

# MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE POLICY AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE HELD AT MOSSLEY MILL ON WEDNESDAY 4 MAY 2022 AT 6.30 PM

In the Chair:	Councillor T McGrann
Members Present:	Councillors – H Cushinan, S Flanagan, N Kelly, N Ramsay, V Robinson, M Stewart, B Webb and R Wilson
Non Committee Members:	Councillors – Bennington and McWilliam
Officers Present:	Deputy Chief Executive of Finance & Governance – S Cole Director of Organisation Development – D Rogers Deputy Director of Finance – J Balmer Head of Communications and Customers – N McCullough Head of Finance – R Murray Head of Human Resources – J Close ICT Helpdesk Officer – J Wilson Mayor & Member Services Officer – S Fisher Member Services Officer – A Duffy

# CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

The Chairperson welcomed everyone to the May Meeting of the Policy and Governance Committee, and reminded all present of recording requirements.

Although the COVID restrictions had been relaxed, to manage numbers and minimise risk, members of the public and press could continue to access those parts of the Council meetings which they are entitled to attend through the livestream on the Council's website.

# 1. APOLOGIES

Alderman Michael Councillors Cooper and McAuley

# 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

The Deputy Chief Executive of Finance & Governance clarified that declaring items of declarations of interest were the responsibility of the individual Members.

# 3. **PRESENTATION**

# 3.1 PRESENTATION – FINANCE SUPPORTING CORPORATE RECOVERY

The Deputy Director of Finance gave a presentation and responded to Members' questions following which the Chairperson and Members thanked him for his presentation and extended their thanks to the Deputy Chief Executive of Finance and Governance and team for all their work.

Proposed by Councillor Webb Seconded by Councillor Robinson and agreed that

# the presentation be noted.

NO ACTION

# 4 ITEM FOR DECISION

# 4.1 HR/HR/10 NATIONAL JOINT COUNCIL (NJC) PAY CHALLENGE 2022

Members were asked to note the circulated correspondence from the Northern Ireland Local Government Association (NILGA) which provides an update on the 2021 pay round and associated challenges.

NILGA wish to engage early with Councils given the expected difficulties for the 2022/2023 and 2023/2024 pay negotiations.

NILGA had asked that consideration be given to the information enclosed and for the Council's position for both the 2022/2023 and 2023/2024 pay award to be shared with NILGA to help inform the collective position for Northern Ireland.

Members were reminded that: -

- The 2021 pay deal included a 1.75% pay increase for all staff (2.75% on SCP1), recommencing the national review of Term-Time only working arrangements and national joint discussions on homeworking policies, mental health support and maternity leave.
- The bottom NJC rate is SCP1 and from 1 April 2021 this was paid at £9.50 per hour.
- The bottom SCP point for current employees in Council is SCP3, £9.79. Following recent Council approval, a supplement of 21p will be paid from 1 April 2022 to ensure the Real Living Wage Foundation rate of £9.90 is paid to those on pay point SCP3.

NILGA had advised of the need to be aware of the potential for the National Living Wage (NLW) to increase to at least  $\pounds 10.50$  or higher if there was to be headroom in 2022 and  $\pounds 11.50$  (17p headroom above the top end forecast of  $\pounds 11.33$ ) in 2023.

Options to absorb the NLW increases present significant implications that may be different in each Council.

The estimates for pay increases had been based on a 2.5% pay increase for 2022/2023 and 2023/2024.

It was anticipated that the Trade Union's pay claim for the year 2022/2023 would be issued in early May 2022 and NILGA would coordinate the usual pay briefing in conjunction with Local Government Association to seek Council's view on the contents of the claim.

The National Employers were due to meet on 9 May 2022 to consider the feedback from regional briefings. Northern Ireland would be represented at the meeting by the NILGA representative, Alderman Audrey Wales.

The Director of Organisation Development updated the meeting and advised that negotiations were currently ongoing.

Proposed by Councillor Kelly Seconded by Councillor Robinson and agreed that

#### the report be noted and a further report brought to a future Committee.

ACTION BY: Jennifer Close, Head of Human Resources

#### 5 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

#### 5.1 HR/GEN/019 MANAGING ATTENDANCE

The purpose of this report was to update Members on the management of attendance from April 2021 – March 2022 (summary circulated).

#### ABSENCE – APRIL 2021 TO MARCH 2022

Members were advised that the final position on sickness absence for 2021/22 was 14.7 average days per employee against the annual corporate target of 12 days.

Given the exceptional nature of 2020/21; 2019/20 absence figures had been used for comparison. The table below outlines an increase in long term absence and a respective decrease in short term absence.

Reporting Year	Average days Lost	Long Term	Short Term
2019/2020	12.41 days	77%	23%
2021/2022	14.7 days	87%	13%

There had been a steady increase in 100% attendance with 63% of staff achieving this compared to 59% in 2019/20.

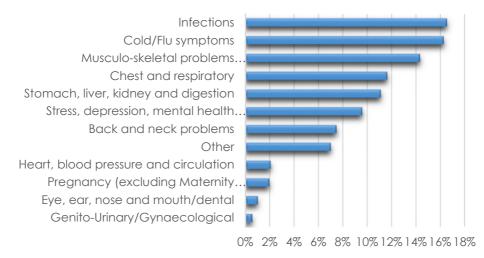
The top reasons for absence broadly remained the same, however there had been a reduction in personal stress since 2019/20 from 38% to 35% of absence cases.

Top Reasons for Absence					
2019/2020		2021/2022			
Personal Stress, Depression,	38%	Personal Stress, Depression,	35%		
		Mental Health, Fatigue			
Other (flu, cold symptoms etc,		Other (flu, cold symptoms etc,	23%		
operations, cancer)		operations, cancer)			
Musculoskeletal		Work Related Stress	15%		
Work Related Stress		Musculoskeletal	11%		
Back and Neck Problems		Stomach, Liver, kidneys and	10%		
		digestion			

#### Short term absence

Short term absence cases accounted for 13% (177 cases) of overall absence, with the main reasons being infections, colds, and flu, as detailed in the below chart.

# **Reasons for Short term absence**

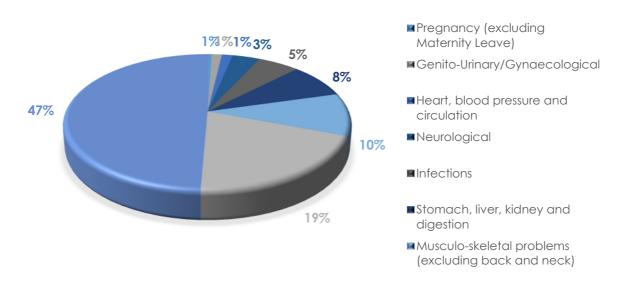


#### Long term absence

Long term absence cases (in excess of 20 days) accounted for 87% (78 cases) of overall absence. In reviewing these cases for the year, it should be noted that:

- 69% returned to work
- 2 formal case reviews were completed with employees returning to work
- 1 case resulted in dismissal following a formal case review
- 5 employees voluntarily left the organisation

The reasons for long term absence largely remain the same and are detailed in the chart below:



# **REASONS FOR LONG TERM ABSENCE**

Although the long term absence figure had increased since 2019/20, several mitigating factors should be noted and were explained below.

# Key considerations for days lost to long term cases:

- 1. <u>Disability</u> Approximately 27% of long term absence was recorded as disability related and in these instances management had a legal obligation to consider making reasonable adjustments. These cases could be complex and regularly require legal advice and guidance to progress to any potential dismissal.
- <u>'No pay' periods</u> A number of long term absence cases resulted in employees exhausting their sick pay entitlement and although no additional cost is incurred by the Council during the 'no pay' periods – these days lost were still included in the absence figures.

If days lost to employees who were not in receipt of sick pay were not included in the absence figures, the average days lost per employee at the end of March 2022 would have been 13.52 days

3. <u>Furlough</u> - Three long term absence cases were unavoidably extended due to furlough in 2020/21. Within the reported absence figures these cases amount to approximately 1.4 average days of the 14.7 average days lost and had they not been furloughed this absence would have been attributed to the 2020/21 year.

# ABSENCE MANAGEMENT 2022/23

# Current situation

Currently, there were 24 long term absence cases and of these 6 cases were now planned for Formal Case Review.

Throughout the recovery period, the prevalence and impact of long Covid had emerged as a significant concern and would likely continue to impact absence levels in the year ahead.

# Wellbeing focus

The Council remains focused on encouraging health and wellbeing in the workplace, and would continue to offer and implement the following initiatives:

- Promotion of an Employee Assistance Programme through Inspire offering 24/7 confidential support
- Health checks
- Breast Screening through Action Cancer
- Occupational Health Referrals and Physio Treatments
- Cycle to work scheme
- Flu vaccination programme
- Mental Health briefings and online courses for employees and managers
- Facilitating access to Council Leisure Facilities through the staff membership scheme
- Covid 19 advice, guidance, the HR Team providing a 24/7 HR Support line to help employees with Covid queries

# **Targeted** actions

- 1. The Head of HR and HR Manager hold bi-monthly meetings with relevant Deputy Chief Executives, Deputy Directors/Heads of Service to schedule formal case reviews where appropriate and to agree next steps for any further complex cases
- 2. Information to be provided to Heads of Service on an in-depth analysis of sickness absence patterns and trends
- 3. HR Officers to work directly with their service area managers on absence cases, agreeing action plans to address the cases effectively
- 4. Training for managers to be delivered on how to effectively manage their absence caseloads, how to have difficult conversations and absence management toolkits developed to help managers
- 5. Wellness meetings held in person or virtually if required with absent employees for regular contact
- 6. Identifying suitable return to work options e.g. alternative duties across the organisation
- 7. Timely referrals to Occupational Health and use of Physio provision where appropriate, including reviewing the effectiveness of these services
- 8. For employees who had triggered the absence threshold, Managers and HR would ensure absence review meetings were carried out in a timely manner
- 9. Ongoing promotion of the wellbeing resource tool, 'STAYWELL across the organisation in addition to the ongoing support services from Inspire and the courses available through Northern Trust Recovery College

Proposed by Councillor Webb Seconded by Councillor Robinson and agreed that

# the report be noted.

NO ACTION

# 5.2 HR/HR/019 - AGENCY STAFF UPDATE

Members were reminded that agency staff are used across the Council to provide temporary cover for absence such as:

- Maternity leave
- Secondments
- Sickness absence
- Vacant posts

The use of agency staff was subject to a rigorous approval process, which requires the approval of the Corporate Leadership Team and there was budgetary provision for the majority of posts filled via departmental salary budgets, salary contingency and grant funding.

# Current Agency staff

The table appended provided an update for Members on the use of agency staff as at March 2022 compared to March 2020 (pre covid-19). It excludes limited ad-hoc agency cover, which was necessary to provide operational cover, at short notice (circulated Appendix 1). Given the exceptional nature of 2020/21; 2019/20 agency figures had been used for comparison.

In reviewing the number of agency workers it should be noted that:

- the figures were broadly comparable with 54 in March 2020 and 53 in March 2022
- there were less agency workers covering vacancies on structures
- agency workers were used more to provide ad-hoc cover

#### Cost of Agency

Circulated at Appendix 2 sets out expenditure on agency workers in March 2022.

The cost of agency staff had increased for the period of 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022 at 7% of all staffing costs compared to 6% for the same period in 2019 – 2020 (pre covid).

The increased costs were impacted by:

 the NJC pay increase backdated to 1 April 2021 that was applicable to agency workers

Costs would further increase from 6 April 2022 as a result of the increase in National Insurance.

#### In 2022/2023

While there were currently 18 Seasonal Grounds Maintenance workers in place the agency was working to provide further agency cover.

As the Summer Schemes were resuming in July and August 2022 a tender had commenced through the agency to engage 50 Summer Scheme Leader roles to support these schemes.

It had been challenging to fill roles through the agencies due to the current labour market and it was anticipated that we would directly recruit and fill a number of operational vacancies that were currently covered by agency workers.

We would anticipate that going forward we would use agency workers for more ad hoc, seasonal, temporary cover.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson Seconded by Councillor Kelly and agreed that

# the report be noted.

NO ACTION

# 5.3 CCS/EDP/7 QUARTERLY SCREENING REPORT AND RURAL SCREENING

Members were advised that in line with the Council's Equality Scheme it was agreed to provide quarterly updates on the screening of policies under Section 75. Within the Scheme, the Council gave a commitment to apply screening methodology to all new and revised policies. Where necessary and appropriate, these new policies would be subject to further equality impact assessment.

#### SECTION 75 AND RURAL SCREENINGS

The policies noted below had been screened between January and March 2022.

POLICY	SCREENING DECISION
Oil Stamp Policy	1
Graffiti Removal Policy	1
Play Park City of Belfast Playing Fields	1

- (1) Screened with no mitigation
- (2) Screened with mitigation
- (3) Screened and EQIA required

# **CONSULTATIONS AND SURVEYS**

The consultations and surveys noted below cover January to date and status by way of update.

CONSULTATION / SURVEY TITLE	STATUS CLOSED
Draft Dual Language Street Sign Policy Consultation	Closed 31 Mar 22
Ballyclare Jobs Fair - March 2022	Closed 29 Mar 22
Rathcoole Jobs Fair - March 2022	Closed 29 Mar 22
HAVE YOUR SAY- Cleanliness of the Borough 2022	Closed 28 Feb 22
Enchanted Winter Garden 2021 Staff and Elected	Closed 31 Jan 22
Member Survey	
Christmas Switch-On Events 2021	Closed 20 Jan 22
Enchanted Winter Garden 2021	Closed 14 Jan 22
Antrim & Newtownabbey Policing & Community	Closed 10 Jan 22
Safety Partnership	
	STATUS OPEN
Borough Life - Our Beautiful Borough	Open 4 Apr 2022
	Closes 2 May 2022
Corporate Recovery and Improvement Plan 2022-23	Open 7 Mar 2022
	Close 30 May 2022
Age Friendly Programme	Open 22 Mar 2022
	Close 31 May 2022

Separate consultation and survey updates would be provided in due course to inform of feedback received, from surveys already undertaken.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson Seconded by Councillor Kelly and agreed that

#### the report be noted.

NO ACTION

# 5.4 CCS/EDP/14 RURAL NEEDS ACT (NI) 2016 ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT

Members were reminded that on 1 June 2017, the Rural Needs Act became operational for district councils and government departments.

The Rural Needs Act places a duty on public authorities and local councils, to have due regard to rural needs when developing, adopting, implementing or revising policies, strategies, plans and when designing and delivering public services. It also requires public authorities to provide information to Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) on how they had fulfilled this duty on an annual basis and to collate this information in their annual report.

The Rural Needs Annual Monitoring report for 2021 to 2022 was circulated for Members information.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson Seconded by Councillor Kelly and agreed that

#### the report be noted.

NO ACTION

# 5.5 CCS/CS/006 COMMUNICATIONS & CUSTOMERS CHANNEL REPORT

Members were reminded that within the draft Corporate Recovery and Improvement Plan 2022-23, which is currently being consulted upon with stakeholders, the Council had included "We will achieve high levels of customer satisfaction" amongst four performance improvement targets. The Council continues to put its customers at the heart of service delivery and had responded to the challenges of the pandemic by introducing new customer channels to complement the existing, traditional forms of communication.

Moving forward, further data would be gathered on digital channels, gaining insight into current and future needs of customers, as the Council strives to deliver a modern, inclusive, effective, and responsive service experience. This would all form part of the Customer Strategy review, which would be reported back to Committee during 2022-23.

Previously residents were presented with twenty-eight different telephone numbers and a host of email addresses to request service or assistance. This had been addressed by the introduction of dedicated 0300 service numbers and streamlined email addresses, such as more@ and culture@, alongside the creation of service Hubs, offering direct access to specialist support from sixtyfive customer service agents, whom received nearly 174,000 calls and 17,000 Live Chats were received in 2021-22.

A Live Chat service was introduced at the onset of the Pandemic, providing a safe and effective channel to interact with customers through our website and dedicated residents app. This had also allowed the use of dedicated support for events such as the Enchanted Winter Garden, as well as the provision of more inclusive services to the deaf community.

The Council had also improved the Customer Complaints Procedure, reducing the stages and times for issues to be responded to, and introducing a self-service digital platform to allow customers to manage their interactions. This is ahead of the planned transformation of how public bodies handle complaints being delivered by the Northern Ireland Public Services Ombudsman (NIPSO).

The proposed Corporate Recovery & Improvement Plan for 2022-23 sets out the following actions to achieve "We will achieve high levels of customer satisfaction":

- Continue to communicate with our citizens through Borough Life, Website, Residents' App, and Live Chat.
- We will regularly seek and act on feedback from residents, visitors and local businesses through a programme of consultations and engagement.
- We will implement our Customer Charter and Service Standards, accompanied by innovative and effective training.
- We will reduce the number of abandoned calls.
- We will promote and improve our live chat functionality.
- We will embed the new complaints process across the organisation.

The success of these actions would be measured in 2022-23 by meeting the following:

- We achieve at least 80% satisfaction with overall Council services.
- The percentage of abandoned calls would be 6.5% (or less).
- We had achieved at least 600,000 online transactions.
- There were at least 3,743 downloads of the Residents App.

The performance of the Corporate Recovery & Improvement Policy 2022-23 would be reported on a quarterly basis to the Policy & Governance and Audit Risk Committees, and within the Annual Report on Performance 2022-23 (Self-Assessment), which would be reviewed by Council and published on the Councils website by 30 September 2023.

Monthly reports would be presented to the Policy & Governance Committee providing Members with further detail, accompanied by an analysis of data and trends within all aspects of these actions and measures.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson Seconded by Councillor Kelly and agreed that

#### the report be noted.

NO ACTION

# 5.6 G/DPFI/2 YEAR END REPORT ON FOI/EIR/DPA REQUESTS

A report had been prepared on requests received from 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022 under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI), Environmental Information Regulations (EIR) and the Data Protection Act (DPA) and this was circulated.

A summary of the statistics for the year was:

- The number of requests had increased by 20% on the previous year. Provision of responses had remained resource intensive due to their complex nature and the levels of approval required.
- The percentage of requests answered within the 20 day deadline had decreased from the Council KPI of 100% to 95%. However, the ICO guidance considers a response rate of 95% or more to be good.
- Of the 297 requests received, 223 were under FOI, 59 under EIR and 15 under DPA.
- The sections that received most requests were Finance (63), Environmental Health (60), Planning (50) and Governance (50).
- Ten appeals (requests for internal review) were received within the financial year compared to one in the previous year. The Council's original response was upheld for all ten appeals.

- Three complaints to the ICO were notified within the year compared to one in the previous year. One of the three complaints had not yet been progressed by the ICO. For the other two complaints the ICO asked that the Council correspond directly with the complainants and this had been done.
- Seven data breaches were reported during the year. One was considered of sufficiently high risk to require reporting to the ICO. Twelve data breaches were reported in the previous year but none required notification to the ICO.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson Seconded by Councillor Kelly and agreed that

# the report be noted.

NO ACTION

# 5.7 FI/FIN/4 BUDGET REPORT – MARCH 2022 – Period 12

A budget report for March 2022 – Period 12 was circulated for Members' information.

The Council's financial position at the end of March 2022 showed a favourable variance of  $\pounds700k$ .

The budget report for Period 12 does not include final adjustments required to arrive at the final financial position of the Council for the 2021/22 financial year. These adjustments include final accruals of expenditure incurred, grants receivable, debts invoiced after 31 March 2022, contributions to reserves, and prepayments of expenditure and income

Any adjustments made as a result of the above would be reflected in the Statement of Accounts presented to the Audit Committee.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson Seconded by Councillor Kelly and agreed that

# the report be noted.

NO ACTION

# 5.8 FI/FIN/9 PROMPT PAYMENT PERFORMANCE

Members were reminded that the Department for Communities (DfC) issued revised guidance (Local Government Circular 19/2016) on prompt payments and the recording of invoice payments in November 2016. This guidance requested councils to record specific performance targets of 10 working days and 30 calendar days and continue a cycle of quarterly reporting on prompt payment performance by councils to the DfC and its publication on their website.

The Council's prompt payment performance for the period **1 January 2022 to 31 March 2022** was set out below:

The default target for paying invoices, where no other terms are agreed, is 30 days. (N.B. 30 days target is 30 calendar days and 10 days is 10 working days). During the above period, the Council paid invoices totalling  $\pounds14,685,510$ .

The Council paid 4,816 invoices within the 30-day target. (87%)

The Council paid 4,193 invoices within the 10-day target. (76%)

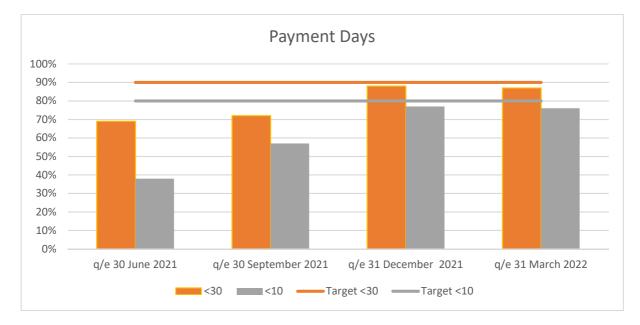
The Council paid 723 invoices outside of the 30-day target. (13%)

The Council has set a target of paying 90% of invoices within 30 days and 80% within 10 days.

Period	Total Number of Invoices Paid	% Paid Within 30 Days	% Paid Within 10 Days
Target		90%	80%
q/e 30 June 2021	3,352	69%	38%
q/e 30 September 2021	5,867	72%	57%
q/e 31 December 2021	6,575	88%	77%
q/e 31 March 2022	5,539	87%	76%

The quarterly results for 2021/22 are as follows:

The performance presented graphically highlights the performance metrics for the above.



Members would recall that a new finance system went 'live' on 12 April 2021. This impacted on performance whilst the new system and procedures were embedded.

The table and graph above show the performance improvement over the last year, with performance levels stabilising in the second half of the year.

It was worth noting that the number of invoices paid for quarter 4; 5,539, had almost returned to pre-Covid levels; q/e 31 March 2020, 6,308 invoices paid.

Period	Total Number of Invoices Paid	% Paid Within 30 Days	% Paid Within 10 Days	
Quarter 1				
Apr	470	83%	49%	
May	1,068	66%	28%	
June	1,814	64%	33%	
Quarter 2				
July	1,895	58%	42%	
Aug	1,911	60%	58%	
Sept	2,061	85%	69%	
Quarter 3				
Oct	2,300	85%	73%	
Νον	2,429	90%	79%	
Dec	<b>Dec</b> 1,846		76%	
Quarter 4				
Jan	1,500	88%	76%	
Feb	1,960	85%	74%	
Mar	2,079	88%	77%	

The prompt payment performance for Councils in Northern Ireland was published quarterly by the Department for Communities (DfC). The prompt payment performance for the quarter ended 31 December 2021 was shown in **Appendix 1** (Circulated); the Council's performance for Quarter 3 against the average performance for the other Councils for the same Quarter of 2021/22 was set out in the table below:

Council	% Paid Within 30 Days	% Paid Within 10 Days
Antrim & Newtownabbey BC (3rd Quarter 2021/22)	88%	77%
All Councils (3rd Quarter 2021/22)	92%	74%

Proposed by Councillor Wilson Seconded by Councillor Kelly and agreed that

#### the report be noted.

NO ACTION

# 7 ANY OTHER RELEVANT BUSINESS

The Chair advised that any other relevant business would be taken at this point.

The Director of Organisation Development responded to a Member's question regarding working from home and advised that the Council continues to reflect the position agreed at Committee in May 2021.

# PROPOSAL TO PROCEED 'IN CONFIDENCE'

Proposed by Councillor Ramsay Seconded by Councillor Robinson and agreed that

# the following Committee business be taken In Confidence and the livestream and audio recording would cease at this point.

#### 6 ITEMS IN CONFIDENCE

# 6.1 IN CONFIDENCE CD/GEN/005 CAPITAL PROJECTS PROGRESS REPORT TO 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2022

#### Introduction

The purpose of this report was to update members on the progress of Capital Projects within the built environment.

The report was presented under the following sections:

- Projects completed year to date
- Projects currently under construction
- Projects currently in design stage
- Projects currently in initiation stage
- Projects awaiting procurement
- Projects at inception stage

# Projects Completed Year to Date

The table below lists the projects completed in the twelve months to  $31^{st}$  March 2022. The value of these schemes total £1.96m and would be capitalised (added to Councils balance sheet) this financial year.

Project	Expenditure b/fwd £	21/22 Spend £	Total Spend £
Threemilewater Park Phase 1			
Sixmilewater Park Entrance			
Ballyearl - Driving Range Improvements	-		
Gateway Exhibition Area fit out			
Village Renewals			
Sixmile Leisure Centre and Forum LC Plant refurbishment			
Antrim Central Car Park - Refurbishment	-		
Glengormley Police Station Demolition + Meanwhile Use	-		
Blue / Green Infrastructure Projects- Rathfern Ponds	-		
Mossley Mill Concrete Band Health and Safety works	_		
Carmoney Cemetery - Path Resurfacing	-		

#### **Projects Currently Under Construction**

Table 2 below lists all projects that were currently on-site or where contractor appointment had been made along with the anticipated completion date. The value of schemes currently under construction total  $\pounds$ 9.4m with a spend to date of  $\pounds$ 1.9m.

Project	Project Budget £	External Funding £	Estimated Cost to Council £	Expected Completion
Sculpture, Loughshore Park, Antrim				May-22
Crematorium		-		Dec-22
Skate 100 Urban Sports Park			-	May-22
Valley LC piłch drainage		-		Aug-22
Blue / Green Infrastructure Projects : Antrim Boardwalk Phase 1 Refurbishment				May-22
CCTV Assets		-		Jul-22
Riverfront Regeneration Scheme				May-22

Ballyclare Greenway Path		Aug-22
Rathfern Community Centre Extension	-	Jan-23

# Projects Currently in Design Stage

Table 3 below lists projects that were at 'Design 'stage i.e. schemes where the consultant team is working on the project but the main contractor had still to be appointed.

These schemes would be at various stages of design e.g. scheme design, contractor appointment, statutory approvals being sought, etc. The value of schemes currently at 'Design' stage total  $\pounds16.5m$ .

Project	Project Budget £	External Funding £	Estimated Cost to Council £	Expected On-site	Expected Completion
Antrim Forum Stadium Track Refurbishment				Jul-22	Sep-22
Car Park Refurbishment Programme		-		Jun-22	Oct-22
Crumlin Allotments		-		TBC	TBC
Rathcoole Allotments		-		TBC	TBC
Glengormley Office Block				Sep-22	Mar-24
Glengormley Shopfront Scheme				Aug-22	Oct-22
Glengormley Environmental Improvement Scheme				Apr-23	Jul-25
Muckamore Community Centre - alterations		-		Jun-22	Aug-22
Antrim Forum- Gym refurbishment and essential mechanical and electrical upgrades		-		Aug-22	May-23
Illumination Schemes (8no.)				Jun-22	Sept-22
<b>Manifestations Projects</b>				TBC	TBC
Development of Office / Workspace, Antrim				Sep-22	Jan-23
3G Training pitch - Monkstown		-		Jan-23	Jul-23

Carnmoney Cemetery – Resurfacing Phase 2	-	TBC	TBC

# Projects Currently in Initiation Stage

Table 4 below lists projects where work had started on the main contract consultant appointment.

Project	Project Budget £	Expected On-site	Expected Completion	Notes
Antrim Town Boardwalk – Phase 2		Apr-23	Oct-23	Consultant ITT to be issued
3G Pitch, The Diamond, Rathcoole		Dec-22	Jun-24	Consultant PQQ to be issued
Dunanney Centre and Community Hub building		Dec-22	Jun-24	Consultant PQQ to be issued
Valley LC - VR project and upgrading works		TBC	TBC	Consultant PQQ to be evaluated
Sixmile Leisure Centre footbridge, Ballyclare		Jan-23	Jul-23	Consultant ITT to be evaluated
Carmoney Cemetery - Columbarium and Welfare Facilities	TBC	Apr-23	Jul-23	Consultant RFQ to be issued
Village Settlements Scheme Templepatrick, Doagh & Burnside		Jan-23	Jul-23	Consultant PQQ to be evaluated

# **Projects Awaiting Procurement**

Table 5 below lists projects where work had started on business cases, concept development or funding application had been made. These would not have started a procurement process.

Project	Project Budget £	Expected Completion	Notes
Steeple House Refurbishment	TBC	TBC	Insurance matters resolved
Cranfield Jetty		TBC	Option appraisal being prepared by consultant
Jordanstown Loughshore Park café extension		TBC	Concept drawings prepared
Hazelbank Pavilion and Visitor Facilities		TBC	Business case to be finalised
Queenspark Avenue, Glengormley		TBC	In consultation with NIHE
Antrim Courthouse Café Refurbishment		TBC	Cost estimates prepared for approval

Castle Gardens Café Refurbishment		TBC	Cost estimates prepared for approval
Public Realm – Whiteabbey Village Improvements	TBC	TBC	Survey ongoing to inform proposed scheme
Ulster Bar Corner		TBC	Concept drawings prepared

# Projects at Inception Stage

The table below lists projects awaiting development.

Project
Building C, Mossley Mill
Kingspark Primary School Project
Play Parks Development
Randalstown 3G pitch
3G Pitch Ballyclare
Ballyearl LC - Phase 3 Refurb
Threemilewater Park Phase 3
Crumlin Glen Phase 2
Mallusk Play Park
Neillsbrook Community Centre Improvements
Sixmile LC – Changing Area Refurbishment
Crumlin HRC
Parks and Cemeteries Improvement Works

Proposed by Councillor Webb Seconded by Councillor Wilson and agreed that

#### the report be noted and that the Deputy Chief Executive of Finance and Governance would provide the relevant Members with an update on Neillsbrook Community Centre and the 3G Pitches in Randalstown.

ACTION BY: Sandra Cole, Deputy Chief Executive of Finance and Governance

# 6.2 IN CONFIDENCE FI/PRO/GEN/044 PROCUREMENT TENDER REPORTS AND AWARD OF CONTRACTS

Members were reminded that Council agreed in June 2021 that the Council Scheme of Delegation be used for the award of contracts and Members be updated retrospectively.

This process allows service and project delivery to be expedited more efficiently and facilitates timely delivery of actions against the Council's Recovery plan.

A list of contracts approved by the Corporate Leadership Team and awarded in April 2022 was circulated.

Proposed by Councillor Kelly Seconded by Councillor Ramsay and agreed that

# the report be noted.

NO ACTION

# PROPOSAL TO PROCEED OUT OF 'IN CONFIDENCE'

Proposed by Councillor Webb Seconded by Councillor Wilson and agreed that

#### the remainder of Committee business be taken in Open Session.

The Chairperson advised that audio-recording would recommence at this point.

There being no further Committee business, the Chairperson thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting concluded at 7.01 pm.

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.