

## NEWRY MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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### **Minutes of Strategy Policy & Resources Committee Meeting held on Thursday 12 March 2020 at 6.00pm in the Board Room, Newry**

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**In the Chair:** Councillor M Savage

**In Attendance:** Councillor R Burgess      Councillor P Byrne  
Councillor H Gallagher      Councillor O Hanlon  
Councillor R Howell      Councillor A Lewis  
Councillor R Mulgrew      Councillor D Murphy  
Councillor A McMurray      Councillor M Savage  
Councillor G Sharvin      Councillor J Tinnelly

**Also in attendance:** Councillor G Stokes      Councillor K Owen

**Officials in Attendance:** Mrs M Ward, Chief Executive  
Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services  
Mr R Moore, Director of Neighbourhood Services  
Mrs C Miskelly, Assistant Director of Corporate Services (HR & S Safeguarding)  
Mrs R Mackin, Assistant of Director of Corporate Planning and Policy  
Mr P Tamati, Assistant Director of Leisure and Sport  
Mr J McGilly, Assistant Director of Enterprise, Employment & Regeneration  
Mrs L Fitzsimons, HR Manager  
Ms L O'Hare, Democratic Services Officer

#### **SPR/35/2020: APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

Apologies was received from Councillor Walker and Mr M Lipsett, Director of Active and Healthy Communities

#### **SPR/36/2020: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declaration of interest.

It was agreed to take item 17 from the agenda at this point of the meeting.

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

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Mulgrew, 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/37/2020**

**COVID 19 – UPDATE/COUNCIL ACTION AND CONTINGUENCY PLANS – VERBAL UPDATE**

**Read:** The Chief Executive provided a detailed verbal update to all members.

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

**Agreed:** **It was agreed to note the detailed update provided by the Chief Executive in relation to Councils Emergency Planning Procedures, including procedures for calling emergency meetings of Council as necessary to ensure Council remains proactive to development in this area. Updates were provided from all Directorates in relation to their specific service area. Councillors spoke at great length as to their concerns and the concerns of the public in this regard and it was agreed that Council would continue to communicate regularly and proactively respond to guidance from PHA as it develops.**

**SPR/38/2020:**

**ACTION SHEET OF THE STRATEGY, POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 12 FEBRUARY 2020**

**Read:** Action Sheet of the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 12 February 2020. **(Copy circulated)**

Mrs Carville provided an update in relation SPR/25/2020 on the action sheet – Consent for Works at Quoile River by NIEA. - Council does not own any more of the path than what was previously agreed to be updated.

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Howell, seconded by Councillor Gallagher, it was agreed that the Action Sheet of 12 February 2020, be noted, and actions removed as marked.**

**CORPORATE PLANNING AND PERFORMANCE**

**SPR/39/2020**

**NEWRY MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL CORPORATE PLAN 2020-2023**

**Read:** Report dated 12 March 2020 from Mrs R Mackin, Assistant Director of Corporate Planning 2020-2023 **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Howell, it was agreed to consider the draft Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Corporate Plan 2020 - 2023.**

Read: Report dated 12 March 2020 from Mrs K Bingham, Head of Performance and Improvement, regarding Draft Performance and Improvement Objectives 2020-21 **(Copy circulated)**

**Councillor Byrne noted that the consultation period should in the future be 12 weeks.**

**Agreed:**

**On the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Mulgrew, the following was agreed;**

- The draft performance improvement objectives 2020-21, as outlined in Appendix 1.
- The proposed approach and timetable for publishing the Performance Improvement Plan 2020-21, by 30 June 2020, including authorisation to proceed with an eight week public consultation programme between 18 March – 13 May 2020, as outlined in Appendix 2.

Read: Report dated 12 March 2020 from Mrs R Mackin, Assistant Director Corporate Planning and Policy, regarding the Section 75 statutory duties compliance: Revised Equality Scheme – Five year review of Council's Equality Scheme **(Copy circulated)**

Mrs Mackin is to revert to Councillor Byrne following his query regarding list of consultees.

**Agreed:**

**On the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Gallagher, it was agreed to approve Council's revised Equality Scheme, and that further to approval, the Equality Commission.**

### **CORPORATE SERVICES**

Read: Report dated 12 March 2020 from Mrs D Carville, Director of Corporate Services, regarding Health and Safety Compliance Policies **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:**

**On the proposal of Councillor Howell, seconded by Councillor Burgess, it was agreed to approve the content of the report.**

### **HUMAN RESOURCES**

Read: Report dated 12 March 2020 from Mrs C Miskelly, Assistant Director Corporate Services (HR & Safeguarding) **(Copy circulated)**

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Hanlon, seconded by Councillor Byrne, it was agreed to approve the recommended policy be adopted by Council for implementation.**

## **DEMOCRATIC SERVICES**

**SPR/44/2020      THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILLORS – ANNUAL PAYMENT**

Read: Report dated 12 March 2020 from Mrs M Ward, Chief Executive, regarding The National Association of Councillors – Annual Payment (**Copy circulated**)

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Mulgrew, seconded by Councillor Hanlon, it was agreed to note the contents of the report and approve Council's annual subscription to the National Association of Councillors.**

**SPR/45/2020      UPDATED POLICY ON ARRANGEMENTS FOR BOOKS OF CONDOLENCE**

Read Report dated 12 March 2020 from Mrs M Ward, Chief Executive, regarding updated Policy on Arrangements for Books of Condolence (**Copy circulated**)

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Hanlon, seconded by Councillor Byrne, it was agreed to add Newry Leisure Centre as per the officer's report and it was further agreed to add Downpatrick Leisure Centre as an additional location for books of Condolence.**

## **FOR NOTING**

**SPR/46/2020      UPDATED SRA ALLOWANCE**

Read: Report dated 12 March 2020 from Mrs D Carville, (**Copy circulated**)

Noted: **It was agreed to note the report on updated SRA Allowance.**

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

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Burgess, seconded by Councillor Lewis, 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/47/2020

**CASTLEWELLAN FOREST PARK**

Read: Report dated 12 March 2020 from Mr C Mallon, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration & Tourism, regarding Castlewellan Forest Park **(Copy circulated)**

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

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor McMurray, seconded by Councillor Howell, it was agreed that Council select option 1b as detailed in the officer's report as the preferred business model of Castlewellan Forest Park.**

SPR/48/2020

**APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR: ECONOMY, REGENERATION AND TOURISM**

Read: Report dated 12 March 2020 from Mrs C Miskelly, Assistant Director Corporate Services (HR & Safeguarding), regarding appointment of Director: Economy, Regeneration and Tourism **(Copy circulated)**

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

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Mulgrew, seconded by Councillor Byrne, that Members note the contents of the report and agree to proceed with the recruitment of a Director of Economy, Regeneration and Tourism and nominate three elected members, being the Chairperson of Council and two other elected members in the Shortlisting & Interview Panel for the recruitment process.**

SPR/49/2020

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS (NON-PAY)**

Read: Report dated 12 March 2020 from C Miskelly, Assistant Director Corporate Services (HR & Safeguarding), regarding Terms and Conditions (non-pay) **(Copy circulated)**

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

Agreed: **On the proposal of Councillor Byrne, seconded by Councillor Mulgrew it was agreed to approve the Terms and Conditions as detailed in appendix 1 for implementation with effect from 1 April 2020.**

SPR/50/2020

**ALBERT BASIN TASK AND FINISH ACTION SHEET DATED 20 FEBRUARY 2020**

On a point of accuracy Councillor Savage advised he had been in attendance at the meeting

which had not been recorded.

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

**Noted:** **It was agreed to note the Albert Basin Task and Finish Action Sheet dated 20 February 2020.**

**SPR/51/2020** **REIMBURSEMENT OF PAYMENTS ADE BY NEWRY MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL IN SETTLEMENT OF LEGACY PLANNING COMPLINTS TO THE NORTHERN IRELAND PUBLIC SERVICES OMBUDSMAN**

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

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

There being no further business, the Meeting concluded at 8.06pm

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

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

