



20 November 2019

To: Each Member of the Council

Dear Member

MEETING OF ANTRIM AND NEWTOWNABBEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

A meeting of the Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council will be held in the **The Chamber, Mossley Mill on 25 November 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 5.15 pm in the cafe.

For any queries please contact Member Services:
Tel: 028 9034 0048/028 9448 1301
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 Monday, 28 October 2019, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 5 To approve the minutes of the proceedings of the Operations Committee Meeting of Monday, 4 November 2019, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 6 To approve the minutes of the proceedings of the Policy and Governance Committee Meeting of Tuesday, 5 November 2019, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 7 To approve the minutes of the proceedings of the Community Planning Committee Meeting held on Monday, 11 November 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 Wednesday, 13 November 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 Wednesday, 13 November 2019, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
9. PRESENTATION
 - 9.1 Presentation by Department for Infrastructure, Roads Service
10. ITEMS FOR DECISION
 - 10.1 To Approve the Sealing of Documents
 - 10.2 Corporate Planning Workshop 2019
 - 10.3 Health and Wellbeing – Free Sanitary Products on Council Sites
 - 10.4 Every Body Active 2020
 - 10.5 Disposal of Land at 361 Carnmoney Road, Newtownabbey

- 10.6 Strategic Economic Working Group Minutes
- 10.7 Economic Development Partnership and Working Group Minutes
- 10.8 Council Award Ceremonies
- 10.9 Development Trusts NI (DTNI) Good Economy Partnership 2019
- 10.10 Council Led Tourism Events 2020 (Shoreline Festival and Ballyclare May Fair)
- 10.11 Society Lottery Renewal Application
- 10.12 Full Fibre Northern Ireland – 5G
- 10.13 Enchanted Winter Garden 2019
- 10.14 Garden Show Ireland
- 10.15 Scheme of Allowances Payable to Councillors 2019-20

11. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- 11.1 Budget Report – October 2019
- 11.2 Correspondence from Secretary of State for Northern Ireland
- 11.3 Correspondence from the Co Antrim Branch Ulster Defence Regiment CGC Association
- 11.4 Northern Ireland Housing Council – November Bulletin
- 11.5 Motion – Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
- 11.6 PCSP Recruitment of Independent Members 2019

12. ITEMS IN COMMITTEE

- 12.1 Tender for the Supply, Delivery and Maintenance of Two Telehandlers
- 12.2 Tender for the Supply, Delivery and Maintenance of a Public Realm Pavement Scrubber
- 12.3 Tender for Threemilewater Woodland Path Works
- 12.4 3G Pitch at The Diamond, Rathcoole

13. MOTION

Proposed by Councillor Taylor McGrann
Seconded by Councillor Michael Goodman

"This Council will support soft opt-out organ donation legislation here in the North which will follow the example led by the introduction of the same legislation in Wales (2015), Scotland and England (2020) and the call from the Minister of Health in the south of Ireland, Simon Harris TD, for the same to be introduced there."

14. MOTION

Proposed by Councillor Taylor McGrann
Seconded by Councillor Michael Goodman

"That this Council works with every partner and uses every power and every strategy at its disposal to reach out to our citizens to let them know we care and that we as a Council are there for them and that it's ok not to be ok.

Using our collective resources and working with long-standing established groups in the Borough, to map out a plan of front-facing initiatives such as the successful multi-agency "Road Safe Roadshow";

to engage schools, youth organisations, businesses and citizens on our response to resilience, emotional wellbeing and positive mental health;

to emphasise the importance of asking for help and to instil resilience and the hope that no matter what the problem there is always a solution."

15. MOTION

Proposed by Councillor Anne Marie Logue
Seconded by Councillor Michael Goodman

"That this Council authorises the appropriate officers to source, on loan from other councils, sufficient Christmas Lights to ensure that the Main Street in Crumlin is decorated for Christmas 2019. Officers are also authorised to extend the relevant contract for installation to include Crumlin."

REPORT ON BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE COUNCIL MEETING ON MONDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2019

9. PRESENTATION

9.1 PRESENTATION BY DEPARTMENT FOR INFRASTRUCTURE (DfI), ROADS SERVICE

Members are reminded that it was agreed at the September Council meeting that DfI Roads Service be invited to a future meeting to provide an update on the Northern Division Interim Council Report – Autumn 2019 Consultation.

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

Mr David Porter, Divisional Roads Manager, and Mr Stephen Gardiner, Section Engineer for Antrim and Newtownabbey, will be in attendance.

10. ITEMS FOR DECISION

10.1 TO APPROVE THE SEALING OF DOCUMENTS

Members are advised of the undernoted item for signing and sealing by Council, approval having been previously granted and all necessary legislative requirements being met:-

- Engineering & Construction Agreement for Crumlin Glen Phase 1 Works

RECOMMENDATION: that the document be signed and sealed.

Prepared by: Elaine Keenan, Legal Services Officer (Solicitor)

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

10.2 PT/CI/105 CORPORATE PLANNING WORKSHOP 2019

Members are reminded that the Corporate Planning Workshop was held in Mossley Mill, Council Chamber on Friday 8 November 2019.

A workshop report is **enclosed** at Appendix A along with presentation slides, for Members' information. Officers' actions are **enclosed** at Appendix B.

RECOMMENDATION: that the report be approved.

Prepared by: Laura Campbell, Personal Assistant

Approved by: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

10.3 HR/GEN/027 HEALTH AND WELLBEING – FREE SANITARY PRODUCTS ON COUNCIL SITES

Members are advised that in 2018 the issue of providing free sanitary products was raised at both national and regional levels across the UK to address the concern of sanitary products not being affordable to all females.

This year the Government announced that free sanitary products will be provided in secondary schools and colleges in England from the next school year. Scottish and Welsh Governments also actively support the provision of free products in schools, colleges and universities.

In Northern Ireland, the Department of Education is considering this issue along with other Departments. In addition, a number of Councils in the UK and Northern Ireland have either provided free sanitary products in all Council facilities, or are in process of considering doing so.

Numerous national and local charities and voluntary groups actively encourage work places, schools, public spaces and other establishments to provide free sanitary items in toilets, along with the standard products that are already available, eg toilet roll, soap, hand towels, sanitary disposal bins.

Locally Katrina McDonnell from the Homeless Period Project, Belfast, has had contact with the Council requesting that it considers the provision of free sanitary products.

This request would link to supporting the health and wellbeing of our residents and staff and Members may wish to consider piloting free sanitary provision at its civic centres and leisure centres.

If approved, the cost of implementing a pilot is estimated to be approximately £3500.

It is proposed that the pilot scheme would operate for 12 months, following which an update report would be made to Members in relation to the uptake and feedback from residents and staff.

RECOMMENDATION: that the Council approves a 12 month pilot scheme that will provide free sanitary products and will operate at Antrim Civic Centre, Mossley Mill, and all Leisure Centres.

Prepared & Approved by: Andrea McCooke, Director of Organisation Development

10.4 L/LEI/AC/3 EVERY BODY ACTIVE 2020

Introduction

Correspondence has been received from Sport Northern Ireland (Sport NI) offering a one year extension to the Every Body Active 2020 (EBA 2020) programme.

Background

The EBA 2020 programme is a 4-year sport and physical activity participation programme, funded by Sport NI and delivered by District Councils.

The key objectives of the programme, which commenced in April 2016, are to increase quality opportunities for target groups to develop and sustain participation in sport across key-life transitions. The targeted groups are; people with a disability; participants living in areas of high social need; women/girls and sustained participation.

Current model of Delivery

The current model of delivery adopted by Council enables the direct employment of five coaches; gymnastics (currently vacant), soccer, dance, disability, and two exercise referral coaches. These coaches deliver taster sessions in community/school settings and encourage attendance at leisure centre based programmes. They also run programmes and classes in the leisure centres which are additional to normal classes and specifically focus on the target groups. These classes contribute to leisure centre income. Sport NI has recognised this method of management as best practice within Northern Ireland.

National Governing bodies (NGBs); Athletics NI, Netball NI, Ulster Hockey and Ulster Rugby are also provided with an allocation of funding by Council, subject to approval of their respective proposals on how the funding will assist in achieving participation targets. The criteria for NGBs allows funding to be used for programmes, events, or against coaching costs. Cricket Ireland declined their allocation for 2019/20, with Ulster Hockey, Netball NI, and Athletics NI having submitted proposals and delivering programmes in 2019/2020 which contribute to Council's EBA participation targets.

Initially the programme funding offered by Sport NI for the 4 year programme was £335,935. Council agreed its contribution for the first two years only, initially at £46,000 from 1 April 2016 - 31st March 2018. Following a review of the effectiveness of the programme, the Council contribution for the remaining two years was agreed. Year 3, 2018/2019 being £22,176 and Year 4, 2019/2020, being £28,460.

Review of Programme to date

Officers have completed a full review of the EBA 2020 programme to date, which includes both quantitative and qualitative data. The review indicates

high levels of success in relation to participation and sustainability of physical activity across the Borough:

- Over 19,000 unique participants of which 46% female, 12% are people with a disability, and 16% are from areas of high social need
- 23% of participants carried on activity beyond the duration of the programme they were involved in
- Several new clubs were created including the disability focused Wheelie Active Club at Allen Park, Boccia Club at Antrim Forum and soon to commence in Mossley, as well as Neillsbrook Strikers Soccer Club
- Multiple programmes were delivered promoting participation in physical activity including; schools rugby programme, visually impaired golf, walking football, cancer rehabilitation, Parkinson's group which assists with movement.

Proposed one year extension

Based on updated statistical data from Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA), Sport NI has utilised the Northern Ireland Deprivation Measure (2017) and the Northern Ireland Population Mid-Year Estimates (2018) to allocate funding and set associated targets. As a result, Sport NI has offered Council £87,703 in funding for the extension year 2020/2021.

Way forward

Having taken into consideration all of the issues with a view to making the most effective recommendation for achieving the objectives, it is proposed that the currently delivery model employed by Council in 2019/2020 be retained. This includes the direct employment of five coaches and the provision of funding to four National Governing Bodies to continue participation programmes that contribute to meeting the targets set for Council by Sport NI.

The breakdown of costs for the delivery of the EBA programme for the extended year would be:

Proposed EBA 2020 Costs to Council Year 5 (20/21):	
Salary Costs of Council Employed EBA Coaches	£96,379
Contribution to 4x National Governing Bodies at £4,000 each	£16,000
Sport NI contribution	£87,703
Proposed Council Contribution	£24,676

If approved, salary costs of EBA coaches and Council's contribution to the National Governing Bodies will be included in Leisure estimates for the year 2020/2021.

RECOMMENDATION: that approval is given to accept the offer of funding in the amount of a contribution of £87,703 from Sport Northern Ireland for the delivery of the Every Body Active programme in 2020/2021 with a Council contribution of £24,676 on the basis of the delivery option set out above.

Prepared by: Matt McDowell, Head of Leisure

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Director of Operations

10.5 CE/GEN/017 DISPOSAL OF LAND AT 361 CARMONEY ROAD, NEWTOWNABBEY

Correspondence is enclosed from Department for Infrastructure (DfI) regarding the disposal of land at 361 Carnmoney Road, Newtownabbey currently owned by them. Officers have reviewed this land and no need has been identified.

RECOMMENDATION: that the Council does not express an interest in this land.

Prepared by/Approved by: Nick Harkness, Director of Community Planning

10.6 ED/ED/173 STRATEGIC ECONOMIC WORKING GROUP MINUTES

Members are reminded that it was agreed in August 2019 to establish a Strategic Economic Working Group. The Group, which is comprised of a Member from each party, will consider strategic economic development and tourism matters and review the outcomes achieved through the investment made by the Council.

The Group has now met on two occasions – 26th September and 30th October. Copies of the minutes from these meetings are **enclosed** for Members consideration.

RECOMMENDATION: that the minutes of the 26th September and 30th October meetings be approved.

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

10.7 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.

Tourism, Town Centres		
File Ref	Date of Meeting	Name of Partnership
ED/REG/009	29 May 2019	Crumlin Town Team

RECOMMENDATION: that 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

10.8 ED/ED/092 COUNCIL AWARD CEREMONIES

Since the new Council was created in April 2015 a number of prestigious award events have been delivered by the Council including:

- (i) Sports Awards
- (ii) Volunteer Accolades
- (iii) Business Awards (currently across three towns – Antrim, Ballyclare and Glengormley)

The arrangements for the awards vary in terms of management, delivery and timescale and budget as summarised in the table below.

<u>AWARD</u>	<u>TIMESCALE</u>	<u>MANAGEMENT</u>	<u>DELIVERY & BUDGET</u>
<u>Sports Awards</u> Including Induction to the Gallery of Sporting Legends (Valley or Forum) and a newly approved Roll of Honour.	Biennially – delivered in March 2017 and November 2019.	Managed through Working Group including elected members and community sports representatives.	Nominations are sought and assessed via the Working Group. Dinner Budget £16K
<u>Volunteer Accolades</u>	Biennially – last event held in September 2018.	Managed through a working group including elected members, representatives from Volunteer Now and Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant.	Nominations are sought and assessed by the Working Group. Dinner Budget £18K
<u>Business Awards</u> Recognises businesses that take pride in their products, services and local area	Antrim February 2017 March 2018 March 2019 Ballyclare March 2016 May 2017 May 2018 Glengormley March 2016 March 2017 March 2018 March 2019	Agreed by town teams in their annual actions plans and delivered by Officers	Nominations are sought and assessed via public vote to shortlist and winners determined by assessment by the town team or a mystery shop. Award ceremony and networking event held in each town centre. Budget Antrim £4K Ballyclare £3K Glengormley £3K

It has been suggested that the three award ceremonies outlined should be delivered once during the term of a Council, ie once within a four year term, to maximise the impact of the awards and encourage new nominations to come forward.

The Council's instructions are requested.

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

10.9 CP/CP/122 DEVELOPMENT TRUSTS NI (DTNI) GOOD ECONOMY PARTNERSHIP 2019

In October 2018 the Council agreed to support Development Trusts NI (DTNI) with a project to develop a local Good Economy Partnership.

Development Trusts NI is leading on the pilot initiative exploring policy and practice in local economic development in Northern Ireland. The project, funded by Friends Provident is being delivered in Newry, Mourne and Down District Council and Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council. Each project is operationally distinct. The project proposal is to explore building partnership and collaborative working between the community and voluntary or third sector and local government. The project builds on approaches being adopted across the UK concerned with Community Wealth Building and draws upon DTNI's Charter for Change, 'Time to Build an Inclusive Local Economy' which can be viewed at www.dtni.org.uk for further reference.

The project is aimed at building local wealth and addressing 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 the Friends Provident Foundation and aims to develop the capacity of organisations to deliver against the themes referenced above. The project has established an informal group consisting of Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough stakeholders to share learning and pilot some project or policy proposals. Opportunity to express an interest in being part of the group was promoted to external representatives via the Council's website. This was to ensure transparency and equality of opportunity for groups to get involved and actively champion these issues.

A Members' briefing on 16th October provided an opportunity to learn more about the aims and ambitions of the DTNI Good Economy Partnership.

Members should note that the Council currently provides a range of initiatives that align with the Good Economy Partnership ethos, including:

Community Asset Transfer and Capacity Building

- Rathfern Community Regeneration Group and Monkstown Community Association manage and run Council owned community centres independently with the Council only providing support for maintenance;
- A programme for delivery to third sector regarding mentorship and coaching to increase their capacity towards the management and running of facilities and assets is being developed; and
- Officers are scoping the feasibility of a Workspace Development Fund for organisations from the third sector to develop workspace for use by entrepreneurs and start-up businesses. Eligibility criteria, terms and conditions will apply.

Social Enterprise

- Council delivers a designated social enterprise development programme; and
- Council's Chief Executive is the SOLACE representative on the regional Social Economy Policy Group which commits to provide support to the Social Enterprise sector.

Local Supply Chain:

- Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council manages and delivers the £258k contract Bid2Win aimed at supporting the supply chain to avail of public tender opportunities, open to businesses across Lisburn and Castlereagh, Mid and East Antrim and Antrim and Newtownabbey.

Officers have also met with Strategic Investment Board (SIB) to start to consider best practice approaches to implementing social clauses. Borough Life also recently included a feature aimed at encouraging our local businesses to sign up to the regional procurement portal to receive alerts regarding local supply-chain opportunities.

To advance the work of the Good Economy Partnership, DTNI wishes to invite a minimum of three and a maximum of four Elected Members to be the nominated Council representatives on the stakeholder group.

RECOMMENDATION: that four elected representatives be nominated to the Good Economy Stakeholder Group.

Prepared by: Colin McCabrey, Head of Economic Development

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

10.10 ED/TOU/19 VOL 2 & ED/TOU/061 COUNCIL LED TOURISM EVENTS 2020 (SHORELINE FESTIVAL AND BALLYCLARE MAY FAIR)

For effective event planning for 2020 Economic Development Services wishes to commence the planning of two Council led tourism events, The Shoreline Festival and Ballyclare May Fair. Members are reminded that key KPI's for these events include attracting visitor numbers to the Borough and a high satisfaction rating from attendees.

Shoreline Festival 2020: In keeping with tradition this event will run from Saturday 29 and Sunday 30 August over the Bank Holiday weekend in Jordanstown, Loughshore Park (3pm to 10pm). The Saturday night event will again include a high quality act and it is proposed that Sunday will have a Jazz and Blues theme, creating an upmarket 'Picnic at the Park' vibe.

In accordance with the relevant byelaw, the consumption of alcohol is prohibited in the park. It is therefore proposed to suspend the byelaw for the duration of the Saturday evening music concert as in previous years, and from 3pm on the Sunday.

This year 5,000 visitors attended the Shoreline Festival event. Due to the growth in attendees, full use of the car park is now required. Event organisers will ensure that accessible parking is still available. In order to facilitate the full use of the carpark during the event, it is proposed that caravan park bookings are restricted to a 3 night minimum stay to ensure no caravans are entering or leaving the site during the festival. Caravan park customers will be able to enter and leave the site by car only and an emergency exit will be provided if required.

Ballyclare May Fair 2020: The dates proposed by the May Fair Working Group are Tuesday 19th May to Saturday 23rd May 2020 inclusive. The 2020 May Fair will have a traditional theme. Popular elements of previous years will continue including the Soap box derby, Family Fun Days in War Memorial Park, May Fair Parade, horse showcase, local music and entertainment combined with traditional craft demonstrations/workshops and a fireworks finale. There will also be an opportunity to include VE Day 75 themed events during May Fair week.

Due to the planned refurbishment of Sixmilewater Park, alternative parking for horseboxes will be sought. Applications will be made for appropriate road closures in relation to the May Fair.

Requirements for the safe and compliant delivery of both the Shoreline Festival and Ballyclare May Fair has evolved with more health and safety, accessibility, welfare (including first aid) and traffic management costs to be factored into each event.

The purpose of this report is to facilitate the timely planning of each event with the necessary budget provision being agreed as part of the corporate estimates setting process for 20/21.

RECOMMENDATION: that

- (a) the agreed dates for the events 29-30 August 2020 for Shoreline Festival and 19 to 23 May 2020 for Ballyclare May Fair be approved;**
- (b) a notice advising of the suspension of the byelaw for the Shoreline Festival be placed in the local press;**
- (c) use of the full car park at Jordanstown Loughshore be approved for both days of the Shoreline event, alongside a minimum 3 night stay for caravan park bookings.**

Prepared by: Karen Steele, Tourism Town Centre and Regeneration Manager

Agreed by: Colin McCabrey, Head of Economic Development

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

10.11 G/LEG/291/3 SOCIETY LOTTERY RENEWAL APPLICATION

An application from Hill Croft Parent Teachers Association to hold a Society Lottery at Hill Croft School, Newtownabbey on the 19 December 2019 has been received. The proceeds of the lottery will go for additional equipment and resources for the young people in the school.

The application has been sent to the PSNI to seek their views.

RECOMMENDATION: that, subject to the PSNI having no objection to the Society Lottery, Members approve issuing a licence for the lottery.

Prepared by: Deirdre Nelson, Paralegal

Agreed by: Liz Johnston, Head of Governance

Approved by: Sandra Cole, Director of Finance and Governance

10.12 ED/ED/163 FULL FIBRE NORTHERN IRELAND – 5G

The next generation of mobile communications, 5G, is beginning to be implemented at a national and international level, although many elements of its delivery and use are still in development.

It is anticipated that 5G will deliver faster and better mobile broadband services to consumers. It should also enable innovative new services for business and industry, including manufacturing, transport, tourism, immersive technologies and healthcare.

There are a number of factors impacting on the mobile communications sector:

- More Data - Driven by better customer experience, more connected devices, higher bandwidth requirements, virtual and augmented reality;
- More Devices - Driven by smart agriculture, e-health, transport and logistics, environmental monitoring and smart tourism;
- Instant Response - Driven by vehicle to vehicle communications, remote control applications, drone delivery and smart manufacturing.

Changing consumer habits may in future demand 5G, along with improved 4G coverage where not already available. The Belfast Region City Deal also includes various initiatives which may indirectly stimulate demand over time.

At a practical level, where viable, 5G is likely to be delivered as a patchwork of technologies, using a range of radio frequencies. Some of these frequencies are widely used today e.g. TV and mobile phones, but other higher frequencies may also be planned. The new technology, and its benefits, are likely to be deployed first to urban communities. Without intervention though, the benefits are likely to emerge much more slowly, if at all, in rural communities, because of the challenging investment case on the supply side.

In recognising these challenges, the Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport (DCMS) has made funding available for a variety of initiatives aimed at removing barriers to the deployment of 5G, with the objective of ensuring that the UK should be a world leader in 5G communications. It is reasonable to assume that substantial further funding will be made available in future, given the UK Government's commitment to becoming a world leader in digital communications.

Funding Opportunities and Role of FFNI

DCMS recently announced a Rural Connected Communities (RCC) fund as part of the UK Government's '5G Testbeds and Trials' programme. A short, initial funding call was opened across the UK on 27 August 2019 and closed on 25 October 2019. The fund aims to identify the means to address both supply and demand side barriers to the deployment of 5G at a local level.

The FFNI¹ programme (Full Fibre Northern Ireland) is ideally suited to co-ordinating the role of local government in the delivery of 5G, and to leading bids for future Government funding. FFNI has already secured £15m in infrastructure funding support and built strong relationships with key stakeholders including universities, local SMEs, mobile network operators and other suppliers. These stakeholders have expressed an interest in working with FFNI to address the issues of 5G deployment in Northern Ireland.

FFNI has the means to co-ordinate a joined-up approach to 5G in our region - to work with key stakeholders to create a 5G forum; to consider a common approach to 5G in NI; and to ensure alignment with the Department for the Economy (DfE) and its current and future 5G policy framework.

Resource Implications

From a resource perspective, the FFNI Operations Team has suggested the following:

- Up to £8,000 per consortium member for 5G co-ordination, stakeholder engagement and bid development assisted through Consultancy support;
- Officer time to assist with the co-ordination of 5G activity in general.

Key Issues

- Citizens, especially in rural areas, could benefit significantly from 5G in the future. However, without intervention, 5G will come slowly, if at all, to much of our region, mirroring the experience of broadband and 4G deployment.
- DCMS future funding provides local Councils with an opportunity to reduce the digital divide and lead on rural 5G rollout, to create 5G communities and ensure investment in mobile connectivity across the region.
- The timelines for completing a bid for the Rural Connected Communities (RCC) fund was however extremely short (8 weeks) and FFNI considered this impractical at this juncture without prior Council consent. Since future funding calls may follow a similar pattern, FFNI should position itself to be ready to react to such calls.
- 5G operates via extremely high frequencies. The UK Government's documented position is that there is no convincing evidence of health effects within current regulatory limits, but the perceived health concerns about this small part of the 5G spectrum requires further scrutiny.
- Due to the complex nature of the topic, external expertise will be necessary to assist in funding bid preparation. External expertise is also

¹ FFNI – Full Fibre Northern Ireland – is the consortium of the ten rural councils in NI whose objective is to play an active part in delivering the best digital infrastructure for Northern Ireland. Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council is actively involved at both Steering Group (Director level) and Operations Team (Officer level).

likely to be necessary in respect of some elements of co-ordinating 5G activity more generally.

RECOMMENDATION: that

- a) **£8,000 be approved as outlined to the preparation of a collaborative bid.**
- b) **the FFNI Operations Team carry out a comprehensive and detailed report analysing the risks and benefits of 5G roll out. This report should consider all available evidence and information on behalf of Consortium Members and be used to articulate the Consortium's future policy position concerning 5G deployment.**

Prepared by: Alastair Law, Innovation and Funding Officer

Agreed by: Colin McCabrey, Head of Economic Development

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

10.13 AC/EV/007 ENCHANTED WINTER GARDEN 2019

Members are reminded that delivery of Enchanted Winter Garden 2019 was approved by Council in April 2019 and planning for the event is at an advanced stage. There are 2 developments which are brought to Members' attention.

1. Sponsorship

Over the last number of years, the event has included an 'Inclusive Enchantment' evening where the event is adapted for children and adults with additional needs. In 2017 and 2018, The Junction supported this specific evening with sponsorship of £1,500 however, due to significant structural changes at The Junction this has not been achieved in 2019. However, in planning this year's event Officers have been working closely with town traders including Castle Mall to enhance the visitor offer during the event and Castle Mall have agreed to sponsor the 'Inclusive Enchantment' evening with sponsorship of £3,000. This brings the total sponsorship achieved for this year's event to £18,000.

2. Temporary Gardens Closure

Members are advised that as the scale of the event has grown annually, the event preparations and set up arrangements have also grown significantly. In the days leading up to the event and the significant work involved in terms of lighting and attraction installation it is proposed to close public access to the main walkway through the Gardens, from Barbican Gate to Clotworthy House. This would apply from Monday 2 December until the event opens on Thursday 5 December 2019.

This closure is proposed because of the significant number of heavy vehicles which will be on the move in this area, setting up large attractions including The Wheel and the high level lighting. Footfall through this area at this time of year is traditionally low and the vast majority of other areas in the Gardens will remain open to the public for informal recreation. Communication and signage around this temporary closure will be planned to ensure minimum disruption to any potential visitors, residents and regular users of the Gardens.

RECOMMENDATION: that

- i. sponsorship of the 'Inclusive Enchantment' evening from Castle Mall to the value of £3,000 be noted;**
- ii. temporary closure of the main Gardens path from the Barbican Gate to Clotworthy House from Monday 2 December to Thursday 5 December 2019 be approved.**

Prepared by: Ursula Fay, Head of Arts and Culture

Approved by: Nick Harkness, Director of Community Planning

10.14 AC/EV/003 GARDEN SHOW IRELAND

Members are reminded that Garden Show Ireland (GSI) has been held in Antrim Castle Gardens annually since 2014, having moved from Hillsborough Castle Gardens where it had been held for a decade. Taking place in early May the Show is a 3 day festival of flowers, food and family fun themed around gardening and is aimed at a wide audience from enthusiastic gardeners, growers, retirees, young couples, families and groups.

The Council has been providing financial support to GSI for delivery of the Show in Castle Gardens from 2014. This has risen from an initial annual contribution of £15,000 to £25,000 in 2016, and a further increase to £35,000 approved for the Show in 2019 and 2020.

Since 2014, the Show has seen numbers increase from just under 20,000 to a peak of 29,000 in 2017. Over the 5 year period of the Show being held in Antrim Castle Gardens average attendances are approximately 25,000. A large proportion of visitors to the Show come from outside of the Borough as well as from outside of Northern Ireland. Specialist traders and exhibitors also participate in the Show from all over the UK and ROI.

Tourism Northern Ireland (TNI), who have previously supported the event as part of their event Sponsorship Programme, place a value of £18 per day on a day visit to an area. Using this value, the economic impact of the event over the past 5 years is estimated at £2.25 million or £450,000 annually. In addition, a post Show evaluation in 2018 revealed 5.8 million media opportunities (many with international reach) to see or hear about the Show and the Gardens.

GSI is a small business owned and managed by a sole trader and as preparations for the 2019 Show began, GSI expressed reservations about its capacity to continue to deliver such a large-scale event given its limited resources and appetite for risk. Last year GSI concluded reluctantly that they had not allowed sufficient time to deliver the show in 2019 and advised of their intention not to run a show and instead to complete a detailed review of Garden Show Ireland and its future strategy.

Members are advised that GSI has approached the Council with a proposal, which could see the Show return to Antrim Castle Gardens in 2020 and annually thereafter. It is proposed that the show would return as a Council owned and operated flagship event with the potential to deliver significant economic and tourism benefits for the Borough.

Details of the proposal are as follows:

- (i) Purchase of the Brand
Garden Show Ireland have offered the Council the opportunity to purchase the GSI brand for a one off payment of £50,000 which could be capitalised over 10 years at an annual cost of £5,000 over that period.

- (ii) Garden Show Ireland Event Support
GSI will support the Council to deliver the 2020 show.
- (iii) Council
The Council would take on overall lead responsibility, including the organisation of:-
- General infrastructure
 - Family entertainment and children's play area
 - General traders & catering
 - Security
 - Craft stalls
 - Cookery demos
 - Show Garden Area (including schools and community groups)
 - Sponsorship (with support from GSI)
- (iv) Garden Show Ireland
GSI would take on responsibility for the sourcing of:-
- Plant Mall and displays
 - Speakers
 - Specialist garden traders
 - Demonstrations
 - Advice and guidance on previous traders and exhibitors.
- (v) Income
The Council would retain all ticket income from the Show and all sponsorship money achieved. With average show attendances of 25,000, a conservative estimate of ticket net income is £160,000 based on 20,000 attendances and an unchanged admission of £10 per person.

A draft income and expenditure budget for the event under Council ownership is **enclosed** for Members' information. The anticipated net cost to the Council for this arrangement is £35,000, which is the previously agreed budget for support of the show in 2019 and 2020.

Garden Show Ireland as a Council owned and operated event, has the potential to contribute to the Council's Corporate Plan for 2015 to 2030 across the 4 strategic pillars of Place, People, Prosperity and Performance. The Show has grown annually since its move to Antrim Castle Gardens, but in particular has achieved significant community engagement through the Schools' Garden Competition and Community Garden elements. Further development of these can positively contribute to the delivery of the Council's Community Plan, Love Living Here.

Discussions around delivery of the Show in 2020 have also considered dates and should Members accept the arrangement proposed, the only dates suitable for the Show are Friday 3 May to Sunday 5 May 2020, given that other commitments in the event calendar which would impact upon traders such as Ireland Plant Growers Festival and the Balmoral Show as examples.

RECOMMENDATION: that

- i. the purchase of the Garden Show Ireland brand for a one off payment of £50,000 be approved;**
- ii. the delivery of the event in Antrim Castle Gardens on 3, 4 and 5 May 2020 be approved.**

Prepared by: Ursula Fay, Head of Arts & Culture

Approved by: Nick Harkness, Director of Community Planning

10.15 G/MSMO/001 SCHEME OF ALLOWANCES PAYABLE TO COUNCILLORS 2019-20

Circular LG 23/2019, **enclosed**, has been received from the Department for Communities (DfC) providing updated guidance on the recent Local Government (Payments to Councillors) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2019 which came into operation on 1 October 2019.

The Scheme of Allowances has been amended to incorporate this guidance and is **enclosed** for Members' approval.

RECOMMENDATION: that the updated Scheme of Allowances Payable to Councillors for 2019-20 be approved with effect from 1 October 2019.

Prepared by: Richard Murray, Management Accountant

Agreed By: John Balmer, Head of Finance

Approved by: Sandra Cole, Director of Finance and Governance

11. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

11.1 FI/FIN/4 BUDGET REPORT – OCTOBER 2019

A budget report for October 2019 is enclosed for Members' information.

The Council's variance on Net Cost of Services for the period to the end of October is £449k favourable. In setting the Estimates for the year, Council has budgeted to apply a credit balance from reserves of £700k, equating to £408k 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 an increase of £41k 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

11.2 G/MSMO/60 CORRESPONDENCE FROM SECRETARY OF STATE FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

Members will recall that at the Council meeting of 30 September 2019 a Motion regarding funding for hospice and palliative care was unanimously carried and, as requested, the Chief Executive wrote to the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland

Responses have now been received and copies of the correspondence are **enclosed** for Members' information.

RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.

Prepared by: Member Services

Approved by: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

11.3 AC/HE/027 CORRESPONDENCE FROM CO ANTRIM BRANCH ULSTER DEFENCE REGIMENT CGC ASSOCIATION

Correspondence has been received from the Co Antrim Branch of the UDR CGC Association expressing their sincere thanks to the Mayor, Members and Officers for their support in relation to the recent Unveiling and Dedication Service of the UDR Memorial.

A copy of the correspondence is **enclosed** for Members' convenience.

RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.

Prepared by: Member Services

Approved by: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

11.4 CE/OA/013 NORTHERN IRELAND HOUSING COUNCIL – NOVEMBER BULLETIN

As agreed at the August 2019 meeting of the Council, the Northern Ireland Housing Council's November monthly bulletin is enclosed for Members' information.

RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.

Prepared by: Member Services

Approved by: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

11.5 G/MSMO/14 MOTION – NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Members are advised that correspondence has been received from Newry, Mourne and Down District Council regarding a Motion adopted by that Council requesting the Council's support in calling on the Appeals Service NI to cease the practice of holding Welfare appeals at local courthouses.

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

RECOMMENDATION: that the correspondence from Newry, Mourne and Down District Council be noted.

Prepared by: Member Services

Approved by: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

11.6 CP/PCSP/081 PCSP RECRUITMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBERS 2019

Members are reminded that at the Council meeting on 29 July 2019 a panel for the recruitment and selection of Independent Members to the PCSP was agreed. The panel subsequently carried out the shortlisting and interviews were completed on 13 November 2019. Fourteen candidates were deemed suitable for appointment.

Following the Council meeting, the results of the interview process will be notified to the Northern Ireland Policing Board.

RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.

Prepared by: Joan Cowan, Head of Human Resources

Approved by: Andrea McCooke, Director of Organisation Development