

NEWRY MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of Special Council Meeting regarding Industrial Relations held on Wednesday 17 February 2021 at 5.00pm remotely via Microsoft Teams

Chairperson: Councillor L Devlin

In attendance:

Councillor T Andrews	Councillor P Brown
Councillor P Byrne	Councillor C Casey
Councillor W Clarke	Councillor D Curran
Councillor A Finnegan	Councillor O Hanlon
Councillor R Howell	Councillor M Larkin
Councillor A Lewis	Councillor O Magennis
Councillor G Malone	Councillor C Mason
Councillor D McAteer	Councillor H McKee
Councillor K McKevitt	Councillor A McMurray
Councillor R Mulgrew	Councillor D Murphy
Councillor G O Hare	Councillor B O Muiri
Councillor K Owen	Councillor M Ruane
Councillor M Savage	Councillor G Sharvin
Councillor G Stokes	Councillor D Taylor
Councillor J Tinnelly	Councillor B Walker

Officials in attendance: Mrs M Ward, Chief Executive
Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services
Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active & Healthy Communities
Mr C Mallon, Director Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism
Mr J McBride, Director Neighbourhood Services
Mrs C Miskelly, Assistant Director of HR & Safeguarding
Mr F O Connor, Head of Legal Administration
Mr P Preen, HR Policy & Projects Manager
Ms L Fitzsimmons, HR Manager
Miss S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager
Ms L Dillon, Democratic Services Officer

Also in attendance: Mr John Walsh, Legal Services, Belfast City Council

SC/005/2021: APOLOGIES / CHAIRPERSONS REMARKS

The Chairperson, welcomed everyone to the Special Meeting of Council regarding industrial relations.

Apologies were received from Councillors Doran, Hanna and McEvoy.

SC/006/2021: INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AGREEMENT

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor McAteer seconded by Councillor Magennis it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on the following matter which related to exempt information by virtue of Paragraph 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 – information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the Council or a government department and employees of, or office holders under, the Council.

Read: Report dated 17 February 2021 from Ms M Ward Chief Executive regarding an update on Trade Union Dispute. **(Copy circulated)**

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

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

AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Walker seconded by Councillor Clarke it was agreed that within the vires of Council and cognisant of the legal, financial and audit advice received, to approve as follows:

- (a) The Heads of Terms agreed between Council and joint Trade Union side's legal team, for signature by the Chief Executive, which creates a binding legal agreement on behalf of Council;**
- (b) Authorise the payments detailed within Section 4 of the officer's report;**
- (c) Note the non-legal LRA agreement, dated 08 January 2021.**

The meeting concluded at 5.40pm.

For adoption at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 01 March 2021.

Signed: Councillor L Devlin
Chairperson of Council

Signed: Ms M Ward
Chief Executive