



23 October 2024

To: Each Member of the Council

Dear Member

MEETING OF ANTRIM AND NEWTOWNABBAY BOROUGH COUNCIL

A meeting of Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council will be held in the **Council Chamber, Mossley Mill** on **Monday 28 October 2024** at **6.30 pm**.

You are requested to attend.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Baker".

Richard Baker, GM MSc
Chief Executive, Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council

For any queries please contact Member Services:

Tel: 028 9448 1301/028 9034 0107

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AGENDA

- 1 Bible Reading and Prayer (In accordance with Standing Orders, Members are not required to attend for this part of the meeting and, following this part of the meeting, Members outside the Chamber will be called to the meeting).
- 2 Apologies
- 3 Declarations of Interest
- 4 To take as read and confirm the minutes of the proceedings of the Council Meeting of Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council held on Monday 30 September 2024, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 5 To approve the minutes of the proceedings of the Operations Committee Meeting of Monday 7 October 2024, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 6 To approve the minutes of the proceedings of the Policy and Governance Committee Meeting of Tuesday 8 October 2024, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 7 To approve the minutes of the proceedings of the Community Development Committee Meeting of Monday 14 October 2024, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 8(a) To take as read and confirm the Part 1 of the minutes of the proceedings of the Planning Committee Meeting held on Monday 21 October 2024, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 8(b) To approve Part 2 of the minutes of the proceedings of the Planning Committee Meeting held on Monday 21 October 2024, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 8(c) To take as read and confirm the Part 1 of the minutes of the proceedings of the reconvened Planning Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 23 October 2024, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 8(d) To approve Part 2 of the minutes of the proceedings of the reconvened Planning Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 23 October 2024, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 9 PRESENTATION
 - 9.1 Presentation by Northern Ireland Housing Executive
- 10 ITEM FOR DECISION
 - 10.1 Northern Ireland Executive Consultation on Draft Programme for Government 2024-2027

11 ITEMS FOR NOTING

11.1 Remembrance Day Services and Parades

11.2 NI Local Government Commissioner for Standards – Updated Procedures (Code of Conduct for Councillors)

12 ITEMS IN COMMITTEE

12.1 Supply, Delivery, Installation & Maintenance of Static Compactors

12.2 Mayor's Car

9 PRESENTATION

9.1 G/MSMO/7 PRESENTATION BY NORTHERN IRELAND HOUSING EXECUTIVE

1. Purpose

The purpose of this presentation is to provide Members with an annual update on the Housing Investment Plan 2024

2. Introduction

Members are advised that a presentation, for the 2024 annual update on the Housing Investment Plan **enclosed**, will be made by representatives of the NI Housing Executive.

Attending in person will be Grainia Long, Chief Executive and Breige Mullaghan, South Antrim Area Manager. Attending remotely will be Frank O'Connor, North Regional Manager; Louise Clarke, Head of North Place Shaping; Ryan Brady, Planning Officer; Andy Kennedy, Assistant Director, Asset Management; Mark Halliday, Assistant Director of Project Delivery.

3. Recommendation

It is recommended that the presentation be noted.

Prepared by: Member Services

Approved by: Richard Baker, Chief Executive

10 ITEM FOR DECISION

10.1 CCS/GEN/014 NORTHERN IRELAND EXECUTIVE CONSULTATION ON DRAFT PROGRAMME FOR GOVERNMENT 2024-2027

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the proposed consultation response to the draft Programme for Government 2024-2027.

2. Draft Programme for Government 2024-2027

Following the NI Executive's agreement on a draft Programme for Government 2024-2027 'Our Plan: Doing What Matters Most' the public consultation exercise commenced on 9 September with a closing date of 4 November 2024.

The draft Programme for Government 2024-2027 plan document can be accessed via the following link <http://www.northernireland.gov.uk/PfG>

Previous Council Decision

At the September Council meeting a notice of motion was proposed and an amendment suggested. Following discussion it was agreed that this matter be deferred until the October meeting to enable engagement with the TEO team to take place. This engagement session with Elected Members took place on the 14 October 2024.

3. Proposed Consultation response

A draft response is outlined below for Members' consideration which incorporates the Notice of Motion and Amendment as well as highlighting the crucial role of Local Government in shaping and implementing the reforms cited with the document.

COUNCIL'S DRAFT RESPONSE - PROGRAMME FOR GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION RESPONSE

Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council welcomes the release of the draft Programme for Government document by the NI Executive and the commencement of the public consultation phase.

The Council considered the document at its monthly meeting in September and also took the opportunity to invite a representative from the TEO team to present at an engagement session with Elected Members which was held on 14 October 2024.

In welcoming the publication of the draft Programme for Government (PfG) by the NI Executive, the Council;

- agrees that the PfG should include a standalone Mission on Peace and Peacebuilding;

- further agrees that peacebuilding, reconciliation, equality and inclusion are vital to achieving the key ambitions in the Programme for Government;
- notes that political instability and societal division are major barriers to growing our local and Northern Ireland's economy, improving local public services, tackling poverty and supporting our communities;
- agrees to write to the First and Deputy First Minister to call for the inclusion of a Mission on Peace and Peacebuilding in the Programme for Government before the PfG public consultation deadline on 4 November 2024 and,
- notes that the PSNI plays a key role in the creation and maintenance of peace and peace building and that we support the Chief Constable in his desire to ensure adequate funding is provided to this key service.

In addition to the key points above, the Council also wishes to draw attention to the need for greater Local Government involvement which it considers crucial in shaping and implementing the reforms cited within the Programme for Government.

In particular, the document recognises a critical need for reform and transformation of public services, citing issues such as unsustainability, rising costs, increasing demand, and declining outcomes across sectors like health, education, and justice (p. 50-51). A new Reform and Transformation Unit is proposed to be set up at the heart of government to drive change across all departments.

This will be part of a broader Reform Package, including a Fiscal Framework, Sustainability Plan, and Transformation Programme (p. 52-53).

We acknowledge the creation of a Public Sector Transformation Board, through which £235 million will be invested from a new Transformation Fund. This board will work to increase financial sustainability, transform service delivery models, and focus on prevention and early intervention (p. 53).

The document outlines plans for service delivery transformation, productivity and digital transformation, and innovation and research transformation across the public sector (p. 54). However, the engagement and involvement of Local Government is not acknowledged:

- The document does mention working with Local Government to implement a planning improvement programme, with the goal of ensuring the planning system works for businesses, people and the environment (p. 60).
- It does state that the Executive will work with Councils and local partners to deliver a Sub-Regional Economic Action Plan. This will

include enhancing the role of Invest NI and providing increased support for entrepreneurs (p. 19).

- £1.3 billion is planned to be invested over the next few years to stimulate regeneration and tourism across Northern Ireland, which must involve coordination with local Councils (p. 19).

However, beyond these specific mentions, there is limited detail on how Local Government will be involved in the broader public service transformation agenda.

The document does not explicitly outline a comprehensive role for Councils in the transformation process or how their existing responsibilities might change or expand.

There appears to be a focus on centralised reform efforts led by the Executive, with less emphasis on devolving powers or responsibilities to Local Government as part of the transformation process.

In conclusion, while the document recognises the need for significant public service transformation and generally outlines certain high-level plans, the specific role of the Northern Ireland Councils in this process is generally omitted.

Greater Local Government involvement in shaping and implementing these reforms is crucial, and this must be explicitly stated within the Programme for Government.

4. Recommendation

It is recommended that the draft response be submitted as the substantive Council response to the consultation exercise. In addition, Individual Members or Political Parties may wish to make a separate response.

Prepared by: Majella McAlister, Director of Economic Development & Planning

Approved by: Richard Baker, Chief Executive

11 ITEMS FOR NOTING

11.1 G/MSMO/024 REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICES AND PARADES

1. Purpose

Members are advised that a schedule has been compiled of the Remembrance Day Services and Parades taking place in the Borough (copy enclosed).

Robes may be worn by those who wish to do so and these are available from the Robing Room in Mossley Mill. On request, Member Services will transport these to Antrim Civic Centre for collection.

2. Recommendation

It is recommended that Members note the schedule of Remembrance Day Services and Parades taking place in the Borough.

Prepared by: Member Services

Approved by: Sandra Cole, Director of Finance and Governance

11.2 FI/FIN/040 NI LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSIONER FOR STANDARDS - UPDATED PROCEDURES (CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COUNCILLORS)

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to advise Members that correspondence **enclosed** has been received from the NI Local Government Commissioner for Standards in relation to Code of Conduct for Councillors.

2. Introduction

A recent survey and engagement exercise was undertaken, and feedback was sought, this process focussed on Councillors understanding of the Code of Code of Conduct and interactions with the NI Local Government Commissioner's Office.

One aspect of the feedback from the survey and engagement was the need for procedures relating to the code to be clearer, simpler, and more straightforward.

In response to this the Adjudication Procedures and Sanctions Guidelines have now been updated to make them more straightforward and emphasise the inquisitorial rather than adversarial nature of the process.

3. Recommendation

It is recommended that the report be noted.

Prepared by: Sandra Cole, Director of Finance & Governance

Approved by: Richard Baker, Chief Executive