



25 April 2018

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 **Chamber, Mossley Mill on Monday 30 April at 6.30pm.**

You are requested to attend.

Interpreters will be present at the meeting to facilitate the group of hearing impaired visitors attending.

Yours sincerely

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

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

PLEASE NOTE:

Hot fork buffet will be available in the Pre-Meeting Rooms from 5.30 pm.

For any queries please contact Member Services:

Tel: 028 9034 0098 / 028 9448 1301

memberservices@antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk

A G E N D A

- 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 26 March 2018, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 5 To approve the minutes of the proceedings of the Operations Committee Meeting of Monday 9 April 2018, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 6 To approve the minutes of the proceedings of the Policy and Governance Committee Meeting of Tuesday 10 April 2018, 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 16 April 2018, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 8(a) To take as read and confirm the Part 1 of the minutes of the proceedings of the Planning Committee Meeting held on Monday 23 April 2018, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- (b) To approve Part 2 of the minutes of the proceedings of the Planning Committee Meeting held on Monday 23 April 2018, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
9. Report on business to be considered:

LEGAL

- 9.1 To approve the Sealing of Documents

ITEMS FOR DECISION

- 9.2 Roads Programme – Spring Consultation Presentation Request
- 9.3 Community Development Grant Aid Programme 2018/19 – Small Grants Funding Recommendations
- 9.4 Disposal of Moylinney House, Monkstown

- 9.5 Bonfire Management Programme 2018
- 9.6 Lough Neagh Gateway Centre: Offer of Grant Aid
- 9.7 Summer Schemes and Programmes Update
- 9.8 Request from Croí Éanna

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- 9.9 Proposed Monkstown/Greenisland Greenway - Correspondence from Mid & East Antrim Borough Council and Translink
- 9.10 Queen's Award for Voluntary Service – Voices of Volunteers 15th Anniversary Celebration – 22 March 2018
- 9.11 Budget Report – April 2017 to March 2018 Period 12
- 9.12 RAF Centenary Civic Event
- 9.13 NJC Pay Award
- 9.14 Strategic Economic Development Initiatives
- 9.15 Hazelbank/Loughshore: Emergency Repairs to Sea and Wall Path

ITEMS IN COMMITTEE

- 9.16 Tender for the Supply and Delivery of CO2 for Leisure Centres in the Antrim and Newtownabbey Area
- 9.17 Manufacture, Supply & Delivery of Corporate Uniform, Theatre Wear, Leisure Wear, Work Wear and Waterproof Clothing
- 9.18 Tender Report for Lough Neagh Gateway Centre at Loughshore Park Antrim
- 9.19 Letting of Lands for Grazing/Cutting 2018
- 9.20 Retail and Commercial Leisure Study for Antrim and Newtownabbey's Local Development Plan
- 9.21 Supply and Installation of Accessible Public Convenience at Wallace Park
- 9.22 Organisational Structures

10. **MOTION**

Moved by Councillor Magill
Seconded by Alderman Barr

"That this Council notes the continuing issue of animal cruelty, not just within the borough of Antrim and Newtownabbey, but also across Northern Ireland. Acknowledges the good work being engaged in by the Council and other statutory bodies in tackling this issue and puts on record the Council's support for the continued move toward more appropriate and proportionate sentencing for offenders.

The Council also notes the need for greater awareness and community education in order to further tackle both intentional and unintentional acts of cruelty to animals. In light of this, the Council will move to implement an awareness campaign across its media outlets, literature and other assets to include a bin sticker of useful numbers for residents' retention to enable greater reporting of incidents to the relevant bodies."

**REPORT ON BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE COUNCIL MEETING ON
MONDAY 30 APRIL 2018**

LEGAL

9.1 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:-

To approve the Sealing of Documents:

- Leisure Management System - Call Off Agreement

Prepared by: Paul Casey, Borough Lawyer

Approved by: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

ITEMS FOR DECISION

9.2 G/MSMO/007 (Vol 3) ROADS PROGRAMME – SPRING CONSULTATION PRESENTATION REQUEST

Correspondence has been received from Department for Infrastructure (DfI) (*enclosed*) requesting attendance at a meeting of Council within the next two months to give Members an overview of the work undertaken by DfI Roads during the last financial year and to outline the proposed work for this financial year.

RECOMMENDATION: that DfI Roads Representatives be invited to address Council at the June monthly meeting.

Prepared by: Member Services

Approved by: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

9.3 CP/CD/214 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANT AID PROGRAMME 2018/19 – SMALL GRANTS FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are reminded of the Small Grants Programme which was agreed by the Council in October 2014 as part of the new Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council Community Development Grant Aid Programme.

The purpose of the Small Grants programme is to provide financial assistance to groups within the Borough of up to a maximum of £500 towards seeding costs and/or insurance or a small activity and/or insurance. Members are advised that groups who apply for a small grant are not permitted to apply for any other funding available under the wider Community Development Grant Aid Programme during the course of the 2018/19 financial year.

To be successful in securing a small grant groups applying must score a minimum of 50% in their application assessment and all proposed awards are subject to the receipt of all relevant supporting documentation or the offer of funding will be withdrawn.

During the month of April, three applications totalling £1,500 were received and were assessed by Officers as outlined below.

Group Name/Project Promoter	Project Description/Title	Scored Percentage	Amount Requested	Amount Awarded
Newtownabbey Road Safety Committee	Small Activity Grant to deliver a Road Safety Programme and Schools quiz.	80%	£500.00	£500.00
Creggan Local Heritage Group	Small Activity Grant for a family fun day.	80%	£500.00	£500.00
Randalstown Rugby Club	Small Activity Grant for a mini-rugby competition. As the competition had already taken place and any funding would be retrospective, the application was not scored.	0%	£500.00	£0

The total budget available for Small Grants for the 2018/19 financial year is £4,274.50. The total amount of financial assistance awarded to date is £2,320.00 leaving a balance of £1,954.50 to fund future applications that may be submitted to the Council during the remainder of the year.

At the Community Planning and Regeneration Committee in April it was agreed that the £6,175.00 remaining from the second call for Community Festival Applications would be added to the budget for Small Grants. If this is approved by the Council then this will bring the total remaining budget for 2018/19 to £8,129.50

RECOMMENDATION: that the Small Grant award recommendations be approved.

Prepared by: Lara Townsend, Community Development Projects Assistant

Agreed by: Elaine Manson, Community Services and Tackling Deprivation Manager & Louise Moore, Head of Community Planning

Approved by: Majella McAlister, Director of Community Planning & Regeneration

9.4 FI/PRO/QUO/321 DISPOSAL OF MOYLINNEY HOUSE, MONKSTOWN

Members are reminded of the decision at the Council meeting in March 2018 to commission a feasibility study into the potential future use of Moylinney House. Officers are developing the Terms of Reference for this study the cost of which will be met through funding of £5,354 included in the DEA programme for Threemilewater. Members are advised that initial concepts include the development of the facility as a social enterprise through a partnership arrangement including Monkstown Village Centre and other key interest groups.

The Northern Health and Social Care Trust has now declared the asset surplus and a public sector trawl process has been issued. Correspondence is enclosed from Land and Property Services (LPS) regarding the disposal of the asset. The map enclosed shows the location of the property. Should the Council wish to express an interest in Moylinney House this must be done by 3 May 2018.

RECOMMENDATION: that

(a) the Council expresses an interest in Moylinney House and

(b) a site visit to the property be arranged for Members and by Officers.

Prepared and Approved by: Majella McAlister, Director of Community Planning & Regeneration

9.5 CP/CD/236 BONFIRE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME 2018

Members are reminded that a review of the Bonfire Management Programme was undertaken in October 2017 and that the revised Programme was approved by the Council in November 2017, with a budget of £43,200 for family fun events based on 16 participating sites. A copy of the programme is enclosed for Members' information.

Subsequently 2 information sessions were held with the relevant groups in Antrim and Newtownabbey in February 2018. The purpose of these meetings was to receive feedback from the groups in relation to the 2017 programme and to compile a list of potential participants for the programme in 2018.

An initial inspection of all potential bonfire sites took place during the week commencing 19 March 2018. Following this, Council Officers accompanied by representatives from the PSNI, NIFRS and the NIHE met with community group representatives for each bonfire site on an individual basis in Antrim and Newtownabbey on 26 and 27 March 2018. During these meetings the necessary documentation was signed enabling the groups to participate in the 2018 programme.

In total 17 sites across the Borough have signed up; 4 sites in Antrim and 13 in Newtownabbey which are detailed as follows:

Antrim

Neillsbrook - Bonfire
Newpark and Caulside – No Bonfire or Beacon
Parkhall (Kilgreel) – Beacon
Steeple (Oaktree Drive) – No Bonfire or Beacon

Newtownabbey

Burnside (Kelburn Park) - Beacon
Doagh (Anderson Park) – Beacon
New Mossley – Beacon
Old Mossley - Beacon
Erskine Park - Bonfire
Grange (Grange Drive) - Bonfire
Ballyduff (Forthill Drive) - Bonfire
Monkstown (Abbeytown Square) - Bonfire
Monkstown (Devenish Drive) - Bonfire
Queenspark - Bonfire
Rathcoole (Foyle Hill) – Beacon
Rathcoole (Dunanney) – Bonfire
Rathfern (Knockenagh Avenue) – Bonfire

Members are reminded that it was agreed at the Committee meeting in November 2017 that if additional sites from the list of recognised sites wished to participate, then this would be brought to the Council for approval on a site by site basis. With one additional site signed up to participate in 2018

(Erskine Park, Ballyclare who last participated in 2011) an additional amount of £2,700 would be required to accommodate this, bringing the total budget for family fun events in 2018 to £45, 00.

Beacons

In 2017 New Mossley piloted a beacon for the first time and whilst they were happy with the concept the residents felt that it was too small. This year the Group has requested a modified (larger) beacon similar to the one used in Doagh in 2017.

A further request has been received from Rathcoole Somme Society who are keen to trial a beacon for the first time. The group's original site at Foyle Hill/Derrycoole Park has been developed by Apex Housing Association in 2017 for the provision of 25 homes which are due to be completed by the end of May 2018. On this occasion the group would like to position the beacon on the gravel area at the far end of the Peoples Park on Derrycoole Way and is seeking permission for the provision of a beacon and the use of the park as an alternative site, which if approved will also host the family fun event.

At present the Council is currently in possession of 5 beacons, should approval be given to Rathcoole Somme Society and CORE New Mossley then an additional beacon would need to be purchased at a cost of £3,500 and an existing beacon modified at a cost of £2,000 provision for which exists in the capital estimates. Members are advised that groups who are provided with beacons for their 11th July celebrations are required to sign an Agreement, a copy of which is **enclosed**, which outlines the Terms and Conditions for use.

Members are reminded that under the Bonfire Management Programme the agreed collection start date for this year's programme is Monday 14 May 2018. Inter-agency inspection dates have been set to coincide with this on Friday 11 May, Friday 15 June and Monday 9 July 2018.

At present the groups are developing their 11/12 July family fun day programmes and completing their event pro-formas. Members are reminded that funding will be administered by the Council up to a maximum of £2,700 per group. It is expected that the procurement of all goods and services in relation to each site will be completed by the end of May 2018.

Information detailing the dates, times and venues of these family fun events will be reported to the Community Planning and Regeneration Committee in June 2018.

RECOMMENDATION: that

- i. the 17 sites listed, including Erskine Park be approved for inclusion in the 2018 Bonfire Management Programme, and the use of beacons on the 3 Council owned/leased sites be approved.**
- ii. an additional £2,700 be added to the budget to cover the cost of the Erskine Park site.**

- iii. the modifications to the New Mossley beacon be made at a cost of approximately £2,000, provision for which exists in the capital estimates.**
- iv. an additional beacon be purchased at a cost of £3,500.**
- v. the request by the Rathcoole Somme Society for use of the Peoples Park as an alternative site for the beacon and festival on 11 July 2018 be approved.**

Prepared by: Jonathan Henderson, Community Services Officer

Agreed by: Elaine Manson, Community Services & Tackling Deprivation Manager

Approved by: Majella McAlister, Director of Community Planning & Regeneration

9.6 CD/PM/002 GATEWAY CENTRE: OFFER OF GRANT AID

In November 2017, the Council approved its capital programme. The programme considered by members included reference to the new Gateway Centre at Antrim Loughshore. The estimated budget referred to in the report was £2.3 million covering the full range of developments including a Gateway Centre building, a new play park, a bandstand and public artwork/interpretation. The indicative project costs were as follows:

Gateway Building	£1,895,000	(£500,000 external funding sought – anticipated net cost to Council £1,395,000)
Playpark	£225,000	(subsequently increased to £239,500 to include disabled swing)
Bandstand	£100,000	
Artwork	£80,000	
Total	£2,300,000	
Plus	£14,500	(for wheelchair accessible swing)
Revised Total	£2,314,500	

As external funding was being sourced for this project it was agreed at the Community Planning and Regeneration Committee in November 2017 that a further report would be presented on the Gateway Centre building when the outcome of the funding application was known.

In December 2017, the Council agreed to proceed with the new playpark at a revised budget of £249,230. This project is currently being constructed on site and is due for completion in June 2018.

Also in December 2017, correspondence was received from DAERA asking the Council to confirm that it would provide the remaining funding for the Gateway Centre project if the Council's application was successful. In response the Chief Executive wrote to the Department to confirm that should the funding application be successful, the Council would provide the necessary match funding, including the contingency and optimum bias, if required as set out for the preferred option for the Gateway Centre scheme. This was reported to the Council late in December 2017. At that time officers had anticipated that, if successful, a Letter of Offer would be issued early in 2018.

Correspondence has now been received advising that the Council's application to the Department for Agriculture, Environment & Rural Affairs (DAERA) under the Rural Tourism Scheme, has been successful. The Department has issued a letter of offer in the sum of up to £500,000 made up of £365,000 from DAERA (73%) and £135,000 from the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (27%) towards the Gateway. The offer of funding is valid for a period of 28 days from the issue date of 17th April, after which if not accepted is deemed to be withdrawn.

The grant aid is towards the construction costs of the Gateway Centre based on the preferred **Option 4a** identified in the independent economic appraisal, which the Council commissioned as part of the application process. A copy

of the economic appraisal is enclosed for Members' consideration, which also outlines the programming and promotion relevant to this option.

Option 4a approved by DAERA (page 116 of economic appraisal) is for a new 808 square metre building including circulation areas. Key components include:

- First Floor Dining Area with capacity for 75 covers (seated)
- Enlarged Kitchen and food preparation area with storage space for kitchen supplies and for staff and disabled toilets
- Internal lift
- External covered terrace area
- Public Toilets (male/female/disabled) that are accessed externally from the park and internally by visitors to Gateway Centre plus storage area for equipment and restricted access showering facility
- Energy Centre
- Interpretative space for the Lough Neagh story where workshops and activities can take place to deliver unique and evolving visitor experiences
- Lettable space: accommodation for a public rescue service to store boat and to provide training, office space, kitchenette/toilet facility (estimated at 180 square metres)
- Lettable space: accommodation for activity providers, including office area, equipment store and kitchenette/toilet facility (estimated at 90 square metres)

Due to the extent of lettable space in the building including the café, no dedicated staffing provision has been made for the building rather it will be serviced via the existing caravan park staff and other relevant officers. The income to be generated from the lettable space circa £27,000 per annum will be used offset the annual running costs estimated to be £19,225, as shown on page 125 of the economic appraisal. With respect to the Council Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) this is calculated as £70,000 per year commencing in 2020 for a period of 25 years.

Officers are also pursuing an opportunity for support from the private sector towards solar power equipment for the Centre to the value of £45,000. If secured this will further reduce the amount required from the Council.

A tender report is included later in the agenda for Members' consideration. Factoring in the external funding of £500,000 secured from DAERA the net cost to the Council will be £1,741,581.96, approximately £350,000 than originally anticipated.

Council's instructions are requested.

Prepared by: Paul Kelly, Head of Economic Development

Approved by: Majella McAlister, Director of Community Planning & Regeneration

9.7 CCS/GEN/007 SUMMER SCHEMES AND PROGRAMMES – UPDATE

Summer Schemes and Programmes are a series of initiatives held mainly during the Summer months and through smaller arrangements during Easter and Halloween. The Schemes and Programmes are organised across a range of services in the Council and cover a wide age range, delivered across numerous locations.

Historically, Summer Schemes originated from programmes organised by the Education and Library Boards and when Education Boards ceased provision, many Councils made the decision to adopt them.

There is no statutory obligation to provide Summer Schemes, they do however provide an opportunity for engagement with young people to increase opportunities for them to connect with sports/arts/culture, all of which positively impacts on health and well-being.

A wider review of Summer Schemes and Programmes will be completed and reported to Members in Autumn 2018. The review will result in a business case which will examine the costs and benefits of the schemes linked to the Council's Corporate and Community Plans.

In the meantime, and linked to delivering supporting initiatives for the most vulnerable within the context of our Community Plan, a review has been completed in relation to the provision of Summer Scheme activities for children and young people in the Borough with additional and special needs.

To date the provision to meet their needs has been limited with some opportunity being available to apply for funding through the Council's grant scheme and District Electoral Area funds. In addition to this the Council has already approved additional resource being established for children with a disability/medical condition where they wish to attend one of the Council's Summer Schemes and where an assessment has been completed to establish their needs (in practice there has been limited uptake of this support because the children and young people with more severe disabilities/needs are less likely to partake in the Schemes for practical reasons relating to their needs which the Council is unable to meet).

The practical needs for children and young people with severe/more complex additional needs, are best met through the provision of schemes/programmes delivered by the five special schools within the Borough. To this end, and to support equitable access across the Borough for children and young people with additional and special needs, it is proposed that the Council make a contribution up to a maximum of £5k to each Special School in the Borough, if they choose to deliver a Summer Scheme/Programme. The costs associated with this contribution would be met from revenue savings. Participating special schools would be required to submit a proposal confirming their programme, additional and total costs and sources of funding.

RECOMMENDATION: that the Council supports equitable access to Summer Schemes and Programmes across the Borough for children and young people with special needs via a contribution of up to a maximum of £5k to each Special School in the Borough that delivers a Summer Scheme/Programme.

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

9.8 CP/CP/088 REQUEST FROM CROÍ ÉANNA

Members are advised that Croí Éanna (St Enda's) has requested an opportunity to present to the Council its plans for a new multi-purpose community and sports facility on the Hightown Road. The majority of funding for the project has been secured from the Social Investment Fund and An Ciste Infheistochta Gailge.

Council's instructions are requested.

Prepared by: Majella McAlister, Director of Community Planning & Regeneration

Approved by: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

9.9 PK/BIO/019 PROPOSED MONKSTOWN/GREENISLAND GREENWAY - CORRESPONDENCE FROM MID & EAST ANTRIM BOROUGH COUNCIL AND TRANSLINK

Members are advised that correspondence has been received from Mid & East Antrim Borough Council and Translink in response to correspondence sent to relay concerns raised by Members at the Council meeting in February 2018 in relation to the proposed Monkstown/Greenisland Greenway.

Copies of the correspondence are **enclosed** for Members' information.

RECOMMENDATION: that the correspondence be noted.

Prepared by: Member Services

Approved by: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

9.10 CP/CD/106 QUEEN'S AWARD FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE VOICES OF VOLUNTEERS - 15TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION – 22 MARCH 2018

Correspondence has been received by the Mayor (**copy enclosed**) from Fionnuala Jay-O'Boyle CBE, Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Belfast, expressing her sincere thanks to the Mayor, the Chief Executive, staff and elected members for their support for the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service 15th Anniversary celebration and for the collective welcome and hospitality.

The letter also thanks the Mayor for his long-time support of the Northern Ireland Schools Debating Competition and wishes him continued success and best wishes for the remainder of his term of office.

Correspondence has also been received by the Chief Executive (**copy enclosed**) from Walter Rader OBE, Northern Ireland Representative of the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service, expressing his sincere thanks to the Council for the outstanding support given to his organisation in preparation for and during the event, and welcoming the opportunity to work with Council staff in the future to promote the Award.

RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.

Prepared by: Member Services

Approved by: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

9.11 FI/FIN/4 BUDGET REPORT – APRIL 2017 TO MARCH 2018 PERIOD 12

A budget report for the period April 2017 to March 2018 Period 12 is enclosed for Members' information.

The budget report for Period 12 does not include final adjustments required to arrive at the final financial position of the Council for the 2017/18 financial year. These adjustments include; final accruals of expenditure incurred and grants and debts invoiced after 31 March 2018, prepayments of expenditure and income, loan charges, the costs of future severance agreed by Council, any proposed contributions/allocations from reserves and any finalisations required in respect of the District Rates and De-Rating Grant income. These adjustments shall be made and reflected in the Statement of Accounts presented to the Audit Committee in June.

For the period the Council's variance on Net Cost of Services was £1,469k favourable. After accounting for income from District Rates and the De-Rating grant, and applying the credit balance of £757k used in calculating the District Rates, this results in an increase in the Council's General Fund of £712k.

RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.

Prepared by: Richard Murray, Management Accountant

Agreed by: John Balmer, Head of Finance

Approved by: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

9.12 CCS/CIV/007 ROYAL AIR FORCE CENTENARY CIVIC EVENT

Members are reminded that the Council agreed to host a civic reception for the Royal Air Force (RAF) Centenary, which was originally scheduled for 11 May 2018.

After further discussions with the RAF it is now planned to include as part of the event a concert by the RAF Saloon Orchestra. To facilitate this arrangement, the event will now be held on 31 May 2018 at the Old Courthouse, Antrim.

An allocation of free tickets will be available to the general public and these will be available online in due course.

In addition to this event, commemorative community flowerbeds are being designed which will be located at the Dublin Road, Barbican Gate, Antrim.

RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.

Prepared by: Tracey White, Head of Communication and Customer Services

Approved by: Andrea McCooke, Director of Organisation Development

9.13 HR/HR/10 NJC PAY AWARD

Members are advised that the Council has received notification from the Northern Ireland Local Government Association that agreement has been reached between the National Employers and the National Joint Council Trade Union Side on rates of pay applicable from 1 April 2018 and 1 April 2019.

An award of 2% per annum has been agreed for the majority of scale points with higher increases for points at the lower end of the pay scales varying from 5% to 9%. The higher increases at the bottom end of the scales are to facilitate alignment with the Government's National Living Wage rate of £9 per hour by 2020.

Full provision has been made in the budget for implementation of this award.

RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.

Prepared by: Joan Cowan, Head of Human Resources

Approved by: Andrea McCooke, Director of Organisation Development

9.14 ED/TOU/45 STRATEGIC ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

(1) City Deal Update

Members will be aware that a major initiative to develop the Belfast Region is now underway, in accordance with the requirements of the Department for Communities, and in conjunction with our partner Councils, and aims to deliver “more and better jobs, inclusive growth, improved skills and growth of domestic business and FDI”.

Innovation

In line with the process adopted for other successful city deals, the universities are working on the Innovation strand of the proposition. Queens University and Ulster University have developed outline potential innovation proposals which include a digital innovation centre, a financial (and legal) technology centre, academic medical research institute, creative industries centre of excellence, a global innovation institute.

Discussions with the University partners and the relevant NI departments have begun to further explore these and other projects for inclusion in the next proposition document.

Employability and Skills

Council Officers have attended a number of Employability and Skills workshops hosted by FE Colleges to develop the skills proposition which will underpin City Deal. The Director of Belfast Metropolitan College is working, on behalf of the Regional Colleges, on the development of an initial proposition for discussion with government departments and agencies. The emerging framework has three principal strands,

- Targeting economic inactivity;
- Addressing skill supply issues; and
- Meeting the skills needs of our growth sector.

Specific priority areas and programmes are being developed to support the key strands in areas such as

- Careers Enhancement;
- Apprenticeship Hub;
- Graduate Development;
- Employability for All;
- Economic Activation;
- Business Productivity;
- Digital skills.

A key element of the employability and skills proposition will involve establishing a new integrated approach which is more responsive to the needs of business in the region and which reflects the changing requirements to remain competitive in a global economy.

A first draft of the proposition has been developed and a meeting is scheduled with NI departments in mid-April, after which there will be a need for direct engagement with business representatives across the region.

Digital

Future City Catapult (FCC) has been engaged to develop a Digital Strategy to identify the digital infrastructure required across the region in order to advance economic growth and social inclusion.

Council Officers attended a workshop with FCC on 8 March 2018. A further meeting of Chief Executives took place on 23 March 2018 to discuss findings and to progress to the project identification phase of the strategy.

The emerging vision and proposition highlights a range of strategic objectives for the digital infrastructure which include:-

- Take action to increase digital readiness of the regional economy
- Accelerate the development of data and Internet of Things capabilities
- A Pathway to a future-proof digital infrastructure
- Embed digital into services prioritising those that will trigger economic growth.

Work is continuing to develop specific projects to support these objectives which will be included in the city deal proposition document at the end of April.

Infrastructure

Members are reminded that in all of the work strands the initial list of projects is in early draft and it is important to recognise that the value of the projects being identified by Council partners has a value far in excess of the level of financing that could be available through a £1 billion deal. There are a significant number of steps, including discussions with DCLG and NI Government Departments on both financing and deliverability still to be worked through in relation to all the projects that are being considered as part of the deal.

A Belfast Region Infrastructure Action Plan is being progressed to identify key interventions in the infrastructure network required to facilitate the growth agenda of the City Deal region, including attaining the regional targets for population, jobs and GVA.

Arup have been appointed to complete this work and met with Council Officers on 18 April to ensure infrastructure issues and opportunities in our borough are reflected in the investment plan for the region.

Tourism

Tourism NI is taking forward work to market test potential tourism projects that have been included in Councils' project lists. Production of a specification for the development of Tourism Product Framework for the Region is also being progressed.

Engagement

Councils will continue to consult with the NI Executive Departments to test the emerging project list and updated proposition paper which will form the basis of discussion and negotiation with DCLG at the end of April/May. It is anticipated that further prioritisation will form part of this process as well as the need for more information to take projects forward including detailed financial modelling with funding streams and development of individual business cases.

As projects begin to emerge, further detailed discussion will take place with all partners and the private sector to maximise the benefits of any deal, including identifying other funding opportunities. A further joint Members Forum will also be held in May.

Finance for the development of the Belfast City Region Deal proposition has been included in the revenue estimates,

Conclusion

The City Deal has the potential for a large scale investment of approximately £1 billion. Financial contributions will also be required from each council both in the short term to enable development of a strong bid proposition and the development of business cases but also in the longer term as any financial package will require financial provisions from each Council.

(2) Heathrow Hub Update

Members are reminded of the Council's participation with Mid and East Antrim Council in a bid for a Heathrow Logistics Hub which proposed 3 sites; Global Point, Michelin and Belfast International Airport. The bid was successful at the Expression of Interest stage of the process and has moved to Stage 2 along with two other bids from Northern Ireland, one from the private sector and one from Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council.

As there will only be 4 Hubs awarded across the UK this will be a highly competitive process. Moving forward therefore, it is considered that multiple bids from Northern Ireland have less chance of success in Phase 2 than a single bid, which could maximise the competitive odds for Northern Ireland and consolidate the strengths of the 3 proposals currently presented. On this basis Mid and East Antrim Borough Council has commenced discussions with the 3 parties that have submitted bids with a view to securing support for a single bid. A presentation focussing on the single bid proposition is **enclosed** for Members' information. Members are reminded that approval was granted in January 2018 for up to £25,000 to support the Phase 2 bid process and Mid and East Antrim Council has appointed consultants to undertake this task.

Site visits by a Heathrow delegation to Global Point, Michelin and Belfast International Airport are planned for Tuesday 19 June.

A further update report will be provided as the process moves forward.

RECOMMENDATION: that the update be noted.

Prepared and Approved by: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

9.15 PK/GEN/093 HAZELBANK/LOUGH SHORE EMERGENCY REPAIRS TO SEA WALL AND PATH.

Members were appraised at the Operations Committee in April 2018 of the works required to secure and make safe the sea wall and path at Hazelbank/Lough Shore Park following routine inspections of the path by the Parks team.

Due to the strong likelihood of the path deteriorating the works were deemed as being emergency under the Council's Scheme of Delegation and specialist consultants were appointed to recommend a way forward.

Initial estimates for repairs in late March were reported as being between £30,000 and £50,000 however, due to the bad weather over Easter further damage was caused and the costs have had to be revisited on the basis of the established bill of quantities, with the successful contractor. The consultant has verified that the new cost of £89,000 represents value for money. The contractor commenced works on Monday 23rd April 2018 and the period of works is estimated to be 5 weeks.

A more comprehensive long term assessment of the path is being progressed and a further report will be brought to Committee in due course.

Approval for the Advanced Emergency Works

Under the Council's Scheme of Delegation, the Chief Executive and Directors have the delegated power to take measures, including expenditure, in emergency and cases of urgency as follows:

- a. Taking such measures, including incurring expenditure, as may be required in emergency situations or cases of urgency, subject to advising the Mayor and reporting to the appropriate Committee as soon as possible.
- b. Where such measures involve the Council incurring expenditure of an amount that is likely to result in the Committee's expenditure exceeding its approved estimate, then the Chief Executive should advise the Director of Finance and Governance and submit a report to the relevant Committee as soon as possible, The Director of Finance and Governance should inform the relevant Committee accordingly as soon as possible,

In view of the further deterioration of the path and sea wall in line with the Scheme of Delegation, the Mayor has been consulted about the additional costs and has given his approval.

RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.

Prepared by: Ivor McMullan, Head of Parks, Operations Department

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Director of Operations