

## **NEWRY MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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### **Minutes of Strategy Policy & Resources Committee Meeting held on Thursday 15 June 2023 at 6.00pm via Microsoft Teams & Mourne Room, Downshire Civic Centre**

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<b>In the Chair:</b>	Councillor L McEvoy (Chamber)
<b>In Attendance in Chamber</b>	Councillor J Brennan Councillor P Byrne Councillor C Enright Councillor O Hanlon Councillor R Howell Councillor T Kelly Councillor A Lewis Councillor A Mathers Councillor D McAteer Councillor S O'Hare Councillor A Quinn Councillor H Reilly Councillor G Sharvin
<b>In Attendance via Teams:</b>	Councillor D Taylor
<b>Non-Members:</b>	Councillor C Bowsie (via Teams) Councillor W Clarke (via Teams) Councillor D Lee-Surginor (via Teams) Councillor A McMurray (Chamber) Councillor J Tinnelly (via Teams) Councillor J Truesdale (via Teams)
<b>Officials in Attendance:</b>	Mrs J Kelly, Director of Corporate Services Mr C Boyd, Assistant Director Capital Projects and Procurement Mr G Byrne, Assistant Director Finance & Performance Ms V Keegan, Assistant Director, Corporate Planning and Policy (Acting) Mrs C Miskelly, Assistant Director Corporate Services (HR & Safeguarding) Mr C Moffett, Assistant Director, Corporate Planning and Policy (Acting) Mr A Patterson, Assistant Director, Tourism Culture & Events Mrs A Robb, Assistant Director Administration Ms E Cosgrove, Head of Compliance Mr P Rooney, Legal Advisor Mr G Scott, Safeguarding Coordinator Ms S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager (Acting) Mrs L Cummins, Democratic Services Officer

**SPR/060/2023:**

**APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

Apologies were received from Mrs M Ward, Chief Executive, Mr C Mallon, Director of Enterprise, Regeneration and Tourism and Mr A Cassells, Director of Sustainability and Environment.

The Chairperson extended her condolences to the family, friends and colleagues of Elaine Coffey who worked in the Corporate Services Department in Downshire Civic Centre, who sadly passed away suddenly on Tuesday 13 June 2023.

Councillor Hanlon sent condolences on behalf of the Sinn Fein grouping to the family, friends and colleagues of Elaine on her sudden passing.

The Chairperson advised that an email had been received by a member of the public with regards to halting proceedings at tonight's meeting and invited Mr Rooney, Legal Advisor to update members on the matter.

Mr Rooney advised members that the email correspondence had been received which questioned the legality of certain matters before the committee. He stated having investigated the matter he was satisfied that the Notice of Motion tabled at the meeting was correctly dealt with under Standing Order 16.1.16. In terms of supplementary documentation, the officers were entitled to make recommendations to the Committee but ultimately it was a matter for Elected Members to decide how they wished to proceed.

**SPR/061/2023:**

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**SPR/062/2023:**

**ACTION SHEET ARISING FROM STRATEGY, POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD ON THURSDAY 16 MARCH 2023**

**Read:**

Action Sheet of the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on Thursday 16 March 2023. **(Copy circulated)**

Mrs Kelly agreed to revert to Councillor McAteer regarding an update on lease at McGrath House, Hill Street, Newry.

Councillor Lewis thanked all those involved in establishing the Kings Coronation and asked whether all funding been availed off. Mrs Kelly advised she would update Councillor Lewis outside of the meeting.

*SPR/052/2023 – Newry Leisure Centre (NLC) – Swimming Pool*

Councillor Byrne requested an update on Newry Leisure Centre swimming pool and if there was any indication of timeframes on dates of closures of the pool to update users. Mrs Kelly advised that the matter was still ongoing and a further report would be tabled at the August meeting. She stated there were no planned closures for the next couple of months.

*SPR/040/2023 – Rebellion Anniversaries*

Councillor Brennan thanked officers for the work that had been completed following his motion and requested an update on events, with an increase in advertising of these type of events. He also requested that Council plan and adequately communicate the series of events to commemorate the 220th anniversary of the death of Thomas Russell which occurs on the 21<sup>st</sup> October 2023. Mrs Kelly agreed to email an update to Councillor Brennan.

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Hanlon, seconded by Councillor Howell to approve the action sheet from the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 16 March 2023.**

**SPR/063/2023**

**STRATEGY POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE  
TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mrs J Kelly, Director of Corporate Services, regarding Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Terms of Reference **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor Byrne stated that SDLP had previously put forward a proposal stating if a report had a financial nature or any information that needed to be kept 'In Committee' it could be kept separate from the rest of report in order to reduce the amount of items not reportable. He asked for a formal response from management as to the reasons why a main paper couldn't be kept in open session and financials put into closed session. Mrs Kelly noted the comments and said each report was looked at on an individual basis and was guided by the legislation. She stated logistically it may lead to additional reports of the same item being placed on agendas but agreed to investigate further.

Councillor Enright commented that he was surprised to see that within the Terms of Reference there was no mention of Planning for expansion of rates base. Councillor Sharvin interjected stating that this was a matter for the Strategic Finance Working Group to consider which then feeds into Strategy Policy and Resources Committee.

The Chairperson confirmed that the matter fell under point 2 of the Terms of Reference – Responsible for the effective planning and stewardship of the Council's entire resources and assets (financials, employees, information technology and land/property assets).

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Quinn, seconded by Councillor Hanlon, to approve the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Terms of Reference.**

**SPR/064/2023**

**TO AGREE START TIMES FOR STRATEGY, POLICY AND  
RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2023-2024**

**Read:** Copy of Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting Dates and Times **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Howell, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, that the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meetings would commence monthly at 6.00pm.**

## **NOTICE OF MOTION**

**SPR/065/2023:**

### **NOTICE OF MOTION – MOURNES GATEWAY PROJECT**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr A Patterson, Assistant Director of Tourism Culture and Events, regarding Notice of Motion – Mournes Gateway Project **(Copy circulated)**

Councillor McMurray noted Mr Rooney's comments, asking for clarification that members and officers were voting exclusively on the motion as tabled rather than the officer's report.

The Chairperson confirmed that Councillor McMurray should continue with his motion with a proposer and seconder and if there were any amendments they would be dealt with as needed.

In presenting his motion, Councillor McMurray stated he was an outdoor person who was not opposed to the gondolas and had used gondolas in the past himself for many reasons in a mountain environment and in the correct context they were a welcome addition. He stated Council risked spoiling a recognised area of ASSI and AONB through the addition of an out of place visitor centre and advised the project would impact on many other areas of environmental interest eg. Glen River Walk. He advised that currently the only trend for upland visitor centres was their removal rather than their construction and the coach term market that formed a sizeable element of the project did not have the economic benefits that were assumed to go with it. Councillor McMurray stated the project should be paused until explicit consent has been gained from landowners, and until further clarity on the actual installation, running and maintenance costs were presented.

In proposing the motion Councillor Kelly requested a recorded vote on the motion. This was seconded by Councillor Enright.

Councillor Hanlon asked for clarity as to why a recorded vote was required at this point when the officer's recommendation had not yet been heard.

*The Chairperson paused the meeting at this stage – 18.29pm.*

*The meeting recommenced at 18.32pm.*

Mr Rooney advised Members that under standing orders, the motion had been referred to the committee for consideration, the motion would be debated and dealt with as a motion. In terms of the officer's report, it was a recommendation from officers to inform a decision and ultimately the motion had to be decided whether it was carried or not before the officer's recommendation became relevant.

He advised his understanding was that the usual debate should happen on the notice of motion, and the officer's report was there to assist if there were any queries.

The Chairperson queried if the recorded vote as requested as per Councillor McMurray's motion would take place after the debate if there was an amendment. Mr Rooney confirmed this was correct as per normal standing orders.

Councillor Hanlon thanked the Alliance Party for bringing the motion, welcoming the sentiments and sharing concerns around the project, she recognised there were a number of significant issues that needed addressed before a final decision could be made on the viability of the proposal in the months ahead. She stated, that she, along with all Parties and Councillors had been lobbied, however the mistruths circulated on social media about counter motions and votes on projects and votes on motions was unhelpful. She stated Council could not gauge the public views without full stakeholder involvement.

Councillor Hanlon proposed the following amendment:

“This Council notes with concern the continued lack of clarity regarding the Visitor Centre located at Thomas’ Mountain and ‘Gondola’ elements of the Mourne Gateway Project. Council will; revisit the stakeholder engagement process and undertake a robust consultation on the project with residents, workers and businesses within the district via the project board for approval and actively investigate and develop alternatives to the Mourne Gateway Project which will both meet the funding criteria while enhancing this Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Officers to bring back a paper to Committee that provides a full and comprehensive update on the status of the project thus far. A schedule of key stakeholder and interested parties should be provided as part of this update.”

Councillor Byrne seconded the amendment stating that the officer’s recommendation needed to be more robust and a recap of all procedures was required for new Councillors. He stated that the legal opinion given tonight on motions was confusing and a dangerous precedent was being set which needed further clarity.

Councillor Kelly did not accept the amendment.

In response to query raised by Councillor McAteer, Ms Taggart clarified that as there had been an amendment put forward, which was not agreed, the original motion needed to be dealt with as had been done with all previous motions that had come forward.

Councillor Byrne queried what exactly the vote was on as Members had not heard from the officer and there was confusion as to what was being requested.

Mr Patterson advised the report stated the current status and the proposed steps for carrying forward the project. He advised a Project Board had been established to keep members informed with detailed presentations and to update new members.

The original motion was put to a recorded vote the results were as follows (copy appended to these minutes)

<b>FOR:</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>AGAINST:</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>ABSTENTIONS:</b>	<b>3</b>

The Motion was lost.

Councillor Hanlon’s amendment was then put to a vote, the results of which were as follows:

<b>FOR:</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>AGAINST:</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>ABSTENTIONS:</b>	<b>4</b>

The Motion was carried.

A discussion took place and Members asked that a report be brought back to the next meeting on how Notice of Motions should be dealt with at committees.

**Agreed:** **Following a recorded vote, it was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Hanlon, seconded by Councillor Byrne, to adopt the Notice of Motion as amended: “This Council notes with concern the continued lack of clarity regarding the Visitor Centre located at Thomas’ Mountain and ‘Gondola’ elements of the Mourne Gateway Project. Council will; revisit the stakeholder engagement process and undertake a robust consultation on the project with residents, workers and businesses within the district via the project board for approval and actively investigate and develop alternatives to the Mourne Gateway Project which will both meet the funding criteria while enhancing this Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Officers to bring back a paper to Committee that provides a full and comprehensive update on the status of the project thus far. A schedule of key stakeholder and interested parties should be provided as part of this update.”**

#### **FOR CONSIDERATION AND OR DECISION**

**SPR/066/2023:** **REVISED ACCESS TO INFORMATION POLICY AND PROCEDURE**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Ms E Cosgrove, Head of Compliance, regarding Revised Access to Information Policy and Procedure **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Howell, seconded by Councillor Mathers, that Elected Members agree to approve the ATIPP.**

**SPR/067/2023:** **REVISED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST POLICY AND PROCEDURES**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Ms E Cosgrove, Head of Compliance, regarding Revised Conflicts of Interest Policy and Procedures **(Copy circulated)**

In response to a query from Councillor Sharvin, Ms Cosgrove clarified that senior officer declarations of interest were published on the website but their content was not, based on ICO guidance. High risk posts would not be published, however they would be monitored and evaluated internally for completion figures.

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Hanlon, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, that Elected Members agree to approve the COIPP.**

**SPR/068/2023: PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2023-24**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr G Byrne, Assistant Director: Finance and Performance regarding Performance Improvement Plan 2023-24 **(Copy circulated)**

In response to query from Councillor Hanlon, Mr Byrne advised it was a statutory requirement to report on each of the measures and a report would be brought back mid-year and end of year. He advised communication from the department advised that there was only funding for the Labour Market Partnership for quarter one, so after June there was no further funding. Mr Byrne confirmed he would email all committee members with an update before the Performance Improvement Plan was published in July and bring back a further report to the August Strategy Policy and Resources committee meeting.

In response to query from Councillor McAteer, Mr Byrne stated procurement regulations needed to be followed but were trying to make it more open to local companies by publishing on social media links to any tender uploaded and instructions on how to join the portal.

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Hanlon, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, that Elected Members approve the following recommendations:**

- **The Performance Improvement Plan 2023-24 (including the five performance improvement objectives), Consultation and Engagement Report 2023-24 and Objective Delivery Plans 2023-24.**
- **That the Performance Improvement Plan 2023-24 is published following full Council ratification in July 2023.**

**SPR/069/2023: DIRECTORATE BUSINESS PLANS 2023-24**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mrs J Kelly, Director Corporate Services regarding, Director Business Plan 2023-24 **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Howell, seconded by Councillor Quinn, that Elected Members approve the following recommendations:**

- **Assessment of the Chief Executive's Business Plan and Corporate Services Directorate Business Plan 2022-23**
- **Chief Executive's Business Plan and Corporate Services Directorate Business Plan 2023-24**

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

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Hanlon, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on items 11-27 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 any particular person (including the Council holding that information) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

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

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

**SPR/070/2023: RENEWAL OF LEASE OF OFFICE AT DOWN ARTS CENTRE**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023, from Mr P Rooney, Head of Legal Administration regarding renewal of Lease of Office at Down Arts Centre (Copy circulated).

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Quinn, it was agreed that Elected Members approve to enter into a Lease in respect of the offices shown outlined in red on the map with Down Community Arts for a period of five years subject to the market rent set out in this report.

**SPR/071/2023: EXTENDED TO AREA LEASED AT DUNGORMLEY ESTATE, NEWTOWNHAMILTON**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr P Rooney, Head of Legal Administration regarding extension to area leased at Dungormley Estate, Newtownhamilton (**Copy circulated**).

**Agreed:** On the proposal of Councillor Taylor, seconded by Councillor Quinn, it was agreed that Elected Members approve to lease the lands outlined in green on the map attached to the report for a term of 961 years from 1st June 2023 paying the Lease Premium set out in this report.

**SPR/072/2023: REQUEST TO LEASE LANDS AT BUNKERS HILL, CASTLEWELLAN**



**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr P Rooney, Head of Legal Administration regarding request to lease lands at Bunkers Hill, Castlewellan **(Copy circulated)**.

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Howell, seconded by Councillor McAteer, it was agreed that Elected Members approve the following recommendations:**

- **That Council's external legal advisors who acted for Council in the acquisition of the lands at Bunkers Hill contact NIHE regarding the release of the restrictive covenant.**
- **Once agreement has been reached to remove the restrictive covenant to lease the lands hatched red on the map attached to the report to the party identified within the report for the remainder of the Original Term subject to market value rent and / or premium to be determined by Council's valuer.**

**SPR/073/2023:** **SURRENDER OF LEASE OF PITCH AT CARRIGENAGH ROAD PLAYING FIELDS, KILKEEL**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr P Rooney, Head of Legal Administration regarding surrender of lease of pitch at Carrigenagh Road playing fields, Kilkeel **(Copy circulated)**.

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Reilly, seconded by Councillor McEvoy, it was agreed Elected Members approve to permit the Club named in the report to surrender the Lease in respect of a pitch at Carrigenagh Road Playing Fields subject to consent from the Lands Tribunal.**

**SPR/074/2023:** **PROPOSED LEASE OF SAINTFIELD COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr P Rooney, Head of Legal Administration regarding proposed lease of Saintfield Community Centre **(Copy circulated)**.

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Kelly, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, it was agreed Elected Members approve to extend the term of years previously agreed from 15 years to 25 years in respect of the proposed lease of Unit B Saintfield Community Centre.**

**SPR/075/2023:** **REQUEST TO DISPOSE OF STRIP OF LAND AT SAINTFIELD COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr P Rooney, Head of Legal Administration regarding request to dispose of strip of land at Saintfield Community Centre **(Copy circulated)**.

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Sharvin, seconded by Councillor Kelly, it was agreed that Elected Members approve to the sale of the lands outlined in red on the attached map to the party detailed in the report for the value determined by Council's valuer subject to the purchaser erecting at their own cost a suitable boundary to be agreed with Council Officers.**

**SPR/076/2023: REQUEST TO LEASE LANDS AT KILLOUGH PLAYING FIELDS, KILLOUGH**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr P Rooney, Head of Legal Administration regarding request to lease lands at Killough playing fields, Killough **(Copy circulated)**.

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Hanlon, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, it was agreed that Elected Members approve to lease the lands outlined in red on the map attached to the report to the party identified within the report for a term of three years subject to market value rent.**

**SPR/077/2023: REQUEST FOR WAYLEAVE AT SLIEVE GULLION FOREST PARK**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr P Rooney, Head of Legal Administration regarding, request for Wayleave at Slieve Gullion Forest Park **(Copy circulated)**.

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Quinn, seconded by Councillor Byrne, it was agreed Elected Members approve to enter into the Wayleave Agreement with Fibrus in respect of lands at Slieve Gullion Forest Park subject to market value consideration if any.**

**SPR/078/2023: LEASE OF OLD GASWORKS SITE, NEWRY**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr P Rooney, Head of Legal Administration regarding lease of The Old Gasworks Site, Newry **(Copy circulated)**.

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Mathers, seconded by Councillor McAteer, it was agreed to defer this item.**

**SPR/079/2023: RENEWAL LICENCE FOR PORTACABIN AT SHANDON PARK, NEWRY**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr P Rooney, Head of Legal Administration regarding renewal of Licence for portacabin at Shandon Park, Newry **(Copy circulated)**.

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Taylor, seconded by Councillor Mathers, it was agreed Elected Members approve to enter into a Licence with the Club noted in the report in respect of the plot of land as is outlined in green on the attached map for a period up to 30th July 2024 with a one year extension running from 1st August 2024 until 30th July 2025 provided that planning is obtained at a peppercorn licence fee subject to Departmental Consent.**

**SPR/080/2023: LEASE OF BALLYNAHINCH MARKET HOUSE**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr P Rooney, Head of Legal Administration, regarding lease of Ballynahinch Market House **(Copy circulated)**.

Mrs Kelly advised that Councillor Bowsie could contact her outside of the meeting should he require any further clarity on the matter.

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Hanlon, seconded by Councillor Kelly, it was agreed Elected Members approve to enter into a Lease with the successful Expression of Interest applicant noted in the report in respect of Ballynahinch Market House for a term of up to 25 years at the market rent noted in the report.**

**SPR/081/2023: RENEWAL OF LICENCES AT CROSSMAGLEN COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr P Rooney, Head of Legal Administration, regarding renewal of licences at Crossmaglen Community Centre **(Copy circulated)**.

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Quinn, seconded by Councillor Byrne, it was agreed Elected Members approve to the granting of annual licence agreements with the parties identified in the report for a period of up to three years subject to the licence fees noted in the report, subject to Departmental Consent being obtained in respect of the Licensee paying less than the market value licence fee.**

**SPR/082/2023: CIVIL ENGINEERING MINOR WORKS FRAMEWORK PROCUREMENT**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr C Boyd, Assistant Director of Capital Projects & Procurement, regarding Civil Engineering Minor Works Framework Procurement **(Copy circulated)**.

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor McAteer, seconded by Councillor Howell, it was agreed Elected Members approve officers to conduct a 2 stage open tender procurement process including a PQQ and ITT process to select a Contractor(s) for a maximum period of 4 years and up to £12 million with a review and break clause on the second and third anniversary.**

**SPR/083/2023: NCCR – BRCD APPROVAL OF PUBLIC REALM COMPENSATION EVENT**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr C Boyd, Assistant Director of Capital Projects & Procurement, regarding NCCR – BRCD Approval of Public Realm Compensation Event **(Copy circulated)**.

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor McAteer, seconded by Councillor Mathers, it was agreed Elected Members approve the appointment of the incumbent design team of the NCCR programme to undertake the Public Realm design and delivery as set out in this report.**

**SPR/084/2023: PROVISIONAL OF INTERNAL AUDIT SERVICES 2023-2027**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr G Byrne, Assistant Director of Finance & Performance, regarding provisional of Internal Audit Services 2023-2027 **(Copy circulated)**.

**Agreed:** **On the proposal of Councillor Quinn, seconded by Councillor Hanlon, it was agreed Elected Members approve the additional Internal Audit Spend as detailed in the officer's report to ensure Council has an adequate control environment.**

**FOR NOTING – The following items are deemed to be exempt under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the October 2022 Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014**

**SPR/085/2023:**

**DFC BUDGET2023/24 – CONSULTATION RESPONSES**

**Read:**

Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr G Byrne, Assistant Director of Finance & Performance, regarding DfC Budget 2023/24 – Consultation Responses. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:**

**On the proposal of Councillor Hanlon, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, it was agreed to note the impact of the proposed Rates Support Grant cut and funding of the Labour Market Partnerships and to review the Councils EQIA responses at Appendix 3 and 4.**

**SPR/086/2023:**

**MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS -YEAR END 2022/23**

**Read:**

Circular dated 15 June 2023 from Management Accounts – Year End 2022/23. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:**

**On the proposal of Councillor Hanlon, seconded by Councillor Sharvin, it was agreed to note the Year End Management Accounts 2022/23 update.**

**FOR NOTING**

**SPR/087/2023:**

**2022/23 FOI/EIR/DP/RM MONITORING STATISTICS**

**Read:**

Report dated 15 June 2023 from Ms E Cosgrove, Head of Compliance, regarding 2022/23 FOI/EIR/DP/RM Monitoring Statistics **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:**

**On the proposal of Councillor Reilly, seconded by Councillor Howell, it was agreed to note the monitoring statistics.**

**SPR/088/2023:**

**ANNUAL REPORT PERIOD 1 APRIL 2022 – 31 MARCH 2023 – REQUESTS RELATED TO NAMING COUNCIL FACILITIES, PLANTING TREES AND TO LOCATE ARTWORKS/SCULPTURES ON COUNCIL PROPERTY**

**Read:**

Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr C Moffett, Assistant Director Corporate Planning and Policy (Acting) regarding Annual report period 1 April 2022 – 31 March 2023 – Requests related to naming Council facilities, planting trees and to locate Artworks/Sculptures on Council property **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:**

**It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Reilly, seconded by Councillor Howell to note the completed annual return prepared and submitted to DAERA on 30 May 2023 to meet their requested deadline of 20 June 2023:**

- **Appendix 1 – Newry Mourne and Down District Council Rural Needs Annual Monitoring Report for period 1 April 2022 – 31 March 2023.**

**SPR/089/2023:**

**STATUTORY REPORTING - SECTION 75 POLICY SCREENING REPORT – QUARTERLY REPORT FOR PERIOD JANUARY – MARCH 2023**

**Read:**

Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr C Moffett, Assistant Director Corporate Planning and Policy (Acting) regarding Statutory Reporting – Section 75 Policy Screening Report – Quarterly Report for Period January – March 2023 **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:**

**It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Reilly, seconded by Councillor Howell to note the Section 75 Policy Screening Report – Quarterly Report for period January – March 2023.**

**SPR/090/2023:**

**DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING ACTIVITY REPORT – LOCAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS COUNT, 19 & 20 MAY 2023**

**Read:**

Report dated 15 June 2023 from Ms V Keegan, Assistant Director Corporate Planning and Policy (Acting) regarding Digital Communications and Marketing Activity Report – Local Council Elections Count, 19 & 20 May 2023 **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:**

**It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Reilly, seconded by Councillor Howell to note the contents of the report.**

**SPR/091/2023:**

**THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND DEPARTMENT FOR JUSTICE DRAFT DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL ABUSE STRATEGY 2023 – 2030 AND ASSOCIATED EQUALITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS SCREENING**

**Read:**

Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr G Scott, Safeguarding Coordinator, regarding The Department of Health and Department of Justice draft Domestic and Sexual Abuse Strategy 2023 – 2030 and associated Equality and Human Rights Screening **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:**

**It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Reilly, seconded by Councillor Howell to note the consultation response on the draft Domestic and Sexual Abuse Strategy 2023 – 2030 and Equality and Rural Needs Screening (Appendix 1).**

**SPR/092/2023:**

**THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE CONSULTATION ON FORMS OF EVIDENCE OF DOMESTIC ABUSE THAT SHOULD TRIGGER AN AUTOMATIC PROHIBITION ON**

**CROSS-EXAMINATION IN PERSON IN FAMILY PROCEEDINGS AND ASSOCIATED EQUALITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS SCREENING**

**Read:** Report dated 15 June 2023 from Mr G Scott, Safeguarding Coordinator, regarding The Department of Justice consultation on Forms of Evidence of Domestic Abuse that should Trigger an Automatic Prohibition on cross-examination in person in family proceedings and associated Equality and Human Rights Screening. **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Reilly, seconded by Councillor Howell to note The Department of Justice consultation on Forms of Evidence of Domestic Abuse that should Trigger an Automatic Prohibition on cross-examination in person in family proceedings and associated Equality and Human Rights Screening (as Appendix 1)**

**SPR/093/2023: MINUTES OF MOURNE GATEWAY PROJECT – PROJECT BOARD MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> MARCH 2023**

**Read:** Minutes of Mourne Gateway Project – Project Board Meeting held on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2023 **(Copy circulated)**

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Reilly, seconded by Councillor Howell to note the Minutes of Mourne Gateway Project – Project Board Meeting held on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2023**

**SPR/094/2023: MINUTES OF NEWRY CITY CENTRE REGENERATION PROGRAMME BOARD MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> MARCH 2023**

**Read:** Minutes of Newry City Centre Regeneration Programme Board Meeting held on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2023

**Agreed:** **It was agreed on the proposal of Councillor Reilly, seconded by Councillor Howell to note the Minutes of Newry City Centre Regeneration Programme Board Meeting held on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2023**

There being no further business, the Meeting concluded at 20.25pm.

For adoption at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 3 July 2023.

**Signed:** **Councillor Leeanne McEvoy**  
**Chairperson**

**Signed:** **Josephine Kelly**

**Director of Corporate Services**

**NEWRY, MOURNE & DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**RECORDED VOTE**

**DATE:** 15 June 2023 **VENUE:** Downshire Civic Centre/Microsoft Teams **MEETING:** SPR Committee

**SUBJECT OF VOTE:** Notice of Motion: Mournes Gateway Project

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<b>COUNCILLOR</b>	<b>FOR</b>	<b>AGAINST</b>	<b>ABSTAIN</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>J Brennan</b>		1		
<b>P Byrne</b>		2		
<b>C Enright</b>	1			
<b>O Hanlon</b>		3		
<b>R Howell</b>		4		
<b>T Kelly</b>	2			
<b>A Lewis</b>			1	
<b>D McAteer</b>		5		
<b>L McEvoy</b>		6		
<b>A Mathers</b>		7		
<b>S O'Hare</b>		8		
<b>A Quinn</b>		9		
<b>H Reilly</b>			2	
<b>G Sharvin</b>		10		
<b>D Taylor</b>			3	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>	