



2 October 2024

Committee Chair: Councillor V McWilliam

Committee Vice-Chair: Councillor A McAuley

Committee Members: Aldermen P Bradley, L Clarke, J McGrath and J Smyth

Councillors – J Burbank, R Foster, J Gilmour, AM Logue, E McLaughlin, H Magill, M Ní Chonghaile, M Stewart and S Ward

Dear Member

**MEETING OF THE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

A meeting of the Operations Committee will be held in the **Round Tower Chamber, Antrim Civic Centre on Monday 7 October 2024 at 6.30 pm.**

You are requested to attend.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Baker".

Richard Baker, GM MSc  
**Chief Executive, Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council**

**PLEASE NOTE: Refreshments will be available in the Café from 5.20pm**

**For any queries please contact Member Services:**  
Tel: 028 9448 1301

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

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

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### **2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

### **3 ITEMS FOR DECISION**

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3.4 Anniversary Celebration Discs - Muckamore Cricket & Lawn Tennis Club, St. Comgall's GAA Club, Mossley Football Club

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# REPORT ON BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING ON MONDAY 7 OCTOBER 2024

## 3 ITEMS FOR DECISION

### 3.1 WM/S/004 CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION PLAN

#### 1. Purpose

**The purpose of this report is to seek Members approval of Council's Climate Change Action Plan.**

#### 2. Introduction

Members will be aware that Section 42 of the Climate Change Act (Northern Ireland) 2022 requires specified public bodies to develop climate change action plans for both mitigation and adaptation measures and submit these to Department of Agriculture Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA). It is proposed that Council submits a joint Climate Change Action Plan, covering both mitigation and adaptation measures and a copy (**enclosed**) is included for Members' information.

#### 3. Key Issues

The Waste and Sustainability team, in conjunction with other departments and the Sustainability Steering Group, has produced a Climate Change Action Plan for Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council.

A Members' workshop, facilitated by Climate NI, was held on 29 August 2024, with representatives from key Council departments in attendance. The purpose of the workshop was to collectively review, discuss and finalise the climate risk register, and agree the draft actions and objectives for the final plan.

The proposed Climate Change Action Plan meets the requirements of the legislation and once approved will be submitted to DAERA. The Action Plan will be a working document, which is reviewed, evaluated and modified annually in preparation for and subsequently in line with yearly reporting obligations.

#### 4. Financial Position/Implication

The publication of the Climate Change Action Plan itself does not present any financial implications. Members should note, however, that there are actions contained within the plan that would require financial input if they were implemented. Such actions will be subject to Council's financial regulations, including the development of a business case if necessary and normal procurement procedures.

## 5. Governance

The governance of the Climate Change Action Plan primarily lies with the Sustainability directorate. However, input from all relevant departments will be required to successfully deliver the approved actions. Future reporting against the climate change actions will also require further approval by Council before submission to DAERA.

## 6. **Recommendation**

**It is recommended that Members approve the Climate Change Action Plan.**

Prepared by: Claire Evans, Climate, Waste and Sustainability Officer

Agreed by: Catherine Cunningham, Waste Contracts Manager

Approved by: Michael Laverty, Director of Sustainability

### **3.2 PK/REG/014 APPLICATION FOR THE RENEWAL OF PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES/CIVIL PARTNERSHIP CEREMONIES**

#### **1. Purpose**

**The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the renewal of Dunamoy Cottages as an approved venue in which Civil Marriage/Civil Partnership Ceremonies can be conducted.**

#### **2. Background**

Under the terms of the Marriage (NI) Order 2003 and the Civil Partnership Act (2004), the Council has the responsibility to approve appropriate applications for Place Approvals for Civil Marriage and Civil Partnerships, which last for 3 years. The process requires that a Notice of Interest be displayed for a three-week period in a prominent place at the venue to allow for any public objection.

#### **3. Current Position**

A renewal application for a Place Approval has been received from Dunamoy. The venue was previously approved by the Council in October 2021, with specified areas for the venue for approval as follows:

- Dunamoy Conference room

No public objections have been received relating to the venue.

#### **4. Recommendation**

**It is recommended that Dunamoy is re-approved to hold Civil Marriages under the terms of the Marriage (NI) Order 2003 and Civil Partnerships under the Civil Partnership Act (2004).**

Prepared by: Paula Redpath, Registrar

Agreed by: Emma Thompson, Bereavement Services Manager

Approved by: Paul Mawhinney, Head of Parks Operations

### 3.3 G/MSMO/067 NEWTOWNABBEY ROTARY CLUB PLANTING

#### 1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the Newtownabbey Rotary Club to plant crocuses at V36 as part of their efforts to support Polio awareness.

#### 2. Background

Council have supported the Newtownabbey Rotary Club over the last number of years through their crocus planting initiative. In 2019, the club established a commemorative crocus bed at Jordanstown Special Needs School, marking the start of their local commitment. In 2021, they expanded the project by adding crocus planters at the Northern Ireland Children's Hospice in Glengormley. Continuing their efforts in 2022, they planted a commemorative crocus bed in Hazelbank Park. Each year, these plantings serve as visual symbols of the Rotary Club's dedication to the eradication of Polio.

#### 3. Current Position

The Council has supported the Newtownabbey Rotary Club's crocus planting initiative for several years, contributing to both community engagement and enhancement of local parks and open spaces. In addition to their aesthetic appeal, the crocus plantings enhance biodiversity in each area, while also raising awareness for an important cause of the global fight against Polio.

#### 4. Recommendation

**It is recommended that approval be granted for the Newtownabbey Rotary Club to plant crocuses at V36 as part of their ongoing efforts to promote Polio awareness.**

Prepared and Agreed by: Paul Mawhinney, Head of Parks Operations

Approved by: Matt McDowell, Director of Parks and Leisure Operations

### 3.4 PK/GEN/217 ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION DISCS - MUCKAMORE CRICKET & LAWN TENNIS CLUB, ST. COMGALL'S GAA CLUB, MOSSLEY FOOTBALL CLUB

#### 1. Purpose

**This report seeks approval for the installation of flower bed discs to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Muckamore Cricket and Lawn Tennis Club, the 100th anniversary of St. Comgall's GAA Club, and 75th anniversary of Mossley Football Club.**

#### 2. Background

In 2024, three prominent local sports clubs will celebrate significant milestones: Muckamore Cricket & Lawn Tennis Club will reach its 150th anniversary, St. Comgall's GAA Club its 100th, and Mossley Football Club its 75th. These clubs have played vital roles in their respective local communities, promoting physical activity, nurturing talent across generations, and contributing to numerous sporting achievements over the years.

#### 3. Previous Decision of Council

The Council have previously approved the installation of anniversary celebration discs in flower beds across the borough to recognise such significant milestones of local sports clubs and community organisations and their contributions to the community during that time.

#### 4. Location of Discs

The proposed locations for the installation of the anniversary discs are as follows, situated near the respective club bases:

- **Muckamore Cricket & Lawn Tennis Club:** Roundabout at Belfast Road, near the entrance to Antrim Technology Park.
- **St. Comgall's GAA Club:** Dublin Road Roundabout, opposite St. Comgall's Parish Church.
- **Mossley Football Club:** At the entrance to Mossley Park.

These locations have been selected for their proximity to each club, ensuring local visibility and relevance.

#### 5. Financial Implication

The installation of three anniversary celebratory discs will incur a cost of £500 to the Council.

#### 6. Recommendation

**It is recommended that Members approve the installation of flower bed discs to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Muckamore Cricket & Lawn Tennis Club, the 100th anniversary of St. Comgall's GAA Club, AND 75th anniversary of Mossley Football Club.**

Prepared and Agreed by: Paul Mawhinney, Head of Parks Operations

Approved by: Matt McDowell, Director of Parks and Leisure Operations



## 4 ITEM FOR NOTING

### 4.1 EH/PHWB/017 FALLS PREVENTION SEMINAR

#### 1. Purpose

**In recognition of Falls Prevention Week (16th-20th September) Environmental Health hosted two Falls Prevention seminars aimed at raising awareness of fall risks in the home and offering practical measures to prevent them.**

#### 2. Introduction

Falls are the leading cause of severe injuries among older adults, with nearly one in three people over 65 experiencing a fall at home each year. This rate increases for those aged 75 and above. Falls are also the primary reason older adults are admitted to hospital, which places additional burdens on the NHS. Beyond the financial costs, the personal impact of falls on the elderly is significant. They are the main reason older people lose their independence and transition into long-term care. A fall often triggers a cycle of fear, causing inactivity, reduced strength and balance, and ultimately, a higher risk of further falls. The consequences of falls among the elderly are wide-ranging, affecting not just physical health but also social and psychological well-being.

#### 3. Key Issues

Falls Prevention Week raises awareness that falls are preventable and older adults can take steps to lower their risk. As part of the week's activities Environmental Health organised and hosted two free seminars at Theatre at the Mill and Stiles Community Centre, Antrim.

These seminars included essential advice on fall prevention, services available to the community and presentations by experts from the Northern Health and Social Care Trust's Occupational Therapy and Falls Prevention Teams, along with the Council's Home Safety Officer. The 40 attendees gained valuable insights into fall prevention measures and had the chance to ask questions directly to experts.

Evaluation forms were distributed and the feedback revealed that 100% of participants found the event beneficial to them. Furthermore, 95% of attendees reported feeling more secure in their homes after participating in the seminars. Among the many positive comments, one participant commented;

"Well-organised with good speakers who were informative and approachable."

The Home Accident Prevention section on the Council's website provides advice and guidance on staying safe at home, including videos on fall prevention. Residents over 65 can also ask the Home Safety Officer questions and register for a free home safety check;

<https://antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk/residents/residents-community-information/community-advice/home-accident-prevention/>

#### 4. Summary

During Falls Prevention Week two seminars were hosted with 40 participants. The seminars focused on fall risks and prevention measures with 95% of attendees reporting that they felt safer at home afterward.

#### 5. **Recommendation**

**It is recommended that the report be noted.**

Prepared by: James O'Kane, Health and Wellbeing Manager

Agreed by: Colin Kelly, Head of Environmental Health and Wellbeing

Approved by: Michael Laverty, Director of Sustainability