



**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD IN
ANTRIM CIVIC CENTRE ON MONDAY 28 JANUARY 2019 AT 6.30 PM**

- In the Chair** : The Mayor (Councillor P Michael)
- Members Present** : Aldermen – F Agnew, A Ball, P Barr, T Burns, T Campbell,
M Cosgrove, W DeCourcy, M Girvan, J Smyth and R Swann
Councillors – J Bingham, P Brett, L Clarke,
H Cushinan, P Dunlop, S Flanagan, R Foster, T Girvan,
M Goodman, J Greer, P Hamill, T Hogg, D Hollis, N Kelly,
A Logue, R Lynch, M Magill, M Maguire, S McCarthy,
N McClelland, J McGrath, V McWilliam, J Montgomery,
M Rea, D Ritchie, S Ross, B Webb and R Wilson
- In Attendance** : Matthew Baird, Regional Affairs Advisor, Virgin Media
Jack Gorman, Community Liaison Officer, Virgin Media
- Officers Present** : Chief Executive – J Dixon
Deputy Chief Executive – M McAlister
Director of Organisation Development – A McCooke
Director of Operations – G Girvan
Director of Finance and Governance – S Cole
Director of Community Planning – N Harkness
Head of Governance – L Johnston
ICT Officer – J Higginson
Media and Marketing Officer – A Doherty
Member Services Officer – S Fisher
Member Services Manager – V Lisk

1 BIBLE READING, PRAYER AND WELCOME

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised Members of the audio recording procedures.

The meeting opened with a Bible reading and prayer by The Venerable Dr Stephen McBride, Archdeacon of Connor.

Councillors Kelly, Montgomery, Cushinan, Logue and Goodman joined the meeting at this point.

MAYOR'S REMARKS

The Mayor paid tribute to Mr Bobby Loughran, former Mayor of Antrim Borough Council, who had passed away recently, and asked for a minute's silence.

The Mayor welcomed Councillor Wilson to the Chamber and the Council.

2 APOLOGIES

None

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Item 9.15 – Councillor Hogg

Item 9.27 – Councillor Maguire

Items 9.8, 9.9 and 9.38 – Alderman Girvan, Councillors McWilliam and Rea

4 MINUTES OF THE ANTRIM AND NEWTOWNABBEY BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

Moved by Alderman Smyth

Seconded by Alderman Campbell and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council Meeting of Monday 17 December 2018 be taken as read and signed as correct.

NO ACTION

5 MINUTES OF THE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Moved by Councillor Ritchie

Seconded by Councillor Greer and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Operations Committee Meeting of Monday 7 January 2019 be approved and adopted.

NO ACTION

6 MINUTES OF THE POLICY AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Moved by Alderman Barr

Seconded by Councillor McClelland and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Policy and Governance Committee Meeting of Tuesday 8 January 2019 be approved and adopted.

NO ACTION

7 MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY PLANNING AND REGENERATION COMMITTEE MEETING

AMENDMENT

Moved by Alderman Agnew
Seconded by Councillor McCarthy that

Item 3.4 (i) be amended to "this Council erects a memorial to all those who have lost their lives in the service of the Crown in conflicts subsequent to the First and Second World Wars" and

on the amendment being put to the meeting 12 Members voted in favour, 27 against and 0 abstentions.

The amendment was declared not carried.

AMENDMENT

Moved by Councillor Lynch
Seconded by Councillor McGrath that

Officers draft a policy on Memorials for consideration and that item 3.4 be taken back to the Community Planning and Regeneration Committee for further discussion and

on the amendment being put to the meeting 11 Members voted in favour, 28 against and 0 abstentions.

The amendment was declared not carried.

Moved by Councillor Ross
Seconded by Councillor Maguire and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Community Planning and Regeneration Committee Meeting of Monday 14 January 2019 be approved and adopted.

NO ACTION

8(a) MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING, PART 1

Moved by Councillor Cushinan
Seconded by Alderman Agnew and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Planning Committee Meeting of Monday 21 January 2019, Part 1 be taken as read and signed as correct.

NO ACTION

8(b) MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING, PART 2

Moved by Councillor Cushinan
Seconded by Alderman Agnew and

RESOLVED - that the Minutes of the proceedings of the Planning Committee Meeting of Monday 21 January 2019, Part 2 be approved and adopted.

NO ACTION

9. REPORT ON BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED

Alderman Campbell left the meeting during the next item.

9.1 VIRGIN MEDIA – ‘PROJECT LIGHTNING’ NETWORK EXPANSION

Representatives of Virgin Media, Matthew Baird, Regional Affairs Advisor, and Jack Gorman, Community Liaison Officer, made a presentation in relation to expansion of the Virgin Media network in the Borough

Mr Baird and Mr Gorman answered Members' questions, the Mayor and Members thanked them for their presentation and they left the meeting.

9.2 TO APPROVE THE SEALING OF DOCUMENTS

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

- Letter of Offer for grant aid for the Small Business Procurement Programme from Invest Northern Ireland
- Form of Agreement for Sixmilewater Caravan Park Upgrade
- Discontinuance Order re Unit 8 at Junction One Retail Park B

Moved by Councillor Bingham
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and

RESOLVED – that the Sealing of Documents be approved.

ACTION BY: Deirdre Nelson, Paralegal

ITEMS FOR DECISION

9.3 G/LEG/291(4) SOCIETY LOTTERY APPLICATION

An application from Newtownabbey Mencap to hold a Society Lottery at their premises on 14 February 2019 was received. The purpose of the lottery is

for the benefit of adults and children with learning disabilities in the Newtownabbey area.

The application met all statutory requirements and PSNI had no objections.

Moved by Councillor Foster
Seconded by Councillor McClelland and

RESOLVED - that Members approve issuing a licence for the lottery for Newtownabbey Mencap.

ACTION BY: Deirdre Nelson, Paralegal

9.4 G/MSMO/15 NORTHERN AGRIBUSINESS CONFERENCE, BEYOND BREXIT

Correspondence was received from Agenda NI (circulated) regarding a Northern Ireland Agribusiness Conference, Beyond Brexit, which is being held in Craigavon Civic Centre on Friday 8 March. The delegate fee is £210 + VAT = £252.

Moved by Alderman Cosgrove
Seconded by Councillor Ritchie that

relevant officers attend along with Alderman Swann and Councillor Rea and

on the proposal being put to the meeting 14 Members voted in favour and 15 against.

The proposal was declared not carried.

Moved by Councillor Brett
Seconded by Councillor Ross and

RESOLVED - that relevant Officers attend and provide a report to Council.

ACTION BY: Member Services

9.5 PT/CI/019 CORPORATE IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2018-19 QUARTER 2 PROGRESS REPORT

Members were reminded that Part 12 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 puts in place a framework to support the continuous improvement of Council services.

A second quarter progress report was circulated for Members' attention.

- The report provided an overview on how we performed against:
- Our corporate improvement objectives, as set out in the 2018-19 Corporate Improvement Plan, which was approved by Council in June 2018;

The seven statutory indicators and standards that were set by Central Government Departments for Planning Services, Economic Development and Waste Management – as defined in the Local Government (Performance Indicators and Standards) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015; and

- A range of self-imposed improvement objectives across all service areas.

The Quarter 2 progress report was presented to and reviewed by the Audit Committee on 11 December 2018.

Moved by Councillor Webb
Seconded by Councillor Kelly and

RESOLVED - that the Corporate Improvement Plan 2018-19 Quarter 2 Progress Report be approved.

ACTION BY: Helen Hall, Head of Performance and Transformation

9.6 PT/CI/013 CORPORATE IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2019-20

Members were reminded that Part 12 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 puts in place a new framework to support the continuous improvement of Council services, in the context of strategic objectives and issues.

Section 85 of the Act requires a Council, for each financial year, to set itself improvement objectives for improving the exercise of its functions and to have in place arrangements to achieve those objectives. The objectives must be framed so that each improvement objective brings about improvement in at least one of the specified aspects of improvement as defined in Section 86:

Strategic Effectiveness; Service Quality; Service Availability; Fairness; Sustainability; Efficiency; Innovation.

Elected Members were reminded that the Council received an unqualified opinion with no statutory recommendations from the Northern Ireland Audit Office in December 2018 for the Council's assessment of performance for 2017-18 and the Corporate Improvement Plan of 2018-19.

Officers have prepared a Corporate Improvement Plan 2019-20 (Draft for Consultation) and this was circulated for Members' consideration.

The Corporate Improvement Plan 2019-20 includes:

- Improvement objectives and measures of success;
- Corporate improvement Indicators for all Council services;
- Statutory Indicators and measures of success;
- Governance arrangements.

This document provided a strategic overview of the major projects and measures of success for the forthcoming year. The Plan identified the lead Head of Service, thus providing transparency / accountability at a Head of Service level.

Departmental guidance, indicates that Councils should *'develop an on-going dialogue with our communities and areas that it serves, so that the setting of improvement objectives is a jointly owned process centred on a balanced assessment of the needs of the community as a whole, rather than any particular organisation or interest group within it.'*

To this end, it was proposed to conduct a twelve-week consultation period to encourage feedback from our stakeholders.

Following the consultation, a revised draft will be brought to Members' attention in June 2019.

Elected Members were reminded that it was agreed that quarterly progress reports are submitted to the Audit Committee for scrutiny and challenge and to ensure that an evaluation of risk and an assessment of performance is carried out, prior to a subsequent Council meeting for approval.

Performance against the Corporate Improvement Plan is reported using a traffic light system.

Where items are confirmed as 'green' (already achieved or on track to achieve), no further information need be provided.

Where items are assessed as 'amber' (at risk) or 'red' (not achieved), further detailed information and an action plan will be provided to the most appropriate Committee/Council.

The Plan has been screened and there are no implications to the equality of opportunity or good relations of the Section 75 equality categories. A copy of the Screening Form as well as the Rural Impact Assessment was circulated for Members' consideration.

Councillor Lynch thanked Officers for bringing forward an improvement focussed report.

Moved by Alderman Smyth
Seconded by Councillor Flanagan and

RESOLVED - that the Corporate Improvement Plan 2019-20 (Draft for Consultation), and Equality Screening Form and Rural Impact Assessment is approved, subject to consultation.

ACTION BY: Helen Hall, Head of Performance and Transformation

9.7 PT/CI/022 REVIEW OF CORPORATE PLAN

Members were reminded that the Council's Corporate Plan was developed for the period 2015-2030 and provides the vision and direction for the Council. Members reviewed the document as part of the corporate improvement process at the Corporate Workshop in October 2018 to ensure that the key objectives and measures are still relevant and appropriate.

It was concluded that the Corporate Plan is a strategic, robust and progressive document with challenging objectives and no major adjustments were necessary.

However, to reflect the comments and feedback from Members, the Vision has been updated for Members' approval.

Current Vision

"A prosperous place. Inspired by our people. Driven by ambition."

Draft updated Vision

"A progressive, smart and prosperous Borough. Inspired by our People. Driven by ambition."

Members had also agreed that the document would be refreshed to reflect the Community Plan and the aspirations of the Local Development Plan and also re-prioritise some of the objectives and review the associated measures.

A copy of the updated Corporate Plan 2019-2030 was circulated for Members' review.

It was proposed to conduct a twelve-week consultation period to encourage feedback from our stakeholders and residents. Following consultation, a final draft will be brought to the Council following the election for approval.

The Plan has been screened for equality and there are no implications to the equality of opportunity or good relations of the Section 75 equality categories. A copy of the Screening Form, as well as the Rural Impact Assessment was circulated for Members' consideration.

Moved by Councillor Webb
Seconded by Councillor McClelland and

RESOLVED - that the Corporate Plan 2019-2030, Vision Statement, Equality Screening Form and Rural Impact Assessment be approved, subject to consultation.

ACTION BY: Helen Hall, Head of Performance and Transformation

9.8 ED/EUP/2 RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME: MATCH FUNDING REQUESTS

Members were reminded that GROW South Antrim is responsible for delivering the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 across the

Borough to include grant aid funding to support rural businesses, community organisations and village renewal projects and for working in cooperation with other Rural Development clusters across Europe.

Community Support – Basic Services

GROW is currently open for applications under its Basic Services measure, inviting proposals from the community/voluntary sector to undertake technical assistance projects with the ultimate aim to improve access to services in rural areas. Two applications were expected from community organisations under this call for funding, closing on 31st January 2019. It is a requirement of the Rural Development Programme that a minimum of 5% match funding for each project must come from the Council for a project to be considered eligible. A minimum of 5% of the project costs are to be provided by the applicant organisation. The table below summarises the applicants and their project proposals.

Organisation & Proposal	Estimated Total Project cost	Max GROW RDP funding (75%)	Min. Council match funding at (5%)	Min. Applicant Cont. (5% cash)	Further match funding required
Burnside Village Committee – feasibility study for Burnside Orange Hall	5,250.00	3,937.50	262.50	262.50	787.50
Naíscoil na Fíobha – feasibility study to set up a Family Centre in Toome	6,500.00	4,875.00	325.00	325.00	975.00
TOTAL	11,750.00	8,812.50	587.50	587.50	1,762.50

Members were asked to note that Burnside Village Committee has applied for a technical assistance grant through the Council's community grant aid programme, and if successful, will not require the Council funding outlined above.

Moved by Alderman Cosgrove
Seconded by Councillor Girvan and

RESOLVED - that the Council agrees to match fund 2 Basic Services applications in the sum of up to £587.50, provision for which exists in the estimates for 2019-20, subject to the projects successfully securing funding from GROW South Antrim.

ACTION BY: Emma Stubbs, Economic & Rural Development Manager

9.9 ED/EUP/2 RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME: APPLICATIONS

Members were reminded that GROW South Antrim is responsible for delivering the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 across the Borough to include grant aid funding to support rural businesses, community organisations and village renewal projects and for working in cooperation with other Rural Development clusters across Europe. The Council made provision of up to £232,500 in the capital estimates in 2018-19 financial year to match fund projects approved through the GROW programme.

Cooperation Scheme: Yellow Frames Project

The cooperation scheme in the Rural Development Programme allows GROW South Antrim to work with other Local Action Groups to deliver mutually beneficial projects. A potential project was identified to create a 'Hidden Gem's' Tourism project across all of rural Northern Ireland with the aim of increasing the profile of rural areas and boosting tourism. All 10 LAG's across Northern Ireland, incorporating all Council areas (Belfast rural area is covered by Lisburn City & Castlereagh) are intending to cooperate on the project.

In practical terms, the project will involve installation of up to 5 metal structures in each Council area, in the form of National Geographic 'Yellow Frames', which border an iconic or scenic background, allowing visitors to take photographs through the Frames. The Frames will be supplemented by interpretive panels and maps/brochures and an extensive marketing campaign. National Geographic is a world-renowned organisation and its iconic trademark is recognised and associated with the most interesting, unique and beautiful areas of the planet. The partnership of LAG's and Councils will enter into an initial 3 year contract with National Geographic for marketing the 'Hidden Gems' trail particularly targeting North America, China and wider Europe. After the 3 year contract period, the partnership agreement can be reviewed or ceased, without the need to remove the frames, and the Councils can continue with their own marketing of the project.

It is proposed that the trail will include 50 Yellow Frames across rural Northern Ireland, with 5 in each LAG area. The objective and anticipated benefits of the project is to capitalise on the large number of tourists visiting Northern Ireland, and currently spending most of their time in Belfast and the Giants Causeway, by attracting them to lesser known areas, ie Hidden Gems, across rural Northern Ireland, creating the opportunity for economic benefits for rural areas and businesses.

Members have already been consulted on proposed locations, and the current short list is:

- Randalstown Viaduct
- Crumlin Glen
- Antrim Loughshore
- Canal Walk, Toome
- Colin Road, Ballyclare

The final agreement of sites is subject to site visits and agreement with project partners and the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, the Managing Authority for the Rural Development Programme.

The estimated cost of the project within the Antrim and Newtownabbey area includes capital costs of installing up to 5 Yellow Frames and interpretive panels, including site clearance and remedial works of £37,000, National Geographic 3 year contract costs, including extensive overseas marketing, of £75,000 and local marketing and website costs of £20,000, giving a total project cost of £132,000. Funding under the cooperation scheme can be applied for at a rate of 75% from the Rural Development Programme equating to £99,000 and the remaining match funding of 25% equating to £33,000 is sought from the Council, provision for which can be found in the 2019/20 estimates. As per the guidelines of the Rural Development Programme, an application for funding under the Cooperation Scheme should come as a partner application between the Council and GROW South Antrim.

Moved by Alderman Cosgrove
Seconded by Councillor Greer and

RESOLVED - that the Council does not proceed with the Yellow Frames project.

ACTION BY: Emma Stubbs, Economic & Rural Development Manager

9.10 ED/ED/005 LEADER PROGRAMME FUNDING

Members were reminded that GROW South Antrim is responsible for delivering the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 across the Borough to include grant aid funding to support rural businesses, community organisations and village renewal projects and for working in cooperation with other Rural Development clusters across Europe. The budget of £2.614 million comes through the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs and is delivered through the LEADER Programme, a bottom-up method of delivering support whereby a local partnership of private and public representatives take the funding decisions. The current Programme is the 3rd LEADER programme that has operated directly in Antrim and Newtownabbey, having also been delivered for the periods 2007 – 2013 and 2000 – 2006 with budgets of £8.9 million and £1.4 million respectively.

A letter was received from Fermanagh and Omagh District Council and was circulated, following consideration of the importance of LEADER funding to its rural area and district in the light of Brexit. Fermanagh and Omagh District Council has written to the European Union requesting that it continues to fund any future LEADER programmes in the same manner as it agreed to fund the future PEACE and Interreg Programmes and to the Prime Minister, seeking her commitment that any future LEADER funding will be supported from Westminster budgets and not from the Northern Ireland block grant.

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council has requested Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council's support by making similar representations to both the European Union and the British Government on this issue.

GROW South Antrim received a similar letter from Fermanagh and Omagh District Council, and agreed at its December meeting to support this important matter.

Moved by Councillor McWilliam
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and

RESOLVED - that

- a) the Council writes to the European Union to request that it continues to fund any LEADER programmes in Northern Ireland;**
- b) the Council writes to the British Government to request any future LEADER funding will be supported from Westminster budgets and not from the Northern Ireland block grant.**

ACTION BY: Emma Stubbs, Economic & Rural Development Manager

9.11 G/MSMO/2 NOMINATIONS TO EXTERNAL BODIES

Following recent membership changes within the SDLP vacancies now exist for three external bodies:

1. National Association of Councillors. They meet 6 times per year and venue rotates across N Ireland.
2. Lough Neagh Partnership. They meet 7 to 8 times per year at Ballyronan Marina.
3. Local Government Partnership on Traveller issues. They meet quarterly per year and venue rotates across N Ireland

Moved by Councillor Brett
Seconded by Councillor Hogg and

RESOLVED - that the Nominating Officer for the SDLP be given authority to fill these positions.

ACTION BY: Liz Johnston, Head of Governance

9.12 PK/BIO/011 REQUEST FOR NOMINEES - ALL PARTY GROUP ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Members were reminded of the information regarding a Sustainable Development Conference presented at the November meeting of Committee. The conference entitled, Global Goals, Local Action was

designed to raise awareness of the 17 International Sustainable Development Goals and how they are, and could be, implemented at a local level and a report was circulated.

Correspondence was circulated which indicated that one of the aims of the event was to develop an All Party Group on Sustainable Development. This group would be an Elected Members' Champion Group for Sustainable Development.

Expected to meet quarterly, the first meeting is expected to be in March 2019. Each council was asked to nominate two elected members to sit on the group, and nominees are invited from those with a particular interest in sustainable development.

For information, the 17 Sustainable Development goals are set out below. The goals are a call to action by all countries, to promote prosperity while protecting the planet.

1. No Poverty
2. Zero Hunger
3. Good Health And Well-Being
4. Quality Education
5. Gender Equality
6. Clean Water And Sanitisation
7. Affordable And Clean Energy
8. Decent Work And Economic Growth
9. Industry, Innovation And Infrastructure
10. Reduced Inequalities
11. Sustainable Cities And Communities
12. Responsible Consumption And Production
13. Climate Action
14. Life Below Water
15. Life On Land
16. Peace, Justice And Strong Institutions
17. Partnerships For The Goals

It was proposed that the new All Party group will run on a similar format to the existing sustainable Development Forum, an officer group which meets quarterly. The Groups will reinforce what is discussed at the officer group and provide a platform for informing, raising awareness and gaining support for sustainable development.

It was proposed that the first meeting will be chaired by Sustainable NI's current Chair, Andrew Cassels (Mid Ulster District Council) who will initially set out to get agreement on terms of reference, frequency of meetings etc.

Moved by Councillor Brett
Seconded by Alderman Cosgrove

RESOLVED - that Councillor Webb be nominated to the All Party Group for Sustainable Development.

Moved by Councillor Brett
Seconded by Cllr McClelland

RESOLVED - that Councillor Lynch be nominated to the All Party Group for Sustainable Development.

ACTION BY: Member Services

9.13 ED/TOU/40 EASTER STAGES RALLY REQUEST FOR SPONSORSHIP

Members were reminded that in October 2017 the Council agreed to provide £20,000 in sponsorship towards the Ulster Automobile Club Easter Stages Rally as a flagship event which was held from 5 - 7 April 2018.

The UAC Easter Stage Rally Ltd has submitted a proposal to the Council to sponsor the 2019 Ulster Automobile Club Easter Stages Rally at a sum of £30,000. The Club plans to run a closed road car rally with up to 100 crews with either 12 or 14 special stages with 8 or 9 of those being in the Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough over the two days of the event.

The rally will be a televised stage of the Irish Tarmac Rally Championship. The Ulster Automobile Club is also applying to Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council for £20,000 (decision pending), as the event is being delivered across the two Council areas.

Members are advised that the Corporate Event Sponsorship policy agreed in November 2016 enables applicants to apply for up to £10,000 towards key event costs. Officers were however aware that a number of major events were interested in the Borough as a venue and therefore included £75,000 in the 2019/20 draft estimates for flagship events with no specified maximum award. The application received from the Ulster Automobile Club Easter Stages Rally organisers has been assessed against the agreed policy and if approved would be funded from the Flagship Events budget.

APPLICATION SUMMARY

Event Name	Ulster Automobile Club Easter Stages Rally (UACESR)
Event Date	Friday 19 April – Saturday 20 April 2019
Locations	The rally will be split over two main locations, Antrim and Lisburn: Rally Headquarters/Control Centre – Chimney Corner Hotel Service Area – Dundrod Motorsports Centre Event Start – Proposed at Antrim Castle Gardens (subject to approval)
Sponsorship Request	£30,000
Total Cost of Event	£117,000
Estimated Visitors	Up to 6,000 (1,800 from Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough, 3,000 from Northern Ireland and 1,200 from outside Northern Ireland).

Estimated Participants	1,150 competitors and support crews (230 from Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough, 575 from Northern Ireland and 345 from outside Northern Ireland).
Bed nights in the Borough	Projected 800 bed nights (breakdown of 500 participant and 300 visitor) for the event across the two Boroughs with a target set of 400 for Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough.
Economic Impact	Target of £250,000 including bed nights and daily visitor spend delivering a return on investment of £8 for every £1 of sponsorship.
Marketing Budget	£27,000 - radio advertising, signage, press adverts, social media manager. Website redesign, photography.
Application Score (pass rate 50%)	Officers have assessed the application from the Ulster Automobile Club Easter Stages Rally and it scored 60%.

Moved by Alderman Smyth
Seconded by Alderman Girvan and

RESOLVED - that the Council provides sponsorship in the sum of £20,000 to the Ulster Automobile Club Easter Stages Rally 2019.

ACTION BY: Karen Steele, Tourism, Town Centre and Regeneration

9.14 ED/ED/144 PILOT DRIVER EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMME

The Council's Economic Development strategy provides the framework through which support is channelled to the development of new and existing businesses in the Borough. Officers and Members recently engaged in Economic Think Tank sessions with employers across the Borough which identified skills and employability as a key theme, focusing on identifying skill gaps and facilitating training to meet the demands of local employers and supporting the economically inactive back into the labour market.

A number of employers in Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough, are currently facing recruitment problems for Large Good Vehicle (LGV) drivers, including Henderson Retail (Mallusk), Bond Delivery (Nutts Corner) and Breezemount (Mallusk), who provide drivers for Ikea. They are all working with a training organisation, Bluestones Staffing, based in Mallusk and who have previously delivered a successful Driver Employment Programme with Belfast City Council.

Bluestones Staffing have proposed that they run a pilot Driver Employment Programme in Mallusk to address the current shortage of LGV drivers for these local employers, particularly targeting residents of the Borough who are unemployed or employed less than 16 hours per week or young people categorised as NEETs (Not in Education, Employment or Training). Upon completion of the Programme, the participants will obtain a LGV driver's licence and a Level 2 qualification through the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport and will be guaranteed an interview for a driving position with Bluestones Staffing for a role with one of the three local businesses.

Bluestones Staffing have requested that the Council support the roll out of this pilot Driver Employment Programme by funding 3 cohorts of 4 trainees over the next 9 months. A copy of the request was circulated. The total cost per trainee is £1,091, with a retest budget of £180 per trainee (only if required). Marketing of the programme will focus on Neighbourhood Renewal Areas and areas where long-term unemployment is a challenge.

It was proposed that this pilot programme due to its alignment with the Council's Economic Development strategy and direct link to local employers be awarded directly to Bluestones Staffing. A review of the programme post-completion will be undertaken to inform the design and delivery of any follow-on programme if successful.

Moved by Councillor Webb
Seconded by Councillor Lynch and

RESOLVED - that the Council agrees to support the delivery of a Pilot Driver Employment Programme through Bluestones Staffing at a maximum cost of £15,252 for up to 12 participants, to be funded from the Economic Development 2018-19 / 2019-20 budgets.

ACTION BY: Emma Stubbs, Economic & Rural Development Manager

Councillor Hogg left at this point of the meeting, having declared an interest in the next item.

9.15 G/LEG/38/51 AMENDMENT TO THE COUNCIL'S SCHEME OF ALLOWANCES FOR COUNCILLORS

Councils are required under the Local Government (Payments to Councillors) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2012, to have a Scheme of Allowances which sets out the allowances that apply to a Councillor. It is a matter for a Council to decide the amount of allowance paid and when it is paid (payments must be within the maximum set by the Department).

Under the 2012 Regulations payments to Councillors are made for, or in relation to anything done in connection with, service as a councillor, including an approved duty.

The Council's current Scheme of Allowances does not cover what should happen if a Councillor is disqualified, suspended or partially suspended following an adjudication by the Local Government Commissioner for Standards in relation to a breach of the Northern Ireland Local Government Code of Conduct for Councillors. Nor does the current Scheme of Allowances cover a situation where a Councillor is suspended or partially suspended pending the outcome of an investigation by the Local Government Commissioner for Standards.

Members may wish to consider an amendment to the Council's Scheme of Allowances to provide for the removal or partial removal of allowances and support services to a Member who is disqualified, suspended, partially

suspended or suspended on an interim basis, by the Local Government Commissioner for Standards in relation to a breach of the Northern Ireland Local Government Code of Conduct for Councillors.

The Local Government Commissioner for Standards can impose one of the following sanctions on a Councillor who is found to have breached the Northern Ireland Code of Conduct for Councillors:

- censure;
- suspension, or partial suspension, from being a Councillor for a period, up to a maximum of one year; or
- disqualification from being or becoming a Councillor for a period, up to a maximum of five years.

The sanctions may be imposed at the conclusion of the Commissioner's adjudication process of the alleged breach or at the conclusion of an interim adjudication by the Commissioner.

Under the Councils current Scheme of Allowances Members are entitled to allowances and support services which are made up of the following: basic allowance, special responsibility allowance, Chairperson/Vice Chairperson allowance, dependant carers allowance, travel and subsistence allowances, mobile phones, broadband, and IT readable devices and consumables.

The Northern Ireland Public Services Ombudsmans Office provided Council Officers with the following relevant guidance:

- A Councillor's entitlement to receive an allowance and the provision of all support services when under suspension is a matter for their Council under that Council's Scheme of Allowances for Councillors.
- If a Councillor is suspended they remain a Councillor but they cannot take part in the business of the Council.
- A suspended Councillor continues to be subject to the Code of Conduct.
- For the duration of the suspension, a suspended Councillor cannot participate, formally or informally, in any Council business or any activities associated with his/her position as a Councillor, including the business of any Council meetings, committees or sub-committees.
- There is nothing to expressly prevent a suspended Councillor from sitting in the public gallery at a Council meeting provided they are not in any way acting in their capacity as a Councillor, participating in Council business, and are complying with the Code of Conduct – including complying with the requirements in relation to conflicts of interests.
- Whilst suspended Councillors are entitled to advise a constituent as a fellow member of the public, they are excluded from all activities

associated with the position of Councillor. Therefore they may wish to consider whether a constituent's interests would be more adequately represented by referring them to another Councillor.

- In terms of interim suspension or interim partial suspension there is provision for the Commissioner to specify in the notice to the Council whether the suspension or partial suspension should have any other requirements attached. Section 60 (1) of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014 states: "the Commissioner may give notice to the clerk of the council concerned that that person is suspended or partially suspended [on an interim basis] from being a councillor for such period and in such way as may be specified in the notice."

Members may wish to consider the following actions being taken upon the receipt by the Chief Executive of a decision by the Local Government Commissioner for Standards which results in the disqualification, the suspension, the partial suspension, the interim suspension, or the interim partial suspension of a Councillor.

Disqualification

If a Councillor is disqualified, then the payment of all allowances and the provision of all support services outlined in the Council's Scheme of Allowances will cease with immediate effect from the date of disqualification.

Suspension

If a Councillor is wholly suspended for a period of time, then the payment of all allowances and the provision of all support services outlined in the Council's Scheme of Allowances will cease with immediate effect from the date of suspension.

Partial Suspension/Interim Suspension

If a Councillor is partially suspended for a period of time, or if a Councillor is suspended or partially suspended pending the final outcome of an investigation, then the Council will decide, on a case by case basis, what impact that suspension or partial suspension shall have upon the Councillor's right to receive any allowances and support services from the date of that suspension or partial suspension having regard to the nature of the suspension or partial suspension. Members may wish to consider if the full Council or a Committee makes this decision.

The above will be subject to any direction given by the The Local Government Commissioner for Standards.

Moved by Councillor Brett
Seconded by Councillor Goodman and

RESOLVED - that this item be deferred until further advice is sought from the Department for Communities.

ACTION BY: Paul Casey, Borough Lawyer & Head of Legal Services

Councillor Hogg returned to the Chamber.

9.16 ED/ED/140 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP AND WORKING GROUP MINUTES

Members were advised that the quarterly update 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.

Economic Development		
File Ref	Date of Meeting	Name of Partnership
ED/MI/250	13 April 2018 8 June 2018 6 July 2018 10 Aug 2018 14 Sept 2018 9 Nov 2018	GROW Local Action Group Meeting

Tourism, Town Centres		
File Ref	Date of Meeting	Name of Partnership
ED/REG/005	23 April 2018 6 June 2018 23 July 2018 10 September 2018 22 October 2018	Antrim Town Team
ED/REG/002	9 May 2018	Ballyclare Town Team
ED/REG/009	2 May 2018 20 June 2018	Crumlin Town Team
ED/REG/003	15 March 2018 21 June 2018 12 September 2018 12 December 2018	Glengormley Town Team
ED/REG/006	18 April 2018 23 May 2018 27 June 2018 5 September 2018 17 October 2018	Randalstown Town Team

Economic Development		
File Ref	Date of Meeting	Name of Working Group
ED/TOU/43	1 May 2018 10 May 2018 27 June 2018	Ballyclare May Fair

Moved by Councillor McClelland
Seconded by Councillor Lynch and

RESOLVED - that

- a) the GROW Local Action Group Minutes be noted.
- b) the Town Team Meeting Minutes as listed be approved.
- c) the Ballyclare May Fair Minutes as listed be approved.

ACTION BY: Kim Murray, Clerical Assistant, Economic Development

9.17 CP/CP/030 NCHS CONCEPT PLAN - FORMER NEWTOWNABBEY COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

Members were advised that the former Newtownabbey Community High School site had been declared surplus by the Education Authority and a D1 disposal form, a copy of which was circulated has been issued to relevant public bodies.

Members were reminded that the Council commissioned a concept plan for this site in partnership with the Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE) to consider appropriate options for the site to meet local needs. The key priorities identified were housing, leisure and health and wellbeing facilities and a range of options including 100% housing and % housing plus leisure (3G pitch) provision were included in the final report.

Since the report was produced Officers have continued to engage with the NIHE and have identified an opportunity to consider the provision of the 3G pitch on existing Council land within the Rathcoole estate thereby enabling an expression of interest for housing to be submitted for the entire site. The NIHE is keen to acquire the entire site to help meet the housing need in the area.

Moved by Councillor Hogg
Seconded by Councillor Foster and

RESOLVED – that

(i) Council does not express an interest in this land and seeks to explore the development of 3G pitch provision within the Options Appraisal for facilities in the Diamond area, Rathcoole

(ii) Council seeks a meeting with representatives of NIHE and NHSCT to discuss options identified in the NCHS master plan and issues of housing, leisure and health and wellbeing provision in the wider Rathcoole area.

ACTION BY: Majella McAlister, Director of Economic Development and Planning

9.18 FI/FIN/4 BUDGET REPORT – DECEMBER 2018

A budget report for December 2018 was circulated for Members' information.

The Council's variance on Net Cost of Services for the period to the end of December is £407k favourable, with income from District Rates and the De-Rating grant being on budget for the period, resulting in an increase to the Council's General Fund of £407k.

This includes a contribution of £560k to the Council's Strategic Projects and Rates Appeal Reserves.

Moved by Councillor Maguire
Seconded by Councillor Webb and

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

NO ACTION

9.19 CE/OA/009 LOCAL GOVERNMENT STAFF COMMISSION – CHARTERED INSTITUTE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AWARDS 2018

Members were advised that correspondence was received from the Local Government Staff Commission congratulating the Mayor, Council Members and the Environmental Health Section's Health and Wellbeing Team on winning the CIEH Excellence Award 2018.

A copy of the letter was circulated.

Moved by Councillor Webb
Seconded by Alderman Agnew and

RESOLVED - that the correspondence from the Local Government Staff Commission be noted.

NO ACTION

9.20 CE/OA/009 FUNDING CRISIS IN COMMUNITY PHARMACY – CORRESPONDENCE FROM FERMANAGH AND OMAGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

Members were advised that correspondence was received from Fermanagh and Omagh District Council in relation to the Funding Crisis in Community Pharmacy in Northern Ireland and enclosing a copy of a letter that Council had sent to Mr Richard Pengelly, Permanent Secretary, Department of Health.

A copy of the letter and attachment were circulated.

Moved by Councillor Webb
Seconded by Alderman Agnew and

RESOLVED - that the correspondence from Fermanagh and Omagh District Council be noted.

NO ACTION

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

Members were advised that correspondence was received from Newry, Mourne and Down District Council regarding a Motion adopted by that Council requesting support in lobbying the Permanent Secretary of the Department for Education in relation to the contribution that the Curriculum Sports Programme has made to the emotional health and physical well of our primary school children.

A copy of the letter was circulated for Members' information.

Moved by Councillor Webb
Seconded by Alderman Agnew and

RESOLVED - that the correspondence from Newry, Mourne and Down District Council be noted.

NO ACTION

9.22 CE/OA/009 CORRESPONDENCE FROM UNIVERSAL CREDIT NORTHERN IRELAND

Members were advised that correspondence was received from Universal Credit Northern Ireland regarding the recent introduction of Universal Credit in the Ballymena and Antrim areas and giving an update on the ongoing programme.

A copy of the letter was circulated for Members' information.

Moved by Councillor Webb
Seconded by Alderman Agnew and

RESOLVED - that the correspondence from Universal Credit Northern Ireland be noted.

NO ACTION

9.23 CE/PERS/05 CORRESPONDENCE FROM SALVATION ARMY 2018

Members were advised that correspondence was received from the Salvation Army thanking Members and Council colleagues for their support for the Family Appeal 2018. This is a toy and gift collection aimed toward providing a better Christmas for children in our Society for whom Christmas is a difficult time.

A copy of the letter was circulated for Members' information.

Moved by Councillor Webb
Seconded by Alderman Agnew and

RESOLVED- that the correspondence from the Salvation Army be noted.

NO ACTION

9.24 G/MSMO/21 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILLORS – UK EVENTS 2019

Communication was received and circulated from the National Association of Councillors (NAC) providing a list of forthcoming NAC UK events that Members may like to attend. Any Member who wished to attend any of the events was requested to contact Member Services.

Moved by Councillor Webb
Seconded by Alderman Agnew and

RESOLVED - that the correspondence from the National Association of Councillors be noted.

NO ACTION

9.25 ED/ED/130 LOCAL FULL FIBRE NETWORK/FULL FIBRE NI UPDATE

Members were reminded that Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council is part of a local NI Councils consortium that has been preparing a funding bid to the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS).

The bid is seeking funding of between £30-35million from DCMS, that will be shared among the ten constituent Council areas to help deliver and improve local full fibre connectivity and to help stimulate additional private sector investment.

As approved at Full Council in July 2018, the Council played an active role within the consortium in developing a full business case for the proposal, and officers wish to inform Members that the proposal will now be heard by a DCMS Investment Panel on 30 January 2019. It is anticipated that a decision will then be provided relatively shortly after this date, following which, further work at individual Council level will need to be undertaken to refine the respective proposals.

Members were also reminded that previously it had been suggested that a proposal looking at a fibre ring based on Council facilities in and around the Mossley area of Newtownabbey (including enhancing connectivity in and around the Global Point location, thereby supporting the potential development of this asset under the Belfast City Region Deal initiative) would offer the best chance of success.

It was also noted that officers have been looking at a further option in Antrim, which would seek to link up the Council facilities stretching from Antrim Civic Centre to the new Gateway facility at the Antrim Loughshore. Members were reminded however, how expansive the local proposals can be will be dependent upon the level of funding awarded.

Officers will update Members at the earliest practical opportunity in respect of the Panel's decision, and will undertake to organise a presentation by the consultants to keep Members fully informed going forward.

Moved by Councillor Webb
Seconded by Alderman Agnew and

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

NO ACTION

9.26 ED/TOU/53 BELFAST CITY AIRPORT/TOURISM NI COMPETITION

Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council was invited to launch and participate in a competition which will provide a tourist attraction or experience in the Borough with an opportunity to win £30,000 worth of free advertising and marketing support at George Best Belfast City Airport and this was circulated.

The Mayor attended a photo call at the George Best Belfast City Airport on 16 January and a press release was issued to launch the competition. The competition is open to all Northern Ireland tourist attractions and experiences with an annual footfall of less than 100,000. Attractions are asked to send initial entries to the Council via email for the Council to then shortlist three to progress onto the next stage. These entries will then be uploaded to the airport's Facebook page, with the public advised that the entry from each Council with the highest number of 'likes' will go through to the final.

The 11 tourist attractions with the highest number of 'likes' after a two week period will go through to represent their Councils in the final, which will see a judging panel visit the attraction or experience to determine the winner.

Moved by Councillor Webb
Seconded by Alderman Agnew and

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

NO ACTION

9.27 ED/ED/111 GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP WEEK: YOUNG ENTERPRISE SCHOOLS MASTERCLASSES

Members were reminded that Young Enterprise NI (YENI) is a charity that delivers a range of enterprise and financial education programmes to children and young people from all backgrounds from one day masterclasses to year-long activities.

In April 2018, the Council agreed to sponsor YENI NI to provide masterclasses for schools throughout the Borough to coincide with Global Entrepreneurship Week 2018. Global Entrepreneurship Week aims to promote entrepreneurship and raise awareness of self-employment opportunities to young people. This

year's series of events took place from 12-18 November 2018 delivering 8 masterclasses to 945 school pupils from 28 local primary and post primary schools in the Borough.

All primary, post primary and special educational needs schools across the Borough were invited to participate on a 'first come first served' basis. All teachers were surveyed following the workshops and feedback received was very positive. A copy of the final report was circulated.

Moved by Councillor Webb
Seconded by Alderman Agnew and

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

NO ACTION

9.28 ED/ED/115 NORTHERN IRELAND BUSINESS START UP PROGRAMME: JOB TARGETS

Members were reminded that the function of local economic development transferred to the Council under the Review of Public Administration, which included the transfer of responsibility for supporting the set-up of new businesses. A regional 'Go for It' programme, which offers support for entrepreneurs to develop a business plan, has been running since September 2017 across all Council areas. The Programme is managed by Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council on behalf of all Councils, and is delivered by Enterprise NI through their network of Local Enterprise Agencies.

The Council has a statutory job creation target of 80 jobs to be created as a result of participation on a Regional Start Initiative over a financial year period. Officers are pleased to report that the target of creating 80 jobs has been met by the Programme for the 2018-19 year at the end of December 2018. It is anticipated that the Council will exceed its statutory job target by the end of March by approximately 25 jobs.

Members were asked to note that a review of statutory job targets across all Council areas is currently being undertaken and a report will be brought back to the Council outlining the recommendations in due course.

Moved by Councillor Webb
Seconded by Alderman Agnew and

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

NO ACTION

The Mayor advised Members that the Motions would be taken at this point of the meeting.

10. MOTION

Moved by Councillor Julian McGrath and
Seconded by Councillor Noreen McClelland

"This Council supports calls, from all education sectors, for urgent measures from the UK Government (in the absence of a Northern Ireland Executive) to tackle the funding crisis facing our schools in 2019. Children and young people in our Borough, and across Northern Ireland, are being negatively affected by the unsustainable and severe budgetary pressures on our schools."

The Motion was declared unanimously carried.

ACTION BY: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

11. MOTION

Moved by Councillor Paul Dunlop and
Seconded by Councillor Drew Ritchie

"That this Council makes preparations to mark the Centenary of Northern Ireland in 2021. The Council should form a working group of Councillors and other local key stakeholders to explore a variety of proposals which could be made to ensure this significant year will be commemorated within our Borough."

The Motion was declared carried.

ACTION BY: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

12. MOTION

Moved by Councillor Jim Montgomery
Seconded by Councillor Roisin Lynch

"Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council recognises the growing number of incidents of unsafe disposal of used syringes and unused prescription drugs and the risk this causes to the community."

In order to protect citizens, Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council will engage with relevant groups from the public and private sector to encourage the use of and enhance the facilities for safe disposal and highlight the risks involved where unsafe disposal happens."

The Motion was declared unanimously carried.

ACTION BY: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

Councillor Hollis left at this point of the meeting.

MOTION TO PROCEED 'IN COMMITTEE'

Moved by Councillor Magill
Seconded by Alderman Smyth and

RESOLVED - that the Council proceeds to conduct the following business 'In Committee'.

Members were advised that the audio recording would cease at this point.

9.29 IN CONFIDENCE P/FP/LDP/1 LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN – DRAFT PLAN STRATEGY AFFORDABLE HOUSING POLICY

The Planning Section's Forward Plan Team has been working closely with Members during 2018 regarding the preparation of the next key stage of the Council's Local Development Plan, namely the Plan Strategy which is scheduled to be published in draft form during 2019.

Following publication the draft Plan Strategy document will be subject to a period of public consultation and once complete, the next step would be for Council to submit the draft Plan Strategy together with any representations made to the Department of Infrastructure to cause an Independent Examination to be held. Critically this examination will assess the "soundness" of the Plan Strategy document, taking account of comments received. Further information on this process is set out in the Planning Appeals Commission publication ["Procedures for Independent Examination of Local Development Plans"](#).

The Forward Plan Team is continuing to prepare a robust evidence base in support of the Council's position on matters to be contained in the draft Plan Strategy. In preparing this evidence base the Council is required by the Planning Act to take into account strategic guidance set out in the Regional Development Strategy (RDS) and Strategic Planning Policy Statement (SPPS) and subject the document to a range of statutory assessments – Sustainability Appraisal, Equality Assessment, and Rural Proofing.

One key role of the Plan Strategy will be to set out the Council's approach to the delivery of Affordable Housing within the Borough. The RDS defines Affordable housing as comprising the social rented sector, housing benefit funded private rented and that part of the low cost owner occupation market which can be purchased utilising 30% or less of gross household income. Greater detail is provided in the SPPS which defines Affordable Housing as consisting of the following:

Social Rented Housing – this is housing provided at an affordable rent by a Registered Housing Association, that is, one that is registered and regulated as a social housing provider. Social rented accommodation should be available to households in housing need and is offered in accordance with the Common Selection Scheme, administered by the Northern Ireland Housing

Executive, which prioritises households who are living in unsuitable or insecure accommodation.

Intermediate Housing – this consists of shared ownership housing provided through a Registered Housing Association (e.g. the Co-ownership Housing Association) and helps households who can afford a small mortgage, but are not able to afford to buy a property outright. The property is split between part ownership by the householder and part social renting from the Register Housing Association. The proportion of property ownership and renting can vary depending on householder circumstances and preferences.

In relation to Affordable Housing the SPSS indicates that the development plan process will be the primary vehicle to facilitate any need (as identified by the Northern Ireland Housing Executive) by zoning land or by indicating, through through key site requirements (KSRs), where a proportion of a proposed development site would be reserved for social/affordable housing. Such zoning and/or the identification of KSRs is however a matter to be considered at the second stage of the Local Development Plan process plan i.e. the Local Policies Plan.

Members will recall that the general issue of Developer Contributions was discussed at workshops held in January and March 2018, whilst an Affordable Housing options paper was circulated and presented to Members at a workshop in October 2018 and was circulated again with this report.

At this workshop, there was general consensus from Members in attendance that Option 1 “do nothing” was not a viable position and that the Local Development Plan should be proactive in terms of affordable housing. The affordable housing options paper was recirculated to all Members during November 2018 for further comment. Five responses were received; 3 on behalf of political parties, namely the DUP (15), UUP (12) and SDLP (4) as well as 2 individual responses from Members. The responses received indicated the following preferences:-

- **Option 1 Do Nothing** – no preference.
- **Option 2 Zone Sites/Key Site Requirements** – no preference.
- **Option 3 Development Management Policy** – Two responses (one on behalf of the DUP and one on behalf of the UUP) indicated this Option as their preferred approach with both commenting that the threshold of 5 houses proposed by the NIHE is too low and needs to be raised significantly upwards.
- **Option 4 Combination of Options 2 and 3** – Three responses (one on behalf of the SDLP and two individual Member responses) indicated this combined Option as their preferred approach and the following comments were made: - the SDLP and one member considered this to offer the most flexibility; a Member asked that the potential for commuted sums to be paid in lieu of direct housing provision be included. One of the Member responses also suggested a higher threshold for policy starting at 20 units with

90% private and 10% social, whilst in zoning for social housing there should always be a degree of private housing, at least 10%.

In conjunction with preparation of the Local Development Plan, the Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE) has prepared a draft Social Housing Needs Assessment for the Borough and this has identified an anticipated need for more than 1800 social housing units across the Borough between 2015 - 2030. When those social units started since 2015 combined with those approved and timetabled for delivery are taken into account the Forward Plan team estimates that the social housing need remaining across the Borough to 2030 will be 1,272 units. A further 59 units included within this figure which relate to latent rural need have been removed as this need is likely to be met through application of the current rural exceptions policy.

At this stage it is not clear how the NIHE intend to assess intermediate housing need (which includes co-ownership) across the Borough.

It is the NIHE position that the Local Development Plan should bring forward a range of mechanisms, including a Development Management policy approach, to assist the delivery of affordable housing and help meet identified need over the Plan period. This would align with Option 4 set out in the Council Options Paper. NIHE is currently in discussion with the Department for Communities and it is understood that legal advice is being sought on guidance to be made available to all Councils regarding the mechanisms and funding processes to be put in place by NIHE and Housing Associations to provide for delivery of affordable housing in association with policy requirements to be set out in Local Development Plans.

In terms of Member comments referred to above there is clear support for a Development Management Policy approach in principle, but concern that the threshold of 5 houses as proposed by NIHE under Option 3 is too low. The table below presents a range of threshold options informed by analysis of estimated social housing yield up to 2030 from windfall housing sites and the development of uncommitted zoned housing land undertaken by the Forward Plan Team. Windfall housing comprises development on those sites located outside housing zonings and the calculation for windfall is based on trend analysis across the Borough over the past 10 years. It should be noted that the potential yield from uncommitted zoned housing land will reduce over time as these sites come forward for development prior to any new policy being adopted.

Total Estimated Social Yield at 20% of site – Windfall and Existing Uncommitted Zoned Housing Land							
	5 units min threshold	15 units min threshold	20 unit min threshold	25 unit min threshold	50 unit min threshold	NIHE Social Housing Need	Shortfall 5,15, 20,25,50
Metropolitan Newtownabbey	315	270	252	251	203	768	453, 498, 516, 517, 565
Antrim	63	52	51	43	25	155	92, 103, 104, 112, 130

Ballyclare	156	149	149	145	110	34	excess
Crumlin	22	16	11	7	0	179	157, 163, 168, 172, 179
Randalstown	25	23	17	17	12	77	52, 54, 60, 60, 65
Total	581	510	480	463	350	1213*	

*1213 is the anticipated social housing need figure for the Borough between 2018 - 2030 excluding latent rural need based on the NIHE Draft Assessment

In summary, what the table demonstrates is that the higher the threshold to be applied in policy the lower the number of Affordable Housing units that the policy is likely to deliver over the Plan period. Smaller settlements will likely be impacted more than larger settlements.

Crucially no matter what threshold is applied, the evidence suggests that a policy approach by itself would not deliver the anticipated level of affordable housing need over the Plan period identified in the NIHE Housing Needs Assessment. Adoption of this approach without other complementary measures is therefore likely to meet with objections from NIHE.

However, as indicated earlier, the potential need to consider zoning land specifically to meet affordable housing needs or the introduction of key site requirements for delivery of affordable housing at a level above any policy threshold as advocated by regional policy (the SPPS) will not arise until Stage 2 of the LDP process i.e. the Local Polices Plan. Accordingly, at this stage Officers consider all that is needed to progress the draft Plan Strategy is an agreed Council view on the inclusion of a Development Management Policy whilst reserving its position on the need to zone sites in the Local Polices Plan, a decision that can be informed by the circumstances arising at that time.

Moved by Councillor Webb

Seconded by Councillor Lynch that Option 4 be approved and

on the proposal being put to the meeting 10 Members voted in favour, 27 against and 0 abstentions.

The proposal was declared not carried.

Moved by Councillor Brett

Seconded by Alderman Cosgrove and

on the proposal being put to the meeting 27 Members voted in favour, 10 against and 0 abstentions and it was

RESOLVED - that Option 3 be approved and that Officers bring back options in relation to the threshold for social housing requirement and that zoning be kept under review by Council.

ACTION BY: John Linden, Head of Planning

9.30 IN CONFIDENCE FI/PRO/TEN/56 TENDER FOR THE SERVICING, REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE OF MOBILE PLANT AND MACHINERY

CONTRACT PERIOD: 1 MARCH 2017 TO 28 FEBRUARY 2019 (WITH AN OPTION TO EXTEND FOR A FURTHER PERIOD OF UP TO 24 MONTHS, SUBJECT TO REVIEW AND PERFORMANCE)

Members were reminded that at the Operations Committee meeting held on 6 February 2017, the contract for the servicing, repair and maintenance of mobile plant and machinery was awarded to RD Mechanical Services Ltd.

There are no significant contract management issues regarding service performance under the terms of the contract.

As market conditions are broadly similar, it was recommended that the option to extend be exercised and that the contract be extended for a further period of 12 months to 29 February 2020. A further review will be performed at that date.

Moved by Alderman Smyth
Seconded by Councillor Bingham and

RESOLVED - that the contract with RD Mechanical Services Ltd be extended for a further 12 months until 29 February 2020.

ACTION BY: Melissa Kenning, Procurement

9.31 IN CONFIDENCE FI/PRO/TEN/220 TENDER FOR VALLEY LEISURE CENTRE SPA REFURBISHMENT WORKS

Members were reminded that in April 2018 the Council approved a budget of £[REDACTED] for the refurbishment of the Spa at the Valley Leisure Centre.

During the design development phase it was identified that a further £[REDACTED] was required to accommodate a design that would provide a better value for money scheme. This revised design would provide a 30% increase in total floor space area, over the existing spa area, providing for increased sauna and steam room capacity. This gave an overall budget requirement of £[REDACTED].

PROJECT SCOPE

The scope of the works included:

- removal of existing spa utilities & associated plant
- complete refit & extension of existing health suite including jacuzzi, steam and sauna utilities
- installation of new spa plant
- new flooring, ceilings, internal decorations, including lighting/fittings
- new ventilation and heating system

PROCUREMENT

WDR & RT Taggart were appointed in May 2018 as the Council's design consultant. Fourteen firms returned completed Pre-Qualification Questionnaires (PQQs) on 6 July 2018 and were referred to the evaluation panel for assessment.

The completed PQQs were evaluated on a Pass/Fail basis using criteria of general information, past performance, economic and financial standing and professional conduct, health and safety and declarations. One firm did not meet the requirements in full and therefore did not proceed to the next stage of the evaluation. The thirteen remaining firms were scored on the basis of technical and professional ability.

Seven of the thirteen firms were shortlisted and invited to submit tenders for the project. Invitation to Tender (ITT) documents were issued to the seven firms on 29 November 2018. Two completed tenders were received by the closing date of 4 January 2019.

TENDER ANALYSIS

The two tenders were assessed on the basis of lowest acceptable tender assessment total price. Piperhill Construction Ltd submitted the lowest tender assessment total price as detailed below.

Valley Leisure Centre Spa Refurbishment Works				
Rank	Contractor	Tendered Total of the Prices (excl VAT)	Model Compensation Event Total* (excl VAT)	Tender Assessment Total Price (excl.VAT)
1	Piperhill Construction Ltd	£[REDACTED]	£[REDACTED]	£[REDACTED]

*The model compensation event is included in the evaluation exercise to assess the cost impact of change resulting from potential future compensation events (variations due to unforeseen items). It includes costs for people, materials and equipment.

The tender from Piperhill Construction Ltd has been checked and no arithmetical error found. The predicted project outturn cost (works and fees) based on the current lowest tender is £[REDACTED] which is £[REDACTED] (19.6%) above the approved budget of £[REDACTED].

COST SUMMARY

The current approved budget is:	£[REDACTED]
Tendered Total of the Prices	£[REDACTED]
Model Compensation Event Total	£[REDACTED]
Tender Assessment Total Price	£[REDACTED]
Professional fees	£[REDACTED]
Total Predicted Project Cost	£[REDACTED] (19.6 % above approved budget)

The predicted project cost based on the current lowest tender is £[REDACTED] above the required budget. The predicted project cost includes the model

compensation event sum of £[REDACTED]. Council officers will authorise the expenditure of this sum during the contract, should it be required.

PROGRAMME

It is envisaged that the Valley Leisure Centre Spa Refurbishment Works will commence in February 2019 and completed by June 2019.

Discussions will take place with the contractor following award to evaluate how best to manage the work during the Local Government Election Count in May. This will likely incur some disruption cost, yet to be evaluated.

Moved by Councillor Hamill
Seconded by Councillor Hogg and

RESOLVED - that

- i. **the tendered sum of £[REDACTED] (excl. VAT) from Piperhill Construction Ltd be approved giving a tendered assessment total of £[REDACTED] (excl. VAT).**
- ii. **the revised total estimated budget of £[REDACTED] be approved.**

ACTION BY: Neil Luney, Capital Projects Officer

9.32 IN CONFIDENCE FI/PRO/TEN/219 TENDER FOR CARMONEY CEMETERY SUBTERRANEAN INSTALLATION PHASE 2

Members were reminded that in May 2018 the Council approved the development, of Phase 2 of a subterranean burial system at an estimated cost of £[REDACTED] for 130 plots. Phase 1 of this subterranean shoring system with 160 plots was completed in August 2018 and is currently in use with plots available up until mid 2019.

PROJECT SCOPE

The scope of the work includes the provision of a subterranean shoring system to provide approximately 130 grave plots in existing challenging ground conditions along with associated plinths and access paths.

PROCUREMENT

Hanna & Hutchinson Consulting Engineers were appointed in August 2017 to assist the Capital Development section in the development of the system design for Phase 1 and were again successful in their bid to act as consultants for Phase 2.

Seven firms returned completed Pre-Qualification Questionnaires (PQQs) on 20 July 2018 and were referred to the evaluation panel for assessment. The completed PQQs were evaluated on a Pass/Fail basis using a criteria of general information, past performance, economic and financial standing and professional conduct, Health and Safety and Declarations. One firm did not meet the requirements in full and therefore did not proceed to the next stage of the evaluation. The six remaining firms were scored on the basis of

technical and professional ability. The six firms were shortlisted and invited to submit tenders for the project.

Invitation to Tender (ITT) Documents were issued week commencing 5 November 2018 with a closing date of 30 November 2018.

TENDER ANALYSIS

The returned ITTs were evaluated on a quality/price basis using a 30% / 70% criteria. The quality was evaluated on the tenderer's proposed methodology. Civco Ltd. submitted the lower tender assessment total price and also achieved the highest overall quality/price score with 94%. Their pricing was as detailed below:

Carnmoney Cemetery Subterranean Installation Phase 2				
Rank	Contractor	Tendered Total of the Prices (excl. VAT)	Model Compensation Event Total* (excl. VAT)	Tender Assessment Total Price (excl. VAT)
1	Civco Ltd	£[REDACTED]	£[REDACTED]	£[REDACTED]

*The model compensation event is included in the evaluation exercise to assess the cost impact of change resulting from potential future compensation events (variations due to unforeseen items). It includes costs for people, materials and equipment.

The lowest tender from Civco Ltd has been checked and no arithmetical error found. Civco Ltd has confirmed that they can meet the full requirements of the works contract within their tender.

COST SUMMARY

The current approved budget is: £[REDACTED]

Based on the lowest tender the predicted outturn cost is as follows:

Tendered Total of the Prices	£[REDACTED]
Model Compensation Event Total	£[REDACTED]
Tender Assessment Total Price	£[REDACTED]
Professional fees	£[REDACTED]
Total Cost	£[REDACTED]

The predicted project cost based on the current lowest tender is £[REDACTED] under the initial approved budget of £[REDACTED]. The predicted project cost includes the model compensation event sum of £[REDACTED]. Council officers will authorise the expenditure of this sum through the contract if required.

Recognising that this is a difficult site with challenging ground conditions it was proposed that a client contingency of £[REDACTED] is retained from the original approved budget. This will cover potential risks such as treatment/removal of Japanese Knotweed, collapsed paths and minor roadway resurfacing.

This will give a revised total budget as follows:

Revised Total Budget

Total cost: (from above)

£ [REDACTED]

Client contingency:

£ [REDACTED]

Total predicted outturn cost:

£ [REDACTED]

Initial approved budget:

£ [REDACTED]

Saving on original budget:

£ [REDACTED] (9.2% below original budget)

PROGRAMME

It is envisaged that work will commence in March 2019 and be completed by July 2019.

Moved by Councillor Bingham

Seconded by Alderman Girvan and

RESOLVED - that

- i. the tendered sum of £ [REDACTED] (excl. Vat) from Civco Ltd. be approved giving a tendered assessment total of £ [REDACTED];
- ii. the Client contingency of £ [REDACTED] be approved;
- iii. the revised total estimated budget of £ [REDACTED] be approved.

ACTION BY: David Traynor, Capital Project Officer

9.33 IN CONFIDENCE FI/PRO/TEN/228 TENDER FOR RATHCOOLE PLAY PARK REFURBISHMENT WORKS

Members were reminded that in June 2018 the Council approved a budget of £ [REDACTED] for the redevelopment of the Play Park at Rathcoole Leisure Park, Derrycoole Way.

PROJECT SCOPE

The scope of the works included:

- Removal of existing play equipment and fencing
- Installation of new play equipment, including wheelchair accessible equipment
- Extension of play area
- New safety and bitmac surfacing
- New fencing, street furniture and signage

PROCUREMENT

McAdam Design were appointed in July 2018 as the Council's design consultant.

Twelve completed Pre-Qualification Questionnaires (PQQs) were received via the eSourcing NI portal on 14 September 2018 and were referred to the evaluation panel for assessment.

The completed PQQs were evaluated on a Pass/Fail basis using the criteria of past performance, economic and financial standing, professional conduct, health and safety, and declarations. Two contractors did not meet the

requirements in full and therefore did not proceed to the next stage of the evaluation. The ten remaining contractors were evaluated on the basis of technical and professional ability.

Six contractors were shortlisted and invited to submit tenders for the project.

Invitation to Tender (ITT) documents were issued on 14 November 2018. Five completed ITTs were received via the eSourcing NI portal on 10 December 2018. One contractor did not submit a tender.

TENDER ANALYSIS

Five tenders were evaluated in a two-stage process using the criteria of compliance with the specification (pass/fail) and price (100%). Two tenderers failed to comply in full with the specification and did not proceed further in the evaluation. The remaining three tenders complied with the specification in full and proceeded to be evaluated on the basis of the lowest acceptable tender assessment total price.

Quinn Automatic Ltd submitted the lowest tender assessment total price, as detailed below.

Rathcoole Play Park Refurbishment Works				
Rank	Contractor	Tendered Total of the Prices	Model Compensation Event Total*	Tender Assessment Total Price (excl.VAT)
1	Quinn Automatic Ltd	£[REDACTED]	£[REDACTED]	£[REDACTED]

**The model compensation event is included in the evaluation exercise to assess the cost impact of change resulting from potential future compensation events (variations due to unforeseen items). It includes costs for people, materials and equipment.*

The predicted project outturn cost (works and fees) based on the current lowest tender is £[REDACTED] which is £[REDACTED] (13.7%) above the approved budget of £[REDACTED]. Play equipment items have come in at a cost higher than estimated.

FOR CONSIDERATION

Two options were proposed for consideration.

- A. Additional monies in the sum of £[REDACTED] be approved to complete the original scope of works.
- B. Omit one of the two proposed centrepiece items of play equipment for Rathcoole, the Matrix K2 climbing frame and associated groundworks. Savings are estimated at £[REDACTED] as per circulated material.

If the above item was omitted (Option B), this gives a total estimated saving of £[REDACTED]. The exact saving will be confirmed following the award of the contract. It was proposed by Officers that the full scope of play items was retained. This will provide optimum play value to greatly benefit the scheme, offering a broad range of equipment to suit all age groups.

COST SUMMARY

Option A (full scope of play items)

The current approved budget is:	£	
Tendered Total of the Prices	£	
Model Compensation Event Total	£	
Tender Assessment Total Price	£	
Professional fees	£	
Total Predicted Project Cost	£	(13.7% above approved budget)

The predicted project cost based on the current lowest tender is £ over the approved budget.

Option B (reduced scope of play item, removal of Matrix K2 Unit)

Tendered Total of the Prices	£	
Model Compensation Event Total	£	
Tender Assessment Total Price	£	
Professional fees	£	
Potential savings (omitting Matrix K2)	(£)	
Adjusted Predicted Project Cost	£	(0.1% under approved budget)

PROGRAMME

It is envisaged that the Rathcoole Play Park Refurbishment Works will commence in February/March 2019 and complete by May/June 2019.

Moved by Councillor Webb
Seconded by Councillor Foster and

RESOLVED - that

- i. the tender for the full scope of works from Quinn Automatic Ltd at the Tendered Assessment Total Price of £ (excl. VAT) be approved;
- ii. the Total Estimated Budget for the full scope of works (Option A) and professional fees of £ be approved.

ACTION BY: Neil Luney, Capital Projects Officer

9.34 **IN CONFIDENCE** FI/PRO/TEN/229 TENDER FOR LILIAN BLAND PLAY PARK REFURBISHMENT WORKS

Members were reminded that in June 2018 the Council approved a budget of £, for the redevelopment of the Lilian Bland Play Park in Glengormley.

PROJECT SCOPE

The scope of the works included:

- Complete reconfiguration of existing playpark area by extending area into existing adjoining MUGA.
- Relocation of some items of equipment and the supply and installation of new equipment.
- Removal and disposal of older play equipment.
- New fencing and access gates
- New safety & bitmac surfacing.
- Provision of new MUGA in area of existing tennis court.
- Provision of new basketball area adjacent to tennis court.
- Repairs to existing surfaces and provision of new surfaces to MUGA area.
- Alteration and extension of fencing around play area and new MUGA including new pedestrian access gates.
- Reorientation of existing airplane sculpture.
- Airport runway themed landscaping.
- New lighting and electrical supply.
- Street furniture and signage

PROCUREMENT

R Robinson & Sons Ltd were appointed in July 2018 as the Council's design consultant.

Thirteen completed Pre-Qualification Questionnaires (PQQs) were received via the eSourcing NI portal on 14 September 2018 and were referred to the evaluation panel for assessment.

The completed PQQs were evaluated on a Pass/Fail basis using the criteria of past performance, economic and financial standing, professional conduct, health and safety, and declarations. Two contractors did not meet the requirements in full and therefore did not proceed to the next stage of the evaluation. The eleven remaining contractors were scored on the basis of technical and professional ability.

Eight contractors were shortlisted and invited to submit tenders for the project.

Invitation to Tender (ITT) documents were issued on 14 November 2018. Five completed ITTs were received via the eSourcing NI portal on 13 December 2018. Three contractors failed to submit a tender.

TENDER ANALYSIS

Five tenders were evaluated in a two-stage process using the criteria of compliance with the specification (pass/fail) and subsequently on price (100%). Two tenders failed to comply with the specification and did not proceed further in the process. The remaining three tenders complied with the specification in full and proceeded to be evaluated on the basis of the lowest acceptable tender assessment total price.

Garden Escapes Ltd submitted the lowest tender assessment total price, as detailed below. Lilian Bland Play Park Refurbishment Works				
Rank	Contractor	Tendered Total of the Prices	Model Compensation Event Total*	Tender Assessment Total Price (excl.VAT)
1	Garden Escapes Ltd	£[REDACTED]	£[REDACTED]	£[REDACTED]

*The model compensation event is included in the evaluation exercise to assess the cost impact of change resulting from potential future compensation events (variations due to unforeseen items). It includes costs for people, materials and equipment.

The predicted project outturn cost (works and fees) based on the current lowest tender is £[REDACTED] which is £[REDACTED] (1.8%) below the approved budget of £[REDACTED].

OTHER ISSUES

During the planning approval process some issues were raised, which impacted on the proposed design of the play park. In particular, the need to increase the height of the boundary fence around the play park. The original proposal was to reuse the existing 1.2m boundary fencing around the play park. It is now planned to include for the installation of new 2m & 1.2m high boundary fencing and entrance gates, at an estimated cost of £[REDACTED].

Some items of minor play equipment and seating will also be relocated at no additional cost.

COST SUMMARY

The current approved budget is:	£[REDACTED]	
Tendered Total of the Prices	£[REDACTED]	
Model Compensation Event Total	£[REDACTED]	
Tender Assessment Total Price	£[REDACTED]	
Professional fees	£[REDACTED]	
New additional 2m/1.2m high fencing/gates	£[REDACTED]	
Total Predicted Project Cost	£[REDACTED]	(5% above approved budget)

The predicted project cost based on the current lowest tender was £[REDACTED] above the approved budget. The predicted project cost included the model compensation event sum of £[REDACTED]. Council Officers would authorise the expenditure of this sum during the contract, should it be required.

PROGRAMME

It was envisaged that the Lilian Bland Play Park Refurbishment Works would commence in February/March 2019 and be completed by May/June 2019.

Moved by Councillor McGrath
Seconded by Councillor Goodman and

RESOLVED – that

- i. the tender for the full scope of works from Garden Escapes Ltd at the Tendered Assessment Total Price of £[REDACTED] (excl. VAT) be approved;
- ii. the additional 2m/1.2m high fencing and entrance gates at a cost of £[REDACTED] be approved;
- iii. the revised Total Estimated Budget for the works and professional fees of £[REDACTED] be approved.

ACTION BY: Neil Luney, Capital Projects Officer

9.35 IN CONFIDENCE FI/PRO/TEN/020 TENDER FOR THE PROVISION OF LEGIONELLA MANAGEMENT SERVICES

CONTRACT PERIOD: 13 MARCH 2017 TO 28 FEBRUARY 2018 (WITH AN OPTION TO EXTEND FOR A FURTHER TWO YEARS ON A YEAR BY YEAR BASIS, SUBJECT TO REVIEW AND PERFORMANCE)

Members were reminded that at the Community Planning and Regeneration Committee held on 12 February 2018, the contract was extended for the first period of one year to Graham Environmental Services.

There are no significant contract management issues regarding service performance under the terms of the contract.

As market conditions are broadly similar, it was recommended that the option to extend for the final year available be exercised and that the contract be extended for a further period of 12 months to 29 February 2020 when a new contract will be procured.

Moved by Councillor Bingham
Seconded by Councillor Webb and

RESOLVED - that the contract with Graham Environmental Services be extended for a further 12 months until 29 February 2020.

ACTION BY: Julia Clarke, Procurement Officer

9.36 IN CONFIDENCE FI/PRO/TEN/221 TENDER FOR ALTERATIONS AND REFURBISHMENT OF SIXMILE LEISURE CENTRE FITNESS SUITE

Members were reminded that in April 2018 the Council approved a budget of £[REDACTED] for the refurbishment of the first floor fitness suite at Sixmile Leisure Centre.

In September 2018 an additional budget was approved to address mechanical and electrical issues giving a total budget of £[REDACTED]. The gym equipment will be procured separately.

PROJECT SCOPE

The contract involves the following works:

- Demolition of internal walls
- New internal stud walls, ceilings and flooring
- Remodelling of Spin Room
- New mechanical / electrical including fire alarm / intruder alarm systems
- Replacing the existing ventilation and air conditioning unit with the installation of a new integrated ventilation and heat recovery system complete with ducting and upgrading of the controls

PROCUREMENT

Robert Logan Chartered Architects were appointed as design consultants for the scheme in July 2018

Invitation to Tender (ITT) Documents were issued week commencing 3 December 2018 with a closing date of 7 January 2019. Only two forms returned tenders by the closing date. Two firms withdrew and two firms did not submit a tender.

The tenders returned were much higher than anticipated and not considered value for money. On this basis Officers cannot recommend to proceed.

A further value engineering exercise is being undertaken to reduce costs with a view to undertaking a re-tendering exercise with the current shortlisted suppliers. Following this a detailed tender report will be brought to Council.

The re-tendering process will impact on the scheme programme with the commencement on site now anticipated in May/June 2019

In response to an enquiry from Councillor McWilliam, the Director of Community Planning provided clarification on the timescales involved.

Moved by Alderman Girvan
Seconded by Councillor Girvan and

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

ACTION BY: Des McFaul, Capital Project Officer

9.37 IN CONFIDENCE ED/REG/018/Vol,4; ED/ED/68; ED/ED/095; ED/ED/100; ED/ED/131; ED/ED/141 & CE/GEN/076 UPDATE ON STRATEGIC ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Members were reminded that there had been considerable economic development activity since the previous strategic report to the Council in June 2018. A new Head of Economic Development, Mr Colin McCabrey had been appointed to the role and would commence employment with the Council on 28 February 2019.

A detailed update on progress was provided for Members' information.

Gilbert Trade Visit - November 2018

Members were aware that a civic and business delegation visited Gilbert, Arizona in November 2018. The delegation led by the Mayor, Councillor Paul Michael, included Members, Officers, 7 local businesses and representatives from Mallusk and Antrim Enterprise Agencies.

A key benefit of the relationship with Gilbert Council Officials has been their invaluable expertise which assisted the participating businesses to understand the market and address regulatory challenges. 49 business meetings were concluded during the trade visit and over \$1 million of potential orders were secured during the visit. One business in particular, [REDACTED] has appointed an exclusive distributor in Gilbert which has secured initial sales of \$[REDACTED].

Visits to Galvanise, Seedspot, the Centre for Entrepreneurial Innovation and the AZ Tech Accelerator provided delegates with an insight into what could be achieved through the development of a new state of the art Business Incubation and Entrepreneurship Centre for the Borough. Officers are currently progressing a feasibility study to explore a provision such as a "maker's experience" on Council premises and will update Members as this progresses.

Whilst this is at an early stage of investigation, the visit has been instrumental in providing an insight into innovative new age work space solutions. This is important to both the Council and the Enterprise Agencies as we seek to meet the needs of emerging businesses. Such a provision will also complement the planned QUB City Deal Project.

The trade visit also allowed Members to visit leading edge global facilities including TGen, Rivulon, ASU Bio Design Institute and Skysong (details on key sites were circulated). As a result the Local Enterprise Agencies are advancing proposals to provide a new package of support to improve business survival rates in the Borough. This visit and the Council's sister cities link with Gilbert and the Greater Phoenix area in Arizona represents a key opportunity to realise specific elements of our economic development strategy, particularly International ANBC.

Officers are discussing an inward visit from key Gilbert Officials to Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council in 2019 and will keep Members apprised of developments. Plans are underway for a further Trade Visit in 2020.

Furthermore, Officers will continue to explore any opportunities and benefits that arise from this relationship which has been developed over 20 years through an ongoing series of outward and inward visits. In particular, the Corporate Leadership Team will continue to engage in Leadership Development opportunities with the Team in Gilbert.

Supporting our local SME's to return to market is a necessity in order to secure the sales discussed during the trade visit and Officers are discussing how the Council might facilitate this. A follow up session with the participating business and civic delegates has been arranged for February 2019 to further evaluate the trade visit and explore how best to support export opportunities for SMEs in the Borough.

During the visit Members also had the opportunity to attend the John Volken Academy which seeks to support young people aged 18-32 struggling with addictions. This exceptional facility was initiated by John Volken himself and is sponsored by charitable foundations, businesses and friends of the Academy.

The Academy operates 3 campuses, 1 in Canada and 2 in the United States. The Academy has a significant success rate and prides itself on supporting young people to develop a new life-style. Officers are exploring the opportunity for John Volken the founder to visit the Borough and share his experience with those involved in this area of work. A John Volken Academy Leaflet was circulated. Further information is available at www.volken.org

City Deal

Members were reminded of the success of the Belfast Region City Deal proposition which has secured £350 million from the UK Treasury, announced in October 2018. Whilst this is less than the £450 million requested it is intended that partners to the bid will continue to work towards a £1 billion package as originally developed.

As one of the six Councils involved in this ambitious bid, the Council would, over the forthcoming months, be working towards the realisation of the projects included within the bid, commencing with the production of Strategic Business cases for each scheme.

To enable this process to advance, Heads of Terms must first be agreed and it was anticipated that this would take place in the early part of 2019. As agreed by the Council, provision had been made in the 2019/20 estimates to cover the Council's commitment to the City Deal programme.

MIPIM Conference/Property Market Overview

Members were aware that as one of the Belfast City Region Deal Partners the Council had provided sponsorship of £10K and would be attending the MIPIM Conference in March 2019.

The sponsorship package includes 3 delegate passes to attend the Conference and as such Officers are working with Lanyon Communications to make the necessary arrangements in advance of the conference.

Furthermore, in order to prepare for the event the Council had engaged with the Strategic Investment Board to appoint CBRE to provide a general

property market overview of 12-15 strategic employment locations across the Borough.

China International Linkages

Members were reminded that a recommendation was made at June's Council meeting to explore a possible twinning arrangement or similar beneficial arrangement with a city in China. This followed a meeting between Madam Wang Shuying, Chinese Consul General in Belfast and senior officials in Council.

Subsequent conversations with Deputy Secretary Tim Losty at the Northern Ireland Bureau in China identified the 4th UK-China Regional leaders Summit as the best method of pursuing such an arrangement. It was agreed that the Council's Strategic Business Investment & Engagement Officer, Craig Mullan, would attend the Summit which took place in Dalian, China from 15 - 17 October 2018. The Summit programme and Northern Ireland Delegation list was circulated.

The visit resulted in potential future co-operation and linkages with major cities in China. One to one meetings were arranged between Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough & Yingkou, Anshan and Huludao in the Liaoning Province in China. Following the Summit correspondence was shared with each City and explorations of a potential mutually beneficial relationship including education, culture, tourism and potential economic linkages continues.

Information was also shared with the Chinese city of Leshan. Leshan has a twinning arrangement with Gilbert and initial conversations have identified a potential opportunity for collaboration between the regions. A possible joint visit in September 2019 is currently being explored by Officers.

Heathrow Hub

Following the success of the Expression of Interest submitted as part of Stage 1 of the Heathrow Hub process, the Council had continued to collaborate with Mid and East Antrim Council on the development of a PQQ response at Stage 2. This stage of the process which closed on the 18 January 2019 required a private sector company with the skills and capacity to operate a hub to lead the submission, supported by, for example the owners of the site/s, educational and skills providers, Councils and/or other stakeholders. The bid submitted is led by Graham working with Silverwood Properties, the new owners of the Michelin site and whilst primarily focussed on this site cites the opportunities to expand the operation to Belfast International Airport if successful.

Balmoral Show

Following advice from Members, the Economic Development team had secured stand space in the NI Food Pavilion at the Balmoral Show which takes

place from 15 - 18 May 2019. Officers had commenced recruitment for the event and would keep Members apprised of developments.

NI Chamber of Commerce Event

The NI Chamber of Commerce's Scaling for Growth Workshops are regularly hosted by economic development partners across Northern Ireland. As such the Council would host a half day workshop in Mossley Mill centred on Big Data & Data Analytics on 14 February 2019. This will give local companies in the Borough access to influential speakers and key networking during the event.

The Council would provide room hire for the event and light refreshments.

Moved by Councillor McCarthy
Seconded by Alderman Cosgrove and

RESOLVED - that the report be noted.

NO ACTION

9.38 IN CONFIDENCE FI/PRO/TEN/243 TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF SPEED INDICATOR DEVICES & AUXILIARY EQUIPMENT FOR RURAL ROAD SAFETY PROJECT (GROW FUNDED PROJECT)

Four tenders for the supply and delivery of speed indicator devices and auxiliary equipment for the rural road safety project were opened via the eTendersNI Portal on 15 January 2019 and referred to the evaluation panel for assessment. The tenders were evaluated on a two stage basis as follows:

STAGE 1 – SELECTION STAGE

The tenders were evaluated on a pass/fail basis for mandatory exclusion and financial compliance, economic and financial standing, ordering requirements and declarations and form of tender.

All four tenders met the requirements of Stage 1 of the evaluation process and proceeded to Stage 2. The tenders were evaluated as follows:

STAGE 2 – AWARD STAGE

Sub-Stage 1 – Technical Assessment

The tenders were evaluated on a pass/fail basis for confirmation of compliance with the specification. All tenders met the requirements of this stage and proceeded to the next stage of evaluation.

Sub- Stage 2 – Commercial Assessment (100%)

The tenders were evaluated on the basis of cost (100%) and the recommendation was as follows:

Supplier	Cost Assessment (out of 100%)	Total % Score	Cost per Speed Indicator Device and Auxiliary Equipment (£) (Excl. VAT)
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PWS Ireland Limited	100%	100%	£1,975.00
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The requirement at present is for 13 speed indicator devices. The supplier has confirmed that they will hold the above cost for a period of six months should there be a requirement for additional devices and auxiliary equipment post-award.

Moved by Alderman Smyth
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

RESOLVED - that PWS Ireland Limited be appointed for the supply and delivery of speed indicator devices and auxiliary equipment at a cost of £1,975.00 (excl. VAT) per device.

ACTION BY: Julia Clarke, Procurement Officer

9.39 **IN CONFIDENCE** ED/ED/127 STEEPLE SITE DEVELOPMENT

Members were reminded that this item was deferred at the December meeting to facilitate the production of a detailed report.

On the 13th December two potential developers of the Steeple site made presentations on their respective schemes to Elected Members. A summary of both proposals was circulated for Members' consideration;

(A) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

(B) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Key Points from the presentations:

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Officers have assessed the proposals against key criteria as shown in Appendix 3 circulated

Moved by Councillor Montgomery
Seconded by Councillor Kelly and

RESOLVED – that

- (a) Lot A be retained within Council ownership;**

- (b) the companies that had previously expressed an interest in Lots A, B and C be approached to determine their interest in Lots B and C only (pending legal advice)

ACTION BY: Majella McAlister, Director of Economic Development and Planning

9.40 IN CONFIDENCE CE/OA/033 EXTENSION OF PARKING PROVISION AT MOSSLEY HALT

Members were reminded that 'in principle' approval was granted in December 2017 to relinquish the lease held by the Council on the subject lands at Global Point. This decision was made subject to a further report including financial and legal considerations.

Officers advised that the economic appraisal for the scheme has been approved by Translink and NITHCO and, more recently, by the Department for Infrastructure. The approximate cost of the scheme is £[REDACTED] including land purchase. It was anticipated that a Letter of Offer for the project will be issued in due course and funds confirmed within the current financial year.

The economic appraisal for this project notes that the current parking provision at Mossley Halt is 59 spaces, in addition to which an arrangement with Mossley Hockey Club has secured a further 65 spaces – both are currently operating at capacity with overspill into neighbouring streets. The station has seen significant growth over the last 10 years with a footfall of 264,269 in 2016/17 (the 26th busiest on the NI Railways network).

The additional land (4.6 acres) identified at Global Point is capable of generating a further 235 car parking spaces bringing the total to 294, including 12 disabled spaces. The land in question will be purchased from Invest NI and the Council, planning permission will also be required. The business case developed for the project indicates a land value, provided by LPS of £[REDACTED], which includes the area leased to the Council.

The area of land namely 1.76 acres which is the subject of a 999 year lease from Invest NI to the Council includes a restrictive user clause to be used for amenity purposes only and prohibits the Council from erecting any buildings on the premises or to construct hard-core standing or car-parking. On this basis, LPS has recommended to Translink/Invest NI that as the original transfer from Invest NI to the Council was for use as amenity and that the intended use differs, the Council be requested to complete a Deed of Variation which effectively hands back the portion of land in question to Invest NI for a nominal value of say £1.00. In turn, Invest NI can then proceed to dispose of the Freehold of the entire subject area (4.10 acres) in one transaction to NITHC at the purchase price of £[REDACTED].

The target completion date for the project is April 2020.

As the purpose of securing this land initially was to facilitate the Newtownabbey Way, it is essential that footpath and cycling provision is

incorporated into the new scheme. Translink has confirmed that this will be the case as shown on the circulated map and they will have responsibility for ongoing maintenance and insurance. Members were advised that the Council did not make any payment to Invest NI for the land at the outset and the nominal fee of £2.00 per year has never been demanded. Given the extent of the car-parking problem in the immediate area and the relief that this will provide to residents, it was proposed that the Council relinquishes its interest in the land.

Officers have engaged with Translink and Invest NI regarding the lease and the land valuation in order to establish if the Council should receive any payment for the relinquishment of the lease.

Moved by Alderman Agnew
Seconded by Councillor Ross and

RESOLVED - that the Council relinquishes its interest in the land after exhausting the opportunity for payment.

ACTION BY: Majella McAlister, Director of Economic Development and Planning

Alderman Agnew and Councillors Bingham, Cushinan, Lynch and Logue left at this point of the meeting.

9. 41 IN CONFIDENCE CE/STC/88 ORGANISATION STRUCTURES

A report relating to organisational structures was tabled at the meeting.

Members were reminded that Leisure Structures were initially approved by Council in December 2016 and February 2017, with only minor amendments being subsequently approved by Council on an ad-hoc basis to facilitate voluntary severance requests. Following further requests for voluntary severance, a subsequent review of Leisure was carried out and the proposed amended structures were provided for Members' consideration,

Leisure Services	Appendix 1
Valley	Appendix 2
Antrim Forum	Appendix 3
Sixmile	Appendix 4
Allen Park & Ballyearl	Appendix 5
Crumlin	Appendix 6

Moved by Councillor Brett
Seconded by Councillor Webb and

RESOLVED – that the proposed amended Leisure structures (Appendices 1-6) be approved in principle, subject to consultation with staff and trade unions.

ACTION BY: Joan Cowan, Head of Human Resources

MOTION TO PROCEED 'OUT OF COMMITTEE'

Moved by Councillor Foster

Seconded by Alderman Smyth and

RESOLVED - that the Council proceeds to conduct any remaining business 'In Public'.

Members were advised that the audio recording would restart at this point.

The Mayor thanked everyone for attending and the meeting concluded at 9.02 pm.

MAYOR

Council Minutes have been redacted in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Data Protection Act 2018, the General Data Protection Regulation, and legal advice.