



**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD
AT MOSSLEY MILL ON MONDAY 26 JANUARY 2026 AT 6.30 PM**

- In the Chair** : Mayor (Councillor L Kirkpatrick)
- Members Present** : Aldermen – L Clarke, M Magill, P Michael, S Ross and J Smyth
- : Councillors – J Archibald-Brown, A Bennington, M Brady, J Burbank, M Cooper, H Cushinan, P Dunlop, S Flanagan, R Foster, J Gilmour, N Kelly, R Kinnear, AM Logue, R Lynch, H Magill, B Mallon, E McLaughlin, V McWilliam, L O’Hagan, S Ward, B Webb and S Wilson
- Members Present (Remotely)** : Aldermen – L Boyle, P Bradley, M Cosgrove and J McGrath,
- : Councillors – S Cosgrove, M Goodman, T McGrann, M Ní Chonghaile, A O’Lone and M Stewart,
- In Attendance (In person)** : Mr Shane Logan, Chief Executive of Bryson Group
Ms Fiona McKilligan, Deputy Director of Bryson Recycling
- Officers Present** : Chief Executive - R Baker
Director of Economic Development and Planning – M McAlister
Director of Community and Culture – U Fay
Director of Environment Services and Sustainability – M Laverty
Director of Director of Estates and Recreation – M McDowell
Director of Finance and Governance – S Cole
Director of Organisation Development (Interim) – H Hall
Deputy Director of Governance – L Johnston
Borough Lawyer Borough Lawyer, Legal, Land Governance and Policy – P Casey
Head of Waste Strategy and Sustainability – L Daly
ICT Change Officer – A Cole
ICT Support Assistant – D Graham
Member Services Manager – A Duffy
PA to Mayor and Deputy Mayor – L Molyneaux

1 BIBLE READING, PRAYER AND WELCOME

The Mayor welcomed all present to the meeting and advised Members of the audio recording procedures.

The meeting opened with a Bible reading and prayer by Reverend John Gilkinson.

Alderman Boyle and Councillors Burbank, Cushman, Goodman, Kelly, Logue, McGrann, McLaughlin, Ní Chonghaile, O'Hagan and O'Lone joined the meeting at this point.

2 APOLOGIES

Alderman - T Campbell
Councillor – McAuley

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Item 16.1 – Alderman Smyth

Councillor Kinnear entered the meeting at this point.

The Mayor advised that the presentation from Bryson Recycling would be taken at this point of the meeting.

Councillor Cosgrove joined the meeting during the presentation.

11 PRESENTATION

11.1 G/MSMO/7 BRYSON RECYCLING

The Mayor welcomed Shane Logan, Chief Executive of the Bryson Group and Fiona McKilligan, Deputy Director of Bryson Recycling to the meeting.

The Mayor provided a statement outlining serious concerns regarding recent failures in Bryson's waste collection service. Issues highlighted included repeated missed collections (particularly assisted lifts), poor communication when services were disrupted, operational shortcomings, and loss of public confidence. She queried whether the contract had been under-resourced and asked Bryson to explain contingency plans, confirm future resourcing levels, and detail measures to prevent recurrence.

In response, Mr Logan apologised to the Mayor, Councillors, residents and ratepayers acknowledging service levels had fallen well below expected standards and explained what went wrong. He attributed difficulties experienced to the delayed delivery of new vehicles, which delayed the implementation of the new contract into winter, combined with driver shortages, increased staff illness and severe weather. Outlining the scale of

operations Mr Logan acknowledged contingency arrangements had proven insufficient.

He detailed recovery actions, including a driver pay increase, recruitment of additional staff, expanded driver induction capacity, enhanced daily monitoring, deployment of a Quick Reaction Team, personal visits to over 200 priority households, and improved communication with Council officers. He advised that severe weather and illness surges remained ongoing risks and confirmed future improvements, including strengthened processes, higher contingency staffing, close liaison with the Council CEO, and the training of new HGV drivers.

Mr Logan reiterated his apology, recognising the frustration caused, pressure on frontline crews and acknowledging Bryson's wider social impact as a local employer and charity. He concluded by reaffirming Bryson's commitment to restoring high service standards and maintaining a strong partnership with the Council.

MOTION TO PROCEED 'IN COMMITTEE'

Moved by Councillor Lynch
Seconded by Councillor Mallon and

RESOLVED - that the Council proceeds to conduct the following business 'In Committee'.

Members were advised that the live stream and audio recording would cease at this point.

Mr Logan and Ms McKilligan responded to Members' feedback and queries regarding Bryson's service delivery and the need for a pro-active approach, improvement of resourcing, systems and training, along with better communication leading to a high standard of delivery.

The Mayor and Members thanked Mr Logan and Ms McKilligan for their presentation, and they left the meeting.

During the question and response session, the following Members left and returned to the Chamber:

Aldermen – Clarke, Magill, Mallon, Michael, Ross and Smyth

Councillors – Archibald-Brown, Burbank, Cooper, Dunlop, Flanagan, Foster, Lynch, Magill and Ward.

MOTION TO PROCEED 'OUT OF COMMITTEE'

Moved by Councillor Foster
Seconded by Councillor Lynch and

RESOLVED - that the Council proceeds to conduct any remaining business 'In Public'.

Members were advised that the audio recording would restart at this point.

The Mayor called for a short recess and the meeting resumed at 8.35 pm

4 MINUTES OF THE ANTRIM AND NEWTOWNABBEY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

Moved by Alderman Cosgrove
Seconded by Councillor Wilson and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council Meeting of Monday 15 December 2025 be taken as read and signed as correct.

5 MINUTES OF THE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Moved by Councillor O'Hagan
Seconded by Councillor Archibald-Brown and

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Operations Committee Meeting of Monday 5 January 2026 be approved and adopted.

Following the recess Councillor Foster returned to the Chamber.

6 MINUTES OF THE POLICY AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Moved by Councillor Webb
Seconded by Councillor Magill and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Policy and Governance Committee Meeting of Tuesday 6 January 2026 be approved and adopted.

Following the recess Councillor McLaughlin returned to the Chamber.

7 MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Moved by Councillor Wilson
Seconded by Councillor Brady and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Community Development Committee Meeting of Monday 12 January 2026 approved and adopted.

8 MINTUES OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Moved by Alderman Cosgrove
Seconded by Councillor Cooper and

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Economic Development Committee Meeting of Tuesday 13 January 2026 be approved and adopted.

9(a) MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING, PART 1

Moved by Councillor Kinnear
Seconded by Councillor Flanagan and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Planning Committee Meeting of Monday 19 January 2026 Part 1 be taken as read and signed as correct.

9(b) MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING, PART 2

Moved by Councillor Kinnear
Seconded by Councillor Flanagan and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Planning Committee Meeting of Monday 19 January 2026 Part 2 be approved and adopted.

10 MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

Moved by Councillor Cooper
Seconded by Councillor Webb and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Special Council Meeting of Tuesday 20 January 2026 be taken as read and signed as correct.

At this point in the meeting Alderman Ross apologised to the Mayor for not addressing his question through her at the Special Council meeting.

12 NOTICE OF MOTION

Proposed by Councillor Dunlop
Seconded by Councillor Magill

This council notes the negative impact that the noise of fireworks can have on children, pets and livestock alongside the impact of unregulated sale and usage more generally.

This council further notes ongoing campaigns seeking a review of current firework regulations by the NSPCA, HelpAnimalsUK, The Firework Campaign and others.

This Council will consequently consider the use of silent fireworks for all future council-led events where fireworks are to be used.

Officers are to report back to the relevant Committee with recommended changes to events, which include firework displays, and provide proposals for a public statement and promotional campaign to raise awareness of the impact of fireworks on children, pets, and livestock, in advance of autumn 2026.

AMENDMENT

It was requested by Councillor Kelly that the motion be expanded to include silent fireworks at Council funded events and Council facilities hired.

Proposed by: Councillor Dunlop
Seconded by Councillor Magill

This council notes the negative impact that the noise of fireworks can have on children, pets and livestock alongside the impact of unregulated sale and usage more generally.

This council further notes ongoing campaigns seeking a review of current firework regulations by the NSPCA, HelpAnimalsUK, The Firework Campaign and others.

This Council will consequently consider the use of silent fireworks for all future Council-led and Council funded events and Council hired facilities where fireworks are to be used.

Officers are to report back to the relevant Committee with recommended changes to Council-led and Council funded events and Council hired facilities, which include firework displays, and provide proposals for a public statement and promotional campaign to raise awareness of the impact of fireworks on children, pets, and livestock, in advance of autumn 2026.

RESOLVED – the amended Motion was declared carried.

13 NOTICE OF MOTION

Proposed by: Councillor Foster
Seconded by: Alderman Michael

"This Council notes with concern the recent transition of the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) Firearms and Explosives Branch to a 'digital-only' application system for the grant, regrant, and variation of firearms certificates.

While we acknowledge the need for administrative efficiency, this Council is deeply concerned that the mandatory online-only requirement—which necessitates the use of digital evidence, email/mobile contacts, and the completion of applications in a single digital session—creates a significant barrier for many residents within our Borough.

This Council believes that:

A 'digital-by-default' mandate significantly alienates older applicants and those living in rural areas of Antrim and Newtownabbey with limited internet connectivity.

This transition ignores the digital divide, effectively creating a two-tier system that discriminates against law-abiding citizens who may lack the hardware, scanning facilities, or digital literacy required by the new portal.

Under Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998, public authorities have a statutory duty to promote equality of opportunity regardless of age. An online-only system without a paper-based alternative risks failing this duty.

This Council resolves to:

Formally write to the Chief Constable of the PSNI and the Northern Ireland Policing Board expressing the Council's opposition to the removal of paper-based applications.

Call for the immediate implementation of a 'Dual Process' that allows for paper applications to ensure that no resident is excluded from their statutory right to apply for or renew a license based on their age or digital capability.

Engage with local shooting clubs and rural stakeholders within the Borough to assess the full impact of these changes on our constituents."

RESOLVED – The Motion was declared carried.

14 ITEM FOR DECISION

14.1 PBS/BC/003 VOL 2 STREET NAMING SUBMISSION – FAIRVIEW FARM ROAD, BALLYCLARE

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report was to recommend to Members a new street name for a development at Fairview Farm Road, Ballyclare.

2. Introduction/Background

A development naming application was received from Jamesy Hagan on behalf of Seventh Developments regarding the naming of a residential development at Fairview Farm Road, Ballyclare. The development consists of 9 dwellings, these being a mixture of detached and semi - detached. The development names and developer's rationale had been submitted as outlined below, with the developer's application, location map and site plan circulated.

- 1 – Fairview Farm Close – The development was an infill site located off Fairview Farm Road
- 2 – Fairview Farm Lane – The development was an infill site located off Fairview Farm Road
- 3 – Fairview Farm Gardens – The development was an infill site located off Fairview Farm Road

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

Moved by Councillor Archibald-Brown

Seconded by Councillor Magill and

RESOLVED: that the Council approves the name Fairview Farm Close for the above development.

ACTION BY: Liam McFadden, Principal Building Control Surveyor

15 ITEM FOR NOTING

G/MSMO/14 CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND THE MINISTER FOR INFRASTRUCTURE - CAOIMHÉ'S LAW

1. Purpose

The purpose of this report was for Members to note correspondence received from the Minister of Justice, Naomi Long MLA and the Minister for Infrastructure, Liz Kimmins MLA regarding Caoimhé's Law.

2. Background

In November 2025, Council noted the correspondence received from Derry City and Strabane District Council requesting support for the campaign for Caoimhé's Law, which was a proposed piece of legislation concerning the use of materials from fatal or critical road traffic collisions.

At the December 2025 Council meeting, Members passed a Motion supporting the introduction of Caoimhé's Law, which addresses the unauthorised recording of serious road traffic collisions and agreed the following:

1. Publicly support Caoimhé's Law;
2. Write to the Minister for Justice, and to MLAs, urging them to prioritise this legislation;
3. Call on the Minister for Infrastructure to begin drafting the law in consultation with families and campaigners;
4. Steps be considered through existing budgets and resources to educate the public;
5. Provide the opportunity for campaign representatives to present to the relevant committee;

On 7 January 2026 correspondence (circulated) was received from the Minister of Justice, Naomi Long MLA 8 January 2026 regarding an update of the legislative changes proposed.

On 8 January 2026 correspondence (circulated) was received from Liz Kimmins MLA, Minister for Infrastructure regarding her support of the introduction of Caoimhé's Law.

3. Summary

This report provided an update for Members to note the correspondence received from the Minister of Justice and the Minister for Infrastructure regarding Caoimhé's Law.

Moved by Councillor Lynch
Seconded by Councillor Logue and

RESOLVED: that the correspondence received from the Minister of Justice, Naomi Long MLA and the Minister for Infrastructure, Liz Kimmins MLA regarding Caoimhé's Law be noted.

NO ACTION

Having declared an interest in Item 16.1 Alderman Smyth left the meeting. Alderman Magill left the Chamber at this point and returned during Item 16.1.

MOTION TO PROCEED 'IN COMMITTEE'

Moved by Councillor Bennington
Seconded by Councillor Lynch and

RESOLVED - that the Council proceeds to conduct the following business 'In Committee'.

Members were advised that the live stream and audio recording would cease at this point.

16 ITEMS IN CONFIDENCE

16.1 IN CONFIDENCE G-LEG-3-366 UPDATE ON CHIMNEY CORNER PLANNING ENFORCEMENT CASE – IN CONFIDENCE

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[REDACTED]

Moved by Alderman Ross
Seconded by Councillor Webb and

RESOLVED - [REDACTED]

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

Councillor Burbank left the meeting during Item 16.2.

Councillor Cooper left and returned to the Chamber during Item 16.2.

16.2 IN CONFIDENCE CD/GEN/005 CAPITAL PROJECTS PROGRESS REPORT TO 31 DECEMBER 2025

1. Purpose

At the corporate workshop in November 2025 Members were updated on the entirety of the capital programme, the progress of specific projects and the ongoing review of project business cases.

The purpose of this report was to provide a further update on the above prior to project specific reviews being brought to Members and the relevant committee for their consideration.

As with any programme for the delivery of a number of projects, Members would be very aware of the factors impacting on project delivery and prioritisation e.g.

- **availability of funding,**
- **land availability,**
- **external funder deadlines,**
- **supply and demand analysis,**
- **affordability,**
- **the limited resources of the capital team,**
- **planning constraints.**

These were all factors to consider in the review of future projects and the priority for their delivery.

2. Phases of Capital Project Management

The report was presented under the following sections or stages:

- Stage 0 - Preliminary work to establish the justification for the Capital Investment or Strategic Outline Case to identify preferred way forward.
- Stage 1 – The completion of an Outline Business Case to evidence the viability, sustainability, scope / scale and affordability of the project. At Stage 1, a preferred option emerges and design costs to appoint an Integrated Consultancy Team are approved.
- Stage 2 – With a focus upon the preferred option, detailed design to allow the CAPEX and whole life Revenue costs to be estimated. Note that during this stage, all costs were 'Pre-tender Estimates'. The completion of the Full Business Case allowed Planning Approval to be sought and a procurement exercise for a contractor or supplier to be completed. The completion of Phase 2 provided:
 - A Full Business Case.
 - Detailed Design.
 - Planning approval.
 - A tender report for the supplier or contractor.
 - A report to Council to make the Investment Decision to proceed to approve/appoint winning tenderer, sign contract and manage construction.

The Council approval at the conclusion of this stage was the Investment Decision, allowing the appointment of the winning tenderer, contract management and construction.

- Stage 3 - Construction Contract Management normally via NEC 4 contract.
- Stage 4 – Benefit Realisation. Approve handover of asset into service and manage operations.

A Council decision was required to progress a project through each and every stage.

The aforementioned stages were presented in reverse order i.e. starting with those projects which had been completed year to date.

Stage 4 – Benefit Realisation. Projects Completed Year to Date

The table below lists the projects completed in the 9 months to 31st December 2025. The value of these schemes total £1.4m and would be capitalised as part of Council's investment in the Borough in the relevant financial year.

Table1

Project	Expenditure b/fwd £	25/26 Spend (est) £	Total Spend £	External Funding £	Net Cost £
Mallusk Play Area	██████	██████	██████	-	██████
Kings Park Play Area	-	██████	██████	-	██████
Rathcoole Play Area	-	██████	██████	-	██████
Allen Park – Road Realignment / Resurfacing	-	██████	██████	-	██████
Farmley, Glenwell Road Glengormley	██████	██████	██████	██████	██████
Total	363,580	1,370,404	1,733,984	(342,914)	1,391,070

Stage 3 - Contract Management - Projects Currently Under Construction

Table 2 below lists all projects that were currently 'on-site' or where a contractor appointment had been made, following the Council's Investment Decision.

The value of schemes currently under construction total £14.1 m in value.

Table2

Project	Project Budget £	External Funding £	Estimated Cost to Council £	Expected Completion
Glengormley Office Block	██████	██████	██████	tbc
Craigmore HRC – site remodelling (Estate Lifecycle Projects priority)	██████		██████	Jan-26
3G Pitch Ballyclare, Cloughan Project	██████	██████	██████	Jul-26
Stiles Community Centre – Car Park Resurfacing	██████		██████	Mar-26
Threemilewater / Abbey College Sports Pavilion	██████	██████	██████	July-26

Play Park Refurbishment Programme	████████	█	████████	Feb-26
Total	14,097,913	5,328,747	8,769,166	

Stage 2 - Projects Currently at Final Business Case, Planning & Procurement

Table 3 below lists the projects that were at the 'Final Business Case stage. The completion of the Full Business Case allowed planning approval to be sought and a procurement exercise for a contractor or supplier to be completed.

The Council approval at the conclusion of this stage was the Investment Decision, allowing the appointment of the winning tenderer, thereafter contract management and construction.

The value of schemes currently at this stage total £7.1m.

Table3

Project	Project Budget £	External Funding £	Est Cost to Council £	Expected On-Site	Expected Completion
Glengormley Environmental Improvement Scheme	████████████████████		████████████████████	Jul-26	May-28
Car Park Resurfacing Programme	████████	-	████████	Sept-26	Nov-26
Ballyearl Drainage Scheme	████████	-	████████	May-26	July-26
Mossley Pitches Drainage Scheme	████████	-	████████	May-26	July-26
Solar PV Mossley Mill	████████	-	████████	Mar-26	Mar-26
Carnmoney Cemetery - Path Resurfacing	████████	-	████████	Feb-26	Mar-26
Mossley 3G training pitch	████████	tbc	tbc	tbc	tbc
Total	7,148,414	-	-		

Stage 1 – The completion of an Outline Business Case.

The completion of an Outline Business Case provided evidence for the viability, sustainability, scope / scale and affordability of the project. At the completion of Stage 1, a preferred option emerges.

Due to the high volume of projects at Stage 1 and in light of affordability constraints, a number of business cases were selected for review before progressing to Stage 2 of the project management process.

Table 4 below lists projects that were subject to external business case review, further development and updating as required.

Table4

Project	Project Budget £	Expected On-site	Expected Completion	Review Recommendation
Cranfield Jetty	██████	Tbc	Tbc	Progress at reduced scope
Jordanstown Loughshore Park Café extension	██████	Tbc	Tbc	Site and specification reconfiguration
Hazelbank Park – Phase 2 – Pavilion and Visitor Facilities	██████	Tbc	Tbc	Site and specification reconfiguration
The Diamond, Rathcoole and Community Hub Building	██████	Tbc	Tbc	Site and specification reconfiguration
Steeple House & Gardens Refurbishment	██████	Tbc	Tbc	Progress at reduced scope
Mossley Mill – Heritage Masterplan	██████	Tbc	Tbc	Remove from programme

The review recommendations for these projects were listed below.

Cranfield Jetty

The review recommendation was to proceed with the refurbishment and extension of the existing slipway, thereby restoring safe, inclusive access to Lough Neagh while preserving flexibility for future enhancement.

Jordanstown Loughshore Park Café extension

The review recommendation was to proceed with the refurbishment of the café, caravan park amenities, public toilets and playpark with no extension to the café.

Hazelbank Park – Phase 2 – Pavilion and Visitor Facilities

The review recommendation was to proceed with the refurbishment of the bowling pavilion as a café, the toilet block and play area, and additional car parking.

The Diamond, Rathcoole and Community Hub Building

The review recommends proceeding with the refurbishment and extension of the existing changing pavilion, the creation and provision of enhanced community facilities, and the retention of the existing grass pitches.

Steeple House & Gardens Refurbishment

The review recommendation was to proceed with the stabilisation of Steeple House, the refurbishment of the outbuildings, the development and installation of trail infrastructure, and the installation of park interpretation.

Mossley Mill – Heritage Masterplan

Review recommendation was not to proceed with this project.

Table 5 below lists projects that were subject to internal business case review along with notes on the review outcome.

Table5

Project	Project Budget £	Expected On-site	Expected Completion	Notes
Mossley Mill – Boiler Replacement	██████	n/a	n/a	To be superseded by alternative scheme following implementation energy efficiency measures
Mossley Pavilion and Pitches	██████	n/a	n/a	This project was dependent on grant funding that did not materialise. Alternative schemes are progressing for this site.
Carnmoney Cemetery - Columbarium and Welfare Facilities	██████	n/a	n/a	Superseded by alternative scheme – remembrance garden and pathway upgrade.
AF 2G pitch – floodlight replacement	██████	tbc	tbc	Surveys of all floodlit facilities in progress to inform an LED replacement programme
Play Parks Development	██████	n/a	Feb-26	Currently under construction

Table 6 below lists projects where scoping and feasibility work had started on the project.

Table 6

Project	Project Budget £	Expected On-site	Expected Completion	Notes
Valley LC - Essential upgrading works	████████	tbc	tbc	Awaiting scope / design
Castle Gardens Café Refurbishment	████████	tbc	tbc	Awaiting scope / design
Whiteabbey Public Realm Scheme	tbc	tbc	tbc	Business case to be developed. Traffic survey complete
Crumlin Public Realm Scheme	tbc	tbc	tbc	Business case to be developed.
Valley Park New Cemetery	tbc	tbc	tbc	Business case to be developed.
Sustainability Projects	tbc	tbc	tbc	PIDs to be developed
Peace Plus Projects	████████	tbc	tbc	tbc – subject to business case
Belmont / Sixmile Cemetery – Memorial Garden	████████	tbc	tbc	tbc – subject to business case review
Theatre at the Mill Lighting	████████	tbc	tbc	Business case to be developed.
Antrim Castle Gardens Shop Conversion	████████	tbc	tbc	Business case to be developed.
LED Floodlight Upgrade Programme	tbc	tbc	tbc	Business case to be developed.

Stage 0 – Projects at the Earliest Stage of the Project Management Process

Preliminary work to establish the justification for the Capital Investment and associated operational responsibilities.

Project
Randalstown 3G pitch – site tbc
Ballyearl LC - Phase 3 Refurb
Threemilewater Park Phase 3
Crumlin Glen Phase 2
Small Areas Revitalisation Schemes
Community Centre Improvements
Sixmile LC – Changing Area Refurbishment
Wet-Side LC – Village Changing Refurbishment

Crumlin HRC - site tbc
Parks and Cemeteries Improvement Works
Rathcoole Allotments – site tbc
Leisure Centre Improvement Works
Antrim Forum – Additional Car Parking
Ballyearl Creche

As per the agreed capital project management process, an approved Project Initiation Document (PID) would be required to place these projects on the capital programme.

Next Steps

Further detailed information on the projects subject to external and internal business case review (Tables 4 &5) would be provided at the relevant Council committees in February 2026.

Members should be advised that the grants team along with the project sponsors continue to scan the horizon for potential grant funding opportunities to enable the affordability of projects.

It should also be noted that Members have the option to establish project specific reserves, particularly for future large capital projects e.g. leisure centre replacement and to use the proceeds from asset disposal to partly fund the capital program.

An updated capital program would be presented to Members following the review of business cases.

The Chief Executive addressed Members' queries regarding the Capital programme, noting that several business cases required revision due to cost, inflation and the need to update them in line with the five-case model including the requirement to demonstrate the 'Evidence of Need'. He confirmed that a series of major projects would be brought to the relevant committees between February and April for Members consideration.

Moved by Councillor Webb
Seconded by Councillor Dunlop and

RESOLVED - that the capital project update be noted.

ACTION BY: John Balmer, Deputy Director of Finance

MOTION TO PROCEED 'OUT OF COMMITTEE'

Moved by Councillor Webb
Seconded by Councillor Lynch and

RESOLVED - that the Council proceeds to conduct any remaining business 'In Public'.

Members were advised that the audio recording would restart at this point.

The Mayor noted that this was the last Full Council Meeting for Sandra Cole, Director of Finance and Governance and Helen Hall, Director of Organisation Development (Interim) before retiring. Members from across the Chamber thanked both Directors for their significant service, highlighting their leadership during challenging post-COVID years, key contributions to finance, HR, and Member development, and their support to Councillors.

The Mayor thanked everyone for attending and the meeting concluded at 9.28pm.

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.