

February 26th, 2024

Notice Of Meeting

You are requested to attend the meeting to be held on Monday, 26th February 2024 at 5:00 pm in Downshire Civic Centre & Microsoft Teams.

**Committee Membership 2023 - 2024**

Councillor S O'Hare **Chairperson**

Councillor C Enright **Deputy Chairperson**

Councillor P Byrne

Councillor O Hanlon

Councillor R Howell

Councillor T Kelly

Councillor A Lewis

Councillor A Mathers

Councillor D McAteer

Councillor L McEvoy

Councillor A Quinn

Councillor H Reilly

Councillor M Rice

Councillor G Sharvin

Councillor D Taylor

# Agenda

## 1.0 Apologies

## 2.0 Declarations of Interest

## 3.0 Flood Relief Scheme

 *Report to SPR.pdf*

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***Items deemed to be exempt under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014***

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### 3.1 Flood Relief Scheme - Business Case

This item is deemed to be restricted under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014, information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business

 *Appendix 1 EFSS Loss Assessor Business Case.pdf*

*Not included*

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## 4.0 Forest Park Car Parking Charges

<b>Report to:</b>	Special SPR Meeting
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	26 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
<b>Subject:</b>	Enhanced Flood Support Scheme
<b>Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):</b>	Conor Mallon Director Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism
<b>Contact Officer (Including Job Title):</b>	Conor Mallon Director Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism

Confirm how this Report should be treated by placing an x in either:-

<b>For decision</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>For noting only</b>	
<b>1.0</b>			<b>Purpose and Background</b>
1.1			<p>Approve recommendations in section 3.1</p> <p><b>Background</b></p> <p>Following the Flooding in the District in October / November 2023 Council delivered the first phase of business support funding to local business on behalf of the Department for Economy. This scheme closed in December and issued payments of 7.5k to approx. 114 Businesses.</p> <p>Officials in both NNMDC and DfE have been engaging since then to develop further support schemes, known as the Enhanced Flood Support Scheme and 2 Hardship Schemes. The details of the schemes have now been agreed and are now ready to release.</p>
<b>2.0</b>			<b>Key issues</b>
2.1			<p><b>Enhanced Flood support Scheme</b></p> <p>The Department for the Economy (DfE) has agreed to provide funding to Newry Mourne &amp; Down District council (NMDDC) to deliver an Enhanced Flood Support Scheme (EFSS).</p> <p>The purpose of the grant is to provide up to £100,000 additional support to eligible Businesses to help them re-open and resume trading or remain open and continue trading and hence help secure the medium to long-term economic future of the towns affected by the flooding.</p> <p>It is proposed the scheme will have two options which applicants can choose to apply to depending on the level of eligible costs incurred/or to be incurred.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Part A:</b> Businesses that have eligible costs of £10,000 or less should apply for part A.</li> <li>• <b>Part B:</b> Businesses that have eligible costs exceeding £10,000 should apply for part B. The total grant awarded to all applicants will not exceed £100,000.</li> </ul>

<p>2.2</p>	<p><b>Hardship Schemes</b></p> <p>The Department for the Economy (DfE) has agreed to provide funding to Newry Mourne &amp; Down District Council (NM&amp;DDC) to deliver two hardship schemes as part of its support package for businesses affected by the flooding at the end of October/early November 2023.</p> <p>The purpose of the schemes is to provide support to businesses and some other non-domestic premises that were impacted by the flooding but were not eligible for the previous £7,500 payment or the Enhanced Flood Support Scheme (EFSS).</p> <p>The two Hardship schemes are as follows:</p> <p><b>£5,000 Hardship Scheme:</b> This will provide a £5,000 hardship payment to SME businesses and other non-domestic occupants of premises that were flooded and suffered financial hardship but were not eligible for the £7,500 scheme or the EFSS. Public sector premises or premises occupied by political parties/elected representatives are not eligible for support.</p> <p><b>£2,500 Hardship Scheme:</b> This will provide a £2,500 hardship payment to SME businesses that were not flooded but were unable to access their premises, as a direct result of the flooding, and hence unable to trade.</p> <p>The Guidance Notes and the applications forms for the schemes are currently being finalised.</p>
<p>2.3</p>	<p>NMDDC will manage the applications process for all impacted Councils and pass submitted applications to the relevant council for assessment against the criteria.</p>
<p><b>3.0</b></p>	<p><b>Recommendations</b></p>
<p>3.1</p> <p>3.2</p> <p>3.3</p> <p>3.4</p>	<p>Members are asked to approve the following.</p> <p>NMDDC accept the letter of offer from DfE to administer the Enhanced Flood Support Scheme.</p> <p>NMDDC accept the letter of offer from DfE to administer the 2 Hardship Schemes.</p> <p>NMDDC Act as the lead Local Authority for the procurement and appointment of the Loss Assessor on behalf impacted Councils as per the Business case attached in Appendix 1</p> <p>Officers proceed with the launch of the application process on the 27<sup>th</sup> February 2024.</p>
<p><b>4.0</b></p>	<p><b>Resource implications</b></p>
<p>4.1</p>	<p>DfE is assigning up to £9m to impacted councils to cover the total cost of the overall scheme.</p>

	<p>For the EFSS scheme A maximum of £1.1 million Capital Grant can only be approved and accrued or paid within 2023/24, with the remaining budget of £6.5 million Grant accrued or paid within 2024/25. This is the <u>total</u> amount assigned and <u>must not</u> be exceeded.</p> <p>For the Hardship Scheme DfE will assign up to £1 million to impacted councils in the 2023/24 financial year to cover the total cost of this scheme. This limit must not be breached.</p>
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)</b>
5.1	<p><b><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></b></p> <p>It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
5.2	<p><b><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></b></p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation <input type="checkbox"/></p>
5.3	<p><b><i>Proposal initiating consultation</i></b></p> <p>Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be 12 weeks <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><i>Rationale:</i> NA</p>
<b>.0</b>	<b>Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)</b>

6.1	<p>Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<b>7.0</b>	<b>Appendices</b>
	Appendix 1- Business Case
<b>8.0</b>	<b>Background Documents</b>

