



22 September 2021

To: Each Member of the Council

Dear Member

MEETING OF ANTRIM AND NEWTOWNABBAY BOROUGH COUNCIL

A remote meeting of Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council will be held on **Monday 27 September 2021 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:

Tel: 028 9034 0048/028 9448 1301 memberservices@antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk

AGENDA

- 1 Bible Reading and Prayer (In accordance with Standing Orders, Members are not required to attend for this part of the meeting and, following this part of the meeting, Members outside the Chamber will be called to the meeting).
- 2 Apologies
- 3 Declarations of Interest
- 4 To take as read and confirm the minutes of the proceedings of the Council Meeting of Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council held on Monday 23 August 2021, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 5 To approve the minutes of the proceedings of the Operations Committee Meeting of Monday 6 September 2021, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 6 To approve the minutes of the proceedings of the Policy and Governance Committee Meeting of Tuesday 7 September 2021, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 7 To approve the minutes of the proceedings of the Community Planning Committee Meeting held on Monday 13 September 2021, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 8 To take as read and confirm the minutes of the proceedings of the Special Council Meeting held on Thursday 16 September 2021, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 9(a) To take as read and confirm the Part 1 of the minutes of the proceedings of the Planning Committee Meeting held on Monday 20 September 2021, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 9(b) To approve Part 2 of the minutes of the proceedings of the Planning Committee Meeting held on Monday 20 September 2021, a copy of which is **enclosed**.
- 10 To approve the minutes of the proceedings of the Audit Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 21 September 2021, a copy of which is **to follow**.
- 11 ITEMS FOR DECISION
 - 11.1 Council Events 2021 Update
 - 11.2 Correspondence – Department for Infrastructure
Proposed Footway/Cycleway at Moneynick Road/Shore Road,
Toomebridge, Antrim
 - 11.3 Publication and Public Consultation of the Northern Ireland Cancer Strategy

- 11.4 Local Government Training Group – Budget for the Financial Year 2021/2022
- 11.5 AERA Committee's Call for Evidence on the Climate Change (No. 2) Bill
- 11.6 Northern Trust Consultation on Proposals for New Ways of Purchasing Domiciliary Care Services from Non-Statutory Providers
- 11.7 Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment in Northern Ireland (PNA)
- 11.8 Enchanted Winter Garden 2021
- 11.9 Ballyclare May Fair Working Group
- 11.10 Levelling Up Fund
- 11.11 Holiday World Show 2022 and Hospitality Exchange 2021
- 11.12 COVID-19 Sunday Opening Hours
- 11.13 Remote Council Meetings
- 11.14 Town Centre Recovery Action Plans and Revitalise Funding
- 11.15 4C Your Future Live
- 11.16 Grow Village Renewal Project
- 11.17 Performance Governance Arrangements 2021-23 (Draft)
- 11.18 Pilot Christmas Community Toy Scheme 2021
- 11.19 Ballyclare Town Hall - Request for an Alcohol Licence
- 11.20 Christmas Celebration Events Fund 2021
- 11.21 Universal Basic Income Lab Northern Ireland
- 11.22 Annual Self-Assessment Performance 2020-21
- 11.23 Senior Citizen's Christmas Festivity Programme 2021

12 ITEMS FOR NOTING

- 12.1 Correspondence from Local Government Staff Commission
- 12.2 Department of Health – Proposed Amendments to the Safeguarding Board For Northern Ireland (Membership, Procedures, Functions and Committee) Regulations (NI) 2012

- 12.3 Northern Ireland Housing Council
- 12.4 Budget Report – August 2021 Period 5
- 12.5 Department of Health - Advance Care Planning Policy Public Messaging Workshop and Draft Engagement Report
- 12.6 Independent Examination of Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council Local Development Plan: Plan Strategy
- 12.7 Tourism NI Product Development
- 12.8 Grow South Antrim Local Action Group Minutes

13 ITEMS IN COMMITTEE

- 13.1 Legal Update
- 13.2 Residual Waste Treatment Project
- 13.3 Strategic Asset Management – Property Assets Disposal Study
- 13.4 Procurement Tender Reports and Award of Contracts
- 13.5 Green Flag 'The People Behind The Park – New Category'
- 13.6 Organisation Structures

14 NOTICE OF MOTION

Proposed by Councillor Jim Montgomery
Seconded by Alderman Mark Cosgrove

“That Antrim and Newtownabbey Council engage with colleagues in Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council, Mid Ulster District Council and the Lough Neagh Partnership, with a view to re-energising efforts towards improving the management of Lough Neagh and securing it's the bed and soil. Given the strategic importance of this under-utilised resource, then efforts should be made to sustainably develop Lough Neagh, so that it provides significant economic, tourism and environmental benefits to the wider Council area.”

15 NOTICE OF MOTION

Proposed by Councillor Roisin Lynch
Seconded by Councillor Ryan Wilson

“This Council recognises that the £20 Universal Credit uplift has provided a lifeline to many families and recognises the devastating impact that its proposed removal would have at this critical juncture of the recovery period when workers face the end of the furlough scheme and massive increases in

energy bills. The Council also recognises that the removal of the £20 per week payment will be devastating for those living here, will push more people into poverty, increase reliance on foodbanks and increase homelessness, as well as having dire consequences for our local economy. The Council calls on the Communities Minister, in the absence of any action from the Westminster government, to liaise with her colleague Finance Minister Conor Murphy, to uphold this uplift for the remainder of the financial year and commit to expediting a long term strategy to tackle the shameful levels of poverty and social deprivation across Antrim and Newtownabbey council area."

16 NOTICE OF MOTION

Proposed by Councillor Michael Goodman
Seconded by Councillor Rosie Kinnear

"This Council notes DFI's ongoing consultation on routes for the (BRT2) Belfast Rapid Transit Phase 2 project and welcomes the proposed North Belfast route.

It is disappointing that a route extension to Glengormley is currently being ruled out as unsuitable by the Department despite the obvious advantages to the many residents and businesses in the area.

We propose the Council write to the Minister for Infrastructure to ask that further consideration be given to extending the Glider route to include Glengormley. We also ask that the Council submit a formal response to the public consultation expressing our support for an extension to Glengormley.

This should be done before the consultation's closure on Monday 4th October 2021."

REPORT ON BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE COUNCIL MEETING ON MONDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2021

11 ITEMS FOR DECISION

11.1 ED/ED/080/VOL3 COUNCIL EVENTS 2021 UPDATE

Members are reminded that it was agreed at the January Council meeting that the Council Events Plan for 2021 be implemented and kept under review. At the August Council meeting updated event plans were approved with regular updates on the events programme to be presented to the Council.

A further update on the Council Events for 2021 is presented below:

Council Events Update 2021

Month/Date Normal	Event	Budget	Proposed Delivery Option / Considerations & Branding
May			
Mon 3 rd	NI Centenary (lighting of 2 beacons and the opening of 2 Centenary Woods)	Included in Centenary Budget	Events held by invitation only to elected members and members of NI Centenary Working Group.
Sat 8th	Darkness into Light	£2,000	Completed Virtually
25-29 th	May Fair	£25,000	This event did not take place this year.
Sat 29 th & Sun 30 th	Antrim Live	£15,000	Incorporated into One Giant Weekend.
July to August	Summer Sunday Music	£9,000	Sunday concerts booked weekly in JLSP, ACG, V36 and Antrim Loughshore Park at a cost of £8,000. Commencement of concerts delayed from 4 July due to live music restrictions with the programme extended into September to mitigate.
June			
Sat 19 th – Sun 20 th	Garden Show Ireland	£35,000	Garden Show Ireland 2022 promotional element incorporated into One Giant Weekend on 4 September. A promotional show garden featured celebrity gardener Diarmuid Gavin with sales for the 2022 event commencing.
Sat 19th	Antrim and Newtownabbey Pipe Bands	£15,000 plus £5,000 in kind support	RSPBNI ran a Pipe Band Festival on Saturday 7 August with a reduced budget of £8,000 and an attendance of approximately 800.

Fri 25 th	Schools Out for summer	£5,000	V36 at The Valley. Given COVID-19 restrictions this event did not go ahead. A virtual Cool FM roadshow event delivered to post primary pupils across the Borough on 24 June as part of the programme to recognise children's resilience in relation to COVID-19. This achieved reach of 5.500 and excellent feedback.
July			
Fridays in July and August 2 July to 27 August	Brighter Nights	£18,600	Lilian Bland Community Park Glengormley Event delivered in its traditional format, Friday evenings 6.30pm to 8.30pm, of family fun depending with COVID secure measures. Brighter Nights commenced on Friday 2 July with the addition of an Urban Market for Glengormley from 5pm with a combined attendance of 1000 across the evening. Attendances have remained high with very positive feedback.
W'ends end July to end August	Theatre Ticketed Shows	Theatre budget income to cover cost	Civic Square at Mossley Mill and Parterre Garden Antrim Castle Gardens. Some shows were fully booked with healthy sales levels across the programme and very positive feedback.
August			
7 th	Party in the Park	£20,000	Antrim Castle Gardens Event rescheduled to Sunday 8 August with a capacity limit of 2000 set. Attendance was in the region of 1500 in spite of wet weather and very positive feedback received.
28 th and 29 th	Shoreline Festival	£31,000	Following consultation with traders the Shoreline Festival was replaced with small 'Taste and Sea' Whiteabbey events in July/August/September. They featured artisan markets in the Council car park with various food, drink and retail offers from the village businesses along with animations in the JLSP. It was delivered at a reduced budget of £12,000. The market in September was a twilight market to support the night time economy.
September			
3 rd to 4 th	One Giant Weekend	£50,000	One Giant Evening V36 at The Valley including fireworks and One Giant Picnic ACG: Main Centenary events with Garden Show Ireland promotional element and Antrim Live included at ACG. Events were well attended with positive feedback received.

			Advance booking for free tickets to the Giant Evening and Picnic applied with a £1.25 booking fee going to the Mayors charities. This ensured that attendance at the events was safely managed with highest standard of COVID safety given limited venue capacity at both sites and previous experience of high levels of 'no show' for free events without any booking fee.
5th	Spinning Yarns	£10,000	Mossley Mill – held on Sunday 5 September as part of One Giant Weekend
October			
31 Oct	2 x Halloween events	£38,000	<p>Spooked Out at V36 31 October 2021 in V36 at The Valley. The Screams and Tricks Funfair will run from 22 October to the 31 October with an inclusive session on 24 October.</p> <p>Free tickets for Spooked Out will be released on 1/10/2021 with a £1.25 booking fee going to the Mayors charities as for One Giant Weekend. This is to ensure that attendance at the event is managed in terms of COVID safety given limited venue capacity.</p> <p>It was reported previously that Officers were liaising with The Junction regarding a refresh of the traditional Halloween Spooktacular event. Because of COVID-19 and limitations at The Junction site it was previously reported that the event was transitioning from a showcase event and fire-works display to a programme of satellite family friendly events at The Junction and other town centre locations, potentially including The Gateway and Antrim Castle Gardens.</p> <p>The draft summary programme of activity is enclosed. It is a collaborative programme between The Junction, Castle Mall, The Junction, The Council and the Private Sector. The programme includes a Teddy Bear's Picnic, Pop-up Cinema, Hay Maze, German Beer Tent, Ghost Tour, Monster Trail, Mini Exploration, Slime Factory, a Magician, a Monster Ball, a Spooky Story Time, a Twilight Market and Halloween Baking Competition. The events will be promoted as 'Antrim's Festival of Fright' and will run 23rd – 30th October 2021. The Council's maximum contribution to this programme of activity will remain as per the annual Spooktacular budget of £18,000 from the Council with a further £10,000 contribution from other private sources.</p>

December			
27 Nov to 21 Dec	Enchanted Winter Garden	£46,000	Antrim Castle Gardens over multiple evenings in November/December. Options approved at the June Council meeting and planning has commenced.
TBC	Christmas Switch On's	£74,000	A combination of a live and virtual event switch on programme was approved at the July Council meeting at an estimated cost of £40,000. A series of town centre small events and seasonal animations will also be delivered across the Borough in the run up to Christmas to support the retail and hospitality sector.

In terms of additional animations in the form of the Panoramic Wheel Members are advised that the Panoramic Wheel was installed in Jordanstown Loughshore Park on 21 August and will be there until the end of this month.

In addition to Council led events, an update on community and other events was reported to the August Council meeting with a further update below:

- Steam Rally (formerly the May Day Steam Rally) – The event took place on 28 and 29 August and the Council funding of £15,000 was awarded to the event.
- The Irish Game Fair and Fine Food Festival which is managed by Country Lifestyle Exhibitions received a commitment from the Council in February 2020 for £15,000 funding. The Council has supported a virtual event and associated activities at a value of £5,000.
- ISPS Handa World Golf Invitational 2021 – Event promoters delivered the event from 27 July to 1 August 2021 with sponsorship support from the Council.
- Statscup Supercup NI – At the May Council meeting it was agreed to support an alternative event proposal submitted by the event organisers. £15,000 was awarded by way of Letter of Offer to the first event on Friday 30 July at Dixon Park, Ballyclare. The Council approved £25,000 total funding and the remaining £10,000 is being used to support a girl's community sports day. This is being held on 26 September between 2pm and 5pm at The Valley Leisure Centre V36.
- Antrim Festival Group – The Group revised plans to combine their Festival Family Sunday with Party in The Park on Sunday 8 August in Antrim Castle Gardens and to deliver a 'Cultural Colours' family event celebrating diversity on Sunday 5 September as part of One Giant Weekend. It was reported to the July meeting that the Group did not wish to proceed with either event.

They are now proposing to deliver a ticketed Halloween walk in Antrim Castle Gardens and officers will support them to plan delivery of this. This event will include animation and food stalls in Market Square leading into Antrim Castle Gardens with a Halloween themed walk around Her Ladyships Pleasure Gardens on 29 and 30 October from 4pm – 9pm with a capacity of 500 per night. The ticket will be set at

£3.50 per person and £10 for a family of four. The ticketing will be managed by the Group.

- Randox Antrim Agricultural Show, scheduled for Saturday 24 July in Shanes Castle, was cancelled for 2021.
- V Fest at V36 at The Valley – A Dance Music Festival originally planned for September 2021 has now been postponed to March 2022. Officers are supporting NACN in planning for this event, which has received £5,000 from the Community Festival Fund.
- Antrim Food Festival – This event was delivered 16–18 July and received £12,500 from the Council.

Members are advised that on 5 August the Government announced that it was partnering with insurers to offer a cost indemnification insurance scheme which will make cover available against the cancellation, relocation or abandonment of events due to new UK Civil Authority restrictions in response to COVID 19. The Live Events Reinsurance Scheme will support live events across the UK that are at risk of being halted due to an inability to obtain COVID 19 cancellation insurance. This intervention intends to support the economic recovery from COVID 19 by giving events the confidence they need to plan for the future. The Council's insurance team are reviewing the detail of the scheme in relation to the Council plans for future planning and delivery of large scale events including Enchanted Winter Garden and Garden Show Ireland.

During COVID-19 the Council's Corporate and Flagship Event Applications were suspended. Given recent enquiries relating to funding for 2022 events it is proposed that both funding calls open again.

RECOMMENDATION: that

- (a) the updated events plan be approved with further updates on the events programme to be presented to the Council;**
- (b) any additional budgets from events that do not proceed or are delivered at a reduced cost be directed to the Town Centre and Villages Recovery programme;**
- (c) the re-opening of the Council's Corporate and Flagship Events Grant Funding Programme be approved.**

Prepared by: Colin McCabrey Head of Economic Development

Approved by: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

11.2 PK/GEN/144 CORRESPONDENCE – DEPARTMENT FOR INFRASTRUCTURE, PROPOSED FOOTWAY/CYCLEWAY AT MONEYNICK ROAD/ SHORE ROAD, TOOME

Correspondence has been received, **enclosed**, from the Department for Infrastructure (DfI) requesting written comments in relation to a proposal for a safe walking and cycling route on Moneynick Road/Shore Road.

In discussion with the Department, it has been confirmed that a number of requests were received for a footpath a number of years ago and as a result, a pathway scheme was listed for the area but did not proceed due to availability of resources.

The recently established Active Travel teams across Northern Ireland, including one in the northern division are promoting and facilitating active travel where possible so that people can travel to and from facilities by walking and cycling. This is especially important when a third of journeys in Northern Ireland are under two miles.

The focus for Active Travel projects is to create more opportunities for active travel and make our roads safer for those who want to walk and cycle. The Department has indicated that this unit reviewed the Shore Road footway proposal to include cycle facilities. This change will help to:

- achieve higher levels of sustainable transport
- have fewer car journeys
- encourage physical and mental health and wellbeing
- help to improve air quality

The route is part of a larger national cycle network NCN94 and includes linking the houses and the GAA club to and from the village.

The Department has confirmed that the scheme is at the design stage and will be subject to the acquisition of land. Although the scheme is programmed for the end of this financial year, it may be next year before it is constructed. Officers have reviewed the proposal and propose the following comments:

- Welcome the scheme as it:
 - would significantly improve safety and accessibility for pedestrian and cycle travel, especially along the Moneynick Road section
 - particularly where it improves accessibility at a particularly difficult access point towards the end of the Shore Road
 - will enhance connectivity on the NCN94 as most of the route is along the Shore Road
- Recommend:
 - That the Active Travel team include signage in the village to promote the NCN route as part of the proposal.
 - that the scheme is extended further out of the village along the Moneynick Road to add to improved safety and accessibility

RECOMMENDATION: that Council responds to the correspondence from DfI regarding the proposed footway/cycleway at Moneynick Road/Shore Road as set out above.

Prepared by: Elaine Upton, Countryside Officer, Parks

Approved by: Geraldine Girvan, Deputy Chief Executive of Operations

11.3 G/MSMO/008 (Vol 3) PUBLICATION AND PUBLIC CONSULTATION OF THE NORTHERN IRELAND CANCER STRATEGY

Correspondence (**enclosed**) has been received from the Minister of Health advising of the publication of the Northern Ireland Cancer Strategy on 25 August 2021. The Strategy is open to consultation until 1700 on 20 October 2021.

The draft strategy and supporting consultation documentation are available at <https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/consultations/consultation-cancer-strategy-northern-ireland-2021-2031>

Stakeholders can respond to the consultation exercise :

- Via the online survey hosted on Citizen Space <https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/doh-healthcare-policy-group/consultation-on-the-cancer-strategy-for-northern-i/>
- By completing the Consultation Questionnaire, which is **enclosed**. The Questionnaire can be adapted and completed depending on which questions you wish to respond to, and submitted via email or in hard copy to:

Cancer Strategy Project
Department of Health
Room 1, Annex 1
Castle Buildings
Stormont Estate
Belfast
BT4 3SQ

- By sending an email, or writing to Cancer.Strategy.2020@health-ni.gov.uk, with a summary of your feedback to the consultation

Members may wish to respond on a corporate, individual or party political basis.

The Council's instructions are requested.

Prepared by: Member Services

Approved by: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

11.4 HR/HR/026 LOCAL GOVERNMENT TRAINING GROUP – BUDGET FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2021/2022

Members are reminded that the functions of the Local Government Training Group (LGTG) are being managed by the Board of the LGTG and administered by Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council until 31 March 2022.

A full review of the needs for learning and development within Local Government has been undertaken on behalf of and involving the 11 Councils. Once published the review will give direction for future needs, structures and contributions from 2022 forward.

A Service Level Agreement for the period 2021/2022 is in place and the membership fees for 2021/2022 for Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council remain at £16,122 as calculated by the LGTG Board. This is based on the Council's percentage rateable value in relation to all rate payers across Northern Ireland and applied to the total amount agreed to run the LGTG up to March 2022. There is budgetary provision for the LGTG services.

RECOMMENDATION: that a payment of £16,122 be made to Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council in respect of the fees for the Local Government Training Group for 2021/2022.

Prepared by: Sarah Fenton, Organisation Development Officer

Approved by: Jennifer Close, Head of Human Resources (Interim)

11.5 G/MSMO/008/VOL 2 AERA COMMITTEE'S CALL FOR EVIDENCE ON THE CLIMATE CHANGE (NO. 2) BILL

The Assembly's Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (AERA) Committee is calling on local people and organisations across all relevant sectors to give their views on the new Climate Change (No. 2) Bill that is currently before the Assembly.

The Climate Change (No.2) Bill was introduced by the Minister for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs in July 2021 and is expected to be referred to the Committee for Scrutiny in September 2021.

Some of the provisions proposed within Climate Change (No. 2) Bill include a target to reduce net greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by at least 82% by 2050 (compared to baseline levels). The Bill also proposes setting interim emissions targets for 2030 and 2040, and would give responsibility to the Department for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs to set Carbon Budgets in Northern Ireland and, outline the maximum GHG emissions level on a 5-yearly basis. A summary of the bill is available on the link:

https://consult.nia-yourassembly.org.uk/agrienvra/climate-change-no-2-bill/supporting_documents/Climate%20Change%20No.2%20Bill%20Summary.pdf

The AERA Committee recently undertook a 'Call for Evidence and Views' on a separate Climate Change Bill sponsored by Claire Bailey (MLA) which it is continuing to review. It was agreed at the June 2021 Council meeting that Members respond on an individual or party political basis to that bill.

The 'Call for Evidence and Views' can be accessed on the Assembly Committee webpage or on the link below and responses are required by Thursday, 30 September 2021.

<https://consult.nia-yourassembly.org.uk/agrienvra/climate-change-no-2-bill/consultation/>

Sustainable NI have provided a draft response for consideration and this is **enclosed**.

Members may wish to endorse the Sustainable NI response or respond on a corporate, individual or party political basis.

The Council's instructions are requested.

Prepared by: Liz Johnston, Head of Governance

Approved by: Sandra Cole, Deputy Chief Executive of Finance and Governance

11.6 G/MSMO/008 (VOL 3) NORTHERN HEALTH TRUST - CONSULTATION ON PROPOSALS FOR NEW WAYS OF PURCHASING DOMICILIARY CARE SERVICES FROM NON-STATUTORY PROVIDERS

Correspondence (**enclosed**) has been received from the Northern Health and Social Care Trust advising of consultation on the proposed new arrangements intended to ensure that domiciliary care services are provided equitably and sustainably to meet the growing needs of the population.

Full details of the consultation are available at <http://www.northerntrust.hscni.net>. Alternatively a copy of the consultation is available by telephone 028 27661377 or email equality.unit@northerntrust.hscni.net.

The consultation will be open for twelve weeks from 6 September 2021 and comments should be returned to the Equality Unit by 29 November 2021.

The Council's instructions are requested.

Prepared by: Member Services

Approved by: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

11.7 G/MSMO/008 (Vol 3) PHARMACEUTICAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT IN NORTHERN IRELAND (PNA)

Correspondence (**enclosed**) has been received from the HSC advising that the HSCB has developed a Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) model which is now subject to public consultation.

Full details of the consultation are available at: <http://www.hscboard.hscni.net/get-involved/consultations/pna/> and the online questionnaire is available at <https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/hsc-new-models-of-prescribing/consultation-on-the-pharmacy-needs-assessment-ques/>.

Email responses can also be sent to PNAconsultation@hscni.net and the consultation closes on 30 November 2021.

Members may wish to respond on a corporate, individual or party political basis.

The Council's instructions are requested.

Prepared by: Member Services

Approved by: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

11.8 AC/EV/007 ENCHANTED WINTER GARDEN 2021

Members are reminded that the delivery of the Enchanted Winter Garden 2021 event, on the same basis as approved for the 2020 event, was agreed at the Council meeting in June. Proposed arrangements for the 2020 event were previously agreed at the February 2020 Community Planning Committee, including a budget of £46,000 and admission fees of £5 per adult, £3 per child and £14 for a family of four with Under 2's free.

The approved budget for Enchanted Winter Garden is based upon the overall cost of the event less income from admissions and attractions. In 2019 there were 86,000 attendances at the event generating approximately £350,000 in income. Delivery of large scale events at present is based upon a risk assessed approach to manage capacity and whilst it is hoped to deliver the 2021 at full capacity of 7,500 admissions each evening the ongoing uncertainty around restrictions places this at risk, which in turn risks the potential ticket income and therefore event budget. In addition event costs are likely to increase as a result of requirement to include COVID secure measures such as increased stewards and additional park and ride buses due to social distancing.

Large scale events have been taking place both in and outside of the Borough since the summer and a number of large scale Christmas events are currently being promoted across Northern Ireland and beyond. Benchmarking with such events has been carried out to compare pricing with Enchanted Winter Garden with findings set out below:

Event	Adult	Child	Toddler	Family	Status
Glenarm Castle Christmas Magic	£20	£25	Under 1 £6	N/A	Sold Out Established Event
Christmas at Hillsborough Castle	£19.50	£13.50	N/A	£62 for four	New event similar to EWG in format On Sale
The Enchanted Forest Pitlochry	£22	£12	Under 3's free	£60 for four	On Sale
Enchanted Winter Garden	£5	£3	Under 2's free	£14 for four	Scheduled to go on sale 1 October 2021

Members are advised that the Christmas at Hillsborough Castle event is new for 2021 and provides a very similar offer to Enchanted Winter Garden. Glenarm Christmas Magic is an established outdoor Christmas event and is already fully booked for 2021 having been on sale since the beginning of the month.

Enchanted Winter Garden has proven to be an event which brings visitors to the Borough in significant numbers with 77% of those attending in 2019 from outside the Borough so it presents a real opportunity to support recovery across all three strands of people, place and prosperity and also promote the Councils the tourism brand in terms of both the Boroughs events, retail and hospitality offer.

Officers plan to work with local business to develop offers which will appeal to those attending the event. An increase to ticket rates for Enchanted Winter Gardens is proposed for 2021:

- Adult £8.00
- Child £5.00
- Family of Four £22.00
- Under 2's Free

This slight increase will mitigate any COVID secure related costs increase as well as any income reductions from capacity limits.

In order to maximise the success and profile of the event it is proposed to run a television advertising campaign at a cost of £20,000 for 4 weeks in UTV in October and November. An increase in ticketing fees will enable television advertising costs to be covered without any budget increase and also enable the event to develop further in 2021 to the benefit of the economy. Officers plan to work with local business to develop offers across retails, hospitality and accommodation, which will appeal to those attending the event and maximise the economic return for the Borough from this event.

RECOMMENDATION: that

- (a) admission fees of £8.00 per adult, £5 per child, £22 per family of four and Under 2's free for Enchanted Winter Garden 2021 be approved;**
- (b) the delivery of a television advertising campaign for Enchanted Winter Garden 2021 at a cost of £20,000 be approved.**

Approved by: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

11.9 ED/TOU/43 BALLYCLARE MAY FAIR WORKING GROUP

Members are advised that the current membership of the Ballyclare May Fair Working Group includes the following Elected Members and Independent Members:-

Council Members	Independent Members
Ald Girvan (Chair)	M McGuigan
Cllr Archibald-Brown	V Jenkins
Cllr Stewart	H Carr
Cllr McWilliam	E Johnston
Cllr Ramsay	V Rodgers
	K Wolff
	G Peoples
	K Wilson

It is intended that a meeting of the Working Group will be held in November in preparation for the May 2022 event.

Councillor Jim Montgomery has expressed an interest in joining the Working Group.

RECOMMENDATION: that Councillor Jim Montgomery joins the Ballyclare May Fair Working Group.

Prepared and Approved by: Majella McAlister, Deputy Chief Executive of Economic Growth

11.10 ED/ED/195 LEVELLING UP FUND

Members are reminded that two bids were submitted to the Levelling Up Fund focussed on the regeneration of Antrim and Glengormley. A decision on these applications is expected in October 2021.

As part of this overall programme, technical assistance is being provided to each Council to assist with the preparation of bids and associated work. A payment of £125,000 has been received from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG).

It is proposed that this funding is used to cover the costs of the consultancy incurred to prepare the two bids submitted and to employ a temporary member of staff to assist with the development of future bids.

RECOMMENDATION: that the funding received be utilised as outlined.

Prepared and Approved by: Majella McAlister, Deputy Chief Executive of Economic Growth

11.11 ED/TOU/049 HOLIDAY WORLD SHOW 2022 AND HOSPITALITY EXCHANGE 2021

Holiday World Show is held every January in Dublin and Belfast and attracts a wide range of international tour operators as well as tourism agencies from overseas and Councils from throughout Ireland. Previous shows in Dublin have attracted over 700 exhibitors and over 45,000 visitors. Figures for the Belfast show have attracted 410 exhibitors and 23,000 visitors.

The 2022 event, which is open to the public and is now in its 32nd year, will take place at the Titanic Exhibition Centre in Belfast from 21-23 January 2022 and at the RDS in Dublin from 28-30 January 2022, inclusive, and will feature a newly extended Tourism Northern Ireland Village providing local Councils with an opportunity to showcase their tourism offer.

Officers have now booked stand space at both shows in Belfast and Dublin to use the events as a means of delivering key parts of the Council's Tourism Strategy. Local hotels and tourist attractions will be notified of the Council's presence at the Show to help ensure that the local industry is able to benefit from the event.

Costs to exhibit at Belfast are £1,345 and €1,690 for the Dublin show.

The Council is also supporting 'Hospitality Exchange' being delivered by Northern Ireland Hotels Federation. It is taking place on 12 and 13 October in the Crowne Plaza, Shaw's Bridge, Belfast. The event is now in its 22nd year and consists of a range of workshops and seminars on key topics, issues and challenges. It has previously attracted over 600 delegates over the course of two days with business leaders from the hotel and restaurant sector attending along with government agencies. The cost of being a Corporate Sponsor at the event is £1,000 and this provides the Council with full conference access for up to four people, access to the Member Networking Lounge and a logo on the main conference programme. If any Member wishes to attend Hospitality Exchange 2021 please contact Natasha.donald@antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk.

RECOMMENDATION: that Members note the Council's participation at Holiday World Show 2022 in Belfast and Dublin and Hospitality Exchange in Belfast 2021, and that appropriate Officers and the Chair and Vice Chair of the Our Prosperity Outcome Delivery Group, or their nominees, attend as an approved duty.

Prepared by: Karen Uprichard, Tourism, Town Centre and Regeneration Officer

Agreed by: Colin McCabrey, Head of Economic Development

Approved by: Majella McAlister, Deputy Chief Executive of Economic Growth

11.12 ED/ED/183 COVID-19 SUNDAY OPENING HOURS

A decision was previously taken by the Council in June 2021 to extend relaxed enforcement action in relation to Sunday Opening Hours of large supermarkets to the end of September 2021. It was originally extended to facilitate 'safe' shopping environments and social distancing for staff and customers to help retailers manage customer volumes and better facilitate key workers, healthcare workers and customers with disabilities.

In light of the continued pandemic risk, it is now proposed to extend this arrangement further, prolonging the current period of trading hours relaxation.

As before, the period between 10am and 1pm will be set aside to facilitate key workers, healthcare workers and customers with disabilities. Normal liquor licencing provisions are not affected by this relaxation. Retailers are in all cases expected to comply with all current COVID-19 related legislation and regulations.

To this end, it is recommended that the Council does not undertake enforcement action against large retail shops (in excess of 280 m²) through to the end of December 2021, should they choose to open or deliver on a Sunday from 10am onwards. This will apply to all retail units across the Borough.

There is no change to smaller retail shops (under 280 m²), which can continue to trade up to 24 hours.

The legal advice is that, during the current COVID-19 pandemic, it is reasonable and proportionate for the Council to relax its enforcement powers in relation to Sunday trading hours under The Shops (Sunday Trading &c.) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 for the period as outlined above. The new arrangements will be communicated to relevant retailers across the Borough.

RECOMMENDATION: that the Sunday Trading arrangements be extended until the end of December 2021.

Prepared by: Colin McCabrey, Head of Economic Development

Approved by: Majella McAlister, Deputy Chief Executive of Economic Growth

11.13 G-LEG-COVID REMOTE COUNCIL MEETINGS

At the Council meeting in April, Members were informed that The Local Government (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of District Council meetings) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2020 which were introduced to enable Councils to hold meetings remotely expired on 7 May 2021.

Members agreed the following proposed interim arrangements be put in place to facilitate decision making by the Council during the period when remote meetings cannot be held:

- Council and Committee Meetings, with the exception of the Planning Committee, continue to be held remotely and that authority be delegated to the Chief Executive to implement the decisions made by the Council.
- Meetings of the Planning Committee be held "in person" with appropriate social distancing measures in place and with the public attending remotely and/or in a separate part of Mossley Mill.

The Local Government (Meetings and Performance) Act (Northern Ireland) 2021 received Royal Assent on 26 August 2021. Under section 1 of the Act, the Local Government (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of District Council Meetings) Regulations (NI) 2020 came into effect again from 27 August 2021 which provides councils with the flexibility to hold meetings by remote or hybrid means until the Coronavirus Act 2020, under which the Regulations were made, expires (currently scheduled for 25 March 2022).

RECOMMENDATION: that Council meetings are held by remote and hybrid means.

Prepared by: Paul Casey, Borough Lawyer & Head of Legal Services

Approved by: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

11.14 AC/GEN/072 TOWN CENTRE RECOVERY ACTION PLANS AND REVITALISE FUNDING

Members are reminded that draft Action Plans for each of the five main towns of Antrim, Ballyclare, Crumlin, Glengormley and Randalstown were agreed at the March Council meeting with monthly updates to be brought to the Council. Updated plans were approved at the August Council Meeting. The projects within the plans are either being delivered, funding is being sought for them or the action is programmed for future delivery. The Action Plans continue to be updated on a monthly basis to provide Members with an accurate status of each project. The updated Action Plans are enclosed for Members' information. Urban Markets, Summer Town Music and other animations delivered over the summer across the five towns were well received. Officers are now planning for animations and events to continue from now until Christmas 2021 and through to Easter 2022, adapted to suit the changing seasons. In the coming weeks Son et Lumiere sound and light projections are planned in the 5 main towns as are harvest markets. A range of Halloween animations is also planned to support the high street over this school holiday.

Throughout COVID-19 the Department for Communities alongside the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs and the Department for Infrastructure made just under £972,000 grant funding available to the Council to support recovery activity in town centres, rural villages and to support the advancement of a blue and green infrastructure vision across these areas. The indicative deadline for the funding is the end of September 2021. Officers have been liaising with the Departments to secure an extension to the end of March 2022. The extension of the timeline is particularly necessary for the successful programming and achievement of capital schemes included under the development of blue and green infrastructure. The schemes include Glas na Braden Trail and Antrim Boardwalk phase one. In summary, the recovery action plans and the Government Department Funding initiatives focus on the creation of connected, clean and vibrant spaces across the Borough. The aim of the funding is to create attractive and welcoming spaces for both residents and visitors and to encourage increased footfall and dwell time in our towns to support economic recovery.

Throughout recovery the Council advanced projects such as COVID-19 grants, marketing and promotion to support 'shop local', PPE and health and safety supplies, planting, environmental improvements and approaches to managing town centre data such as vacancy rates. Support to town centre traders also included the presence of Covid Ambassadors in each of the Borough's five towns. This service is continuing on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays but it is recommended that the service is suspended from Saturday 30 October onwards.

Northern Ireland's High Street Voucher Scheme will open for registration on 27 September and it is intended that the first cards will be issued by the Department for Economy on 4 October. The £145m programme will offer pre-paid £100 cards to all over-18s. It aims to help those businesses in retail and hospitality which were hit by the pandemic. To support the scheme Officers

have developed localised campaigns to encourage shoppers to spend locally. The marketing campaign is running across adshells, billboards and on social media and is promoting offers from local businesses linked to the gift card via www.antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk/voucheroffers. There are a range of offers including up to an additional 20% off, discounted prices and complimentary items. The £100 cards have to be spent by 30 November so not to displace Christmas trade. The Department for The Economy has made a range of marketing assets available to businesses via <https://www.economy-ni.gov.uk/publications/high-street-scheme-retailer-promotional-material>.

Officers will work with the local Town Teams and the Chambers of Commerce to provide these assets to local businesses. In a further effort to promote 'shop local' there is the option to suspend car-parking charges across the Council's three paid-for car-parks in Railway Street in Antrim, The Square in Ballyclare and Whiteabbey Village. This would be subject to further engagement with local traders. Some stakeholders view the removal of car-parking charges as contradictory. This is because it can encourage local staff to park freely during working hours and create a reduction in car-parking spaces during these times for convenience shoppers.

Members will be aware that the car-park re-surfacing contract is underway. The contractor commenced Central Car Park in Antrim on 6th September 2021. During the resurfacing works approximately 180 spaces are not available and 270 spaces remain open for car-parking at any one time. Signage is in place to direct drivers to Railway Street Car-park which has a capacity of 185 spaces. The Railway Street Carpark is a charged car-park.

To support the High Street Voucher Scheme and to mitigate complaints arising from the resurfacing of Central Car Park in Antrim it is intended to provide free car-parking at Railway Street Antrim and the Square in Ballyclare for the duration of the Voucher Scheme. The duration is from 4 October through to 30 November 2021. This is subject to the outcome of ongoing trader engagement to assess the level of support for the free parking initiative between these times.

Free Car Parking in December, Ballyclare

In recent years, Council has approved free parking on Saturdays in December in Ballyclare to promote Christmas shopping in the town. Local traders have indicated that this initiative does encourage people to both visit the town and stay for longer. This year there are 3 Saturdays, 4, 11, 18, prior to Christmas Day and it is therefore proposed that free parking is offered on these dates from 6.00am to 6.00pm inclusive. Harrier Way is free.

General Car park arrangements for 2022

There are also a number of days when there has traditionally been no deployment of traffic attendants and use of the car parks is free to the public.

The days detailed for the year ahead are:

- Saturday 1 January 2022
- Monday 18 April 2022 (Easter Monday)

- Tuesday 12 and Wednesday 13 July 2022
- Monday 26 and Tuesday 27 December 2022

RECOMMENDATION: that

- (a) the updated Town Centre Action Plans be approved and that monthly updates continue to be provided to the Council;**
- (b) the suspension of the Covid Ambassadors from Saturday 30 October 2021 be noted;**
- (c) Members consider the suspension of car parking charges in Railway Street and the Square car parks to support the High Street Voucher Scheme, subject to the outcome of ongoing trader engagement to assess the level of support for the free parking initiative. The proposed timing of this initiative is from Monday 4 October through to Tuesday 30 November 2021 inclusive.**
- (d) Members consider the suspension of car parking charges in the Square, Ballyclare on Saturdays 4, 11 and 18 December 2021.**

Prepared by: Colin McCabrey Head of Economic Development

Approved by: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

11.15 ED/ED/174 4C YOUR FUTURE LIVE

At the beginning of 2020 financial support was granted to an innovative local pilot project titled '4C Your Future'. The organisers intention was to host the event on 15 and 16 June 2020 at The Jim Baker Indoor Bowling Stadium. It had a target of supporting 750 young people in Year 9 from schools across the Borough to take part in a day of sector skills challenges. The event was to include a range of inter-active games and work-based simulation, specifically aimed at drawing out the children's strengths and helping them to make better informed career choices.

The £6,000 Council sponsorship was intended to cover venue hire and setup including catering and hospitality. The event is being managed directly by an organisation called 4C Your Future. Unfortunately the 2020 event was postponed due to Covid-19. The rescheduled event is taking place in June 2022. It is once more to be hosted at Jim Baker Stadium. The principles of the event are that it is a volunteer led model, it is free to schools and it is accessible for parents. It aims to work with all local authorities in Northern Ireland, targeting 7,500 Year 9 pupils.

By sponsoring the event each host council will be covering 2 days venue hire (one day set-up and one day for the event), catering for attendees, provision of PA systems, furniture, fittings and equipment. Councils will also support the event organiser with school liaison and local communications and PR. The organisers intention is to develop 4C Your Future into an annual event and to scale it up each year from 7,500 participants in 2022 to 23,000 in 2023 to 26,000 in 2024.

Given the strategic importance of the Skills Agenda, in addition to sponsoring the 2022 event, Officers wish to ensure that schools are encouraged to attend it by assisting with the cost of transportation. With this in mind, it is proposed that £4,000 be made available to support transport. Participation in the event is totally free to the schools.

It is the organiser's longer-term intention to work alongside industry to develop Northern Ireland's first careers portal. They are securing support for this from Ulster University, Queen's University and all seven Further Education Colleges. In due course they will provide an update to Councils regarding how they can be part of this interactive platform.

RECOMMENDATION: that Members approve sponsorship of £6,000 to 4C Your Future's re-scheduled 2022 event and that £4,000 is made available to directly support school transport costs.

Prepared and agreed by: Colin McCabrey, Head of Economic Development

Approved by: Majella McAlister, Deputy Chief Executive of Economic Growth

11.16 ED/ED/005/VOL2 GROW VILLAGE RENEWAL PROJECT

Members will recall that in March 2021, Council agreed to apply for funding to GROW South Antrim to put in place toilet and shower facilities in Toome through the purchase and installation of a port-a-cabin. This application will utilise the remaining GROW South Antrim budget, and Council is the only eligible applicant to the Village Renewal Scheme, which has a grant rate of up to 75%. The remaining grant available from GROW is £17,500. It was expected in March that the local community group, TIDAL, would secure the necessary match funding for the project through a grant application to the Enkalon Foundation. Whilst external match funding has been secured, the eligibility criteria for the GROW scheme states that a minimum of 5% of each application must come from the applicant (Council) through the form of cash match funding. A procurement exercise has been undertaken, and the total cost for purchase and installation of the cabin is £29,920. It is proposed that Council provides £1,500 of match funding to the project. TIDAL will provide the remaining project funds of £10,920 through funding secured from the Enkalon Foundation (£6,000) and through its own resources (£4,920). Upon completion of the project, ownership of the port-a-cabin will transfer to TIDAL, who will be responsible for its running costs, insurance and maintenance. In order to transfer the asset without breaching the Terms and Conditions of funding, Council will enter into a Development Agreement with TIDAL to ensure that the asset is used for the purpose intended for a period of at least 7 years.

RECOMMENDATION: that

- a) The Council provides match funding of £1,500 towards the purchase and installation of a port-a-cabin in Toome, as part of its application to GROW South Antrim for Village Renewal Funding, provision for which is available through the Economic Development budget;**
- b) Ownership of the port-a-cabin be transferred to TIDAL after completion of the project, and Council enter into a Development Agreement to ensure the asset is used for the purposed intended for a period of 7 years from the grant award.**

Prepared by: Emma Stubbs, Business Development Manager

Agreed by: Colin McCabrey, Head of Economic Development

Approved by: Majella McAlister, Deputy Chief Executive of Economic Growth

11.17 PT/CI/033 PERFORMANCE GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS 2021-23 (DRAFT)

Members are 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.

In response to the pandemic, the Council produced a Corporate Recovery Plan 2021-23 which was approved in August 2021. This serves to ensure the recovery of our services and meets the requirements of our statutory duties.

Members will know that the Council normally produces an annual Corporate Improvement Plan, however, given the uncertainty in the short term about recovery, we are unable to set targets for improvement. Members have agreed that we will measure and monitor the performance of the corporate indicators as set out in the Corporate Recovery Plan 2021-23 (enclosed). The adoption of this approach has been approved by Elected Members and communicated to the Department for Communities and the Northern Ireland Audit Office.

To demonstrate compliance with the regulations, governance arrangements to support the delivery of the Recovery Plan are enclosed for Members' review. Members are advised that these were reviewed by the Audit Committee on 21 September 2021.

RECOMMENDATION: that the Performance Governance Arrangements 2021-23 are approved.

Prepared by: James Porter, Performance and Transformation Officer

Agreed by: Helen Hall, Head of Performance and Transformation

Approved by: Sandra Cole, Deputy Chief Executive of Finance and Governance

11.18 CP/CD/426 PILOT CHRISTMAS COMMUNITY TOY SCHEME 2021

Members are reminded that an update on the School Uniform Scheme was reported to the Community Planning Committee in September and it was agreed to continue the scheme in 2022. As a development of this it is proposed to pilot a Christmas Community Toy Scheme in the Borough for Christmas 2021.

There are already a number of Christmas Toy Schemes that take place across the Borough mainly linked with church organisations. Best practice from these schemes will be adopted into a Council supported scheme.

Three community organisations out of the eleven who participated in the School Uniform Scheme have expressed an interest in delivering a Christmas Toy Scheme in 2021 with Council support:

- Listening Ear (Macedon);
- Fit moms and kids (Glengormley);
- A safe space to be me (Airport).

To support these local organisations providing this service a grant of £500 can be made available through the Tackling Deprivation Budget to each to purchase storage containers or other relevant items.

The pilot Scheme if approved, will be evaluated upon completion with a report brought back to a future meeting outlining outcomes and recommendations.

Members are further reminded that a Pre-loved Christmas Toy Collection Pilot ran in December 2020 through the Waste Management Department. The Council, in partnership with local charity, Habitat for Humanity, provided collection points at each of the five Household Recycling Centres in the Borough for the donation of pre-loved toys for families at Christmas. It is intended that this scheme will continue in Christmas 2021. Waste Management and Community Planning Teams will work closely to align delivery and promotion of both schemes for 2021.

RECOMMENDATION: that

- (a) the delivery of a pilot Christmas Community Toy Scheme 2021 be approved with £500 provided to each group to support delivery in Airport, Macedon and Glengormley;**
- (b) if any other community organisations express an interest then the Council will facilitate this;**
- (c) an evaluation of the pilot will be carried out with a report outlining outcomes and recommendations brought back to a future meeting;**
- (d) Community Planning and Waste Management work in partnership to promote and deliver both Community and Recycling Centre based toy collection schemes.**

Prepared by: Stefanie Buchanan, Tackling Deprivation Co-Ordinator

Agreed by: Ronan McKenna, Head of Community Planning (Interim)

Approved by: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

11.19 AC/THB/8 BALLYCLARE TOWN HALL - REQUEST FOR AN ALCOHOL LICENCE

Members are advised that Ballyclare Protestant Boys Flute Band have made an application to hire Ballyclare Town Hall on Saturday 2 October 2021 for a concert and culture evening. In addition, they have requested permission to apply for a licence to sell alcohol at this event. The current terms and conditions of hire for the Town Hall state the following in relation to alcohol:

- Alcohol is not permitted on the premises without prior consent from the Council.
- If a group wish to sell alcohol then they must seek the Councils permission to apply for a licence to do this.

Members are advised that due to COVID-19 no event took place in 2020, however a number of previous requests to the Council seeking permission to serve and sell alcohol at functions were approved, the most recent being a request in July 2019 for two separate private functions to serve alcohol.

Members are advised that permission for Ballyclare Protestant Boys Flute Band to sell alcohol at an event on 13 October 2018, was approved by the Community Planning and Regeneration Committee in September 2018. Prior to this permission was given for Young's Temperance True Blues LOL 957 to apply for an alcohol licence to sell alcohol at their 125 year anniversary dinner in November 2017.

Ballyclare Protestant Boys Flute Band will work with Officers to develop a risk assessment with COVID secure measures for this event.

RECOMMENDATION: that permission for Ballyclare Protestant Flute Band to apply for an alcohol licence for their Ballyclare Town Hall concert be given.

Prepared by: Jenna Collier, Theatre Bookings, Conferencing and Events Manager

Approved by: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

11.20 CP/CD/427 CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION EVENTS FUND 2021

Members are reminded that Council approved a Christmas Celebration Events Fund in February 2018 to assist groups that may wish to develop and deliver Christmas Celebration events in the absence of a Council installed Christmas tree and associated switch on ceremony. The total budget allocated to the fund for 2021 is £14,000 and groups across the Borough were invited to apply.

Under this fund the Council provides financial assistance of up to £500 per group with no match funding required and for groups wishing to organise a larger scale event a maximum ceiling of £1,000 will be available if the group can secure match funding for the additional £500 (or smaller amount) on a pound for pound basis. The closing date for receipt of completed applications was Wednesday 8 September 2021 and the total number of applications received was eleven.

Following assessment, the total amount requested from the 11 applications is £7,350 all of which is recommended for funding, subject to the receipt of all relevant supporting documentation and legislative requirements, as detailed in the table below:

Group Name	DEA	Event Details	Total Cost	Match Funding Secured	Total Recommended
Ballyduff Community Regeneration Group	Threemilewater	Christmas tree light switch on, Santa's Grotto, Kids Disco in Ballyduff Community Centre	£1,500.00	£500.00	£1,000.00
Ballynure & District Community Association	Ballyclare	Christmas Celebration Event	£950.00	£150.00	£650.00
Ballyrobert Village Committee	Ballyclare	Christmas Tree Light Switch-on to include Community Carol Service & Celebration Event	£1,970.00	£1,420.00	£550.00
Burnside and District	Ballyclare	Christmas Light Switch on Event	£680.00	£180.00	£500.00

Group Name	DEA	Event Details	Total Cost	Match Funding Secured	Total Recommended
Community Group					
CORE New Mossley	Threemilewater	Provision of Santa's Grotto within estate	£500.00	£0.00	£500.00
Doagh Cultural Society	Ballyclare	Christmas Tree Light Switch-on to include Community Carol Service & Celebration Event	£1,500.00	£500.00	£1,000.00
Parkgate and District Community Group	Dunsilly	Provision of a Christmas Tree & Light Switch-on event	£850.00	£200.00	£650.00
Mallusk Community Action Group	Airport	Christmas Tree Light Switch-on to include Community Carol Service & Celebration Event	£ 1,005.00	£505.00	£500.00
Straid Village and District Community Group	Ballyclare	Christmas Celebration Event to include light switch-on, Santa Trail, Community Carol singing & Children's party	£700.00	£200.00	£ 500.00
Templepatrick Action Community Association	Airport	Provision of Christmas Tree & Lighting	£500.00	£0.00	£500.00
TIDAL	Dunsilly	Christmas	£1,500.00	£500.00	£1,000.00

Group Name	DEA	Event Details	Total Cost	Match Funding Secured	Total Recommended
		Lights Switch-on Event			
TOTAL			£11,655.00	£4,155.00	£7,350.00

Members are advised that some groups currently apply under the Community Festivals Fund Programme for Christmas activities. Should groups be successful under this programme it was agreed, in February 2018, that such groups would not be eligible to apply under this fund.

RECOMMENDATION: that

(a) the Christmas Celebration grants outlined be approved at a cost of £7,350;

(b) the underspend of £6,650 be transferred to the Senior Citizens Christmas Event Fund.

Prepared by: Jonathan Henderson, Community Services Co-ordinator

Agreed by: Ronan McKenna, Head of Community Planning (Interim)

Approved by: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

11.21 HR/GEN/034 UNIVERSAL BASIC INCOME LAB NORTHERN IRELAND

Members are reminded that the following Motion, brought by Councillors Webb and Foster was agreed at the November 2020 Council meeting:

'This Council is concerned about the impact the economic crisis, caused by the coronavirus pandemic, is having on our residents and recognises the need for a reformed fairer welfare system that gives protection to everyone in our community. The Council recognises the necessity to provide economic security for all, and the need for invest in people to protect livelihoods, and also to help kickstart the economy.

Therefore the Council calls on the Department for Communities, the Department of Finance and the UK Treasury to design and deliver a recovery Universal Basic Income (UBI) for Northern Ireland.

Additionally, this Council supports in principle the investigation by the Treasury and the NI Executive of a full permanent UBI for Northern Ireland, recognising the need for a radical overhaul of the welfare system and the positive impact this would have on poverty alleviation, inequality and mental health'.

At the February 2021 Council Meeting members were advised that UBI LAB NI was inviting 2 representatives of the Council to join this new steering group, working toward the planning and delivery of UBI trials in NI. It was agreed that Alderman Smyth and Councillor Finlay be nominated to join the Steering Group along with the appropriate Officer.

UBI LAB Northern Ireland is a regional steering group whose primary aim is to deliver a feasibility study into how a UBI trial in Northern Ireland might work. The Group is co-ordinated by the UBI LAB Network, a global UBI advocacy movement with a regional Northern Ireland Group. Membership of the Group includes Elected Members and Officers from 5 of the 11 Councils as well as Advice NI, the Participation and Practice of Rights (PPR) Project and Community Foundation NI.

The Group has had three meetings since its establishment and has submitted a report (copy **enclosed**) which is proposing that a feasibility study be carried out which will evaluate the impact and delivery of UBI trials and the viability and cost of a Northern Ireland wide UBI.

This study would build upon the comprehensive Council led feasibility study in Scotland, published in 2020 and similar work is currently underway in Wales and Republic of Ireland.

The feasibility study proposed by the NI UBI Steering Group is unique in that it advocates for UBI as a 'Peace Dividend' arguing that it could aid conflict transformation in a past conflict society in Northern Ireland. UBI LAB propose that UBI framed in this way could have positive mental health outcomes, reduce paramilitarism, improve community relations and in particular increase opportunities for young people.

The total cost of the study has been calculated as £95,800 with the Group having secured one fifth of this. They are now seeking support for the remainder of the funding and have requested that Council consider provision of £15,000 towards this.

The main benefit of the study is the eventual delivery of a UBI trial in the Borough and a number of benefits for the Council in supporting the study are listed on page 4 of the enclosure. It is proposed that the Council provides £15,000 support to UBI LAB for a feasibility study to be carried out into the potential impact of UBI. The outcome of the study will be reported back to a future meeting.

RECOMMENDATION: that a contribution of £15,000 be made to support UBI LAB NI for a feasibility study into potential impact of UBI be approved, subject to all of the 11 Councils contributing.

Approved by: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

11.22 PT/CI/029 2020-21 ANNUAL SELF-ASSESSMENT REPORT ON PERFORMANCE

Members are reminded that under Part 12 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014, Section 92(2)(b)(i) & (ii) of the Act requires the Council to publish an assessment of its performance for 2021-21.

Members are advised that a final draft of the Annual Self-Assessment Report on Performance 2020-21 was reviewed by the Audit Committee on 21 September 2021 and is enclosed for Members' attention.

This report provides an assessment of the Council's performance for 2020-21 in relation to its statutory performance indicators and self-imposed indicators for prompt payment and attendance. In line with the legislation, it includes a comparison of performance against previous financial years and where possible, benchmarked against other Councils.

RECOMMENDATION: that the 2020-21 Annual Self-Assessment Report on Performance (Final Draft) is approved.

Prepared by: James Porter, Performance and Transformation Officer

Agreed by: Helen Hall, Head of Performance and Transformation

Approved by: Sandra Cole, Deputy Chief Executive of Finance and Governance

11.23 CP/CD/428 SENIOR CITIZEN'S CHRISTMAS FESTIVITY PROGRAMME 2021

Members are advised that a call for applications to this programme opened on 23 August 2021 with a closing date of 8 September 2021. A budget of £16,000 is available with a maximum of £500 per application.

A total of 54 applications were received and assessed by a panel of Officers. The total amount requested is £25,848.00. A summary of the applications is **enclosed** for Members' information. Following assessment 52 applications totalling £24,086.50 meet the criteria leaving a funding shortfall of £8,086.50

There is a potential saving from the Christmas Celebration Events Fund of £6,650, which can be used with the remaining £1,436.50 to be allocated from Community Planning budget underspends.

RECOMMENDATION: that

- (a) the Senior Citizens Christmas Event grants be approved at a cost of £24,086.50;**
- (b) the budget shortfall of £8,086.50 be funded by other departmental underspends**

Prepared by: Jonathan Henderson, Community Services Co-ordinator

Agreed by: Ronan McKenna, Head of Community Planning (Interim)

Approved by: Ursula Fay, Director of Community Planning

12 ITEMS FOR NOTING

12.1 HR/ER/002/Vol 2 CORRESPONDENCE FROM LOCAL GOVERNMENT STAFF COMMISSION

Members will recall that correspondence from the Local Government Staff Commission was considered at the July Council Meeting and a letter (**enclosed**) was sent requesting more time to allow Council to make an informed decision.

The Commission has now responded (**enclosed**) and advised that at its meeting on 24 August 2021, it was agreed that it would proceed with the development of the governance arrangements around the re-establishment of the Regional Negotiating Machinery and that this will be done in partnership and consultation with all the key Stakeholders. The Commission anticipates that it will be in contact with all stakeholders by the end of September to give them an opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed way forward.

RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.

Prepared by: Member Services

Approved by: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

12.2 G/MSMO/008 (Vol 3) CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE SAFEGUARDING BOARD FOR NORTHERN IRELAND (MEMBERSHIP, PROCEDURES, FUNCTIONS AND COMMITTEE) REGULATIONS (NI) 2012

Correspondence (**enclosed**) has been received from the Department of Health advising that a public consultation on proposed amendments to the Safeguarding Board for Northern Ireland (Membership, Procedures, Functions and Committee) Regulations (NI) 2012 opened on 16 September 2021 and closes at midnight on Thursday, 11 November 2021.

Full details of the consultation are available at <https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/doh-social-services-policy-group/proposed-sbni-regulations-amendments/>. A copy of the document can also be requested from fcpdadmin@health-ni.gov.uk.

RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.

Prepared by: Member Services

Approved by: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

12.3 CE/OA/013 NORTHERN IRELAND HOUSING COUNCIL

As agreed at the August 2019 meeting of the Council, the Northern Ireland Housing Council's September 2021 monthly bulletin is enclosed for Members' information. A copy of the minutes of the Housing Council meeting on 12 August are also enclosed.

RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.

Prepared by: Member Services

Approved by: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

12.4 FI/FIN/4 BUDGET REPORT – AUGUST 2021 PERIOD 5

A budget report for August 2021 – Period 5 is enclosed for Members' information.

The Council's financial position at the end of August 2021 shows a favourable variance of £594k before exceptional costs.

Including exceptional severance costs of £116k, COVID-19 costs of £294k and government grant income of £355k, the Council's overall position is £539k favourable.

A COVID Losses Reserve was established at March 2021 to offset future operational losses. This will be applied as required during the course of the 2021/22 financial year.

RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.

Prepared by: Richard Murray, Head of Finance (interim)

Agreed by: John Balmer, Deputy Director of Finance and Capital (interim)

Approved by: Sandra Cole, Deputy Chief Executive of Finance & Governance (Interim)

12.5 G/MSMO/008 (VOL 3) DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH - ADVANCE CARE PLANNING POLICY PUBLIC MESSAGING WORKSHOP & DRAFT ENGAGEMENT REPORT

Correspondence (**enclosed**) has been received from the Department of Health with an update on the engagements, an invite to the Public Messaging Workshop (as previously circulated) and a copy of the draft Report on Early Stakeholder Engagement (**enclosed**).

RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.

Prepared by: Member Services

Approved by: Jacqui Dixon, Chief Executive

**12.6 P/FP/LDP/062 INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION OF ANTRIM & NEWTOWNABBEY
BOROUGH COUNCIL LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN: PLAN STRATEGY**

Correspondence has been received from the Department for Infrastructure (enclosed) advising the Planning Appeals Commission has been appointed to conduct an Independent Examination of the Council's Local Development Plan Strategy.

RECOMMENDATION: that the report be noted.

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

12.7 ED/TOU/073 TOURISM NI PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

In July 2021 Members approved submission of a funding application to Tourism NI's Regional Product Development Programme. The funding application was submitted on 6 August 2021 and Officers have received a funding offer from Tourism NI of £227,000. The successful elements of the application were:

Activity	Description	Cost
Trails	Bespoke virtual reality seasonal trails generating 3,000 visitors by 31 st March 2022 and £10,000 visitor spend.	£20,000
Attracting Visitors	Virtual Reality introduction to Lough Neagh at the Gateway building upon 'Protector of the Lough', generating £10,000 in visitor spend by 31 st March 2022.	£75,000
Experience Development	Supporting Tourism Providers to help develop ten taster sessions by 28 th Feb 2022, generating 1,000 visitors by the end of March 2022.	£15,000
Food Initiative	A Restaurant Month supporting 35 hospitality businesses by the 7 th January 2022. Increasing visitor numbers by 1,500 and attracting £30,000 spend by 31 st March 2022.	£50,000
Festivals	Halloween Harvest Festival generating 50,000 visitors over 10 days by 31 st March 2022 generating £32,500 local revenue.	£13,000
Tours (Guided)	12 guided tours of Antrim Castle Gardens with 10 participants on each tour.	£10,000
Tours (Coach)	Five Lough Neagh Bastions and guided bounty tours with 25 passengers on each.	£5,000
Taster Sessions	Local tourism cluster experiences and taster sessions. This element links to DAERA Cluster Funding.	£5,000
Consultancy Support	Consultancy support to assist with the achievement of the projects detailed above.	£34,000
	TOTAL:	£227,000

The deadline for completion of the projects listed above is 31 March 2022.

RECOMMENDATION: that Members note the funding and intended projects for implementation by 31 March 2022.

Prepared and Agreed by: Colin McCabrey, Head of Economic Development

Approved by: Majella McAlister, Deputy Chief Executive of Economic Growth

12.8 ED/ED/140 GROW SOUTH ANTRIM LOCAL ACTION GROUP MINUTES

Meetings of the GROW South Antrim Local Action Group were held on Friday 11 December 2020, Friday 19 March and Friday 25 June 2021.

The minutes recorded at each of the meetings are **enclosed**. Members should note that some commercial business details have been redacted in line with operational requirements.

RECOMMENDATION: that the minutes of the GROW South Antrim Local Action Group Meetings be noted.

Agreed by: Colin McCabrey, Head of Economic Development

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