

October 19th, 2026

Notice Of Meeting

You are requested to attend the meeting to be held on **Wednesday, 21st October 2026 at 6:00 pm** in **Boardroom, Warrenpoint Town Hall, Warrenpoint.**

Committee Membership 2026-27

Councillor M Ruane **Chairperson**

Councillor T Andrews **Deputy Chairperson**

Councillor Jim Brennan

Councillor Philip Campbell

Councillor Killian Feehan

Councillor Doire Finn

Councillor Martin Hearty

Councillor Jonathan Jackson

Councillor Declan Murphy

Councillor Kate Murphy

Councillor Siobhan O'Hare

Councillor Henry Reilly

Councillor David Taylor

Councillor Jill Truesdale

Councillor Helena Young

Agenda

1.0 Apologies and Chairperson's Remarks

2.0 Declarations of Interest

3.0 Action Sheet from Sustainability & Environment Committee Held 23 September 2026

Attachment: Action Sheet - 23.09.2026 inc. historic actions updated.pdf

Page 1

For Discussion/Decision

4.0 NMDDC Draft Off-Street Parking (Public Car Parks) Order

Attachment: SE Committee Report - NMDDC Draft Off-Street Parking Order.pdf

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Attachment: Appendix 1 - Draft Off Street Parking Order.pdf

Page 14

Attachment: Appendix 2 - Schedule 1 Parking Places.pdf

Page 25

Attachment: Appendix 3 - Schedule 2 Tariffs.pdf

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5.0 Business Case for Summer and Winter Bedding Plants

Attachment: SE Committee Report - Summer and Winter Bedding Plants.pdf

Page 39

Exempt Appendices

5.1 Appendix - Business Case for Summer and Winter Bedding Plants

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 (including the Council holding that information) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

Attachment: Appendix 1 - Business Case for Supply of Summer & Winter Bedding Plants.pdf

Not included

Attachment: Appendix 2 - Bedding Plants Resources.pdf

Not included

For Discussion/Decision

6.0 Christmas 2026 Car Parking Charges

Attachment: SE Committee Report - Christmas Parking Arrangements.pdf

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Exempt Appendices

6.1 Appendix - Christmas 2026 Car Parking Charges

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 (including the Council holding that information) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

Attachment: Appendix 1 - 2025 Christmas Car Parking Costs.pdf

Not included

For Discussion/Decision

7.0 DAERA consultation on the Draft Clean Air Strategy for Northern Ireland to 2032

Attachment: SE Committee Report - DAERA Consultation on Draft Clean Air Strategy 2032.pdf

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Attachment: Appendix 1 - DAERA Consultation Response on the Draft Clean Air Strategy NI 2032.pdf

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8.0 Notice of Motion - Proposed Changes to Public Drinking Laws

Attachment: SE Committee Report - Notice of Motion.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

9.0 Houses in Multiple Occupancy – HMO Update Report

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 (including the Council holding that information) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

Attachment: SE Committee Report - HMO Update Report.pdf

Not included

10.0 Waste Management Contracts

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 (including the Council holding that information) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

Report to follow.

11.0 Action Sheet and Presentations from the Sustainability and Environment Working Group Meeting of 23 September 2026

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 (including the Council holding that information) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

Attachment: S&E Working group 23 September 2026 Action Sheet.pdf **Not included**

Attachment: SEWG mtg 23.9.26 - presentation on Positive Ageing.pptx **Not included**

Attachment: SEWG mtg 23.9.26 - presentation on PC Refurbishment Project.pptx **Not included**

Attachment: SEWG mtg 23.9.26 - presentation on Packaging - Producer Responsibility Funding.pptx **Not included**

Attachment: SEWG mtg 23.9.26 - presentation on NMD Off Street Car Parking Update.pptx **Not included**

Attachment: SEWG mtg 23.9.26 - presentation on Missed Bins Q2.pptx **Not included**

Attachment: SEWG mtg 23.9.26 - presentation on Cleansing Review.pptx **Not included**

12.0 Arc21 Joint Committee Meeting in Committee Minutes of Friday 28 August 2026 & Joint Committee Members' Monthly Bulletin held on 24 September 2026

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 (including the Council holding that information) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

Attachment: ARC21 - JC108-28Aug26-InCommMinutes-e-signed.pdf **Not included**

Attachment: ARC21 - JC109-24Sept26-JC MembersBulletin.pdf **Not included**

For Noting

13.0 Arc21 Joint Committee meeting held on Friday 28 August 2026

Attachment: ARC21 - JC108-28Aug26-Minutes-e-signed.pdf

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14.0 Christmas Refuse Collections

Attachment: SE Committee - Christmas Refuse collections and Household

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15.0 Christmas Illuminations Update

Attachment: SE Committee Report - Christmas Illuminations 2026.pdf

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Exempt Appendices

15.1 Appendix - Christmas Illuminations Update

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 (including the Council holding that information) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.

Attachment: Appendix 1 - Christmas Illuminations Resources.pdf

Not included

Invitees

Cllr Terry Andrews

Cllr Callum Bowsie

Mr Caolain Boyd

Fionnuala Branagh

Cllr Jim Brennan

Lorraine/Emma Burns/McParland

Cllr Pete Byrne

Cllr Philip Campbell

Mrs Tracie Clarke

Cllr William Clarke

Cllr Laura Devlin

Cllr Cadogan Enright

Cllr Killian Feehan

Cllr Doire Finn

Ms Joanne Fleming

Cllr Conor Galbraith

Cllr Mark Gibbons

Cllr Oonagh Hanlon

Cllr Glyn Hanna

Cllr Valerie Harte

Mr Conor Haughey

Cllr Martin Hearty

Cllr Roisin Howell

Cllr Tierna Howie

Cllr Jonathan Jackson

Ms Aileen Jones

Cllr Geraldine Kearns

Miss Veronica Keegan

Mrs Sheila Kieran

Cllr Aurla King

Cllr Cathal King

Ms Elaine Kirk

Cllr Mickey Larkin

Cllr Niall Lawlor

Cllr David Lee-Surginor

Cllr Alan Lewis

Cllr Oonagh Magennis

Mr Conor Mallon

Cllr Aidan Mathers

Cllr Declan McAteer

Jonathan McGilly

Mr Martin McKibbin

Sinead Murphy
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Cllr Declan Murphy
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Cllr Kate Murphy
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Cllr Selina Murphy
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Ms Patricia Murtagh
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Cllr Siobhan O'Hare
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Mr Andy Patterson
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Cllr Áine Quinn
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Cllr Henry Reilly
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Cllr Michael Rice
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Ms Alison Robb
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Ms Maria Rogan
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Cllr Michael Ruane
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Mr Conor Sage
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Mrs Amanda Smyth
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Conor Smyth
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Donna Starkey
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Sarah Taggart
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Cllr David Taylor
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Mr David Telford
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Ms Joanna Tierney
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Cllr Jarlath Tinnelly
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Ms Sinead Trainor
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Cllr Jill Truesdale
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Mrs Marie Ward
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Cllr Helena Young
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SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE**HISTORIC ACTIONS TRACKING SHEET**

NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING 21 APRIL 2022					
Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
NS/052/2022	Compost Week 2022	Note and approve the additional activities in 2.2 to highlight and promote the importance of recycling food waste. Note and approve the launch of an application process, with set criteria, to establish demand for deploying brown bins to residents of high rise buildings who were not previously provided with these.	S Trainor	Included within the Education and Enforcement Plan 2026-2029 In progress	N N
NS/057/2022	Various issues concerning the Events Space Kilkeel	Approve the Officers recommendation that the legal position of the Council regarding its maintenance of the events space, Kilkeel, is reviewed with a separate report to be provided to the Council once this has been considered further.	C Sage	Legal position and maintenance of the events space being confirmed. Report to be brought back to S&E Committee. Meeting to take place with Kilkeel Community Association confirm current position.	N

SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 17 OCTOBER 2023					
SE/107/2023	Notice of Motion – Animal Welfare	It was agreed to remove the final sentence of the notice of motion. It was agreed to defer a decision on the Notice of Motion until the outcome of the legal process was known.	S Trainor	On hold pending legal process	N

SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 24 JANUARY 2024					
SE/004/2024	Report on Notice of Motion – Flood Defences	The following was agreed: - Further investigate the possibility of a Shared Island application to assist with flood defences	S Murphy	In Progress	N

SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 20 MARCH 2024					
SE/036/2024	Former landfill site review – Aughnagun and Drumanakelly	It was agreed that officers develop a Business Case for the installation of Solar Panels at the former landfill site Aughnagun for further consideration.	S Murphy	In Progress	N
		It was agreed that Council further explore the benefits of installing reed beds at both sites in order to make the sites self-sustaining in terms of the management of the leachate generated on site.	S Murphy	In Progress	

SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 18 DECEMBER 2024					
SE/150/2024	NOM – Vaping	it was agreed that the Council recognised the 2024 Northern Ireland Audit Office report on tackling the public health impacts of smoking and vaping that showed an increase in 11-16 year olds vaping; that Council is concerned that children vaping in schools is detrimental to a child's health and educational outcomes; agrees that greater awareness must be raised with children in schools about the risks of vaping; acknowledges that teachers and school staff must have the support and resources they require to raise awareness and inform children on the risks of vaping; agree to write to both the Minister of Education and Health urging them to bring forward a plan to end vaping in school grounds, to reduce the number of young people vaping and to eradicate the sale of vapes to children. It was also agreed to write to all Councils in the North asking them for support in tackling this issue.	S Murphy	In progress Council has obtained funding from PHA to host an event targeting those in Year 14 who are 10 times more likely to currently vape than those in Year 8 (46% and 4% respectively), based on PHA's report 'Behavioural Insights into Youth Vaping in Northern Ireland'. The pilot event took place in NLC on 7 October 2026. This event was funded by the Public Health Agency. An evaluation will now take place.	Y

SE/151/2024	NOM – Newry Canal	it was agreed to request support from support from Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council to write to the Minister for Infrastructure and the Minister of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs for the urgent establishment of a multi- agency Newry Canal regeneration taskforce to work in partnership to deliver on the potential of inland waterways across both Council areas.	S Murphy	In progress Newry Canal Regeneration Working Group has been established with representatives from ABC Council. A series of meetings have taken place to date.	N
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**SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
19 FEBRUARY 2025**

SE/018/2025	NOM – Vital Role of trees	Council will also write to other Councils request support of this motion	C Sage	In Progress	N
SE/020/2025	Application for bus shelter at Hilltown Road, Newry	It was agreed to the installation of a new bus shelter at Hilltown Road, Newry as per the recommendations stated in Appendix 1 of the officer's Report	G Kane	In progress	N

**SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
19 MARCH 2025**

SE/034/2025	Officer Report on NOM – Street Lighting	It was agreed to write to DFI Roads to advise of concerns in relation to areas that have little of no street lighting and request that a scoping exercise is undertaken to identify areas that could avail of additional street lighting across the district.	C Sage	In progress	N
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		It was also agreed that Council owned green spaces would be reviewed to identify any areas that could avail of additional lighting across the District	C Sage	In Progress	N
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**SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
29 APRIL 2025**

SE/045/2025	Notice of Motion re Memorial Garden, Newcastle	It was agreed to approve the proposal to create a memorial garden to acknowledge the 180 th anniversary of the Newcastle Fishing Disaster	C Sage	Works on site and nearing completion	N
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**SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
21 MAY 2025**

SE/056/2025	Officer Report on Notice of Motion – Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty & Air Quality Management Areas	the following was agreed: •Members considered and approved the endorsement of the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty by Newry, Mourne and Down District Council and agree to write to the Northern Ireland Executive urging them to support this initiative. •Members noted the current on-going review process on the effectiveness of the Council's Air Quality Management Areas in liaison with DAERA and the potential expansion of the number of air quality monitor stations throughout the District, subject to funding.	C Sage	In Progress	N
			S Trainor	In Progress S&E report tabled 21.10.26 regarding the upgrade to Downpatrick Air Quality Monitoring Station	N

SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 20 MAY 2026					
SE/059/2026	Draft Parking Order	It was agreed to approve the Newry Mourne & Down District Council 'DRAFT' Off-Street Parking (Public Car Parks) Order and to authorise release for the Public Consultation Process.	C Sage	In Progress	N Public Consultation process completed, report to be presented at October S&E Committee.

SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 17 JUNE 2026					
SE/073/2026	Officer Report on Notice Of Motion – Water Courses	It was agreed to consider the recommendations of the Notice of Motion and note the ongoing work by Council as detailed in section 2 of the officers' report.	C Sage	In Progress	N

SE/076/2026	Bus Shelter Requests	It was agreed to approve the request to relocate and replace the existing shelter at Ballymacarn Road, Spa and for the erection of two new bus shelters at Annacloy Road, Teconnaught.	C Sage	In Progress	N
SE/083/2026	Newry Market Report	It was agreed to readvertise an Expression of Interest (EOI) for a third party to assist Council with the revitalisation of Newry Market and that the charges for the Christmas Market remain the same as detailed in section 2.4 of the officers' report.	C Sage	In Progress	N

SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 23 SEPTEMBER 2026					
SE/109/2026:	Action Sheet: Sustainability & Environment Committee Meeting Held On 19 August 2026	It was agreed to note the action sheet.	S Murphy	Noted	N
SE/110/2026:	Mou With DfI on Snow and Gritting	It was agreed to approve the renewal of a Memorandum of Understanding between Council and DFI Roads to assist with emergency clearance of snow and ice.	C Sage	Approved	Y
SE/111/2026:	OPSS Fireworks and Pyrotechnics Consultation Response	The response drafted by the Environmental Health Department on behalf of Newry Mourne and Down District Council to the Department of Business and Trade on regulatory proposals under fireworks legislation as detailed in appendix 1 of the officers' report was agreed.	S Trainor	Approved Consultation Response submitted on behalf of NMDDC	Y
SE/112/2026:	Consultation And Restriction of Products High in Fat, Sugar and Salt	It was agreed to approve the consultation response seeking views on proposals to introduce restrictions on the promotion and placement of high in fat, sugar and salt in Northern Ireland as detailed in appendix 1 of the officers' report.	S Trainor	Approved Consultation Response submitted on behalf of NMDDC	Y
SE/113/2026:	Waste Management Contracts	It was agreed to approve the contract extension detailed in appendix 1 of the officers' report.	S Trainor	Noted	Y
SE/114/2026:	Business Case – Waste Services	It was agreed to approve the Outline Business Case and the preferred procurement option for the receipt, collection, treatment, processing, recycling and recovery of paints and varnishes, waste oils, rubble, wood, scrap metal and street cleansing residues arising from the Council's Household Recycling Centres and street cleansing operations.	S Trainor	Noted	Y

SE/115/2026:	Arc21 Joint Committee Meeting In-Committee Minutes of Thursday 25 June 2026 & Joint Committee Members' Monthly Bulletin Held On 28 August 2026	It was agreed to note the documents.	S Murphy	Noted	Y
SE/116/2026:	Arc21 Joint Committee Meeting Held on Thursday 28 May 2026	It was agreed to note the document.	S Murphy	Noted	Y
SE/117/2026:	Positive Ageing Report	It was agreed to note the Positive Ageing Events to be held across the District.	S Trainor	Noted	Y

Report to:	Sustainability & Environment Committee
Date of Meeting:	21 st October 2026
Subject:	NMDDC Draft Off-Street Parking (Public Car Parks) Order
Reporting Officer and Job Title:	Conor Sage, Assistant Director Sustainability
Contact Officer and Job Title:	Gary McCurry, Manager Off- Street Parking Function

Purpose of Report:

◀ For Decision ▶

1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	Purpose The purpose of this report is to update Members on the outcome of the public consultation process relating to the proposed Newry Mourne & Down District Council Draft Off-Street Parking (Public Car Parks) Order 2026 and to seek approval of the new Order, in preparation for enactment, upon revocation / amendment of the current Off-Street Parking (Northern Ireland) Order 2000 as amended. Background Presently, Council controlled car parks operate under varying pieces of legislation. The 39 Off-Street car parks transferred from The Department for Infrastructure (DFI), are legislated for under the Off-Street Parking (NI Order) 2000. This Order is a DFI enacted legislative document, hence greatly restricts Council ability to alter various aspects therein. Other sites are governed by Council Byelaws, which provide challenges around enforcing contraventions and several are devoid of any element of legislative cover.
2.0	Key Issues
2.1	Post the transfer of the Off-Street Parking Function from DFI to Councils in 2015, Council entered an Agency Agreement with DFI for Enforcement and associated operational responsibilities. The present Off-Street Parking Order provided an adequate legal umbrella to permit an effective delivery of the service during these initial years and afforded Council the opportunity to grasp the complexities of the function. Over the years, the Off-Street Parking landscape has evolved, with Councils moving away from the DFI centric model and formulating their own enforcement contracts in conjunction with meeting other demands to effectively manage available parking provision. This has driven the necessity for Councils to develop their own individual Parking Orders. Discussions with DFI Transport Legislation Branch and separate legal opinion, have confirmed that the two parking orders could not be enacted at the same time. The DFI Off-Street Parking Order would always be deemed as the primary legislation. It is therefore essential that all Councils have their Parking Orders progressed and agreed prior to any revocation by DFI. Failure to do so would result in a legislative void, thus preventing Councils from enforcing within their suite of car parks. In order to facilitate an efficient transition, it was agreed that Councils make the

	minimum number of changes to the existing Order, within their Draft Orders. Proposed amendments would benefit Councils but have minimal legislative change to enable Councils to adopt a position of readiness when DFI are ready to revoke the Off-Street Parking (NI) Order 2000. The main core of the draft NMDDC Off-Street Parking Order will remain unchanged from the existing Order in force. The key proposed changes are outlined in 2.2 and 2.3 below.
2.2	1. Arrange for the suspension of car parking places for works, or events beneficial to the community or where deemed reasonable. a) The Council frequently receives requests to allow third parties to use car parks or part thereof, for purposes other than parking. b) The draft Order includes provisions for the Council to suspend the use of car parking in specific circumstances to facilitate other temporary uses. c) There would be a process developed to administer all requests, taking into consideration the scheme of delegation, which would involve legal drafting of licence agreements for such purposes. d) This would provide the necessary powers to Council under delegated authority to make such decisions expediently and provide a wider scope of permitted activities, which is presently quite restrictive under the current legislation.
2.3	2. Inclusion of additional car parks into the Order. a) All car parks included within the Draft Order can be found on Schedule 1 attached, Parking Places. b) As previously alluded to, some of these sites presently fall under a Council byelaw, which makes enforcing parking contraventions, cumbersome, resource intensive and expensive to pursue, as any legal action falls under Criminal Law and requires progress via The Magistrate's Court. Inclusion within the Draft Order would enable Traffic Attendant's to enforce on the spot and the matter would proceed via civil law mechanisms. c) Leisure Centres and Sports Facilities have also been included, which currently have no legislative protection for parking abuse. A high level of inconsiderate parking prevails around these facilities, with vehicles regularly parking in accessible parking bays without displaying a blue badge, non-electric cars parking in EV charging bays, obstructive pavement parking and parking in set down / drop off lanes.
2.4	It is therefore vitally important that the Draft Order is agreed to ensure readiness for a possible revocation of the DFI Order, as having this legislative framework in place provides the ability to effectively enforce parking contraventions within our Off-Street car parks. DFI have indicated that they would not revoke their order until such times as all Councils have prepared and are ready to enact their respective Parking Orders. It is envisaged that all Councils will be ready to proceed with their

	Orders by the end of 2026 at the latest. It will then be a matter for DFI to initiate the process via The Departmental Solicitor's Office at a time convenient to them for revocation of their legislation at Stormont.
2.5	Following approval by the Sustainability and Environment Committee in May 2026 to proceed to public consultation, the Draft Off-Street Parking (Public Car Parks) Order 2026 was issued for consultation for the statutory 12-week period. Key findings from the consultation process are listed below: • 6 responses were received, all from members of the public. One respondent did not answer any question, so the findings below are based on 6 completed responses. • Views are divided. Four of six respondents were not at all supportive of the proposed schedules and tariffs. • Support is highest for the closure process. Three of six were supportive or very supportive of a process for temporarily closing car parks. • Three respondents opposed all three proposals and each of them raised the effect on town centre residents as their main concern. • Half of respondents (3 of 6) identified equality or rural implications. All three described a disproportionate effect on urban residents. Given the very small number of responses, the findings should be viewed as indicative feedback rather than representative of wider public opinion.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	It is requested that members agree to ratify the new Newry Mourne & Down District Council Off-Street Parking (Public Car Parks) Order 2026, in preparation for enactment, upon revocation / amendment of the current Off-Street Parking (Northern Ireland) Order 2000 as amended.
4.0	Resource Implications
4.1	All resources are drawn from the existing pool.
5.0	Due Regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations
5.1	General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes ◀ It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations ▶
5.2	Does the proposal relate to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision

	◀ No ▶ If yes, please select one of the following: ◀ Choose an item. ▶
5.3	Proposal initiating consultation The consultation 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 Please select the consultation period: ◀ Choose an item. ▶ Rationale:
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs
6.1	Does the proposal relate to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service. ◀ No – The policy / strategy / plan / public service is not influenced by rural needs ▶
7.0	Appendices
7.1	1. Newry Mourne & Down DRAFT Off-Street (Public Car Parks) Order 2026. 2. Schedule 1 Parking Places. 3. Schedule 2 Tariffs.
8.0	Background Documents
8.1	N/A

Newry Mourne and Down District Council Draft Off Street Parking (Public Car Parks) Order

Made - - - -

XXXX

Coming into operation-

XXXX

ARRANGEMENT OF ORDER

PART 1

PRELIMINARY

1. Citation and commencement
2. Interpretation

PART 2

USE OF PARKING PLACES

3. Specified parking places
4. Vehicles of a specified class
5. Position in which a vehicle may wait
6. Parking bays for disabled persons' vehicles
7. Parking bays for electric vehicles
8. Parking bays for motorcycles
9. Parking bays for buses / coaches
10. Parking bays for caravans
11. Maximum period for which a vehicle may wait
12. Use of parking place other than for parking
13. Issue of licences
14. Surrender and revocation of licences

PART 3

TARIFFS AND TICKETS

15. Requirement to pay appropriate tariff
16. Payment of charges
17. Pre-paid tickets
18. Use of telephone parking system
19. Display of printed tickets in Pay and Display car parks
20. Particulars of ticket in a Pay and Display car park
21. Season tickets

PART 4

RESTRICTION ON USE OF VEHICLES AND PARKING PLACES

22. Requirement to stop the engine of a vehicle
23. Trading in a parking place
24. Sounding of horn
25. Driving in a parking place
26. Ball games
27. Miscellaneous activities
28. Means of passage – Rights of Way
29. Consumption of intoxicating liquor
30. Use of entrances and exits, and direction of travel
31. Erection of structures and lighting of fires
32. Supermarket trolleys
33. Reserving a parking bay
34. Suspension of parking places
35. Use of car park or sections of for the purposes of temporary meeting place

SCHEDULE 1 — PARKING PLACES

SCHEDULE 2 — TARIFFS

Newry Mourne and Down District Council (1) makes the following Order in exercise of the powers conferred by Articles 10, 11, 13, 14 and 26(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation (Northern Ireland) Order 1997(2) and Article 43 of the Traffic Management (Northern Ireland) Order 2005(3) and now vested in it (4).

The Council has consulted such persons as the Council considered appropriate in compliance with paragraphs 1 and 2 of Schedule 4 to that Order.

PART 1 PRELIMINARY

Citation and commencement

1. This Order may be cited as Newry Mourne and Down District Council Off - Street (Public Car Parks) Order 2026 and shall come into operation on ^{xx} day of 202

Interpretation

2. In this Order—

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- (1) S.I. 1999/283 (N.I. 1) Article 3(1)
 - (2) S.I. 1997/276 (N.I. 2)
 - (3) S.I. 2005/1964 (N.I. 14)
 - (4) S.R. 1999 No. 481 Article 6(d) and Schedule 4 Part IV

“charging hours” means the period during which the driver is required to pay a charge for the use of a parking place specified in column 1 of Schedule 1 in accordance with the scale of charges set out in column 6 of Schedule 1;

“bus” or “coach” means a public service vehicle which seats more than 8 passengers in addition to the driver and is used for hire or reward;

“caravan” means any structure designed or adapted for human habitation which is capable of being moved from one place to another (whether by being towed, or by being transported on a motor vehicle or trailer) and any motor vehicle so designed or adapted to provide mobile living accommodation for its users.

“Council” means Newry Mourne and Down District Council;

“disabled persons vehicle” means a vehicle lawfully displaying a blue badge

“driver” means the person who whether as owner or otherwise has the charge or control of a vehicle or being present is entitled to give orders to the person having charge or control thereof;

“electric vehicle” means any vehicle which uses one or more electric motors for propulsion;

“electric vehicle charging post” means apparatus which supplies electricity for the charging of electric vehicles;

“hand-held device” means apparatus used by a traffic attendant which is programmed to interface with the telephone parking system;

“intoxicating liquor” means spirits, wine, beer, cider and any fermented, distilled or spirituous liquor with an alcohol content exceeding 1.2 per cent by volume;

“light goods vehicle” means a motor vehicle, constructed or adapted for use for the carriage of goods, the permissible maximum weight of which does not exceed 3.5 tonnes and for the purposes of this Order includes an electric vehicle of this type;

“Mobility Vehicle” means a mechanically propelled vehicle the weight of which unladen does not exceed 254 kilograms and which is specially designed and constructed, and not merely adapted, for the use of a person suffering from some physical defect or disability and is used solely by such a person;

“motor car” means a mechanically propelled vehicle constructed solely for the carriage of passengers and their effects, seating not more than 6 persons in addition to the driver and for the purposes of this Order includes an electric vehicle of this type;

“motor cycle” means a mechanically propelled vehicle not being an invalid carriage or motor car having fewer than 4 wheels and the weight of which unladen does not exceed 410 kgs;

“parking bay” means a space which is marked out in a parking place for the leaving of a vehicle;

“parking charge” means any charge set by the Council for leaving a vehicle in a parking place authorised by this Order.

“parking ticket” means a ticket issued by a ticket machine relating to any parking place for which a charge is made identified in Schedule 1;

“pay and display parking place” means an off-street parking place authorised by this Order where permitted vehicles may park with a parking ticket issued by a ticket machine and displayed in the manner specified in Article 16 or whose driver is a registered driver who has paid the relevant fee via the telephone parking system.

“public service vehicle” means a mechanically propelled vehicle constructed or adapted to carry more than 8 seated passengers in addition to the driver, and used in standing or plying for hire, or used to carry passengers for hire;

“registered driver” means the driver of a vehicle who has, prior to leaving their vehicle in a pay and display parking place, had registered so many of their personal details with a service provider as that service provider may require to enable the telephone parking system to be activated in favour of said driver;

“service provider” means a person or company providing services to or on behalf of the Council

“telephone parking system” means a system to facilitate and monitor any parking charge paid using any telephone or internet enabled device via communication with the service provider in accordance with instructions indicated on signs located at each pay and display parking place where the system is operational; and

“ticket machine” means an apparatus designed to issue a ticket indicating payment of a charge and the day and time at which it was issued and the number of hours for which it is valid or the date and time at which the ticket expires.

“disabled persons vehicle” means a vehicle lawfully displaying a blue badge;

“blue badge” means a badge of a form prescribed under section 14(1) of the [1978 c. 53.] Chronically Sick and Disabled Persons (Northern Ireland) Act 1978;

PART 2

USE OF PARKING PLACES

Specified parking places

3. Each area of land specified by name in column 1 of Schedule 1 may be used subject to the provisions of this Order as a parking place for such classes of vehicles during such hours on such days as are specified in relation to that area in Schedule 1.

Vehicles of a specified class

4. Where in Schedule 1 a parking place is described as available for vehicles of a specified class, the driver of a vehicle shall not permit it to wait in that parking place unless it is of the specified class.

Position in which a vehicle may wait

5. The driver of a vehicle shall not permit it to wait in a parking place other than in a position wholly within a parking bay where such has been marked out.

Parking bays for disabled persons' vehicles.

6. The driver of a vehicle, other than a disabled person's vehicle shall not permit it to wait in a parking bay indicated by a sign or surface marking as being reserved for a disabled person's vehicle.

Parking bays for electric vehicles

7. – (1) The driver of a vehicle, other than an electric vehicle, shall not permit it to wait in a parking bay indicated by a sign or surface marking of the bay as being reserved for an electric vehicle.

(2) An electric vehicle waiting in a parking bay indicated by a sign or surface marking as being reserved for an electric vehicle shall do so only if it is connected to an electric vehicle charging post

Parking bays for motorcycles

8. The driver of a vehicle, other than a motorcycle, shall not permit it to wait in a parking bay indicated by a sign or surface markings as being reserved for a motorcycle.

Parking bays for buses / coaches

9. The driver of a vehicle, other than a bus / coach, shall not permit it to wait in a parking bay indicated by a sign or surface markings as being reserved for a bus / coach.

Parking bays for Caravans

10. The driver of a vehicle, other than a caravan, shall not permit it to wait in a parking bay indicated by a sign or surface markings as being reserved for a caravan.

Maximum period for which a vehicle may wait

11. The driver of a vehicle shall not permit it to wait in a parking place for longer than the maximum period permitted for waiting specified in column 5 of Schedule 1 in relation to that parking place.

Use of parking place other than for parking

12. - (1) The use of part of the parking places specified in Schedule 1 for the collection of recyclable materials is prohibited unless authorised in accordance with a licence issued by the Council under 13(1).

(2) The use of part of the parking places specified in Schedule 1 for advertising is prohibited, unless authorised in accordance with a licence issued by the Council under Article 13(2).

(3) The use of part of the parking places specified in Schedule 1 for displaying information to the public is prohibited, unless authorised in accordance with a licence issued by the Council under Article 13(3).

(4) The use of part of the parking places specified in Schedule 1 for any other use is prohibited. The Council may consider applications by a person or persons for permission to use part of a parking place for such other reasonable use or purpose, as determined by The Council, and in accordance with a licence issued by the Council under Article 13(4).

Issue of licences

13(1) - A registered charity may apply to the Council for the issue of a licence authorising the use of part of a parking place specified in Schedule 1 for the collection of recyclable materials.

(2) A person may apply to the Council for the issue of a licence authorising the use of part of a parking place specified in Schedule 1 for advertising.

(3) A person may apply to the Council for the issue of a licence authorising the use of part of a parking place specified in Schedule 1 for displaying information to the public.

(4) A person may apply to the Council for the issue of a licence authorising the use of part of a parking place specified in Schedule 1 for any reasonable use or purpose or in such circumstances as the Council considers reasonable.

(5) The Council may require an applicant in any particular case to submit such additional information or documents as the Council determines are necessary to determine the application.

(6) On receipt of an application made under paragraph (1), (2) (3) or (4) the Council, upon being satisfied that the use of part of the parking place referred to in that application for the purpose referred to in that application will not adversely affect or adversely interfere with the provision of parking spaces in that parking place, may issue a licence in accordance with Article 13(15) of the Road Traffic Regulation (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 authorising the use by the applicant of part of that parking place for that purpose.

In this Article –

“registered charity” means a charity registered in the register of charities required to be kept by the Charity Commission by virtue of section 16(1) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008 (e)

Surrender and revocation of licences

14 (1) A person to whom a licence is issued (“a licensee”) may surrender a licence to the Council at any time.

(2) The Council may serve on the licensee a notice revoking a licence, stating the reasons for the revocation if it appears to the Council that one of the events set out in paragraph (4) has occurred, and the revocation shall take effect on the expiration of the period of one month from the service of that notice.

(3) A notice under paragraph (2) shall be served by delivering it to the person to whom it is addressed at their proper address, or by sending it to such address by telefacsimile or other electronic means, or by post.

(4) The events referred to in paragraph (2) are—

- (a) if the licensee fails to comply with any condition of the licence;
- (b) if the Council considers the withdrawal of the licence is necessary for the purpose of the exercise of its statutory functions.

PART 3

TARIFFS AND TICKETS IN PAY AND DISPLAY CAR PARKS

Requirement to pay appropriate tariff

15. The driver of a vehicle using a parking place during charging hours shall pay the appropriate tariff set out in Schedule 2 in accordance with the scale of charges specified in column 6 of Schedule 1 in relation to that parking place.

Payment of charges

16.—(1) Save as provided for in Article 21 the driver of a vehicle leaving it in a parking place specified in column 1 of Schedule 1 during the days and hours specified in columns 3 and 4 in relation thereto shall pay the appropriate charge in accordance with the scale of charges specified in column 6 in relation thereto and set out in Schedule 2.

(2) Charges may be paid by—

- (a) inserting into a ticket machine a coin or combination of coins of appropriate denominations;
- (b) inserting into a ticket machine a credit or debit card of a type indicated, and following the instructions displayed, on the machine;
- (c) the purchase of a pre-paid charge card for use in a ticket machine; or
- (d) the use of pre-paid tickets; or
- (e) a registered driver using the telephone parking system.
- (f) Use of Direct Debit where available

(3) Telephone and credit/debit card charges incurred in the course of making any parking payment transaction shall be the responsibility of the registered driver.

Pre-paid tickets

17. In the case of pre-paid tickets, the instructions given on the tickets in respect of making distinct perforations in the tickets or taking other appropriate action to clearly indicate the date and time of arrival shall be carried out by the driver as soon as he takes up position in the parking place.

Use of telephone parking system

18. If at any time a vehicle is left in a parking place during the specified hours and a check is carried out by, or on behalf of, the Council and no indication that a parking charge has been paid using the telephone parking system in respect of that vehicle for that controlled parking zone appears on a traffic attendant's hand-held device it shall be presumed, unless the contrary is proved that either—

- (a) a parking charge had not been paid in respect of that vehicle; or
- (b) the parking period for which payment was made had already expired.

Display of printed tickets

19. – (1) The driver shall attach the ticket issued by a ticket machine or a pre-paid ticket duly perforated on the inside surface of the windscreen or a side window facing the kerb or place the ticket on the dashboard area immediately below the windscreen so that the

particulars recorded on the front of the ticket are clearly visible to a person standing at the front or side of the vehicle.

(2) In the case of a motor cycle the ticket shall be displayed in a conspicuous position in a ticket holder or in front of the driver's seat

Particulars of tickets

20.—(1) Where a vehicle is left parked in a parking place where charges may be collected by means of a ticket machine and the particulars on the ticket indicate that the period in respect of which payment was made has expired, for the purposes of any appeal under Articles 13, 16 or 28 of the Traffic Management (Northern Ireland) Order 2005 it shall be presumed, unless the contrary is proved, that said particulars are evidence of the expiry of such period.

(2) Where a vehicle is left parked in a parking place where charges may be collected by means of a ticket machine, and a ticket is not displayed in accordance with the provisions of Articles 16 or 18 (6) for the purposes of any appeal under Articles 13, 16 or 28 of the Traffic Management (Northern Ireland) Order 2005 it shall be presumed, unless the contrary is proved, that the absence of a ticket is evidence of the fact that a ticket has not been purchased.

Season tickets

21.— (1) The Council or their service provider may on application from the driver or owner of a vehicle sell to that person a season ticket on payment of the appropriate tariff referred to in Article 12.

(2) A season ticket shall be valid only in respect of such parking places as are specified thereon for the period for which it is issued and for the vehicle in respect of which it is issued.

(3) The Council or their service provider may by notice in writing served on the season ticket holder by recorded delivery post to the address stated on the season ticket holder's application, require the surrender of a season ticket where:

(a) the season ticket holder has not complied with the relevant Off-Street Parking Order; or

(b) a season ticket has been issued upon receipt of a cheque and the cheque is subsequently dishonoured; or

(c) the season ticket holder has ceased to have an interest in the vehicle in respect of which the season ticket was issued;

and the season ticket holder shall surrender the season ticket to the Council or their service provider within forty-eight hours of the receipt of the said notice.

(4) The issue of a season ticket shall not guarantee that any parking place will be available for the use of the season ticket holder.

(5) A season ticket shall include the following particulars:

(i) the registration mark of the vehicle in respect of which the season ticket has been issued;

(ii) the period during which the season ticket shall remain valid; and

(iii) the names of the parking places for which the season ticket is valid.

(6) Where a vehicle in respect of which a season ticket has been issued is left parked in a parking place the driver shall display the ticket in a conspicuous position behind the windscreen of that vehicle so as to be clearly visible to the parking attendant.

PART 4

RESTRICTION ON USE OF VEHICLES AND PARKING PLACES

Requirement to stop the engine of a vehicle

22. The driver of a vehicle using a parking place shall stop the engine as soon as the vehicle is in position in the parking place and shall not start the engine except when about to change the position of the vehicle in or to depart from the parking place.

Trading in a parking place

23. — (1) Subject to paragraph (2) and save as provided in Article 24 of the Road Traffic Regulation (Northern Ireland) Order 1997, a person shall not use a parking place in connection with the sale of anything to persons in or near the parking place or in connection with the selling or offering for hire of their skill or services unless the person holds a valid trading licence for the location issued by the Council under the Street Trading Act (Northern Ireland) 2001.

(2) Paragraph (1) shall not apply in respect of any fee payable for the use of an electric vehicle charging post.

Sounding of horn

24. The driver of a vehicle using a parking place shall not sound any horn or other similar instrument except when about to change the position of the vehicle in or to depart from the parking place.

Driving in a parking place

25. A person shall not, except with the permission of any person duly authorised by the Council, drive any vehicle in a parking place other than for the purpose of leaving that vehicle in the parking place in accordance with the provisions of this Order or for the purpose of departing from the parking place.

Ball games

26. A person shall not play any ball game in a parking place

27. A person shall not use any part of a parking place or any vehicle left in a parking place

- (a) for sleeping or camping purposes
- (b) for eating or cooking purposes
- (c) for the purposes of servicing or washing any vehicle or part thereof other than is reasonably necessary to enable that vehicle to depart from the parking place-

Means of passage

28. A person shall not use a parking place as a means of passage from one road to another road or to any premises unless a right of way has been granted in writing by the Council

Consumption of intoxicating liquor

29. A person shall not use any of the parking places specified in Schedule 1, or any vehicle in any of those parking places, for the purpose of consuming intoxicating liquor.

Use of entrances and exits, and direction of travel

30. Where in a parking place signs are erected or surface markings are laid for the purpose of—

- (a) indicating the entrance to or exit from the parking place; or
- (b) indicating that a vehicle using the parking place shall proceed in a specified direction within the parking place,

a person shall not drive or cause or permit to be driven any vehicle—

- (i) so that it enters the parking place otherwise than by an entrance, or leaves the parking place otherwise than by an exit, so indicated; or
- (ii) in a direction other than that specified, as the case may be.

Erection of structures and lighting of fires

31. In a parking place a person shall not—

- (a) erect or cause or permit to be erected any tent, booth, stand, building or other structure without the written consent of the Council;
- (b) light or cause to be lit any fire.

Supermarket trolleys

32. (1) A person shall not cause or permit a supermarket trolley to enter a parking place in or under a building, and any supermarket trolley left there may be removed by a person authorised by the Council.

(2) A person shall not cause or permit a supermarket trolley to be left in any other parking place, other than in an area set aside for that purpose, and any supermarket trolley so left may be removed by a person authorised by the Council.

Reserving a parking bay

33. A person shall not reserve a parking bay in a parking place.

Suspension of parking places

34. (1) The Council may suspend the use of a parking place or any part of it in the following circumstances:

- (a) Upon request from a statutory agency, utility operator, contractor or similar body;
- (b) For the making of a film in or adjacent to a car parking place;
- (c) For any sporting event, social event, entertainment event or other activity deemed to be to the benefit of the public;

(d) Upon request from any person for any other use or purpose or in such circumstances as the council considers reasonable.

35. Use of car park or sections of for the purposes of temporary meeting place

No persons shall use a parking place as a meeting place or point unless authorised by the Council in writing in advance.

SCHEDULE 1
PARKING PLACES

Parking Place Name	Classes of Vehicles	Days of operation of Parking Place	Hours of Operation of Parking Place	Maximum period for which a vehicle may wait	Scale of Charges
1. Quay Street, Ardglass	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	12 hours	No charge
2. Phennick Marina, Ardglass	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	12 hours	No charge
3. Antrim Road, Ballynahinch	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	12 hours	No charge
4. Lisburn Street (North Side), Ballynahinch	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	12 hours	No charge
5. Lisburn Street (South Side), Ballynahinch	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	Monday to Saturday	8.30 a.m. to 6.30 p.m.	10 hours	Tariff TL5 as set out in Schedule 2
			6.30 p.m. to 8.30 a.m.	14 hours	No charge
		Sunday	All hours	12 hours	No charge
6. Windmill Street, Ballynahinch	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	Monday to Saturday	8.30 a.m. to 6.30 p.m.	10 hours	Tariff TL5 as set out in Schedule 2
			6.30 p.m. to 8.30 a.m.	14 hours	No charge
		Sunday	All hours	12 hours	No charge

SCHEDULE 1 PARKING PLACES

7. Bann Road, Castlewellan	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	12 hours	No charge
8. Upper Square, Castlewellan	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	12 hours	No charge
9. The Square, Crossgar	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	12 hours	No charge
10. Ballymote Sports Centre, Downpatrick	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle, light goods vehicle and bus	All days when facility open	All hours when facility open	Only during facility opening hours	No charge
11. Church Street, Downpatrick	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods Vehicle	Monday to Saturday	8.30 a.m. to 6.30 p.m.	10 hours	Tariff TL5 as set out in Schedule 2
			6.30 p.m. to 8.30 a.m.	14 hours	No charge
		Sunday	All hours	12 hours	No charge
12. Down County Museum Car Park	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	14 hours	No charge

SCHEDULE 1 PARKING PLACES

13. Down Leisure Centre, Downpatrick	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle, light goods vehicle and bus	All days when facility open	All hours when facility open	Only during facility opening hours	No charge
14. Irish Street, Downpatrick	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	Monday to Saturday	8.30 a.m. to 6.30 p.m.	10 hours	Tariff TL5 as set out in Schedule 2
			6.30 p.m. to 8.30 a.m.	14 hours	No charge
		Sunday	All hours	12 hours	No charge
15. Market Street (North), Downpatrick	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	12 hours	No charge
16. Market Street (South), Downpatrick	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	12 hours	No charge
17. Meadowlands, Downpatrick	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	12 hours	No charge
18. Mount Crescent, Downpatrick	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	12 hours	No charge
19. Quoile Recreation Area, Downpatrick	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	6 hours	No charge

SCHEDULE 1 PARKING PLACES

20. Scotch Street, Downpatrick	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	Monday to Saturday	8.30 a.m. to 6.30 p.m.	10 hours	Tariff TL5 as set out in Schedule 2
			6.30 p.m. to 8.30 a.m.	14 hours	No charge
		Sunday	All hours	12 hours	No charge
21. The Grove, Downpatrick * On lease to CPS who currently charge on this site	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	14 hours	No charge
22. Ben Crom Place, Kilkeel	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	14 hours	No charge
23. Bridge Street, (Lower Square), Kilkeel	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	14 hours	No charge
24. Harbour Road, Kilkeel	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	14 hours	No charge
25. Kilkeel Leisure Centre, Kilkeel	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle, light goods vehicle and bus	All days when facility open	All hours when facility open	Only during facility opening hours	No charge
26. Newry Street, Kilkeel	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	14 hours	No charge

SCHEDULE 1
PARKING PLACES

27. Blackrock pool, Newcastle	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light vehicle	All days	All hours	12 hours	No charge
28. Bloody Bridge, Newcastle	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	12 hours	No charge
29. Castle Park, Newcastle	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	12 hours	No charge
30. Causeway Road, Newcastle	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	12 hours	No charge
31. Donard Park, Newcastle	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle, light goods vehicle and bus	All days	All hours	12 hours	No charge
	Caravan	All days	Between 6.00am to 11.00pm	12 hours	No charge
32. Donard Park overflow	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	12 hours	No charge

SCHEDULE 1 PARKING PLACES

33. Downs Road, Newcastle	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	12 hours	No charge
34. Glen River, Newcastle	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	12 hours	No charge
35. Newcastle Centre, Newcastle	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	12 hours	No charge
36. Shimna Road, Newcastle	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	12 hours	No charge
37. Abbeyway / Lower Water Street, Newry	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	Monday to Saturday	8.30am to 6.30pm	10 hours	Tariff TL5 as set out in Schedule 2
			6.30pm to 8.30am	14 hours	No charge
		Sunday	All hours	12 hours	No charge
38. Basin Walk, Newry	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	Monday to Saturday	8.30am to 6.30pm	10 hours	Tariff TL5 as set out in Schedule 2
			6.30pm to 8.30am	14 hours	No charge
		Sunday	All hours	12 hours	No charge
39. Bridge Street, Newry	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	12 hours	No charge

SCHEDULE 1 PARKING PLACES

40. Canal Bank 1, Newry	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	Monday to Saturday	8.30am to 6.30pm	10 hours	Tariff TL5 as set out in Schedule 2
			6.30pm to 8.30am	14 hours	No charge
		Sunday	All hours	12 hours	No charge
41. Canal Bank 2, Newry	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	Monday to Saturday	8.30am to 6.30pm	10 hours	Tariff TL5 as set out in Schedule 2
			6.30pm to 8.30am	14 hours	No charge
		Sunday	All hours	12 hours	No charge
42. Canal Bank 3, Newry	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	12 hours	No charge
43. Downshire Road, Newry	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	12 hours	No charge
44. Edward Street, Newry	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	12 hours	No charge
45. Kilmorey Street East, Newry	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	12 hours	No charge

SCHEDULE 1 PARKING PLACES

46. Monaghan Street, Newry	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	Monday to Saturday	8.30am to 6.30pm	10 hours	Tariff TL5 as set out in Schedule 2
			6.30pm to 8.30am	14 hours	No charge
		Sunday	All hours	12 hours	No charge
47. Newry Leisure Centre, Newry	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle, light goods vehicle and bus	All days when facility open	All hours when facility open	Only during facility opening hours	No charge
48. New Street, Newry	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	Monday to Sunday	8.30am to 6.30pm	10 hours	Tariff TL5 as set out in Schedule 2
			6.30pm to 8.30am	14 hours	No charge
		Sunday	All hours	12 hours	No charge
49. New Street Amenity Area, Newry	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	12 hours	No charge
50. North Street, Newry	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	12 hours	No charge
51. River Street, Newry	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	14 hours	No charge

SCHEDULE 1 PARKING PLACES

52. St. Colman's Sports Centre, Newry	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle, light goods vehicle and buses	All days when facility open	All hours when facility open	Only during facility opening hours	No charge
53. The Square, Rostrevor	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	14 hours	No charge
54. Downpatrick Street, Saintfield	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	12 hours	No charge
55. East Street, Warrenpoint	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	14 hours	No charge
56. Havelock Place, Warrenpoint	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	14 hours	No charge
57. King's Lane, Warrenpoint	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	14 hours	No charge
58. Mary Street, Warrenpoint	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	14 hours	No charge

SCHEDULE 1
PARKING PLACES

59. Newry Street, Warrenpoint	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	14 hours	No charge
60. Osbourne Terrace, Warrenpoint	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	14 hours	No charge
61. The Square, Warrenpoint	Motor car, motor cycle, mobility vehicle and light goods vehicle	All days	All hours	14 hours	No charge

SCHEDULE 2
TARIFFS

Tariff TL5: Motor Cars, Motor Cycles, Mobility Vehicles and Light Goods Vehicles

Up to 1 hour	50p
Over 1 hour and not exceeding 2 hours	£1.00
Over 2 hours and not exceeding 3 hours	£1.50
Over 3 hours and not exceeding 4 hours	£2.00
Over 4 hours and not exceeding 5 hours	£2.50
Over 5 hours and not exceeding 6 hours	£3.00
Over 6 hours and not exceeding 7 hours	£3.50
Over 7 hours and not exceeding 8 hours	£4.00
Over 8 hours	£4.50
Within 1 hour of closing	50p
4 WEEK SEASON TICKET: (Valid Monday- Friday)	£63.00
12 WEEK SEASON TICKET: (Valid Monday-Friday)	£153.00

Tariff TL6: Motor Cars, Motor Cycles, Mobility Vehicles and Light Goods Vehicles

Up to 1 hour	60p
Over 1 hour and not exceeding 2 hours	£1.20
Over 2 hours and not exceeding 3 hours	£1.80
Over 3 hours and not exceeding 4 hours	£2.40
Over 4 hours and not exceeding 5 hours	£3.00
Over 5 hours and not exceeding 6 hours	£3.60
Over 6 hours and not exceeding 7 hours	£4.20
Over 7 hours and not exceeding 8 hours	£4.80
Over 8 hours	£5.40
Within 1 hour of closing	60p
4 WEEK SEASON TICKET: (Valid Monday- Friday)	£75.60
12 WEEK SEASON TICKET: (Valid Monday-Friday)	£183.60

SCHEDULE 2
TARIFFS

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Tariff TL7: Motor Cars, Motor Cycles, Mobility Vehicles and Light Goods Vehicles

Up to 1 hour	70p
Over 1 hour and not exceeding 2 hours	£1.40
Over 2 hours and not exceeding 3 hours	£2.10
Over 3 hours and not exceeding 4 hours	£2.80
Over 4 hours and not exceeding 5 hours	£3.50
Over 5 hours and not exceeding 6 hours	£4.20
Over 6 hours and not exceeding 7 hours	£4.90
Over 7 hours and not exceeding 8 hours	£5.60
Over 8 hours	£6.30
Within 1 hour of closing	70p
4 WEEK SEASON TICKET: (Valid Monday- Friday)	£88.20
12 WEEK SEASON TICKET: (Valid Monday-Friday)	£214.20

Tariff TM6: Motor Cars, Motor Cycles, Mobility Vehicles and Light Goods Vehicles

Up to 1 hour	60p
Over 1 hour and not exceeding 2 hours	£1.20
Over 2 hours and not exceeding 3 hours	£1.80
Over 3 hours and not exceeding 4 hours	£2.40
Over 4 hours and not exceeding 5 hours	£3.00
Over 5 hours and not exceeding 6 hours	£4.00
Over 6 hours and not exceeding 7 hours	£5.00
Over 7 hours and not exceeding 8 hours	£6.00
Over 8 hours	£7.00
Within 1 hour of closing	£1.20

SCHEDULE 2
TARIFFS

Tariff TM7: Motor Cars, Motor Cycles, Mobility Vehicles and Light Goods Vehicles

Up to 1 hour	70p
Over 1 hour and not exceeding 2 hours	£1.40
Over 2 hours and not exceeding 3 hours	£2.10
Over 3 hours and not exceeding 4 hours	£2.80
Over 4 hours and not exceeding 5 hours	£3.50
Over 5 hours and not exceeding 6 hours	£4.50
Over 6 hours and not exceeding 7 hours	£5.50
Over 7 hours and not exceeding 8 hours	£6.50
Over 8 hours	£7.50
Within 1 hour of closing	£1.40

TARIFF TM8: Motor Cars, Motor Cycles, Mobility Vehicles and Light Goods Vehicles

Up to 1 hour	80p
Over 1 hours and not exceeding 2 hours	£1.60
Over 2 hours and not exceeding 3 hours	£2.40
Over 3 hours and not exceeding 4 hours	£3.20
Over 4 hours and not exceeding 5 hours	£4.00
Over 5 hours and not exceeding 6 hours	£5.00
Over 6 hours and not exceeding 7 hours	£6.00
Over 7 hours and not exceeding 8 hours	£7.00
Over 8 hours	£8.00
Within 1 hour of closing	£1.60

SCHEDULE 2
TARIFFS

38

TARIFF TM10: Motor Cars, Motor Cycles, Mobility Vehicles and Light Goods Vehicles

Up to 1 hour	£1.00
Over 1 hour and not exceeding 2 hours	£2.00
Over 2 hours and not exceeding 3 hours	£3.00
Over 3 hours and not exceeding 4 hours	£4.00
Over 4 hours and not exceeding 5 hours	£5.00
Over 5 hours and not exceeding 6 hours	£6.00
Over 6 hours and not exceeding 7 hours	£7.00
Over 7 hours and not exceeding 8 hours	£8.00
Over 8 hours	£9.00
Within 1 hour of closing	£2.00

TARIFF TM12: Motor Cars, Motor Cycles, Mobility Vehicles and Light Goods Vehicles

Up to 1 hour	£1.20
Over 1 hour and not exceeding 2 hours	£2.40
Over 2 hours and not exceeding 3 hours	£3.60
Over 3 hours and not exceeding 4 hours	£4.80
Over 4 hours and not exceeding 5 hours	£6.60
Over 5 hours and not exceeding 6 hours	£8.40
Over 6 hours and not exceeding 7 hours	£10.20
Over 7 hours and not exceeding 8 hours	£12.00
Over 8 hours	£13.80
Within 1 hour of closing	£2.40

TARIFF TS4: Motor Cars, Motor Cycles, Mobility Vehicles and Light Goods Vehicles

Up to 3 hours	40p
Over 3 hours and not exceeding 6 hours	80p
Over 6 hours	£1.20
After 5pm until closing	40p
4 Week Season Ticket (Valid Monday – Friday)	£19.00
12 Week Season Ticket (Valid Monday – Friday)	£46.00

Report to:	Sustainability & Environment Committee
Date of Meeting:	21 st October 2026
Subject:	Summer and Winter Bedding Plants
Reporting Officer and Job Title:	Conor Sage, Assistant Director Sustainability
Contact Officer and Job Title:	Jonathan Ellis, Grounds Maintenance Manager

Purpose of Report:

◀ For Decision ▶

1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	Purpose The purpose of this report is to seek Committee approval of the recommendation of the attached business case (Appendix 1) and to commence procurement for the supply of bedding plants from 2027 to 2031. Background As part of the development of the Council’s landscape workplan, officers have undertaken landscape improvements and community engagement to modernise seasonal amenity displays. Feedback has been positive and has informed a number of key themes, outlined in Section 2. This work has reduced reliance on bedding plants and increased the use of sustainable permanent planting. Approval of the proposed procurement will support the continued delivery of these landscape improvements across the district.
2.0	Key Issues
2.1	Seasonal bedding displays contribute to wider green infrastructure objectives by supporting health and wellbeing through attractive outdoor spaces, complementing wildflower and biodiversity areas, and integrating with permanent shrub and herbaceous planting. The provision of seasonal bedding plants creates high-impact displays across the district, enhancing the visual appeal of key locations and public open spaces. Displays provide opportunities for community participation, support entry into initiatives such as In Bloom and Ireland’s Best Kept Awards, and promote civic pride. Seasonal planting also supports the promotion of Council branding and the visibility of wider green space improvements.
2.2	The preferred option identified in the Business Case is to retain seasonal bedding displays at prime locations while further rationalising provision in line with sustainable landscaping principles. Any savings achieved will be reinvested in permanent, sustainable landscape improvements. This option maintains high-impact displays, supports community participation and biodiversity objectives, and provides value for money.

	The proposed contract value is detailed within Appendix 2.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	Approve the recommendations of the Business Case and authorise the commencement of the procurement process for the supply of seasonal bedding plants for the period 2027-2031.
4.0	Resource Implications
4.1	Costs associated with this contract will be funded through the Councils Annual Maintenance Budget.
5.0	Due Regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations
5.1	General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes ☐ It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations ☐
5.2	Does the proposal relate to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision ☐ No ☐ If yes, please select one of the following: ☐ Choose an item. ☐
5.3	Proposal initiating consultation The consultation 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 Please select the consultation period: ☐ Choose an item. ☐ Rationale:
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs
6.1	Does the proposal relate to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service. ☐ No – The policy / strategy / plan / public service is not influenced by rural needs ☐

7.0	Appendices
7.1	Appendix 1: Business Case for the Tender for Supply of Summer & Winter Bedding Plants for Public Spaces 2027 to 2031
7.2	Appendix 2: Bedding Plants Resources
8.0	Background Documents
8.1	N/A

Report to:	Sustainability & Environment Committee
Date of Meeting:	21 st October 2026
Subject:	Christmas Parking Arrangements
Reporting Officer and Job Title:	Conor Sage, Assistant Director Sustainability
Contact Officer and Job Title:	Conor Sage, Assistant Director Sustainability

Purpose of Report:

◀ For Decision ▶

1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	Purpose The purpose of this report is, following the provision of free parking at weekends immediately preceding Christmas 2025 within Council-operated charged off-street car parks across the Newry, Mourne and Down District, to seek Committee consideration for car park charges pre-Christmas 2026. The report outlines the implications of the proposals and seeks Members' consideration on options available. Background Newry Mourne & Down District Council operate a programme of 7 non-charged days per annum for Council operated Off-Street Pay & Display car parks throughout the District. The present non-charged days in operation were inherited from The Department for Infrastructure (DFI), upon transfer of the function and are listed as follows: • New Year's Day • St Patrick's Day • Easter Monday • 12th July • 13th July • Christmas Day • Boxing Day DFI also operate the same non-charged days for their On-Street parking operation, which impacts the three Controlled Parking Zones (CPZ's) within the Province, that being Belfast, Newry and Lisburn. Charging is applied to the following Council-operated off-street car parks: 1. Lisburn Street (South Side), Ballynahinch 2. Windmill Street, Ballynahinch 3. Church Street, Downpatrick 4. Irish Street, Downpatrick 5. Scotch Street, Downpatrick 6. Abbeyway / Lower Water Street, Newry 7. Basin Walk, Newry 8. Canal Bank 1, Newry 9. Canal Bank 2, Newry 10. Monaghan Street, Newry 11. New Street, Newry

2.0	Key Issues
2.1	A Notice of Motion (C/187/2025) relating to parking was received from Councillor Kearns in 2025, calling on Council to introduce parking incentives within its off-street car parks to support town centre businesses during the Christmas trading period. The motion proposed that this could include the provision of free parking on the three Saturdays immediately preceding Christmas. The Notice of Motion was subsequently approved by Council, and free parking was implemented on the three Saturdays preceding Christmas 2025 across all Council-operated charged off-street car parks. The initiative was intended to support the retail sector during the peak Christmas shopping period and encourage increased footfall within town and city centres. Members should note that parking in Council-operated charged off-street car parks is already provided free of charge on Sundays throughout the year; therefore, the proposal relates specifically to the provision of free parking on the three Saturdays immediately preceding Christmas 2026 – 5, 12 and 19 December 2026.
2.2	While the initiative supported the Council's commitment to assisting town centre businesses during the festive trading period, the resulting estimated loss of parking revenue, excluding income from Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs), is set out in Appendix 1. In addition, officer surveys undertaken following the initiative indicated that the provision of free parking had a detrimental impact on parking availability within town centres. Ad hoc observations by Council officers identified increased congestion and higher occupancy levels within key town and city centre car parks, in Newry and Downpatrick, with a greater difficulty for motorists in securing parking spaces. These findings suggest that, while the initiative removed the cost of parking, it may have reduced parking turnover and accessibility within the busiest commercial areas during peak trading periods. These findings should be considered by Members when assessing the potential merits and implications of introducing a similar scheme for Christmas 2026.
2.3	The Minister for Infrastructure has implemented a one-hour grace period for people parking in on-street spaces within the controlled parking zones in Newry and Lisburn. Members should consider whether officers investigate and implement a similar one-hour grace period in Council-operated charged town centre car parks, subject to the provisions of the current contractual arrangements.
2.4	Officers are providing three options for Members to consider for pre-Christmas 2026, as follows: 1. Apply charging as normal 2. Apply one-hour grace period, subject to provisions in the contract. 3. Provide free Saturday parking for the three weekends immediately preceding Christmas 2026

	Officers recommend option 3, the provision of free parking at weekends preceding Christmas within Council-operated charged town centre car parks across the District. This proposal reflects the approach adopted in 2025 and is intended to support festive trading activity and encourage visits to town and city centres during the peak Christmas shopping period.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	Members are requested to consider the options as set out in 2.4 of the report and approve the provision of free parking for the three weekends immediately preceding Christmas 2026 within Council-operated charged off-street car parks.
4.0	Resource Implications
4.1	To be determined – see Appendix 1 for revenue costs from Christmas 2025.
5.0	Due Regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations
5.1	General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes ☐ It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations ☐
5.2	Does the proposal relate to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision ☐ No ☐ If yes, please select one of the following: ☐ Choose an item. ☐
5.3	Proposal initiating consultation The consultation 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 Please select the consultation period: ☐ Choose an item. ☐ Rationale:
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs
6.1	Does the proposal relate to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service. ☐ No – The policy / strategy / plan / public service is not influenced by rural needs ☐

7.0	Appendices
7.1	Appendix 1: Christmas 2025 Parking Revenue Costs
8.0	Background Documents
8.1	N/A

Report to:	Sustainability and Environment Committee
Date of Meeting:	21 October 2026
Subject:	DAERA consultation on the Draft Clean Air Strategy for Northern Ireland to 2032.
Reporting Officer and Job Title:	Sinead Trainor; Assistant Director; Environment
Contact Officer and Job Title:	James Campbell Head of Environmental Health (Residential).

Purpose of Report:

◀ For Decision ▶

1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	The purpose of this report is to seek Members' approval of the response to the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) consultation on the Draft Clean Air Strategy for Northern Ireland to 2032.
1.2	The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) has launched a public consultation on Northern Ireland's first bespoke draft Clean Air Strategy 2032 on 1 September 2026, which remains open until 27 October 2026.
1.3	The draft Clean Air Strategy for Northern Ireland sets out a clear ambition to improve air quality by 2032.
2.0	Key Issues
2.1	The Draft Clean Air Strategy aims to improve air quality across Northern Ireland by 2032 for the benefit of human health and the environment. It sets out three key goals to achieve by 2032. • To improve air quality to support better human health and prevent ill health and premature deaths associated with air pollution. • To reduce air pollution for a cleaner environment. • To increase public awareness of air quality issues and empower the public to take personal action to improve air quality.
2.2	The strategy highlights five strategic objectives which will assist in achieving the goals set out above. • Develop an evidence base by building on the existing air quality network. This will inform future decisions and allow measures to be assessed. • Improve legislation, by updating existing legislation to protect Northern Ireland's air quality and human health. New ambitious PM2.5 and PM10 limits or targets will be introduced. • Raise Awareness and change behaviour by providing people with clear information to allow people to make better informed decisions and change behaviour. • Work towards zero pollution by preventing air pollution at source. If prevention is not possible, air pollution should be reduced; and, if air pollution has occurred, it should be cleaned up. • Deliver change through partners by working together to manage and improve Northern Ireland's air quality.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	Members are asked to approve the consultation response to DAERA on the Draft Clean Air Strategy for Northern Ireland to 2032, as attached in Appendix one of the report.

4.0	Resource Implications
4.1	The Strategy may impose potential expenses on local councils for expanded air monitoring networks and enforcing smoke control legislation.
5.0	Due Regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations
5.1	General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes ☐ It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations ☐
5.2	Does the proposal relate to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision ☐ Yes ☐ If yes, please select one of the following: ☐ The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened ☐ This was completed by DAERA
5.3	Proposal initiating consultation The consultation 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 Please select the consultation period: ☐ Choose an item. ☐ Rationale: Carried out by DAERA
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs
6.1	Does the proposal relate to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service. ☐ No – The policy / strategy / plan / public service is not influenced by rural needs ☐
7.0	Appendices
7.1	Appendix 1: Consultation response on the Draft Clean Air Strategy for Northern Ireland to 2032
8.0	Background Documents

8.1	Clean Air Strategy for Northern Ireland to 2032 Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs
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Appendix 1 – Consultation on the Draft Clean Air Strategy for Northern Ireland to 2032

1. What County do you live in?

Down and Armagh

2. Are you responding on behalf of an organisation?

Yes.

3. If yes, please provide the name of your organisation:

Newry Mourne and Down District Council.

4. Which background category best represents you from the list below?

District Council.

5. If other, please specify:

N/A.

6. Do you agree with the aim of the draft Clean Air Strategy?

Yes.

7. If no, please provide your comments about an alternative or additional aim:

N/A.

8. Do you agree with the three goals in the draft Clean Air Strategy?

Yes.

9. If no, please provide your comments about alternative or additional goals:

N/A

10. Do you agree with the five strategic objectives in the draft Clean Air Strategy?

Yes.

11. If no, please provide your comments about alternative or additional Strategic Objectives:

N/A.

12. Do you believe that the proposed new actions for Strategic Objective 1, will deliver an improved air quality evidence base across Northern Ireland?

The Council considers that Strategic Objective 1 will improve the air quality evidence base through the review and expansion of the air quality monitoring network. Air quality monitoring data, knowledge surveys, and the findings of projects such as Peace -Air should support policy development and provide direction for air quality management across Northern Ireland.

13. Are there any additional actions that you suggest should be included within Strategic Objective 1?

No.

14. Do you have any other comments about Strategic Objective 1?

The expansion of the Northern Ireland local air quality monitoring network should be supported by appropriate funding and resources for councils.

15. Do you believe that the proposed actions for Strategic Objective 2, will deliver improved air quality legislation for Northern Ireland?

While the Council supports improved legislation and the tightening of pollutant limits, further policy developments will be required before stricter standards can be introduced. The Council considers that any revision of pollutant standards should be evidence based.

16. Are there any additional actions that you suggest should be included within Strategic Objective 2?

DAERA should engage with NI councils, competent authorities and transport partners regarding additional necessary actions in pursuit of this objective

17. Do you have any other comments about Strategic Objective 2?

Should councils have a role in enforcing any legislative changes, appropriate funding and resources should be provided to support delivery.

18. Do you believe that the proposed new action for Strategic Objective 3, will deliver raised awareness and bring about behavioural change?

The Council supports the introduction of air quality awareness and behaviour change campaigns. Annual campaigns targeting key pollution sources should improve public awareness and encourage healthier behaviours. Successful delivery will require consistent and clear messaging, and ongoing engagement with councils and local communities.

19. Are there any additional actions that you suggest should be included within Strategic Objective 3?

No.

20. Do you have any other comments about Strategic Objective 3?

The Council supports the provision of funding and resources to enable district councils to assist in the delivery of local air quality awareness and behaviour change campaigns.

21. Do you believe that the proposed new actions for Strategic Objective 4, will help to achieve a fair and just transition to phasing out of coal, manufactured solid fuels and unseasoned wood for home heating?

Council agrees that transitioning away from coal, manufactured solid fuels, and unseasoned wood should result in improved air quality. However, consideration should be given to what support mechanisms will be available for households that rely on solid fuel as their primary source of heating, particularly those experiencing, or at risk of, fuel poverty.

22. Are there any additional actions that you suggest should be included within Strategic Objective 4?

The Council considers that additional actions should be developed for commercial premises that utilise similar combustion appliances, techniques, and fuels, ensuring alignment with the overall objectives of the Strategy and the improvement of air quality.

23. Do you have any other comments about Strategic Objective 4?

The Council would welcome clarification regarding any future enforcement responsibilities arising from restrictions on solid fuel use. Should district councils be expected to undertake compliance monitoring or enforcement activities, appropriate legislation, guidance, funding, and resources will be required to ensure effective implementation.

24. Do you believe that the proposed new actions for Strategic Objective 5, will deliver positive change to air quality in Northern Ireland through working with delivery partners?

The Council agrees that meaningful improvements in air quality will require strong partnership working. The Council welcomes increased investment in active travel and would hope that this commitment extends to towns and well populated villages.

The Council also supports the continuation of the Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) Grant, which assists council in maintaining and delivering local air quality monitoring networks.

25. Are there any additional actions that you suggest should be included within Strategic Objective 5?

No.

26. Do you have any other comments about Strategic Objective 5?

We have indicated that we have no other comments concerning Strategic Objective 5.

27. Do you believe that the proposed indicators for the Clean Air Strategy will effectively measure the success of the Strategic Objectives and their actions?

Council considers pollutant trends to be a useful indicator of the effectiveness of the Strategic Objectives and associated actions. However, the proposed compliance date of 1 January 2028 appears unrealistic. Further policy development and mitigation measures will be required to achieve compliance.

28. Have you any comments on the Implementation and Governance proposals for the Clean Air Strategy?

The Council notes and welcomes the proposed inclusion of district councils within the Cross-Departmental Steering Group.

29. Have you any comments on the Equality and Disability Screening Assessment of the draft Clean Air Strategy?

No.

30. Have you any comments on the Rural Needs Impact Assessment of the draft Clean Air Strategy?

No.

31. Have you any comments on the Strategic Environmental Impact Assessment of the draft Clean Air Strategy?

No.

32. Have you any comments on the Habitats Regulations Impact Assessment of the draft Clean Air Strategy?

No.

Report to:	S&E Committee
Date of Meeting:	21 October 2026
Subject:	Notice of Motion – Public Drinking Laws
Reporting Officer and Job Title:	Sinead Trainor, Assistant Director, Environment
Contact Officer and Job Title:	Sinead Trainor, Assistant Director, Environment

Purpose of Report:

For Decision

1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	The purpose of this report is to facilitate discussion on the Notice of Motion received from Councillor Truesdale as deferred from the Council Meeting of 07 September 2026, in accordance with standing order 16.1.16. "That this Council supports proposed changes to public drinking laws that would grant officials the authority to request the surrender of alcoholic beverages in designated public areas. This forms part of a broader initiative led by the Stormont Department for Communities and the Department of Justice to modernize legislation addressing anti-social behaviour and alcohol consumption in public spaces. Under the proposed amendments to the Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 2008, Council officers would be empowered to ask individuals to voluntarily surrender alcoholic drinks in areas where public drinking is restricted. While council staff would not have the power to forcibly confiscate alcohol, police officers would retain the authority to enforce surrender and issue fixed penalty notices to those who refuse to comply." The motion was seconded by Councillor Lee-Surginor.
2.0	Key Issues
2.1	The legislative framework for addressing on-street drinking in Northern Ireland is spread across a number of statutory provisions. Under the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 1972, district councils have the power to introduce byelaws prohibiting the consumption of intoxicating liquor in designated public places. Where an area has been designated, the consumption of alcohol constitutes an offence. The legislation enables police and authorised council officers to obtain the names and addresses of individuals committing an offence for the purposes of potential prosecution. Responsibility for pursuing any prosecution rests with the Council; however, the legislation does not provide powers to confiscate or remove alcohol. Responsibility for this legislation sits with the Department for Communities (DfC). To address the absence of powers to remove alcohol under the byelaw regime, Part 5 (Articles 68–72) of the Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 2008 was introduced on behalf of the former Department for Social Development, now DfC. These provisions were intended to permit the confiscation of open containers that contain, or have contained, intoxicating liquor within designated areas. However, subsequent legal advice confirmed that the legislation does not provide an explicit power to seize alcohol. As a result, Articles 68–72 have not been commenced.

	In the interim, additional enforcement powers were introduced through the Justice Act (Northern Ireland) 2011, enabling the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) to issue fixed penalty notices for a number of public order offences associated with public drinking. These include offences such as being drunk in a public place, disorderly or indecent behaviour, and behaviour likely to cause a breach of the peace. In relation to young people, the Confiscation of Alcohol (Young Persons) Act 1997 provides police with powers to require individuals under the age of 18 to surrender alcohol and allows for the disposal of alcohol that has been surrendered. While the legislation does not provide a power of seizure, failure to comply with a request to surrender alcohol constitutes an offence and may result in arrest. The effectiveness of the current legislative arrangements relating to on-street drinking, including the provisions of Part 5 of the Criminal Justice (Northern Ireland) Order 2008 and council byelaws, is currently being considered as part of the wider Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Legislation Review. This review is being led through a multi-agency Delivery Group, with engagement taking place between officials, the PSNI and the Department for Communities, which holds overarching responsibility for alcohol-related legislation. The review seeks to ensure that the existing legislative framework is fit for purpose and capable of effectively addressing issues associated with on-street drinking and related anti-social behaviour. The proposed legislative changes follow a public consultation held in late 2023, which revealed widespread support for updating the framework governing drinking in public. A majority of respondents agreed that Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) should have explicit powers to seize and dispose of alcohol in certain circumstances, and that councils should be allowed to participate in enforcement through an opt-in mechanism.
2.2	Newry, Mourne and Down PCSP have responded to the public consultation referred to in section 2.1. Officer's recommendation is to engage with the Police Service of Northern Ireland through the PCSP network to obtain a detailed understanding of the issues faced in enforcing the legislation and how Council could support this work while protecting the health and safety of Council officers. Officers will bring back a further report to S&E Committee
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	Members are asked to consider the Motion, note the Officer's report and consider the recommendations of the Notice of Motion.
4.0	Resource Implications
4.1	No additional resources associated with this report. However, resource implications may be associated with the notice of motion.
5.0	Due Regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations
5.1	General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes

	◀ It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations ▶
5.2	Does the proposal relate to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision ◀ No ▶ If yes, please select one of the following: ◀ Choose an item. ▶
5.3	Proposal initiating consultation The consultation 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 Please select the consultation period: ◀ Choose an item. ▶ Rationale:
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs
6.1	Does the proposal relate to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service. ◀ No – The policy / strategy / plan / public service is not influenced by rural needs ▶
7.0	Appendices
7.1	None
8.0	Background Documents
8.1	https://www.justice-ni.gov.uk/publications/department-justice-and-department-communities-update-responses-anti-social-behaviour-consultation

ARC21 JOINT COMMITTEE

Meeting No 108

MINUTES

Friday 28 August 2026

Using MS Teams

Members Present:

Councillor A Bennington (*Chair*)
Councillor M Goodman
Alderman O Gawith
Councillor U Mackin
Councillor A Skinner
Councillor G McKeen (*Deputy Chair*)
Councillor T Andrews
Councillor D Lee-Surginor

Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council
Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council
Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council
Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council
Mid & East Antrim Borough Council
Mid & East Antrim Borough Council
Newry, Mourne & Down District Council
Newry, Mourne & Down District Council

Members' Apologies:

Councillor H Cushinan
Councillor J Cochrane
Councillor C Blaney
Councillor E Thompson
Alderman S Copeland
Councillor M Collins
Councillor E McDonough-Brown
Councillor A Givan
Alderman M Morrow
Councillor C King

Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council
Ards & North Down Borough Council
Ards & North Down Borough Council
Ards & North Down Borough Council
Belfast City Council
Belfast City Council
Belfast City Council
Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council
Mid & East Antrim Borough Council
Newry, Mourne & Down District Council

Officers Present:

M Kelly
H Campbell (*Secretary*)
K Boal
J Green
M Lavery
G Bannister
K Patterson
S Leonard
G Patterson
W Muldrew
R Moore
C Hunter
M Baker
S Murphy

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Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council
Ards & North Down Borough Council
Ards & North Down Borough Council
Belfast City Council
Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council
Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council
Mid & East Antrim Borough Council
Mid & East Antrim Borough Council
Mid & East Antrim Borough Council
Newry, Mourne & Down District Council

Officers' Apologies:

T Walker
A McCann

arc21
Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council

Item 1 - Conflicts of Interest Statement

The Chair read out the Conflicts of Interest Statement, and none were noted.

Action: Noted

Item 2 - Apologies

Apologies were noted.

Action: Noted

The Chair welcomed the new Member, Cllr Skinner, to his first meeting.

Item 3 - Minutes of Joint Committee Meeting 107 held on 25 June 2026

The Joint Committee approved the minutes. Proposed by Ald Gawith, seconded by the Chair, and agreed by all.

Action: Agreed

Item 4 - Matters Arising

There were no other matters arising.

Action: Noted

IN COMMITTEE

The Chair recommended that the meeting would now move "*In Committee*" which was agreed. Proposed by Ald Gawith and seconded by the Chair.

Matters of a confidential and commercially sensitive nature were discussed under these agenda items.

Following discussion on the commercially sensitive matters, the Chair recommended that the meeting would now return to the main agenda, which was approved, but whilst "*In Committee*", there were five matters discussed.

Item 5 - Minutes of Joint Committee Meeting 107 held on 26 June 2026 'in committee' - approved

Item 6 - Matters Arising - noted

Item 7 - Residual Waste Treatment Project - noted

Item 8 - Commercially Sensitive Contract & Procurement Issues - approved

Item 9 - Tender Report - Provision of Services for the Receipt, Storage and Transfer of Mixed Dry Recyclable Material - approved

OUT OF COMMITTEE

Proposed by Ald Gawith and seconded by the Chair.

Item 10 - Contracts & Operations Briefing Report

Ms Boal presented a report to provide the Joint Committee with an update in relation to contracts and operations.

Service Status

She stated that all services had operated well throughout June and July.

Performance

She provided an update on contractor performance across all the contracts and highlighted where some service credits had been applied for turnaround times, the number of overweight vehicles, reporting issues by contractors, and the bring contracts rectification requests issued and serviced.

Health & Safety

The incidents for June and July were noted and actions taken.

She advised that fire remains a significant issue and noted that a Health and Safety workshop for relevant council officers was scheduled for 8 September, involving arc21's external H&S adviser and some learning from contractors that we will report on lessons learned. She also noted ongoing work with recycling officers to identify additional communication measures.

Audits

She reported that the external H&S audit programme continued, with audits undertaken at NWP's Keady and Drumnakelly sites. No actions were identified, and she noted that the majority of issues raised through audits during the year had been addressed.

Rejected Loads

She reported that one rejected load was delivered to Bryson Recycling in June 2026 and a further rejected load in July 2026 due to mixed waste being found in vehicles. She noted that Councils continue to be reminded to raise this issue with their operational teams. She highlighted that, while the overall number of rejected loads remains very low in comparison to the volume managed, each rejection incurs associated costs and requires follow-up actions.

arc21 Contract Tonnages

Details of the tonnages delivered in June and July for the main contracts were provided, along with a comparison against the same period last year and these were discussed more fully in the Waste Tonnage Trends report.

Supplies

A summary of supply orders and deliveries for June and July 2026 was included in Ms Boal's report. She noted that there was one non-conformance during the period, with all other deliveries completed as planned.

Update on the position regarding the Collection of Flexible Plastics

She noted that flexible plastics had been included in the consultation on the future NI Waste Strategy, with mandatory collections originally proposed from 31 March 2027. Following correspondence with the Department, it was confirmed that there will be no mandatory requirement from that date, although councils are still being encouraged to collect flexible plastics separately. A copy of the Department's response was provided for information. She added that this will be taken into account during the development of the MRF contract, with flexible plastics included as an option.

Following discussion, the Joint Committee noted the report. Proposed by Cllr Goodman and seconded by Ald Gawith.

Action: Noted

Item 11 - Waste Tonnage Trends

Ms Boal presented a report comparing tonnages of material received through the arc21 contracts, highlighting trends in increases and decreases over the reporting period.

She noted that:

- Total residual waste tonnages were slightly higher than the previous year, largely due to the inclusion of the NMDDC (legacy Newry) contract, which contributes approximately 2,000 tonnes per month.
- Organic waste tonnages remain largely weather dependent and have not reached the peak levels seen in previous years.
- Combined MRF tonnages were lower than in recent years during May but increased slightly in June and July. These tonnage figures will be used in forecasting for the forthcoming MRF contract, taking into account the potential impacts of the Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) and Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) reforms, which may reduce the volume of material collected through these contracts.
- Textile tonnages continue to show an upward trend, which may reflect reduced acceptance of material by charity shops.

Following discussion, the Joint Committee noted the report. Proposed by the Cllr Goodman and seconded by the Chair.

Action: Noted

Item 12 - Outreach Support

Mr Kelly reported that arc21 had been invited to provide a letter of support for Phase 2 of the RESCUE Regulatory Science and Innovation Network, which seeks to explore regulatory and innovation pathways for the reuse, repurposing and recycling of wind energy assets.

The letter recognised the relevance of the proposed work to circular economy and sustainable resource management objectives and welcomed the collaborative approach being adopted by the consortium.

He noted that due to the funding application deadline, the Chair had approved the submission of the letter in advance. Members were therefore asked to retrospectively approve the submission of the letter of support for the RESCUE Regulatory Science and Innovation Network Phase 2 funding application.

Following discussion, the Joint Committee approved the recommendations. Proposed by the Ald Gawith and seconded by the Chair, and agreed by all.

Action: Noted

Item 13 - Vapes

Ms Boal presented a report outlining the current legislative position on vape disposal, including recent changes to producer and retailer responsibilities, vape-related waste statistics, battery fire risks, electric vehicle battery disposal, and awareness-raising initiatives.

She advised that vapes are now classified under a dedicated WEEE Category 15, with producers responsible for the full costs of recycling their products. Retailers selling vapes, both in-store and online, are also required to provide take-back facilities. Enforcement and monitoring responsibilities are understood to rest with the Office for Product Safety and Standards (OPSS).

She reported that in support of disposal Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) currently provide vape recycling facilities and that more than one tonne of vape-related material has been collected to date.

The report also included statistics from National Recycling by Collect and Recycle relating to disposable e-cigarettes, disposal methods for pods and disposable vapes, battery fires, electric vehicle batteries, and the marketing of vapes as recyclable.

Ms Boal highlighted a recent OPSS awareness campaign and ongoing discussions among arc21 recycling officers regarding future communications. Information has been circulated to officers and further work is planned to coordinate a joint awareness-raising approach across the arc21 area. Additional information is also being sought from the Department on any proposed national awareness campaign.

Ald Gawith inquired whether vapes can be disposed of in battery recycling points and requested clarification on this matter.

Cllr Lee-Surginor suggested that the OPSS could provide information to new vape retailers on their legal obligations.

The Chair queried whether councils' environmental health officers had any enforcement role or statutory responsibility in relation to vape take-back requirements. Ms Boal advised that she had been informed by one council that it was not currently undertaking enforcement activity and that she was uncertain as to councils' enforcement responsibilities. She also noted that she was unsure of the extent to which retailers were providing the required take-back facilities but would be happy to discuss the matter further with councils.

In terms of marking vapes as 'recyclable' Ms Boal expressed her concern at the householder disposing of them in the recycling bin, which is not appropriate and could exacerbate existing issues. She stressed the importance of increasing public awareness and noted that, while councils have a role to play, wider national support is also required.

She advised that she would seek further information and make contact with the OPSS.

Mr Kelly added that a letter had been sent to Katrina Godfrey, Permanent Secretary at DAERA, requesting a meeting to discuss opportunities for collaboration and joint action on the issue.

Following discussion, the Joint Committee noted the report. Proposed by Ald Gawith and seconded by Cllr Lee-Surginor.

Action: Noted

Item 14 - Customer Survey

Ms Boal provided the annual customer survey results which included feedback from Members, officers and Chief Executives, along with an overview of the education programme and workshop evaluation forms for 2025/26 in relation to work carried out by the arc21 Waste Promotion Officer.

She reported that overall the results had been positive and any actions arising will be followed up internally with the Senior Management Team.

Following discussion, the Joint Committee noted the report. Proposed by Ald Gawith and seconded by Cllr Goodman.

Action: Noted

Item 15 - AOB

There was no further business.

Item 16 - Next Meeting and AGM Thursday 24 September 2026 at 10.30am, hosted by Ards and North Down Borough Council in the Craig Room, Bangor Castle (City Hall), Castle Park Road, Bangor BT20 4TF

The Chair advised that the next meeting and AGM was scheduled to be held on 24 September and encouraged all to attend.

Action: Noted

Date: 24 September 2026

Chair: *A Bennington*

Report to:	S&E Committee
Date of Meeting:	21 October 2026
Subject:	Christmas Holiday Arrangements for Refuse collection and Household Recycling Centres.
Reporting Officer and Job Title:	Sinead Trainor, Assistant Director, Environment
Contact Officer and Job Title:	Sinead Trainor, Assistant Director, Environment

Purpose of Report:

For Noting

1.0	Purpose and Background															
1.1	The purpose of this report is to provide the Sustainability and Environment Committee with details of the alternative refuse collections over Christmas 2026 and the New Year period along with the opening and closing dates of all Household Recycling Centres (HRC) sites across both legacy areas, as outlined in Appendix 1. As previously approved by S&E Committee in March 2026, Public Holidays applying to the 2026/27 financial year have been reviewed alongside operational provision for Refuse Collection services and HRC sites. Revised operational arrangements were agreed with staff and waste receipting centres to ensure operational arrangements are coordinated. These revised arrangements are communicated to Householders through their individual household Bin Collection Calendars and on print and social media.															
2.0	Key Issues															
2.1	The refuse collection service will not operate on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day. Alternative collection arrangements are outlined in Appendix 1 and summarised in the table below: <table><tr><th>Public Holiday</th><th>Date of Public Holiday</th><th>Alternative Refuse Collection Day</th></tr><tr><td>Christmas Day</td><td>Friday 25/12/2026</td><td>Newry – Saturday 19 December 2026 Downpatrick – Monday 28 December 2026</td></tr><tr><td>St Stephens Day</td><td>Saturday 26/12/2026</td><td>*Newry – No Collections *Downpatrick - No Collections</td></tr><tr><td>Statutory Day</td><td>Monday 28/12/2026</td><td>*No Collection in Downpatrick Normal Collection in Newry</td></tr><tr><td>New Years Day</td><td>Friday 01/01/2027</td><td>Newry – Saturday 02 January 2027 Downpatrick – Monday 04 January 2027</td></tr></table> * Mondays are a normal nonservice day in Down. Saturdays are a normal nonservice day in Down and Newry	Public Holiday	Date of Public Holiday	Alternative Refuse Collection Day	Christmas Day	Friday 25/12/2026	Newry – Saturday 19 December 2026 Downpatrick – Monday 28 December 2026	St Stephens Day	Saturday 26/12/2026	*Newry – No Collections *Downpatrick - No Collections	Statutory Day	Monday 28/12/2026	*No Collection in Downpatrick Normal Collection in Newry	New Years Day	Friday 01/01/2027	Newry – Saturday 02 January 2027 Downpatrick – Monday 04 January 2027
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2.2	HRC sites will close at 3pm on Christmas Eve. HRC sites are closed on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day. See detail within Appendix 1 and summarised in the table below: <table><tr><th>Public Holiday</th><th>Date of Public Holiday</th><th>HRCs</th></tr><tr><td>Christmas Day</td><td>Friday 25/12/2026</td><td>CLOSED</td></tr></table>	Public Holiday	Date of Public Holiday	HRCs	Christmas Day	Friday 25/12/2026	CLOSED									
Public Holiday	Date of Public Holiday	HRCs														
Christmas Day	Friday 25/12/2026	CLOSED														

	St Stephens Day	Saturday 26/12/2026	CLOSED
	Statutory Day	Monday 28/12/2026	Open 09:30 – 16:30
	New Years Day	Friday 01/01/2027	CLOSED
	Members should note that due to increased usage of the HRC sites at this time and to accommodate servicing arrangements, restrictions may be placed on acceptance of waste streams on a site-by-site basis.		
2.3	Street Cleansing services will not operate on Christmas Day. All Public Conveniences will be closed on Christmas Day and will open as normal on Boxing Day and New Year's Day.		
2.4	Marketing will publish a Public Notice to inform residents about Christmas and New Year bin collection schedules and Household Recycling Centre (HRC) opening hours. Updated collection calendars are also available on the Council website to advise residents of any changes to their usual collection days. Additionally, to ensure residents are fully aware of alternative collection arrangements, details will be printed on stickers and applied to the relevant receptacles (black, blue/green, and brown bins) prior to the festive period.		
3.0	Recommendations		
3.1	Members are asked to note the content of this report.		
4.0	Resource Implications		
4.1	Costs associated with Refuse collection and information to residents are factored within budgets. There are perceived resource implications relating to the refuse staffing required on the alternative collection days; namely Newry staff on Saturday 02 January 2027 and Downpatrick staff on Monday 04 January 2027.		
5.0	Due Regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations		
5.1	General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes ☐ It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations ☐		
5.2	Does the proposal relate to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision ☐ No ☐ If yes, please select one of the following:		

	◀ Choose an item. ▶
5.3	Proposal initiating consultation The consultation 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 Please select the consultation period: ◀ Choose an item. ▶ Rationale:
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs
6.1	Does the proposal relate to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service. ◀ No – The policy / strategy / plan / public service is not influenced by rural needs ▶
7.0	Appendices
7.1	Appendix 1 - Schedule of Public Holliday Arrangements
8.0	Background Documents
8.1	None

Appendix 1 - Schedule of Public Holiday Arrangements

Public Holiday	Date of Public Holiday	Alternative Refuse Collection Day	Household Recycling Centre Arrangements
Easter Monday	Monday 06/04/2026	*No Collection in Down Normal Collection in Newry	Open 09:30 – 16:30
Easter Tuesday	Tuesday 07/04/2026	Normal Collection	Open 09:30 – 16:30
May Day	Monday 04/05/2026	*No Collection in Down Normal Collection in Newry	Open 09:30 – 16:30
Late May Bank Holiday	Monday 25/05/2026	*No Collection in Down Normal Collection in Newry	Open 09:30 – 16:30
12 July	Monday 13/07/2026	*No Collection in Down Normal Collection in Newry	Open 09:30 – 16:30
13 July	Tuesday 14/07/2026	Normal Collection	Open 09:30 – 16:30
August Bank Holiday	Monday 31/08/2026	*No Collection in Down Normal Collection in Newry	Open 09:30 – 16:30
Christmas Eve	Thursday 24/12/2026	Normal Collection	Open 09:30 – 15:00

Christmas Day	Friday 25/12/2026	Newry – Saturday 19 December 2026 Downpatrick – Monday 28 December 2026	CLOSED
St Stephens Day	Saturday 26/12/2026	*Newry – No Collections *Downpatrick - No Collections	CLOSED
Statutory Day	Monday 28/12/2026	*No Collection in Down Normal Collection in Newry	Open 09:30 – 16:30
New Years Day	Friday 01/01/2027	Newry – Saturday 02 January 2027 Downpatrick – Monday 04 January 2027	CLOSED
St Patricks Day	Wednesday 17/03/2027	Normal Collection	CLOSED
Easter Monday	Monday 29/03/2027	*No collection in Down Normal Collection in Newry	Open 09:30 – 16:30

* Mondays are a normal nonservice day in Down. Saturdays are a normal nonservice day in Down and Newry

Report to:	Sustainability & Environment Committee
Date of Meeting:	21 st October 2026
Subject:	Christmas Illuminations 2026/27
Reporting Officer and Job Title:	Conor Sage Assistant Director Sustainability
Contact Officer and Job Title:	Aidan Mallon Head of Maintenance

Purpose of Report:

For Noting

1.0	Purpose and Background
1.1	The purpose of this report is to provide S&E Committee with an update on the 2026 Christmas Illumination programme for 2026.
2.0	Key Issues
2.1	The erection of Christmas illuminations by the Council-appointed contractor commenced in the first week of October 2026. However, work to trees and electrical infrastructure are undertaken throughout the year by Council maintenance teams. The Sustainable Tree Programme, which has been ongoing since 2018, has provided a total of 32 trees at various locations across the district. This initiative was introduced to support sustainability objectives and reduce reliance on the diminishing availability of high-quality cut Christmas trees. The delivery of the Christmas illumination programme requires significant planning, preparation and ongoing maintenance. Planning for each Christmas season begins in January and continues throughout the year. During the summer months, lights and display elements are tested, repaired and prepared for installation, with erection commencing from October to ensure all displays are operational in advance of local Christmas switch-on events. Many of these events are also supported by the Sustainability and Environment (S&E) Department. During 2026, the S&E Maintenance Department installed new electrical connection boxes at three locations: Kilkeel, Hilltown and Camlough, further enhancing the infrastructure supporting the Christmas illumination programme. Work continues throughout the Christmas period to identify and repair any faults that arise. Following the festive season, there is a requirement to ensure that all Christmas lights are switched off by 7 January and removed, tested and returned to storage before the end of the third week of January 2027. While Council officers play a central role in delivering the programme, its successful implementation is very much a collaborative effort involving Council officers, the Council-appointed electrical contractor and other contractors who contribute to the installation, maintenance and removal of the displays.

	The current contract for the provision of Council Christmas illuminations is due to expire this year. Consequently, a procurement exercise will be required to appoint a new contractor to ensure the continued delivery of this service in future years.
2.2	Council expenditure on Christmas illuminations is revenue spend. Expenditure is utilised to appoint a contractor to test, repair, erect and remove Christmas illuminations. Expenditure is also used for the payment of electricity charges arising from the Christmas display. Please see Appendix 1 for a summary of projected revenue spend and electricity charges for the 2026/27 Illuminations programme.
2.3	As part of the review of Christmas illuminations, several area electrical connections will need to be upgraded for 2026 Christmas period. This will be carried out by Council Maintenance Department, the appointed contractor and DfI Street Lighting The Sustainable Christmas tree project was reviewed, as there have been instances where cut trees have been needed to replace sustainable trees that have not survived, this process has enhanced several areas, and the sustainable tree project has been further reviewed for 2026.
3.0	Recommendations
3.1	Members are requested to note the contents of this report.
4.0	Resource Implications
4.1	Costs associated with this contract will be funded through the Councils Annual Maintenance Budget. Labour resources will be provided by existing staff.
5.0	Due Regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations
5.1	General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes ☐ It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations ☐
5.2	Does the proposal relate to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision ☐ No ☐ If yes, please select one of the following: ☐ Choose an item. ☐
5.3	Proposal initiating consultation

	The consultation 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 Please select the consultation period: « Choose an item. » Rationale:
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs
6.1	Does the proposal relate to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service. « No – The policy / strategy / plan / public service is not influenced by rural needs »
7.0	Appendices Appendix 1 – Christmas Illumination Resources
7.1	N/A
8.0	Background Documents
8.1	N/A