



**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE  
HELD IN MOSSLEY MILL ON MONDAY 9 DECEMBER 2024 AT 6.00 PM**

**In the Chair** : Councillor J Archibald-Brown

**Committee Members Present (In Person)** : Aldermen - T Campbell and M Magill  
Councillors – A Bennington, H Cushinan, S Flanagan,  
R Foster, R Lynch, and B Webb

**Public Speakers** : Eamon Loughery In Support (Consultant, Item 4.1)  
Jim Maneely In Support (Agent, Item 4.1)  
Matthew Wilson In Support (Applicant, Item 4.2)  
Councillor Roisin Lynch In Support (Item 4.4)  
Jane McTaggart In Support (Applicant, Item 4.4)  
Lynsey Carmichael In Support (Applicant, Item 4.5)  
Robert Logan In Support (Agent, Item 4.5)  
Jackie Green In Support (Applicant, Item 4.7)  
Tom Stokes In Support (Agent, Item 4.7)

**Officers Present** : Director of Economic Development and Planning - M McAlister  
Deputy Director of Planning & Building Control – S Mossman  
Council Lawyer – A McDowell  
Head of Planning Development Management – B Diamond  
Senior Planning Officer – J McKendry  
Senior Planning Officer – A Wilson  
ICT Helpdesk Officer – C Bell  
Member Services Officer – L Irwin

## CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

The Chairperson welcomed Committee Members to the December Planning Committee Meeting. The Chairperson reminded all present of the protocol for speaking, timeframes accorded and of the audio recording procedures.

The Chairperson expressed deepest condolences to Councillor Kinnear on the passing of her partner.

The Chairperson advised that Addendum reports relating to Items 4.4, and 4.6, the Site Visit report, and an updated speakers' list had been circulated to Members in advance of the meeting, with hard copies being made available in the Chamber. She further advised Members that Item 4.3 had been withdrawn by the applicant.

The Council Lawyer reminded Members about a number of issues in relation to their role as Members of the Planning Committee and their obligations under the Code of Conduct.

### 1 APOLOGIES

Councillor S Cosgrove  
Councillor R Kinnear  
Councillor AM Logue

### 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Items 4.2 and 4.5 – Councillor Archibald-Brown  
Item 4.4 – Councillor Lynch

### 3 INTRODUCTION OF NEW STAFF

Richard McMichael – Planning Assistant, Enforcement

The Chairperson congratulated Senior Planning Officer Emma Aldridge on her appointment as Chair of the Royal Town Planning Institute, Northern Ireland Branch.

## PART ONE PLANNING APPLICATIONS

### ITEM 4.1 APPLICATION NO: LA03/2023/0474/F

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<b>PROPOSAL:</b>	Partial demolition and extension to existing supermarket to include additional retail space, deli and internal seating, including works to existing forecourt to reduce forecourt canopy from 3 to 2 islands and relocation of existing car wash and provision of electrical vehicle charging
<b>SITE/LOCATION:</b>	Maxol Service Station, 124 Monkstown Road, Newtownabbey, BT37 0LE
<b>APPLICANT:</b>	Maxol Oil Ltd

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Ashleigh Wilson, Senior Planning Officer, introduced the Planning Report to the Committee and made a recommendation to grant planning permission.

The undernoted public speakers addressed the Committee and responded to enquiries from Members as requested –

Eamon Loughery	In Support/Consultant
Jim Maneely	In Support/Agent
John Kennedy	In Support/Applicant (questions)

Proposed by Councillor Flanagan  
Seconded by Councillor Webb that planning permission be granted.

On the proposal being put to the meeting 9 Members voted in favour, 0 against and 0 abstentions, it was unanimously agreed

**that planning permission be granted for the application subject to the Conditions set out in the Planning Report.**

*ACTION BY: Sharon Mossman, Deputy Director of Planning & Building Control*

*Having declared an interest in Items 4.2 and 4.5, the Chairperson, Councillor Archibald-Brown left the Chamber and Councillor Foster, assumed the role of Chairperson at this point.*

#### **ITEM 4.2 APPLICATION NO: LA03/2024/0541/F**

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<b>PROPOSAL:</b>	Garage/store
<b>SITE/LOCATION:</b>	21B Carngraney Road, Templepatrick, Ballyclare, BT39 0EZ
<b>APPLICANT:</b>	Matthew Wilson

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Ashleigh Wilson, Senior Planning Officer, introduced the Planning Report to the Committee and made a recommendation to refuse planning permission.

The undernoted public speaker addressed the Committee and responded to enquiries from Members as requested –

Matthew Wilson	In Support/Applicant
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Proposed by Alderman Campbell  
Seconded by Councillor Bennington that planning permission be refused.

On the proposal being put to the meeting 8 Members voted in favour, 0 against and 0 abstentions, it was unanimously agreed

**that planning permission be refused for the following reason:**

- 1. The proposal is contrary to the policy provisions of the Strategic Planning Policy Statement (SPPS) and Policy CTY 1 of Planning Policy Statement 21 Sustainable**

**Development in the Countryside, in that there are no overriding reasons why this development is essential in this rural location.**

*ACTION BY: Sharon Mossman, Deputy Director of Planning & Building Control*

**ITEM 4.5 APPLICATION NO: LA03/2024/0585/F**

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**PROPOSAL:** Retrospective extension to residential curtilage and erection of boundary fence

**SITE/LOCATION:** 29 Anderson Park, Doagh, Ballyclare, BT39 0PA

**APPLICANT:** Robert and Lynsey Carmichael

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Johanne McKendry, Senior Planning Officer, introduced the Planning Report to the Committee and made a recommendation to refuse retrospective planning permission.

The undernoted public speakers addressed the Committee and responded to enquiries from Members as requested –

Lynsey Carmichael  
Robert Logan

In Support/Applicant  
In Support/Agent

Proposed by Alderman Campbell

Seconded by Councillor Webb that retrospective planning permission be refused.

On the proposal being put to the meeting 4 Members voted in favour, 1 against and 3 abstentions, and it was agreed

**that retrospective planning permission be refused for the following reason:**

- 1. The proposal is contrary to the provisions contained within Policy OS 1 of PPS 8: Open Space, Sport and Outdoor Recreation in that it has not been demonstrated that the redevelopment would bring substantial community benefits that outweighs the loss of open space or that the loss of open space will not have an impact the amenity, character or biodiversity of the area.**

*ACTION BY: Sharon Mossman, Deputy Director of Planning & Building Control*

*Councillor Archibald-Brown returned to the Chamber at this point and resumed as Chair.*

**ITEM 4.3 APPLICATION NO: LA03/2024/0733/O**

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**PROPOSAL:** Dwelling and garage

**SITE/LOCATION:** Approx. 100m West of 24 Lylehill Road East, Ballyclare, BT39 0HQ

**APPLICANT:** Grace Meekin

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The Chairperson advised that the application had been withdrawn by the applicant.

*Having declared an interest, Councillor Lynch stepped off the Planning Committee in order to speak on Item 4.4 and left the Chamber during the discussion.*

**ITEM 4.4 APPLICATION NO: LA03/2024/0487/F**

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<b>PROPOSAL:</b>	Change of Use from garden room to hair salon (Retrospective, temporary permission)
<b>SITE/LOCATION:</b>	14 Magheralane Road, Ballygrooby, Randalstown, BT41 2NT
<b>APPLICANT:</b>	Jane McTaggart

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Ashleigh Wilson, Senior Planning Officer, introduced the Planning Report and associated addendum report to the Committee and made a recommendation to refuse retrospective planning permission.

The undernoted Elected Member and public speaker addressed the Committee and responded to enquiries from Members as requested –

Councillor Roisin Lynch	In Support/Agent
Jane McTaggart	In Support/Applicant

Proposed by Alderman Campbell

Seconded by Councillor Flanagan that retrospective planning permission be refused.

On the proposal being put to the meeting 7 Members voted in favour, 1 against and 0 abstentions, and it was agreed

**that retrospective planning permission be refused for the following reasons:**

- 1. The proposal is contrary to the provisions of the Strategic Planning Policy Statement in that the retailing element of the development lies outside any designated town centre and it has not been demonstrated that a suitable site does not exist within the town centre or other retailing area.**
- 2. The proposal is contrary to the provisions of the Strategic Planning Policy Statement and Policy AMP 2: Access to Public Roads of Planning Policy Statement 3, in that it would, if permitted, prejudice the safety and convenience of road users since the visibility splays of 2.0 metres by 60 metres from the proposed access cannot be provided in accordance with the standards contained in Development Control Advice Note (DCAN) 15.**

*ACTION BY: Sharon Mossman, Deputy Director of Planning & Building Control*

*Councillor Lynch returned to the Chamber and resumed her seat on the Planning Committee following Item 4.4.*

**ITEM 4.6 APPLICATION NO: LA03/2024/0546/S54**

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**PROPOSAL:** Erection of dwelling and garage (Proposed change of house type from that previously approved under LA03/2018/0634/F, to include external alterations and re-positioning of dwelling) (Variation of Condition 2 from planning approval LA03/2022/0568/F – Two windows on first floor northwestern elevation, shall have restricted opening limited to an opening height of 1.4m above finished floor level.

**SITE/LOCATION:** 11 Lenamore Avenue, Newtownabbey, BT37 0PF

**APPLICANT:** Angus Patterson

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Johanne McKendry, Senior Planning Officer, introduced the Planning Report and associated Addendum Report to the Committee and made a recommendation to grant Section 54 planning permission.

The Senior Planning Officer advised that the application had been listed for refusal, however belatedly the applicant had addressed the planning issues for refusal by agreeing restricted opening height for the windows of 1.4 m above finished floor level (dressing room) and 0.8m above finished floor level (bedroom) and the application was now before Committee for approval.

There were no public speakers to address this item.

Proposed by Councillor Webb

Seconded by Alderman Magill that Section 54 planning permission be granted.

On the proposal being put to the meeting 9 Members voted in favour, 0 against and 0 abstentions, and it was unanimously agreed

**that planning permission be granted for the application.**

*ACTION BY: Sharon Mossman, Deputy Director of Planning & Building Control*

**ITEM 4.7 APPLICATION NO: LA03/2024/0369/F**

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**PROPOSAL:** 2 dwellings

**SITE/LOCATION:** Lands approximately 30m east of No. 51 Trenchill Road, Ballyclare, BT39 9JJ

**APPLICANT:** Stafford Houston

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Johanne McKendry, Senior Planning Officer, introduced the Planning Report to the Committee and made a recommendation to refuse planning permission.

The undernoted public speakers addressed the Committee and responded to enquiries from Members as requested –

Tom Stokes  
Jackie Green

In Support/Agent  
In Support/Applicant

Proposed by Councillor Foster

Seconded by Councillor Flanagan that planning permission be granted for the application in accordance with Policy CTY 13 of Planning Policy Statement 21 as it can be visually integrated into the surrounding landscape and will not a prominent feature in the countryside. Conditions in relation to screening to be delegated to Officers.

On the proposal being put to the meeting 6 Members voted in favour, 3 against and 0 abstentions

In favour: Councillors - Archibald-Brown, Bennington, Cushinan, Flanagan, Foster and Lynch

Against: Aldermen - Campbell and Magill  
Councillor Webb

**it was agreed that planning permission be granted for the application in accordance with Policy CTY 13 of Planning Policy Statement 21 as it can be visually integrated into the surrounding landscape and will not a prominent feature in the countryside. Conditions in relation to screening to be delegated to Officers.**

The reasons for the decision contrary to the Officers' recommendation were that the application was deemed acceptable because integration into the surrounding landscape was a subjective view and in this localised area was deemed acceptable.

*ACTION BY: Sharon Mossman, Deputy Director of Planning & Building Control*

## **PART TWO OTHER PLANNING MATTERS**

### **ITEM 4.8**

#### **P/PLAN/1 DELEGATED PLANNING DECISIONS AND APPEALS NOVEMBER 2024**

##### **1. Purpose**

**The purpose of this report was to update Members on the planning applications decided under delegated powers and decisions issued by the Planning Appeals Commission (PAC) in November 2024.**

##### **2. Delegated Decisions of Council**

A list of planning decisions issued by Officers during November 2024 under delegated powers together with information relating to planning appeals were circulated for Members' information.

##### **3. Planning Appeal Commission Decisions**

Two appeals (2) were allowed subject to conditions, during November 2024 by the PAC.

Planning application: LA03/2021/0745/F  
PAC reference: 2022/A0215  
Proposed Development: Residential development comprising 33 no. units (19 no. Category 1, 3 Wheelchair Units and 11 no. General Needs), access, parking, landscaping and associated siteworks  
Location: Lands at 285-291 Shore Road, Newtownabbey  
Date of Appeal Submission: 21/04/2023  
Date of Appeal Decision: 12/11/2024

Planning application: LA03/2022/0326/F  
PAC reference: 2022/A0168  
Proposed Development: Retention of building for use as embroidery workshop and office  
Location: 22 Hollybrook Road, Randalstown  
Date of Appeal Submission: 30/01/2023  
Date of Appeal Decision: 26/11/2024

A copy of the decisions was circulated.

One appeal (1) was dismissed during November 2024 by the PAC.

Planning application: LA03/2023/0663/F  
PAC reference: 2024/A0029  
Proposed Development: Temporary mobile home (retrospective).  
Location: Land 25m south of 47 Knockagh Road, Newtownabbey.  
Date of Appeal Submission: 20/06/2024  
Date of Appeal Decision: 27/11/2024

A copy of the decisions was circulated.

Proposed by Councillor Webb  
Seconded by Councillor Flanagan and agreed that

**the report be noted.**

*NO ACTION*

#### **ITEM 4.9**

### **P/PLAN/1 PROPOSAL OF APPLICATION NOTICES FOR MAJOR DEVELOPMENT NOVEMBER 2024**

#### **1. Purpose**

**The purpose of this report was to update Members on the Proposal of Application Notices received during November 2024.**



## 2. Background

Under Section 27 of the 2011 Planning Act prospective applicants for all development proposals which fell into the Major development category were required to

- give at least 12 weeks' notice to the Council that an application for planning permission was to be submitted.
- consult the community in advance of submitting a Major development planning application.

Where, following the 12-week period set down in statute, an application was submitted this must be accompanied by a Pre-Application Community consultation report outlining the consultation that had been undertaken regarding the application and detailing how this had influenced the proposal submitted.

## 3. Proposal of Application Notices

<b>PAN Reference:</b>	LA03/2024/0819/PAN
<b>Proposal:</b>	Proposed extension of existing hard rock quarry and inert landfill on previously worked lands approximately 200m south west of existing quarry/landfill (approved by U/2014/0096/F). Proposed site operations involve quarrying of bedrock (including blasting) to a maximum depth of 260mOD and concurrent landfilling of void space created by the quarrying with inert wastes, and associated activities, with land restoration to create a sympathetic final profile across the wider site including realignment of haul roads, new site office/welfare facilities, drainage control measures and environmental monitoring systems.
<b>Location:</b>	59 Upper Hightown Road, Belfast, BT14 8RR
<b>Applicant:</b>	Macwill Service
<b>Date Received:</b>	12 November 2024
<b>12 week expiry:</b>	4 March 2025

Proposed by Councillor Webb  
Seconded by Councillor Flanagan and agreed that

**the report be noted.**

*NO ACTION*

### **ITEM 4.10**

#### **P/PLAN/90 PLANNING APPLICATION VALIDATION CHECKLISTS**

### 1. Purpose

**The purpose of this report was to provide Members with an update on the new Planning Application Validation Checklists.**

2. Background

Members were previously advised that the Department for Infrastructure made a Statutory Rule entitled “The Planning (General Development Procedure) (Amendment) Order (NI) 2024 which would come into operation on 1 April 2025. Officers engaged with Planning Committee Members in relation to the proposed Council's Validation Checklist. In addition, the Department had held a workshop for stakeholders and was bringing forward a practice note for planning application validation checklists. The legislation would also bring forward the right to appeal a non-validation decision and the Department had advised that the Planning Appeals Commission was considering guidance on this matter.

3. Key issues

The Department for Infrastructure had made a Statutory Rule entitled “The Planning (General Development Procedure) (Amendment) Order (NI) (GDPO) 2024 which would come into operation on 1 April 2025.

Officers had engaged with Planning Committee Members in relation to the proposed Council's Validation Checklist. In addition, the Department had held a workshop for stakeholders and were producing a practice note for planning application validation checklists.

Councils would need to consider specifying a Direction in writing and publishing a checklist of information requirements on their websites to ensure that the validation checklist prepared becomes mandatory and that applicants had the right to appeal. Where a Direction was not made, the validation checklist would largely remain voluntary in nature bar the limited statutory requirements as set out in the GDPO.

The Department was also recommending that in the interests of stakeholder buy in, Councils take into account the views of the local community in the preparation of their planning validation checklists. While not a statutory requirement it was recommended that, proposed checklists (or later revisions) were subject to engagement with the local community, including with statutory and other planning consultees, applicants, and planning agents. It would be a matter for Councils to decide the manner and approach to such engagement.

Considerations for Elected Members include that during this period the Council would move towards adoption of its Plan Strategy and a period of transition would follow. It was anticipated that this would also result in a period of transition for applicants and developers regarding applications being submitted and in the planning system. As indicated in the previous month's budget report, as with the majority of Council's in Northern Ireland, there had been a decline in the number of planning applications being submitted which has had an impact on planning income. Therefore, Officers propose the attached timeline in Annex A for information and would provide an update to Elected Members in due course. A copy of the proposed draft validation checklist was circulated for information.

Proposed by Councillor Webb  
Seconded by Councillor Flanagan and agreed that

**the report be noted.**

NO ACTION

## **ANNEX A**

<b>Stage</b>	
January 2025	Workshop with stakeholders and roll out of trial validation list. Advert would be placed to invite public to drop in information sessions.
February 2025	Trial of validation list and stakeholder engagement to continue.
March/April 2025	Feedback, final validation list and agreed timeline for Direction brought to Planning Committee for consideration.

### **ITEM 4.11**

#### **P/PLAN/1 LAUNCH OF COASTAL CHANGE INFORMATION TOOL**

##### **1. Purpose**

**The purpose of this report was to advise Members that the Department of Agricultural, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) had now launched a Coastal Change Information Tool on the Northern Ireland Coastal Observatory mapviewer.**

##### **2. Background**

The Northern Ireland Coastal Observatory was a platform that had been created to collate, store, display and share coastal data across Northern Ireland. DAERA had been addressing the shortfall of scientifically robust baseline data on how the Northern Ireland coastline was changing and over the past few years a concerted effort had been made to build the current evidence base.

As part of this effort, on 6 November 2024, the Council as a Coastal Forum Working Group member, was advised by DAERA that a new extension to the Northern Ireland Coastal Observatory mapviewer had gone live, which detailed how the coast was changing. This new tool could be found via the following link: [Maps | Northern Ireland Coastal Observatory](#).

##### **3. Key Issues**

The Coastal Change Information Tool, created by Ulster University, provided over 140 contextual information pop-outs around the coast, helping to explain the observed shoreline change dynamics. Each information point contained the following details:

- A description of the historic patterns of shoreline change;
- An interpretation of the reasons for the long-term changes observed;

- Identification of features of particular importance to shoreline dynamics; and
- A statement of possible future shoreline behaviour.

Proposed by Councillor Webb

Seconded by Councillor Flanagan and agreed that

**the report be noted.**

*NO ACTION*

## **ITEM 4.12**

### **P/PLAN/1, P/FP/LDP/96 UPDATE ON LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2030, DRAFT PLAN STRATEGY ADOPTION, AND DRAFT LOCAL POLICIES PLAN UPDATE**

#### **1. Purpose**

**The purpose of this report was to provide Planning Committee Members with an update on the Council's Draft Plan Strategy, which was the first part of the Council's new Local Development Plan, specifically preparation for adoption, and progress on the Draft Local Policies Plan, specifically consultant-led assessment on range of topics.**

#### **2. Introduction/Background**

##### Draft Plan Strategy, Adoption

Members were reminded that a report was presented to Planning Committee on 28 October 2024 which set out the stages required during the interim period before the eventual Adoption of the Council's Draft Plan Strategy (DPS).

Members were advised that Officers had updated the DPS document to reflect the ninety three (93) modifications that were set out within the Department for Infrastructures (DfI) Direction, Schedule 1. A working draft of this had been forwarded to Shared Environmental Service (SES) regarding the requirement for an updated Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA). Once complete, these and other assessments (Equality (Section 75) Screening, and Rural Needs Impact) would be subject to public consultation, and in relation to the HRA, formal consultation with DAERA (in its role as a statutory consultee).

An update of the preparatory stages prior to Adoption would be presented to Members in due course.

##### Draft Local Policies Plan

Officers continue to engage with consultants on various work streams relating to the preparation of the Draft Local Policies Plan (DLPP) including:

- Strategic Landscape - Consideration of draft Local Landscape Policy Areas (LLPAs) and Strategic Landscape Policy Areas (SLPAs);

- Strategic Homes – An inception meeting took place between Officers and the appointed consultant (Nexus Planning) on 15 November 2024. An update of the assessment would be brought to Members in due course.

### Strategic Homes Stakeholder Engagement

The consultant led study in relation to Homes would require a robust methodology to inform Elected Members' decisions in relation to the zoning of housing within the Borough. As such, stakeholder engagement was critical. Consequently, the consultant proposes to form an 'expert panel' to advise on the appropriateness and verify assumptions around methodologies, to allow for their consistent application. Although full details of the process were yet to be finalised by the consultants, it was anticipated that this would be a targeted, technical process and not time intensive.

At this early stage it was anticipated that the panel would consist of Council Officers, key consultees to the planning process and members of the development and housing industries, represented through relevant umbrella trade groupings. It was also recommended at this early stage of the process that the Chair and Vice Chair of the Planning Committee (who also sat on the Local Development Plan Steering Group) be invited onto the panel.

In addition, Officers continued to progress the evidence base for Strategic Employment lands, to include data to ensure the Local Development Plan (LDP) was protecting and maintaining a range and quality of employment lands that facilitates business growth, promotes economic diversification, and protects the Borough's Strategic Employment Locations (SEL) and Local Employment Sites (LES). Officers were finalising the latest 2023-2024 Annual Employment Lands Monitor, and this would be shared with Members in due course, and subject to agreement, published on our website for public information purposes.

### Supplementary Planning Guidance

Members were reminded that the Draft Plan Strategy committed the Council to bring forward, as appropriate, a range of supplementary planning documents (SPGs) to support the implementation of the LDP together with advice notes and information to assist applicants in the planning process (DPS, para 1.10, page 19). Officers were currently drafting and SPG relating to Affordable Housing Planning Applications and a positive planning note in relation to Swift Birds in New Development. These would be shared with Members in due course, and it was anticipated both would be subject to a short public consultation period and publication of the final versions was on the Council's website.

Proposed by Councillor Webb

Seconded by Alderman Campbell and agreed that

**the report be noted and the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Planning Committee be invited to sit on the expert panel being established to develop the methodology for housing study work.**

*ACTION BY:* Simon Thompson, Local Development Plan and Enforcement Manager

## ITEM 4.13

### P/PLAN/1 ROYAL TOWN PLANNING INSTITUTE (NI) SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES 2025

#### 1. Purpose

**The purpose of this report was to advise Members of the proposed Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) (NI) activities/events and sponsorship opportunities for 2025.**

#### 2. Introduction/Background

The RTPI was the professional body representing planners in the United Kingdom and Ireland, promoting and developing policy affecting planning and the build environment, and offering a comprehensive programme of events and accredited training for members as well as an awards programme.

Each year, in addition to their annual events (dinner, conference and law update) RTPI ran a varied and interesting mix of online and in person CPD events. The RTPI NI Conference attracts over 100 people each year. To coincide with the new format of the RTPI Awards for Planning Excellence they also hold a lunchtime awards ceremony in June to celebrate Northern Ireland award winners. As well as offering a growing CPD programme, RTPI Northern Ireland was also working on activities to promote planning as a career with key partners across Northern Ireland.

#### 3. Summary

RTPI NI planned to build on their successful CPD programme and to do this were offering the opportunity to sponsor key events and activities. All their sponsorship packages include public thanks at the relevant event and a mention on social media.

In the circulated document were details of proposed activities, and where appropriate the financial value of this support. However, it was not only financial contributions which were being sought: speakers, venues and other contributions were also needed for events and activities.

Proposed activities for RTPI Events 2025:

NI Awards for Planning Excellence open for entries	16 January
NI Annual Dinner	6 March, HMS Caroline
NI Welcome Event/Awards Announcement	9 June, Ulster University
NI Annual Conference	10 September, Europa Hotel
NI Annual Planning Law Update	17 November, W5

*(Please note some of these dates and venues may be subject to change)*

Given the success of attendance and recognition for Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council as a result of in attending last year's event being the first and only Council in Northern Ireland to attend, it was recommended that consideration was given to being a Headline Sponsor at NI Annual Dinner (Headline Sponsor - £1,500+ VAT) This includes a table (8 or 10 tickets depending on venue) for the dinner, logo

on publicity materials, email marketing and social media, pop-up in the main room, an opportunity to speak at the dinner and public thanks.

Proposed by Alderman Campbell  
Seconded by Councillor Foster and agreed that

**Council be a Headline Sponsor of the RTPI NI Annual Dinner on 6 March 2025 at a cost of £1,500 plus VAT, and that the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson along with Planning Committee Members and relevant Officers attend the event.**

*ACTION BY: Stephanie Boyd, Planning and Economic Development Business Support Supervisor*

#### **ITEM 4.14**

#### **P/FP/LDP/6 DEPARTMENT FOR INFRASTRUCTURE (DFI) PLANNING IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME**

##### **1. Purpose**

**The purpose of this report was to advise Members that the Director of Regional Planning Governance and Legislation, Rosemary Daly, had written seeking a meeting with the Chairperson of the Planning Committee and Planning Officers to discuss planning improvements.**

##### **2. Background**

The Department for Infrastructure (DfI) had been bringing forward a planning improvement programme following the outcome of a report by the Northern Ireland Public Accounts Committee which is available at <https://www.niassembly.gov.uk/globalassets/documents/committees/2017-2022/pac/reports/planning-in-ni/public-accounts-committee---planning-in-northern-ireland.pdf>.

The Director of Regional Planning Governance and Legislation, Rosemary Daly had written seeking a meeting with the Chairperson of the Planning Committee and Planning Officers to discuss planning improvements. A meeting would be arranged for the New Year.

##### **3. Key issues**

The views of the Chairperson of the Planning Committee were likely to be sought by the Department in relation to planning improvements/issues. Therefore, it was recommended that any Member or party groups wishing to raise any aspects of the planning system should advise the Chairperson by the end of the month. The Chairperson would not be raising any issues to do with individual planning applications or representatives thereof.

Proposed by Councillor Flanagan  
Seconded by Alderman Campbell and agreed that

the Chairperson be notified by individual Members or party groups by the end of December 2024 on any key strategic planning improvement matters which they wish to be raised.

*ACTION BY: Sharon Mossman, Deputy Director of Planning and Building Control*

**PROPOSAL TO PROCEED 'IN CONFIDENCE'**

Proposed by Councillor Cushinan  
Seconded by Councillor Flanagan and agreed that

**the following Committee business be taken In Confidence.**

The Chairperson advised that the livestream and audio recording would now cease.

**PART TWO OTHER PLANNING MATTERS – IN CONFIDENCE**

**ITEM 4.15**

**P/PLAN/1 NORTHERN IRELAND WATER ENGAGEMENT - IN CONFIDENCE**

**1. Purpose**

The purpose of this report was to provide Planning Committee Members with an update on engagement with Northern Ireland Water (NIW).

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Proposed by Councillor Foster  
Seconded Councillor Flanagan and agreed that

**the report be noted.**

*NO ACTION*



**PROPOSAL TO MOVE OUT OF 'IN CONFIDENCE'**

Proposed by Councillor Webb  
Seconded by Alderman Magill and agreed that

**any remaining Committee business be conducted in Open Session.**

**The Chairperson advised that the audio recording would recommence.**

There being no further Committee business, the Chairperson thanked Members for their attendance, wishing all a Happy Christmas and New Year. The meeting concluded at 8.10pm.

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**MAYOR**

***Council Minutes have been redacted in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Data Protection Act 2018, the General Data Protection Regulation, and legal advice.***