

NEWRY MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Economy, Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting
held on Monday 12 February 2024 at 6.00pm in the Boardroom, Monaghan Row, and
remotely via Microsoft Teams**

Chairperson: Councillor M Ruane

**Committee Members
in attendance in chamber:**

Councillor T Andrews Councillor G Kearns
Councillor S Murphy

**Committee Members
in attendance via Teams:**

Councillor C Bowsie Councillor P Campbell
Councillor K Feehan Councillor C Galbraith
Councillor C King Councillor D Lee-Surginor
Councillor A Quinn Councillor J Tinnelly
Councillor J Truesdale

Officials in attendance: Mr C Mallon, Director of Economy, Regeneration & Tourism
Mr J McGilly, Assistant Director of Regeneration
Ms M Boyle, Head of Tourism Development and Visitor Experience
Ms A McVeigh, Head of Tourism Development and Visitor
Experience
Ms S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager

**Officials in attendance
via Teams:** Ms F Branagh, Democratic Services Officer

ERT/012/2024: APOLOGIES / CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Apologies were received from Councillor Clarke, and Ms S Burns, Head of Grants and Funding.

ERT/013/2024: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

**ERT/014/2024: ACTION SHEET ECONOMY, REGENERATION & TOURISM
COMMITTEE MEETING MONDAY 15 JANUARY 2024**

Read: Action Sheet arising out of the Minutes of the Economy, Regeneration &
Tourism Committee Meeting held on Monday 12 January 2024.
(Copy circulated)

AGREED: **On the proposal of Councillor Andrews, seconded by
Councillor Lee-Surginor, it was agreed to note the
Action Sheet arising from the Economy,
Regeneration & Tourism Committee Meeting held**

on Monday 12 January 2024.

FOR DISCUSSION/DECISION

ERT/015/2024: FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE CALL 2

Read: Report dated 12 February 2024 from Ms Burns, Head of Grants and Funding, regarding Financial Assistance Call 2 **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor Lee-Surginor queried the impact of the changes to the online portal on applicants, and the ease of access to relevant information.

Mr Mallon confirmed that workshops had been ongoing, and reiterated that the portal was more user friendly for applicants and officers. He noted this was call 2, so feedback would be available on any issues following the processing of call 1.

Councillor Andrews queried the accessibility for those without internet access.

Mr Mallon advised that this portal was an updated version of a previous online system, but there may be opportunities already in place for those who don't have access to the internet. He advised he would revert to the Member regarding this.

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Lee-Surginor, seconded by Councillor Andrews, it was agreed to proceed with Financial Assistance Call 2 as detailed in the Officer's Report.

RESTRICTED – FOR DECISION

EXEMPT INFORMATION

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

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Campbell, seconded by Councillor Andrews, it was agreed to come out of Closed Session.

The Chairperson advised the following had been agreed while in closed session.

ERT/016/2024: LDP OPEN SPACE STRATEGY

Read: Report dated 12 February 2024 from Mr J McGilly, Assistant Director: Regeneration, regarding Open Space Strategy – Planning Department. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Lee-Surginor, seconded by Councillor Bowsie, it was agreed to approve the Business Case, and that Council

proceed to procure professional services to prepare an open space strategy to include an assessment of open space within the District.

FOR NOTING

ERT/017/2024: GRADE A TOURIST ACCOMMODATION

Read: Report dated 12 February 2024 from Ms Burns, Head of Grants and Funding, and Mr P Jordan, Project Coordinator, regarding Tourist Accommodation Funding Programme. **(Copy circulated)**

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

ERT/018/2024: DFC FLOOD RECOVERY

Read: Report dated 12 February 2024 from Michelle Boyle, Head of Tourism, Product Development and Visitor Experience regarding DFC Flood Recovery. **(Copy circulated)**

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

ERT/019/2024: DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE CONSULTATION – REVIEW OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND BUILDING REGULATIONS.

Read: Report dated 12 February 2024 from Mr J McGilly, Assistant Director: Regeneration, regarding Review of Energy Efficiency Requirements and related areas of Building Regulations – Consultation by the Department of Finance. **(Copy circulated)**

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Galbraith, seconded by Councillor Andrews, it was agreed to note the contents of the consultation response on behalf of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 6.16pm.

For adoption at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 4 March 2024.

**Signed: Councillor M Ruane
Chairperson
Economy, Regeneration & Tourism Committee**

Signed: Mr C Mallon

