

## NEWRY MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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**Minutes of Strategy Policy & Resources Committee Meeting held on Thursday 14 November 2019 at 6.00pm in the Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre, Downpatrick**

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**In the Chair:** Councillor M Savage

**In Attendance:**

Councillor P Byrne	Councillor S Doran
Councillor O Hanlon	Councillor R Howell
Councillor A Lewis	Councillor C Mason
Councillor A McMurray	Councillor B Ó Muirí
Councillor J Tinnelly	Councillor W Walker

**Officials in Attendance:** Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services  
Mrs R Mackin, Assistant Director Corporate Planning & Policy  
Mr J McBride, Assistant Director, Community Planning and Performance  
Mr K Montgomery, Assistant Director Finance

Mr A Grimshaw, Project Director  
Mrs L Moore, Head of Legal Administration  
Miss S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager (Acting)  
Ms L O'Hare, Democratic Services Officer

**SPR/154/2019: APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

Apologies were received from Councillors Burgess, Gallagher, and Sharvin.

**SPR/155/2019: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Byrne declared an interest in Item 5 – Special Responsibility Allowance

**SPR/156/2019: ACTION SHEET OF THE STRATEGY, POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 17 OCTOBER 2019**

Read: Action Sheet of the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 17 October 2019. **(Copy circulated)**

**SPR/123/2019 Lease of lands at former land fill site at Newry Road, Newtownhamilton**

It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Byrne, with regard to the lands at the former landfill site at Newtownhamilton, the option of a waste management facility was withdrawn. Any future consideration of this site would only be considered once full remediation works had been carried out at the site.

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Byrne, that with regard to lands at the former landfill site at Newtownhamilton, the option of a waste management facility was withdrawn. Any future**

**consideration of this site would only be considered once full remediation works had been carried out at the site.**

Mrs Carville provided an update on Kilkeel Town Hall to members.

**Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Doran, it was agreed that the Action Sheet of 17 October 2019, be noted, and actions removed as marked.**

## **CORPORATE PLANNING AND POLICY**

### **SPR/157/2019 DRAFT IRISH LANGUAGE STRATEGY 2020-2023**

Read: Report dated 14 November 2019 from Mrs R Mackin, Assistant Director Corporate Planning and Policy, regarding Draft Irish Language Strategy 2020-2023 **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor Walker advised that he did not support the Irish Language Strategy. He asked for statistics of how many people requested services in the Irish language in Council buildings and if there were any costings for implementation of the new strategy. Councillor Lewis agreed with Councillor Walker's comments and asked if an equality impact assessment had been carried out.

Mrs Mackin advised that Council does receive requests for documents in Irish and people were using the Irish language in various community groups and projects that Council were involved with. Costings were visible through the rates process of the budgets and the strategy had been equality and rural proofed. She stated that Irish language bodies would have figures relating to numbers within the District using the Irish language.

Councillor Ó Muirí, Savage, Byrne, Tinnelly and Hanlon spoke in support of the strategy highlighting the benefits and opportunities it had presented especially to young people through the bursary scheme and breaking down barriers.

The Chairman put the matter to vote by way of a show of hands and voting was as follows:

**For: 9**  
**Against: 2**  
**Abstentions: 0**

**The Motion was declared carried.**

**Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Doran, the draft Irish Language Strategy 2020-2023 was agreed and to proceed to public consultation.**

### **SPR/158/2019 SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY ALLOWANCES**

Read: Report dated 14 November 2019 from Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services, regarding Allocation of two outstanding SRA Allowance **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed: On the proposal of Councillor Doran, seconded by Councillor Walker, it was agreed to proceed with option a in the officer's report – that the outstanding Special Responsibility**

Allowances be allocated among the other positions which receive Special Responsibility Allowance payments.

**FOR NOTING**

**SPR/159/2019      MID YEAR ASSESSMENT OF DIRECTORATE BUSINESS PLANS 2019-20**

Read: Report dated 14 November 2019 from Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services, regarding Mid-Year Assessment of Directorate Business Plans 2019-20 (**Copy circulated**)

Noted:                                **It was agreed to note the contents of the report and the Mid - Year Assessments of the Business Plans of the Corporate Services and Chief Executive's Directorates.**

**SPR/160/2019      COMMUNITY PLANNING STATEMENT OF PROGRESS**

Read: Report dated 14 November from, Mr J McBride, Assistant Director Community Planning and Performance, regarding Community Planning Statement of Progress (**Copy circulated**)

Noted:                                **It was agreed to note the contents of the report.**

**SPR/161/2019      TREASURY MANAGEMENT MID-YEAR REPORT 2019/20**

Read: Report dated 14 November 2019 from Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services, regarding Treasury Management Mid-Year Report (**Copy circulated**)

Noted:                                **It was agreed to note the contents of the report.**

**SPR/162/2019:      DRAFT MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY PLANNING STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING – 22 OCTOBER 2019**

Read: Minutes from Community Planning Strategic Partnership Board Meetings held on 22 October 2019

Noted:                                **It was agreed to note the Draft Community Planning Partnership Board Minutes of 22 October 2019.**

**SPR/163/2019:      CITY CENTRE REGENERATION PROGRAMME TRANSPORTATION & CAR PARKING**

Read: Report dated 14 November 2019 from Mr C Mallon, Acting Director – Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism (**Copy circulated**)

Noted:                                **It was agreed to note the contents of the report.**

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

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Ó Muirí, seconded by Councillor Howell, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on the next matters which related to exempt information by virtue of para. 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government (Northern Ireland) 2014 – Information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person (including the Council holding that information) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

**SPR/164/2019**                    **CAR PARK AT MEIGH VILLAGE**

**Read:** Report dated 14 November 2019 from Mrs L Moore, Head of Legal Administration, regarding Car Park at Meigh Village **(Copy circulated)**

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

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Ó Muirí, it was agreed to proceed with the NI Housing Executive proposal and terms in order to regularise the use of the area marked in the officer's report as a car-park to service the playing field and playground area.

**SPR/165/2019:**                    **SALE OF LAND AT NEWRY MARKET**

**Read:** Report dated 14 November 2019 from Mrs L Moore, Head of Legal Administration, regarding sale of land at Newry Market **(Copy circulated)**

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

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Doran, seconded by Councillor Tinnelly, it was agreed to accept the offer made in respect of the land at Newry Market, marked in the officer's report subject to contract and completion of legal formalities and further subject to each party being responsible for their own legal costs in the matter.

**FOR NOTING**

**SPR/166/2019**                    **ACTION SHEET FROM EFFICIENCY WORKING GROUP MEETING 21 OCTOBER 2019**

**Read:** Action Sheet from Efficiency Working Group Meeting held on 21 October 2019. **(Copy circulated)**

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

**Noted:** It was agreed to note the action sheet from Efficiency Working Group Meeting held on 21 October 2019.

**SPR/167/2019**      **MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS**

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

**Noted:** It was agreed to note the Management accounts for the 6 month period to 30 September 2019.

There being no further business, the Meeting concluded at 7.20pm

**Signed:**      **Councillor Michael Savage**  
**Chairperson**

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