Elected Members approve the staff structure and associated costs for Castlewellan Forest Park as outlined in the officer's report.

SPR/201/2021: CAMLOUGH LAKE RECREATIONAL HUB – OUTLINE BUSINESS CASE

Read: Report dated 16 December 2021 from Mr A Patterson, Assistant Director of Tourism Culture and Events, regarding Camlough Lake Recreational Hub – Outline Business Case. **(Copy circulated)**

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

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Magennis, it was agreed that Elected Members approve the following recommendations:

1. To approve a budget allocation in Council's Capital Programme as per the preferred option recommended in the Business Case as outlined in Section 4.1 of the officer's report.
2. To approve the procurement and appointment of an Integrated Consultancy Team to progress the project.
3. Progress necessary land matters to facilitate delivering Option 1
4. Officers to investigate and seek appropriate external funding for the project.

SPR/202/2021: SURPLUS ASSETS

Read: Report dated 16 December 2021 from Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services, regarding Surplus Assets. **(Copy circulated)**

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

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Murphy, it was agreed that Elected Members note

the content of the report and attached Appendix A – Surplus Asset Overview and approve the following recommendations:

- Refuse Disposal Site at Croreagh Quarry, Glenvale Road. Recommendation to accept retaining the Lagoons and Control Room at this time and make an adjustment from the previously agreed sales price as detailed in the officer's report to reflect the area retained.
- 5 Ballynoe Road, Downpatrick (former site of Killough Road Community Centre). Recommendation to remove asset from the Disposal list to allow AHC to invite EOIs under the Sports and Community Facility Land Leasing Policy.
- Lismore Park Playing Fields, Crossmaglen. Recommendation to remove asset from the Disposal list to allow AHC to invite EOIs under the Sports and Community Facility Land Leasing Policy.
- Lands at Mourne Esplanade, Kilkeel. Recommendation to accept offer dated 6th Oct 2021 detailed in the officer's report and proceed to sale agreed.
- The Clock Recreation Area Shrigley. Recommendation to proceed with the D1 process with the boundary unaltered and arrange for further discussions between Sir Hans Sloane Centre and the neighbouring land owner.
- Former Playing Fields at Derryleckagh, Newry. Recommendation to remove asset from the disposal list and proceed with the application from Newry Rugby Club to progress to Stage 2 of the community asset transfer.

SPR/203/2021: TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Read: Report dated 16 December 2021 from Mr C Mallon, Director of Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism, regarding Terms and Conditions.
(Copy circulated)

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

On the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí seconded by Councillor Magennis it was agreed that Elected Members

- note the progress on the workplan as set out in appendix 1 of the officer's report.
- That members note that the JTUS issues a letter of dispute to their members on 17 November 2021, and
- That members support the continued release of employees supporting the programme of work, the costs of which are detailed at 4.1 of the officer's report.

All officers left the meeting for the next item - 7.04pm

SPR/204/2021: REDUNDANCY APPROVAL

Read: Report dated 16 December 2021 from Mrs L Fitzsimons, HR Manager, regarding Redundancy Approval. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí seconded by Councillor Howell, it was agreed that Elected Members approve the redundancy package for the affected employee on or before 6 April 2022 as detailed in the report.

Officers re-joined the meeting at this point – 7.12pm

FOR NOTING –

This item is deemed to be exempt under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014

SPR/205/2021: NEWRY LEISURE CENTRE – PHASE 1 & PHASE 2 RETENTION & FINAL ACCOUNTS

Read: Report dated 16 December 2021 from Mr C Boyd, Assistant Director Estates and Project Management, regarding Newry Leisure Centre – Phase 1 & Phase 2 Retention & Final Accounts. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Howell, seconded by Councillor Byrne, 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 that Elected Members note the release of the retention monies contractually due to the Contractor, as detailed in the officer's report.

SPR/206/2021; TREASURY MANAGEMENT MID-YEAR REPORT 2021/22

Read: Report dated 16 December 2021 from Mr G Byrne, Assistant Director of Finance (Acting), regarding Treasury Management Mid-Year Report – 2021/22. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Howell, seconded by Councillor Byrne, 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 that Elected Members note the contents of the report.

SPR/207/2021: STRATEGIC FINANCE WORKING GROUP ACTION SHEET – 25 NOVEMBER 2021

Read: Strategic Finance Working Group Action Sheet held on 25 November 2021.
(Copy circulated)

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Howell, seconded by Councillor Byrne, 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 note the Strategic Finance Working Group Action Sheet – 25 November 2021.

SPR/208/2021: VOLUNTARY REDUNDANCY CALL

Read: Report dated 16 December 2021 from Mrs M Ward, Chief Executive, regarding Voluntary Redundancy Call. (Copy circulated)

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Howell, it was agreed that Elected Members note the contents of the report.

FOR NOTING

SPR/209/2021: BELFAST REGION CITY DEAL – COMPLIMENTARY FUND

Read: Report dated 16 December 2021 from Mr C Mallon, Director of Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism, regarding Belfast Region City Deal – Complimentary Fund. (Copy circulated)

Councillor Byrne welcomed the news of the additional funding from the City Deal which in turn would be used to deliver the park after 18 months of negotiations. He proposed that council write to DfC and the Department of Finance to ask for an update on the timeline and what could be delivered in the first four years. He also asked that the profile be brought to the NCCR programme board to be discussed which would allow the board to converse with the department to ensure work can be carried out on the ground.

Councillor Murphy seconded the proposal, thanking and commending council officials and councillors who had made a positive contribution to the application stating that working collaboratively was a formula that had worked on projects throughout the District. He stated that Sinn Féin would continue to support the full package for the regeneration of Newry city and was confident that, with the support of all parties these important projects would be brought to fruition.

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Murphy, it was agreed that Elected Members note the contents of the report and that council write to DfC and the Department of Finance to ask for an update on the timeline and what can be delivered in the first four years. It was also agreed that the profile be brought to the NCCR programme board to be discussed which would allow the board to converse with the department to ensure work can be carried out on the ground.

SPR/210/2021: BELFAST REGION CITY DEAL – SIGNING OF THE DEAL DOCUMENT

Read: Report dated 16 December 2021 from Mr C Mallon, Director of Enterprise Regeneration and Tourism, regarding Belfast Region City Deal – Signing of the deal document. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Murphy, it was agreed that Elected Members note the contents of the report.**

SPR/211/2021: CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM DFI ROADS

Read: Correspondence dated 10 November 2021 regarding Private lanes and roads within Newry Mourne and Down District Council. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Murphy, it was agreed that Elected Members note the correspondence received.**

There being no further business, the Meeting concluded at 19.28pm.

For adoption at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 10 January 2022.

Signed: **Councillor Oonagh Hanlon**
Chairperson

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

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Ref: AHC/2021

**Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on
Monday 20 December 2021 at 6.00pm in the Mourne Room, Downshire Estate
and via Microsoft Teams**

Chairperson: Councillor C Casey (Chamber)

In attendance in Chamber: Councillor A Lewis
Councillor B Ó Muirí
Councillor W Walker

Councillor L McEvoy
Councillor J Trainor

In attendance via Teams: Councillor A Finnegan
Councillor G Malone
Councillor G O'Hare
Councillor J Tinnelly

Councillor V Harte
Councillor A McMurray
Councillor G Sharvin

Also in attendance via Teams: Councillor T Andrews
Councillor O Hanlon

Councillor P Byrne

Officials in attendance In Chamber: Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director Health and Wellbeing
Ms S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager (Acting)

Officials in attendance Via Teams: Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director Community Engagement
Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director Leisure and Sport
Mrs D Starkey, Democratic Services Officer
Mrs P McKeever, Democratic Services Officer

AHC/236/2021: APOLOGIES & CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Apologies were received from Councillors Gallagher and McKevitt and Mr Lipsett, Director of Active & Healthy Communities.

In the absence of Councillor McKevitt, Councillor Casey assumed the Chair.

The Chairperson advised the Programmes Unit had organised two funding training sessions in December with 209 people in attendance with another two sessions planned for January. The first event included input from a number of external funders including DAERA, CRC, Sport NI, National Lotteries Community Fund.

The Chairperson congratulated members and staff of Newry, Mourne & Down PCSP on being awarded the Public Sector Award for Road Safety at the recent Northern Ireland Road Safety Awards. The PCSP were nominated for the Award by the PSNI in recognition of the many successful road safety initiatives which had been undertaken over recent years

including the Paulie Project.

The Chairperson also congratulated the PCSP and PSNI on the launch of their new Mobile Engagement Unit vehicle. This was the first of its kind in the UK and was equipped with a wide range of gaming consoles to increase community-police engagement. Members were advised the works were part funded by the Northern Ireland Housing Executive with contributions from the PSNI/PCSP.

AHC/237/2021: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

AHC/238/2021: ACTION SHEET OF THE ACTIVE & HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2021

Read: Action sheet of the Active & Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Monday 15 November 2021. **(Copy circulated)**.

AHC/017/2021: Sports Facilities Strategy, Sports Hub

In response to Councillor Ó Muirí, Mr Tamati provided an update regarding the Sport Facilities Strategy confirming that consultation had taken place with three focus groups in Newry, Kilkeel and Downpatrick during November with another online focus group planned for early January 2022. Mr Tamati added a survey was also being undertaken and hoped that early February 2022 would see a conclusion.

AHC/211/2021: Leasing of land at Darragh Cross GAC and Teconnaught GAC

In response for an update from Councillor Andrews regarding the play parks, Mr Tamati confirmed work was ongoing with the clubs and GAA and lease arrangements were progressing as planned.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, to note the Action Sheet of the Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on Monday 15 November 2021.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

AHC/239/2021 DISTRICT ELECTORAL AREA (DEA) FORUMS UPDATE REPORT

Read: Report dated 20 December 2021 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding District Electoral Area (DEA) Forums Update Report **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor Ó Muirí referred to discussions at the Slieve Gullion DEA meetings and the James Reel Play Park in Silverbridge and the need for financial assistance to offer support in terms of maintenance.

Councillor Ó Muirí proposed officers examine how the new James Reel Play Park in Silverbridge could be incorporated into the Play Strategy. This was seconded by Councillor Finnegan.

Mr Tamati advised there was an element within the Play Strategy to offer support to community groups that develop play parks however ongoing maintenance of parks was under the Neighbourhood Services department and that he would discuss the matter with that department to establish if there was help and support that could be provided.

In response to a query from Councillor Sharvin, regarding advertisements for current training for Members of DEAs Mrs Hillen confirmed there was an exercise being undertaken for assistance from the Strategic Stakeholder Forum with training to reach out as far as possible including reapplications to the DEA Forums. Mrs Hillen added focus for advertising would include those rural areas which had been not been filled for a more targeted approach.

Councillor Trainor commended the DEA Forum and the work undertaken and enquired about how effective they had been in terms of shaping strategic direction through thematic working groups of community planning.

Mrs Hillen referred to a paper presented to Committee in November 2021 on Community Planning Partnership and the review it was about to undertake with a procurement exercise to have consultant review Community Planning in full including a review of DEA Forums.

Agreed:

It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor McEvoy, to note the report and approve the actions in the action sheets attached to the officer's report for:

- **The Mournes DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Wednesday 24 November 2021.**
- **Slieve Gullion DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 30 November 2021.**
- **Crotlieve DEA Forum Private Meeting held on Tuesday 30 November 2021.**

It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Finnegan for officers to examine how the new James Reel Play Park in Silverbridge could be incorporated into the Play Strategy.

AHC/240/2021

COMMUNITY COORDINATION HUB – UPDATE REPORT

Read:

Report dated 20 December 2021 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding an update report for the Community Coordination Hub. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed:

It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Trainor, seconded by Councillor O'Hare, to note the report and approve the actions in the Action Sheet attached for the Community Coordination Hub (CCH) Meeting held on Wednesday 24 November 2021.

AHC/241/2021 APPLICATION TO DFC FOR FUNDING TOWARDS IT EQUIPMENT FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL GROUPS IN NEWRY AND DOWNPATRICK

Read: Report dated 20 December 2021 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding an application to the Department for Communities (DfC) for funding to supply I.T equipment to community groups across the Newry and Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Areas **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor Byrne spoke of the barriers for rural communities not being able to hold face to face to face meetings and enquired about how to get past rural proofing and whether there were similar schemes available to help rural areas with the supply of IT equipment.

Mrs Hillen confirmed it was targeted through the Neighbourhood Renewal areas and was something Department for Communities did on a regular basis. Mrs Hillen agreed to the to bring back Councillor Byrne's comments to the Community Coordination Hub meeting to consider the rollout of this type of programme to other rural areas outside the present designated Neighbourhood Renewal Areas.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Tinnelly, seconded by Councillor Trainor to note the report and Council make an application to the Department for Communities (DfC) for funding to supply I.T equipment to community groups across the Newry and Downpatrick Neighbourhood Renewal Areas.

Assistant Director, Community Engagement to bring forward to the Community Coordination Hub meeting a request to consider the rollout of this type of programme to other rural areas outside the present designated Neighbourhood Renewal Areas.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

AHC/242/2021 KEEP NORTHERN IRELAND BEAUTIFUL CONTRIBUTIONS 2022-23

Read: Report dated 20 December 2021 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health and Wellbeing regarding financial support and the signing of an SLA for the period 2022 - 2023 to support the Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful (KNIB) Live Here Love Here campaign and Eco Schools Programme across the District. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Trainor, seconded by Councillor McMurray, to approve to approve the financial support and the signing of an SLA for the period 2022 - 2023 to support the Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful (KNIB) Live Here Love Here campaign and Eco Schools Programme across the District.

AHC/243/2021 SUSTAINABLE NORTHERN IRELAND ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS 2022-23

Read: Report dated 20 December 2021 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director, Health and Wellbeing regarding the provision of financial support to Sustainable NI and sign a SLA in relation to this for 2022-23. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McMurray, seconded by Councillor Trainor, to approve the provision of financial support and signing of SLA with Sustainable NI for 2022-23 year.**

AHC/244/2021 CONSULTATION: REDUCTION OF SINGLE USE PLASTICS

Read: Report dated 20 December 2021 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director Health and Wellbeing regarding a consultation on options for the reduction of the consumption of single use plastic beverage cups and food containers in Northern Ireland.

Mr Devlin advised the response would be submitted by the required date (17th December 2021) on the proviso that it was subject to Council Approval.

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor O'Hare, seconded by Councillor Ó Muirí, to return the consultation response as contained within the officer's report.**

AHC/245/2021 CONSULTATION: NORTHERN IRELAND FOOD STRATEGY FRAMEWORK

Read: Report dated 20 December 2021 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director Health and Wellbeing regarding a consultation seeking views on proposals for a Northern Ireland Food Strategy Framework. **(Copy circulated)**

Mr Devlin advised the response would be submitted by the required date (19th November 2021) on the proviso that it was subject to Council Approval.

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Tinnelly, to return the consultation response as contained within the officer's report.**

AHC/246/2021 CONSULTATION: NORTHERN IRELAND GREEN GROWTH STRATEGY

Read: Report dated 20 December 2021 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director Health and Wellbeing, regarding a consultation seeking views on proposals for a Northern Ireland Green Growth Strategy **(Copy circulated)**

Mr Devlin advised the response would be submitted by the required date (21st December 2021) on the proviso that it was subject to Council Approval.

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor McMurray to return the consultation response as contained within the officer's report.**

LEISURE AND SPORT

AHC/247/2021 DISCOUNTED USE OF COUNCIL FACILITIES

Read: Report dated 20 December 2021 from Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director Leisure and Sport, regarding discounted use of Council facilities. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Ó Muirí that any discounts for Council Leisure's facilities be aligned to the Councils Corporate Membership as per appendix 1 of the officer.**

FOR NOTING

AHC/248/2021 NI ECAR CONSORTIUM ORCS CHARGE POINTS

Read: Report dated 20 December 2021 from Mr E Devlin, Assistant Director Health and Wellbeing, regarding NI E Car Consortium ORCS Funding - Potential EV Charge Point Locations. **(Copy circulated)**

In response to a query from Councillor Sharvin regarding sites including one in Killough (marked in appendix 2 of the report) as requiring a legislative change to enable any misuse of an EV Charging Bay to be enforced by means of a Penalty Charge Notice, Mr Devlin advised he would get back to him directly with further details. Councillor Sharvin also asked that Council officers look into getting white lines in the Killough Car Park.

Councillor Trainor enquired if Council had identified and retained other potential sites to be used for future programme of works. Mr Devlin confirmed the list was not exhaustive and every potential car park would be considered in line with criteria.

Councillor Byrne expressed concern that those sites starred in appendix 2 including Crossmaglen may not be feasible due to the need for legislative changes regarding Penalty Charge Notice. Mr Devlin confirmed that was not the case and that it was to highlight there may be an issue in enforcing misuse of the bays.

Councillor Tinnelly welcomed the 17 charge point locations within the report and spoke of the need for electric vehicle charge points should be part of house building programmes.

Mr Devlin welcomed the comments from Members and pointed out that public charging points alone were not the answer to this and work would be ongoing to avail of any opportunity for projects such as these.

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Trainor, seconded by Councillor McEvoy to note the report.

AHC/249/2021 **POLICING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP (PCSP) REPORT**

Read: Report dated 20 December 2021 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding an update on ongoing work of the PCSP. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Trainor, seconded by Councillor McEvoy to note the report and Minutes of the Policing Committee & PCSP Meeting held on Thursday 30 September 2021, approved at the Policing Committee & PCSP Meeting on Tuesday 30 November 2021.

AHC/250/2021 **NEWRY NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL PARTNERSHIP (NRP) REPORT**

Read: Report dated 20 December 2021 from Mrs J Hillen, Assistant Director, Community Engagement regarding an update on the ongoing work of the Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership. **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Trainor, seconded by Councillor McEvoy to note the report and Minutes of the Newry Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership (NRP) Meeting held on Wednesday 29 September 2021. It was further agreed to note the Newry NRP Action Plan for 2021/2024.

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

AHC/251/2021

DONARD PARK OVERFLOW CAR PARK – BUSINESS CASE

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Trainor, seconded by Councillor McEvoy, 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 20 December 2021 from Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director Leisure and Sport, regarding Donard Park Overflow Car Park. **(Copy circulated)**

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

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Trainor, seconded by Councillor McEvoy to commence the Donard Park Overflow Car Park Capital Project (subject to planning) as per the previously agreed budget (outlined in 4.1 of the officer's report) and approve the Donard Park Overflow Carpark Business Cases as per appendix 2.

AHC/252/2021

COMMUNITY TRAILS UPDATE – BUSINESS CASE AND CAPITAL MONIES APPROVAL

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Trainor, seconded by Councillor McEvoy, 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 20 December 2021 from Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director Leisure and Sport, regarding an update on community trails including business case and capital monies approval. **(Copy circulated)**

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

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Trainor, seconded by Councillor McMurray to approve Capital costs and Council match funding for Community Trail Projects 2021 and the annual maintenance and upkeep costs for Community Trails as per in appendix 1 of the officer's report.

It was further agreed to approve the Community Trail Projects Business Cases for 2021/22 as per appendix 2,3,4,5 and 6 of the officer's report.

AHC/253/2021

BUSINESS CASE – BALL STOP REQUIREMENTS AT CASTLEWELLAN COMMUNITY CENTRE 3G PITCH

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Trainor, seconded by Councillor McEvoy, 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 20 December 2021 from Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director, Leisure and Sport regarding a business case for ball stop requirements at Castlewellan Community Centre. **(Copy circulated)**

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

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy, seconded by Councillor McMurray to approve the Business Case for Ball stop requirements Castlewellan Community Centre 3G Pitch and the procurement of option 2 and installation of a Skynet at the 3G Pitch Castlewellan.

AHC/254/2021

NEWCASTLE ROCKPOOL UPDATE

Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Trainor, seconded by Councillor McEvoy, 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 20 December 2021 from Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director, Leisure and Sport regarding an update on Newcastle Rockpool. **(Copy circulated)**

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

Agreed: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor McEvoy, seconded by Councillor Trainor to clarify the viability of this project and progress pre-planning application discussions with statutory organisations including but not limited to, planning, HED, NIEA, and Marine Division prior to progressing a full business case and detailed feasibility options.

It was further agreed to allocate an additional fund to Councils Capital programme to facilitate further engagement with statutory consultees, consultants working on Council's behalf and to complete any further survey work should this be required.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 7.07pm.

Signed: Councillor C Casey
Chairperson

Signed: Eoin Devlin
Assistant Director Health and Wellbeing

NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of Neighbourhood Services Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 21 December 2021 at 6.00pm in the Mourne Room. Downshire Civic Estate, Downpatrick and via MS Teams.

Chair: Councillor K Owen (Chamber)

Members: Councillor T Andrews (Chamber)
Councillor C Casey (Teams)
Councillor W Clarke (Teams)
Councillor D Curran (Chamber)
Councillor A Finnegan (Teams)
Councillor G Malone (Teams)
Councillor D Murphy (Teams)
Councillor O Magennis (Teams)
Councillor K McKeivitt (Teams)
Councillor M Ruane (Teams)
Councillor H McKee (Chamber)
Councillor G Stokes (Teams)
Councillor D Taylor (Teams)

Officials in Attendance: Mr J McBride Director Neighbourhood Services (Acting)
Mr K Scullion, Assistant Director Facilities Management and Maintenance
Ms S Murphy, Acting Assistant Director Waste Management
Ms S Taggart – Democratic Services Manager (Acting)
Ms P McKeever, Democratic Services Officer
Ms C McAteer, Democratic Services Officer

Also in attendance: Mr A Cassells SIB Advisor to Neighbourhood Services

NS/182/2021: APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

No apologies were received.

NS/183/2021: DECLARATIONS OF "CONFLICTS OF INTEREST"

No declarations of conflicts of interest were made.

NS/184/2021: ACTION SHEET OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 16 NOVEMBER 2021

Read: Action Sheet of the Neighbourhood Services Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 16 November 2021. *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Curran, it was agreed the Action Sheet of the Neighbourhood Services Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 16 November 2021 be noted and actions removed as marked.

Matters arising from Action Sheet

- In response to a query, Mr McBride confirmed he had made contact with Arc21 and Regen regarding an invitation to make presentations to the Neighbourhood Services Committee. He said he would confirm specific dates in the new year but that the presentation from Regen would have to be made via a Workshop rather than to Committee, as they tendered for Council service.

FOR CONSIDERATION AND/OR DECISION

NS/185/2021: NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES WORKING GROUP – REVISED TERMS OF REFERENCE

Read: Report dated 21 December 2021 from Mr J McBride re: Neighbourhood Services Working Group – Revised Terms of Reference. *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Curran, it was agreed:-

- To note contents of this report.
- To approve the updated Terms of Reference for the Neighbourhood Services Working Group.
- Agree to the setting up of a Meeting of the Neighbourhood Services Working Group in January 2022 to agree an initial programme of work for the Working Group for 2022.

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE

NS/186/2021: COUNCIL MUNICIPAL CEMETERIES CAPITAL PROGRAMME UPDATED AND REVISED OPERATIONAL MATTERS

Read: Report dated 21 December 2021 from Mr K Scullion re: Council Municipal Cemeteries Capital Programme updated and revised operational matters. *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor McKevitt, seconded by Councillor Ruane, it was agreed to note the content of this report.

AGREED: At the request of Councillor Ruane it was agreed Mr Scullion investigate an issue regarding the opening/closing of the gates at Warrenpoint Cemetery and report back to the Neighbourhood Services Committee with proposals on how to manage this site.

NS/187/2021: **MAINTENANCE OF NEWRY CANAL FROM FEARON'S LOCK TO REILLY'S LOCK**

Read: Report dated 21 December 2021 from Mr K Scullion, Assistant Director Facilities Management and Maintenance regarding maintenance of Newry Canal from Fearon's Lock to Reilly's Lock. *(Circulated)*

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Casey, seconded by Councillor Taylor, it was agreed to note the content of this report.

AGREED: It was also agreed Mr J McBride, Director, liaise with the Director of ERT to ensure that Neighbourhood Services officers were involved in the agreed joint working partnership with Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon Council and Inland Waterways for the future development of Newry Canal. Mr McBride to give an update at the January NS Committee Meeting.

It was noted the Minister for Infrastructure had previously announced details of a £20m fund for blue/green sustainable infrastructure projects and Members said the development of Newry Canal could be suitable for funding from this programme and it was essential all partners worked together to ensure a programme of works was developed.

WASTE MANAGMENT

NS/188/2021: **ELECTED MEMBER DISTRICT CLEANSING WORKSHOP**

Read: Report dated 21 December 2021 from Ms S Murphy Acting Assistant Director Waste Management regarding Elected Member District Cleansing Workshop held on 24 November 2021, to consider high level options operations for a review of the Council's District Cleansing Operations. *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor Clarke, seconded by Councillor Andrews, it was agreed to approve the report and recommendations of the Elected Member District Cleansing Workshop held on 24 November 2021 that:-**

- **A report of the workshop be presented at the next meeting of the Neighbourhood Services Committee on 21 December 2021.**
- **A follow up workshop with various sub options for Option 3 to be presented for consideration to Elected Members in February 2022.**
- **A final report to be presented at a future meeting of the Neighbourhood Services Committee.**

In response to concerns raised by Members regarding the delay in not having the next Workshop until February, Ms Murphy said officers were working up the detail in terms of the sub options and until the final model on future services was agreed, it could not be determined what budget would be required. It was noted also that Members expressed the view that the Department needed to work smarter on how they provided services and it was not just a matter of allocating additional funding.

AGREED: **It was agreed Officers look at holding the follow-up Workshop in early February if they had the capacity to do so and that the Workshop be held in the evening to enable Members who worked to attend.**

NS/189/2021: FLEET REPLACEMENT PROGRAMME UPDATE

Read: Report dated 21 December 2021 from Ms S Murphy Acting Assistant Director Waste Management regarding fleet replacement programme update. *(Circulated)*

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Clarke, it was agreed to note the content of this update report.**

In response to concerns raised by Members regarding potential delays between ordering new fleet and getting delivery, Ms Murphy confirmed that there was an expectation of delays on delivery, perhaps up to 12 months. Officers had taken this into account when preparing budgets for this year.

Mr McBride said delivery times was something that officers could not control but they

could ensure that the procurement exercise was completed as quickly as possible on the vehicles ordered and there were business cases later on on the agenda looking to move forward on different types of vehicles. He said once the vehicles were ordered officers would be doing everything in their power to make sure the estimated delivery times were reduced and minimised as much as possible.

EXEMPT INFORMATION ITEMS

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

Items 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 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 Curran, seconded by Councillor McKee, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on these items.

NS/190/2021: MINUTES OF ARC 21 'IN COMMITTEE' JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING – THURSDAY 28 OCTOBER 2021

Read: Minutes of Arc 21 'In Committee' Joint Committee Meeting held on Thursday 28 October 2021. *(Circulated)*.

NS/191/2021: ARC 21 'IN COMMITTEE' MEMBERS' MONTHLY BULLETIN – 7 DECEMBER 2021

Read: Arc 21 'In Committee' Members' Monthly Bulletin – 7 December 2021. *(Circulated)*.

NS/192/2021: BUSINESS CASE FOR REPLACEMENT OF THE AIR CONDITIONING WATER CHILLER AT THE DOWNSHIRE CIVIC CENTRE

Read: Report dated 21 December 2021 from Mr K Scullion, Assistant Director Facilities Management and Maintenance regarding business Case for replacement of the air conditioning water chiller at the Downshire Civic Centre *(Circulated)*.

NS/193/2021: BUSINESS CASE FOR MEDIUM-SIZED CHASSIS CAB AND CLEANSING SWEEPER VEHICLE REPLACEMENTS

Read: Report dated 21 December 2021 from Ms S Murphy Acting Assistant Director Waste Management regarding business case for

medium-sized chassis cab and cleansing sweeper vehicle replacements. ***(Circulated)***.

NS/194/2021: BUSINESS CASE FOR STRANGFORD ROAD BIN CANOPY

Read: Business Case from Mr J McBride, Director: Neighbourhood Services (Acting) regarding Strangford Road Bin Canopy. ***(Circulated)***.

Councillor Curran proposed, and Councillor Magennis, seconded to come out of closed session.

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

NS/190/2021 – Minutes of ARC21 'In Committee' Joint Committee Meeting
– Thursday 28 October 2021

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor Magennis, seconded by Councillor Curran, it agreed to note the Arc21 'In Committee' Joint Committee Meeting Minutes held on Thursday 28 October 2021.**

NS/191/2021 – Arc21 Joint Committee Members' Monthly Bulletin held on 7 December 2021

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor Curran, seconded by Councillor Finnegan, it agreed to note the Arc21 2021 Joint Committee Members' Monthly Bulletin held on 7 December 2021.**

NS/192/2021: – Business case for replacement of the air conditioning water chiller at the Downshire Civic Centre

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor Curran , seconded by Councillor Murphy, it agreed to note the content of the report and associated Business Case and accept the conclusion of the Business Case that Option 3 be chosen as the preferred option. Option 3 would see the appointment, through a tender process, of a competent contractor, to supply and install a new air conditioning water chiller.**

NS/193/2021 – Business case for medium-sized chassis cab and cleansing sweeper vehicle replacements

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Clarke, it agreed to approve the Business Case at Appendix 1 for the replacement of sixteen 3,500 – 5,000 kg medium-size chassis cab vehicles for refuse and cleansing; facilities management and maintenance; waste processing and active and healthy communities directorate.

It was also agreed to approve the Business Case and Economic Appraisal in Appendix II for the replacement of nine Cleansing Sweeper Vehicles in the size range 3,600 kg to 12,000 kg GVW that have been identified as requiring priority replacement by 31st March 2023.

(Cllr. Stokes left the meeting)

NS/194/2021 – Business Case for Strangford Road Bin Canopy

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Curran, seconded by Councillor Andrews, it agreed to note the Business Case for the construction of steel canopy for bin storage at Strangford Road Depot.

FOR NOTING

**NS/195/2021: ARC21 JC MINUTES
THURSDAY 28 OCTOBER 2021**

Read: Arc21 JC Meeting Minutes held on 28 October 2021 *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Curran, it was agreed to mark this correspondence noted.

**NS/196/2021: ARC21 JOINT COMMITTEE AGM MEETING MINUTES –
TUESDAY 9 NOVEMBER 2021**

Read: Arc21 Joint Committee AGM Meeting Minutes – Tuesday 9 November 2021 *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Curran, it was agreed to mark this correspondence noted.

**NS/197/2021: NORTHERN IRELAND LOCAL AUTHORITY COLLECTED
MUNICIPAL WASTE MANAGEMENT STATISTICS**

Read: Northern Ireland Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste Management Statistics. *(Circulated)*.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Curran, it was agreed to note this information.

NS/198/2021: **COMMUNICATIONS – REMOVAL OF BAMBOO PLANTING AT KILBRONEY PARK**

Read: Report dated 21 December 2021 from Mr J McBride re: communications into works relating to the removal of bamboo planting in Kilbroney Park, Rostrevor. (*Circulated*)

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Curran, it was agreed to note the contents of this report.

NS/199/2021: **ISSUE OF FIXED PENALTY NOTICES**

Read: Report dated 21 December 2021 from Ms S Murphy re: update to Council: issue of Fixed Penalty Notices. (*Circulated*).

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Curran, it was agreed to note the contents of this report.

NS/200/2021: **HISTORIC ACTIONS TRACKING SHEET**

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

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

There being no further business the meeting ended at 7.00 pm.

For adoption at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 10 January 2022.

Signed: **Councillor K Owen**
Chairperson of Neighbourhood Services Committee

Signed: **Mr J McBride**
Director of Neighbourhood Services (Acting)

NEWRY MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL**68**

Extract from Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council held on Wednesday 17 November 2021 at 10am in the Mourne Room, Downshire Estate, Downpatrick and via Microsoft Teams

P/108/2021: LDP: PROGRESS REPORT – QUARTERLY UPDATE

Read: Report dated 17 November 2021 from Mr A McKay Chief Planning Officer regarding a quarterly progress report on the Local Development Plan.

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor McKee, seconded by Councillor Enright, it was agreed to note the quarterly update provided in Report dated 17 November 2021 from Mr A McKay Chief Planning Officer regarding the Local Development Plan.**

P/109/2021: LDP: RETAIL & COMMERCIAL LEISURE CAPACITY STUDY

Read: Report dated 17 November 2021 from Mr A McKay, Chief Planning Officer regarding a review and update on the LDP Retail & Commercial Leisure Capacity Study.

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Devlin, seconded by Councillor McKee, it was agreed to note Report dated 17 November 2021 from Mr A McKay Chief Planning Officer regarding a review and update on the LDP Retail & Commercial Leisure Capacity Study.**

P/110/2021: AMENDMENT OF PLANNING COMMITTEE PROTOCOL

Read: Report dated 17 November 2021 from Mr F O Connor Head of Legal Administration (Acting) regarding a judgement issued following a judicial review which require Councils to consider Standing Orders regarding the Call In process and also the operation of Planning and Licensing Committee Operating Protocols.

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Devlin, seconded by Councillor O'Hare, it was agreed to approve the draft amendments outlined in Report dated 17 November 2021 from Mr F O Connor Head of Legal Administration (Acting), to Paragraphs 23 and 25 of the Planning Committee Operating Protocol, and the addition of Paragraph 78 also shown in the draft amended Protocol.**



Minutes of the 485th Meeting
of the Northern Ireland Housing Council held on
Thursday 11th November 2021 at 9.00 am via Zoom

Present:

Anne-Marie Fitzgerald	Fermanagh & Omagh District (Chair)
Nick Mathison	Ards & North Down Borough
Jim Speers	Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough
Michelle Kelly	Belfast City
Allan Bresland	Derry City & Strabane District
Amanda Grehan	Lisburn & Castlereagh City
Tommy Nicholl	Mid & East Antrim Borough

In Attendance:

Paul Price	Department for Communities
David Polley	Department for Communities
Grainia Long	Chief Executive, Housing Executive
David Moore	Director of Corporate Services, Housing Executive
Leeann Vincent	Assistant Director of Asset Management, Housing Executive
Kelly Cameron	Secretary (Housing Executive Secretariat)

Apologies:

Mark Cooper	Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough (Vice Chair)
John Finlay	Causeway Coast & Glens Borough
Catherine Elattar	Mid Ulster Borough
Mickey Ruane	Newry, Mourne & Down District

1.0	<p><u>Welcome</u></p> <p>The Chair welcomed Paul Price and David Polley from the Department for Communities and Grainia Long, David Moore and Leeann Vincent from the Housing Executive.</p>	
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Housing Council
485th Meeting of the Northern Ireland Housing Council

	It was noted that Alderman John Finlay was unwell and the Secretary was asked to pass on Members good wishes.	Secretary
2.0	<u>Declarations of Interest</u> None.	
3.0	<u>To adopt the Minutes of the 484th Housing Council Meeting held on Thursday, 14th October 2021</u> It was proposed by Alderman A Grehan, seconded by Alderman J Speers and resolved, that the Minutes of the 484 th Meeting of the Housing Council held on Thursday 14 th October 2021 be approved and signed by the Chair.	
4.0	<u>Matters Arising</u>	All Members
4.1	<u>Page 2 Item 4.1 – Planned Maintenance Scheme</u> It was noted that Alderman Grehan asked Leeann Vincent to review several planned maintenance schemes within her local area and report back on the outcome.	
4.2	<u>Page 5 Item 8.0 – Intermediate Rent Consultation (previously circulated)</u> Members were reminded that they had received a copy of the Intermediate Rent Consultation Report and were asked that if you have any comments or views on this Report to pass to the Secretary by the beginning December, in order for her to compile a composite response.	
4.3	<u>Page 6 Item 10.0 – Housing Executive’s Key Staff Contacts</u> As circulated.	

Housing Council
485th Meeting of the Northern Ireland Housing Council

4.4	<p><u>Members Queries</u></p> <p>Members had received responses to their queries, as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alderman Jim Speers – Response received by DfC on Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon Council's on the delivery of the Affordable Warmth Scheme 	
5.0	<p><u>Forward Workplan</u></p> <p>The Paper was noted.</p>	Secretary
6.0	<p><u>Update by the Grainia Long Chief Executive on the Housing Executive's business</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JMC Mechanical and Construction Ltd <p>Leeann Vincent gave an update on the current position, following the formal notice that JMC Mechanical and Construction Ltd who had entered administration and an administrator had been appointed.</p> <p>Ms Vincent gave an update on the Housing Executive's immediate priority was to ensure minimal disruption to services for tenants and those planned maintenance improvement works which are currently on site. She explained that contingency arrangements were put in place regarding these services and the Housing Executive are engaging with new contractors to ensure a hand over of the repairs contracts and planned maintenance work.</p> <p>Councillor Kelly referred to possible delays in window replacements in Tullycarnet and undertook to provide Ms Vincent with further details.</p>	M Kelly

Housing Council
485th Meeting of the Northern Ireland Housing Council

	<p>Grainia Long then briefed Members on the Housing Executive's business, under the headings, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary Accommodation / Single Lets <p>Members expressed their concerns at the sub-standard accommodation in which some private landlords are providing and reiterated their preference to using this sector would be as a last resort.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID-19 Update <p>Members welcomed the Housing Executive's preparations for a phased and controlled return to the workplace, in particular the increase of the interaction with tenants, but fully appreciate the complex issues with home visits etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporate Plan 2022-2025 • Stakeholder Engagement / Mapping, Press and Public Affairs • Housing Investment Plans (HIP's) • Update on the Sustainable Development Strategy and COP 26 <p>It was noted that European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) Retrofit Thermal Improvement Programme has launched</p> <p>Tranche 3, consisting of 593 dwellings, and will shortly be issued for tender. The end state is approx.1900 dwellings retrofitted by Sept 2023.</p> <p>Ms Long assured Members that due to several factors impacting the delivery, it is hoped to deliver, as many as possible of the 1900 dwellings by 2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing Executive Revitalisation (HER) • Supporting People Bank Scheme • Department of Justice - Plans to bring forward legislative change via consolidated Hate Crime Legislation in New Mandate • DfC - Social Housing "No Eviction" agreement for COVID-19 related arrears 	
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	<p>The Chair thanked Ms Long and Ms Vincent for a very informative update.</p> <p>Leeann Vincent then left the Meeting at 9.20 am</p>	
7.0	<p><u>Housing Executive's Corporate & Business Plan</u></p> <p>David Moore, the Housing Executive's Director of Corporate Services consulted the Housing Council, as key stakeholders on the work to develop a new a three year Corporate Plan for 2022/23 – 2024/25.</p> <p>Members noted some of the key themes which will have a significant influence the Corporate Plan, as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Change and Sustainable Development; • COVID Recovery; • Housing Supply; • Housing-Led Regeneration; • Skills and Learning • Revitalisation of the Housing Executive <p>Members welcomed the focus of climate change and sustainable development and appreciated that this is going to require a significant level of funding to deliver the changes that are required and where would these resources be sourced from.</p> <p>It was noted that in terms of revitalisation, one of the key elements is to improve the Housing Executive stock, in terms of efficiency and work is ongoing on the total cost of the delivery of these changes. Also, giving the Housing Executive the powers to borrow would enable the Housing Executive to include decarbonisation within their stock.</p> <p>It was recognised that capital funding will be required from the Government to meet these challenges.</p> <p>It was noted that the Department for Communities would bid for the retrofitting, not just for social housing sector and to provide evidence of the cost of the delivery.</p>	

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	<p>Members raised the issue of skills within the Province to carry out this work, which is a huge challenge and investment in skills to have firms capable and equipped to deliver the work.</p> <p>It was noted that a Presentation on Climate Change has been arranged for the December Meeting.</p> <p>The Housing Executive welcomed Members feedback, in order to draft the new Corporate Plan for formal consultation expected before March 2022.</p> <p>The Chair thanked David Moore for his comprehensive presentation and looked forward to receiving the Plan for consultation in the New Year.</p>	Secretary
8.0	<p><u>Housing Executive's Scheme Starts October 2021</u></p> <p>Members noted the report as circulated.</p>	
9.0	<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p>	
9.1	<p><u>Housing Executive Policy on pets permitted in properties</u></p> <p>At the request by the Chair, Ms Long undertook to provide information regarding the Housing Executive's policy on the number of pets tenants are permitted to keep at their properties.</p>	G Long
10.0	<p><u>Date and Venue of Next Meeting</u></p> <p>It was agreed that at the Meeting scheduled for Thursday, 9th December at 10 am via Zoom.</p>	Secretary

The Meeting concluded at 10.15 am.



CHAIR
Councillor Anne-Marie Fitzgerald

The Housing Centre
2 Adelaide Street
Belfast BT2 8P8

T: (028) 9598 2752
E: kelly.cameron@nihe.gov.uk
W: nihousingcouncil.org

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DECEMBER HOUSING COUNCIL BULLETIN

The Northern Ireland Housing Council met on Thursday, 9th December 2021 at 10.00 am via Conference Call.

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

Present by Video Conferencing

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

Apologies

Catherine Elattar	Mid Ulster Borough Council
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Discussions on the undernoted matters took place as follows:-

1. Update from the Department of Communities on the Housing Top Issues.
A summary of the current / emerging issues are outlined **as follows**:-
 - Social Newbuild starts
 - Co-ownership
 - Programme for Social Reform
 - Fundamental Review of Social Housing Allocations Policy
 - Reclassification of Northern Ireland Social Housing Providers
 - Supporting People Delivery Strategy
 - Homelessness Strategy
 - Regulation of the Private Rented Sector
 - Increasing Housing Supply
 - Affordable Warmth Scheme
 - NIHE Rent Increase
 - ERDF Investment for Growth and Jobs Programme 2014 -2020
 - Housing Executive historical debt and exclusion from having to pay Corporation Tax

Continued.....

- Programme for Government (PfG) Outcomes Framework
 - Long term rent trajectory
 - Affordability of social rents
2. Members received a Presentation by the Housing Executive's Sustainable Development Manager on Reducing the impacts of Climate Change.

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

The next Housing Council Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 13th January 2022 at 10.00 am via conference call.

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

Contacts

Secretary, Kelly Cameron

The Housing Centre,

2 Adelaide Street

Belfast

BT2 8PB

Kelly.cameron@nihe.gov.uk Tel: 028 95982752

FROM THE MINISTER OF HEALTH

Department of
Health

An Roinn Sláinte

Mánnystrie O Poustie

www.health-ni.gov.uk

Ms Marie Ward, Chief Executive
Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
council@nmandd.org

Castle Buildings
Stormont Estate
BELFAST, BT4 3SQ
Tel: 028 9052 2556
Email: private.office@health-ni.gov.uk

Your Ref: C/111/2021

Our Ref: CORR-1801-2021

Date: 11th December 2021Dear *Marie,*

Thank you for your letter of 7 May 2021 regarding extension of the 12 month free dental care period for mothers who have given birth during the COVID-19 pandemic. Please accept my apologies for the delay in providing this response.

Exemptions to dental charges are outlined in the Dental Charges Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1989 (as amended) and the Travelling Expenses and Remission of Charge Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2004 (as amended). The exemption status of a patient is determined at the time that the Health Service Dental Claim form is signed for acceptance of treatment. The exemption status remains for the course of treatment even if the individual's qualification for the exemption changes.

Whilst no changes to the legislation are currently planned, this issue will be considered further as part of the wider general dentistry rebuilding plans. To that end, in June 2021, I established the General Dental Services Rebuilding Stakeholder Group to help address the ongoing and immediate issues facing the service and to help inform decision-making around the medium and longer term issues that the pandemic has created.

I trust you find this response helpful.

Yours sincerely

Robin Swann
Minister of Health



Department for
Infrastructure
An Roinn
Bonneagair
www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk

From the office of the Minister for Infrastructure
Nichola Mallon MLA

Marie Ward
Chief Executive
Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
Newry Office
O'Hagan House
Monaghan Row
NEWRY
BT35 8DJ

Room 708
Clarence Court
10-18 Adelaide Street
BELFAST
BT2 8GB
Telephone: (028) 9054 0105
Email: Private.office@infrastructure-ni.gov.uk

Your reference:
Our reference: CORR-1828-2022
Date: 6th December 2021

council@nmandd.org

Dear Ms Ward

PERMANENT 20mph SPEED LIMITS

Thank you for your letter of 12 October 2021 to Minister Mallon asking for the Department to instigate a consultation with a view to rolling out permanent 20mph speed limits across Northern Ireland, and asking for the district council area to be considered for any future trials of permanent 20mph speed restrictions.

As Minister responsible for promoting and improving road safety, Minister Mallon wants to work actively with partners to reduce death and serious injuries on our roads. The Minister believes that reducing the maximum speed traffic can travel at on some of our roads can help, along with raising general awareness and enforcement. The Department will continue to raise awareness of road safety issues, including excess speed for the conditions, through our public information campaigns and our work with schools.

The Department recognises that appropriate speed limits are part of the solution and firmly believe that attitudes to speeding have to change. To date, the Department has introduced 20mph limits at over 700 locations, mostly in residential areas in conjunction with traffic engineering measures, such as road humps.

The Department ran two trials on 20mph speed limits, one using signs only 20mph speed limits, and the other using a new arrangement of signs to introduce part-time 20mph speed limits at schools.

The report on the enforceable 20mph speed limits without traffic calming measures concluded that this approach had little or no impact on the speed of traffic. The Department therefore has no current plans to either consult on, or introduce 20 mph speed limits to all residential areas but will continue to provide 20mph zones with traffic calming, as these have proven to be much more effective at reducing speeds. Previous studies show an average reduction in mean speeds of 9 mph where physical traffic calming measures are employed.

Given how well the first tranche of the part-time 20mph speed limits at schools programme was received last year, Minister Mallon was delighted to be able to commit to the introduction of these measures to benefit a further 106 schools in the current financial year bringing the total number to date that will benefit from this new initiative up to 209 schools. It is her intention to roll out a third tranche dependent on funding being made available to her Department. As this is quite an ambitious and challenging programme of works, and as we have only recently completed a number of trials, there are no immediate plans to undertake any further trials of this nature. Officials have noted the council's interest in being part of any future trials should there be any plans to do so.

I hope this reply is helpful in explaining the Department's position on these matters.

Yours sincerely



KATHRYN MCFERRAN
Private Secretary to the Minister

From: Ashley Green <ashley.green@bmfbusinessservices.com>
Sent: 10 December 2021 15:06
Subject: Please add this to your agenda - Northern Ireland Planning Conference 2021 – Wednesday 2nd March 2022
Attachments: Annual Northern Ireland Planning Conference, 2nd March 2022, Europa Hotel

CAUTION: This email originated outside of Council. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

Could you please add the 2022 Northern Ireland Planning Conference to the agenda for your next full council meeting to see if any Councillors would like to attend, we have a special discounted local government rate available of £195 + VAT.

I have attached the marketing email for your convenience.

Any queries please feel free to contact myself.

Kind Regards,

Ashley Green



bmf Business Services Ltd, 19a Maghaberry Road, Maghaberry, Co. Antrim, BT67 0JE

T: +44 (0)28 9261 9933

E: ashley.green@bmfbusinessservices.com

W: www.bmfbusinessservices.com