



25 September 2019

**To: Each Member of the Council**

Dear Member

**MEETING OF ANTRIM AND NEWTOWNABBIEY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

A meeting of the Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council will be held in the **Chamber, Mossley Mill on Monday, 30 September 2019 at 6.30pm.**

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**

**PLEASE NOTE:**

**Fork buffet will be available from 5.30 pm in the cafe.**

**For any queries please contact Member Services:**

Tel: 028 9034 0048/028 9448 1301

[memberservices@antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk](mailto:memberservices@antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk)

## 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 on Tuesday, 27 August 2019, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 5 To approve the minutes of the proceedings of the Operations Committee Meeting of Monday, 2 September 2019, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 6 To approve the minutes of the proceedings of the Policy and Governance Committee Meeting of Tuesday, 3 September 2019, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 7 To approve the minutes of the proceedings of the Community Planning and Regeneration Committee Meeting held on Monday, 9 September 2019, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 8(a) To approve Part 1 of the minutes of the proceedings of the Planning Committee Meeting held on Monday, 16 September 2019, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- (b) To take as read and confirm the Part 2 of the minutes of the proceedings of the Planning Committee Meeting held on Monday, 16 September 2019, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 9 To approve the minutes of the proceedings of the Audit Committee Meeting of Tuesday, 17 September 2019, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
10. ITEMS FOR DECISION
  - 10.1 Presentation by Northern Ireland Housing Executive
  - 10.2 To Approve the Sealing of Documents
  - 10.3 Schedule of Meetings of Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council
  - 10.4 Every Body Active Leisure Grant Aid
  - 10.5 Ancre Somme Association 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
  - 10.6 Roads Programme – Autumn Consultation Presentation Request
  - 10.7 Request to Present to Council – Social Enterprise NI

- 10.8 NILGA Corporate Plan Consultation
- 10.9 Corporate Performance Reports 2018 -19
- 10.10 Community Development Grant Aid Programme/Community Festivals Fund 2020/21
- 10.11 Business Rates Public Consultation
- 10.12 Development Trust NI (DTNI) Good Economy Partnership 2019
- 10.13 Economic Development - Partnership Minutes
- 10.14 Belfast International Airport Independent Consultative Forum
- 10.15 Environment Strategy for Northern Ireland Public Discussion Launch
- 10.16 Voluntary Severance Scheme

## 11. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- 11.1 Brexit Preparedness Update
- 11.2 Budget Report August 2019
- 11.3 Motion – Belfast City Council
- 11.4 Royal British Legion – Remembrance Day Services and Parades
- 11.5 NI Local Government Association Bulletin
- 11.6 Hydra Minerva – PSNI Training Opportunity for Members
- 11.7 NI Local Government Association Nominations to Policy and Learning Networks
- 11.8 Regionally Significant Planning Application – Kells Solar Farm

## 12. ITEMS IN COMMITTEE

- 12.1 Tender for Supply, Delivery, Installation & Removal of Lighting at the Enchanted Winter Garden Event
- 12.2 Tender for Provision of a PCSP – Domestic & Sexual Violence Awareness Raising Programme 2019-2022
- 12.3 Tender for the Provision of Business Mentoring Services
- 12.4 Tender for Design and Supervision Consultants for Extension to Rathfern Community Centre

12.5 Steeple House Update

12.6 Closure of MWA Partnership Ltd

13. Motion

Proposed by Councillor Victoria McAuley

Seconded by Aldermen Philip Brett and Mark Cosgrove, and Councillors Noreen McClelland, Michael Goodman and Michael Stewart

*"This Council notes that the Prime Minister has recently announced a £25 million cash injection to protect hospice and palliative care services in England, Scotland and Wales, in addition to £25 million in support of children's hospices in England announced earlier this year. None of this cash injection will be allocated to those providing local services, such as the Northern Ireland hospice. It is proposed that the Council write to the Prime Minister and Secretary of State for Northern Ireland requesting they immediately increase and release statutory funding for hospice and palliative care services in Northern Ireland, thereby promoting equality and parity for infants, children and adults who need access to specialist hospice and palliative care across our local communities."*

14. Motion

Proposed by Councillor Roisin Lynch

Seconded by Alderman Mandy Girvan

*"That this Council expresses its deep concern at the decision by Westminster to proceed with reform of abortion law against the wishes of the people of Northern Ireland and their elected representatives, notes the sensitivity and complexity of this issue and instructs the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland requesting that he ensures no legislative changes on abortion be considered until the Northern Ireland Assembly is restored."*

## **REPORT ON BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE COUNCIL MEETING ON MONDAY 30 SEPTEMBER 2019**

### **10. ITEMS FOR DECISION**

#### **10.1 PRESENTATION BY NORTHERN IRELAND HOUSING EXECUTIVE**

Members are advised that the Northern Ireland Housing Executive will be providing a presentation in relation to the Housing Investment Plan for the area.

Mr Colm McQuillan, Director of Housing Services, Mr Frank O'Connor, Regional Manager for North Division, Ms Sharon Crooks, Senior Principal Officer North Division and Ms Louise Clarke, Head of North Place Shaping will be in attendance.

## **10.2 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:-

- The Gateway Franchise – Catering Agreement
- Lease with Solid Solutions for office space at Mossley Mill

**RECOMMENDATION: that the documents be signed and sealed.**

Prepared by: Deirdre Nelson, Paralegal

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

### 10.3 A/GEN /13 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS OF ANTRIM AND NEWTOWNABBEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

The following schedule of dates for Council and Committee meetings are proposed for the period 1 January – 31 December 2020.

Meetings marked in **red** are held at Antrim Civic Centre, while those in black are held at Mossley Mill. All meetings commence at 6.30 pm with the exception of Planning Committee which will start at 6 pm, with consideration of Planning Applications commencing at 6.30 pm.

| Council / Committee Meetings      | Date of Meeting          |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Operations Committee              | Monday 6 January 2020    |
| Policy & Governance Committee     | Tuesday 7 January 2020   |
| Community Planning & Regeneration | Monday 13 January 2020   |
| Planning Committee                | Monday 20 January 2020   |
| Council Meeting                   | Monday 27 January 2020   |
| Operations Committee              | Monday 3 February 2020   |
| Policy & Governance Committee     | Tuesday 4 February 2020  |
| Community Planning & Regeneration | Monday 10 February 2020  |
| Special Council Meeting           | Monday 10 February 2020  |
| Planning Committee                | Monday 17 February 2020  |
| Council Meeting                   | Monday 24 February 2020  |
| Operations Committee              | Monday 2 March 2020      |
| Policy & Governance Committee     | Tuesday 3 March 2020     |
| Community Planning & Regeneration | Monday 9 March 2020      |
| Planning Committee                | Monday 16 March 2020     |
| Audit Committee                   | Wednesday 18 March 2020* |
| Council Meeting                   | Monday 30 March 2020     |
| Operations Committee              | Monday 6 April 2020      |
| Policy & Governance Committee     | Tuesday 7 April 2020     |
| Community Planning & Regeneration | Wednesday 15 April 2020* |
| Planning Committee                | Monday 20 April 2020     |
| Council Meeting                   | Monday 27 April 2020     |
| Operations Committee              | Monday 4 May 2020        |
| Policy & Governance Committee     | Tuesday 5 May 2020       |
| Community Planning & Regeneration | Monday 11 May 2020       |
| Planning Committee                | Monday 18 May 2020       |
| Council Meeting                   | Tuesday 26 May 2020*     |

| <b>Council / Committee Meetings</b>                     | <b>Date of Meeting</b>                               |
|---|--|
| Annual Meeting  | Monday 1 June 2020                                   |
| Operations Committee                                    | Tuesday 2 June 2020                                  |
| Policy & Governance Committee                           | Wednesday 3 June 2020                                |
| Community Planning & Regeneration<br>Planning Committee | Monday 8 June 2020<br>Monday 15 June 2020            |
| Audit Committee   | Tuesday 16 June 2020                                 |
| Council Meeting   | Monday 29 June 2020                                  |
| Planning Committee                                      | Monday 20 July 2020                                  |
| Council Meeting   | Monday 27 July 2020                                  |
| Planning Committee                                      | Monday 17 August 2020                                |
| Council Meeting   | Monday 24 August 2020*                               |
| Operations Committee                                    | Monday 7 September 2020                              |
| Policy & Governance Committee                           | Tuesday 8 September 2020                             |
| Community Planning & Regeneration<br>Planning Committee | Monday 14 September 2020<br>Monday 21 September 2020 |
| Audit Committee   | Tuesday 22 September 2020                            |
| Council Meeting   | Monday 28 September 2020                             |
| Operations Committee                                    | Monday 5 October 2020                                |
| Policy & Governance Committee                           | Tuesday 6 October 2020                               |
| Community Planning & Regeneration<br>Planning Committee | Monday 12 October 2020<br>Monday 19 October 2020     |
| Council Meeting   | Monday 26 October 2020                               |
| Operations Committee                                    | Monday 2 November 2020                               |
| Policy & Governance Committee                           | Tuesday 3 November 2020                              |
| Community Planning & Regeneration<br>Planning Committee | Monday 9 November 2020<br>Monday 16 November 2020    |
| Council Meeting   | Monday 30 November 2020                              |
| Operations Committee                                    | Tuesday 1 December 2020                              |
| Policy & Governance                                     | Wednesday 2 December 2020                            |
| Community Planning & Regeneration<br>Planning Committee | Monday 7 December 2020<br>Tuesday 8 December 2020    |
| Audit Committee   | Wednesday 9 December 2020                            |
| Council Meeting   | Monday 14 December 2020                              |

\* Denotes change of date due to bank/public holiday.



**RECOMMENDATION: that the 2020 Schedule of Meetings for Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council be approved.**

Prepared by: Member Services

Agreed by: Liz Johnston, Head of Governance

Approved by: Sandra Cole, Director of Finance and Governance

#### 10.4 L/LEI/418 LEISURE GRANT AID: EVERY BODY ACTIVE GRANTS

Members are reminded that as part of Sport Northern Ireland's (Sport N.I.) Everybody Active Programme, a total of £27,769 was provided to Council for 2019/2020 financial year to enable the support and development of new physical activity projects within the Borough.

Applicants can apply for 100% funding on eligible costs for physical activity programmes that meet outcomes of the Community Plan. Priority is given to programmes that increase participation among traditionally underrepresented groups that include; women and girls, people with a disability; and, those living in areas of greatest social need (specifically people living within the top 25% of wards designated by NI Multiple Deprivation Measure Index 2010).

A total of 25 eligible EBA applications were received for this call, with recommendations enclosed. To date there have been 31 applications and if the current batch is approved this would bring the total value of grant approved this financial year to £28,956. To note: Officers have secured additional funding from Sport N.I. to meet the £1,187 shortfall in funding that this recommendation requires. If approved, the programme would close for the current year.

**RECOMMENDATION: that the grant awards as detailed are approved.**

Prepared by: Janine Beazley, Grants and Special Projects Officer

Agreed by: Matt McDowell, Head of Leisure

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Director of Operations

## 10.5 G/MSMO/23 ANCRE SOMME ASSOCIATION 10<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

An invitation to a Black Tie Dinner (**enclosed**) has been received from the Ancre Somme Association. The event, which will be supporting AA Veterans Support, is to mark the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Association and will be held on Saturday, 26 October 2019 in Brownlow House, Lurgan

Guests will be greeted upon arrival with a champagne reception and the special guests will include BBC Sport NI pundit Liam Beckett MBE and the Swingtime Starlets.

Tickets for the event are priced at £35 per person or £300 per table of 10.

An invitation from the Association to attend a similar event was received in February 2018 when it was agreed that any Member wishing to attend should do so at their own expense.

**The Council's instructions are requested.**

Prepared by: Member Services

Approved by: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

**10.6 G/MSMO/17 VOL 3 ROADS PROGRAMME – AUTUMN CONSULTATION PRESENTATION REQUEST**

Correspondence has been received from David Porter, Divisional Roads Manager, Department for Infrastructure (DfI) Roads, requesting attendance at a meeting of Council during November 2019 (**enclosed**). The purpose of attendance would be to give Members an overview of the work undertaken by DfI Roads. An electronic copy of this year's progress report will be circulated in advance of the meeting.

**The Council's instructions are requested.**

Prepared by: Member Services

Approved by: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

## 10.7 G/MSMO/7/VOL 5 REQUEST TO PRESENT TO COUNCIL – SOCIAL ENTERPRISE NI

Members are advised that correspondence has been received from Social Enterprise NI requesting attendance at a meeting of a Committee of the Council to make a short presentation on the organisation.

A copy of the request is **enclosed**.

**RECOMMENDATION: that Social Enterprise NI be invited to present to the Community Planning and Regeneration Committee.**

Prepared by: Member Services

Approved by: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

## 10.8 PT/GEN/037 NILGA CORPORATE PLAN 2019-2023 CONSULTATION

Members are advised that the Council were invited to take part in the consultation process on the Northern Ireland Local Government Association's (NILGA) Corporate Plan 2019-2023.

The closing date of the consultation is 30 September 2019 and a copy of the response is **enclosed**.

**RECOMMENDATION: that the response to the consultation on NILGA's Corporate Plan be approved.**

Prepared by: Andrea Richardson, GIS Officer

Agreed by: Helen Hall, Head of Performance and Transformation

Approved by: Sandra Cole, Director of Finance and Governance

## 10.9 PT/CI/019 CORPORATE PERFORMANCE REPORTS 2018-19

Members will be aware that Part 12 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 Section 84(1) places a general duty on councils to “make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the exercise of its functions”.

To fulfil our statutory obligations, two performance reports have been developed which demonstrate the Council's arrangements to secure continuous improvement.

The Annual Report 2018-19 (Final Draft) demonstrates progress towards the delivery of the Corporate Plan and is published on an annual basis. This is **enclosed** for Members' attention.

The Corporate Improvement Plan Performance Report 2018-19 (Final Draft) was reviewed by the Audit Committee on 17 September 2019 and is **enclosed** for Members' attention.

**RECOMMENDATION: that the Annual Report 2018-19 and the Corporate Improvement Plan Performance Report 2018-19 be approved.**

Prepared by: James Porter, Performance Improvement Officer

Agreed by: Helen Hall, Head of Performance and Transformation

Approved by: Sandra Cole, Director of Finance and Governance

**10.10 CP/GEN/034 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANT AID PROGRAMME  
CP/GEN/035 COMMUNITY FESTIVALS FUND 2020/21**

Members are reminded that the closing date for spend under the current Community Development Grant Aid and Community Festivals Fund Programmes is Tuesday 31 March 2020.

Annually the programme opens for applications in October and closes in December with spend applicable from 1 April to 31 March of the following year. It is anticipated that a public call for new applications will be made for the 2020/21 financial year on Monday 14 October 2019 with a closing date of Friday 13 December 2019.

Members are reminded that the total budget for the Community Development Grant Aid Programme included in the 2019/20 estimates was £180,000 (£103,721.50 ANBC, £76,278.50 DFC) and £79,600 for the Community Festivals Fund (£52,400 ANBC/ £27,200 DFC).

Central Government funding is not yet confirmed for 2020/21 but Officers recommend proceeding on the assumption that funding will be forthcoming at approximately the same level as the current financial year. Assuming that Council approves the same level of funding in the 2020/21 estimates then this would equate to overall budgets of £180,000 for Community Development and £79,600 for Community Festivals.

As was the case in previous years a series of interactive information sessions will be organised in both Antrim and Newtownabbey for those groups interested in submitting applications to the 2020/21 Programme. These will be held in Antrim Civic Centre on Wednesday 23 October 2019 and Mossley Mill on Tuesday 5 November 2019 at both 2.30pm and 6.30pm in each venue.

It is proposed to include the following categories again in the 2020/21 Programme:

**Current Grant Categories**

| <b>Grant Scheme</b>          | <b>Grant Type</b>  | <b>Rolling/Call</b> | <b>Maximum Award</b> |
|------------------------------|--|---------------------|----------------------|
| Small Grants                 | Seeding Grant and/or Insurance   | Rolling programme   | £500                 |
|                              | Activity Grant and/or Insurance  | Rolling programme   | £500                 |
| Community Development Grants | Insurance  | Public Call         | £500                 |
|                              | Outreach and Involvement   | Public Call         | £2,000               |
|                              | Summer Schemes   | Public Call         | £1,500               |
|                              | Technical Assistance   | Public Call         | £3,000               |
| Premises Grants              | <b>Only for those groups who didn't apply for a 3 year period last year.</b> | Public Call         | £5,000               |



| <b>Grant Scheme</b> | <b>Grant Type</b> | <b>Rolling/Call</b> | <b>Maximum Award</b> |
|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Festivals Grants    |                   | Public Call         | £5,000               |

Feedback from previous applicants and the advancement in Information Technology has brought about the need to review the current programmes and application processes post 2020/21. Officers are currently working with their counterparts in other Council areas to identify areas of best practice and a further report will be brought to Council in the New Year.

**RECOMMENDATION: that**

- (i) a call for applications for the 2020/2021 grant aid programmes be made on Monday 14 October 2019 and closing on Friday 13 December 2019;**
- (ii) Members approve a budget of £259,600 subject to The Department for Communities contribution for 2020-21.**

Prepared by: Jonathan Henderson, Community Services Officer

Agreed by: Louise Moore, Head of Community Planning

Approved by: Nick Harkness, Director of Community Planning

## 10.11 CE/OA/034 BUSINESS RATES PUBLIC CONSULTATION

On 16 September 2019 Department of Finance launched a consultation on Business Rates Reform. The intention is to ensure that the Business rating system is fit for purpose and is able to fund Northern Ireland's key services at a local and district level.

A briefing session has been organised for Elected Members on 3 October at 7pm in the Yarn Suite, Mossley Mill to provide further information on the process and to listen to Members' views on the current rating system and options for improvement.

Mr Alan Bronte will attend this session. Details of the consultation can be found on the **enclosed** document.

**RECOMMENDATION: Elected Members are asked to note the Business Rates consultation process and advise Member Services if they wish to attend the briefing session on 3 October 2019.**

Prepared by: Sandra Cole, Director of Finance & Governance

## 10.12 CP/CP/122 DEVELOPMENT TRUST NI (DTNI) GOOD ECONOMY PARTNERSHIP 2019

In October 2018 the Council agreed to support Development Trust NI (DTNI) with a project to develop a local Good Economy Partnership. Since then DTNI has worked with Centre for Local Economic Studies (CLES) to create a charter titled Time to Build an Inclusive Local Economy. The charter sets out how to build local wealth and address inequalities in society, encouraging practices, policies and partnerships to:

- Retain wealth within localities;
- Create effective local economic benefits for many;
- Bring greater social returns; and
- Build long-lasting prosperity.

The project is supported by Friends Provident Foundation and aims to develop the capacity of organisations to deliver against the themes referenced above. The intent is to establish an informal group consisting of Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough stakeholders to share learning regarding good economy initiatives and pilot some project or policy proposals. Members will recognise the work areas above as significant factors in achieving the Council's Community Planning and Economic ambitions. DTNI are currently seeking expressions of interest to extend representation on the group to ensure it actively champions these issues. Officers from Community Planning and Economic Development are supporting the group and assisting DTNI with local promotion to broaden representation. The partnership is replicated in Newry, Mourne and Down District Council but is operationally distinct.

To brief Members further on the aims and ambitions of the DTNI Good Economy Partnership an information session has been organised for 16<sup>th</sup> October at 18:30 – 19:30 in the Yarn Suite at Mossley Mill. An introduction to the project will be provided by Mrs Tiziana O'Hara from DTNI. Refreshments will be provided.

Members are asked to please confirm attendance with Tiziana by email: [tiziana.ohara@dtni.org.uk](mailto:tiziana.ohara@dtni.org.uk) before Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October.

A copy of the project charter is available at: [www.dtni.org.uk](http://www.dtni.org.uk)

**RECOMMENDATION: that Members confirm their attendance for the information session on Wednesday 16 October 18:30 – 19:30 in the Yarn Suite at Mossley Mill.**

Prepared by: Colin McCabrey, Head of Economic Development

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

### 10.13 ED/ED/140 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP AND WORKING GROUP MINUTES

Members are advised that the Partnership and Working Group Minutes as listed below can be viewed in the new electronic folder called "**Partnership Minutes for Members Information**" on Members iPads.

| <b>Economic Development</b> |                        |                                 |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>File Ref</b>             | <b>Date of Meeting</b> | <b>Name of Partnership</b>      |
| ED/MI/250                   | 14 June 2019           | GROW Local Action Group Meeting |
| ED/MI/250                   | 9 August 2019          | GROW Local Action Group Meeting |

| <b>Tourism, Town Centres</b> |                        |                            |
|------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>File Ref</b>              | <b>Date of Meeting</b> | <b>Name of Partnership</b> |
| ED/REG/005                   | 3 June 2019            | Antrim Town Team           |
| ED/REG/003                   | 19 June 2019           | Glengormley Town Team      |

**RECOMMENDATION: that**

- a) the GROW Local Action Group Minutes be noted.**
- b) the Town Team Meeting Minutes as listed be approved.**

Prepared by: Kim Murray, Business Support

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

#### **10.14 ED/ED/070 BELFAST INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT - INDEPENDENT CONSULTATIVE FORUM**

Members are advised that Belfast International Airport has requested a replacement for Councillor Mervyn Rea (former), who served on this body for a number of years.

This is not a position of responsibility.

Given the location of the airport in the Borough, the Council may wish to appoint a Member from the Airport DEA.

**RECOMMENDATION: that a Member be appointed to serve on the Belfast International Airport Independent Consultative Forum.**

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

## **10.15 P/FP/LDP/1 ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY FOR NORTHERN IRELAND PUBLIC DISCUSSION LAUNCH**

Members are advised that the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs has launched its 'Environment Strategy for Northern Ireland Public Discussion Document'.

The Department is seeking the views of individuals, organisations and businesses across society in order to understand public views as to what the environment should look like in the future, what our environmental priorities and objectives should be and how we should achieve these.

The public discussion is live from 18<sup>th</sup> September until 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2019.

Should Members wish to submit a corporate response, Officers will review the document and present a draft response to Council for consideration in due course.

**RECOMMENDATION: that Members indicate if they wish to provide a corporate response, or alternatively respond on an individual or Party basis.**

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

## 10.16 HR/HR/027 VOLUNTARY SEVERANCE SCHEME

Members will be aware that the Council has had a Voluntary Severance Scheme in place since 2015.

The Scheme is applied along with a policy regarding the calculation of redundancy payments in circumstances where an employee has chosen to have a career break or a secondment outside of the local government sector. Whilst this is recognised in the Scheme as continuous service it is not counted as “reckonable service”, ie not included in the calculations.

The Council has discretion around this aspect of the policy. Another reason that an employee may not be in the direct employment of the Council may be that they are mobilised for active service with the Reserve Forces. In this case, the decision is outside of the employee's control as they have no choice as to whether they should be mobilised or remain with the Council for that period.

In light of the circumstances relating to these cases, the Council has been asked to consider including periods of compulsory mobilisation as “reckonable service” for the purpose of calculating redundancy payments.

**RECOMMENDATION: that the Council amends its policy to include periods of compulsory mobilisation as “reckonable service”.**

Prepared and Approved by: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

## 11. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

### 11.1 PT/GEN/032 BREXIT PREPAREDNESS - UPDATE

Members are asked to note an update report on the work that had been carried out by the Council in relation to Brexit Preparedness. The Council is working on 'Day One Readiness' (currently 31 October 2019) in the event of a No Deal Brexit.

The Council has adopted a two pronged strategy with regard to preparing for Brexit, in particular:

1. Internal Response.
2. Wider Council Interactions.

A report is **enclosed** for Members' attention and provides an update specifically in relation to the delivery of council services and functions.

**RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.**

Prepared by: Helen Hall, Head of Performance & Transformation

Agreed by: Sandra Cole, Director of Finance & Governance

Approved by: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive



## 11.2 FI/FIN/4 BUDGET REPORT – AUGUST 2019

A budget report for August 2019 is enclosed for Members' information. The Council's variance on Net Cost of Services for the period to the end of June is £184k favourable. In setting the Estimates for the year, Council has budgeted to apply a credit balance from reserves of £700k, equating to £292k for the period of the report.

Taking account of the credit balance application and the income from District Rates and the De-Rating grant being on budget for the period, the overall position of the Council is a decrease of £107k to the General Fund.

**RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.**

Prepared by: Richard Murray, Management Accountant

Agreed By: John Balmer, Head of Finance

Approved by: Sandra Cole, Director of Finance and Governance

### 11.3 G/MSMO/14 MOTION – BELFAST CITY COUNCIL

Members are advised that correspondence has been received from Belfast City Council regarding a Motion adopted by that Council welcoming the work of the Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People's work in promoting positive parenting and Equal Protection for Children, and welcoming any comments.

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

**RECOMMENDATION: that the correspondence from Belfast City Council be noted.**

Prepared by: Member Services

Approved by: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

#### **11.4 G/MSMO/024 ROYAL BRITISH LEGION – REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICES AND PARADES**

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

The Mayor has advised that robes may be worn by those who wish and these are available from the Robing Room in Mossley Mill. On request, Member Services will transport these to Antrim Civic Centre for collection.

Elected Members are asked to contact Member Services to indicate which event they will be attending for catering purposes.

**RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.**

Prepared by: Member Services

Approved by: Sandra Cole, Director of Finance and Governance

## 11.5 CE/OA/005 VOL 2 NI LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION (NILGA) BULLETIN

Members are advised that NILGA has provided the September Bulletin, a copy of which is **enclosed** for Members' information.

**RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.**

Prepared by: Member Services

Approved by: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

## 11.6 CP/PCSP/107 HYDRA MINERVA - PSNI TRAINING OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS

Members are advised that Hydra Minerva is a training simulator utilised by the PSNI to help train officers and police support staff in handling requests for emergency service by using training scenarios that run in real time, replicating the complexity of events and providing experiences that are transferable to actual incidents. The training is designed to be realistic, using replicas of incidents that have happened and provide recipients with the opportunity to take part in activities that are as close to real life emergencies and requests for service as possible.

Through the PSCP, the PSNI have offered the opportunity for PCSP Members to avail of this simulation training and have further extended the invitation to all Elected Members of Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council. It is anticipated that this training will continue to strengthen working relationships and give a more indepth understanding of the nature and volume of requests for service received by the PSNI, coupled with an insight into the process of prioritisation that is applied when service requests for assistance are received.

The PSNI have reserved a training session at Steeple PSNI Training Centre, Antrim on 28 October 2019 from 1.00pm – 5.00pm. A maximum of 16 participants can avail of the training, however if significant interest is received, PSNI have offered to consider additional dates to accommodate requests to avail of the training.

An Expression of Interest will be requested in due course from Members via email and places will be allocated on a 'first come first served' basis.

**RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.**

Prepared by: Andrew Irwin, Community Safety and Good Relations Manager

Agreed by: Louise Moore, Head of Community Planning

Approved by: Nick Harkness, Director of Community Planning

## 11.7 CE/OA/005 VOL 2 NOMINATIONS TO NI LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION POLICY AND LEARNING NETWORKS

Members will be aware that at the July Council meeting it was agreed that the nominations to the five NILGA Policy and Learning Networks for the electoral term be delegated to Group Leaders.

Members are advised that Group Leaders have nominated as follows:

| <b>Party</b> | <b>Network</b>   | <b>Councillor</b>      |
|--------------|--|------------------------|
| DUP          | Place Shaping & Infrastructure                                   | Cllr Alison Bennington |
| UUP          | Reform, Devolution and Improvement                               | TBC                    |
| SDLP         | Health, Social and Environmental Wellbeing                       | Cllr Lynch             |
| SF           | Local Economic Development, Investment and International Affairs | Cllr Goodman           |
| ALL          | Elected Member Development                                       | Cllr Webb              |

**RECOMMENDATION: that the nominations be noted.**

Prepared by: Member Services

Approved by: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

**11.8 P/PLAN/013 REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT PLANNING APPLICATION – KELLS SOLAR FARM (REFERENCE LA03/2015/0234/F)**

At the August Council meeting Members resolved that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Planning Committee Meeting of Monday 19 August 2019, Part 1 be approved and adopted, with the exception of Item 3.7 which related to a report on a regionally significant planning application for a Solar Farm at Kells being processed by the Department for Infrastructure (see details below).

**Application Reference:** LA03/2015/0234/F  
**Proposal:** 50MW Solar Farm  
**Location:** Lands located East and West of Whappstown Road and to the North of Doagh Road, Northwest of Kells, Co Antrim.  
**Applicant:** Elgin Energy

Following discussion of the item it was agreed that a request should be made to the Department to appear before and be heard by the Planning Appeals Commission in relation to this application, subject to legal advice.

Subsequently the Council's Legal Services Officers advised that they were content that in seeking a hearing on this application the Council would not be liable for costs associated with the hearing.

Correspondence was sent to the Department on 6 September 2019 (enclosed) to request a hearing before the Planning Appeals Commission (or other such independent person appointed by the Department for the purpose of a hearing) on this application. Mid and East Antrim Borough Council has also since written to the Department to request such a hearing.

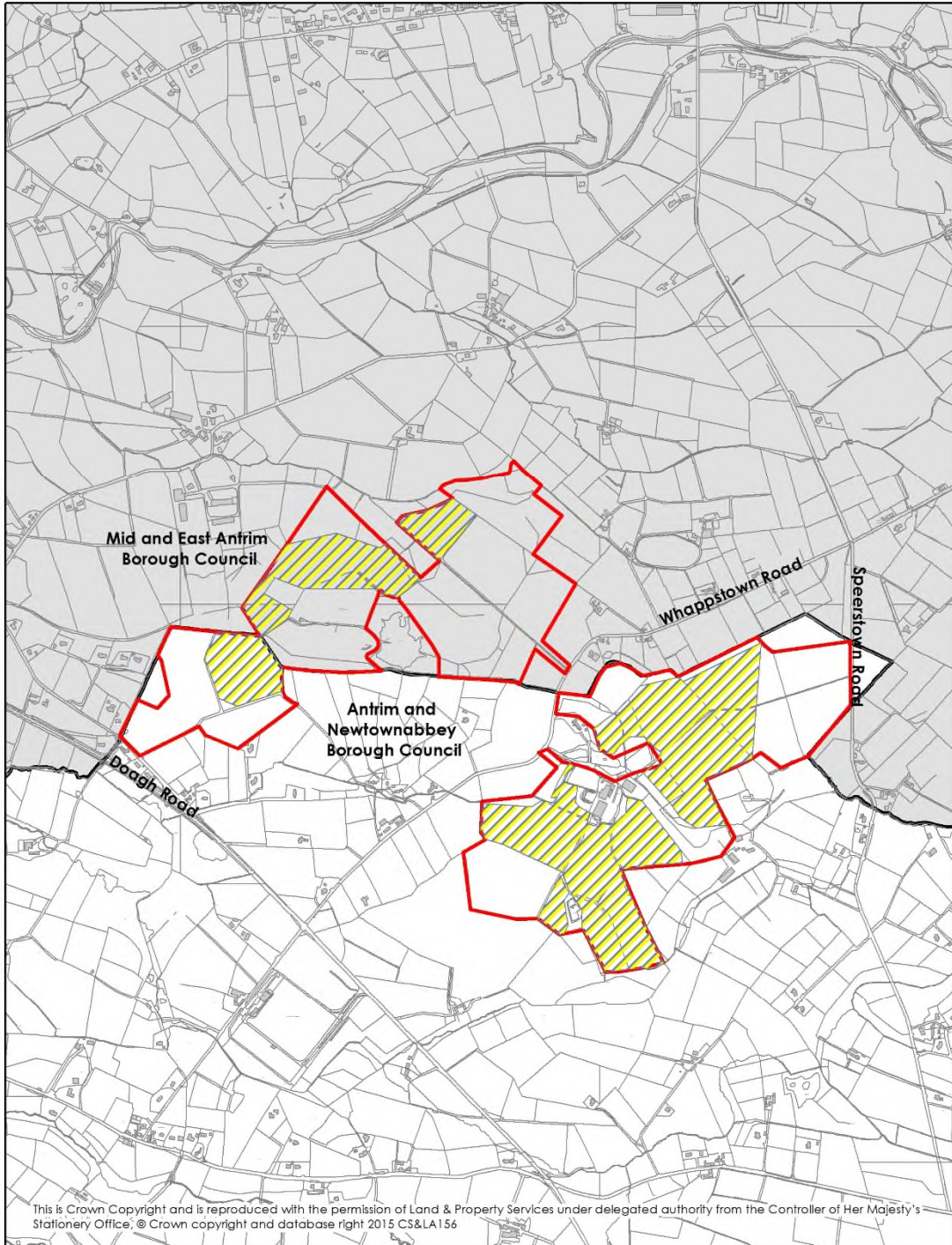
There is nothing in legislation or policy that requires the Council to put forward a particular position on the proposal and that it can in effect take a neutral stance at the hearing. Notwithstanding this, now that a hearing has been requested by both Councils, this will afford the key parties involved in this case, both the developers and local residents, the opportunity to present their views on the scheme to the hearing for consideration.

Irrespective of the report prepared following the hearing requested (whether by the PAC or other such independent person appointed by the Department), the final decision on this regionally significant planning application will ultimately rest with the Department.

**RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.**

Prepared by: John Linden, Head of Planning

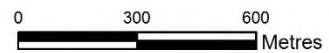
Approved by: Majella McAlister, Director of Economic Development and Planning



## Location Map

**Application Reference: LA03/2015/0234/F**

Proposed solar farm with total generating capacity of 50MW. Lands at Whappstown Road, Moorefields, Castlegore, Ballymena.



 **Site Boundary**     **Extent of Solar Panels in amended scheme**

