



30 March 2022

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

Dear Member

**MEETING OF THE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

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

You are requested to attend.

Yours sincerely

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

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

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

Tel: 028 9034 0048/028 9448 1301

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

## **A G E N D A**

### **1 APOLOGIES**

### **2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

### **3 ITEMS FOR DECISION**

- 3.1 Approval of Premises as a Cooked Meats Ready Meal Manufacturer – Tasty Grub Club Ltd 108B Hillhead Road, Ballyclare
- 3.2 Leisure Grant Aid Programme
- 3.3 Mary Peters Trust – Request for Assistance 2022/23
- 3.4 Request from Crumlin and District Angling Association
- 3.5 Pilot of Soft Plastics Kerbside Collection Service
- 3.6 On Street Residential Charging Scheme (ORCS) Update
- 3.7 Local Biodiversity Action Plan - Consultation
- 3.8 Parks and Open Spaces Sub Group
- 3.9 Request for Car Park Closure – Ballyclare May Fair
- 3.10 Ulster Hockey 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- 3.11 Consultation on the Introduction of Mandatory Digital Waste Tracking
- 3.12 Capital Fund for Energy Efficiency in Council Properties
- 3.13 Energy Management Action Plan 2022-2025

### **4 ITEMS FOR NOTING**

- 4.1 Summer Schemes 2022
- 4.2 Darkness into Light 2022
- 4.3 Commemorative Programme

### **5 ITEMS IN CONFIDENCE**

- 5.1 Quotation for the Right to Sell Foodstuffs and Drinks in Council Parks
- 5.2 arc21 Joint Committee Papers
- 5.3 Cemetery Burial Capacity Update

5.4 Ballynure - Potential to Develop Circular Walking Route

**6 ANY OTHER RELEVANT BUSINESS**

**REPORT ON BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE  
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING ON  
MONDAY 4 APRIL 2022**

**3 ITEMS FOR DECISION**

**3.1 EH/EHS/FC/017 APPROVAL OF PREMISES AS A COOKED MEATS READY MEAL MANUFACTURER – TASTY GRUB CLUB LTD 108B HILLHEAD ROAD, BALLYCLARE**

Members are reminded that since 1 June 2006, it has been a legislative requirement to approve product specific food establishments under regulation EC 853/2004.

If a food business, prepares or handles food of animal origin for supply to other businesses, the business and its activities require approval by Council. All products made in approved premises must display a Health Mark with an Identification Number.

The Council's Environmental Health Service as the relevant enforcing authority, has inspected the following premises in accordance with Regulation EC 853/2004 and other relevant regulations.

<b>Premises</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Identification Number</b>
Tasty Grub Club Ltd	108B Hillhead Road Ballyclare Co. Antrim BT39 9LN	UK(NI) ZJ 025 EC

The premises have been inspected and fully comply with current legislative requirements. Full approval is therefore deemed appropriate.

**RECOMMENDATION: that full approval be granted to Tasty Grub Club Ltd as a Cooked Meats Ready Meal Manufacturer.**

Prepared by: Colin Kelly, Head of Environmental Health & Wellbeing

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations

### 3.2 L/LEI/002 LEISURE GRANT AID PROGRAMME

Members are advised that following the fourth call for applications to the Leisure Grant Aid Programme (January and February 2022), a total of 37 applications were submitted. All 37 applications have been scored with a table setting out details and recommendations enclosed.

This is the final call of the Leisure Grant Aid Programme for 2021/22 and should approval be given for the grants listed, a total of £146,338 grant aid will have been approved for the year against an annual budget of £170,000. This compares to a commitment of £127,374 approved spend for the year 2019/20 (the 2020/21 programme having been suspended due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic). There has been significant interruption to sports – clubs, individuals, competitions, events etc. during the financial year and, in addition, Council's decision to provide a hardship fund, gave clubs an opportunity to secure grant for COVID related needs.

Overall however, despite the challenges the uptake has been very encouraging.

Category	Approved to date 2021/22			Applications this call (1/01/2022-28/02/22)		Funding Balance remaining (subject to approval of applications listed)
	No. of apps	Budget	Approved spend to date 21/22	No. of apps.	Grants proposed (£)	
Capital Grants	1	£40,000	£20,000	1	£20,000	£0
Grants to Clubs	14	£50,000	£40,001	3	£2,175	£7,824
Grants to Athletes	28	£30,000	£19,335	12	£6,700	£3,965
Grants to Coaches and Officials	4	£5,000	£1,100	12	£3,255	£645
Sports Event Grant	6	£40,000	£21,886	5	£7,378	£10,735
Defibrillator Grant	4	£5,000	£4,508	0	£0	£492
<b>Allocation total</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>£170,000</b>	<b>£106,830</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>£39,508.50</b>	<b>£23,661</b>
Fitness Suite Gold Card	3	20 Applications	3	4	3 eligible	14 applications
<b>Total spend to date including this call, if approved: £146,338</b>						

**RECOMMENDATION:** that the grant awards set out in the enclosure be approved.

Prepared by: Anna Boyle, Sport & Physical Activity Programmes Manager

Agreed by: Deaglan O'Hagan, Head of Leisure Operations and Matt McDowell, Deputy Director Operations (Parks & Leisure)

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations

### 3.3 L/LEI/2 MARY PETERS TRUST – REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE 2022/23

Correspondence has been received from the Mary Peters Trust requesting financial support for its sporting awards to upcoming athletes (enclosed).

Members are reminded that the Trust provides encouragement and financial support to young sportsmen and women from across Northern Ireland. Within the Borough the range of sporting disciplines supported in 2022/23 includes: archery, golf, athletics, para triathlon, boxing, netball and canoeing.

The Trust celebrates the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Mary Peters' Gold Medal for Pentathlon at the 1972 Munich Olympics this year and plans to support as many young athletes as possible as they prepare for the 2022 Commonwealth Games and to provide essential support for young people coming out of the pandemic and back into competition.

Council support for the last 5 financial years had been £2,000 per annum. A list of those athletes from the Borough who have received support is set out in the letter.

Committee may wish to consider sending congratulations to Dame Mary Peters on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her historic gold medal win.

**RECOMMENDATION: that a contribution of £2,000 be made to support the work of the Mary Peters Trust within the Borough for 2022/2023.**

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

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations

### 3.4 PK/GEN/1078/VOL2 REQUEST FROM CRUMLIN AND DISTRICT ANGLING ASSOCIATION

Members are advised that correspondence has been received from Crumlin and District Angling Association, **enclosed**, enquiring about the potential to utilise the disused toilet block at Crumlin Glen on the basis of a lease, at a peppercorn rent. The intention would be to use the building as a hub for angling and conservation work giving anglers somewhere to meet and providing space for storage of equipment.

The toilet block was closed over 10 years ago due to the high levels of anti-social behaviour resulting in extensive vandalism. The building is in a considerable state of disrepair although water and electricity supplies are still connected. It would be the intention of the Association, if granted use of the building, to use volunteers from the group to do some refurbishment through their own funding streams. All works carried out would have to be of an acceptable standard as vouched by Property Services.

The Association has set out in its correspondence that it has worked collaboratively with Council for several years on various conservation and community initiatives, and its members see the proposal as the next step in furthering this relationship. They also anticipate that if they are granted use of the building that it will help to reduce anti-social behaviour in the Glen through there being a more consistent presence on site.

If approved, Officers will progress leasing arrangements and report to Committee in due course.

**RECOMMENDATION: that approval is given to progress discussions with Crumlin and District Angling Association for the lease of the disused toilet block at Crumlin Glen as an angling hub, with Committee updated as appropriate.**

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

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations



### 3.5 WM/WM/37 PILOT OF SOFT PLASTICS KERBSIDE COLLECTION SERVICE

Bryson Recycling is currently examining the potential to collect soft plastics and has made an approach to pilot collections as part of their wheelie box collection service. The pilot proposed would be initially to a small sample of 200 houses. The pilot will allow analysis of collection methods, establish the type of soft plastics to be collected and possible end markets.

Members are reminded of the impending Extend Producer Responsibility regulations which are likely to require the collection of soft plastics like bread, crisps and fruit bags. At present there are a number of small pilots taking place in England and Wales and the findings from this scheme in the Borough will help shape future collection arrangements.

Bryson Recycling has identified 200 households in Richmond/Abernethy area highlighted in the map, enclosed, with a projected start date in early June 2022 for a six month pilot period. This area has been chosen for the demographics, participation rates and crew management. The residents participating in the pilot will be provided with full guidance on what can be recycled and a team visiting the homes as well as leaflet distribution. There will be no cost to Council for the pilot and the results will be reported to Committee.

**RECOMMENDATION: that Council approves a kerbside collection pilot by Bryson Recycling for collection of soft plastics at 200 houses in Glengormley DEA, as set out above.**

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

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

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations

### 3.6 PBS/PS/001 ON STREET RESIDENTIAL CHARGING SCHEME (ORCS) UPDATE

Members are reminded that approval was given for submission of 14 locations as part of a collaborative application to the On Street Residential Charging Scheme (ORCS), coordinated through the Department of Transport in England. The purpose of the scheme is to increase the availability of on-street charge points in residential streets where off-street parking is not available, thereby ensuring that on-street parking is not a barrier to realising the benefits of owning a plug-in electric vehicle.

Each of the maximum of 15 locations listed in the application had to be submitted to NIE in the first instance for suitability. Members will recall that of the first batch of locations submitted to NIE Networks, a total of 6 were deemed as viable:

Cashel Drive, Monkstown	Threemilewater DEA
Carn Way, Newtownabbey	Threemilewater DEA
Queens Avenue, Glengormley	Glengormley Urban DEA
Parkmount Road, Mallusk	Airport DEA
Thyme Park, Antrim	Antrim DEA
Firmount Drive, Antrim	Antrim DEA

A further revised list of 8 potential locations was then submitted, following approval in March, in order that the application included options in each DEA. From the 8 locations submitted the following have been deemed as viable by NIE Networks:

Wallace Park Carpark	Airport DEA
Toome Play Park Carpark	Dunsilly DEA

As the final date for submission of the application to the Department of Transport was the end of March, Officers got agreement from NIE to review the suitability of a further 6 locations in the Borough as a priority to optimise the locations listed in the application:

New Street layby	Dunsilly DEA
Harrier Way carpark	Ballyclare DEA
Mill Road carpark	Ballyclare DEA
Sixmile Leisure Centre carpark	Ballyclare DEA
Whiteabbey carpark	Macedon DEA
Farmley carpark	Glengormley Urban DEA

Only 2 of these were deemed to be suitable - Harrier Way carpark and Sixmile Leisure Centre, details **enclosed**. The additional locations were selected on the basis of the same criteria as previously.

This means that the complete list of locations included in the final application is:

Parkmount Road, Mallusk/Wallace Park, Templepatrick	Airport
Thyme Park/Firmount Drive, Antrim	Antrim
Cashel Drive, Monkstown/Carn Way	Threemilewater

Queens Avenue  
Toome Playpark, Toome  
Rosslea Way, Rathcoole  
Harrier Way carpark/Sixmile Leisure Centre

Glengormley  
Dunsilly  
Macedon  
Ballyclare

When the funding programme re-opens in April 2022, a further application to the Department of Transport will be developed and additional set of locations presented to Committee for consideration.

**RECOMMENDATION: that retrospective approval is given for the additional two locations approved by NIE Networks, for inclusion in the joint application for funding for On-street Residential Charging facilities, namely, Harrier Way Car park and Sixmile Leisure Centre.**

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

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations

### 3.7 PK/BIO/041 LOCAL BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN – CONSULTATION

Members are reminded that in 2020, Officers conducted a biodiversity audit to establish key information on local habitats and species. The results of the audit informed the development of the Local Biodiversity Action Plan.

A consultation on the draft Plan has been completed with responses received from Department for Infrastructure, Belfast Hills Partnership, The National Trust, The Woodland Trust, the Northern Ireland Badger Group, together with some local residents.

In summary, the key feedback from the consultation is as follows:

- Increase rewilding of Council land
- Replant trees and hedgerows lost to diseases such as Ash dieback
- Consider new wetland as part of sustainable underground drainage or flood alleviation schemes
- Promote riparian planting projects along rivers to reduce bankside erosion and improve water quality
- Provide additional protection for our ancient woodlands by encouraging buffer planting and the removal of invasive species
- Plant locally sourced and grown trees to mitigate against the introduction of new pests and diseases
- Include additional target species - Badger, Pine Marten, Lesser Butterfly Orchid, Cryptic Wood White, Latticed Heath, Hen Harrier, Merlin and Kestrel

Taking into account the consultation comments, **enclosed**, a number of amendments have been made to the draft Action Plan, marked in red on the relevant Section of Plan, **enclosed**, entitled Key Objectives and Actions. If approved, the final draft Local Biodiversity Action Plan will be completed for Committee consideration and subsequently, made available on the website and issues to relevant partner organisations.

Members may also wish to note that NIHE, DfI Roads and relevant Officers have established a Biodiversity Group through the Place Outcome Delivery Group (Community Planning Partnership) to work jointly on biodiversity issues. Members will be kept informed of outcomes.

**RECOMMENDATION: that the draft Actions and Objectives be approved for inclusion in the Local Biodiversity Action Plan.**

Prepared by: Elaine Upton, Countryside Officer

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

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations

### **3.8 PK/GEN/035/VOL4 PARKS AND OPEN SPACES SUB GROUP**

At the most recent Parks and Open Spaces Sub-Group meeting on 15 March 2022, Members considered a detailed report. Arising from the meeting a series of recommendations were made for consideration by the Operations Committee and the minutes of the meeting are **enclosed**.

**RECOMMENDATION: that the minutes of the Parks and Open Spaces Sub-Group meeting held on 15 March 2022 be approved.**

Prepared by: Angela Ross, Parks Development Officer

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

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations

### 3.9 AC/EV/025 REQUEST FOR CAR PARK CLOSURE – BALLYCLARE MAY FAIR

Members are reminded that the Ballyclare May Fair Festival will take place from Saturday 21 to Saturday 28 May 2022. To facilitate this event, it will be necessary to use car parks at Council facilities and for the temporary closure of the Car parks at Harrier Way and The Square, Ballyclare as outlined in Table 1.

<b>CAR PARK</b>	<b>DATE/TIME</b>
Harrier Way	10.00pm on Saturday 21 May 2022 through to midnight on Sunday 29 May 2022.
Sixmile Leisure Centre	10.00pm on Saturday 21 May 2022 through to midnight on Sunday 29 May 2022.
The Square	Tuesday 24 May (from 6.00am to midnight) and Saturday 28 May (from 6.00am to midnight)
Ballyclare Town Hall	Tuesday 24 May (from 6.00am to midnight) and 6.00am on Friday 27 May through to midnight Saturday 28 May 2022.

**RECOMMENDATION:** that, in order to accommodate the May Fair, approval be given for the use of Harrier Way, the Square and Sixmile Leisure Centre car parks for the time periods outlined above.

Prepared by: Natasha Donald, Economic Development

Agreed by: Colin McCabrey, Head of Economic Development and Matt McDowell, Deputy Director of Operations (Parks and Leisure)

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations

### 3.10 L/LEI/001 ULSTER HOCKEY 125<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

A request has been received for Council support to help to recognise Ulster Hockey's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary year in 2022 by having the local clubs -Antrim, Randalstown, Mossley, Parkview (ladies and men) and Ballyclare, stage an exhibition on their histories. The request is that Council provides suitable location(s) for such exhibitions through as well as display boards.

It is feasible to provide exhibition stands and designate a space in Antrim Forum, Six Mile and Valley Leisure Centres for use by local Hockey Clubs. The clubs would be responsible for the content. If approved, it is anticipated that the exhibitions would commence in early June for a period of 6 weeks.

**RECOMMENDATION: that approval be given for provision of display space and boards for the hockey clubs, as set out above, to stage exhibitions at Antrim Forum, Sixmile and Valley Leisure Centres marking Ulster Hockey's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary.**

Prepared by: Anna Boyle, Sport & Physical Activity Development Manager

Agreed by: Deaglan O'Hagan, Head of Leisure Operations and Matt McDowell, Deputy Director of Operations (Parks and Leisure)

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations

### 3.11 WM/WM/40 CONSULTATION ON THE INTRODUCTION OF MANDATORY DIGITAL WASTE TRACKING

Members are reminded that a consultation on the Introduction of Mandatory Digital Waste Tracking was jointly published by all UK governments to enable regulations to be put in place to establish a digital waste tracking system and require those who produce, handle, dispose of or make products from waste, to enter information onto it. The consultation document can be found at: <https://consult.defra.gov.uk/environmental-quality/waste-tracking/>

Officers have liaised with colleagues from arc21 and the other arc21 constituent councils, to develop the draft response to the consultation, enclosed.

The consultation document lays out options for the potential introduction of mandatory waste recording, including proposed tracking of all waste materials, from all sectors and from all licenced premises, including residents using the Household Recycling Centres.

In summary, the draft response is in favour of having a waste tracking system relating to waste and recyclables that move between brokers which can be difficult to track and trace. A move to digital tracking will make this easier for regulators but also makes system more transparent for the public. In theory people will be able to track any of their waste.

. Council believes that controlled waste managed by Local Authorities is already managed and reported in a comprehensive manner and by creating these proposed restrictions on residents and Council commercial waste businesses using our services it will result in significant adverse financial and resource implications and potentially lead to further illegal dumping of waste;

It highlights that the proposed method lacks detail on the IT system, who will be required to use it, and the overall benefits of the system. It is suggested that the proposed system would also impose significant financial and resource burdens on Councils. As with previous consultations, there are questions that are aimed at specific sections of the waste industry, especially in relation to dangerous and hazardous goods, and as a result, the draft response states Council is unable to respond or provide detail in relation to these.

The other key points of the draft response are as follows:

- Introducing the system to classify waste to enable tracking to waste producers, such as small to medium businesses, will be expensive, complex to use and may not result in the Government's intended aim of a better regulated waste industry;
- The consultation lacks detail on the proposed new tracking system which will replace the current Waste Data Flow (WDF) reporting mechanism. Clarification is required as to whether management and



analytical reports similar the ones currently available on WDF will be available from the new system;

- Proposed timeframes for recording waste movements and end destination are unrealistic as many processors are unable to provide waste information until materials are sold through brokers into a global market;
- There will be a significant additional financial and resource burden placed on all sectors of the Waste Management industry (producers, carriers, processors and Local Authorities) to implement the hardware, software, administration and staff training for the proposed system.

**RECOMMENDATION: that the draft response to the Introduction of Mandatory Digital Waste Tracking Consultation be approved.**

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

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

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations

### **3.12 PBS/PS/016 CAPITAL FUND FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN COUNCIL PROPERTIES**

Members may wish to note that in December 2021, the Northern Ireland Executive published its Energy Strategy – The Path to Net Zero. The strategy outlines a roadmap to 2030 aiming to deliver a 56% reduction in Northern Ireland's energy-related emissions, on the pathway to deliver the 2050 vision of net zero carbon and affordable energy.

Council's Property Energy Strategy aims to guide future strategic management decisions in relation to energy and water use and to effectively control carbon emissions. In tandem, Council has developed a Climate Change all party working group to progress Council's aspirations with regard to Climate Change and environmental sustainability.

A Property Energy Strategy Action Plan for 2022-2025 is the next step in Council's commitment to tackling the climate crisis, championing the case for the adaptation of our assets and the implementation of mitigation actions that will reduce our emissions.

Key aspects of the Energy Strategy/Climate Change Action Plans focus on the need to improve the performance of existing buildings in terms of energy efficiency and to reduce the use of fossil fuels as an energy source. While there are significant challenges across the Council's built and natural environment to decarbonise, there are also opportunities to improve our performance through setting standards, best practice and strategic decision making.

Energy use in some of Council's buildings is significant as are carbon emissions and whilst progress has already been made, there is more to do both in retrofitting existing buildings, as improvements are being implemented, and through proactively seeking alternative energy solutions. Retrofitting provides an opportunity to achieve both operational carbon (reducing energy consumption) and significant embodied carbon savings (retention and renewal of existing properties as opposed to demolition and new build). An energy efficient building fabric is needed to be both effective in cost savings and emissions reductions. This is more significant currently as energy costs continue to increase significantly given the current economic situation in the commodities market.

In order to plan ahead and prepare for improvements to building stock, it is proposed that consideration be given to establishing an annual capital fund. This would support the decarbonisation of Council building stock as well as being a tangible commitment to the implementation of the Council's Energy Strategy and associated Action Plan.

This would enable Council to make strategic climate change decisions related to its building stock, through sustained funding which could deliver a package of energy improvement measures.

At present, the Council spends approximately £2 million annually on utility bills and in the current climate this will increase, potentially significantly. A capital

fund, representative of 15%, for example, of the current annual utilities expenditure, would provide £300,000 of capital expenditure to deliver improvements to Council buildings across the Borough. This could be included in the Capital Programme presented annually at the Corporate Workshop. Having established a baseline of data relating to energy use within our building stock, the Property Services team aims to adopt a more holistic approach to assessing the performance of a building, by continuing the collation of data in relation to the carbon footprint of each building. The creation of a capital fund, if approved, would help to deliver energy efficiency initiatives that would provide significant reductions in energy use and by association, its carbon footprint.

**RECOMMENDATION: that approval is given for the creation of a Capital Fund to facilitate energy efficiency improvements to Council building stock equivalent to 15% (approximately £300,000) of the average cost annual cost of utility bills based on the 2021 – 2022 baseline cost.**

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

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations

### 3.13 PBS/PS/016 ENERGY MANAGEMENT ACTION PLAN 2022-2025

Members will recall last month's presentation on energy use across the Council estate highlighting the challenges that exist in reducing energy consumption, carbon emissions and the finances. These issues are exacerbated by current market volatility due to the situation in Ukraine, making the Action Plan even more important.

Efficient and effective management and usage of the Council's energy and water resources are extremely important both from a climate and financial perspective. Council has previously established an Energy Strategy which guides the future strategic energy and water management decisions. Having realised the targets set out in the initial Energy Management Action Plan (2019-2022), Property Services have prepared an updated Action Plan that sets further targets for the next three years, 2022-2025, **enclosed**.

The Action Plan aims to establish baseline energy use across Council buildings through a programme of energy and water audits, which will provide recommendations to reduce both energy and water consumption. The Action Plan recognises the need for Council to develop its capability with regard to energy purchasing in order to obtain energy from renewable sources and to benefit from competitive tariff levels that reduce exposure to market volatility.

The establishment of an annual capital budget for energy efficiency improvements in Council buildings is an important part of realising future improvements and a proposal regarding the establishment of a capital fund is set out in a separate report for Committee's consideration. If approved, this would allow energy and water saving investments where the capital cost is less than or equal to the anticipated savings over the life of the asset. On a separate, but related note, Members are advised that Council's current energy contract, in partnership with a range of other Northern Ireland Councils, is due to end in April. Due to the volatility of the market, no suppliers are currently willing to lock into a long term contract. The only option available, therefore, is a monthly pricing option mirroring the market value which is set by the regulator. Therefore, prices will be set and agreed monthly until there is a full supplier agreement in place. Prices are therefore expected to fluctuate monthly in what is currently a supplier led market which offers no budget stability. Councils will be forced to adapt to this new approach to budgeting.

A number of steps have been taken to try to mitigate the effects of currently increasing prices of gas and electricity. This is in addition to savings realised through the work of the recently appointed Energy Performance Officer. These include, adjusting timing of heating systems, issuing communications to remind staff to switch off lights, printers etc. and keeping windows closed (whilst observing COVID related guidance). This is in line with the commitments in the Environmental Management System (ISO 14001). In addition, the 5 biggest energy users: Valley Leisure Centre, Mossley Mill, Sixmile Leisure Centre, Antrim Forum and Antrim Civic Centre have been

prioritised for assessments of biomass, CHP, heating systems, etc. so that energy usage and costs are minimised.

From a fleet perspective, the cost of fuel is also an issue in the current market. The planned replacement of a number of vehicles this year, the majority of which will be electric, will result in significant savings. Despite electricity costs also increasing, the differential between the cost of electricity and diesel means that there will still significant savings.

A report will be brought to Committee each month to update Members during this period of unprecedented price rises.

**RECOMMENDATION: that the Property Energy Management Action Plan 2022-2025 be approved and actions to address current price increases noted.**

Prepared & Agreed by: Stephen Hipkins, Head of Property & Building Services

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations

## 4 ITEMS FOR NOTING

### 4.1 L/LEI/004/VOL 2 SUMMER SCHEMES 2022

Members are reminded that Council delivers a series of Summer Schemes and Sports camps as well as providing funding for a number of inclusive schemes through the Special Schools in the Borough. Due to restrictions relating to the COVID-19 pandemic, the schemes in 2020 and 2021 were delivered virtually. For the summer of 2022 it is proposed that the normal pre pandemic delivery model will resume as follows:

<b>Scheme</b>	<b>Dates 2022</b>	<b>Times</b>	<b>Age groups</b>
Six Mile Leisure Centre (Ballyclare)	18 July –19Aug	10am -3pm	6-12yrs
Valley Leisure Centre	18 July –19Aug	10am -3pm	6-12yrs
Ballyearl Arts and Leisure Centre (Arts and Crafts)	18 July –19Aug	10am – 3pm	6-12yrs
Merville and Rathfern	18 July – 12 Aug	10am – 1pm	6-12yrs
Lilian Bland	18 July –19Aug	10am – 3pm	6-14yrs
Thompson Primary School	18 – 22 July	10am – 3pm	6-12yrs
Kilbride Church/St Brides	25 July – 29 July	10am – 3pm	6-12yrs
Ballynure Methodist	1-5 Aug & 8-12 Aug	10am – 3pm	6-12yrs
Hydepark Church	15 - 19 Aug	10am – 3pm	6-12yrs
Crumlin Leisure Centre	19-21 July	10am – 3pm	5-14yrs
Antrim Forum Sport & Physical Activity week	26– 28 July & 2-4 Aug	10am – 3pm	5-14yrs
Castle Gardens Outdoor Sport & Physical Activity Camp	9-11 August	10am – 3pm	5-14yrs
Inclusive Summer Schemes	tbc	tbc	4yrs+
Sports Specific Camps (Athletics, Dance, Tennis & Football) Various centres	July & August	10am – 1pm	5yrs +
Special School Summer Scheme Programmes			

Inclusiveness is an important part of Council's provision and the £5,000 grants to each of the 5 Special Schools in the Borough will be offered to enable delivery of a Summer Scheme/Programme.

Following the successful pilot Special Summer Scheme in 2019 at Allen Park, catering for the personal care needs of children with complex disabilities and medical conditions, this will be incorporated into the summer scheme programme going forward. Delivered in partnership with the Mae Murray Foundation, the pilot scheme provided one to one care for 17 children providing sensory play, inclusive wheelchair games, inclusive biking and arts and crafts. Provision at both sides of the Borough is planned going forward.

In addition, the Accessibility and Customer Services Officer provides support to the Council run schemes, to ensure that individual care needs and adjustments are met.

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

Prepared by: Anna Boyle, Sport & Physical Activity Programmes Manager and Ellen Boyd, Accessibility and Customer Services Officer

Agreed by: Deaglan O'Hagan, Head of Leisure Operations, Matt McDowell, Deputy Director of Operations (Parks and Leisure) and Ronan McKenna, Head of Community Planning

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations, Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning and Debbie Rogers, Director of Organisation Development

## **4.2 L/LEI/648 DARKNESS INTO LIGHT 2022**

Members are reminded that there has been a charity walk event in partnership with the Darkness into Light charity since 2016, until it was held virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The event encourages people to walk in memory of loved ones lost through suicide and in doing so to raise awareness about suicide prevention services as well as supporting charities involved in this vital work.

The return of a worldwide programme of in person events is scheduled this year starting at sunrise on Saturday 7 May 2022 at V36 at the Valley. The event will be promoted by the Darkness into Light Charity and through Council's social media and website.

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

Prepared by: Anna Boyle, Sport & Physical Activity Development Manager and Deaglan O'Hagan, Head of Leisure Operations

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

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations



#### 4.3 PK/GEN/001/VOL3 COMMEMORATIVE PROGRAMME

##### Update on Commemorative Programme Sponsorship of Benches and Trees.

###### Benches

Year	Total	Location
Qtr 3 2021	2	Crumlin Cemetery (1), Threemilewater Park (1).
Qtr 4 2022	3	Antrim Castle Gardens (1), Gideons Green (2).

###### Trees \*

###### Tree planting is only carried out Qtr 3 & 4 (Nov to Feb)

Year	Total	Location
Qtr 4 2021	2	Hazelbank Park (1), Jordanstown Loughshore Park (1)
Qtr 1 2022	2	Sixmilewater Park (2)

All requests were compliant with Council policy.

**RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted**

Prepared by: Glenda James, Parks Administration Supervisor

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

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations