



29 December 2021

Committee Chair: Councillor A Logue

Committee Vice-Chair: Alderman M Girvan

Committee Members: Aldermen – F Agnew, T Burns, L Clarke, J McGrath and J Smyth
Councillors – A Bennington, M Brady, R Foster, J Gilmour, N Kelly, J Montgomery, R Swann and R Wilson

Dear Member

MEETING OF THE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Operations Committee will be held in the **Council Chamber, Mossley Mill on Tuesday 4 January 2022 at 6.30 pm.**

You are requested to attend.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jacqui Dixon'.

Jacqui Dixon, BSc MBA
Chief Executive, Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council

For any queries please contact Member Services:

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3 ITEMS FOR DECISION

3.1 PK/BIO/011 SUSTAINABLE NORTHERN IRELAND FUNDING

Correspondence has been received from Sustainable Northern Ireland (SNI) including a copy of their Annual Report 2020/2021 and their annual request for funding enclosed.

The correspondence sets out the highlights for the 2020-2021 year including assistance in establishing the Northern Ireland Electric Vehicle Consortium, responses to key policy consultations and facilitating meetings of the All Party Group on Climate Action.

The group has requested a contribution for 2022/2023 of £6,000 - an increase of £1,000. The previous contribution of £5,000 having been kept at the same level since 2014. For this contribution, additional services will be made available including; help with assessing sustainability performance and provision of one training session for each council.

RECOMMENDATION: that financial support in the amount of £6,000 for Sustainable Northern Ireland be approved.

Prepared by: Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations

3.2 EH/EHS/LR/007 DOG CONTROL ORDERS – PROPOSED AMENDMENT AT SANDYKNOWES PARK

Members are reminded that a number of Dog Control Orders (DCOs) are currently effective in the Borough, mainly in Council owned parks, where dogs may be exercised off-lead, must be kept on a lead or are excluded.

Currently dogs are excluded from the play area within Sandyknowes Park and following installation of a fence around the informal 'kickabout' area to in response to incidents of dog fouling, it is proposed to exclude dogs from this area through amending The Dogs Exclusion (Newtownabbey Borough Council, Children's Play Parks and Recreation Grounds) Order 2012. Dogs will be able to be exercised off lead in the remainder of the park.

A map showing the proposed change is enclosed together with a map showing the existing exclusions at the play park.

RECOMMENDATION: that Members approve the amendment to The Dogs Exclusion (Newtownabbey Borough Council, Children's play parks and recreation grounds) Order 2012 to reflect the change of use.

Prepared by: Mark Sloan, Environmental Health Manager

Agreed by: Clifford Todd, Deputy Director of Operations (Environmental Health, Property and Building Services)

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations

3.3 PK/GEN/035/VOL4 PARKS AND OPEN SPACES SUB GROUP

At the most recent Parks and Open Spaces Sub-Group (previously Grass Management Sub Group) meeting on 30 November 2021, Members considered a detailed report. Arising from the meeting a series of recommendations were made for consideration by the Operations Committee and the minutes of the meeting are **enclosed**.

RECOMMENDATION: that the minutes of the Parks and Open Spaces Sub-Group meeting held on 30 November 2021 be approved.

Prepared by: Angela Ross, Parks Development Officer

Agreed by: Matt McDowell, Deputy Director of Operations (Parks and Leisure)

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations

3.4 EH/EHS/LR/11 SCHEME OF DELEGATION

Members are advised that following an update to the Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) Regulations and to reflect new structure changes, it is necessary to update the Scheme of Delegated Functions for the Deputy Chief Executive of Operations, Deputy Director of Operations (Environmental Health, Property and Building Services) and the Head of Environmental Health and Wellbeing. Copies of the revised Schedules are enclosed.

RECOMMENDATION: that the Schedule of Delegated Functions for Environmental Health in relation to the Deputy Chief Executive of Operations, Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Director of Operations (Environmental Health, Property and Building Services), Clifford Todd, and the Head of Environmental Health and Wellbeing, Colin Kelly be adopted.

Prepared by: Clifford Todd, Deputy Director of Operations (Environmental Health, Property and Building Services)

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations

3.5 PBS/BC/003 VOL 2 STREET NAMING – TEMPLEPATRICK ROAD, BALLYCLARE

A development naming application was received from Lotus Homes regarding the naming of a new road linking Templepatrick Road and Doagh Road. The road which has been constructed by Lotus Homes currently accesses three new developments – Ollar Valley, Rushfield and Hansons Hall. The developer's proposed road names and rationales have been submitted as outlined below, with the application, location map and site plan enclosed.

1. Ollar Link – The developer would like to keep the connection to the Sixmilewater river. Research has shown that Ollar (name of a neighbouring development) was the original name of the river. The new road now links two other roads together. The developer feels this connection is a satisfactory rationale for the name proposed. As far as the developer is aware no other road in the area has this name.
2. Ollar Pass – The same rationale as above applies to our second suggestion.
3. Six Mile Pass – The same rationale as above applies to this suggestion.

Should the Council not wish to select one of the above names; the matter will be referred back to the developer via the Building Control section for further consideration.

RECOMMENDATION: that Council approves a name for the above development.

Prepared by: Liam McFadden, Principal Building Control Surveyor

Agreed by: Stephen Hipkins, Head of Property and Building Services

Approved by: Clifford Todd, Deputy Director of Operations (Environmental Health, Property and Building Services) and Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations

3.6 **PBS/PS/024 CONSULTATION ON SECONDARY LEGISLATION TO FURTHER COMMENCE AND IMPLEMENT THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE RESERVOIRS ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2015**

Correspondence has been received (enclosed) from the Department for Infrastructure seeking responses to a consultation on Secondary Legislation to further commence and implement the requirements of the Reservoirs Act (Northern Ireland) 2015.

The consultation document (enclosed) proposes legislation for management and maintenance requirements in relation to reservoirs.

The key elements include the introduction of a 'controlled reservoir' designation, supervision and inspection requirements by a specialist engineer and a duty to undertake measures in the interests of safety. This management and maintenance regime will minimise the risk of flooding due to an uncontrolled release of water resulting from dam or structural failure of a reservoir. The documents sets out that implementation of management and maintenance responsibilities will safeguard human life, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity.

The draft response is generally in agreement with proposals with two areas where issues are raised, namely, in relation to the standard frequency of visits proposed for a high or medium consequence reservoir and the proposed criteria which will be used to give a reservoir a high, medium or low consequence designation.

Council currently manages and maintains reservoirs at Mossley Mill and the Valley Park – each would be classified as a controlled reservoir as each holds in excess of 10000 cubic metres of water.

Officers liaise with the Department for Infrastructure's engineers and can confirm that existing infrastructure, management and maintenance arrangements are already in place to the Department's satisfaction.

A response to the consultation is enclosed.

RECOMMENDATION: that Council approves the draft response to the consultation on secondary legislation to further commence and implement the requirements of the Reservoirs Act (Northern Ireland) 2015.

Prepared by: Stephen Hipkins, Head of Property and Building Services

Agreed by: Clifford Todd, Deputy Director of Operations (Environmental Health, Property and Building Services)

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations

3.7 L/GEN/056, WM/RC/008 FACILITY CLOSURES AND OPENING HOURS

The annual review of facility closures and opening hours has been completed and a schedule setting out the proposed closure arrangements including Public Holidays together with opening hours for 2022/2023 is **enclosed** for:

- Leisure Centres
- Caravan Parks
- Household Recycling Centres

There are no proposed changes to previous year's schedule.

RECOMMENDATION: that the facility closures for Leisure, Parks and Waste be approved for 2022/2023 as set out in the schedule.

Prepared by: Paula Robinson, Executive Officer to Deputy Chief Executive of Operations

Agreed by: Matt McDowell, Deputy Director of Operations (Parks and Leisure) and Michael Laverty, Deputy Director of Operations (Waste and Fleet)

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations

3.8 WM/WM/37 KEEP NORTHERN IRELAND BEAUTIFUL - PLASTIC PROMISE

As part of reducing the use of plastics in Council signing up the Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful (KNIB) Plastic Promise would underpin our commitment to reduce the use of Single Use Plastics as set out in the Climate Change Action Plan.

Members are reminded that Council has taken decisive action to reduce the use of Single Use Plastics (SUP) across its sites including the use of recycled plastic waste sacks, supporting the National Refill Campaign for water bottles, supplying water bottles to leisure centre users and staff, and a pilot to encourage the use of paper and wooden utensils instead of plastics in local fast food establishments.

The Plastic Promise can be made as an individual, community group or organisation and pledges Council's commitment to reduce or ban the use of SUP.

The table below indicates the areas where Council will be pledging to take action and these will be incorporated into the Climate Change Action Plan and reported through the associated Working Group.

Please tell us which plastic items you have committed to reduce or ban (tick all that apply)

Item	Pledge	Policy Decision	Already Reduced	Already Banned
Balloons	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Beverage bottles	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Carrier bags	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cutlery	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Food containers	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lollipop sticks	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Packets & wrappers	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Straws	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Takeaway cups	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other(s) - please specify	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Plastic Btl W/tr Ftr				

Further actions which Council could potentially progress to meet the commitments of the Pledge include:

- No further use or sale of balloons at Council events;
- Installation of more water refill fountains;
- All Council catering franchises to reduce the use of SUP

Officers will bring a report for consideration setting out proposals in relation to these options.

RECOMMENDATION: that Council signs up to the Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful Plastic Promise underpinning its commitment to reduce single use plastics in accordance with the Climate Change Action Plan.

Prepared by: Lynsey Daly, Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts

Agreed by: Michael Laverty, Deputy Director of Operations (Waste and Fleet)

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations

3.9 EH/GEN/007 - EH/PHWB/009 - PBS/PS/011 REVIEW OF POLICIES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, PROPERTY AND BUILDING SERVICES

EH/GEN/007 THE ROADS (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2010: PROHIBITION OR RESTRICTION OF USE OF PUBLIC ROADS FOR SPECIAL EVENTS

The Policy setting out how Council will process applications for the prohibition or restriction of use of public roads for special events under The Roads (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act (Northern Ireland) 2010, was last reviewed in May 2018. Under the Policy, a review should take place every two years or as required. A review has now taken place and no amendments were deemed necessary (enclosed).

An updated Section 75 Policy Screening Form is enclosed.

EH/PHWB/009 OIL STAMP POLICY

The Policy setting out how the Council's Oil Stamp Scheme is delivered was last reviewed in January 2020. Under the Policy, a review should take place periodically. A review has now taken place and the policy amended to reflect the new structure for Environmental Health and Wellbeing (enclosed). An updated Section 75 Policy Screening Form is enclosed.

PBS/PS/011 GRAFFITI REMOVAL POLICY

The Policy setting out the decision making process for the removal of graffiti in the Borough was last reviewed in October 2020 having been delayed due to Coronavirus restrictions. Under the Policy, a review should take place every two years or as required. A review has now taken place and no amendments were deemed necessary (enclosed).

An updated Section 75 Policy Screening Form is enclosed.

RECOMMENDATION: that the revised policies be approved.

Agreed by: Clifford Todd, Deputy Director of Operations (Environmental Health, Property & Building Services)

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations

4 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

4.1 PK/GEN/186 QUEEN'S GREEN CANOPY- COMMUNITY PLANTING REQUEST

Members are reminded of Council's commitment to participate in the Queen's Green Canopy initiative which will mark Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022. One of the key elements of the project is community planting whereby local community groups are engaged and encouraged to plant a tree for the Jubilee.

D Company Army Cadets based at Abbots Cross Army Reserve Centre has requested permission to plant 250 oak trees in Glas-na-Braden Glen as part of the Queen's Green Canopy initiative. Suitable locations within each DEA have been approved in advance, Glas-na-Braden being one of these. The Parks Team will liaise with the Cadets and supervise the planting. The trees will be recorded on the Council website in connection with the commitment to plant a million trees.

RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted

Prepared by: Angela Ross, Parks Development Officer

Agreed by: Matt McDowell, Deputy Director of Operations (Parks and Leisure)

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations

4.2 WM/WM/40 WASTE MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE ANNUAL UPDATE 2020-21

Under the Landfill Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2003, Council is required to submit waste data returns to the Northern Ireland Environment Agency. These are completed on a quarterly basis throughout the year and are used by the NIEA to calculate Council's recycling rate and compliance with the relevant legislation.

The new legislative targets for Council under the Circular Economy Package are:

1. Recycle 65% of municipal waste by 2035
2. Interim targets of 55% recycling rate by 2025 and 60% by 2030;
3. Maximum of 10% of municipal waste to be landfilled by 2035.

The annual waste data submission for 2020-21 has been verified and sets out Council's performance for the year for both Household and Municipal waste.

A summary of the recently published results for Council for 2020/2021 together with the results from 2019/2020 are set out below. The results include the performance of all 11 Northern Ireland Local Authorities for reference.

	2019-20		2020-21		Ranking
	Tonnes	%	Tonnes	%	
Total Household Waste Arisings	84,401		78,090	-7.5%	6 th largest tonnage
Household Waste Arisings to Recycling	48,383	57.3	44,454	56.9	2 nd highest household recycling rate (%)
Household Waste Arisings to Recovery	14,785	17.5	12,305	15.8	7 th largest % of household waste sent to recovery
Household Waste Arisings to Landfill	21,233	25.2	21,331	27.3	5 th largest % of household waste sent to landfill
Total Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste Arisings	102,267		95,468	-6.6%	3 rd largest tonnage
Municipal Waste Arisings to Recycling	62,613	61.2	54,522	57.1	2 nd highest % of waste recycled.
Municipal Waste Arisings to Recovery	15,723	15.4	14,382	15.1	7 th largest % of waste sent to recovery.

Municipal Waste Arisings to Landfill	23,931	23.4	26,564	27.8	6 th largest % of waste sent to landfill.
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* Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste is ALL the waste that the Council collects i.e. commercial, street sweepings, recycling centres as well as household waste.

The table above shows the following:

- 0.4% decrease in the Household Recycling Rate due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic;
- 6.6% decrease in the waste arisings handled by Council due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and restricting access to Recycling Centres to Borough residents only;
- an increase of 4.4% in the amount of waste sent to landfill. As previously reported, more residents were working from home and residual waste treatment reprocessors were landfilling more due to lack of recycling markets for waste items like mattresses and carpets.

RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.

Prepared by: Lynsey Daly, Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts

Agreed by: Michael Laverty, Deputy Director of Operations (Waste and Fleet)

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations