



17 February 2021

To: Each Member of the Council

Dear Member

MEETING OF ANTRIM AND NEWTOWNABBEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

A remote meeting of Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council will be held on **Monday 22 February 2021 at 6.30 pm.**

All Members are asked to attend the meeting via "Zoom".

To ensure social distancing only the Mayor, Group Leaders, or their nominee, and the Independent Member may attend the Council Chamber.

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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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 the Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council held remotely on Monday 25 January 2021, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 5 To approve the minutes of the proceedings of the Operations Committee Meeting of Monday 1 February 2021, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 6 To approve the minutes of the proceedings of the Policy and Governance Committee Meeting of Tuesday 2 February 2021, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 7 To approve the minutes of the proceedings of the Community Planning Committee Meeting held on Monday 8 February, 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 15 February 2021, 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 15 February 2021, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 9 PRESENTATION BY DEPARTMENT FOR INFRASTRUCTURE
- 10 ITEMS FOR DECISION
 - 10.1 To approve the Sealing of Documents
 - 10.2 Amendment to the Footway (Prohibition of Waiting) Order
 - 10.3 Local Government Boundaries Commissioner for Northern Ireland
 - 10.4 Translink – Request to Update
 - 10.5 Northern Ireland Universal Basic Income (UBI) Trials Steering Group
 - 10.6 Strategic Economic Working Group Minutes
 - 10.7 The Gateway Visitor Centre Exhibition Update
 - 10.8 The Joyce Torpedo Retrieval Boat

- 10.9 One Giant Weekend Events
- 10.10 SIB Consultation – Investment Strategy for Northern Ireland
- 10.11 Consultation, New Programme for Government
- 10.12 Corporate Events Sponsorship – Irish Game Fair
- 10.13 Economic Development Revitalise Funding
- 11 ITEMS FOR NOTING
 - 11.1 Local Government Partnership Panel – Draft Outcomes Note
 - 11.2 Correspondence from Department for Communities regarding Child Poverty Task Force
 - 11.3 Details on Rate Setting Process 2021/22 and Related General Estimates of Rates Form
 - 11.4 Economic Development Partnership Working Group Minutes
 - 11.5 Northern Ireland Housing Council
 - 11.6 Correspondence from Department for Infrastructure regarding Antrim Town Centre
 - 11.7 Councillor Resignation
- 12 ITEMS IN COMMITTEE
 - 12.1 Residual Waste Treatment Project
 - 12.2 Tender for Provision of Consultancy Services for Glengormley Environmental Improvement Scheme
 - 12.3 Tender for the Creation of a Dual Use Trail at Glas Na Braden
 - 12.4 Tender for the Creation of Accessibility Trails at Jordanstown Lough Shore Park and Valley Park (Phase 3 – West Link)
 - 12.5 Tender for the Supply, Delivery and Installation of Skips and Compactors
 - 12.6 Estimates Update
 - 12.7 Local Development Plan: Draft Plan Strategy Submission
 - 12.8 Staffing Matters

12.9 Car Parks COVID-19 Recovery

12.10 Land adjacent to 1a Nursery Park, Antrim

12.11 Mossley Mill – Office Accommodation

13 MOTION

Proposed by Councillors Leah Smyth and Robert Foster

Seconded by Councillors Jeannie Archibald-Brown and Glenn Finlay

'Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council recognises the difficulties and challenges all people have gone through during periods of lockdowns and restrictions. In particular, we recognise the challenges faced by those children in primary and secondary level education in facing these challenges and commend them for how they have addressed such fundamental changes to life and learning. We would ask if officers could provide recommendations as to how we, as a Council, can show recognition of their bravery, determination, and resilience during this difficult time.'

**REPORT ON BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED
AT THE COUNCIL MEETING ON MONDAY 22 FEBRUARY 2021**

9. PRESENTATION BY DEPARTMENT FOR INFRASTRUCTURE

As was agreed at the Council Meeting in January 2021, representatives from the Department for Infrastructure will be in attendance to provide an overview of the Transport Study and the next stage of the Transport Plan process.

Mr Stephen Wood and Mr Tony Rafferty will be in attendance via Zoom.

ITEMS FOR DECISION

10.1 TO APPROVE THE SEALING OF DOCUMENTS

Members are advised of the undernoted items for signing and sealing by Council, approval having been previously granted and all necessary legislative requirements being met:-

- Licence for works on land adjacent to the pitches at Sixmile Leisure Centre
- Lease with Age NI for the lease of an office at Ballyclare Town Hall.

RECOMMENDATION: that the documents be signed and sealed.

Prepared by: Paul Casey, Borough Lawyer and Head of Legal Services

10.2 G-LEG-321-12 AMENDMENT TO THE FOOTWAY (PROHIBITION OF WAITING) ORDER

Members are advised that correspondence has been received from the Department for Infrastructure (DfI) proposing to amend the Footway (Prohibition of Waiting) Order.

The amendment will prohibit vehicles from waiting on a footway adjacent to a bus stop.

A copy of the correspondence is **enclosed** for Members' information.

The Council's instructions are requested

Prepared by: Deirdre Nelson, Paralegal

Approved by: Paul Casey, Borough Lawyer and Head of Legal Services

10.3 CE/OA/035 LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARIES COMMISSIONER FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

Members are advised that correspondence has been received (enclosed) from Sarah Havlin, Local Government Boundaries Commissioner for Northern Ireland, advising that she has taken the first statutory step in a review of the 11 district council areas in Northern Ireland. Proposals are now invited from councils, political parties, associations, organisations and individual members of the public in relation to the boundary and name of the 11 districts: and the number, boundaries and names of the wards within the 11 districts.

The Council's instructions are requested.

Prepared by: Member Services

Approved by: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

10.4 G/MSMO/7/VOL 3 TRANSLINK REQUEST TO UPDATE

Members are advised that Translink has requested an opportunity to update Members on the planned roll-out of low and zero emission buses across the network over the coming months and years at a relevant Council or Committee meeting during April or May.

The Council's instructions are requested.

Prepared by: Member Services

Approved by: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

10.5 HR/GEN/034 NORTHERN IRELAND UNIVERSAL BASIC INCOME (UBI) TRIALS STEERING GROUP

Universal Basic Income (UBI) Lab Northern Ireland is part of the UBI Lab Network which is a global network of over 30 local groups campaigning for trials of Universal Basic Income in Northern Ireland.

Members are advised that UBI Lab Northern Ireland are inviting 2 representatives from the Council to join a new Steering Group that is working towards the planning and delivery of Universal Basic Income trials in Northern Ireland.

UBI Lab Northern Ireland proposed that the 2 representatives would be 1 Elected representative who has presented a motion or chaired a committee supportive of Universal Basic Income, and 1 Council Officer who has responsibility for this area.

The purpose of the Steering Group is to bring together several strategic stakeholders to support the delivery of a trial, or trials, of Universal Basic Income in Northern Ireland.

The main aim of this Group is to explore the feasibility of a Universal Basic Income in reducing poverty and improving life outcomes in Northern Ireland through UBI trials which would provide an evidence base upon which national policy discussions could be based.

The Group will meet quarterly and a copy of the draft Terms of Reference is **enclosed** for Members' information. The next meeting of the Steering Group is scheduled to be held by Zoom on 22 March 2021.

RECOMMENDATION: that the Council nominate 1 Elected representative to join the Northern Ireland Universal Basic Income Trials Steering Group, along with the appropriate Council Officer.

Prepared and Approved by: Andrea McCooke, Director of Organisation Development

10.6 ED/ED/173 STRATEGIC ECONOMIC WORKING GROUP MINUTES

The Strategic Economic Working Group met on 28 January 2021 to review progress on strategic economic development and tourism matters and to consider priorities going forward as a result of the pandemic and its economic impact. A copy of the minutes from the meeting held on 28 January 2021 is enclosed for Members' consideration.

RECOMMENDATION: that the minutes of the Strategic Economic Working Group of 28 January 2021 be approved.

Prepared by: Colin McCabrey, Head of Economic Development

Approved by: Majella McAlister, Director of Economic Development and Planning

10.7 AC/GEN/068 THE GATEWAY VISITOR CENTRE EXHIBITION UPDATE

Exhibition Update

Members are reminded that in October 2020 the Council approved the appointment of Totalis Solutions to design, supply and install an exhibition at the Gateway Visitor Centre. Members were consulted on the proposed themes and content of the exhibition at a workshop on 10 December 2020. Concept designs and an outline of the exhibition including visuals are enclosed for Members' information and reflect the 5 themes of Legends, Life, Living, Lives and Links.

Following the workshop Totalis commenced work on developing the exhibition as proposed and completion is anticipated by the end of March 2021.

Antrim Castle Gardens Stonework

Members are also reminded that it was agreed at the October meeting of the Community Planning Committee that the Antrim Castle stonework artefacts, currently in the possession of the Heritage Buildings Branch of the Department for Communities, be returned to Antrim Castle Gardens subject to the approval of Lord Massereene and the affordability of transport from Castlewellan. Correspondence has been received from Lord Massereene giving his approval and also expressing a desire to see some of the stonework on display in the future. The costs of transport are estimated to be £1,900. There is one particular artefact featuring a mermaid and its image is enclosed for Members' information. The exhibition designers have been shown this artefact and are keen to incorporate it into the Gateway Exhibition, which includes the history of Antrim Castle Gardens. It is proposed to organise collection of the stonework and provide this particular artefact for display at The Gateway Visitor Centre. Officers will consider how to put further stonework items on display in the near future.

RECOMMENDATION: that

- a) the update on the Gateway Visitor Centre Exhibition be noted
- b) the collection of Antrim Castle Gardens stonework from Heritage Buildings at an approximate cost of £1,900 be approved with the mermaid stone to be included as part of the Gateway Exhibition.

Prepared by: Ursula Fay, Head of Arts and Culture

Approved by Nick Harkness, Director of Community Planning

10.8 AC/GEN/068 THE JOYCE TORPEDO RETRIEVAL BOAT

Members are aware that an important part of the Lough Neagh story and history of the Lough is the Torpedo Platform, which played a vital role during the Second World War. This will be featured within the Gateway exhibition. Members are also reminded that it was reported to the Community Planning Committee in October 2020 that officers are working with the Lough Neagh Partnership to develop the tourism offer associated with the Lough and wider history of Antrim.

The Partnership recently advised officers of an opportunity to acquire a boat named 'The Joyce' which operated on the Lough from 1943 as a torpedo retrieval boat. A description of the boat along with images is enclosed for Members' information.

This opportunity has arisen through Silvery Light Sailing, a NI based charity who promote maritime heritage, having been asked by the boat owners to explore potential return of the boat to its historical home. The current private owners of the Joyce wish to 'gift' the vessel to a 'good home' where it will continue to be preserved. They acquired the boat in 1960 when it was decommissioned by the Royal Navy and have used the boat since this time as a working boat in Weymouth. They advise that they have maintained The Joyce to a good condition throughout its life. It is not a passenger boat but rather a working boat that started life on Lough Neagh by acting as a torpedo retrieval vessel during World War II. It is not suitable for use as a pleasure craft nor is it suitable for carrying passengers.

A meeting with Lough Neagh Partnership and Silvery Light Sailing was held to develop a proposal. If the Council was to accept the offer of 'The Joyce' as a 'gift' Silvery Light Sailing would organise collection of the boat and transport to NI where they would carry out cosmetic enhancements to the boat to present it in the best possible condition. Following this they would manage the return of The Joyce to Lough Neagh. Silver Light Sailing has indicated that they could enter an agreement with the Council to take on annual maintenance of the boat at an estimated cost of £1,500 per annum. Prior to making any final decision about acceptance of The Joyce a full condition report to assess current condition and any costs of making good or potential future cost related to any maintenance issues should be carried out.

If the Council was to accept the proposal as outlined The Joyce could potentially be moored in Sixmile River at The Gateway Centre as an external exhibit but integral part of the Lough Neagh story and exhibition. This would require some security infrastructure and visitor interpretation to both secure the boat and tell its story.

The estimated total cost of having The Joyce returned to Lough Neagh to become part of the Gateway exhibition is £20,000 with the Lough Neagh Partnership having offered a contribution of £2,500,

It is proposed to accept this offer in principle with a further report detailing full costs and financial liability to come back to a future meeting for approval. As

part of this any opportunities to lease The Joyce to a suitable non for profit maritime heritage charity will be carried out.

RECOMMENDATION: that the offer to acquire The Joyce, as part of The Gateway Visitor Centre exhibition offer, be approved in principle with a further report outlining full costs, management and maintenance arrangements to be brought to a future meeting.

Prepared by: Ursula Fay, Head of Arts and Culture

Approved by: Nick Harkness, Director of Community Planning

10.9 AC/EV/003 ONE GIANT WEEKEND EVENTS

Members are reminded that Garden Show Ireland (GSI) has been held in Antrim Castle Gardens annually since 2014, having moved from Hillsborough Castle. Taking place traditionally in early May the Show is a 3-day festival of flowers, food and family fun themed around gardening and is aimed at a wide audience. The Council has been providing financial support of £35,000 to GSI for delivery of the Show in Castle Gardens from 2014.

Over the 5-year period of the Show it has attracted average attendances of approximately 25,000 over 3 days. A large proportion of visitors to the Show come from outside of the Borough as well as from outside of Northern Ireland. Specialist traders and exhibitors also participated in the Show from all over the UK and ROI.

Tourism Northern Ireland (TNI) place a value of £18 per day on a day visit to an area. Using this value, the economic impact of the event over the past 5 years is estimated at £2.25 million or £450,000 annually. In addition, a post show evaluation in 2018 revealed 5.8 million media opportunities to see or hear about the Show and the Gardens.

Members are reminded that a report on Council Events Outlook was taken to the Council meeting in January where it was agreed that a report on the proposal for GSI 2021 would be brought to the Council in February 2021.

Having reviewed the business model for the event in the context of COVID restrictions it has been concluded that it is not going to be possible to hold Garden Show Ireland in 2021, with the following significant risks identified.

- It is expected that COVID-19 restrictions continue to create a high risk to all event planning and delivery up until September and possibly beyond.
- An adapted Garden Show, the restricted numbers, has an increased financial risk of cost significantly exceeding budget given the impact restrictions will have upon numbers attending, traders participating, sponsorship and therefore income generated to subsidise costs.
- There is also the additional financial risk of committing to an event with a very real possibility of cancellation. The earlier the date the greater the risk of cancellation.

Members are aware that the last GSI event was held in Antrim Castle Gardens in 2018. Therefore, there will have been no event for three consecutive years, which has the potential to reduce brand awareness and challenge any future recovery through need to awaken interest and awareness of the event and rebuild the audience.

Members will be aware that One Giant Weekend events as part of the NI Centenary programme are planned for the first weekend in September 2021. It is proposed to incorporate a promotional element of GSI into the Centenary Giant Picnic in the Park outdoor event planned for Saturday 4 September

2021 in Antrim Castle Gardens. A specific area of the Gardens could be designated as the Garden Show element of the Giant Picnic and used to promote the return of the event in 2022 with the dates for next year's event proposed as 24, 25 and 26 June 2022. Ticket sales for the 2022 event would be live for the September promotional event and visitors to the Giant Picnic would have the opportunity to taste a flavour of Garden Show through a showcase garden display featuring the best of NI, promotional footage from previous events, special guests, prize giveaways and advance booking special offers.

In addition, Members may also wish to consider incorporating the Spinning Yarns event into a Giant Picnic. This wool and linen festival was developed as a celebration of all things to do with both of these natural and indigenous craft products. A Giant Picnic, as a NI Centenary event, will showcase a range of local craft and heritage incorporated and therefore creates the opportunity in 2021 to include the Spinning Yarns event into the Antrim Castle Gardens Centenary event.

It is also proposed to incorporate the Shoreline Festival into One Giant Weekend. Antrim Live is proposed for 29/30 May 2021 but should restrictions impact adversely on the potential delivery of Antrim Live on these dates then it is proposed to reschedule Antrim Live to run alongside a Giant Picnic event, over the first weekend in September 2021.

RECOMMENDATION: that Members approve the incorporation of a Garden Show Ireland promotional element, Antrim Live, Spinning Yarns and the Shoreline Festival into the One Giant Weekend planned for 4 and 5 September 2021.

Prepared by: Ursula Fay, Head of Arts and Culture

Approved by: Nick Harkness, Director of Community Planning

10.10 ED/ED/192 SIB CONSULTATION – INVESTMENT STRATEGY FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

The Strategic Investment Board (SIB) has been tasked by the NI Executive to bring forward the new Investment Strategy for Northern Ireland (ISNI) and has launched a Call for Evidence (<https://ISNI.gov.uk/ISNI2021/Call-for-Evidence-and-how-to-engage/>) which closes at the end of February 2021.

The development and maintenance of the Investment Strategy is one of SIBs core statutory responsibilities and it is developed buy SIB and behalf of Ministers, working with The Executive Office and Department of Finance officials. The last Investment Strategy covered the period 2011-2021 however it is intended that the new strategy will have a longer term horizon of up to 30 years. It will provide the framework for future public sector capital investment in economic and social infrastructure and will sit alongside other core documents such as the Programme for Government, the Budget and a range of strategic policies.

There are a range of challenges and constraints which impact the development of the new strategy including providing for work already in progress, ensuring compliance from a legal perspective, realising commitments which have been made and considering how aspirational schemes may be included. At the same time it is recognised that investment on this scale can play a key role stimulating recovery and development, ensuring that what currently exists is maintained and where possible that the regional asset base is enhanced and extended for the future.

The emerging ISNI pillars have been identified as outlined below;

- Transport and mobility (including ports, airport, road, rail, bus and cycle/walk)
- Skills and Learning including schools, further and higher education and lifelong learning
- Health and Social Care including primary, secondary and tertiary care, and social care
- Justice including courts, prisons, police and probation
- Social and Community including sport/leisure and culture and housing
- Industry and innovation
- Digital and communication
- Water and waste
- Energy

Officers have drafted a short summary under each heading highlighting the key considerations for the Borough. A copy of the summary is **enclosed**.

Whilst the Call for Evidence asks that a Survey Monkey questionnaire be completed, this is structured at a Northern Ireland level and does not focus on specific needs at a local level. It is therefore proposed that the enclosed summary be submitted to SIB as the Council's response. In addition to this submission Members may also wish to make their own contributions on an individual or party basis.

RECOMMENDATION: that the summary response to the proposed Investment Strategy NI pillars be submitted to SIB as the Council's response.

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

10.11 G/MSMO/008 VOL 3 CONSULTATION, NEW PROGRAMME FOR GOVERNMENT

Members will be aware that the NI Executive has launched a consultation in relation to the new Programme for Government with responses requested before the closing date of 22 March 2021. The consultation document can be accessed via the following link

<https://www.northernireland.gov.uk/consultations/consultation-programme-government-draft-outcomes-framework>

By way of introduction, the document explains that the new programme needs to be focussed on improving the wellbeing of citizens, particularly post COVID and that a whole society approach is required in that everyone has a role to play including; central government, local government, private sector, community and voluntary sector etc. The document also reflects on the fact that health and happiness are of great importance to people and that this needs to feature within the future programme which in itself should drive any changes to laws, the delivery of our public services and investment in future projects.

The approach that is being taken is an Outcomes Based Approach meaning that you start at the end with what you want to achieve and work your way back. To this end the Outcome Statements established are critical to setting the direction going forward.

Nine Outcomes Statements are proposed, which are assessed to be very relevant to our society in NI and are summarised as follows:-

1. Our children and young people have the best start in life
2. We live and work sustainably - protecting the environment
3. We have an equal and inclusive society where everyone is valued and treated with respect
4. We all enjoy long, healthy active lives
5. Everyone can reach their full potential
6. Our economy is globally competitive, regionally balanced and carbon neutral
7. Everyone feels safe - we all respect the law and each other
8. We have a caring society that supports people throughout their lives
9. People want to live, work and visit here

The document explains the rationale for the inclusion of each outcome and identifies the strategies that link to each. The consultation asks if these are the right ones and who can play a role in achieving these.

A draft response to the Programme of Government Draft Outcomes Framework Consultation Document is **enclosed** for Members' consideration. Members may wish to note that NILGA is also preparing a draft response.

RECOMMENDATION: that the draft response for the Programme of Government Draft Outcomes Framework Consultation Document be approved.

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

10.12 ED/ED/080 VOL 5 CORPORATE EVENTS SPONSORSHIP – IRISH GAME FAIR

In February 2020 the Council approved £15,000 funding to Country Lifestyle Exhibitions Ltd for the Irish Game Fair at Shane's Castle and an indicative funding offer at a similar level for the event in 2021 and 2022 subject to the outcome of an annual evaluation. The event was originally scheduled for 27 to 28 June 2020.

Due to the COVID -19 pandemic the event was postponed until 2021. In August 2020 Council approved £2,500 to support a Virtual Game Fair. The purpose of this was to positively profile the Borough to domestic tourists while helping the project promoters maintain a connection with their audience and help sustain the event for the longer-term. The Virtual Fair featured the Borough's tourism providers and attracted 140,000 online visitors.

The event promoters have been active in planning a future Game Fair that is agile enough to meet the changing Health and Safety and COVID-19 regulations and restrictions. As part of this process they have been granted the Tourism NI 'Good to Go' accreditation. The event promoters are planning to incorporate specific safety measures including traffic management to limit contacts. Options are being considered to limit numbers to the Game Fair over each day in accordance with event guidance. One approach being considered for this is to make the Game Fair a pre-ticketed event. The organisers have now approached the Council for £15,000 funding for the Irish Game Fair which is anticipated to be held on 26 to 27 June 2021 at Shane's Castle subject to restrictions being eased.

RECOMMENDATION: that the Council approves sponsorship of £15,000 to Country Lifestyle Exhibitions Ltd for the Irish Game Fair and Fine Food Festival 2021 from the Corporate Events budget.

Prepared by: Karen Steele – Tourism, Town Centre and Regeneration Manager

Agreed by: Colin McCabrey, Head of Economic Development

Approved by: Majella McAlister, Director of Economic Development and Planning

10.13 ED/GEN/015 & ED/ED/184 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REVITALISE FUNDING

The Action Plan for 'Revitalise Funding' administered by the Department for Communities (DfC) for business and town centre COVID-19 recovery was approved by the Council in July 2020 and the most recent update to Council was in January 2021. At the January meeting authority was delegated to the Chief Executive to implement any new requests which meet the broad criteria of the funding. This was to avoid any underspend before the deadline for expenditure of March 2021.

Members are reminded that the total amount of funding awarded to the Council by the Department for Communities is £972k. The funding is termed 'Revitalise Funding' and it is made up of financial contributions from the following sources:

- Department for Communities – aimed at town centre business support and regeneration;
- Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs – aimed at rural business support and village regeneration; and
- Department for Infrastructure – aimed at blue and green infrastructure improvements.

The funding is primarily a capital support with only £26k of the £972k allocation being available for revenue projects. The completion date for expenditure of this funding was originally 31st March 2021 however on behalf of SOLACE, the Chief Executive has written to the Department for Communities to seek a regional funding extension. The feedback from the Department is that the extension will be granted. This provides a longer timescale for the delivery of projects particularly the blue and green infrastructure projects, approved by the Council in January.

A current Action Plan detailing the proposed spend is enclosed for Members' information. Members will note that the action plan outlines how the £972,000 will be expended over 3 Tranches as required by the Department. A further Tranche 4 is included within the table which details a series of projects that have been identified through engagement with businesses as important to the recovery efforts in the town centres and villages. These projects, as detailed below total £133,100.32 and it is proposed that this cost is met through the remaining DfC budget of £23,100.32 combined with the Town Team budget of £110,000 for 2020/2021.

Town Centre Infrastructure	Minor capital works associated with the Awning Scheme(s)	£20,000.00
Town Centre Infrastructure	Additional Illumination Expenditure: Crumlin 14 No Pole Mounted Wraps(£4.2k), Glengormley 20LED Wraps (£6k) = £10.2k	£10,200
Town Centre Infrastructure	Minor Improvements Schemes across Towns and Villages	£25,000
Town Centre Infrastructure	Covid Aware Promotion via 5 x town centre representative bodies. £2k each.	£10,000

Town Centre Infrastructure	Ballyclare Footfall Counters	£12,000
Rural Development	Village Hand Sanitisation Systems (£275 x 25 = £6,875). Initially targetting Ballyrobert, Burnside, Doagh, Dunadry, Ballynure, Parkgate, Straid, Templepatrick and Toome.	£6,875
Town Centre Promotion	Lamp-post and freestanding Banners (PROVISIONAL SUM - Amount TBC)	£20,000
Town Centre Promotion	Purchase of mobile tannoy systems for town centres (PROVISIONAL SUM - Amount TBC)	£20,000
TBC	Water Bottle Refill Stations	£9,025
Tranche 4 total:		£133,100.32

Key points to note in the Action Plan and Tranche 4 projects are:

- A further 'Back in Business' billboard Campaign to encourage 'shop local' is scheduled at the end of March at a value of £6,000;
- The awning scheme is continuing to be delivered with installations across town centres currently scheduled to be complete by the end of March 2021. A review of businesses in rural villages is currently being undertaken to identify properties which would be feasible to include in an extended scheme. A provisional sum for minor works has also been included in the Action Plan at an estimated value of £20k. This is to cover minor, supplementary capital works by property owners such as moving signage, lighting etc. A schedule of final orders is awaited and there may be scope to re-open the scheme to other eligible businesses within town centres.
- A budget of £10k has been included to promote the Council's Covid Aware Scheme to businesses including promotion via the Chambers of Commerce and other key business bodies in each town/village;
- The purchase of footfall counters for Ballyclare as a pilot scheme is profiled at a value of £12k. This was a previous Town Team Project for which a provider was commissioned but a contract not awarded;
- The purchase of 25 village hand sanitisation stations at value of £6,875 has been included. It is intended that they will be provided to rural businesses in the first instance to further promote health and safety;
- The purchase of two mobile tannoy systems for temporary use across our town centres and at events is included at a value of £20,000;
- The latest Micro Grant for businesses for COVID-19 recovery closed on 4 February and a further 72 eligible applications have been received which brings the total applications to the scheme to 90. The list of business

awards for which the Chief Executive was granted delegated authority is enclosed.

RECOMMENDATION: that

- i. the updated Action Plan including the Tranche 4 projects and associated budgets be approved ;**
- ii. the micro grant for businesses awarded under delegated authority since the previous tranche be noted;**
- iii. authority continue to be delegated to the Chief Executive to implement any new requests which meet the broad criteria of the funding provided should an underspend be identified as the Council reaches the deadline for expenditure.**

Prepared by: Craig Mullan, Strategic Business Investment and Engagement Officer

Agreed by: Colin McCabrey, Head of Economic Development

Approved by: Majella McAllister, Director of Economic Development and Planning

11. ITEMS FOR NOTING

11.1 CE/OA/12 LOCAL GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP PANEL – DRAFT OUTCOMES NOTE

Members will be aware that a virtual meeting of the Local Government Partnership Panel took place on 20 January 2021. A draft Outcomes Note has been prepared by NILGA and is enclosed for Members' information.

RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.

Prepared by: Member Services

Approved by: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

11.2 CE/GEN/015 CORRESPONDENCE FROM DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITIES REGARDING CHILD POVERTY TASK FORCE

Members will recall that at the Council meeting of 25 January 2021 a Motion was carried regarding a call to convene a child poverty task force to reduce child poverty by next year and over the next decade. As requested the Chief Executive had written to Minister Hargey.

Paul McKillen, Director of Central Policy, has now replied and a copy of the response is **enclosed** for Members' information.

RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.

Prepared by: Member Services

Approved by: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

11.3 FI/FIN/045 DETAILS ON RATE SETTING PROCESS 2021/22 AND RELATED GENERAL ESTIMATES OF RATES FORM

Members will recall that a report was brought to the January Policy and Governance Committee advising that due to the current COVID-19 emergency situation the rate setting date would be changed to 1 March for the 2021/22 financial year pending legislation being put in place.

Formal confirmation of the amended regulations has now been received and copies of the Rates (Coronavirus: Making of District Rates) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2021 and the Local Government (Capital Finance and Accounting) (Coronavirus) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2021 are **enclosed** for Members' information.

A Special Council meeting will be held on 1 March 2021, prior to the Operations Committee, for this purpose.

RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.

Prepared by: John Balmer, Head of Finance

Approved by: Sandra Cole, Director of Finance and Governance

11.4 ED/ED/140 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP WORKING GROUP MINUTES

A copy of the minutes of the GROW South Antrim Local Action Group meetings held on 7 February 2020, 5 June 2020 and 11 September 2020 are enclosed for Members' information. Members will note that some commercial business details have been redacted in line with operational requirements.

RECOMMENDATION: that the minutes of the GROW Local Action Group meetings held on 7 February 2020, 5 June 2020 and 11 September 2020 be noted.

Prepared by: Emma Stubbs, Economic and Rural Development Manager

Agreed by: Colin McCabrey, Head of Economic Development

Approved by Majella McAlister, Director of Economic Development and Planning

11.5 CE/OA/013 NORTHERN IRELAND HOUSING COUNCIL

As agreed at the August 2019 meeting of the Council, the Northern Ireland Housing Council's February 2021 monthly bulletin is enclosed for Members' information. A copy of the minutes of the Housing Council meeting on 14 January 2021 are also enclosed.

RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.

Prepared by: Member Services

Approved by: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

11.6 CE/GEN/015 CORRESPONDENCE FROM DEPARTMENT FOR INFRASTRUCTURE REGARDING ANTRIM TOWN CENTRE

Members will recall that at the Council meeting held on 25 January 2021, a Motion was unanimously carried regarding the regeneration of Antrim Town Centre. As requested the Chief Executive had written to Minister Mallon.

The Private Secretary to the Minister has now replied and a copy of the response is enclosed for Members' information.

RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.

Prepared by: Member Services

Approved by: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

11.7 G/MSMO/002 COUNCILLOR RESIGNATION

Members are advised that Councillor McAuley has notified the Chief Executive of her resignation from the Council with effect from 23 February 2021.

RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.

Prepared by: Member Services

Approved by: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive