



2 March 2022

Committee Chair: Councillor A Logue

Committee Vice-Chair: Alderman M Girvan

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

Dear Member

MEETING OF THE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Operations Committee will be held in the **Council Chamber, Mossley Mill on Monday 7 March 2022 at 6.30 pm.**

You are requested to attend.

Yours sincerely

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

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

For any queries please contact Member Services:

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A G E N D A

1 APOLOGIES

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3 PRESENTATION

3.1 Energy Action Plan

4 ITEMS FOR DECISION

4.1 Service Level Agreement – Drinking Water Inspectorate

4.2 Scheme of Delegation

4.3 Randalstown Rugby Club Request

4.4 Correspondence from DAERA re Forest Park Enhancement and Community Trail Development Scheme 2022/23

4.5 On Street Residential Charging Scheme(ORCS) Update

4.6 Reverse vending machine pilot

5 ITEMS FOR NOTING

5.1 Recycling and Residual Waste End Destinations

5.2 Consultation on the Introduction of Mandatory Digital Waste Tracking

5.3 Litter Action Plan Update Report

6 ITEMS IN CONFIDENCE

6.1 arc21 Joint Committee Papers

6.2 Antrim Forum Fitness Suite Refurbishment

7 ANY OTHER RELEVANT BUSINESS

**REPORT ON BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING ON
MONDAY 7 MARCH 2022**

3 PRESENTATION - ENERGY ACTION PLAN

Members are advised that a presentation by Stephen Hipkins, Head of Property and Building Services on draft Energy Action Plan will be tabled on the evening.

4 ITEMS FOR DECISION

4.1 EH/EHS/FC/012 SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT – DRINKING WATER INSPECTORATE

Members are reminded that a Service Level Agreement is in place between the Drinking Water Inspectorate for Northern Ireland and Councils, for the purposes of carrying out risk assessments and sampling of private water supplies under The Private Water Supplies Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2017.

The Drinking Water Inspectorate (the Inspectorate), which is a business unit within the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA), is the statutory body responsible for the monitoring and enforcement of these regulations.

The regulations establish standards for the quality of private drinking water supplies in Northern Ireland and in implementing the requirements under these regulations, the Inspectorate liaises with all 11 Councils.

There are 16 sites across the Borough to which these regulations apply and Environmental Health staff work closely with the Inspectorate to advise owners and users of these private supplies when the required standards are not met.

The Inspectorate provides training and the appropriate resources to undertake risk assessments. The regulations require that risk assessments are completed for any new private water supply within 6 months of coming into service. For existing supplies, the risk assessment should be reviewed every 5 years or earlier where it is considered that the current risk assessment is inadequate. An annual sampling programme is in place which details the frequency of sampling for each site. This frequency is set within the Regulations and is proportionate to the volume of water used or the population served by the supply.

The Service Level Agreement, **enclosed**, is reviewed every two years and as a result, a proposed a revision of fees paid to Councils is included. The Chief Inspector of Drinking Water through Environmental Health Northern Ireland (EHNI) had agreed a Schedule of Fees below which is standard for all Councils. These will be paid to the Council within 30 days from receipt of an invoice. There are no other changes to the Service Level Agreement.

Activity	Unit Cost (May 2017)	Unit Cost (February 2022)
Scheduled Sample Collection	£75/Sample	£75/Sample
Resample Collection (Investigation)	£75/Sample	£75/Sample
Completion of Full Risk Assessment	£150/Risk Assessment	£450/Risk Assessment
Review of Risk Assessment (with site visit)	N/A	£200/Risk Assessment Review
Review of Risk Assessment (without site visit)	N/A	£100/Risk Assessment Review

RECOMMENDATION: that the Service Level Agreement between the Drinking Water Inspectorate for Northern Ireland and Council, for the purposes of carrying out risk assessments and sampling of private water supplies under The Private Water Supplies Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2017, be approved.

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

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

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations

4.2 EH/EHS/LR/011 SCHEME OF DELEGATION

Members are advised that following an update to the Consumer Protection and Environmental Regulations, revision has been necessary to the Scheme of Delegation. Copies of the revised Schedules are **enclosed** with the relevant regulations highlighted in yellow. Links to the relevant regulations are also **enclosed**.

RECOMMENDATION: that the updated Schedule of Delegated Functions for the Deputy Chief Executive of Operations, Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Director of Operations (Environmental Health, Property and Building Services) Clifford Todd, and the Head of Environmental Health and Wellbeing, Colin Kelly, be approved.

Prepared by: Clifford Todd, Deputy Director of Operations (Environmental Health, Property and Building Services),

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations

4.3 L/LEI/00/014 RANDALSTOWN RUGBY CLUB REQUEST

Correspondence, **enclosed**, has been received from Randalstown Rugby Football Club, requesting Council to consider naming the rugby area of Neillsbrook Park in honour of the late Derek Waddell.

As set out in the correspondence, Derek was involved with the Rugby Club for around 40 years and it is requested that, as a lasting tribute to his long commitment to the sporting community and to the Club, both on and off the pitch, that the areas is named in his honour and a plaque erected.

RECOMMENDATION: that approval be given to name the rugby area of Neillsbrook Park in honour of the late Derek Waddell and that a plaque be erected, marking the name change.

Prepared by: Paula Robinson, Executive Officer to Deputy Chief Executive of Operations

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

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations

4.4 PK/GEN/103 CORRESPONDENCE FROM DAERA RE FOREST PARK ENHANCEMENT AND COMMUNITY TRAIL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME 2022/23

Correspondence has been received from the Department of Agriculture Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA), enclosed, in relation to potential grant support for Forest Park Enhancement and Community Trail development schemes. The focus of this grant scheme is for Council led recreational infrastructure projects in rural areas that address social isolation, health and wellbeing and access issues.

The Department requires submission of Expressions of Interest by Friday 11 March 2022 with suitable projects to be delivered by 31 March 2023. Financial support, for approved projects, would be up to 80% of total costs and would be subject to the approval by the Department from 2022/2023 budgets.

The potential to apply for the development of Sustainable Community Trails has been explored and, taking into account suitable Council owned land and assets, a further proposal has been identified for Burney's Lane and for Crumlin Glen, which could be delivered within the timeframe for consideration.

Having considered options for rural based projects in Newtownabbey, the potential for schemes in Doagh, Burnside, Ballyclare and Ballynure were considered but there are none which can be progressed within the requirements of this programme.

The Small Settlements Regeneration Programme is likely to fund significant projects in Doagh and Burnside, whilst funding for Ballyclare has been secured for the East West Greenway. The lack of Council owned land in Ballynure would preclude any scheme being delivered in the timeframe.

For this reason, Officers are proposing to submit an Expression of interest for further paths in Burney's Lane. This could enhance the amenity for walkers by extending the recently constructed paths and by regrading and resurfacing all paths. This work is estimated to cost in the region of £25,000 - £30,000.

Works in Crumlin Glen would entail the regrading and resurfacing of the remaining trails connecting the recently upgraded trails from Cidercourt Road and the new bridge, with the upper path up to the carpark area off the Mill Road. At this stage the cost estimates are being developed but it is expected to be in the region of £30,000.

Regarding recent requests for improved walking trails in the Forest Service owned Tardree Forest, correspondence has been sent to the Chief Executive of Forest Service to discuss the matter and therefore no expression of interest is being submitted at this stage.

RECOMMENDATION: approval be given for submission of Expressions of Interest for Burney's Lane and Crumlin Glen, as set out above, to the DAERA Forest Park Enhancement and Community Trail Development Scheme 2022/2023.

Prepared by: Elaine Upton, Countryside Officer

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

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations

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

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

Each of the locations listed in the application had to be submitted to NIE in the first instance for suitability. Of the locations submitted to NIE Networks, a total of 6 have been deemed as viable:

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

As the final date for submission of the application to the Department of Transport is March, officers have obtained agreement for NIE to review the suitability of a further 8 locations in the Borough, the details of which are enclosed. The proposed additional locations have been selected on the basis of the following:

- Attain equal representation across each DEA (Ballyclare, Macedon, Dunsilly)
- Situated adjacent to housing stock that has no access to off-road charging capability
- Situated on main arterial routes that can accommodate dedicated charging areas that are not detrimental to traffic flow
- Situated within housing developments that are centrally located within the development to maximise opportunity of use and that are not detrimental to traffic flow
- Situated on main arterial routes / within housing developments that are not detrimental to the enjoyment of the adjacent properties or pose a difficulty with established residents parking practice.
- Situated within Council car parks that are adjacent to housing stock that has no access to off road charging capability

The proposed locations are:

John Street playpark car park	Dunsilly DEA
Toome playpark	Dunsilly DEA
Wallace Park, Templepatrick	Airport DEA
The Square carpark	Ballyclare DEA
Granges Entry	Ballyclare DEA
Lilian Bland car park	Glengormley DEA
Merville Garden Village	Macedon DEA
Knockenagh Road	Macedon DEA

Once confirmation is received from NIE Networks that any or all of these locations are viable, they will be incorporated into the joint application.

RECOMMENDATION: that the additional locations for On-street Residential Charging facilities, as set out above, be approved for submission to NIE Networks and thereafter, if viable, included in the joint application for funding to the Department of Transport by the deadline.

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

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations

4.6 WM/WM/37 REVERSE VENDING MACHINE PILOT

Council has been approached by a company called, 'Reborn. Recycling', regarding the potential to operate a pilot in the Borough. The Company operates 3 divisions; a sustainable luxury fashion brand (Naeco), plastics recycling (Reborn. Recycling) and sustainable corporate clothing (Reborn. Merchandise).

A circular economy company, Reborn. Recycling proposes that through a pilot that 8 Reverse Vending Machines for the collection of plastic bottles, are installed in the Borough in order to help to assess the effectiveness as a Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) machines.

Members are reminded that following a recent consultation, that it is envisaged that Deposit Return Schemes will be introduced in the UK in 2024/2025. Through this means, members of the public will be able to return their plastic bottles and other drinks containers and be reimbursed with a monetary deposit (paid up front at the point of purchase).

Reborn is offering the Reverse Vending Machines, at zero rental cost, for the collection of plastic bottles for a pilot period of four months, with Council responsible for the collection and recycling of the bottles collected. Plastic bottles in the locations would normally be deposited in bins and therefore are currently being collected in the normal way. As the public will not have paid a deposit at the point of purchase during the pilot, no refund will be provided although Reborn has agreed to make a donation to the Mayor's charities based on amount of recyclables returned.

The Company proposes to install the Reverse Vending Machines at the following Council owned sites:

- Lough Shore Park Jordanstown
- Lough Shore Park Antrim
- Valley Leisure Centre
- Antrim Forum

The company has indicated that the machines will be suitable for outdoor locations and will be weather proof.

In addition, Reborn is proposing to install at the following locations, subject to landowner approval:

- Abbey Centre
- The Junction
- Belfast International Airport

The company is following up on these separately.

Should approval be given for the installation of the Reverse Vending Machines at Council sites, it is planned that they will be installed by July 2022.

At the end of the pilot, the data on the usage and amount of waste collected will be assessed by Reborn staff who will then consider how they would like to proceed.

RECOMMENDATION: that Council agrees to participate in a 4 month pilot involving the installation of 8 Reverse Vending Machines, supplied by Reborn, at the locations listed above.

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

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

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations

5 ITEMS FOR NOTING

5.1 WM/RC/09 RECYCLING AND RESIDUAL WASTE END DESTINATIONS

Following a request for information regarding the end destinations for each of the waste streams, a table setting out the information is **enclosed**. The waste industry is global in nature but there are clear environmental benefits to treating it as close to source as possible in order to reduce carbon emissions from the transportation.

Members should note that the same materials collected via different methods may have varying end destinations due to a difference in material quality as a result of processing methods. At present the majority of the waste collected is processed within the UK and Ireland.

The end destinations and figures contained within the enclosed table reflect the situation for the period July to September 2021, which is the most complete and up-to-date information published. Markets do fluctuate, and the end destinations for any material stream may change from one reporting quarter to the next. Officers monitor the situation carefully and regularly, and will continue to advise Members accordingly.

RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.

Prepared by: Catherine Cunningham, Waste Development Officer

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

Approved by: Michael Laverty, Deputy Director Operations (Waste & Fleet)
and Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations

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

Correspondence has been received jointly from DEFRA, the Scottish Government, the Welsh Government and the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs in Northern Ireland seeking views on the development of a central digital waste tracking service.

There is currently no single comprehensive way to track waste and as the UK is committed to moving towards a more circular economy, there is a need to turn the waste that does end up being produced into a resource wherever possible. To do this there must be information about what waste is being produced and where it ends up.

A digital waste tracking system, if implemented, would require those who produce, handle, dispose of or make products from waste, to record all relevant information.

The consultation, <https://consult.defra.gov.uk/environmental-quality/waste-tracking/>, focuses on the practical aspects of introducing a digital waste tracking service. Waste movements are currently covered by a written annual transfer note and one of the proposals is that the waste will need a digital entry for every movement. This would have operational implications for both Council and local businesses in transporting waste.

The consultation document is technical in its requirements and it is proposed that Officers co-ordinate with colleagues from the other arc21 Councils to consider the implications for Council operations and that a draft response to the consultation be presented to full Council in March to allow submission by the 21 April 2022 closing date.

RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.

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

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

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations

5.3 WM/SC/001 LITTER ACTION PLAN UPDATE REPORT

Members are reminded that a Litter Action Plan was approved in November 2021 which set out a range of pilots designed to address the ongoing issue of litter in the Borough.

Progress has been made in a number of areas and this is summarised in the table below.

Action Plan Progress: Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council Litter Action Plan

Action	Project Title	Progress Update	Comments
1	Solar powered compacting bins	14 installed at the agreed locations: Hazelbank/Jordanstown Lough Shore Park and Antrim Lough Shore Park/Rea's Wood Completed - February 2022	High use public areas – designed to increase litter capacity and reduce collection frequency
2	Bin sensors	Sensors installed at 50 locations – all DEAs Due to be completed March 2022	Will reduce unnecessary collections at bins in remote locations and help prevent overflowing at heavily used bins
3	Litter pick stations - litter pickers, boards and bags	Located at Jordanstown Lough Shore Park/Hazelbank Park and Antrim Castle Gardens Installed February 2022	Aim to increase litter awareness and promote cleanliness in targeted areas To be promoted through social media
4	Specific coloured bags	Implemented January 2022	Specific coloured bags for community litter picks are being supplied as part of Support in Kind applications.
5	Volunteer Reward Scheme	In progress	Vouchers for tea/coffee in local independent coffee shops given to those who participate in the Big Spring Clean and/or who litter pick throughout the year. Scheme will be

			launched at this year's Big Spring Clean.
6	Explore the potential for Dog Watch	In progress	Environmental Health exploring this and similar schemes with proposals to Operations Committee and launch in spring/summer
7	Flower bed disks giving anti littering messages	In progress	Anti-littering messages aimed to deter littering Designs being finalised DEAs
8	Mobile Messaging signs	In progress	Ant-litter campaign messaging. In discussion with Dfl
9	Influencer Campaign	In progress	Identifying relevant influencers who will promote specific anti-litter message i.e. plastic free challenge, food waste and dog fouling Scheduled to go live in May 2022 to coincide with the Big Spring Clean Weekend.
10	Dedicated Litter Team in Rathcoole/Mossley	Pending	Pilot dedicated litter team in Rathcoole and Mossley for 5 weeks Current challenges in recruiting staff Further update on progress

Additional litter prevention activities have been undertaken over the last few months and these include:

Provision of Water Refill Stations following a successful application to the Live Here Love Here Marine Litter Capital Grant. Water bottle filling stations will be installed in 4 locations, Jordanstown Lough Shore Park, Antrim Lough Shore Park, Hazelbank Park and Antrim Castle Gardens. Water refill stations encourage use of reusable water bottles reducing single-use plastic bottles.

Big Spring Clean

Big Spring Clean is Northern Ireland's largest community clean-up campaign and the weekend of 6 – 8 May is to be designated as the 'Big Spring Clean Weekend'. This Borough wide clean-up will bring together residents and community groups, schools and businesses to help clean litter from our public spaces, including parks, beaches and schools.

The Friday of Big Spring Clean Weekend is dedicated to businesses and schools which will be encouraged to participate in a unique team building opportunity and show commitment to a cleaner, greener Borough. The Saturday and Sunday of Big Spring Clean Weekend focuses on residents and community groups who will be encouraged to join and help to pick up litter.

Adopt a Spot

Under the auspices of the Live Here Love Here programme, Adopt a Spot is a civic pride initiative that provides a limited number of free kits including kits to tackle litter in chosen areas.

At present, 76 spots have been adopted in the Borough through this scheme and this will be promoted further in Borough Life and through existing Support in Kind applicants.

RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.

Prepared by: Leanne Smits, Waste Education & Awareness Officer

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

Approved by: Michael Laverty, Deputy Director Operations (Waste & Fleet)
and Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations