

February 12th, 2025

Notice Of Meeting

You are requested to attend the Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee meeting to be held on Thursday, 13th February 2025 at 6:00 pm in Council Chamber, Downshire Civic Centre.

Committee Membership 2024-2025

Councillor T Howie **Chairperson**

Councillor C King **Deputy Chairperson**

Councillor C Bowsie

Councillor P Byrne

Councillor W Clarke

Councillor C Enright

Councillor O Hanlon

Councillor A Mathers

Councillor D McAteer

Councillor S O'Hare

Councillor A Quinn

Councillor H Reilly

Councillor M Rice

Councillor G Sharvin

Councillor D Taylor

Agenda

1.0 Apologies and Chairperson's Remarks

2.0 Declarations of Interest

3.0 Action Sheet arising from Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 23 January 2025

📎 *SPR-Action Sheet arising from 2025 01 23.pdf*

Page 1

For Discussion/Decision

4.0 Fuel Policy

For Decision

📎 *SPR Committee Report Feb 2025- Fleet Fuel Management Policy.pdf*

Page 3

📎 *Appendix 1 - Fuel Management Policy v0.2 2024_.pdf*

Page 6

5.0 Officer report on Notice of Motion – 80th anniversary of VE and VJ Day

For Decision

📎 *Officer report on Notice of Motion 80th anniversary of VE and VJ Day.pdf*

Page 9

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

6.0 Belfast Legal Services

This item is deemed to be exempt 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 and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

📎 *Belfast Legal Services.pdf*

Not included

7.0 Insurance Premiums 2025/26

This item is deemed to be exempt 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 and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

📎 *SPR Report - Insurance Premiums 25-26*

Not included

For Noting

8.0 Impact of Storm Éowyn on Council Estate

SPR Committee Report Feb 2025 - Storm Eowyn.pdf

Page 14

Invitees

Cllr Terry Andrews

Cllr Callum Bowsie

Fionnuala Branagh

Cllr Jim Brennan

Cllr Pete Byrne

Mr Gerard Byrne

Cllr Philip Campbell

Cllr William Clarke

Cllr Laura Devlin

Ms Louise Dillon

Cllr Cadogan Enright

Cllr Killian Feehan

Cllr Doire Finn

Cllr Aoife Finnegan

Ms Joanne Fleming

Cllr Conor Galbraith

Cllr Mark Gibbons

Cllr Oonagh Hanlon

Cllr Glyn Hanna

Cllr Valerie Harte

Cllr Roisin Howell

Cllr Tierna Howie

Ms Catherine Hughes

Cllr Jonathan Jackson

Cllr Geraldine Kearns

Miss Veronica Keegan

Mrs Josephine Kelly

Mrs Sheila Kieran

Cllr Cathal King

Cllr Mickey Larkin

Cllr David Lee-Surginor

Cllr Alan Lewis

Cllr Oonagh Magennis

Mr Conor Mallon

Cllr Aidan Mathers

Cllr Declan McAteer

Cllr Leeanne McEvoy

Cllr Andrew McMurray

Mr Colin Moffett

Maureen/Joanne Morgan/Johnston

Cllr Declan Murphy

Sinead Murphy

Cllr Kate Murphy
.....
Cllr Selina Murphy
.....
Cllr Siobhan O'Hare
.....
Mr Andy Patterson
.....
Cllr Áine Quinn
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Cllr Henry Reilly
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Cllr Michael Rice
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Mr Peter Rooney
.....
Cllr Michael Ruane
.....
Cllr Gareth Sharvin
.....
Donna Starkey
.....
Nicola Stranney
.....
Sarah Taggart
.....
Cllr David Taylor
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Cllr Jarlath Tinnelly
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Cllr Jill Truesdale
.....
Mrs Marie Ward
.....
Mr Conor Woods
.....
Cllr Helena Young
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<u>Minute Ref</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Decision</u>	<u>Lead Officer</u>	<u>Actions taken / progress to date</u>	<u>Remove from Action Sheet? Y/N</u>
<u>ACTION SHEET – STRATEGY, POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING (SPR) –</u>					
<u>Thursday 18 April 2024</u>					
SPR/056/2024	Notice of Motion – Ethical Procurement	It was agreed that NMD Council affirms to consider a section under ethical procurement and will review the Council's tender process It was also agreed this item remain on the action sheet until such time as new Policies were forthcoming to Committee	J Kelly	Procurement Policy is being updated with new legislation. Report to be brought back to SP & R in due course.	N
<u>ACTION SHEET –STRATEGY, POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING (SPR) –</u>					
<u>Thursday 23 January 2025</u>					
SPR/003/2025	Action sheet of meeting held 12/12/24	It was agreed to approve the action sheet	J Kelly	Agreed	Y
SPR/004/2025	IT Strategy 2030	It was agreed to approve the draft IT Strategy 2030	V Keegan	Agreed	Y
SPR/005/2025	Digital Transformation Strategy 2030	It was agreed to approve the draft Digital Transformation Strategy 2030	V Keegan	Agreed	Y
SPR/006/2025	Proposed Lease of Lands at Saul, Downpatrick	It was agreed to the lease of lands outlined in red on the map attached to the Officer's Report with the party noted in the report for a period of 10 years, subject to a peppercorn rent	P Rooney	Agreed	Y
SPR/007/2025	Proposed renewal of license at Aughnagun, Mayobridge	It was agreed to enter into three one-year license agreements in respect of lands as shown hatched red on the map attached to the Officer's Report with the party noted in the report at no cost, subject to Departmental Consent	P Rooney	Agreed	Y
SPR/008/2025	Proposed Lease of Lands at Bessbrook	It was agreed to enter into a lease with the group noted in this report in respect of the lands outlined in red on the map attached to the Officer's Report for a term of 25 years at a peppercorn rent, subject to Departmental Consent	P Rooney	Agreed	Y
SPR/009/2025	Request for Purchase of Land	It was agreed to the sale of lands outlined in red on the attached map to the party detailed within the Officer's Report for the value determined by Council's valuer. The sale will be subject to the inclusion of a buy back clause and the interested party paying Council's legal and valuation costs.	A Patterson	Agreed	Y
SPR/010/2025	AHC Capital Projects	It was agreed to progress to the procurement and appointment of an Integrated Consultancy Team to progress the capital projects as detailed within the Officer's Report to RIBA Stage 3: Developed Design and Submission of Planning Applications	A Patterson	Agreed	Y

SPR/011/2025	Public Realm Downpatrick Update	It was agreed to request budget from the capital plan for 2024/25 to support the completion of one business case plan submission as outlined within the Officer's Report	C Mallon	Agreed	Y
SPR/012/2025	Castlewellan Forest Park	The following was agreed: -To proceed with the installation of gas infrastructure into Castlewellan Forest Park with the organisation as outlined within the Officer's Report. -To proceed with the installation of internet connectivity / Fibre with the organisation as outlined within the Officer's Report. -To proceed with the NIE connection and to increase the size of the cable. -That Officer's investigate and liaise with NIE regarding the upgrade of the electricity supply infrastructure to ensure adequate loading to facilitate any future development, with a further report to be presented at Committee for approval.	C Mallon	Agreed	Y
SPR/013/2025	IT Strategy 2016 Progress Review	It was agreed to note the contents of the Officer's Report	V Keegan	Agreed	Y
SPR/014/2025	SFWG Action Sheets of meetings held 3/12/24 & 17/12/24	It was agreed to note the action sheets	J Kelly	Agreed	Y
SPR/015/2025	Planning Department Update	It was agreed to note the contents of the report	J McGilly	Agreed	Y
SPR/016/2025	Statutory Reporting	It was agreed to note the Section 75 Policy Screening Report for period October – December 2024	C Moffett	Agreed	Y
SPR/017/2025	Equality & Diversity in Local Councils' Diversity Ambassador Network	It was agreed to note the correspondence from the LGSC Equality & Diversity Group regarding the establishment of a Diversity Ambassador Network	C Moffett	Agreed	Y
END					

Report to:	Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee
Date of Meeting:	13 th February 2025
Subject:	Fleet Fuel Management Policy
Reporting Officer	Conor Sage, Assistant Director Sustainability
Contact Officer	Peter Whyte, Head of fleet (Acting)

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

For decision	X	For noting only	
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1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	The purpose of this report is to seek approval the Council's Fleet Fuel Management Policy, which is attached at Appendix 1.
1.2	The purpose of the Fleet Fuel Management Policy is to ensure compliance with health and safety, environmental and governance requirements in relation to fuel used by the Council's fleet of vehicles.
2.0	Key issues
2.1	<p>To operate its fleet of vehicles the Council needs to provide an ongoing supply of fuel, which is provided both internally and externally.</p> <p>To ensure compliance with health and safety requirements associated with fuel provision and good governance in relation to procurement and sustainable environmental practices, the Sustainability & Environment Directorate have, in consultation with key Stakeholders, updated the Fleet Fuel Management Policy and associated supporting procedures.</p> <p>The updated Policy and supporting Procedure are now complete and will be rolled out to all relevant Staff. These have been discussed and agreed with key stakeholders.</p> <p>This will address matters previously reported through audit committee to ensure compliance with recommendations from the Council's internal auditors.</p>
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To note contents of this report. To approve the Council's Fleet Fuel Management Policy as presented at Appendix 1 of this report.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	Policy and agreed procedures will require a series of internal training events to ensure all Staff affected are made familiar with their contents. This training is expected to be delivered in-house, utilising existing local expertise and management resources.

5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<p><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></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><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></p> <p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input 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 checked="" 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><i>Proposal initiating consultation</i></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></p>
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)
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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please complete the following:</p> <p>Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
7.0	Appendices

	Appendix 1: Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Fleet Fuel Management Policy
8.0	Background Documents
8.1	Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Fleet Fuel Management Procedure

Policy Title: Fleet Fuel Management



Policy Control

Policy reference:	<i>Contact Corporate Policy & Equality Officer for a policy reference</i>
Title of Policy:	Fleet Fuel Management
Version:	1.0
Directorate / Departmental ownership:	Sustainability and Environment/Fleet
Officer responsible:	Head of Fleet
Date of ratification:	
Review date:	
Equality screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed by:	Head of Fleet
Equality screening and Rural Needs Impact Assessment date:	08/08/24
Location where document is held and referenced:	Responsible Department <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corporate Policy repository <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Contents

Content	Page Number
Statement	2
Aim of this policy	2
Scope of the policy	2
Related policies and legislation	2
Definitions	2
Department & Officer responsible	3
Policy approval process	3
Review date	3
Procedures and arrangements for monitoring the implementation and impact of the policy	3
Equality screening	3
Rural Needs Impact Assessment	3

1. Title of policy

Fleet Fuel Management

2. Statement

NMDDC endorses the Fleet Fuel Management Policy as a key component in ensuring compliance with health and safety, environmental and governance requirements in relation to vehicle fuel.

3. Aim

The aims of the Fleet Fuel Management Policy are:

- to advise Council staff members of the processes which are required to be followed to ensure compliance with the Fleet Fuel Procedures, as well as their own personal and vehicle safety;
- to ensure the accurate and safe provision, usage and management of all vehicle fuel for which the Council is responsible;
- to ensure the purchasing of fuel is conducted in compliance with the Council's Procurement Policy

4. Scope

This policy applies to all Council staff members who either operate a Council vehicle in relation to Council business or are involved in the procurement and supply of fuel for the Council.

5. Related policies and legislation

Drivers Handbook

NMDDC Procurement Policy

Health and Safety at Work Order 1978

Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1992

Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations (PUWER) 1998

Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations (NI) 2003

Dangerous Substances and Explosive Atmospheres Regulations 2002

Carriage of Dangerous Goods and use of Transportable Pressure Equipment Regulations 2009

Control of Pollution (Oil Storage) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2010

6. Definitions

Council Vehicle – Vehicles owned, leased or hired by the Council.

7. Department and Officer responsible

Directorate / Department	Sustainability and Environment/Fleet
Officer(s) responsible for developing the policy	Head of Fleet

8. Policy approval process

Meeting	Date
CMT	01/10/24
SMT	08/10/24
SP&R Committee	13/02/25
Monthly Council Meeting	

9. Review Date

The policy will be reviewed in line with the Council’s agreed policy review cycle i.e. every 4 years (as per Council’s Equality Scheme commitment 4.31), or sooner to ensure it remains reflective of legislative and environmental technological developments or to address any failures related to the policy.

10. Procedures and arrangements for monitoring the implementation and impact of the policy

A procedure has been developed to support the Fleet Fuel Management Policy. KPI’s have been identified for the Fleet section and performance against these indicators is reported on a monthly basis to the Operator Licence Working Group.

11. Equality Screening

This policy has been subject to an EQIA to ensure that all fuel users are treated fairly, consistently and equally, and aware of their responsibilities under the policy.

12. Rural Needs Impact Assessment

The Fleet Fuel Management Policy has been subject to a rural needs impact assessment.

Report to:	Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee
Date of Meeting:	13 February 2025
Subject:	Officer report on Notice of Motion – 80 th anniversary of VE and VJ Day
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Colin Moffett, Head of Corporate Policy
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Colin Moffett, Head of Corporate Policy Suzanne Rice, Corporate Policy and Equality Officer

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

For decision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	For noting only	<input type="checkbox"/>
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1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	<p>The following Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor Hanna, tabled for consideration at Council Meeting on 13 January 2025, was referred to the Councillors' Equality and Good Relations Reference Group in accordance with Standing Order 16.1.6:</p> <p><u>C/015/2025 Notice of Motion – 80th anniversary of VE and VJ Day</u></p> <p><i>"This Council, in 2025, recognises the 80th anniversary of the end of WW2 on 8th May in Europe (VE Day) and VJ Day, surrender of Japan, 14th August 1945. These two days are major events in the history of the world, and this Council establishes a task and finish working group to plan and prepare for this momentous year.</i></p> <p><i>As a Council we recognise the significant sacrifice of millions of allied troops who gave their lives in the cause of freedom, and we commit to ensuring their achievements are recognised in an appropriate way.</i></p> <p><i>We further propose that Council follow, as far as possible, the official VE Day and VJ Day programme of events and Council officers bring back a report to the working group with costings for consideration."</i></p> <p>The Notice of Motion was discussed at the Councillors' Equality and Good Relations Reference Group meetings on 31 January 2025 and 12 February 2025.</p> <p>Councillor Hanna invited to attend for this item.</p>
1.2	<p>At the Councillors' Equality & Good Relations Reference Group on 12 February 2025 Members gave further consideration to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 80th anniversary VE Day and VJ Day financial assistance call • Commemorative plaques for community groups/schools/churches etc and plaques also placed on war memorials across the district • Programme of events by the Museums Section to include:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Down County Museum and Newry & Mourne Museum will be open Bank Holiday 5th May 2025 and have a VE Day themed event. Down County Museum and Newry & Mourne Museum will have objects on display to mark the anniversaries and have online programming, social media posts, blogs etc on the subject. The Museums Section are sourcing a speaker at each museum to deliver a talk. 								
1.3	<p>Following discussion, the consensus of the Councillors' Equality & Good Relations Reference Group was to recommend:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of an 80th Anniversary of VE and VJ Day financial assistance programme with a fund of £35,000; and where the Chairperson receives an invitation to attend a Council funded event that a commemorative bowl acknowledging the 80th anniversary be presented by the Chairperson. The development and delivery of a programme of events by the Museums and where possible this to include an education leaflet on World War II. Council to place a plaque within Down County Museum to acknowledge the 80th anniversary of VE and VJ Day. 								
	Key issues								
2.1	<p>The 80th anniversary of VE Day and VJ Day will take place on Thursday 8 May 2025 and Friday 15 August 2025 respectively.</p> <p>In terms of eligibility, the Council's VE Day and VJ Day financial assistance programme would be a call related to community initiatives / events taking place during the period 1 May - 15 May 2025 and 11 August 2025 – 3 September 2025.</p> <p>The proposed 80th Anniversary of VE and VJ Day financial assistance programme fund allocation of £35,000 has not been agreed as part of the Council's 2025/2026 rate setting process and will be required to be noted as an overspend to be reviewed and managed in-year.</p> <p>Cognisance must be taken of the governance timeline to enable successful applicants to receive letters of offer in advance of 1 May 2025.</p> <p>Therefore, it is proposed that the outcome of the assessment process will be communicated week beginning 14 April 2025.</p>								
2.2	<p>The following table sets out the proposed timeline of implementation:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>13 February 2025</td><td>Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee to agree to establish an 80th Anniversary of VE and VE Day financial assistance theme and approval to proceed to open the call w/b 17 February 2025.</td></tr> <tr> <td>w/b 17 February 2025</td><td>Communication of programme by way of Council social media channels</td></tr> <tr> <td>17 February 2025</td><td>Open call for applications.</td></tr> <tr> <td>20 February 2025</td><td>Financial Assistance online workshop – 6.30pm</td></tr> </table>	13 February 2025	Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee to agree to establish an 80 th Anniversary of VE and VE Day financial assistance theme and approval to proceed to open the call w/b 17 February 2025.	w/b 17 February 2025	Communication of programme by way of Council social media channels	17 February 2025	Open call for applications.	20 February 2025	Financial Assistance online workshop – 6.30pm
13 February 2025	Strategy, Policy and Resources Committee to agree to establish an 80 th Anniversary of VE and VE Day financial assistance theme and approval to proceed to open the call w/b 17 February 2025.								
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20 February 2025	Financial Assistance online workshop – 6.30pm								

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10 March 2025	Consideration at ERT Meeting										
7 April 2025	Ratification at Council monthly meeting										
w/b 14 April 2025	Communication of outcome to applicants - letters of offer issued to successful applicants										
3.0	Recommendations										
3.1	<p>To note the notice of motion has been considered and discussed at the Councillors' Equality and Good Relations Reference Group on 31 January 2025 and 12 February 2025 and that the consensus of the Councillors' Equality & Good Relations Reference Group was to recommend the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of an 80th Anniversary of VE and VJ Day financial assistance programme with a fund of £35,000; and where the Chairperson receives an invitation to attend a Council funded event that a commemorative bowl acknowledging the 80th anniversary be presented by the Chairperson. The development and delivery of a programme of events by the Museums and where possible this to include an education leaflet on World War II. Council to place a plaque within Down County Museum to acknowledge the 80th anniversary of VE and VJ Day. <p>In addition, approval is sought to proceed to open the 80th Anniversary of VE and VJ Day financial assistance theme call week beginning 17 February 2025 prior to the ratification of the decision at Council meeting on 3 March 2025.</p>										
4.0	Resource implications										
4.1	<p>The proposed 80th Anniversary of VE and VJ Day financial assistance programme with a fund of £35,000 is a financial resource not agreed as part of the Council's 2025/2026 rate setting process.</p> <p>The £35,000 allocation must be noted as an overspend to be reviewed and managed in-year.</p>										
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)										
5.1	<p><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></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><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></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><i>Proposal initiating consultation</i></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></p>
6.0	<p>Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)</p>
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>
7.0	<p>Appendices</p>
	<p>N/A</p>
8.0	<p>Background Documents</p>

Report to:	Strategy, Policy & Resources Committee Meeting
Date of Meeting:	13 th February 2025
Subject:	Update on impact of Council Estate due to Storm Éowyn
Reporting Officer	Josephine Kelly, Director Corporate Services
Contact Officer	Conor Sage, Assistant Director Sustainability

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

For decision	For noting only	X
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1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	<p>The purpose of this report is to provide Elected Members with an update on the impact of Storm Eowyn throughout the Council district on Council facilities and premises.</p> <p>Storm Éowyn struck Northern Ireland on January 24, 2025. It was the most significant windstorm in the region since the Boxing Day Storm of 1998.</p>
2.0	Key Issues
2.1	<p>Premises Inspected</p> <p>Storm Éowyn brought unprecedented wind speeds, with gusts exceeding 100 mph recorded in some areas. These hurricane-force winds led to widespread structural damage, uprooted trees, and significant disruptions across the region.</p> <p>Council implemented an immediate inspection regime of facilities and premises in the aftermath of the storm.</p> <p>In summary, the inspections revealed varying degrees of damage across the facilities, with ongoing assessments and reports yet to be completed for certain locations.</p>
2.2	<p>Grounds</p> <p>There has been substantial damage identified in Forests, Forest Parks, Walking Trails and numerous other locations with hundreds of trees felled by the storm. There has been additional reported damage to fences, carparks and infrastructure as a result of failing trees.</p> <p>Extensive work has been undertaken since the storm by Council Grounds Maintenance team and external contractors to clear areas to enable facilities to be reopened to the public.</p> <p>There will be considerable costs associated with this work, especially as many locations have limited access for machinery which increases labour costs. Current cost estimates are in the region of £90k depending on levels of assistance from public sector partners. Note that the above cost estimations are built on a number of assumptions as all surveys have not yet been completed.</p>

2.3	<p>Buildings</p> <p>Extensive damage has been reported to a significant number of council facilities. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Damage to roofing systems, including missing tiles, guttering & fascia boards • Damage to wall cladding systems • Damage to doors • Damage to fences • Damage to street lighting and electrical services <p>Extensive work has been undertaken by Council Building Maintenance staff and external contractors to respond to the wide range of remedial works on a priority basis. Based on current information, cost estimates in the region of £30k will be required for repair works.</p>
2.4	<p>Insurance Cover</p> <p>The Council's Insurance Broker has informed all pertinent insurers, and instructions have been issued to alert them. Council Officers will co-ordinate with the Insurance Broker once a clearer understanding is established regarding any potential future claims.</p> <p>Council Officers are presently in the process of gathering all relevant information and evidence related to the damaged incurred to Council premises. Subsequently, they will collaborate with the Council's Insurance Section and Insurance Broker to assess the extent of insurance coverage for the damage to the Council's estate.</p>

3.0	Recommendations
3.1	Members are asked to note the contents of the report.
4.0	Resource implications
4.1	Based on current information, the initial estimated costs of £120k will be required for repair works. Officers will provide an update in due course at the relevant Committees.
5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<p><i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i></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><i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i></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><i>Proposal initiating consultation</i></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></p>
6.0	<p>Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)</p>
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>
7.0	<p>Appendices</p>
7.1	<p>None</p>
8.0	<p>Background Documents</p> <p><i>This relates to meeting requirements outlined in Part 8 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014, Access to Meetings and Documents, wherein for four years after a meeting the following must be available at the Council Offices and on the website:</i></p> <p><i>Background papers which are defined as those documents relating to the subject matter of a report which:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>a) Disclose any facts or matters which in the opinion of the Chief Executive, the report or an important part of the report is based upon; and</i> <i>b) Have, in the Chief Executive's opinion, been relied upon to a material extent in preparing the report.</i> <p><i>These are documents on which the report, or an important part of the report, is based upon and have been relied upon to a material extent in preparing the report.</i></p>

8.1	None.
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