



July 27th, 2016

Notice Of Meeting

You are requested to attend the Council meeting to be held on **Monday, 1st August 2016** at **6:00 pm** in **Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick.**

Agenda

1 Apologies and Chairperson's Remarks

Cllr W Clarke

Cllr Devlin

Cllr Ruane

2 Declarations of Interest

Council Minutes For Adoption and Signing

3 Action Sheet arising from Council Meeting held on 4 July 2016

[Council-04072016 Action sheet.pdf](#)

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4 Minutes of Council Meeting held on 4 July 2016 (copy attached)

[Council Minutes 04-07-2016.pdf](#)

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5 Minutes of Special Council Meeting held on 27 June 2016 (copy attached)

[Special Council Meeting Minutes 27-06-2016.pdf](#)

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Committee Minutes for Consideration and Adoption

6 Minutes of Audit Committee Meeting held on 4 July 2016 (copy attached)

[Minutes of Audit Cmte 4 July 2016.pdf](#)

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Correspondence and Consultation

7 Draft Consultation - Northern Ireland Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery Strategy 2016/17 (copy attached)

8 Letter from Department of Health re reinstatement of emergency department and coronary care services at Downe Hospital (copy attached)

[department of health 1.pdf](#)

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[department of health 2.pdf](#)

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Conferences/Events

9 Policy Forum for Northern Ireland Keynote Seminar - Energy in Northern Ireland (copy attached)

Tuesday 6th December 2016, Belfast

Cost = £210+VAT

[Energy-NI-2016-agenda.pdf](#)

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10 Northern Ireland Annual Economic Conference (copy attached)

Wednesday 19 October 2016 - City Hotel, Derry

Cost - £165 + VAT

[Northern Ireland Annual Economic Conference 19 October 2016.pdf](#)

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Sealing Documents

11 Sealing Documents

1. Licence Agreement - 16 The Square, Rostrevor - Rostrevor Men's Shed
2. Priority Agreement with Newry Olympic Hockey Club
3. Transfer Document re Disposal of Land at 29 Belfast Road, Saintfield

Notices of Motion

12 Notice of Motion received from Councillor P Brown

'This Council is opposed to the discriminatory Breed Specific Legislation (BSL) and the obligation it places upon Council to cruelly end the life of dogs based on their breeding alone. It calls upon DAERA Minister Michelle McIlveen to repeal that legislation and replace it with legislation holding owners responsible for the actions of their animals'

Invitees

Cllr. Terry Andrews	terry.andrews@downdc.gov.uk
Cllr. Naomi Bailie	naomi.bailie@nmandd.org
Cllr. Patrick Brown	patrick.brown@nmandd.org
Cllr. Robert Burgess	robert.burgess@downdc.gov.uk
Cllr. Stephen Burns	stephen.burns@downdc.gov.uk
Lorraine Burns	lorraine.burns@newryandmourne.gov.uk
Cllr. Pete Byrne	pete.byrne@nmandd.org
Cllr. Michael Carr	michael.carr@newryandmourne.gov.uk
Mrs. Dorinnia Carville	dorinnia.carville@nmandd.org
Cllr. charlie casey	charlie.casey@newryandmourne.gov.uk
Cllr. William Clarke	william.clarke@downdc.gov.uk
Cllr. Patrick Clarke	patrick.clarke@downdc.gov.uk
Cllr. Garth Craig	garth.craig@downdc.gov.uk
Cllr. Dermot Curran	dermot.curran@downdc.gov.uk
Mr. Eddy Curtis	eddy.curtis@newryandmourne.gov.uk
Cllr. Laura Devlin	laura.devlin@downdc.gov.uk
Ms. Louise Dillon	louise.dillon@newryandmourne.gov.uk
Cllr. Sean Doran	sean.doran@newryandmourne.gov.uk
Cllr. Sinead Ennis	sinead.ennis@nmandd.org
Cllr. Cadogan Enright	cadogan.enright@downdc.gov.uk
Cllr. Gillian Fitzpatrick	gillian.fitzpatrick@newryandmourne.gov.uk
Mr. Patrick Green	patrick.green@downdc.gov.uk
Cllr. Glyn Hanna	glyn.hanna@nmandd.org
Mr. Liam Hannaway	liam.hannaway@nmandd.org
Cllr. Valerie Harte	valerie.harte@newryandmourne.gov.uk
Cllr. Harry Harvey	harry.harvey@newryandmourne.gov.uk
Cllr. Terry Hearty	terry.hearty@newryandmourne.gov.uk
Cllr. David Hyland	david.hyland@newryandmourne.gov.uk
Miss Veronica Keegan	veronica.keegan@downdc.gov.uk
Cllr. Liz Kimmins	liz.kimmins@nmandd.org
Cllr. Mickey Larkin	micky.larkin@nmandd.org
Mr. Michael Lipsett	michael.lipsett@downdc.gov.uk
Cllr. Kate Loughran	kate.loughran@newryandmourne.gov.uk
Cllr. Jill Macauley	jill.macauley@nmandd.org
Mrs. Regina Mackin	regina.mackin@newryandmourne.gov.uk
Cllr. Kevin Mc Ateer	kevin.mcateer@nmandd.org
Mr. Johnny Mc Bride	johnny.mcbride@newryandmourne.gov.uk
Collette McAteer	collette.mcateer@newryandmourne.gov.uk
Cllr. Declan McAteer	declan.mcateer@newryandmourne.gov.uk
Eileen McParland	eileen.mcparland@newryandmourne.gov.uk
Catrina Miskelly	catrina.miskelly@downdc.gov.uk

Cllr. Roisin Mulgrew	roisin.mulgrew@nmandd.org
Cllr. Mark Murnin	mark.murnin@nmandd.org
Mrs. Aisling Murray	aisling.murray@newryandmourne.gov.uk
Cllr. Barra O Muiri	barra.omuiri@nmandd.org
Cllr. Pol O'Gribin	pol.ogribin@nmandd.org
Mr. Canice O'Rourke	canice.orourke@downdc.gov.uk
Ms. Patricia Oakes	patricia.oakes@downdc.gov.uk
Cllr. Brian Quinn	brian.quinn@newryandmourne.gov.uk
Cllr. Henry Reilly	henry.reilly@newryandmourne.gov.uk
Ms. Alison Robb	Alison.Robb@downdc.gov.uk
Cllr. Michael Ruane	michael.ruane@newryandmourne.gov.uk
Cllr. Gareth Sharvin	gareth.sharvin@downdc.gov.uk
Cllr. Gary Stokes	gary.stokes@nmandd.org
Sarah Taggart	sarah-louise.taggart@downdc.gov.uk
Cllr. David Taylor	david.taylor@newryandmourne.gov.uk
Caroline Taylor	Caroline.Taylor@downdc.gov.uk
Cllr. Jarlath Tinnelly	jarlath.tinnelly@nmandd.org
Cllr. John Trainor	john.trainor@nmandd.org
Cllr. William Walker	william.walker@nmandd.org
Mrs. Marie Ward	marie.ward@downdc.gov.uk

ACTION SHEET- COUNCIL MEETING – MONDAY 4 JULY 2016

1

AGENDA ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION BY DIRECTOR – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed
C/127/2016	Apologies And Chairpersons Remarks	Letter of sympathy to be sent to the family of Ciaran Fitzpatrick originally from Dundrum, who died recently in the Dominican Republic.	Letter sent 22.7.16.
C/129/2016	Action Sheet of Council Meeting held on 6 June 2016	Reminder letter to be sent to Roads Service re Councillor Mulgrew's issues at Camlough and Whitecross. Action Sheet from Council Meeting held on 6 June 2016 Agreed.	Letter sent 7.7.16. .
C/130/2016	Minutes of Council Meeting held on 6 June 2016	Minutes – agreed.	Agreed 4.7.16.
C/131/2016	Minutes of Annual Meeting held on 1 June 2016	Chief Executive to arrange for Councillor Reilly to have sight of the legal advice pertaining to the issue of the seats, previously allocated to him. Minutes - Agreed.	On-going.
C/132/2016	Minutes of ERT Committee – 13 June 2016	Amendment to Minutes – Cllr P Clarke not a member of the ERT Committee. <u>ERT/105/2016 – Beaches – Newcastle & Warrenpoint</u> Director to discuss Cllr Craig's point with the relevant Director and issue to be brought back to Committee - regarding whether an action point should have been recorded against this minute as a closed-off area for children and families would be a welcome addition at the two beaches. <u>ERT/101/2016 – Heritage Lottery Fund</u> Schemes at an advanced state should not be prioritised. Warrenpoint Baths to be prioritised as a Heritage Lottery Fund	Minute amended 5.7.16. Director of ERT to raise with Estates and Facilities. Agreed.

AGENDA ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION BY DIRECTOR – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed
		project. Minutes – Agreed.	
C/133/2016	Minutes of SPR Committee – 16 June 2016	<p><u>SPR/146/2016 – Update on Decade of Centenaries</u> Cross Party Working Group to be set up regarding the implementation of the Irish Language Strategy.</p> <p><u>SPR/135/2016 – Agree Committee Start Times for the Incoming Year</u> Start times of SPR Committee to be discussed again at the August SPR meeting.</p> <p><u>SPR/144/2016 – Irish Language Audit Report</u> Most recent monitoring figures for Council employees as submitted to the Equality Commission to be provided to Cllr Reilly.</p> <p>Minutes – Agreed.</p>	<p>Minute of Council meeting passed to Irish Language Dept 18.7.16.</p> <p>Item placed on August SPR Agenda.</p> <p>Information provided to Cllr Reilly 15.7.16.</p>
C/134/2016	Minutes of AHC Committee – 20 June 2016	Minutes Agreed.	
C/135/2016	Minutes of RTS Committee – 22 June 2016	<p><u>RTS/101/2016 – Report on Bus Shelter Requests</u> Update to be provided to Cllr Casey on the Drummond Road Bus Shelter.</p> <p><u>RTS/105/2016 – Issues Raised by Councillor Casey</u> Update to be provided to Cllr Casey on lifting bins at Cabra Road, Hilltown and whether an investigation had been restarted re the damage to a property at 10 Holywood Gardens, Rathfriland Rd, Newry.</p> <p><u>RTS/95/2016 – Report re Dilapidated/Dangerous Structures and</u></p>	<p>Cllr advised that request to be considered as per Council Policy.</p> <p>On-going.</p>

AGENDA ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION BY DIRECTOR – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed
		<u>Neglected Sites Legislation</u> Council's response to the above legislation to be provided to all Councillors. Minutes – Agreed.	Response circulated 8 July 2016 to all Councillors.
C/136/2016	Consultation on Draft Programme for Government 2016-2021	Response accepted. Press release to be issued regarding Council's progress with the Community Plan.	To be actioned w/c 25.7.16.
C/137/2016	Report from Workshop held on 28 June 2016	Report as Council's response to the Draft Programme for Government Framework 2016-2021 accepted.	Accepted.
C/138/2016	Consultation on Draft Gas (Designation of Pipelines(Order) NI 2016	Noted.	Noted.
C/139/2016	Conference on Housing in Northern Ireland	Officers to investigate the budget headings used for costs relating to attendance at meetings and conferences. Conference – Noted.	Finance have reviewed the budget headings used to determine the analysis presented and will make certain minor changes going forward to reflect concerns of Councillors in this regard. Noted.

AGENDA ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION BY DIRECTOR – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed
C/140/2016	APSE Annual Seminar 2016	Conference – Noted.	Noted.
C/141/2016	Sealing Documents	<p>It was agreed to sign and seal the following documents:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Licence for use of Camlough Lake - Council will not be actively using the lake this year, however, the Director of ERT has advised that Council should not break the continuity of the lease as it is the Council's intention to further develop activities when works are complete. 2. Licence Agreement - Newry, Mourne and Down District Council and Mohan Funfairs - Use of Overflow Car Park, Kilkeel Leisure Centre - approved by M Lipsett under Scheme of Delegation. 3. Licence Agreement - Newry, Mourne and Down District Council with Johnston Construction Ltd - use of Council lands at Chapel Street, Newry to facilitate a works compound to service restoration and remedial works to St Mary's Chapel, Newry. 4. Assisted Car Purchase - staff member 5. Assisted Car Purchase - staff member 6. Licence Agreement - Newry, Mourne and Down District Council and Neill Cole - Agricultural Lands at Delamont Country Park 	All below Signed and sealed 4.7.16.

AGENDA ITEM	SUBJECT	DECISION	FOR COMPLETION BY DIRECTOR – including actions taken/date completed or progress to date if not yet completed
		<p>7. Lease Agreement - Northern Ireland Water Limited and Newry, Mourne and Down District Council - Lease of Land at Spelga, Co Down - at SPR Committee on 15 March 2016, it was agreed to enter into a new ten year Lease Agreement</p> <p>8. Retrospective Approval - Lease Agreement - Southern Group Enterprises Limited and Newry, Mourne and Down District Council - Land at Greenbank Industrial Estate, Newry - Chief Executive and Chairperson signed and sealed - 24th June 2016</p> <p>9. Councillors Accredited Training Application - agreed at SPR on 16 June 2016</p>	

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

NMD/C/

Minutes of Council Meeting held on Monday 4 July 2016 at 6pm in the Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick

In the Chair: Councillor G Fitzpatrick

In attendance: **(Councillors)**

Councillor T Andrews	Councillor N Bailie
Councillor P Brown	Councillor P Byrne
Councillor M Carr	Councillor C Casey
Councillor P Clarke	Councillor W Clarke
Councillor G Craig	Councillor D Curran
Councillor L Devlin	Councillor S Doran
Councillor C Enright	Councillor V Harte
Councillor H Harvey	Councillor T Hearty
Councillor D Hyland	Councillor L Kimmins
Councillor M Larkin	Councillor K Loughran
Councillor D McAteer	Councillor K McAteer
Councillor R Mulgrew	Councillor M Murnin
Councillor P Ó'Grínbín	Councillor B O'Múiri
Councillor B Quinn	Councillor H Reilly
Councillor M Ruane	Councillor G Sharvin
Councillor G Stokes	Councillor JJ Tinnelly
Councillor J Trainor	Councillor B Walker

(Officials)

Mr L Hannaway, Chief Executive
 Mr E Curtis, Director of Strategic Planning and Performance
 Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services
 Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active and Healthy Communities
 Mr C O'Rourke, Director of Regulatory and Technical Services
 Mrs M Ward, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism
 Mrs R Mackin, Assistant Director, Corporate Planning and Policy
 Mrs H McKee, Assistant Director, Community Planning
 Mrs C Miskelly, Assistant Director, Human Resources
 Mr C Moffett, Equality Officer
 Mrs V Keegan, Marketing Manager
 Mrs E McParland, Democratic Services Manager
 Mrs C Taylor, Democratic Services Officer
 Miss S Taggart, Democratic Services Officer

C/127/2016

APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Apologies were received from Councillors Ennis, Hanna, Macauley and Taylor

- The Chairperson congratulated Councillor Taylor on his recent marriage.
- The Chairperson expressed her condolences to the family of Ciaran Fitzpatrick, originally from Dundrum, who died recently in the Dominican Republic.
- The Chairperson stated the result of the EU referendum had raised concerns among many businesses and individuals in the District. She stated that due to the uncertainty of when Article 50 would be triggered and the results of any negotiations, Council would ensure that the interests of the residents of the Council were provided to Members of the Assembly and Executive who, it was anticipated, would be part of any UK negotiating team.

Councillor Reilly stated there were a number of people who were delighted with the result of Brexit and a committee should be set up within Council to investigate the benefits and opportunities that would now exist.

- The Chairperson condemned the racist comments and hate crimes that have been taking place across England and hoped that this type of behaviour did not come to the District.
- The Chairperson stated the visit by Professor Peter Balazs, North Sea Mediterranean Corridor Co-ordinator within the European Commission which was to be held on Tuesday 5th July 2016 had now been cancelled, due to the outcome of the EU Referendum.
- The Chairperson stated a meeting had been held with MPs and MLAs to discuss Community Planning within the District and it had been agreed that twice yearly meetings be held with MPs, and quarterly meetings held with MLAs going forward.
- The Chairperson stated it was deplorable that vandals had defaced new Council signs and this was senseless anti-social behaviour which should be condemned.

Members condemned the attacks on Council property stating that ratepayers would be losing out as they would need to pay for them to be replaced.

Councillors Patrick Clarke and Willie Clarke stated that Councillors need to be wary of their language within and outside the Chamber, as statements made had rippling effects out into the communities.

Mr Hannaway said Councillors must always take cognisance of the Code of Conduct for Councillors.

Councillor Reilly stated he condemned any attack on Council property however these hate crimes had been created by the erection of signage by Council within areas where they were unwanted.

Councillors Andrews and Walker stated these types of issues should be raised at the Equality and Diversity Working Group.

- The Chairperson stated it was a disgrace that anyone would intentionally sabotage the mountain bike trails in Rostrevor, by placing potentially lethal obstacles on the trails.

C/128/2016

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

C/129/2016

ACTION SHEET ARISING FROM COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 6 JUNE 2016

Read:

Action Sheet from Council Meeting held on 6 June 2016 (copy circulated)

Councillor Mulgrew advised she was still waiting for information from Roads Service and asked that a further reminder letter be sent.

AGREED:

It was agreed that a letter be sent to Roads Service asking for an update on Councillor Mulgrew's issues at Camlough and Whitecross.

The Action Sheet from Council Meeting held on 6 June 2016 was agreed.

COUNCIL MINUTES FOR ADOPTION AND SIGNING

C/130/2016 MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 6 JUNE 2016

Read: Minutes of Council Meeting held on 6 June 2016 (copy circulated)

AGREED: **The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted on the proposal of Councillor Hearty, seconded by Councillor Sharvin.**

C/131/2016 MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING HELD ON 1 JUNE 2016

Read: Minutes of Annual Meeting held on 1 June 2016 (copy circulated)

Councillor Reilly stated the Committee places that he was not allocated during the Annual Meeting, should have been given to DUP/UUP Members in order to keep a balance within the Council Committees. He asked to have a copy of the legal advice obtained by Council at the time of the Annual Meeting.

The Chief Executive advised he would only be able to arrange for Councillor Reilly to have sight of the legal advice pertaining to his own specific issue, as he was not in a position to provide a copy of the entire advices which contained advice relating to other Councils.

AGREED: **It was agreed that the Chief Executive would arrange for Councillor Reilly to have sight of the legal advice pertaining to the issue of the seats, previously allocated to him.**

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted on the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Andrews.

COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION

C/132/2016 MINUTES OF ENTERPRISE, REGENERATION AND TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 13 JUNE 2016

Read: Minutes of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism Committee Meeting held on 13 June 2016 (copy circulated)

The Chief Executive advised there was an amendment to the minutes, as Councillor P Clarke was not a member of the Committee, as listed in the minutes.

ERT/105/2016 – Beaches – Newcastle and Warrenpoint

Councillor Craig asked whether an action point should have been recorded against this minute as a closed-off area for children and families would be a welcome addition at the two beaches.

Mrs Ward advised she would be discussing this with the relevant Director and would bring the issue back to Committee.

ERT/101/2016 – Heritage Lottery Fund

Councillor D McAteer stated those schemes at an advanced stage should not be prioritised and he proposed that Warrenpoint Baths be prioritised as a Heritage Lottery Funded project. This was seconded by Councillor Carr and agreed.

AGREED: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor D McAteer, seconded by Councillor Carr, that Warrenpoint Baths be prioritised as a Heritage Lottery Funded project.

AGREED: The minutes were agreed as an accurate record, subject to the above amendment, and adopted on the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Curran.

C/133/2016 MINUTES OF STRATEGY, POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 16 JUNE 2016

Read: Minutes of Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 16 June 2016 (Copy circulated).

SPR/144/2016 – Irish Language Audit Report

Councillor Enright said two issues had arisen from the Irish Language Audit Report item: the policy not including specific reference to the funding for the Irish language and the audit itself did not pick up on the issue of Council's relationships with bodies like Tourism NI and the St. Patrick's Centre and there would be another meeting to create an addendum to that report over the summer.

Councillor Enright also said there was an issue which was a divergence between the documents on the Organisational Design (Sustainability) item. He said what had been presented and discussed at the Party Representatives Meeting, and what was subsequently presented to Committee contained changes within the report.

COUNCILLOR BROWN JOINED THE MEETING AT THIS STAGE – 6.29PM

SPR/146/2016 – Update on Decade of Centenaries 2016 Civic Initiatives

In response to Councillor Hyland's query, Mr Moffett provided an update, saying the first stage of the assessment process had been completed and 5 shortlisted artists appointed. Correspondence would be sent to those selected this week requesting them to come in and make a presentation, which would hopefully be in August. He added one person on the assessment panel would be a Councillor.

AGREED: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor O'Muire, seconded by Councillor Fitzpatrick, that a cross party working group be set up regarding the implementation of the Irish Language Strategy.

SPR/135/2016 – Agree Committee Start Times for the Incoming Year

NOTED: Councillor O'Muire raised concerns over the start time of the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee, which had been agreed at 3pm and 5pm on a rotational basis and requested the matter be discussed again at Committee.

AGREED: It was unanimously agreed that the start times of the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee would be discussed again at the August SPR Committee meeting.

SPR/146/2016 – Update on Decade of Centenaries 2016 Civic Initiatives

NOTED: In response to Councillor Reilly's concerns regarding the spend for the Patrick Rankin artwork, Mr Moffett acknowledged that whilst the spend had not been budgeted for, agreement had been given for an overall budget of up to £40,000 at the June 2016 Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee.

SPR/150/2016 – Peace IV

In response to funding concerns from Councillor D McAteer regarding the decision to leave the EU, Mr Curtis said he had spoken to SEUPB and they had advised that the application process should continue until Council heard otherwise.

SPR/144/2016 – Irish Language Audit Report

Councillor Hyland said the Council had adopted its bilingual policy in a democratic way and had signs in both Gaelic and English, and if Councillor Reilly wanted to change this he could bring a motion forward. He said Councillor Reilly was aware of

the amounts of money concerned with the Patrick Rankin artwork as he had been present at relevant meetings, and he had recently returned from the Somme which had been funded by Council.

In response, Councillor Reilly said the Somme trip involved all 11 Councils in Northern Ireland and he said subsistence levels for the trip were not as high as the other Councils in Northern Ireland. He said the issue regarding the Patrick Rankin artwork was that it had been stated there would be £40,000 of funding overall for the Decade of Centenaries, which included a Somme Commemoration in September, and he asked if this would receive funding.

After a heated debate, during which Councillor Reilly stated that Protestants were being denied ordinary services in the area, Councillor W Clarke, said inflammatory language was being used which could lead to sectarian hatred, which may have consequences in the community and increase the likelihood of attacks.

Councillor W Clarke referred to the Rural Development Programme, saying money had been allocated to the Northern Ireland Executive and therefore there was no danger of this funding being lost due to Brexit. He advised this message should be communicated to residents.

Councillor Reilly expressed annoyance and concern at the comments of Councillor Ó'Gribín and sought that he withdrew these comments.

Councillor Reilly requested the most recent figures on religious persuasion of employees in Newry, Mourne and Down District Council.

AGREED: **The Chief Executive agreed he would provide Councillor Reilly with the most recent monitoring figures for employees as submitted to the Equality Commission.**

AGREED: **The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted, on the proposal of Councillor Enright, seconded by Councillor Hyland.**

C/134/2016 MINUTES OF ACTIVE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 20 JUNE 2016

Read: Minutes of Active and Healthy Communities Committee Meeting held on 20 June 2016 (Copy circulated).

AHC/92/2016 – Report on Affordable Warmth Scheme 2017

Councillor D McAteer expressed his concern at the reduction in budget for Affordable Warmth measures across Northern Ireland and asked if there was any method the Council could employ to ensure the scheme continued at its previous level.

Mr Lipsett advised the scheme was 100% funded in terms of officer time and the completion of surveys. Therefore there would be no budget set aside by Council to ensure the scheme would be able to continue at the levels currently seen.

AGREED: **The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted on the proposal of Councillor Harvey, seconded by Councillor Trainor.**

C/135/2016 MINUTES OF REGULATORY AND TECHNICAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 22 JUNE 2016

Read: Minutes of Regulatory and Technical Services Committee Meeting held on 22 June 2016 (Copy circulated).

RTS/101/2016 – Report on Bus Shelter Requests

Councillor Casey asked for an update on the Drummond Road Bus Shelter as the minute stated the matter was noted.

Mr O'Rourke advised he would contact the Councillor on this matter as he did not have the information at the meeting.

Councillor D McAteer asked whether it would be possible to exceed the eight bus shelters locations as outlined within the document, given that there was £30,000 set aside for these shelters.

Mr O'Rourke advised those highlighted in the report were proceeding and a report would be brought to the next Committee meeting regarding the possibility of other shelters being erected.

RTS/105/2016 – Issues raised by Councillor Casey

Councillor Casey asked for an update on the lifting of bins on Cabra Road, Hilltown and whether an investigation had been restarted about the damage to a property at 10 Hollywood Gardens, Rathfriland Road, Newry.

Mr O'Rourke stated he would follow up on these issues and respond to the Councillor in due course.

AGREED: It was agreed that the Director of Regulatory & Technical Services would respond to Councillor Casey on the issues of Drummond Road Bus Shelter, lifting of bins on Cabra Road, Hilltown and investigation into damage at 10 Hollywood Gardens, Rathfriland Road, Newry.

RTS/95/2016 – Report re: Dilapidated/Dangerous Structures and Neglected Sites Legislation

Councillor McAteer asked whether the legislation would allow Councils to take action if buildings were falling down, such as certain buildings in Warrenpoint.

Mr O'Rourke advised this was a consultation document and he would furnish Members with the response submitted on behalf of the Council.

COUNCILLOR P CLARKE LEFT THE MEETING AT THIS POINT – 6.53PM

AGREED: It was agreed that the Director of Regulatory & Technical Services would circulate the consultation response on Dilapidated/Dangerous Structures and Neglected Sites Legislation to all Members.

AGREED: The minutes were agreed as an accurate record and adopted on the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Andrews.

It was agreed to take items 10 and 10b together at this stage.

CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS

C/136/2016 CONSULTATION ON DRAFT PROGRAMME FOR GOVERNMENT 2016-2021

Read: Correspondence received from Northern Ireland Executive regarding consultation on Draft Programme for Government 2016-2021 (Copy circulated).

C/137/2016 REPORT FROM WORKSHOP HELD ON 28 JUNE 2016

Read: Report dated 4 July 2016 regarding response to the Draft Programme for Government Framework 2016-21 prepared by Heather McKee, Assistant Director, Community Planning (copy circulated)

The Chief Executive advised there had been a tight timescale to respond to the consultation on Draft Programme for Government and therefore a workshop had been arranged. He said the Assistant

Director, Community Planning had been working with officers across the Council in terms of the Programme.

Mrs McKee presented slides on the draft Programme for Government and recommended that successful delivery of the outcomes in the Programme for Government would require investment in the following key projects at Council level:

- Wellbeing/Economic – Connectivity and Infrastructure Initiatives
- Education – Skills and Employability Initiative
- Health – Coordinated Care Services
- Environment
- Employment
- Economic

Members discussed the draft Programme for Government presentation stating the work undertaken by the Assistant Director was excellent and that community planning was a new and exciting way of working.

Councillor Craig proposed to accept the report as Council's response to the Draft Programme for Government and asked that a press release be prepared on the issue to inform the public of the workings of Community Planning. This was seconded by Councillor Curran.

Councillor Enright stated the Eastern Distributor Road in Downpatrick should feature and some emphasis should be placed upon a transition to a non-carbon economy.

Councillor Carr congratulated Councillors Burns, W Clarke and Fitzpatrick on graduating with a Diploma in Community Planning and Civic Leadership, stating that perhaps all Councillors may need to complete this course. Councillor Carr also expressed concern at the number of consultation events in relation to the Programme for Government and Community Planning.

AGREED: It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Craig, seconded by Councillor Curran to accept the report as Council's response to the Draft Programme for Government Framework 2016-2021.

C/138/2016 **CONSULTATION ON DRAFT GAS (DESIGNATION OF PIPELINES) ORDER (NI) 2016**

NOTED: The Consultation on Draft Gas (Designation of Pipelines) Order (NI) 2016 was noted.

CONFERENCES/EVENTS

C/139/2016 **CONFERENCE ON HOUSING IN NORTHERN IRELAND**

Read: Correspondence received from Policy Forum for Northern Ireland regarding Conference on Housing in Northern Ireland (Copy circulated).

Councillors asked that officers investigate the budget headings used for costs relating to meetings/conferences etc.

AGREED: It was agreed that officers investigate the budget headings used for costs relating to attendance at meetings and conferences.

NOTED: It was agreed not to make any appointments to the above conference.

C/140/2016 **APSE ANNUAL SEMINAR 2016**

Read: Correspondence received from APSE Annual Seminar 2016 (Copy circulated).

NOTED: It was agreed not to make any appointments to the above conference.

SEALING DOCUMENTS

C/141/2016 **SEALING DOCUMENTS**

AGREED: It was agreed to sign and seal the following documents on the proposal of Councillor Hearty, seconded by Councillor Devlin:

1. Licence for use of Camlough Lake
2. Licence Agreement - Newry, Mourne and Down District Council and Mohan Funfairs - Use of Overflow Car Park, Kilkeel Leisure Centre
3. Licence Agreement - Newry, Mourne and Down District Council with Johnston Construction Ltd
4. Assisted Car Purchase - staff member
5. Assisted Car Purchase - staff member
6. Licence Agreement - Newry, Mourne and Down District Council and Neill Cole - Agricultural Lands at Delamont Country Park
7. Lease Agreement - Northern Ireland Water Limited and Newry, Mourne and Down District Council - Lease of Land at Spelga, Co Down
8. Retrospective Approval - Lease Agreement - Southern Group Enterprises Limited and Newry, Mourne and Down District Council - Land at Greenbank Industrial Estate, Newry

9. Councillors Accredited Training Application

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 7.15pm

Signed:

Chairperson

Chief Executive

NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

NMD/SC/

Minutes of Special Council Meeting held on Monday 27 June 2016 at 6pm in the Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick

In the Chair: Councillor G Fitzpatrick

In attendance:

(Councillors)

Councillor T Andrews	Councillor N Bailie
Councillor P Brown	Councillor R Burgess
Councillor P Byrne	Councillor M Carr
Councillor C Casey	Councillor P Clarke
Councillor D Curran	Councillor C Enright
Councillor G Hanna	Councillor V Harte
Councillor H Harvey	Councillor D Hyland
Councillor M Larkin	Councillor K Loughran
Councillor D McAteer	Councillor R Mulgrew
Councillor M Murnin	Councillor P Ó'Gribín
Councillor B Ó'Muirí	Councillor B Quinn
Councillor M Ruane	Councillor G Stokes
Councillor J J Tinnelly	Councillor J Trainor
Councillor B Walker	

(Officials)

Mr L Hannaway, Chief Executive
 Mrs E McParland, Democratic Services Manager
 Mrs C Taylor, Democratic Services Officer

Also in attendance: Ms J Smyth, Co-ordinator, Public Protection Agency NI (PPANI)
 Mr I Baxter, Sgt PPANI Links Team
 Mr S Sherry, Principal Officer PPANI SHSCT

Mr A Hamilton, Southern Area Manager, Translink
 Mr G McLaughlin, Service Delivery Manager, Translink
 Ms K Sharkey, Service Delivery Manager, Translink

SC/32/2016

APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Apologies were received from Councillors W Clarke, Craig, Devlin, Ennis, Kimmins, Macauley, K McAteer, Reilly, Sharvin and Taylor

SC/33/2015

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

SC/34/2015

**PRESENTATION BY THE PUBLIC PROTECTION AGENCY
NORTHERN IRELAND**

The Chairperson welcomed Ms J Smyth, Mr I Baxter and Mr S Sherry from the Public Protection Agency Northern Ireland to the meeting and invited them to make their presentation.

Ms Smyth advised since the late 1990's there had been a growing concern amongst the general public in Northern Ireland regarding sex offenders living within communities and these concerns had been exacerbated by a number of high profile cases. Prior to 1996, there was no mechanism for agencies to work collectively to work and manage the risk posed by sex offenders, but a multi-agency conference was organised to begin to address this issue.

Ms Smyth said that in 1997 Sex Offender Notification procedures were introduced – the Sex Offender Registration. This meant that sex offenders were required to register their address with the PSNI on an annual basis and advise the PSNI of any changes. In September 2001, the first multi-agency mechanism to manage convicted sex offenders was introduced which was the multi-agency sex offender risk assessment and management system – Masram.

Ms Smyth said Masram provided a mechanism to assess and manage the risk posed by sexual offenders, but there was also a growing recognition that violent offenders also posed a risk to the public and the Criminal Justice Order 2008 was in response to these concerns. She advised that the PPANI placed a statutory duty on 9 agencies to co-operate in assessing and managing the risk posed by certain violent offenders.

Ms Smyth explained that extended custodial sentences were then introduced for public protection which required post release supervision by the Probation Service and post 2008, this system in Northern Ireland was not present and offenders were previously released without statutory supervision or recall. A licence was then in place which allowed agencies to restrict offenders to movement or accommodation.

Ms Smyth advised that PPANI was not an organisation, but a set of arrangements which required all statutory bodies with responsibility for child protection and criminal justice to work together to protect the public and to reduce offenders opportunity to re-offend.

Mr Baxter, PSNI said his role was to decide who should be included in the arrangements and provided statistics on these offenders.

Mr Baxter advised Members of the PPANI Organisational Structure and the agencies contributing to PPANI included the PSNI, Probation Service, Social Services, Prison Service, NI Housing Executive and other agencies if considered necessary.

Mr Baxter explained to Members the work of the Local Area Public Protection Panel (LAPPP) which was a multi-agency forum tasked with the operational delivery of the Public Protection Arrangements, and the key responsibilities involved assessment of all relevant offenders and development of risk management plans for offenders in category 2 and 3. He also advised Members of the categories of offenders.

The Chairperson thanked the delegation for their presentation and invited questions from the Members.

Members asked the following questions:

- Was the PPANI well enough resourced to carry out all of the work they proposed to undertake?
- How often were Category 1 offenders monitored?
- Did Category 3 offenders receive counselling?
- How many offenders did not comply with the PPANI rules?
- Did the LAPPP Committee meet frequently enough?
- Did the community have the right to know where the offenders lived?
- Were Councillors involved in liaison regarding accommodation for the offenders?
- Were risk assessments being undertaken to prevent sex offenders living near schools?

The representatives from the Public Protection Agency NI responded to Members queries as follows:

- Category 1 offenders would have weekly contact and announced and unannounced home visits. The PSNI would also make home visits to Category 1 offenders.
- Each organisation experienced issues with resourcing, but the agencies involved in PPANI had given an undertaking to ring-fence these services and the Department of Justice had agreed to ring-fence the budget.
- Category 3 offenders were monitored by a specialist team including the Probation Service, PSNI and Social Services and had multiple weekly contacts. There were no Category 3 offenders in the area, but in Northern Ireland as a whole there were 22, 13 of whom were in prison.
- If Category 3 offenders were subject to a statutory licence or probation order, part of the requirements were to complete a treatment programme to prevent re-offending. Unfortunately some individuals decided not to take these steps, meaning they would be recalled.
- The LAPPP Committee meeting had increased in frequency and now took place bi-monthly. They produced a management plan for offenders which reviewed how the person had improved or regressed over the past months and explored options required eg. electronic tagging devices.
- The Agencies involved worked together on a daily basis.

- Sex offenders were in the main, largely compliant, but required close monitoring.
- There was a disclosure scheme regarding where offenders lived because of Megan's Law, but the public did not quite have a right to know where they were housed.
- Councillors had been involved in talks regarding accommodation for offenders, especially regarding approved premises ie. hostels. Northern Ireland did not have legislation for disclosure, but offenders were encouraged to disclose.
- The Child Protection Disclosure Scheme gave the community the right to ask if there were any offenders in the area.
- 2002 was the start of Masram when agencies started to share information on offenders and 1997 was the start of notification. If someone lived near to a school that was identified as a risk to children, the PPANI would be seeking an Order, although Probation officers would not approve an address if it backed onto a school and the initial checks would avoid such issues. For offenders who had a licence, there was a requirement that they could only live at an address which had been approved by their Risk Manager.

The delegation from PPANI departed from the meeting at 6.55pm

SC/35/2015

PRESENTATION BY TRANSLINK

The Chairperson welcomed representatives of Translink: Mr A Hamilton, Southern Area Manager, Mr G McLaughlin, Service Delivery Manager and Ms K Sharkey, Service Delivery Manager to the meeting and invited them to make their presentation.

Mr Hamilton explained that in 2015 there had been a 20% cut to Translink's funding and Translink was trying to move forward from these cuts. A new challenge had been set to Translink staff, which was to grow the business, make cost savings and make the best use of resources. He said that Translink's vision was to be the first choice for travel in Northern Ireland, but this could not be done by Translink alone, and the support of key stakeholders would be sought.

Mr Hamilton provided the following statistics:

- Translink had approximately 4,000 staff.
- There were 1,300 buses and 45 trains.
- There were 8,000 Ulsterbus services per day and 12,500 services in total per day.
- Organisational turnover in Ulsterbus was approximately £100m and the total Translink turnover was £195m.
- Passenger numbers last year were 79m – the aim was to grow to 80m this year and thereafter 1m passengers per year.
- The cash fund was being used to self-fund the deficit over the next few years, which had been agreed between Translink and the Government.

- Growth to 80m passengers would see an increase of 81% on the railways, 53% on Goldline coaches and 32% on metro buses.
- Rural Ulsterbus had reduced by 11%, which was a challenge for Translink going forward.
- Park n Ride was a major area for growth and an area Translink wished to talk to Councils about.
- Translink were expanding online and looking forward to 2018 with the introduction of a new ticketing system – contactless and mobile payments.
- £41m had been spent by the Government on fleet, however funding was a challenge in this area.
- Bus lanes were a challenge, but 2018 would see the Belfast Hub project begin subject to funding.
- A connection from the Newtownards bus depot to the Ulster hospital was being investigated.
- Translink would like to work with local Councils and become involved in local planning of future commercial and housing developments.
- The annual turnover in the Newry area was £7m. There were 130 staff and 80 buses carrying 3 million passengers per year: 20% on Express services to Belfast and Dublin, 53% school children, 7% city services and 20% urban.
- Last year growth on the Dublin Express was 24% compared to 30% this year, although there were issues with seating at times.
- From last week, a new system had been introduced whereby a seat could now be booked online from Newry to Dublin airport.
- The frequency of the Belfast Express from Newry was expanding to every 15 minutes between the hours of 0600 – 0800 and then every half hour throughout the day. The 238 service was being expanded to include 2 additional Saturday morning services to Belfast for shoppers.
- Issues in the Newry area included reliability of the express services, the bus lane being extended to Sprucefield Park and Ride and capacity issues on the Belfast to Dublin route.
- There were 130 staff in the Newcastle depot.
- Bus and Train week had taken place from 6-12 June 2016 and fares had been reduced by 20% on Goldline services during this week.

The Chairperson thanked the delegation for their presentation and invited questions from the Members.

Members asked the following questions:

- Were there any buses to Dublin Airport which followed the coastal route?
- Would the depot in Kilkeel be upgraded?
- During the winter, the Newry depot put on a rambler bus but it did not cover the rural areas.
- Why could the minibus from Dundrum to Newcastle not be used through Longstone?

- The services throughout South Armagh into Newry were not very good. There was no public bus to take people from Newry to places such as Newtownhamilton and Crossmaglen in the evening around 8pm.
- What had happened to the Busy Bus to Daisy Hill?
- Why did the last bus service from Belfast at the weekends not set down in Newry?
- Were there plans to close or relocate the Newry bus station as there were congestion issues in the vicinity.
- The bus service for the elderly in the rural areas of south Armagh was poor. Would it be possible to run a Busy Bus to eg Killeavey one day a week?
- Could a bus service to Clonvarghan be readdressed as housing had increased over the past number of years.
- Were there any plans to provide an improved service to Drumaroad?
- Was there any possibility of the connection to the Ulster hospital becoming a direct service and when would this be implemented?
- Were there any plans for a bus from Newry to Craigavon Hospital as currently it was necessary to take a bus from Newry to Banbridge and change.
- Were there any plans for a Park n Ride facility for the Ballynahinch bypass?
- Were there any plans to add a bus in the evening to bring passengers to and from the new Downpatrick Leisure Centre?
- It was not possible to join the Dublin to Belfast Express in Newry.
- Had the implementation of a private bus service affected passenger numbers from Newry to Belfast?
- A bus to Crossmaglen which was meant to stop at Daisy Hill, had taken the direct route and not stopped at the Hospital.
- Why did the bus between Newry and Downpatrick travel via Rathriland as passengers rarely disembarked there?
- Were there any plans for a shelter for passengers outside Newcastle Bus station.

The representatives from Translink responded to Members queries as follows:

- The Kilkeel rambler was one of the services lost in the efficiency drive.
- The buses could not be diverted off the main road to Longstone as the road was too narrow. Newry and Mourne Community Transport provided a service through the rural areas.
- It was recognised that the Kilkeel depot was old. Officials would bring information back to the Members on this issue.
- A lot of funding for new stations came from Europe, so it was possible this funding could be cut with the UK's exit from the European Union.
- There was a limited supply of minibuses. The Mourne rambler was designed to take in tourist areas and could not be diverted to Longstone, but a long term solution was being sought. The best approach would be to talk to the Newry and Mourne Community Transport regarding the small numbers of travellers.

- There was no public bus in the evening from Newry to the outlying towns of South Armagh due to the cuts but buses had been put on which ran after the school runs in the morning to give passengers 3-4 hours in Newry before taking them back again.
- There were buses running past Daisy Hill Hospital every 30 minutes and every bus from south Armagh ran past the hospital. The possibility of the railway bus coming down the hospital road was being looked into.
- From next week, the late night service from Belfast via Banbridge would set down in Newry at 11:45pm.
- There were no plans to close or relocate the Newry bus station.
- The problem in Newry was the number of cars on the roads causing congestion.
- A piece of work was being undertaken by the Department of Infrastructure focusing Translink with the Education Authority and the hospital trusts to bring resources together to make best use of them, but this was a long term plan.
- There were 2 new services going through Drumaroad which would improve connections
- A bus service to Clonvarghan could be looked into.
- The service to the Ulster hospital was currently a connecting service with 2 services each morning at peak times. There was a plan for a service from Downpatrick to the Ulster Hospital under the Rural Transport Funding bracket, but the service never took off.
- There had not been much demand for a direct service from Newry to Craigavon Hospital in the past, although Translink officials had explored the possibility. The best solution would be a bus to Portadown with a 15 minute connection to the hospital. There was currently not enough passengers to justify running a direct service from Newry to Craigavon.
- A piece of work was going to be undertaken with the local health centres to gain an understanding of the number of appointments linking in with the hospital.
- There were plans for a Park n Share located at the far side of the Ballynahinch bypass.
- The development of a new Downpatrick Leisure Centre was being watched carefully. Promotions had previously been done with the cinema in Downpatrick.
- To include Newry as a stop on the Dublin to Belfast Express would incur additional time to an already 3 hour long journey. There was a regular 238 service which stopped in Newry.
- Competition was welcomed by Translink and growth was still being seen on the 238 service and the Dublin service.
- The private operator running buses from Newry to Belfast served the student market, and Translink worked in tandem with the private operator.
- The Inspectors had clear direction in relation to any bus drivers who did not undertake their route properly and it was recognised that the 2 main services passengers required was reliability and punctuality.

- The 240 service via Rathriland was introduced due to pressure from Councillors. The 7:10am service was being removed, but the need was there for the services to stop in Rathriland.
- There were no plans for a shelter at Newcastle Bus Station as there was clear access to the stations roof.

In response to concerns over transport links in the rural areas of the District, Mr Hamilton confirmed that he was keen to engage locally with Councillors and would be keen to attend DEA meetings to discuss local transport issues.

Councillor Stokes requested officials check the journey planner so that it showed the most suitable route from Newry to Craigavon Hospital.

Members thanked Translink for the connection to the Ulster Hospital, the online booking service for the service to Dublin airport and for their helpful staff at Newry bus station.

Councillor D McAteer called on Translink to upgrade the road between Newry and Downpatrick to allow it to be an arterial route.

Mr Hamilton encouraged Members to contact him regarding any issues.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 8.24pm.

For adoption at Meeting of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council to be held on Monday 1 August 2016.

Signed:

Chairperson

Chief Executive

NEWRY MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of Audit Committee Meeting held on Monday 4 July 2016 at 2.15pm in the Commedagh Room, Downshire Estate, Downpatrick

Chairperson: Mr J Campbell Independent Member (2.15pm – 4.40pm)
Councillor G Sharvin (4.40pm – 4.55pm)

In Attendance: (Committee Members)

Councillor P Brown
Councillor C Casey
Councillor L Devlin
Councillor C Enright
Councillor T Hearty
Councillor M Murnin
Councillor M Ruane
Councillor G Sharvin
Councillor J Trainor

(Non Members)

Councillor P Clarke

Officials in Attendance:

Mr L Hannaway	Chief Executive
Ms D Carville	Director Corporate Services
Mr E Curtis	Director Strategy Policy & Resources
Ms B Phillips	Finance Manager
Mr K Montgomery	Assistant Director of Finance
Mr G Byrne	Audit Services Manager
Mr D Barter	Procurement Manager
Ms E McParland	Democratic Services Manager
Ms L Dillon	Democratic Services Officer

Also in Attendance:

Ms C Hagan	ASM (Internal Auditors)
Mr S Knox	Northern Ireland Audit Office

AC/48/2016: APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

The following apologies were received:

Ms M Ward Director Enterprise Regeneration & Tourism
Ms C Kane Northern Ireland Audit Office

Mr Campbell welcomed everyone to the meeting, including the new members of the Audit Committee and the Members who had served on the Committee during the 2015/16 period. He welcomed Mr S Knox NIAO, and introduced Ms C Hagan from ASM Limited, who are the Council's internal audit providers.

Mr Campbell also welcomed Ms B Phillips Finance Manager, Mr D Barter, Procurement Manager and Mr G Byrne who was the new Audit Services Manager and he wished Mr Byrne well in his post.

AC/49/2016: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mr J Campbell Independent Chairperson, declared an interest in Agenda Item 21 regarding Chairman's Additional Time Claim re: Investigations into governance issues raised by Councillor C Enright, and said he would remove himself from the meeting during discussion on this item, at which point he would seek a proposal to appoint an interim Chairperson.

AC/50/2016: ACTION SHEET MINUTES OF SPECIAL AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING TUESDAY 19 APRIL 2016

Read: Action Sheet arising out of Minutes of Special Audit Committee Meeting held On Tuesday 19 April 2016. (Copy circulated)

Mr Campbell said that, subject to approval by the Audit Committee, it was proposed the items contained on the Action Sheet from Minutes of the Special Audit Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 19 April 2016, be forwarded to the appropriate Council Committee for action and therefore be removed from the Audit Committee action list going forward.

AGREED: It was therefore unanimously agreed that items contained on the Action Sheet from Minutes of the Special Audit Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 19 April 2016, be forwarded to the appropriate Council Committee for action and therefore be removed from the Audit Committee action list going forward.

(1) Renewable Energy at new Down Leisure Centre

Councillor Enright said he had expressed concerns regarding costs to externally commission reports and he believed that Council staff should be reviewing the content of external reports to ensure the content could be validated.

Noted: Decisions regarding the provision of renewable energy at the new Down Leisure Centre had been taken by the legacy Council and recommendations would be discussed by Council Officers. Officers would report back to Council in due course regarding renewable energy systems and the main issues as highlighted by Councillor Enright regarding provision of renewable energy at the new Down Leisure Centre would be raised with the relevant consultants.

Record: Councillor Enright asked to be recorded that he was totally dissatisfied with the content of the Consultants report.

AGREED: It was agreed to note a meeting would be held with the Architect engaged on this project at which the issues raised by Councillor C Enright regarding the provision of renewable energy at the new Down Leisure Centre would be raised. A report would be tabled at

an appropriate Committee meeting of Council in due course.

(2) Negative variance in former Down District Council - Management Accounts

AGREED: It was agreed to accept that the provision of Wind Turbines in former Down District Council Management Accounts would be taken forward via the Regulatory & Technical Services Committee, as required.

AGREED: It was agreed to note that the review of the format of the Council's Management Accounts would be reported back to a future meeting of the Audit Committee in due course.

(3) Shuttle Bus between Down Civic Campus and Downpatrick Bus Station

AGREED: It was agreed Councillor C Enright and Councillor D Curran be provided with the legacy Down District Council motion and decision and resultant management response relating to this matter, to enable them to provide the Trust with information regarding shuttle bus provision between Downshire Civic Campus and Downpatrick Bus Station.

Noted: Mr Curtis advised that the provision of a shuttle bus service between Downshire Civic Campus and Downpatrick Bus Station was a decision for the Health and Social Care Trust at this stage and, on receipt of a response from the Trust regarding this matter, including an updated Business Case from Translink, this matter would be tabled at an appropriate Committee Meeting of Council.

Mr Curtis confirmed that following a check of Council records, it was established the Council did not at any stage agree to make a financial contribution towards the provision of a shuttle bus service between Downshire Civic Campus and Downpatrick Bus Station.

(4) Application for EU Bathing Water Status at several beaches in former Down District Council area

Noted: To accept that action had been completed regarding Application for EU Bathing Water Status at several beaches in former Down District Council area.

(5) Contravention of EU Waste Directive in former Down District Council and failure to pursue value for money

Noted: It was noted that a report regarding alleged contravention of EU Waste Directive in former Down District Council and failure to pursue value for money would be tabled under Agenda item 11.

(6) Financial options to appoint Assistant Director of Sustainability & Climate Change

Noted: To accept that action had been completed regarding financial options to appoint an Assistant Director of Sustainability & Climate Change.

Councillor Enright expressed concerns that a Paper presented at a Party Representatives' Meeting could then be presented in a revised format to a subsequent Committee meeting of Council.

Mr Hannaway explained the Party Representatives Forum was not a decision making Committee, but rather was a political sounding board for Officers to seek the views of Elected Members. Therefore any papers presented to this Forum could be subject to change prior to being tabled at a Committee/Council meeting for consideration by Members.

AC/51/2016: ACTION SHEET MINUTES OF AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING THURSDAY 28 APRIL 2016

Read: Action Sheet arising out of Minutes of Audit Committee Meeting held on Thursday 28 April 2016. (Copy circulated)

AGREED: **It was agreed to note the Action Sheet arising out of the Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting held on Thursday 28 April 2016.**

AC/52/2016: COMMENCEMENT TIMES AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Noted: The Audit Committee Meeting which originally had been scheduled for Thursday 30 June 2016 had to be changed to Monday 4 July 2016 to facilitate holiday arrangements and this would not be a permanent change going forward.

Noted: A schedule of dates for all statutory Committee Meetings of Council, which included the Audit Committee, had been agreed at the Annual Meeting of Council held on Wednesday 1 June 2016 and subsequently published.

Councillor Sharvin proposed and Councillor Devlin seconded that the Audit Committee Meeting be held on the same day as the Council Meeting commencing at 2pm.

Councillor Hearty said the date and times which were already agreed by Council for Audit Committee Meetings for period 2016/17, should remain unchanged and Councillor Ruane said he concurred with Councillor Hearty on this matter.

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

For	5
Against	4

The proposal was declared carried.

AGREED: It was therefore subsequently agreed that the Audit Committee Meeting be held on the same day as the Council Meeting commencing at 2pm.

AC/53/2016: TRAINING FOR MEMBERS OF AUDIT COMMITTEE

Read: Report dated 4 July 2016 from Ms D Carville Director of Corporate Services regarding details of On Board Training on The Effective Audit and Risk Committee to be held on Friday 30 September 2016 in the Mount Conference Centre Belfast at a cost of £225 plus vat per attendee. (Copy circulated)

AGREED: It was agreed that should any Member of the Audit Committee wish to avail of the On Board Training on The Effective Audit Risk Committee, that they contact Ms Louise Dillon Democratic Services Officer.

It was also agreed that should a significant number of Members request to attend this training and/or should the date not be suitable, Officers to contact the training provider to establish if this training could be held 'in-house'.

AC/54/2016: AUDIT COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2015 – 16

Read: Newry Mourne & Down District Council Audit Committee Annual Report for 2015/2016. (Copy circulated)

Mr Campbell presented the above Report.

Noted: A paper would be brought forward to a future meeting of the Audit Committee regarding an Audit Committee self-assessment to commence in 2016/2017, which would include an appraisal of the performance of the Independent Chairperson of the Audit Committee.

AGREED: It was agreed to note the Audit Committee Annual Report for 2015-2016.

Councillor Enright thanked the Chairman for completing the Annual Report. He expressed concern at the Internal Audit's overall limited assurance rating and suggested that outstanding internal audit recommendations be reported to the Audit Committee on a quarterly basis for review and noting of progress. He also suggested that those audit actions which were being delayed as a result of IT issues could be highlighted.

Noted: Ms Carville explained a list of internal audit recommendations outstanding from the legacy Councils would be presented to the Committee at today's meeting under Item 11 on the Agenda and this list contained details of all priority points from both legacy Councils as well as recommendations which arose in 2015-2016. She added that a completion date had been put against each point and for those points

where the completion date had expired, an explanation of actions being taken had been provided.

CORPORATE SERVICES

AC/55/2016: ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2015-16

Read: Report dated 4 July 2016 from Mr K Montgomery Assistant Director of Finance enclosing the Draft Newry Mourne & Down District Council Annual Accounts for 2015-16. (Copy circulated)

Mr Montgomery presented the draft Annual Accounts and Governance Statement.

Councillor Enright expressed concern that the new Council's accounts were being compared against the accounts from the Shadow Council, rather than the two legacy Councils.

Mr Knox explained the balance sheet, which contained only the Shadow Council figures as a comparative, was in line with the CIPFA pro forma accounts and said NIAO had been involved in the Finance Working Group along with CIPFA and were content that the disclosures in the pro forma accounts were in line with accounting standards.

Mr Knox also advised he believed it was note 25 in the accounts which highlighted the opening balance sheets of legacy Council and how these opening balances were incorporated into these accounts.

Ms Carville explained the Annual Accounts had been prepared and presented in line with the Guidance provided.

Mr Campbell thanked Ms Carville, Mr Montgomery, Ms Phillips and the staff from the Finance Department for their work in preparing the Council's draft Accounts under such a tight deadline.

Mr Campbell said the Council welcomed the surplus for the year in the unaudited draft accounts and the good position in terms of fixed assets and provisions and he asked when Officers planned to have the full accounts circulated.

AGREED: It was agreed to note the draft unaudited Annual Accounts 2015-16.

It was also agreed that should any Member require a full set of the draft Annual Accounts this could be arranged.

AC/56/2016: CORPORATE RISK REGISTER

Read: Report dated 4 July 2016 from Ms D Carville Director of Corporate Services enclosing the following documents:
Newry Mourne & Down Corporate Risk Register
NIAO Good Practice in Risk Management Checklist
NIAO Managing Fraud Risk in a Changing Environment – Self Assessment Checklist
(Copy circulated)

Ms Carville said arising out of the Audit Committee Meeting held on 28 April 2016 it had been agreed to table the Corporate Risk Register at the next Meeting of the Audit Committee.

Noted: It was noted that the Corporate Risk Register would be a live document reflecting risks and would be updated on an on-going basis.

It was noted a process to develop Directorate Risk Registers would commence shortly.

Councillor Sharvin asked questions regarding the following:

- Organisational Design
- IT strategy
- Planning for new powers and responsibilities.
- Inclusion of a Business Continuity Plan or Disaster Recovery Plan
- Council's Communications team – staffing levels
- Whether Council have Risk Champions across departments

Ms Carville responded as follows to the issues raised by Councillor Sharvin:

Management were continuing to work to the stated timetable in respect of implementing organisational design.

A presentation was given to Council by Acquity regarding an overall IT strategy. Further detail would be brought back to the Efficiencies Working Group and to Council to establish if the Council could deliver based on the costs to be provided.

Detailed discussions had been held by the Senior Management Team regarding planning for new powers and responsibilities. Management believed the Council had planned adequately on the basis of the information available to date, and on receipt of further information, this would be progressed further.

Business continuity plans were in place. However it had been identified that further work was required to further enhance and build resilience in this area.

AGREED: It was agreed that details regarding issues raised in relation to the Council's communications staff levels would be forwarded to Councillor Sharvin.

Management would consider the suggestion relating to the need for Risk Champions as they further develop risk management processes.

Councillor Enright asked questions regarding the following:

- To consider linking a separate list of audit points showing departmental responsibility for each to be contained in the Corporate Risk Register
- Whether risks included on the two legacy Council Risk Registers had been considered in compiling the new Risk Register.
- What mechanisms are available for Councillors to express concerns regarding governance/Council decisions.

Ms Carville responded as follows to the issues raised by Councillor Enright:

It was important that the Corporate Risk Register was at a strategic level, focused on achieving the objectives of the Corporate Plan. Therefore, it would not be appropriate to include audit recommendations within.

The format of the Risk Register was in line with the Risk Management Policy approved by the Council in March 2016. Both legacy Council Risk Registers were considered when developing the Newry Mourne & Down Risk Register and would also be considered when the Directorate Risk Registers were being developed.

Mechanisms were in place for Councillors to raise issues of concerns. This would be further discussed at Item 10

Ms O Hagan noted that the corporate risk register had informed the Internal Audit Plan for this year.

Mr Campbell thanked Officers for presenting the Corporate Risk Register and welcomed the significant progress that had been made in risk management since the last meeting.

AC/57/2016: REVIEW OF WHISTLEBLOWING POLICY

Read: Report dated 4 July 2016 from Ms D Carville Director of Corporate Services regarding a review of the Council's Whistleblowing Policy.
(Copy circulated)

AGREED: It was agreed no adjustments were required to the Newry Mourne & Down District Council Whistleblowing Policy in respect of Elected Members.

EXEMPT ITEMS

The following items are deemed restricted in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.

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

**AC/58/2016: PROCUREMENT
DIRECT AWARDS CONTRACTS 2015-16**

Read: Report dated 4 July 2016 from Mr D Barter Procurement Manager regarding Procurement of Direct Awards Contracts 2015 – 16.
(Copy circulated)

**AC/59/2016: PROCUREMENT
EU TENDERING – WASTE**

Read: Report dated 4 July 2016 from Mr D Barter Procurement Manager regarding EU Tendering in respect of waste. (Copy circulated)

INTERNAL AUDIT

AC/60/2016: INTERNAL AUDIT - SUMMARY REPORT

Read: Report from ASM Limited regarding Internal Audit Summary Report.
(Copy circulated)

AC/61/2016: INTERNAL AUDIT – FOLLOW UP REVIEW

Read: Report from ASM Limited regarding Internal Audit Follow up Review – Audit Fieldwork 2015/16. (Copy circulated)

AC/62/2016: INTERNAL AUDIT – REVIEW OF PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

Read: Report from ASM Limited regarding Internal Audit Review of Programme Management 2015/16. (Copy circulated)

AC/63/2016: IMPLEMENTATION OF INTERNAL AUDIT RECOMMENDATIONS

Read: Report dated 4 July 2016 from Ms D Carville Director of Corporate Services regarding the implementation of Internal Audit Recommendations.
(Copy circulated)

AC/64/2016: INTERNAL AUDIT – ANNUAL ASSURANCE REPORT 2015/16

Read: Report from ASM Limited regarding Internal Audit Annual Assurance Report 2015/16.
(Copy circulated)

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Trainor seconded by Councillor Devlin it was agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

When the Committee came out of Closed Session the Chairman reported the following:

Procurement - Direct Award Contracts

AGREED: It was agreed to note Report dated 4 July 2016 from Mr D Barter Procurement Manager regarding procurement of Direct Award Contracts.

Councillors to be provided with the justification for the procurement by Direct Award Contracts in future reports.

Procurement – EU Tendering in respect of Waste

AGREED: It was agreed to note Report dated 4 July from Mr D Barter Procurement Manager regarding EU Tendering in respect of waste and this item was now completed.

Internal Audit - Summary Report

AGREED: It was agreed to note Internal Audit Summary Report.

The commencement of audit fieldwork on IT Security and Systems to be raised at the next Senior Management Team Meeting as the Committee felt now may not be the appropriate time to commence work on this particular area and that the audit on IT and Security Systems could be substituted with audit work on another area within Council.

Internal Audit – Follow up Review

AGREED: It was agreed to note Report from ASM Limited regarding Internal Audit Follow up Review and the further progress report as at June 2016 prepared by Management.

Management would arrange to include the recommendations identified by NIAO as Priority One onto the Council's Audit recommendations schedule.

A further Internal Audit Follow up Review to be tabled at the Audit Committee Meeting in September 2016.

Internal Audit – Review of Programme Management

AGREED: It was agreed to note the Report from ASM Limited regarding Internal Audit Review of Programme Management.

Internal Audit – Annual Assurance Report

AGREED: It was agreed to note the Final Internal Audit Annual Assurance Report 2015/16.

FOR NOTING**AC/65/2016: COUNCIL DECISION MAKING PROCESS**

Read: Report dated 4 July 2016 from Mr L Hannaway Chief Executive regarding the Council decision making processes. (Copy circulated)

Councillor Enright welcomed the papers which had been prepared outlining the Council's decision making process and added revenue items needed to be subject to a cost benefit case and items referred to the capital items needed to be carried through the Capital budget process for final decision.

AGREED: Management to examine amending the decision making process templates to include the process for including in Capital and Revenue budgets and arrange to have a paper tabled at the next meeting of the Audit Committee to be held on Thursday 22 September 2016.

**AC/66/2016: NIAO AUDIT STRATEGY 2016-17
IMPROVEMENT AUDIT AND ASSESSMENT**

Read: NIAO Audit Strategy 2016-16 re: Improvement Audit and Assessment.
(Copy circulated)

Mr Knox presented the above document.

Mr Knox said the Local Government Auditor had met with all Chief Executives and performance improvement had been one of the issues discussed. He said there had been close communication between NIAO and Council in relation to this work.

AGREED: It was agreed to note the NIAO Strategy 2016/17 – Improvement Audit and Assessment.

At the request of Councillor Enright it was agreed Management keep the Audit Committee advised on issues regarding the former Drumnakelly Landfill Site in light of the EU Referendum vote to exit the EU, and the fact this site would no longer be the subject of a waste tax payment.

Noted: The Council's draft Performance Improvement Plan 2016-17 was tabled at the Audit Committee Meeting in April 2016. It had been subject to public consultation and the finalised plan would be tabled at the Council Meeting on 4 July 2016, via the Minutes of the Strategic Policy & Resources

Committee.

**AC/67/2016: NIAO RE NATIONAL FRAUD INITIATIVE (NFI)
DATA MATCHING EXERCISE 2016-17**

Read: Correspondence dated 21 June 2016 from NIAO regarding the National Fraud Initiative (NFI) Data Matching Exercise 2016-17. (Copy circulated)

Mr K Montgomery and Mr E Curtis responded to queries regarding NIAO data matching exercises carried out during the existence of the two legacy Councils.

AGREED: It was agreed to note correspondence from NIAO regarding the National Fraud Initiative (NFI) Data Matching Exercise 2016-17.

AC/68/2016: MEDIA REPORT RE: COUNCIL PAYMENTS

Councillor Hearty referred to an article in the media regarding the slow issuing of payments to suppliers by Council.

Noted: The Council had issued a response to the media regarding the article on the prompt payment statistics. Management were currently examining ways to improve both the IT systems involved and the methods used to pay suppliers.

AGREED: It was agreed a review of methods to issue payments to suppliers to be included in the programme of work of the Efficiencies Working Group.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Casey seconded by Councillor Enright it was agreed to appoint Councillor G Sharvin to chair the meeting from this point onwards.

(4.45pm – Mr Campbell Chairperson left the meeting)

(4.45pm – Councillor Sharvin chaired the meeting from this point)

The following item was deemed restricted in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.

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

**AC/69/2016: ADDITIONAL TIME CLAIM
INDEPENDENT CHAIRPERSON OF AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Read: Report dated 4 July 2016 from Ms D Carville, Director of Corporate Services

regarding a time claim submitted by Mr J Campbell Independent Chairperson of the Audit Committee in respect of additional work to investigate governance issues raised by Councillor C Enright.
(Copy circulated)

AGREED: It was unanimously agreed the Committee come out of closed session.

AGREED: When the Committee came out of closed session Ms Carville reported the Committee had considered the additional Time Claim submitted by the Chairperson of the Audit Committee and it had been agreed to note same.

The meeting concluded at 4.55pm.

For consideration at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 1 August 2016.

Signed: Ms D Carville
Director of Corporate Services

Signed: Mr J Campbell
Independent Chairperson



A DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE CONSULTATION

DRAFT NORTHERN IRELAND HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND MODERN SLAVERY STRATEGY 2016/17

1 July 2016

RESPONDING TO THIS CONSULTATION

- i. An electronic version of this document is available in the consultation section of the Department of Justice website (www.justice-ni.gov.uk). Hard copies will be posted on request. Textphone contact details are provided below.
- ii. Copies in other formats, including Braille, large print, computer disk etc. may be made available on request. Please let us know if you need copies in an alternative language or format.
- iii. Responses should be emailed to DOJSMHTConsultation.Mailbox@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk or posted to the following address:

Organised Crime Branch
Protection and Organised Crime Division
Department of Justice
Room B4.20
Castle Buildings
Stormont Estate
Belfast
BT4 3SG
Telephone: 028 90 528 625
Textphone: 028 90 527 668

- iv. **The closing date for this consultation is 17:00 Friday 9 September 2016**
- v. The DOJ will publish a summary of responses following the completion of the consultation process. Unless individual respondents specifically indicate that they wish their response to be treated in confidence, their name and the nature of their response may be included in any published summary of responses. Respondents should also be aware that the DOJ's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act may require that any responses, not subject to specific exemptions in the Act, may be disclosed to other parties on request.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Background

1.1 Section 12 of the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Criminal Justice and Support for Victims) Act (Northern Ireland) 2015 places a requirement on the Department of Justice (DOJ) to produce an annual strategy on offences under section 1 and 2 of the Act (slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour and human trafficking).

1.2 The draft strategy attached at Annex A has been developed by the DOJ after extensive engagement with both civil society partners on the DOJ's Human Trafficking Engagement Group and statutory partners on the Organised Crime Task Force's (OCTF) Immigration and Human Trafficking Subgroup.

1.3 It builds on work that was progressed under the 2015/16 Human Trafficking and Exploitation Strategy and under earlier human trafficking action plans for Northern Ireland. Progress reports against previous action plans can be found at: <https://www.justice-ni.gov.uk/publications/northern-ireland-human-trafficking-action-plan-2013-to14-progress-report>; and

<https://www.justice-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/doj/ni-human-trafficking-and-exploitation-action-plan-2014-16.pdf>

1.4 DOJ is in the process of completing a progress report against the 2015/16 strategy and this will also be published on the justice-ni.gov.uk website in due course.

Purpose of strategy

1.5 In line with section 12 of the Act, the purpose of the draft strategy is to raise awareness of human trafficking and slavery-like offences in Northern Ireland and to contribute to a reduction in the number of such offences.

1.6 Section 12 of the Act also sets out that the strategy must, in particular, cover:

- the arrangements for co-operation between relevant organisations;

- provision as to the training and equipment for investigators, prosecutors and those dealing with victims; and
- provisions aimed at raising awareness of the rights and entitlements of victims.

1.7 We would particularly invite views on whether the draft strategy at Annex A meets the requirements of section 12 of the Act.

Strategic aim and priorities

1.8 The overarching strategic aim is consistent with the aim of the 2015-16 strategy:

“Equipping Northern Ireland to eradicate human trafficking and modern slavery whilst protecting and supporting victims.”

1.9 This aim is underpinned by four strategic priorities:

- Pursue (effective detection, disruption, investigation and prosecution of offenders);
- Protect and support (improved identification and the provision of effective protection and support);
- Prevent (prevent and reduce risk of human trafficking and modern slavery offences in Northern Ireland); and
- Partnership (effective, collaborative and joined-up partnership response).

1.10 These priorities are in turn supported by a number of key objectives and SMART actions which the DOJ and its partners have committed to delivering during 2016/17.

1.11 We invite comments on the appropriateness of the proposed strategic aim and priorities as well as on the proposed objectives and actions that have been identified.

Consultation

1.12 Whilst we have already engaged with a wide range of key partners and stakeholders we want to ensure that other individuals and organisations are afforded an opportunity to comment on the draft in order to inform the final strategy. In particular we are keen to consult with other bodies, agencies or organisations whose functions or activities seek to tackle human trafficking or modern slavery offences or support the victims of these offences. Interested parties are invited to consider the draft strategy at Annex A and to complete and return the response questionnaire at Annex B by 17:00 Friday 9 September 2016.

Next steps

1.13 Following consultation the DOJ will evaluate the responses received and (as necessary) produce a revised strategy to be shared with the Justice Committee. We hope that we will be in a position to publish the final strategy by the end of September 2016.

1.14 In order not to lose momentum, however, we intend to continue to work with our delivery partners towards implementation of the strategy whilst still in draft form, throughout the duration of the consultation period.

2. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Equality Impact

2.1 As a public authority under Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 the Department of Justice is required to have due regard to the need to promote equality of opportunity. This legislation also requires public authorities to identify whether a policy has a differential impact upon relevant groups; the nature and extent of that impact; and whether such an impact is justified. These obligations are designed to ensure that equality and good relations considerations are made central to government policy development.

2.2 We believe that the draft strategy would be beneficial and would have no adverse effect in Section 75 terms. It would reinforce Northern Ireland's defences against human trafficking and modern slavery offences. It will help to facilitate effective investigations and prosecutions as well as helping to ensure that victims are identified, protected and supported.

2.3 We do not therefore consider that an Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) is required. Our screening form is available on the DOJ website.

2.4 Comments on our screening assessment and equality conclusions are welcome.

Financial and public sector impact

2.5 We do not anticipate that any of the proposed actions in the draft strategy would have a significant cost impact. The draft strategy has been developed to coordinate efforts to make the best possible use of available resources. Any costs that may arise are likely to be absorbed by the Department of Justice and its statutory partners.

3. SUMMARY OF TARGETED CONSULTEES

3.1 This consultation has been made publicly available on the DOJ website. In addition, we have identified a number of key stakeholders who we believe will have a direct interest in the proposals set out in this paper and have invited their comments. The list of key stakeholders is set out below:

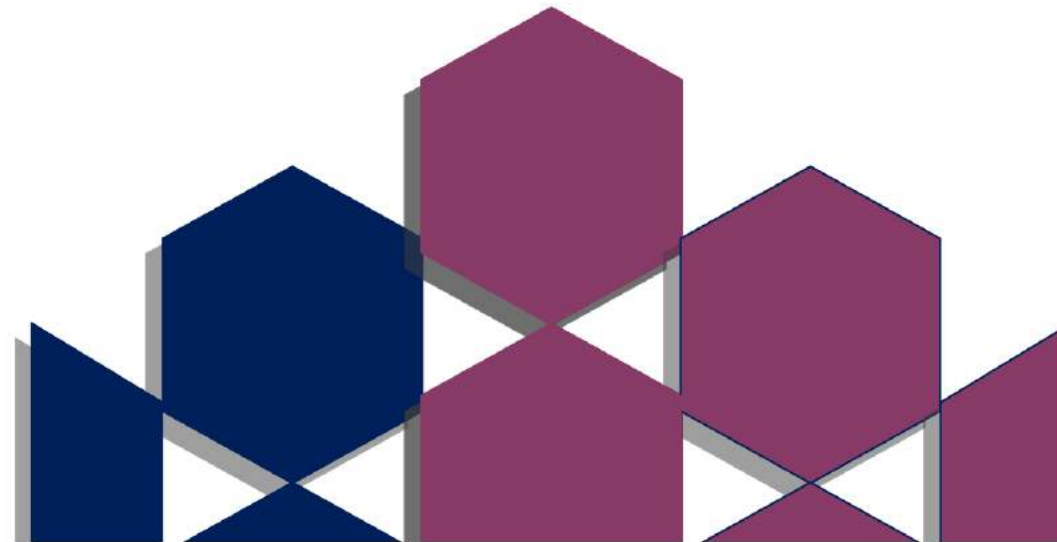
- MLAs
- Northern Ireland MPs
- Northern Ireland MEPs
- Northern Ireland political parties
- Northern Ireland Government Departments
- Councils
- Health and Social Care Trusts
- Northern Ireland Courts and Tribunal Service
- Churches
- Civil society organisations
- DOJ Sex Worker Liaison Group
- Cultural organisations
- Equality Commission Northern Ireland
- Police Service of Northern Ireland
- Police Ombudsman
- Northern Ireland Policing Board
- Probation Board Northern Ireland
- Public Prosecution Service for Northern Ireland
- Criminal Justice Inspection Northern Ireland
- NIACRO
- Northern Ireland Audit Office
- Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission
- Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People
- Northern Ireland Prison Service
- Community groups
- Members of the OCTF Immigration and Human Trafficking subgroup
- Members of the Human Trafficking Engagement Group and other NGOs

- Joseph Rowntree Foundation
- Lord Chief Justice
- Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner
- Attorney General
- Law Society
- Bar Council

4. QUERIES OR CONCERNS

4.1 If you have any queries or concerns about the way in which the consultation has been handled please contact the DOJ Consultation Co-ordinator at the following address:

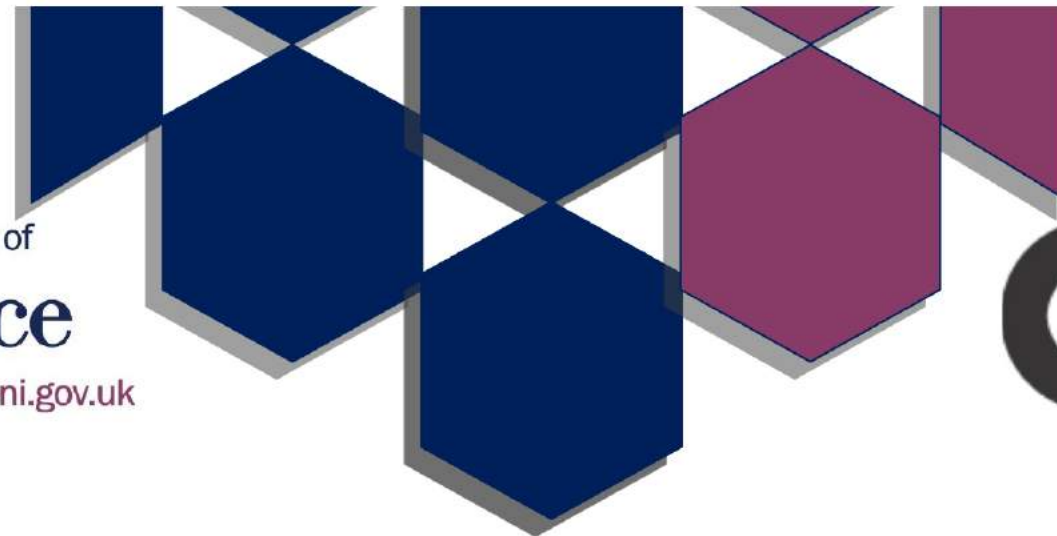
Corporate Secretariat
Room 3.13B
Castle Buildings
Stormont Estate
BELFAST
BT4 3SG
Tel: 02890 522611
Email: dojequality@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk



DRAFT NORTHERN IRELAND HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND MODERN SLAVERY STRATEGY 2016/17



Department of
Justice
www.justice-ni.gov.uk



**ORGANISED
CRIME**
TASK FORCE

1. **MINISTERIAL FOREWORD**

[to be inserted once strategy is finalised]

2. INTRODUCTION

This strategy has been developed by the Department of Justice (DOJ) in collaboration with civil society and statutory partners through the Organised Crime Task Force (OCTF) and its subgroups.

Section 12 of the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Criminal Justice and Support for Victims) Act (Northern Ireland) 2015 (“the 2015 Act”) places a requirement on the Department of Justice (DOJ) to produce an annual strategy on offences under section 1 and 2 of the Act (slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour and human trafficking). The purpose of the strategy is to raise awareness of human trafficking and modern slavery offences and to contribute to a reduction in the number of such offences. In doing so it also seeks to improve victim identification and recovery and to ensure that appropriate protection and support measures are in place for victims to access.

Section 12 of the 2015 Act says that the strategy must also:

- set out the arrangements for co-operation between relevant organisations (both statutory and non-statutory);
- include provision as to training and equipment for investigators, prosecutors and those dealing with victims; and

- include provisions aimed at raising awareness of the rights and entitlements of victims.

The development of the strategy has been informed by:

- consultation with relevant organisations that are actively involved in tackling human trafficking and modern slavery in Northern Ireland;
- statutory measures and requirements under the 2015 Act and the Modern Slavery Act 2015;
- ongoing engagement on national priorities and common issues with other United Kingdom jurisdictions and with the Irish Government;
- the EU Strategy towards the Eradication of Trafficking in Human Beings 2012-2016; and
- information available through the National Referral Mechanism and the National Crime Agency’s strategic assessments of the nature and scale of human trafficking in the United Kingdom¹.

The overarching strategic aim is: *“Equipping Northern Ireland to eradicate human trafficking and modern slavery whilst protecting and supporting victims”*.

¹ <http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/>

The strategy is structured around four Strategic Priorities which are:

1. **Pursue** (Effective detection, disruption, investigation and prosecution of offenders);
2. **Protect and Support** (Improved identification of victims and the provision of effective protection and support);
3. **Prevent** (Prevent and reduce the risk of modern slavery offences in Northern Ireland); and
4. **Partnership** (Effective, collaborative and joined-up partnership response).

These priorities are underpinned by strategic objectives and SMART actions which set out the work that, collectively, the DOJ and its partners are committed to delivering during 2016/17.

3. **BACKGROUND**

Scale of modern slavery in Northern Ireland

Human trafficking and slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour (“modern slavery offences”) are largely hidden crimes, which often make it difficult to establish an accurate assessment of the nature and extent of the problem in Northern Ireland. The National Referral Mechanism (NRM) currently helps to inform much of our understanding of the nature and scale of human trafficking and modern slavery across the United Kingdom. However it is widely accepted that the NRM only reveals part of the picture particularly since, in the case of adults, the individual must consent to a referral being made.

The National Crime Agency (NCA) also publishes an annual strategic assessment of modern slavery, which is informed by additional data sources, other than the NRM. In addition, new legislation in each of the United Kingdom jurisdictions has made provision for a new statutory duty on specified public authorities to report suspected cases of human trafficking and modern slavery. This duty is intended to provide greater insight into the nature and scale of trafficking and modern slavery and will allow information to be captured anonymously, even where an individual does not consent to a referral into the NRM. In Northern

Ireland this duty to report suspected cases is expected to come into effect before the end of 2016.

During 2015/16 the PSNI Human Trafficking Unit (HTU) conducted 252 screening assessments in respect of suspected cases of human trafficking or modern slavery. A total of 59 potential victims of human trafficking were referred to the NRM from Northern Ireland. This is an increase when compared to the 46 potential victims recorded for the financial year 2014/2015.

PSNI operational response

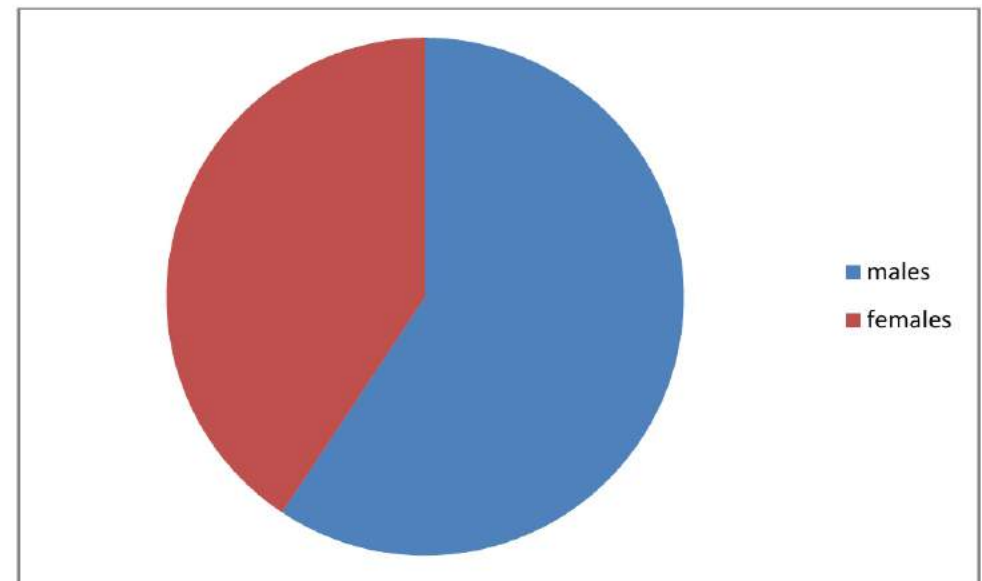
During 2015/16 financial year the HTU made 20 arrests. 12 of those arrests were for Human trafficking offences. The remaining eight arrests included offences of brothel keeping, firearms possession and drugs possession which were detected during human trafficking investigations.

A total of 41 searches were conducted during the 2015/16 financial year by the HTU. Six persons have been charged with a variety of offences, two of which were for human trafficking offences. Eight persons were reported to the Public Prosecution Service for Northern Ireland (PPS) for human trafficking-related offences.

Victimology

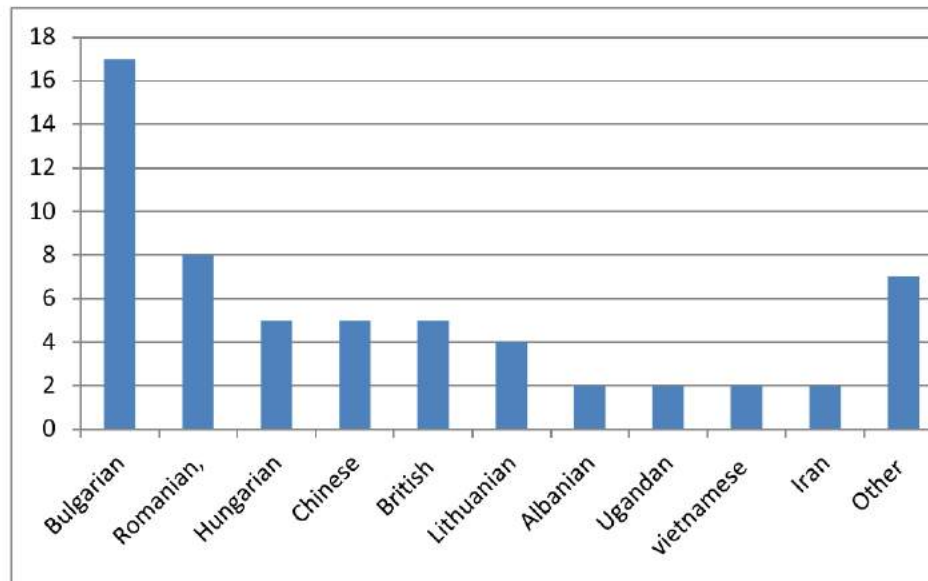
The 59 potential victims referred into the NRM included 35 males and 24 females. 11 of the individuals referred were children. 34 of the individuals were believed to be victims of forced and compulsory labour exploitation. The remaining 25 cases involved a variety of exploitation types, including sexual exploitation and 'securing services' exploitation.

Graph A shows the breakdown of male and female referrals during 2015/16



Graph A

Graph B shows numbers and the country of origin of potential victims who were referred to the NRM from Northern Ireland during 2015 and 2016.



Graph B

It is worth emphasising that potential victims are not always foreign nationals and indeed the United Kingdom and Ireland feature amongst the most common countries of origin of potential victims.

The legislative framework

2015 saw the introduction of new legislation in Northern Ireland which has introduced significant reforms and reinforced both how victims are protected and supported as well as law enforcement's response to perpetrators. The Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Criminal Justice and Support for Victims) Act (Northern Ireland) 2015 ("the 2015 Act") was granted Royal Assent on 13 January 2015. This legislation has enhanced our capacity to tackle human trafficking and slavery or forced labour in Northern Ireland by:

- establishing new offences of human trafficking and slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour;
- increasing the maximum sentence for human trafficking and slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour to life imprisonment;
- introducing a minimum two year sentence for these offences (unless there are exceptional circumstances to warrant a lower sentence);
- making it easier to confiscate the assets of exploiters and to force them to pay reparation to victims;
- criminalising the purchase of sexual services;
- introducing a new offence of forced marriage;
- introducing slavery and trafficking prevention orders;

- placing a statutory requirement on the Department of Justice to provide assistance and support to adult potential victims who are referred to the NRM;
- creating a new statutory defence for victims who have been compelled to commit certain other offences;
- creating new protections for victims within the criminal justice system in respect of avoiding secondary victimisation in police interviews and ensuring access to special measures in court and;
- introducing independent child guardians for trafficked and separated children.

With the consent of the Northern Ireland Assembly, a number of provisions in the Westminster Modern Slavery Act 2015 relating to enforcement powers in relation to ships, the Independent Anti-slavery Commissioner, and transparency in supply chains also extend to Northern Ireland. Again, this strategy includes a number of actions to ensure the full implementation of these provisions.

Identifying and supporting victims

The NRM continues to be the United Kingdom's framework for identifying victims of human trafficking and ensuring they receive the appropriate protection and support. First Responders are responsible for

referring potential victims to the NRM (as noted, adults need to give their consent to a referral being made on their behalf). Once referred into the NRM cases are assessed by one of the United Kingdom's Competent Authorities, whilst individuals are able to access a range of support services, including safe accommodation; one-to-one support; help with living / travel costs; help to access healthcare; sign-posting to immigration advice; sign-posting to independent legal advice and advice on compensation; help to access counselling or other therapeutic services; and interpreter / translation services.

The Department of Justice (DOJ) currently funds Migrant Help to provide this support to adult male potential victims of human trafficking and Women's Aid to support adult female potential victims of human trafficking, in accordance with the statutory obligations placed on the Department by section 18 of the Act. Support and protection for child victims and potential is provided by the Health and Social Care Trusts.

The 2014 review of the NRM made a number of recommendations for reforms which are aimed at improving the decision-making process in respect of cases and enhancing the overall effectiveness of the NRM in terms of outcomes for victims. A number of pilot projects are currently ongoing in England. DOJ and its partners in Northern Ireland wish to be

informed by the emerging lessons from these pilots and will need to work closely with counterparts in other jurisdictions to identify best practice and ensure that the NRM arrangements in Northern Ireland will effectively identify and support victims of trafficking and modern slavery. Supporting and protecting victims is a strategic priority and this strategy reflects the work that we plan to take forward in Northern Ireland in respect of implementing NRM reforms.

As a further reform of provision under the NRM, in March 2016 the former Minister of Justice announced the decision to extend the scope of the NRM in Northern Ireland to all victims of modern slavery, not just in those cases where there is an element of trafficking. This will ensure parity of treatment, support and protection to those who are vulnerable and exploited. The strategy reflects the ongoing work necessary to fully implement this important reform.

Progress through partnership

Partnership is one of the four strategic priorities under this strategy and it seeks to build on and develop the strong partnerships that are already in place between relevant Executive Departments, statutory agencies and non-governmental and civil society organisations.

Key progress has been made through effective partnerships during 2015/16. This includes:

- provision of awareness training to staff in statutory agencies, including training for new PSNI and Prison Officer recruits;
- development of an MoU between the United Kingdom's Gangmasters Licensing Authority and the Irish Workplace Relations Commission, which will boost cross border protection for workers in Ireland;
- delivery of ongoing support for adult potential victims of trafficking by Migrant Help and Women's Aid;
- delivery of extensive awareness raising activities, to schools, local church groups, private business and awareness information distributed at main public events;
- delivery of seminars to private sector representatives on the topic of labour exploitation and slavery;
- delivery of awareness raising material and engagement with sex workers and sex worker representatives, aimed at reducing risk and identifying victims within the sex industry.

DRAFT NORTHERN IRELAND HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND MODERN SLAVERY STRATEGY 2016/17

STRATEGIC AIM: *Equipping Northern Ireland to eradicate human trafficking and modern slavery whilst protecting and supporting victims*

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1: PURSUE

Effective detection, disruption, investigation and prosecution of offenders

Objectives:

1. Effective investigations and prosecutions
2. Improved understanding of human trafficking and exploitation
3. Effective training for law enforcement and prosecutors

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2: PROTECT AND SUPPORT

Improved identification of victims and the provision of effective protection and support

Objectives:

1. Improved victim identification
2. Protection and support services for victims and potential victims
3. Champion the rights and entitlements of victims and potential victims

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3: PREVENT

Prevent and reduce the risk of human trafficking and modern slavery offences in Northern Ireland

Objectives:

1. Engagement with perceived “at-risk” groups to reduce risk
2. Raise awareness, to increase reporting and to reduce demand
3. Evaluate effectiveness and capture best practice

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4: PARTNERSHIP

Effective, collaborative and joined-up partnership response

Objectives:

1. Co-operation across Government and statutory agencies
2. Co-operation between Government and civil society
3. Effective cross-border co-operation
4. Engagement with the Anti-slavery Commissioner

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1: PURSUE <i>Effective detection, disruption, investigation and prosecution of offenders</i>		Projected outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Effective recovery of victims - Organised crime groups disrupted - Traffickers and exploiters prosecuted - Risk to public reduced
Objective 1: Effective investigations and prosecutions		
Action	Owner	Target date
Law enforcement co-operation on joint operations, where appropriate	PSNI / Border Force/ HMRC	Ongoing
Continued co-operation with the NCA and other UK police forces and AGS to tackle cross-border and national trafficking and exploitation	PSNI	Ongoing
Implementation of Joint Investigation Teams with other EU member states, where appropriate	PSNI	Ongoing
Effective use of STPOs by police and courts to reduce the risk posed by offenders	PSNI / courts	Ongoing
Implementation of “maritime powers” provisions in the Modern Slavery Act 2015	DOJ	June 2016
PPS to continue to provide prosecutorial advice to PSNI and to facilitate early engagement with PSNI to improve effectiveness of investigations and prosecutions	PPS	Ongoing
PPS to continue to apply for restraint and confiscation of criminal assets in appropriate cases	PPS	Ongoing
Continue to work with other UK prosecuting authorities to fulfil the Prosecutor Commitments ² that were agreed and signed in February 2016	PPS	Ongoing

² A copy of the Prosecutor Commitments is attached for information at Appendix 1

Objective 2:

Improved understanding of human trafficking and modern slavery

Action	Owner	Target date
Development of up-to-date problem profile	PSNI analyst	September 2016
Provide an annual profile on all separated / trafficked children referred to HSC Trusts	HSCB	March 2016 onwards
Development of cyber capabilities to assist in the identification and scale of human trafficking	PSNI / QUB	November 2016 for beta version launch
Effective use of Europol for information sharing to increase understanding of human trafficking activity across the EU	PSNI	Ongoing
Development of MOUs with partner agencies to improve information sharing	PSNI / Border Force / HMRC	Ongoing
Implementation of "duty to notify" provisions under s 13 of Human Trafficking and Exploitation (etc) Act 2015	DOJ	December 2016
Monitor relevant data sources including NRM statistics	DOJ	Ongoing
To work with other UK prosecuting authorities to learn lessons, exchange good practice and share relevant information and contacts	PPS	Ongoing

Objective 3:

Effective training for law enforcement and prosecutors

Action	Owner	Target date
Dedicated PSNI training/workshop from PPS in relation to 2015 Human Trafficking and Exploitation Act and to review any lessons learned from cases prosecuted across the UK	PPS	September 2016
Dedicated PSNI supervisors to receive appropriate internal training and national human trafficking training through the College of Policing	PSNI	March 2017
Dedicated PSNI to receive cross-border training with AGS, when appropriate	PSNI	Ongoing
Human trafficking training to be delivered to new PSNI recruits; new-to-role	PSNI	Ongoing

Detectives; and dedicated call handling staff		
Immigration Enforcement staff to undertake mandatory training on identifying and responding to cases of human trafficking and modern slavery	UK Immigration Enforcement	March 2017

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2: PROTECT AND SUPPORT <i>Improved identification of victims and the provision of effective protection and support</i>			Projected outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Effective identification and recovery of victims - Victims have access to appropriate support - Improved victim confidence in the justice system - Increased potential for prosecutions - Improved outcomes for victims
Objective 1: Improved victim identification			
Action	Owner	Target date	
Development of effective NRM arrangements for Northern Ireland	DOJ / DHSSPS / HSCB / PSNI	December 2016	
Provision of effective guidance for First Responders [and panels] in Northern Ireland (subject to outcome NRM pilots)	DOJ	December 2016	
Development of statutory guidance on identifying victims of human trafficking and modern slavery	DOJ	December 2016	
Continuous learning from emerging cases	DOJ / HSCB / PSNI	Ongoing	
Roll out of new Modern Slavery Helpline	Home Office / DOJ	September 2016 (TBC)	
Launch of local telephone support helpline	Invisible Traffick	Autumn 2016	

Objective 2: Protection and support services for victims and potential victims			
Action	Owner	Target date	
Extend scope of the NRM in Northern Ireland to all victims of modern slavery	DOJ	July 2016	
Provision of support services for adult potential victims during the NRM's recovery and reflection period under DOJ's contracts with Migrant Help and B & L Women's Aid	DOJ / B&L Women's Aid / Migrant Help	Ongoing	
Engagement with adult victims exiting support services to learn from their	B&L Women's Aid / Migrant Help	Pilot questionnaire by October 2016	

experiences and identify best practice		
Evaluation of DOJ-funded support services	DOJ	April 2016
A business case will be undertaken to evaluate the options either to extend or tender for a new contract (subject to the outcome of service evaluation)	DOJ	TBC
Application of Trafficking Survivor Care Standards, with the agreement of the contracted service providers, across child and adult services as appropriate	DOJ / HSCB	Ongoing
Provision of tailored long term support for non-NRM adults, including information gathering and encouraging engagement to the NRM process.	Flourish NI	Ongoing
Delivery of intervention and support services to child victims and potential victims to fulfil obligations under the relevant domestic and international law e.g., Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 and UNHRC	HSCB	Ongoing
Procurement and establishment of Independent Guardian service in line with DHSSPS regulations and guidance on Independent Guardians	HSCB	Date to be agreed, subject to agreement being reached on regulations and guidance for the Independent Guardian Service
Revision of regional guidance on Working Arrangements for the welfare and safeguarding of child victims and potential victims of human trafficking	DHSSPS / HSCB / PSNI / DOJ	July 2016
Revision of regional guidance on Working Arrangements for the welfare and safeguarding of adult victims and potential victims of human trafficking	DOJ / DHSSPS / PSNI	August 2016
Establish clear protocols and pathways for child victims who reach 18 and transition between children's and adults' services	HSCB / DOJ	June 2016
Establish clear working arrangements in relation to adult victims who are parents with children in their care who may be vulnerable	HSCB / DOJ	July 2016
Advise and represent children and young people who are identified as potential victims of trafficking in Northern Ireland through the Children and Young People's Project	Law Centre NI	Ongoing
Advice and representation to victims of labour exploitation, including forced labour	Law Centre NI	Ongoing
Childline and NSPCC 24 hour helpline will continue as a source of help, advice or support to potential child victims of trafficking, carers or the general public. Professionals directed to Child Trafficking Advice Centre (CTAC)	NSPCC through CTAC	Ongoing

CTAC free service for professionals in Northern Ireland. UK multi-disciplinary service providing social work advice and NCA and UK Immigration Enforcement assistance. Provides training, data-sharing and expert witness court reports for children who have been trafficked.	NSPCC through CTAC	Ongoing
CTAC advice and assistance to professionals with concerns for children who have been trafficked across borders; children who are separated from their carer; those with unrelated adults; and children with parents who have been trafficked and there are risks to the child.	NSPCC through CTAC	Ongoing

Objective 3: Champion the rights and entitlements of victims and potential victims		
Action	Owner	Target date
Discretionary leave arrangements in place for victims who are assisting with criminal justice proceedings or where personal circumstances warrant it	Home Office	Ongoing
Effective use of "Discretionary leave to remain" applications, where appropriate	PSNI	Ongoing
Measures in place to avoid secondary victimisation	PSNI	Ongoing
Ensure that appropriate information is provided to victims and witnesses as cases progress and ensure that needs assessments are carried out at appropriate stages to determine whether specific assistance is needed to enable them to participate in criminal proceedings to give their best evidence	PPS / PSNI / NSPCC Young Witness Service	Ongoing
Implementation of a Repatriation Risk Assessment for each PVoT returning to their country of origin	PSNI	Ongoing
Ongoing work to identify and build network of NGO contacts in countries of repatriation	Migrant Help / Commissioner's office	Ongoing
Information, guidance and support signposted through DOJ-funded support services to potential victim	DOJ	Ongoing
Legal aid available to victims of trafficking and slavery, as necessary	DOJ	Ongoing
Represent the needs of victims, as appropriate, with service providers (eg.	DOJ / OCTF and Engagement Group	Ongoing, as necessary

Banks etc)	partners	
Development of briefing papers and recommendations on labour exploitation, including a paper on legal remedies in instances of labour exploitation and forced labour.	Law Centre NI	December 2016
Tailored long term support for both post and non-NRM adult survivors. Case-workers assigned to assist with all aspects of daily life; promoting independence and reducing the risk of further exploitation.	Flourish NI	Ongoing
Provision of support for child victims at Immigration Tribunal Hearings	NSPCC through Young Witness Service	Ongoing

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3: PREVENT <i>Prevent and reduce the risk of human trafficking and modern slavery offences in Northern Ireland</i>			Projected outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reduced risk of people being trafficked or exploited within Northern Ireland - Increased public awareness and reporting - Reduced demand for services of trafficked and exploited victims
Objective 1: Engagement with perceived “at-risk” groups to reduce risk			
Action	Owner	Target date	
Engagement with migrant workers to raise awareness and migrant worker rights	Freedom Acts (with input from DEL/DOJ as required)	Ongoing Workshop April 2016	
Engagement with sex workers to raise awareness of risks and signs and indicators	DOJ / PSNI / Sex Worker Liaison Group	Ongoing	
Awareness sessions in schools (assemblies, SU groups, etc...) by STOP THE TRAFFIK groups (complementing Freedom Acts materials)	No More Traffik	Ongoing	

Objective 2: Raise awareness, to increase reporting and to reduce demand		
Action	Owner	Target date
Public awareness campaign to mark EU Anti-slavery Day	DOJ and partners	October 2016
Targeted programme of awareness to front-line professionals and key sectors	DOJ / Engagement Group	Ongoing
Awareness outreach at public events (e.g. Balmoral Show, Mela etc)	DOJ	Ongoing
Co-ordination of training / awareness-raising currently available through NGO sector to ensure consistent approach with Trust Training Teams to address health and social work staff	DOJ / HSCB / NGOs / HSC Trusts / Regional Trainers	September 2016
Development and distribution of information / awareness resources	DOJ / Engagement Group	Ongoing

STOP THE TRAFFIK groups to host and participate in community awareness sessions	No More Traffik	Ongoing
Mainstream awareness events several times per year to mark key moments and raise awareness of related issues	No More Traffik	Ongoing
Promotion of 'STOP app' encouraging communities to spot the signs and report suspicions	No More Traffik	Ongoing
Use of UN GIFT Box to raise awareness in less-reached communities	No More Traffik	Ongoing
Educate, inform and raise awareness through presentations to an audience of wide range of socio-economic groups and opinion formers	Invisible Traffik	Ongoing
Educate Key Stage 1 and 2 children using the Visi's World education resource pack	Invisible Traffik	Ongoing
Delivery of training and education on human trafficking and modern slavery to schools, youth groups, PCSPSs, faith groups, etc., in line with Freedom Acts' education plan 2015-18	Freedom Acts	Ongoing

Objective 3:

Evaluate effectiveness and capture best practice

Action	Owner	Target date
Baseline public awareness through Omnibus Crime Survey (subject to resources)	DOJ	December 2016
Public engagement and survey to assess and raise awareness of human trafficking and modern slavery	Soroptimist International / DOJ	October 2016
Develop resource library	DOJ	September 2016

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4: PARTNERSHIP <i>Effective, collaborative and joined-up partnership response</i>		Projected outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improved victim identification - Consistent response across UK jurisdictions - Effective use of limited resources - Informed, effective policies
Objective 1: Co-operation across Government and statutory agencies		
Action	Owner	Target date
Effective co-ordination through regular meetings of the OCTF Immigration and Human Trafficking Subgroup	PSNI / DOJ	3 per year
Effective co-ordination on issues relating to children through the Regional Practice Network	HSCB	Ongoing
Development of effective links with local government	DOJ / councils	Ongoing
Participation in Inter Departmental Ministerial Group on Modern Slavery	DOJ	Ongoing
Effective co-ordination with Scottish, Welsh and Westminster Governments	DOJ	Ongoing
Participation in national working group on Anti-slavery Training standards	DOJ	Ongoing
Alignment with the UK NRM arrangements	DOJ / PSNI / DHSSPS /HSCB	Ongoing
Objective 2: Co-operation between Government and civil society		
Action	Owner	Target date
Ongoing co-operation through the DOJ Human Trafficking Engagement Group	DOJ / PSNI / E Group	3 per year
Ongoing co-operation through the DOJ Sex Worker Liaison Group, focusing on human trafficking	DOJ / PSNI / SWLG	3 per year
Development of protocol between NGOs and PSNI in respect of victims of human trafficking and modern slavery	PSNI	Ongoing

Objective 3:

Effective cross-border co-operation

Action	Owner	Target date
Co-host cross-border forum on modern slavery	DOJ / DOJE	June 2016
Biennial analysis of victim referrals in Ireland and Northern Ireland	DOJ / DOJE	March 2017
Ongoing AGS representation on OCTF Immigration and Human Trafficking subgroup	AGS	Ongoing
Appropriate co-ordination and information sharing with Irish Government	DOJ	Ongoing
Effective co-operation on child protection matters with ROI colleagues through the North-South Ministerial Council child protection subgroup	DHSSPS	Ongoing
Participation in Santa Marta Group's North Atlantic Maritime Project	PSNI, DOJ, AGS, DOJE	Ongoing

Objective 4:

Engagement with the Anti-slavery Commissioner

Action	Owner	Target date
Co-operation with the Anti-Slavery Commissioner	Specified public authorities	Ongoing
Implementation of Commissioner recommendations	All	As appropriate
Strategic alignment with the Commissioner's strategic plan	DOJ and partners	Ongoing

Appendix 1

Prosecutors Commitments

Overarching Commitment:

The Prosecuting Authorities in the UK will work closely together and with our law enforcement partners to disrupt networks, prosecute traffickers and safeguard victims' rights within the Criminal Justice Process.

How will we do this?

- We will build strong cases to support these most serious offences;
- We will ensure that the rights and welfare of victims are at the heart of our approach to investigation and prosecution;
- We will continue to deliver training and development to prosecutors and law enforcement to improve our expertise; and
- We will work closely together to learn lessons, exchange good practice and share relevant information, data and contacts.

Building Strong Cases

We will continue to work closely with law enforcement and other partners to ensure that any cases in relation to these types of offences are prepared and prosecuted robustly.

We will;

- Provide appropriate advice and support to reporting agencies at all stages of the investigative process.
- Identify and utilise expert witnesses in relevant cases.
- Consider the use of overseas support and assistance, in particular through mutual legal assistance or joint investigative teams.

- Ensure that financial investigation and proceedings in relation to Proceeds of Crime legislation are pursued where appropriate.

Victims and Witnesses

We will continue to ensure that the welfare of victims, witnesses and potential victims of human trafficking are at the heart of our approach to investigating and prosecuting offences of human trafficking.

We will;

- Treat all victims and witnesses of human trafficking with respect, sensitivity and professionalism;
- Communicate with victims and witnesses clearly and effectively ensuring that information is provided at all stages of the case by the most appropriate means and is translated where required;
- Signpost victims and witnesses where appropriate to help them to access agencies who provide additional support.
- Recognise that victims and witnesses of human trafficking often face complex barriers to giving evidence in criminal cases and proactively explore whether special measures are required to assist those victims and witnesses to give their best evidence throughout the case;
- Endeavour to ensure that support and assistance are available to victims and witnesses who are living in other jurisdictions.
- Use feedback from victims, witnesses and any other relevant individuals or groups to inform changes and improvements to our services;

Code of Conduct

We will adhere to the relevant Code or Code of Conduct for Prosecutors and all other relevant prosecution guidance in our respective jurisdictions when making any decision in relation to the prosecution of Human Trafficking cases.

We will;

- Ensure that the law is properly applied and that the right person is prosecuted for the right crime.
- Be fair, independent and objective at all stages of the case.

- Not let any personal views about the ethnic or national origin, gender, disability, age, religion or belief, political views, sexual orientation, or gender identity of the suspect, victim or any witness influence decisions.
- Not be affected by undue or improper pressure from any source.
- Act in the interests of justice and not solely for the purpose of obtaining a conviction.
- Act in a manner which ensures any prosecution is dealt with efficiently and without undue delay.

Training

We will periodically review and update the provision of training for all staff who may be involved in the investigation and prosecution of Human Trafficking.

Training available on Human Trafficking will include the following information;

- A summary of the dynamics found in situations of human trafficking;
- The common indicators that an individual has been trafficked;
- The legislative framework relating to human trafficking and modern slavery;
- Any case law involving human trafficking applicable to the jurisdiction;
- Examples of the specific vulnerabilities of victims of human trafficking;
- Best practice in communicating with victims and witnesses of human trafficking both in and out of the Court setting.
- Any other lessons learned from cases prosecuted across the UK.

Non-Governmental Organisations

We recognise the important role that Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) have in working to eradicate human trafficking and in supporting victims of human trafficking. We commit to developing and maintaining effective means of engagement with NGOs.

The purpose of such engagement is;

- To ensure there is an understanding of the complex nature of human trafficking and the needs and experiences of victims;

- To enable NGOs to share their expertise to assist with the development of best practice, policy, guidelines and training;
- To provide NGOs with a fuller understanding of the Criminal Justice Process; and
- To facilitate the exchange of information.

Exchange of Information

We will continue to work closely on all aspects of human trafficking and will undertake to exchange information to learn lessons from each other and develop our experience to lead to an improved response across the UK in the prosecution of these cases.

We will;

- Meet on a regular basis to discuss and exchange experience.
- Exchange good practice on all aspects of cases of human trafficking, including case building, evidential issues, victim support and protection, use of experts and presentation of evidence including digital working.
- Exchange training materials and opportunities to attend training courses in each other's jurisdictions.
- Share legal and policy guidance, particularly for new legislation.
- Share relevant case law involving human trafficking which may impact the way cases are prosecuted.
- Share data on cases of human trafficking
- Exchange useful contacts for obtaining assistance within the UK and across other jurisdictions

Annex B

RESPONSE QUESTIONNAIRE - DRAFT NORTHERN IRELAND HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND MODERN SLAVERY STRATEGY 2016/17

Consultee Details

Contact name	<input type="text"/>
Name and address of organisation	<input type="text"/>
Email address	<input type="text"/>

Are you content for your response to be published in full or in part? (If in part, please specify those parts that should not be published)

YES / NO / IN PART

Questions

We would welcome responses to the following questions:

Question 1

Section 12 of the Human Trafficking and Exploitation (Criminal Justice and Support for Victims) Act (Northern Ireland) 2015, requires a strategy to be developed to raise awareness of human trafficking and slavery-like offences in Northern Ireland and to contribute to a reduction in the number of such offences. The strategy is required to cover:

- the arrangements for co-operation between relevant organisations;
- provision as to the training and equipment for investigators, prosecutors and those dealing with victims; and
- provisions aimed at raising awareness of the rights and entitlements of victims.

In your view, does the draft strategy meet these requirements under section 12 of the Act?

YES / NO

Please give your reasons and comments here:

Strategic aim

Question 2

The proposed overall strategic aim of the draft strategy is: *“Equipping Northern Ireland to eradicate human trafficking and modern slavery whilst protecting and supporting victims”*.

In your view, is this strategic aim appropriate?

YES / NO

Please give your reasons and comments here, or suggest an alternative strategic aim:

Strategic priorities

Question 3

Four strategic priorities have been proposed which underpin the strategic aim.

These are:

- Pursue (effective detection, disruption, investigation and prosecution of offenders);
- Protect and support (improved identification of victims and the provision of effective protection and support);
- Prevent (prevent and reduce risk of human trafficking and modern slavery offences in Northern Ireland); and
- Partnership (effective, collaborative and joined-up partnership response).

In your view are these the right strategic priorities? What, if any, alternatives would you propose?

YES / NO

Please give your reasons and comments here, along with any proposed alternatives to the proposed strategic priorities:

SP1: Pursue - effective detection, disruption, investigation and prosecution of offenders

Question 4(a) - objectives

The draft strategy has identified the following objectives in support of the “Pursue” priority:

- Effective investigations and prosecutions;
- Improved understanding of human trafficking and exploitation; and
- Effective training for law enforcement and prosecutors.

In your opinion are these proposed objectives appropriate? Are there any additional objectives that in your opinion should also be included?

YES / NO

Please give your reasons and comments here, as well as any additional objectives that you believe should be included:

Question 4(b) - actions

The proposed actions associated with this strategic priority are set out at pages 20-22 of the consultation document.

In your opinion are these proposed actions appropriate? Are there any additional actions that in your opinion should also be included?

YES / NO

Please give your reasons and comments here, as well as any additional actions that you believe should be included:

SP2: Protect and Support – improved identification of victims and the provision of effective protection and support

Question 5(a)

The draft strategy has identified the following objectives in support of the “Protect and Support” priority:

- Improved victim identification;
- Protection and support services for victims and potential victims; and
- Champion the rights and entitlements of victims and potential victims.

In your opinion are these proposed objectives appropriate? Are there any additional objectives that in your opinion should also be included?

YES / NO

Please give your reasons and comments here, as well as any additional objectives that you believe should be included:

Question 5(b)

The proposed actions associated with this strategic priority are set out at pages 23-26 of the consultation document.

In your opinion are these proposed actions appropriate? Are there any additional actions that in your opinion should also be included?

YES / NO

Please give your reasons and comments here, as well as any additional actions that you believe should be included:

SP3: Prevent – Prevent and reduce the risk of human trafficking and modern slavery offences in Northern Ireland

Question 6(a)

The draft strategy has identified the following objectives in support of the “Prevent” priority:

- Engagement with perceived ‘at-risk’ groups to reduce risk;
- Raise awareness, to increase reporting and reduce demand;
- Evaluate effectiveness and capture best practice

In your opinion are these proposed objectives appropriate? Are there any additional objectives that in your opinion should also be included?

YES / NO

Please give your reasons and comments here, as well as any additional objectives that you believe should be included:

Question 6(b)

The proposed actions associated with this strategic priority are set out at pages 27-28 of the consultation document.

In your opinion are these proposed actions appropriate? Are there any additional actions that in your opinion should also be included?

YES / NO

Please give your reasons and comments here, as well as any additional actions that you believe should be included:

SP4: Partnership – Effective, collaborative and joined-up partnership response

Question 7(a)

The draft strategy has identified the following objectives in support of the “Partnership” priority:

- Co-operation across Government and statutory agencies;
- Co-operation between Government and civil society;
- Effective cross-border co-operation; and
- Engagement with the Anti-Slavery Commissioner

In your opinion are these proposed objectives appropriate? Are there any additional objectives that in your opinion should also be included?

YES / NO

Please give your reasons and comments here, as well as any additional objectives that you believe should be included:

Question 7(b)

The proposed actions associated with this strategic priority are set out at pages 29-30 of the consultation document.

In your opinion are these proposed actions appropriate? Are there any additional actions that in your opinion should also be included?

YES / NO

Please give your reasons and comments here, as well as any additional actions that you believe should be included:

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Responses should be emailed to htconsultation@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk or posted to the following address:

Human Trafficking Team
Protection and Organised Crime Division
Department of Justice
Room B4.20
Castle Buildings
Stormont Estate
Belfast
BT4 3SG
Telephone: 028 9052 8625
Textphone: 028 9052 7668

The closing date for this consultation is 17:00 Friday 9 September 2016

Annex B

RESPONSE QUESTIONNAIRE - DRAFT NORTHERN IRELAND HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND MODERN SLAVERY STRATEGY 2016/17

Consultee Details

Contact name

Name and address of
organisation

Email address

Are you content for your response to be published in full or in part? (If in part, please specify those parts that should not be published)

YES / NO / IN PART

Questions

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- the arrangements for co-operation between relevant organisations;
- provision as to the training and equipment for investigators, prosecutors and those dealing with victims; and
- provisions aimed at raising awareness of the rights and entitlements of victims.

In your view, does the draft strategy meet these requirements under section 12 of the Act?

YES / NO

Please give your reasons and comments here:

Strategic aim

Question 2

The proposed overall strategic aim of the draft strategy is: *“Equipping Northern Ireland to eradicate human trafficking and modern slavery whilst protecting and supporting victims”*.

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Question 3

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These are:

- Pursue (effective detection, disruption, investigation and prosecution of offenders);
- Protect and support (improved identification of victims and the provision of effective protection and support);
- Prevent (prevent and reduce risk of human trafficking and modern slavery offences in Northern Ireland); and
- Partnership (effective, collaborative and joined-up partnership response).

In your view are these the right strategic priorities? What, if any, alternatives would you propose?

YES / NO

Please give your reasons and comments here, along with any proposed alternatives to the proposed strategic priorities:

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Question 4(a) - objectives

The draft strategy has identified the following objectives in support of the “Pursue” priority:

- Effective investigations and prosecutions;
- Improved understanding of human trafficking and exploitation; and
- Effective training for law enforcement and prosecutors.

In your opinion are these proposed objectives appropriate? Are there any additional objectives that in your opinion should also be included?

YES / NO

Please give your reasons and comments here, as well as any additional objectives that you believe should be included:

Question 4(b) - actions

The proposed actions associated with this strategic priority are set out at pages 20-22 of the consultation document.

In your opinion are these proposed actions appropriate? Are there any additional actions that in your opinion should also be included?

YES / NO

Please give your reasons and comments here, as well as any additional actions that you believe should be included:

SP2: Protect and Support – improved identification of victims and the provision of effective protection and support

Question 5(a)

The draft strategy has identified the following objectives in support of the “Protect and Support” priority:

- Improved victim identification;
- Protection and support services for victims and potential victims; and
- Champion the rights and entitlements of victims and potential victims.

In your opinion are these proposed objectives appropriate? Are there any additional objectives that in your opinion should also be included?

YES / NO

Please give your reasons and comments here, as well as any additional objectives that you believe should be included:

Question 5(b)

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YES / NO

Please give your reasons and comments here, as well as any additional actions that you believe should be included:

SP3: Prevent – Prevent and reduce the risk of human trafficking and modern slavery offences in Northern Ireland

Question 6(a)

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- Evaluate effectiveness and capture best practice

In your opinion are these proposed objectives appropriate? Are there any additional objectives that in your opinion should also be included?

YES / NO

Please give your reasons and comments here, as well as any additional objectives that you believe should be included:

Question 6(b)

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In your opinion are these proposed actions appropriate? Are there any additional actions that in your opinion should also be included?

YES / NO

Please give your reasons and comments here, as well as any additional actions that you believe should be included:

SP4: Partnership – Effective, collaborative and joined-up partnership response

Question 7(a)

The draft strategy has identified the following objectives in support of the “Partnership” priority:

- Co-operation across Government and statutory agencies;
- Co-operation between Government and civil society;
- Effective cross-border co-operation; and
- Engagement with the Anti-Slavery Commissioner

In your opinion are these proposed objectives appropriate? Are there any additional objectives that in your opinion should also be included?

YES / NO

Please give your reasons and comments here, as well as any additional objectives that you believe should be included:

Question 7(b)

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YES / NO

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Protection and Organised Crime Division
Department of Justice
Room B4.20
Castle Buildings
Stormont Estate
Belfast
BT4 3SG
Telephone: 028 9052 8625
Textphone: 028 9052 7668

The closing date for this consultation is 17:00 Friday 9 July 2016

FROM THE MINISTER OF HEALTH



Department of
Health

An Roinn Sláinte

Mánnystrie O Poustie

www.health-ni.gov.uk

G113

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Mr Liam Hannaway
Chief Executive
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Our Ref: COR/1207/2016

Date: 20 July 2016

Liam a chara

Thank you for your letter of 22 June 2016, regarding the reinstatement of emergency department and coronary care services at Downe Hospital.

Firstly, let me reassure members of your Council that the Downe Hospital is a vital part of the South Eastern Health and Social Care (HSC) Trust's hospital network and will continue to deliver essential hospital services now and in the future. The South Eastern HSC Trust will continue to pursue opportunities for expanded or enhanced services where possible and where it is safe and sustainable to do so.

The Council will however appreciate that in respect of the Downe Hospital Emergency Department (ED), the South Eastern HSC Trust, in common with many other Trusts, has experienced significant difficulties in recruiting middle-grade specialty doctors in emergency medicine, and has relied on agency locum doctors to fill shifts within the ED. Due to resignations and a shortage of agency locums, the Trust took the decision to temporarily reduce the ED's overnight and weekend opening hours from 4 January 2014. The Trust did however make provision for out-of-hours patients requiring emergency treatment, through a weekend minor injuries service, which has been in operation since March 2014 as well as an enhanced GP out-of-hours service. These operational arrangements have also ensured that patients from the Down area who required admittance to the Ulster Hospital were repatriated to Downe Hospital for their ongoing care and treatment at the earliest clinical opportunity.

The South Eastern HSC Trust is continuing its efforts to recruit emergency department staff, but the service remains reliant on locum cover and it has not yet been possible for the ED to return to its previous opening hours.



With regard to the changes to the cardiology service, these were made in the context of the challenging financial situation facing my predecessor in 2014/15. The South Eastern HSC Trust decided that the 8 cardiology beds and 20 medical beds could be merged, thereby creating a new combined cardiology and medical ward. An additional bed was put into each of the two wards to mitigate the loss of beds, resulting in an overall reduction of 6 beds. These were a mix of cardiology and medical beds. Patients' access to cardiology services remained unaffected by this change.

I hope that this clarifies the current position for the Council.

Is mise le meas



Michelle O'Neill MLA
Minister of Health

1. Ack. Receipt
2. Council Meeting 1/8/16 - for noting
3. Caroline Taylor - Attention

Policy Forum for Northern Ireland Keynote Seminar: Energy in Northern Ireland - the energy market, renewables and security of supply

Timing: Morning, Tuesday 6th December 2016

Venue: Belfast

Draft agenda subject to change



**POLICY FORUM
FOR NORTHERN
IRELAND**

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 8.30 - 9.00 | Registration and coffee |
| 9.00 - 9.05 | <u>Chair's opening remarks</u>
Steve Aiken MLA , Deputy Chair, Committee for the Economy, Northern Ireland Assembly |
| 9.05 - 9.35 | <u>Energy in Northern Ireland - priorities for policy</u>
Senior speaker to be announced
Questions and comments from the floor |
| 9.35 - 9.45 | <u>The Electricity sector in Northern Ireland - The Northern Ireland Affairs Committee's inquiry so far</u>
Senior speaker to be announced |
| 9.45 - 10.20 | <u>Next steps for the energy market - competition, costs and improving consumer confidence</u>
John French , Chief Executive, Consumer Council Northern Ireland
Iain Hoy , Senior Policy Advisor, CBI NI
Stephen McCully , Managing Director, Power NI
Questions and comments from the floor with senior speaker to be announced |
| 10.20 - 11.10 | <u>The future for renewable energy in Northern Ireland - meeting the 2020 target</u>
Maf Smith , Deputy Chief Executive, Northern Ireland Renewables Industry Group (NIRIG)
Michael Doran , Managing Director, Action Renewables
Ursula Walsh , Senior Lecturer, School of the Built Environment, Ulster University
Senior representative, renewable developer
Senior representative, alternative renewables

Questions and comments from the floor |
| 11.10 - 11.15 | <u>Chair's closing remarks</u>
Steve Aiken MLA , Deputy Chair, Committee for the Economy, Northern Ireland Assembly |
| 11.15 - 11.40 | Coffee |
| 11.40 - 11.45 | <u>Chair's opening remarks</u>
Conor Murphy MLA , Chair, Committee for the Economy, Northern Ireland Assembly |
| 11.45 - 12.10 | <u>Evolving energy markets</u>
Jenny Pyper , Chief Executive, Utility Regulator
Questions and comments from the floor |
| 12.10 - 12.55 | <u>Security of supply and infrastructure - planning, costs and future opportunities</u>
Richard Murphy , Partner, Pinsent Masons
Robin McCormick , General Manager, System Operator Northern Ireland (SONI)
Michael Scott , Managing Director, firmus energy
Senior representative, planning organisation
Questions and comments from the floor |
| 12.55 - 13.00 | <u>Chair's and Policy Forum for Northern Ireland closing remarks</u>
Conor Murphy MLA , Chair, Committee for the Economy, Northern Ireland Assembly
Sean Cudmore , Deputy Editor, Policy Forum for Northern Ireland |

Mr Liam Hannaway
Chief Executive
Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
Downshire Civic Centre
Downshire Estate
Ardglass Road
Downpatrick, BT30 6RA

19th July 2016

Dear Mr Hannaway,

Northern Ireland Annual Economic Conference
Planning for the future in a fractured economic landscape

Please find enclosed details of the Northern Ireland Economic Conference which will be held on **Wednesday 19th October** in the City Hotel, Derry. The major theme of this year's conference will be **UNCERTAINTY** – the Brexit decision will have a seismic impact on the Northern Ireland economy, and coupled with the change to the local political landscape and ongoing chaos in UK government and political circles, every sector of the local economy is looking into the unknown.

These uncertainties will permeate much of the discussion at this year's conference – other key themes will include:

- ✓ Northern Ireland **regional economic** forecast
- ✓ **City regions** as economic drivers
- ✓ Growing the **north west economy**
- ✓ Boosting **productivity** and **innovation**
- ✓ Role of **infrastructure** in stimulating growth
- ✓ Improving our **competitiveness**
- ✓ Enhancing **cross-border** trade and investment
- ✓ **DEDICATED WORKSHOP**: Value of **skills** to the economy

Discounted conference fee of £165 (ex VAT) available to local government

To secure your place, please call +44 (0)28 9261 9933, visit www.agendaNi.com/events or email registration@agendaNi.com. I very much hope that you can attend what promises to be an interesting day's discussion.

Yours sincerely,



Owen McQuade
Conference Director

Annual Northern Ireland Economic Conference 2016

Registration form

Wednesday 19th October 2016 • City Hotel, Derry

Email: registration@agendaNi.com

Fax: +44 (0)28 9261 9951

I wish to:

☐ Reserve _____ places at the Northern Ireland Economic Conference

Delegate Fee **£255** + VAT @ 20% = **£306**

Fee includes documentation, lunch and other refreshments served during the conference and is payable in advance. Fee does not include accommodation or travel

☐ Discounted rate for local government / voluntary / community sectors

Delegate Fee **£165** + VAT @ 20% = **£198**

☐ Receive details of sponsorship opportunities at the conference

☐ Receive details of exhibition opportunities at the conference

Terms and conditions

* For those unable to attend a substitute participant may be sent at any time for no additional charge. Alternatively for cancellations received in writing, by fax or email, the following charges will apply:

- More than 14 days before the conference: 25% fee
- Less than 14 days before the conference: 100% fee
- Failure to attend: 100% fee.

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Planning for the future in a fractured economic landscape

Wednesday 19 October 2016 • City Hotel, Derry-Londonderry

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Northern Ireland's economic summit

The Northern Ireland Economic Conference is Northern Ireland's premier economic analysis event and is unique in being the only forum which takes a high level look at the performance of, and prospects for the local economy. Now in its 21st year, the conference is firmly established as the annual autumn 'summit' for Northern Ireland's economic community, including policy-makers and business leaders. It is a one-stop-shop for all the latest information on the local economy as well as an excellent opportunity for networking and discussion with key players in the economy, across all sectors.

Derry and the North West region as an economic driver

2016 will see the conference take place in Derry city for the first time, which will provide an excellent opportunity to highlight the importance of balanced regional economic development across Northern Ireland and will emphasise the key role Derry plays as an economic driver for the wider north west city region.

Uncertainty in the Northern Ireland economy...

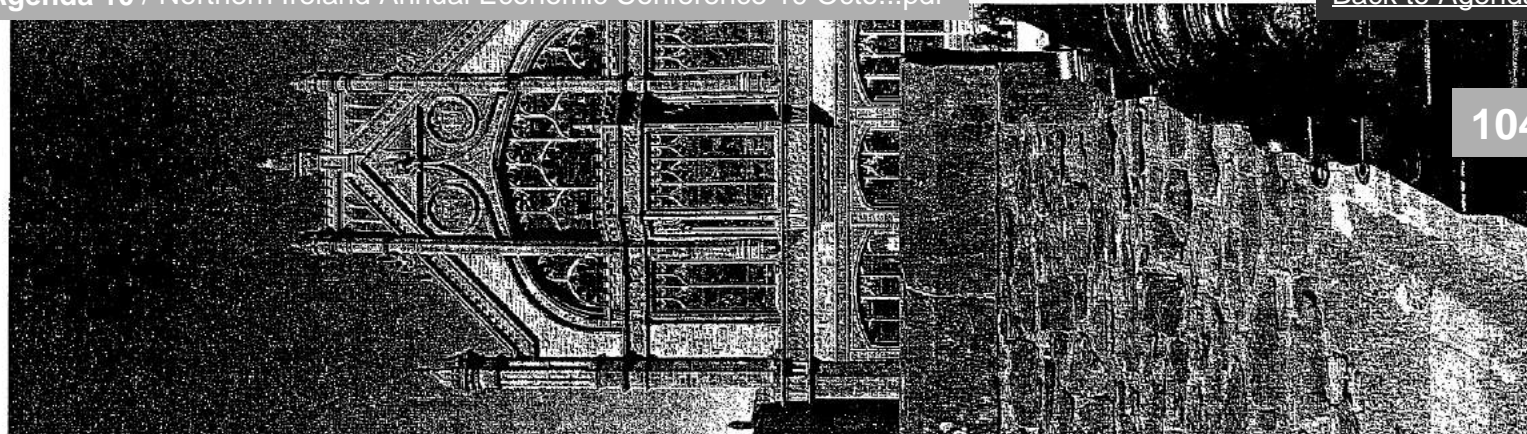
The vote for the UK to leave the European Union will have a profound impact on the Northern Ireland economy. The political chaos in the wake of the referendum will undoubtedly lead to businesses putting any investment plans on hold. This deep uncertainty is perhaps a bigger challenge for businesses than the political unrest of the past. As in previous years, there will be a focus on cross-border trade which Brexit threatens to disrupt. It is hard to think of a single sector of the economy that will not be affected and questions around the practicalities of Brexit will permeate much of the discussion at the conference this year.

The new political landscape locally has undergone a change since the Assembly elections in May. There will be a new Programme for Government and a new Investment Strategy for Northern Ireland (ISNI) in the Autumn. In addition to Brexit there are a number of global factors that will impact the local economy including the slowing down of growth in China and the collapse of the oil price. Additionally, there is the prospect of the devolution of corporation tax, although much of the detail has yet to be worked out with London. The ongoing confusion within the UK Government has put future plans to balance the UK budget, with additional austerity measures, into doubt.

The 2016 Northern Ireland Economic Conference will examine many of these factors and consider the likely impact on the future performance of the local economy, with a strong focus on the role Derry and the north west region can play as a driver for growth.

Why the public should attend

- ✓ Expert local and visiting speakers
- ✓ Major economic summit
- ✓ Economic outlook and forecast
- ✓ Unique information presented
- ✓ Not-to-be-missed annual conference
- ✓ Unrivalled networking opportunity
- ✓ All sectors represented – government, business, third sector



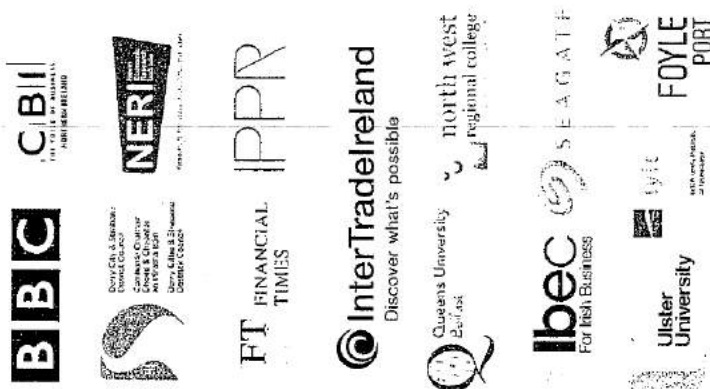
Brexit: What will it mean for Northern Ireland?

The shock Brexit vote will have massive political and economic repercussions – both internationally and closer to home. We've already seen turbulence in global stock markets, the resignation of David Cameron as Prime Minister and chaos in the political parties in Britain. But what will Brexit mean for the Northern Ireland economy? Political uncertainty has created market volatility and it will undoubtedly have repercussions for FDI and perhaps for the long-awaited cut in corporation tax. All areas of the economy will have to adjust to a new political and economic landscape outside of the EU as we come to terms with what it means for trade, movement of labour, employment legislation, taxation, exports agriculture, manufacturing, investment in infrastructure, travel and tourism – the list goes on

Join the discussion at the Northern Ireland Economic Conference 2016...

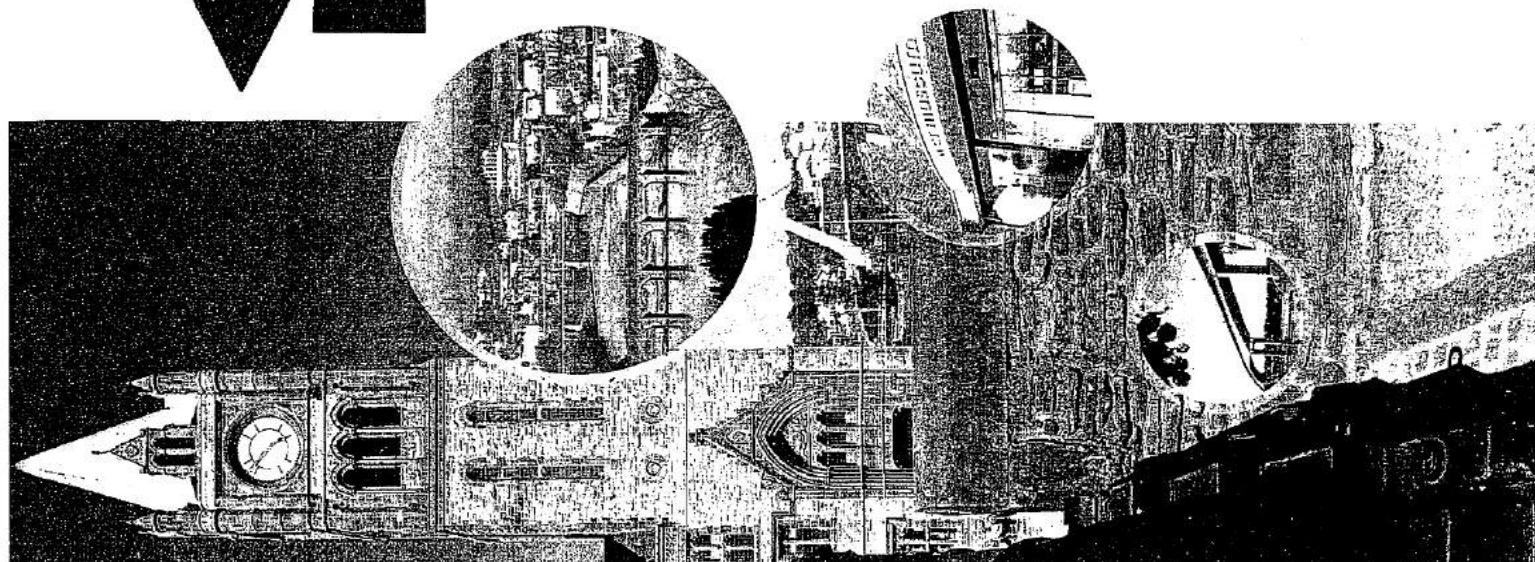


Hear speakers from:



Key issues to be addressed at the conference will include:

- ✓ Economic impact of Brexit on Northern Ireland;
- ✓ Economic priorities in the new Programme for Government;
- ✓ Northern Ireland regional economic forecast;
- ✓ City regions as economic drivers;
- ✓ Growing the north west economy;
- ✓ Boosting productivity and innovation;
- ✓ Role of infrastructure in stimulating growth;
- ✓ Improving our competitiveness;
- ✓ Enhancing cross-border trade and investment;
- ✓ PANEL DISCUSSION: Looking to the future of the region and beyond;
- ✓ DEDICATED WORKSHOP: Value of skills to the economy



09.00

THE NORTHERN IRELAND ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Chairman's welcome and introduction: John Campbell, Economics and Business Editor, BBC Northern Ireland



Hilary McClintock, Mayor of Derry City and Strabane District Council



Priorities for the future of the Northern Ireland economy: Addressing the challenges

Martin McGuinness, MLA, deputy First Minister (invited)



The Northern Ireland economic outlook at a time of uncertainty

Professor Neil Gibson, Director, Economic Policy Centre, Ulster University



What will Brexit mean for the future of the UK economy?

Chris Giles, Economics Editor, Financial Times



Growing the North West economy: Making it happen in Derry and Strabane

John Kelpie, Chief Executive, Derry City and Strabane District Council

Questions & answers / Panel discussion

10.45

Morning coffee / networking opportunity

Recent estimates put the cost of Brexit to the Northern economy at £1 billion per annum and the cost to the Southern economy at £3 billion per annum... Brexit is likely to lead to the reintroduction of Border controls, limiting freedom of movement, hampering trade and adversely affecting cross-Border communities and workers, creating barriers to education, health and welfare... In addition to possible tariffs, customs posts and barriers to trade, an isolationist position resulting from Brexit could lead to the application of domestic immigration controls

Martin McGuinness, MLA

deputy First Minister

June 2016



Economic Conference



11.15 EXAMINING THE IMPACT OF KEY ECONOMIC DRIVERS



SKILLS
Higher education as a key driver of economic growth
Professor Paddy Nixon, Vice Chancellor, Ulster University



GROWTH
Boosting Britain's low wage sectors – a strategy for productivity, innovation & growth
Catherine Colebrook, Chief Economist, IPPR



COMPETITIVENESS
Understanding competition in the 21st century global economy: How can Northern Ireland be more competitive?
Professor Rob Giles, Management School, Queen's University Belfast



PRODUCTIVITY
Focus on productivity: Identifying strengths & weaknesses in the Northern Ireland economy
Paul MacRory, Economist, Nevin Economic Research Institute



CITY REGIONS
Empowering cities to drive economic growth
Chris Murray, Director, Core Cities Group

Questions & answers / Panel discussion

13.00 Conference lunch / networking opportunity sponsored by



**FOYLE
PORT**

14.00 LOOKING TO THE FUTURE OF THE REGIONAL & ALL-ISLAND ECONOMY



ALL-ISLAND ECONOMY
Developing cross border trade and economic co-operation: A key priority
Mary Mitchell O'Connor, TD, Minister for Jobs, Enterprise & Innovation (invited)



CROSS BORDER
The importance of cross-border co-operation in developing the regional economy
Michael Tunney, Head of Enterprise, Donegal County Council



CONNECTIVITY
Enhancing connectivity and enabling trade: The role of Foyle Port
Brian McGrath, Chief Executive & Harbour Commissioner, Londonderry Port

Discussion panel: Looking to the future of the regional economy

David Gavanagh, Chair, CBI Northern Ireland

Paul Gosling, Financial Journalist / commentator

Alan Gough, Strategy & Policy Director, InterTradeIreland

Clair Kilduff, President, Londonderry Chamber of Commerce & Managing Director, Nuprint Technologies Limited

Fergal O'Brien, Head of Policy and Chief Economist, Ibec

Questions and answers / Panel discussion followed by Chairman's summary and conference close

WORKSHOP: EXPLORING THE ECONOMIC VALUE OF SKILLS

Cross border co-operation driving skills development
Leo Murphy, Principal and Chief Executive, North West Regional College
and Paul Fleming, President, Letterkenny IT

Building skills for all: Skills review

Simon Field, formerly Education Directorate, OECD

Developing skills for life and work: The Finnish model for success
Kirstina Vuorinen, Counsellor of Education
Finnish National Board of Education

Investing in skills as a key driver of business growth
Damien Gallagher, Executive Director, Engineering, Seagate

Questions & answers / Panel discussion



David Gavanagh



Paul Gosling



Alan Gough



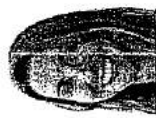
Clair Kilduff



Fergal O'Brien



John Campbell is Economics and Business Editor for BBC Northern Ireland, a position he has held since September 2013. Prior to that he was a senior BBC producer working across TV, Radio and Online with special responsibility for business coverage. He began his career on the Liverpool Daily Post and Echo.



Catherine Colebrook is IPPR's Chief Economist and leads its work on economic and housing policy. Recently Catherine has published work on the productivity performance of the UK's low-wage sectors, and on the future of the UK and European labour markets. Before joining IPPR in 2015, Catherine was principal economist at AECOM, an infrastructure and economic development consultancy. She has also worked for the Economist Intelligence Unit as a senior economist, at BNP Paribas as their eurozone inflation economist, and as an economic advisor at HM Treasury.



Simon Field is an expert on the comparative analysis of vocational education and training (VET) systems. As leader of the OECD's flagship programme of work on VET over a decade he led and delivered reviews of policy in more than 30 countries throughout the world, and was the lead author of the OECD's two main publications on VET policy (Skills beyond School and Learning for Jobs) as well as many individual country reviews. He also led the OECD's work on equity in education, and was the lead author of the OECD's report on this topic - No More Failures: ten steps to equity in education. He has also led recent reviews of education policy in the Netherlands and Greece.



David Gavaghan is Chair of CBI Northern Ireland from 2016-2018, having previously been Vice Chair. David has established Aurora Prime Real Estate Limited and is seeking to raise £50m locally and internationally to invest in Grade A office space in Belfast. Previously he was Executive Director of Quintain Estates and Development plc. He is the former Chief Executive of Titanic Quarter Limited and prior to that was Chief Executive of the Strategic Investment Board Limited for six years. David is the Chair of Visit Belfast and Sports Changes Life as well as the environmental arm of Business in the Community, the Arena Network. He is also Vice Chair of the Washington Ireland Program.



Neil Gibson is the Director of the Economic Policy Centre at Ulster University, which regularly assesses the state of the Irish economy as well as informing and critiquing Northern Ireland Executive policies. Neil was formerly the Director of Oxford Economics and before that worked for PricewaterhouseCoopers and the Northern Ireland Economic Research Centre. Neil is one of Northern Ireland's best known economists and economic commentators.



Chris Gilies is a columnist at the Financial Times and has been its Economics Editor since 2004. Based in London he has a particular focus on trends in the world economy and in the UK. Previously at the Financial Times, he was the economics editorial writer. Before joining the FT in 2000, Chris was an economics correspondent at the BBC. He started his career in research, spending seven years as an economist for the Institute for Fiscal Studies.



Paul Gosling is a journalist, author, researcher, public speaker, lecturer, copywriter and broadcaster. He specialises in the economy, accountability, the co-operative sector, public services and personal finances. Paul has contributed to The Independent titles virtually every week for 26 years. Paul's work has also appeared in the Financial Times, The Times, the Irish Times, the Sunday Times, the Mail on Sunday, the Express, the Daily Telegraph, Ireland's Sunday Business Post, the Irish Independent and more than a hundred magazines.



Aidan Gough is Strategy & Policy Director for InterTradeIreland, one of the six cross-border implementation bodies established under the 1998 Good Friday Agreement. Aidan is responsible for developing the strategic direction of InterTradeIreland as it seeks to deliver its legislative mandate. Aidan is a graduate of Queen's University Belfast with an MBA and MSc in Economics. Prior to joining InterTradeIreland, Aidan was Director of the Northern Ireland Economic Council.



John Kelpie is Chief Executive of Derry City and Strabane District Council, a role he took over following the reorganisation of local government in 2015. He was formerly the Strategic Director of Environment with Derry City Council, from 2011, and before that was the City Engineer from 2002-2011. Before joining the council he worked for a consulting and civil and structural engineering firm for over six years.



Gavin Killeen is Managing Director of Nuprint Technologies Limited and President of Londonderry Chamber of Commerce. He is also Chairman of the Education and Skills Implementation Group under the lex ONE Plan. He is a Board Member of North West Regional College and was a member of the Department for Employment and Learning Minister's expert panel reviewing apprenticeships and youth training. He is also a member of the steering group overseeing the outline business case for the expansion of the Magee campus of Ulster University.



Paul Hamnigan has been President of Letterkenny Institute of Technology (LYIT) since 1998. Prior to this he worked in Durdalk IT since 1987. Paul is a former member of the Higher Education Authority (HEA) and the Central Applications Office (CAO). He currently serves on the Donegal Local Community Development Committee (LDCOC) and the North West Regional Executive of Ibec.



Paul MacFlynn is an economist at the Nevin Economic Research Institute (NERI) specialising in the Northern Ireland economy. He is a graduate of University College Dublin with a BA in Economics and Politics and the University of Bristol with an MSc in Economics and Public Policy, specialising in the economic impacts of political devolution in the UK.



Brian McGrath was appointed as the Chief Executive and Harbour Commissioner of Londonderry Port in March 2003. A Former Director of Harland and Wolff, Brian is a Chartered Director, a Fellow of the Institute of Directors and a Fellow of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. Brian is a board member of the Londonderry Chamber of Commerce. Brian has previously served as a Council Member of the British Ports Association and the CBI Northern Ireland.



Leo Murphy is the Principal and Chief Executive of the North West Regional College having been appointed to the position in 2014. He has over 26 years' experience in the further education sector. He was Vice-Principal in Omagh College from 2000 and in 2008 he took on the role of Deputy Director at South West College based at the Fermanagh campus. He has served on a number of public bodies at forums relevant to education, enterprise and innovation. He introduced a range of new portfolios in his previous College such as international work, entrepreneurship and supporting economic development.



Chris Murray took up post as Director of the Core Cities Group 2006, a collaboration between ten UK cities that sit at the centre of the largest economic areas outside London. Chris is a visiting Professor of Practice at Newcastle University, an Honorary Fellow of the Heseltine Institute at Liverpool University, and sits on the Advisory Board of the Prime Ministers' Regeneration Investment Organisation. A member of the national Egan Task Force on Skills, during 2005 Chris was seconded to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister to establish the Academy for Sustainable Communities, a national regeneration skills agency based in Leeds.



Professor Paddy Nixon is Vice Chancellor and President of Ulster University. He joined the university in July 2015 from the University of Tasmania where he was Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) responsible for driving the research agenda, through both existing and newly formed research institutes. He has extensive industry and commercial experience, particularly in collaborations with global hi-tech firms. He was previously Science Foundation Ireland Research Professor in Distributed Systems at University College Dublin (UCD) from 2007-2010 he was Academic Director of Intel's Independent Living and Digital Health, leading a team of 150 clinicians, researchers and engineers.



Fergal O'Brien is head of economics and taxation and chief economist with Ibec. His role involves preparation of Ibec poll papers and submissions, macro-economic forecasting and general economic analysis, the provision of economic advice and commentary to member companies, engaging with Government on a range of socio-economic policy issues of relevance to Irish business and representing Ibec at EU level.



Michael Turney is Head of Enterprise and Economic Development with Donegal County Council and Secretary of Donegal County Enterprise Fund. As well having almost 30 years experience in working with small and micro businesses and in regional and local development, he has over 20 years experience in micro credit through the County Enterprise Fund companies in Donegal and Leitrim. He is a Fellow of the Institute of Management Consultants and Advisers and a graduate of UCG, UCD, ULU and Durham University.



Dr Kristina Volmar works as Counsellor of Education and Head of Statistics and International Affairs at the Finnish National Board of Education. She has also worked as a teacher at Kristina's areas of special interest and expertise are comparative international education data, teachers and trainers in vocational education and training at leadership. She has had the opportunity to work closely with European and global networks and working groups and has therefore a thorough knowledge and understanding of European and global education and training issues.

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- ☐ Receive details of sponsorship opportunities at the conference
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Confirmation of registration will be emailed to all delegates following receipt of registration details. If you have not received your acknowledgement within 48 hours of registering, please contact registration@agendaNi.com to confirm your booking.

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Who should attend?

The Annual Northern Ireland Economic Conference is aimed at key decision-makers and those across business and government/the public sector with an interest in tackling the challenges to ensure Northern Ireland's economy is fit for the future. It will also appeal to those interacting with the public sector, both in policy advisory and service delivery or advocacy roles. Those interested in attending will include:

- Chief Executives / Directors / senior managers
- Finance directors / managers
- Central government / department officials
- Agencies, advisory bodies and NDPBs
- Frontline service delivery professionals
- Auditors / value-for-money specialists
- Local government officers and elected representatives
- Budget-holders
- Corporate planners
- Voluntary / community sector leaders / NGOs
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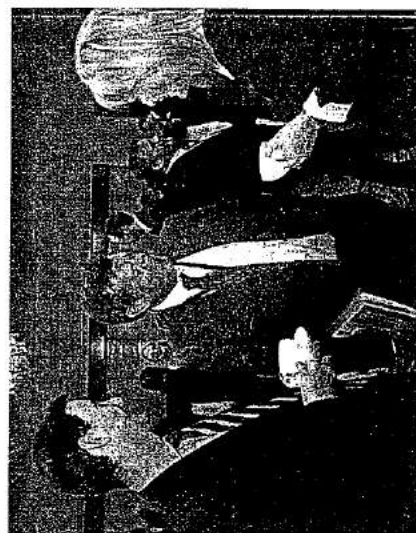
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- ✓ Unique economic forecast presented
- ✓ Expert visiting speakers
- ✓ Discuss key economic drivers: competitiveness, productivity, skills
- ✓ Consider the Northern Ireland economy in the national & European context – impact of Brexit
- ✓ Discuss the importance of city regions in the economy
- ✓ Not to be missed networking opportunity



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