

Meeting Pack

Derry City and Strabane District Council

Dear Member of Derry City and Strabane District Council

You are hereby summoned to attend the **Monthly Meeting of the Derry City and Strabane District Council** to be held in the Guildhall, Derry, on Thursday 22 February 2018 at 4.00 pm

Yours faithfully



**John Kelpie
Chief Executive**

AGENDA

- 1 Notice and Summons of Meeting**
- 2 Webcasting Notice**
- 3 Member Attendance and Apologies**
- 4 Declarations of Members' Interests**

Open for Decision

- 5 Chairperson's Business**
- 6 Confirmation of the Open Minutes of the Meeting of the Derry City and Strabane District Council held on Thursday 25 January 2018 (Pages 1 - 18)**
- 7 Matters Arising**
- 8 Confirmation of the Open Minutes of the Special Meeting of Derry City and Strabane District Council held on Monday 5 February 2018 (Pages 19 - 30)**
- 9 Adoption of the Open Minutes of the following Committees**

- a Monthly Governance and Strategic Planning Committee held on Tuesday 30 January 2018** (Pages 31 - 42)
- b Monthly Planning Committee held on Wednesday 31 January 2018** (Pages 43 - 56)
- c Monthly Assurance, Audit and Risk Committee held on Thursday 1 February 2018** (Pages 57 - 60)
- d Monthly Business and Culture Committee held on Tuesday 6 February 2018** (Pages 61 - 70)
- e Monthly Environment and Regeneration Committee held on Wednesday 7 February 2018** (Pages 71 - 80)
- f Monthly Health and Community Committee held on Thursday 8 February 2018** (Pages 81 - 98)
- g Minutes of the Special Planning Committee Held on Tuesday 13 February 2018** (Pages 99 - 104)

10 Notices of Motion

Councillor Logue to Move:

This Council sends our condolences and solidarity to the families of Raychel Ferguson, Conor Mitchell, Claire Roberts, Adam Strain and Lucy Crawford following the publication of the report of the Inquiry into Hyponatraemia-related Deaths;

this Council states that we fully and wholeheartedly support Raychel's Law - the demand for a Statutory Duty of Candour in honour of those children who have died as a result of Hyponatraemia:

and we instruct Council to write to the Department of Health and urge it to begin proceedings that will introduce a Statutory Duty of Candour.

Go gcuireann An Chomhairle seo comhbhrón agus dlúthpháirtíocht chuig muintir Raychel Ferguson, Conor Mitchell, Claire Roberts, Adam Strain agus Lucy Crawford tar éis phoibliú na tuairisce den Fhiosrúchán faoi Bhásanna atá bainteach le Hyponatraemia;

Is mian leis An Chomhairle seo a dhearbhu go dtacaíonn muid go huile agus go hiomlán le Dlí Raychel - an t-éileamh ar Dhualgas Reachtúil Ionracais in ónóir na bpáistí a d'éag mar thoradh ar Hyponatraemia.

Agus treoraíonn muid don Chomhairle scríobh chuig an Roinn Sláinte agus í a ghriosadh tú a chur le himeachtaí a thabharfaidh Dualgas Reachtúil Ionracais isteach.

Councillor Cusack to Move:

This Council recognises the impact that the changes to the 'Support for Mortgage Interest' (SMI) scheme will have on hardworking, low income families in our City and District who will face increased financial hardship due to the upcoming change in the SMI scheme from a benefit to a loan;

further recognises that this change will punish those who own their own home, including those who were actively encouraged by the British Conservative Government to buy their own homes during the crash;

is concerned that the conditions of this loan will cause people to get into unmanageable debt and is self-defeating in that it could cause people to lose their homes, and in turn possibly become more reliant on the state and on social housing;

and calls on the Department for Work and Pensions to urgently review this decision, as well as its financial impact and validity before the changes are made in April.

Councillor Tierney to Move:

This Council recognises the value of Neighbourhood Renewal as a flagship programme to tackle poverty and disadvantage; further recognises the contribution that Neighbourhood Renewal projects make to our most disadvantaged communities across this Council area; expresses concern at the proposed 11% cut to Neighbourhood Renewal budgets for the financial year 2018/19; and calls on the Department for Communities to protect the existing budgets for these valuable projects.

Councillor Carlin to Move:

That this Council recognises the pioneering scientific discoveries and ground breaking achievements of Strabane native, Annie (Russell) Maunder, Astronomer, who was born 150 years ago on 14 April 1868, and that we liaise with local schools and the Armagh Planetarium and Observatory to develop an appropriate programme of events to commemorate and celebrate her life and work during April 2018.

go n-aithníonn an Chomhairle seo na fionnachtana ceannródaíocha eolaíocha agus na héachtaí nuálacha a rinne Annie (Russell) Maunder, Réalteolaí, arb as an tSraith Bán ó dhúchas di, agus a rugadh 150 bliain ó shin ar an 14 Aibreán 1868; agus gur chóir dúinn comhoibriú le scoileanna áitiúla agus le Pláinéadlann agus Réadlann Ard Mhacha chun clár imeachtaí a chur le chéile chun a saol agus a saothar a chomóradh agus a cheiliúradh le linn mhí Aibreáin 2018.

Councillor Gardiner to Move:

Given the recent failure of the SF/DUP talks and the urgent requirement for proper governance in Northern Ireland, which reflects the requirements, cultures and aspirations of our diverse communities, Council calls on both the Irish and British Governments to immediately convene the British - Irish Intergovernmental Conference in the absence of a functioning Executive and Assembly; and further calls on the Irish and British Governments to strengthen the implementation and workings of institutions under Strands 2 and 3 of the Good Friday Agreement.

Open for Information

11 Correspondence (Pages 105 - 108)

12 Seal (Pages 109 - 110)

15 February 2018

Derry City and Strabane District Council

Minutes of Monthly Meeting of Derry City and Strabane District Council held in the Chamber, Guildhall, Derry on Thursday 25 January 2018 at 4.00pm.

Present:- Councillor M McHugh (Mayor)(In the Chair); Aldermen Bresland, Devenney, M Hamilton, R Hamilton, Hussey, Kerrigan, McClintock, Ramsey and Warke; Councillors Boyle, Campbell, Carlin, Carr, Cooper, Cusack, Dobbins, Donnelly, Duffy, Fleming, Gallagher, Gardiner, Hassan, Hastings, Jackson, C Kelly, D Kelly, Logue, McGinley, R McHugh, McKeever, McKnight, McMahon, O'Reilly, Reilly, Robinson and Tierney.

In Attendance:- Chief Executive (Mr J Kelpie), Director of Business and Culture (Mr S Gillespie), Director of Environment and Regeneration (Mrs K Phillips), Director of Health and Community (Mrs K McFarland), Lead Legal Services Officer (Mr P Kingston), Lead Democratic Services and Improvement Officer (Ms E Cavanagh), Democratic Services Officer (Mrs S Maxwell) and Committee Services Assistant (Mrs T Johnstone).

C01/18 Notice and Summons of Meeting

The Mayor read the Notice and Summons for the Meeting.

C02/18 Member Attendance and Apologies

Apologies were received from Alderman Thompson and Councillors P Kelly and McGuire.

C03/18 Webcast Announcement by the Mayor

The Mayor read the Webcast Announcement for the Meeting.

C04/18 Declaration of Members Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

Open for Decision

Chairpersons Business

C05/18 Dog Attack

The Mayor sent good wishes and a speedy recovery to a Council employee who had recently been seriously injured by a dog whilst carrying out his duties. He stated that dog owners had a responsibility to ensure that their dogs were secured to prevent a repeat of this terrible incident.

Alderman Warke reported that he had visited the employee who had suffered serious injuries. He stated that his thoughts were with the employee and his family.

The comments were echoed by all parties in the Chamber, who further stated that the employee had possibly suffered life changing injuries due to the vicious attack. They added that whilst dogs make good pets they were also unpredictable and that there had been an increase in these type of incidents. They stated that there was a dog warden service within Council and if anyone was aware of dangerous or stray dogs in their area they should contact Council accordingly.

C06/18 Agenda Item 13 – Special Meeting of Derry City and Strabane District Council held on 8 January 2018

Alderman McClintock proposed that the second part of the minutes in Agenda Item 13 – Special Meeting of Derry City and Strabane District Council held on 8 January 2018, be discussed in open business. She stated that the item could not be brought into open business at the meeting as Members were not aware that the item was being presented. She stated that it was her understanding that all matters were discussed in open business unless there was a particular reason to the contrary.

Alderman McClintock Proposed, Seconded by Alderman Ramsey

That Agenda item SC4/18 Nomination to attend the Buckingham Palace Garden Party from the minutes of the Special Meeting of Derry City and Strabane District Council held on 8 January 2018, be brought into open business for discussion

After voting by a show of hands the result was unanimous and the Council

Resolved That agenda item SC4/18 Nomination to attend the Buckingham Palace Garden Party from the minutes of the Special Meeting of Derry City and Strabane District Council held on 8 January 2018, be brought into open business for discussion

C07/18 Confirmation of the Open Minutes of the Meeting of the Derry City and Strabane District Council held in Thursday 14 December 2017

The Minutes of the Open Meeting of Derry City and Strabane District Council held on 14 December 2017 (C347/17-C368/17) were submitted.

Councillor Hastings Moved, Alderman Hussey Seconded and the Council.

Resolved that the above Minutes be adopted as a true record of the Meeting

Matters Arising

C08/18 Growth Deal/City Deal (C354/17)

Alderman McClintock stated that she welcomed all efforts to progress the City Deal and asked for an update regarding recent meetings held at Westminster and with Arlene Foster MLA.

Alderman Hussey stated that Members had agreed to invite ministerial representation to Council to discuss the matter and asked if there had been any indication when this would take place as correspondence had been received confirming their willingness to meet with Members.

Councillor Reilly stated that the Secretary of State had been recently interviewed on local radio and stated that a growth deal could only happen if the Northern Ireland Executive Assembly was re-established.

In response, the Chief Executive stated that a full report had been presented at the Governance and Strategic Planning Committee meeting held on 9 January 2018, which included an update on all correspondence that had been sent regarding City Deal. He stated that correspondence had also been sent to the Minister for the Department of Communities and Local Government, the Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP with no response received. However, Council representatives had attended a meeting with Minister Javid at Westminster where a robust case was put forward for a City Deal for the City and District. He reported that a range of stakeholders from the City and District had attended the meeting which was very well received and the Minister undertook to consider the matter with cabinet colleagues and the Prime Minister. He stated that he would provide Members with a report on the outcome of the meeting. He advised Members that correspondence had also been sent to the Secretary of State, James Brokenshire to request a meeting. However, he had been replaced by the new Secretary of State, Karen

Bradley and the correspondence had been passed to her together with a further letter which reminded her that the previous Secretary of State had been requested to come to the City and District to discuss the matter.

C09/18 Notice of Motion – US Presidents Decision to Name Jerusalem as Capital of Israel (C366/17)

Alderman McClintock stated that she had raised an issue regarding Motions with a report to be presented at the relevant committee. She enquired if there had been any update on the matter.

In response, the Lead Legal Services Officer stated that a report would be brought to a future Governance and Strategic Planning Committee meeting.

C10/18 Confirmation of the Open Minutes of the Special Meeting of Derry City and Strabane District Council held on Thursday 14 December 2017

The Open Minutes of the special Meeting of Derry City and Strabane District Council held on Thursday 14 December 2017 (SC36/17 – SC38/17) were submitted.

On a point of accuracy, Alderman R Hamilton stated that her attendance at the meeting was not recorded.

It was agreed that the Minutes would be amended accordingly.

Subsequently Alderman Kerrigan Moved, Councillor Jackson Seconded and the Council

Resolved that the above Minutes, as amended be adopted as a true record of the meeting

Matters Arising from the Minutes

C11/18 Flooding Incident Response (SC38/17)

Councillor Reilly stated that since the meeting, the relevant agencies would be holding a public meeting for those affected by the incident. He enquired if any confirmation had been received regarding the date and location for the meeting, as Elected Members would be keen to attend.

In response, the Chief Executive stated that no information had been received on the matter. However, he confirmed that the agencies had

advised on air that a public meeting would take place. He stated that the relevant agencies would be contacted on the matter and any information received would be distributed to Members.

C12/18 Special Planning Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 20 December 2017

The Minutes of the Special Planning Committee held on 20 December 2017 (P08/17 – P14/17) were submitted.

Councillor R Mc Hugh Moved, Councillor Jackson Seconded and the Council

Resolved that the above minutes be adopted as a true record of the Meeting

C13/18 Monthly Governance and Strategic Planning Committee held on Tuesday 9 January 2018

The Minutes of the Governance and Strategic Planning Committee held on 9 January 2018 (GSP1/18-GSP20/18) were submitted.

Councillor McKnight Moved, Councillor McMahon Seconded and the Council

Resolved that the above minutes be adopted as a true record of the meeting

Matters Arising from the Minutes

C14/18 Motion on Naming of Brandywell Stadium and Other Council Assets (GSP12/18)

Alderman McClintock advised that she will represent the DUP on the working group.

C15/18 Monthly Planning Committee held on Wednesday 10 January 2018

The Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 10 January 2017 (P01/18- P15/18) were submitted.

Councillor Hassan Moved, Seconded by Alderman Bresland and the Council

Resolved that the above minutes be adopted as a true record of the Meeting

C16/18 Monthly Assurance, Audit and Risk Committee held on Tuesday 11 January 2018

The Minutes of the Assurance, Audit and Risk Committee held on Tuesday 11 January 2018 (AAR1/18- AAR13/18) were submitted.

Councillor Duffy Moved, Seconded by Councillor McMahon and the Council

Resolved that the above minutes be adopted as a true record of the Meeting

C17/18 Monthly Business and Culture Committee held on Tuesday 16 January 2018

The Minutes of the Business and Culture Committee held on Tuesday 16 January 2018 (BC01/18 – BC19/18) were submitted.

Councillor McKnight Moved, Seconded by Alderman R Hamilton and the Council

Resolved that the above minutes be adopted as a true record of the Meeting

Matters Arising from the minutes

C18/18 Cultural Grant Aid Programme (BC11/18)

Councillor McKnight referred to the wide range of events scheduled within the programme. She stated that International Women's Day would be celebrated on 8 March 2018 and enquired if there were any events planned, especially as it was also the centenary of women being allowed to vote.

The Lead Democratic Services and Improvement Officer reported that a Mayoral reception was planned to mark the Representation of the People Act with the centenary of the Suffragette Movement to be showcased in the Tower Museum. She added that there will also be a public engagement event regarding a forthcoming exhibition in July to commemorate the suffragette Movement and the increased democratisation of the vote.

In response to Alderman Hussey's comment that the Representation of the People Act was passed on 6 February 1918, the Lead Democratic Services and Improvement Officer stated that the Mayor's protocol and press release for the events to mark the centenary was scheduled for that date.

C19/18 Closure of Ulster Bank Branches

Alderman Hussey stated that it was his understanding that the Business and Culture Directorate was facilitating a meeting with Elected Representatives from the Castlederg area and Ulster Bank officials. He expressed his thanks to everyone involved in arranging the meeting as it was important that the concerns raised by people from the Castlederg area were acknowledged.

**C20/17 Monthly Environment and Regeneration Committee held on
Wednesday 17 January 2018**

The Minutes of the Environment and Regeneration Committee held on 17 January 2018 (ER1/18 – ER19/18) were submitted.

On a point of accuracy, Alderman Hussey referred to ER12/18 Adoption of a Circular Economy/Zero Waste Strategy for Derry City and Strabane District Council. He stated that the second sentence be replaced with 'he requested that the potential for zero waste municipality be explored'.

It was agreed that the Minutes would be amended accordingly.

Councillor Dobbins Moved, Seconded by Alderman Warke and the Council

**Resolved that the above minutes as amended, be
adopted as a true record of the Meeting**

Matters Arising from the Minutes

**C21/18 Proposed Scoping of Regeneration Masterplan for the Former
Faughan Valley High School (ER14/18)**

Councillor Boyle congratulated Officers on all the work undertaken for the former Faughan Valley High School. He referred to lands at Duncreggan Road and Northland Road, currently owned by Foyle College and asked that a similar scoping exercise be carried out in regard to the expansion of the Magee Campus. He stated that the lands had enormous potential towards the expansion of the University. He further stated that it was Council's duty to engage with Ulster University at the earliest opportunity to ascertain their commitment to the development of Magee Campus and to also engage with the Education Authority and the Board of Governors at Foyle College.

Councillor Cooper reported that Karen Mullan MLA had written to the Board of Governors at Foyle College requesting a meeting on the

matter. She had also been in contact with the Permanent Secretary for the Department of Education regarding the future plans for the sites at Duncreggan and Northland Road. He added that Ulster University had been given preferred bidder status for the Duncreggan Road site and that it was ultimately the decision of the Board of Governors at Foyle College on how this would progress. He stated that Sinn Fein were to meet with the Governors and would then arrange to hold discussions with representatives from Ulster University.

Councillor Boyle stated that he appreciated that all Members had wished to contribute to the future development of Magee Campus. However, he stated that Council at the highest level, be involved in any discussions regarding the expansion of the University.

Councillor Boyle Proposed, Seconded by Councillor Cusack

That Council engages with Ulster University, the Education Authority and the Board of Governors at Foyle College at the highest level to ascertain the future use of lands available at Duncreggan Road and Northland Road, with a report to be brought to the relevant committee on the matter.

Councillor O'Reilly suggested that Council take an active role through the Community Planning process as it was important that other agencies were involved from the outset. He stated that it was vital to recognise the infrastructure in the area and also who would have the authority in relation to the lands at Duncreggan and Northland Road.

After voting with a show of hands the result was unanimous and Council

Resolved That Council engages with Ulster University, the Education Authority and the Board of Governors at Foyle College at the highest level to ascertain the future use of lands available at Duncreggan Road and Northland Road, with a report to be brought to the relevant committee on the matter.

C22/18 Monthly Health and Community Committee held on Thursday 18 January 2018

The Minutes of the Health and Community Committee held on Thursday 18 January 2018 (HC01/18-HC21/18) were submitted.

Councillor Hastings Moved, Seconded by Councillor R McHugh and the Council

Resolved that the above minutes be adopted as a true record of the Meeting

Matters Arising from the minutes

C23/18 Motion on Recent Increase in Shootings in Derry (HC14/18)

Councillor Gallagher referred to the recent statement by Óglaigh na hÉireann where they had declared a suspension of all armed actions with immediate effect which would have a positive impact on the City and District. He stated that the ceasefire came about as a result of positive dialogue through meaningful engagement with trade unions and various groups throughout the community.

In response to Alderman Hussey's understanding that the ceasefire referred to all actions against the British State, Councillor Gallagher indicated that he could not speak for the group but that according to reports the ceasefire referred to 'all actions'.

The Mayor stated that the announcement of all ceasefires throughout the City and District should be welcomed.

Alderman Devenney stated that he welcomed the news that the group were to engage in the democratic process. He further stated that he hoped they would be working in the same frame as Sinn Fein by leaving the guns and balaclava behind.

The Mayor stated that the news of the ceasefire should be appreciated.

C24/18 Nomination to attend the Buckingham Palace Garden Party from the Minutes of the Special Meeting of Derry City and Strabane District Council held on 8 January 2018 (SC4/18)

Alderman McClintock asked for clarification regarding the Motion which had been defeated at Council on 8 January 2018. She enquired if a decision had been reached or did the status quo apply.

The Mayor explained that the original motion proposed by Sinn Fein had fallen when the amendment had been carried. He stated that the amended motion then became the substantive motion and that Members had voted on the substantive motion and the motion fell.

The Chief Executive therefore clarified that no action would be taken on behalf of Council.

Aldermen McClintock and Hussey asked for legal clarification as the invitation should have gone through the normal procedures following the determination.

In response, the Chief Executive stated that a call-in had been received in respect of the decision that had been taken by Council at the Special Meeting on 8 January 2018. He specified that the call-in adhered to Standing Orders and sections 41(1a) and 41(1b) of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014, in that;

(a) the decision was not arrived at after a proper consideration of the relevant facts and issues. He stated that the signatories of the call-in believed that the protocols used by Derry City and Strabane District Council in the past had not been adhered to and that;

(b) the decision would disproportionately adversely affect any section of the inhabitants of the district. He stated that the signatories advised that the unionist community would feel they were being snubbed by the non-acceptance of the invitation in the district in which they were the minority.

He further stated that with respect to the call-in, the procedure was that a report would be brought to the next Council meeting in respect of 41(1a) with consideration given to the time required to seek the legal opinion. In respect of 41(1b) he advised that under Standing Orders the matter had been considered by the Chief Executive and that it did meet the threshold considered under the Standing Order and therefore would be reconsidered.

Councillor Gallagher advised in relation to 41(1b) that the Standing Orders did not define the groups in this matter and therefore this could not be successfully challenged. He added that this precedent had been set previously.

C25/18 Notice of Motion – Circular Economy/Zero Waste Strategy

The Mayor asked that this Motion be considered before the others as Councillor Dobbins had to leave the meeting early.

Councillor Dobbins Moved, Seconded by Councillor Hastings

That this Council recognises the impact that waste has on our environment, recently highlighted by David Attenborough in 'Blue Planet 2', further recognises the significant decrease in use of plastic bags since 2013, when the 5p charge for single use carrier bags was introduced, welcomes the adoption by Council of a circular economy/zero waste strategy, will develop a more robust strategy to tackle waste that includes achievable targets to make this Council a 'single-use-plastic-free' authority in the next five years and encourage other bodies to do the same, will end the sale and provision of single-use-plastic products such as bottles, cups, cutlery and straws in council buildings where possible.

The Motion on being put to the vote was carried unanimously.

Subsequently Councillor Dobbins Moved, Councillor Hastings Seconded and the Council

Resolved that this Council recognises the impact that waste has on our environment, recently highlighted by David Attenborough in 'Blue Planet 2', further recognises the significant decrease in use of plastic bags since 2013, when the 5p charge for single use carrier bags was introduced, welcomes the adoption by Council of a circular economy/zero waste strategy, will develop a more robust strategy to tackle waste that includes achievable targets to make this Council a 'single-use-plastic-free' authority in the next five years and encourage other bodies to do the same, will end the sale and provision of single-use-plastic products such as bottles, cups, cutlery and straws in council buildings where possible.

Councillor Dobbins left the Chamber at this point in the meeting.

C26/18 Notice of Motion – Bombardier Aerospace

Alderman Ramsey Moved, Councillor Boyle Seconded

That whereas this Council, Derry city and Strabane District Council, recognises the vital significance of Bombardier Aerospace, formerly Shorts, for the Northern Ireland economy, with four thousand three hundred workers directly employed and a further twenty thousand employed indirectly in the supply chain or through induced economy activity; we express our profound concern at the threat posed to these jobs by the recent projectionist judgements by the US International Trade Commission which effectively placed a 300% surcharge on the C series aircraft in an attempt to close the US market; it is resolved to express our full solidarity with the workforce and the company at this time of trial and propose to write directly to the Prime Minister Theresa May MP to request that the government make it known to Boeing that if they do not withdraw their case then they will be excluding themselves from the UK procurement opportunities both current and future; it is further resolved to write to the European Trade Commissioner to request an immediate escalation through existing trade dispute mechanisms.

The Motion on being put to the vote was carried unanimously.

Subsequently Alderman Ramsey Moved, Councillor Boyle Seconded and the Council

Resolved that whereas this Council, Derry city and Strabane District Council, recognises the vital significance of Bombardier Aerospace, formerly Shorts, for the Northern Ireland economy, with four thousand three hundred workers directly employed and a further twenty thousand employed indirectly in the supply chain or through induced economy activity; we express our profound concern at the threat posed to these jobs by the recent projectionist judgements by the US International Trade Commission which effectively placed a 300% surcharge on the C series aircraft in an attempt

to close the US market; it is resolved to express our full solidarity with the workforce and the company at this time of trial and propose to write directly to the Prime Minister Theresa May MP to request that the government make it known to Boeing that if they do not withdraw their case then they will be excluding themselves from the UK procurement opportunities both current and future; it is further resolved to write to the European Trade Commissioner to request an immediate escalation through existing trade dispute mechanisms.

C27/18 Notice of Motion – Ulster Medical School Business Case

Councillor Cooper Moved, Seconded by Councillor Fleming

That the development of a Medical School at Ulster University Magee is Phase 2 and a crucial element of the further expansion of the Magee Campus. This Council will write to the Permanent Secretary of the Department of Health to seek urgent sign off on the business case so that the deadline for the UCAS process of March 2018 can be met.

The Motion on being put to the vote was carried unanimously.

Subsequently Councillor Cooper Moved, Councillor Fleming Seconded and the Council

Resolved that the development of a Medical School at Ulster University Magee is Phase 2 and a crucial element of the further expansion of the Magee Campus. This Council will write to the Permanent Secretary of the Department of Health to seek urgent sign off on the business case so that the deadline for the UCAS process of March 2018 can be met.

C28/18 Notice of Motion – Irish Government Facilitation of European Capital City of Culture 2023 Bid

Councillor McKnight Moved, Councillor Logue Seconded

That following the EU Commission decision that the north of Ireland will no longer be eligible to have a host city as part of the European (Capital) City of Culture in 2023 after leaving the EU in 2019, this Council calls on the Irish Government to explore the possibility of them facilitating the entry of the Derry/Strabane and Belfast joint bid to the competition.

This Council will write to the Minister and Committee of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht in Dublin to request this.

Alderman Hussey stated that as a point of order he wished to challenge the validity of the Motion as the European Union only operated within sovereign governments and that under the Belfast Agreement the Government of the Republic gave up its territorial claims to Northern Ireland.

The Lead Legal Services Officer stated that the Motion was simply posing the question that a letter be written and that it was a matter for the member state to decide on what action to take. Therefore, there was no issue on the competency of the Motion.

The Motion on being put to the vote was declared carried their voting For 24; Against 9; Abstentions; 3.

Subsequently Councillor McKnight Moved, Councillor Logue Seconded and the Council

Resolved that following the EU Commission decision that the north of Ireland will no longer be eligible to have a host city as part of the European (Capital) City of Culture in 2023 after leaving the EU in 2019, this Council calls on the Irish Government to explore the possibility of them facilitating the entry of the Derry/Strabane and Belfast joint bid to the competition.

This Council will write to the Minister and Committee of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht in Dublin to request this.

C29/18 Notice of Motion - European Capital of Culture Bid 2023 Spending

Councillor Gallagher Moved, Seconded by Councillor Donnelly

That this Council place a moratorium on all financial spending with regards to the European Capital of Culture Bid 2023.

Councillor McKnight requested advice on the validity of the Motion. She enquired if the Motion was carried, would the hold on expenditure extend to postage stamps regarding the Motion that had just been passed by Council.

In response, the Chief Executive stated that minimal expenditure outlined by Councillor McKnight, would potentially not be taken into consideration.

The Motion on being put to the vote the result being as follows:

For 7; Against 20; Abstentions; 9.

The Motion therefore Fell.

C30/18 Notice of Motion – Health Service Concerns

Councillor Gardiner Moved, Seconded by Councillor Tierney.

That this Council is deeply concerned about the problems in our health service and the ever-growing pressures; recognises that without the heroic efforts of our health service staff these problems would be a whole lot worse; further recognises that with growing waiting lists and fewer nurses; there is no time to wait for action and there must be political movement; believes that the only way to deal with the challenges facing patients, doctors and nurses is to advance health service transformation; commits to writing to party leaders calling for political will and leadership and urging them to ensure healthcare is prioritised; further commits to writing to the Head of the Civil Service and the Permanent Secretary of the Department of Health raising the Councils concerns about workforce planning, waiting times and service.

The Motion on being put to the vote was carried unanimously.

Subsequently Councillor Gardiner Moved, Councillor Tierney Seconded and the Council

Resolved that this Council is deeply concerned about the problems in our health service and the ever-growing pressures; recognises that without the heroic efforts of our health service staff these problems would be a whole lot worse; further recognises that with growing waiting lists and fewer nurses; there is no time to wait for action and there must be political movement; believes that the only way to deal with the challenges facing patients, doctors and nurses is to advance health service transformation; commits to writing to party leaders calling for political will and leadership and urging them to ensure healthcare is prioritised; further commits to writing to the Head of the Civil Service and the Permanent Secretary of the Department of Health raising the councils concerns about workforce planning, waiting times and service.

C31/18 **Seal**

Alderman R Hamilton Moved, Councillor Boyle Seconded and the Council

Resolved that the seal of the Council be affixed to the following documents

Sealing List January 2018

Documents Sealed 21st December 2017

Contract in duplicate:- Belfast City Council In Partnership With Derry City and Strabane District Council with Enterprise Northern Ireland Limited relating to the Delivery of a City Start-up Programme.

Documents Sealed 25th January 2018

Grants of Right of Burial in Ballyoan Cemetery

Mrs Corinne Craig, 28 Ardlough Road, BT47 5SP

Mr Norman Sheppard, 13 Caw Close, BT47 6PD

Mr Tony McLaughlin, 37 Rossmore, Derry, BT47 5RS

Mr Victor Thomas, 21 Rushcroft Park, Derry, BT47 5WE

Mrs Catherine Fagan, 21 Fortwilliam Terrace, Derry, BT48 8DG

Grants of Right of Burial in City Cemetery

Mrs Geraldine Kelley, 13 Aberfoyle Crescent South, BT48 7PF
Ms Rhona Toland, 11 Joseph Place, Derry, BT48 6LH
Ms Mairead Robinson, 17 Gartan Square, Derry, BT48 9JB
Mrs Lilian McGilloway, 49 Liscloon Drive, Derry, BT48 8HT
Mrs Donna Robinson, 6 Old Mill Court, Letterkenny Road, Derry, BT48 9XG
Mr Danny Harrigan, 51 Liscloon Drive, Derry, BT48 8HT
Mrs Marie Dunne, 14 Lisowen Green, Buncrana, County Donegal
Ms Shauna McCartney, 51 Mount Vernon, Derry, BT48 8AG
Mrs Loretta Latimer, 8 Ewing Street, Derry, BT48 6TE
Mrs Susan Traynor, 8 Dunkeld Avenue, Derry, BT48 8DJ
Mr Michael Toland, 25 Sheriff's Road, Derry, BT48 0JS
Mrs Mary Hamilton, 15 Gleneagles, Derry, BT48 7TF
Mr James Lynch, 34 Grainan Drive, Derry, BT48 7TY
Mrs Sarah Harrigan, 60 Westway, Derry, BT48 9AP
Mr Michael McGlinchey, 4 Melmount Park, Strabane, County Tyrone
Mr Sean Concannon, 28 Jacqueline Way, Derry, BT48 9PQ
Mrs Kathleen Doherty, 101 Lisfannon Park, Derry, BT48 9DU
Mrs Teresa Curran, 49 Moyola Drive, Derry, BT48 7UB
Mrs Ursula Doherty, 88 Duncreggan Road, Derry, BT48 8TA
Mrs Ann-Marie Wilson, 9 Templetown Park, Derry, BT47 6TZ
Mr Stephen McCrudden, 11 Thistlewood Park, Derry, BT48 0NP

C32/18 Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 – Confidential Business

Councillor Hastings Moved, Alderman R Hamilton Seconded and the Council

- Resolved** that in accordance with Section 42, Sub Sections (2) or (4) of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014, the press and members of the public be asked to withdraw whilst the Council discuss the following matters:
- (a) Adoption of the Confidential Minutes of the Meeting of Derry City and Strabane District Council held on 14 December 2017;**
 - (b) Confirmation of the Confidential Minutes of the Special Meeting of Derry City and**

**Strabane District Council held on Monday 8
January 2018**

**(c) Adoption of the Confidential Minutes of the
following Committees**

- (i) Monthly Governance and Strategic
Planning Committee held on Tuesday
9 January 2018.**
- (ii) Monthly Planning committee held on
Wednesday 10 January 2018.**
- (iii) Monthly Business and Culture
Committee held on Tuesday 16
January 2018.**
- (iv) Monthly Environment and
regeneration Committee held on
Wednesday 17 January 2018.**
- (v) Monthly Health and community
Committee held on Thursday 18
January 2018.**

The Meeting then went into Confidential Business

The Meeting terminated at 6.15pm.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Derry City and Strabane District Council

Open Minutes of Special Meeting of Derry City and Strabane District Council held in the Council Chamber, Guildhall, Derry on Monday 5 February 2018 at 5.00pm.

Present: - Councillor M McHugh (in the Chair), Aldermen Bresland, Devenney, M Hamilton, R Hamilton, Hussey, Kerrigan, McClintock, Ramsey, Thompson and Warke; Councillors Boyle, Campbell, Carlin, Carr, Cooper, Cusack, Donnelly, Duffy, Fleming, Gallagher, Hassan, Hastings, Jackson, C Kelly, D Kelly, P Kelly, Logue, McGinley, McGuire, R McHugh, McKnight, McMahan, O'Reilly, Reilly, Robinson and Tierney.

In Attendance: - Chief Executive (Mr J Kelpie), Director of Health and Community (Mrs K McFarland), Director of Environment and Regeneration (Mrs K Phillips) Lead Finance Officer (Mr A Dallas), Lead Legal Services Officer (Mr P Kingston), Lead Democratic Services and Improvement Officer (Ms E Cavanagh), Director of Business and Culture (Mr S Gillespie) and Committee Services Assistants (Miss L Bell and Ms N Meehan).

SC15/18 Notice and Summons for Meeting

The Chief Executive read the Notice and Summons for the Meeting.

SC16/18 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors Dobbins, Gardiner and McKeever.

SC17/18 Declarations of Members Interests

There were no declarations of interest from Members.

SC18/18 Suspension of Standing Orders

Councillor Gallagher proposed a suspension of Standing Orders, to allow Council to discuss the alleged ban on the use of the Tricolour at the Saint Patrick's Day celebration in Strabane, as this issue had caused great distress and harm to community relations within the town.

Councillor Gallagher moved, Seconded by Councillor Donnelly

That Standing Orders be suspended to allow discussion on an alleged ban on the use of the Tricolour at the Saint Patrick's Day celebration in Strabane.

The Outcome of the vote was as follows; For 13, Against 26.

The proposal on being put to vote was therefore declared lost.

The Mayor indicated that the matter could be discussed at the end of the meeting.

Open for Decision

SC19/18 Mayoral Address

The Mayor proceeded to address Members on the annual striking of rate for the 2018/19 financial year.

He thanked Members and Officers for their work within this challenging rates process and proposed that Derry City and Strabane District Council make and fix a District Rate of 30.0353p in the £ for Non-Domestic properties and of 0.4683p for Domestic properties for the year ending on 31 March 2019.

He stated that this District Rate increase of 2.99% was less than the current rate of inflation and that the current District Rates bill of £437.97 would increase by £13.10 per annum or 25p per week. He also stated that as property valuations in the District were lower than in other Council areas, the average ratepayer in the Derry City and Strabane District Council Area would continue to pay lower rates than that paid in the majority of other Council Areas.

He highlighted the positive messages within this year's rate process, in particular the growth and provision of new and enhanced services across the Council area.

He stated that 0.96% of the new rate increase will be invested in the capital programme adding to the £34.4m of projects which have been completed to date by the new Council and a further £63.1m of projects which are in progress and fully funded. He commented on the benefit this investment would bring to achieving the job and skills element of the Strategic Inclusive Growth Plan.

The Mayor expressed his delight to see the positive impact that the investment in growth has made, with rate-base growth well above the Northern Ireland average and the significant contribution this has made to the fall in unemployment numbers across the District.

He also expressed his pleasure in seeing the continued efforts to drive new efficiencies in Council, with a further £244k identified in this year's

budget process bringing total efficiencies realised since amalgamation to almost £2.3m. He indicated that these have given rise to investments in the capital plan, community services provision, festivals and events and cultural venues which have all contributed significantly to the achievement of positive growth indicators.

However, he also expressed his disappointment in noting the pressure now placed on Councils, particularly the impact that cuts in the Rates Support Grant and Community Services has placed on the most deprived Councils. He highlighted the direct district rates impact of 0.76% which he found concerning and emphasised the need to oppose these cuts.

The Mayor congratulated all involved on delivering a rates proposal below the rate of inflation which despite the challenges they faced remain focused on growth. He also praised Officers on the completion of the Inclusive Strategic Growth Plan and the case for a City Growth Deal which will secure necessary Central Government investment for an opportunity to make the City thriving, prosperous and sustainable.

In conclusion the Mayor recommended that Derry City and Strabane District Council make and fix a District rate of 30.0353p in the £ for non- domestic properties and of 0.4683p in the £ for domestic properties for the year ending March 2019.

SC20/18 Chief Executive's Statement

The Chief Executive stated the budget agreed today would continue to drive growth and investment in the City and Region, as well as continuing to deliver on our strategic capital aspirations and investment into jobs and skills.

He highlighted that of the 2.99% increase, 1% represents further investment in growth which has been a key priority for the new Council. He added that this had been enabled by an ongoing efficiency programme in which Council has now delivered almost £2.3m of savings to its annual revenue budget.

He commented on the contribution of the new Council's investment in festivals and events, culture and tourism, capital plan and community services to the continued rate based growth which is well above the Northern Ireland average.

The Chief Executive specified that no. 662 new residential properties have been occupied in the Council area in the past year, representing 10% of all new residential properties across Northern Ireland. He also specified that the non-domestic rate base had grown by 1.59% compared to a Northern Ireland average of 0.58%. He commented that these high figures represent new investment and business expansion across the Council area which will be accompanied by public sector investment in particular on the new Cancer Centre at Altnagelvin and the new primary education facilities at Ebrington. He welcomed the positive picture for the City in the form of an increase in planning applications and a pipeline of new projects of scale which include the continued development of the Ebrington site and ongoing expansion of Magee University.

The Chief Executive referred to the 11% reduction in 2017 of the unemployment rate currently at 4.7%, compared to a peak of 8.7% in August 2013. He stated that the Jobs and skills investment specified as a part of this year's rate increase, aims to further improve these figures.

He expressed his disappointment to cuts relating to the Rate Support Grant and community services by Central Government which had a direct rate impact of 0.76%. He highlighted the impact this would have on investment for 7 of Northern Ireland's 11 Council's and emphasised the priority which ensuring these cuts are reversed must take.

The Chief Executive stated that despite these challenges, that the 2018/19 budget will continue to deliver high quality services to the Council area. He commented on the progress which Council has made in the deliverance of capital projects of £34.6m in the past 3 years and a further £63m in progress, with a further £20m-£25m of further funding that will be made available by this year's rates investment. He welcomed the near completion of the £7m redevelopment of Brandywell Stadium, £1.4m Melvin 3G pitch development and £1.27m Drumahoe play projects and indicated that 2018 will see advancement of a wide range of exciting capital projects, including;

- Completion of business case proposals and detailed designs for ambitious new strategic Leisure Facilities at both Templemore and in Strabane.
- Progression of 3 significant cross-border greenway developments from Derry to Buncrana, Derry to Muff, and Strabane to Lifford totalling €20m.

- Funding decisions on significant Peace IV project funding applications for both the Riverine Project in Strabane and the Clondermott Sports & Community Shared Space Project in the Waterside.
- Advancement of feasibility study and initial design/costings for the Strabane Town centre footbridge in partnership with DFI and DFC.
- Advancement of outline business cases and proposals for major physical regeneration schemes on a number of strategic sites in both Derry City Centre and Strabane town centre.
- Advancement of a range of proposed community centre developments and upgrades.

The Chief Executive added that Council's key priority this year will be working with all of our partners and government departments to deliver on the objectives and targets of the now agreed Strategic Inclusive Growth Plan 2017-2030 – our Council area's Community Plan.

He continued that this plan is only possible with the full support and positive engagement of government and that the plan is projected to lead to the creation of over 10,000 new jobs in the Council area in the next 10 years, a reduction in unemployment levels to below the Northern Ireland average for the first time in the City and District's recent history, improvements in the wealth, prosperity and general well-being of all of our citizens and most importantly will specifically target need, poverty and inequality.

The Chief Executive stated that the well advanced City Growth deal proposals provide a strong case for investment in the critical catalyst projects required to drive this plan including:-

- The expansion of the University of Ulster at Magee to 9,400 students and the North West Regional College and associated investment in skills and pathways to employment
- Investment in Research & Innovation Assets (C-TRIC, Cognitive Analytics Research Lab (to international scale, and Centre for Advanced Manufacturing & Intelligent Systems Research Centre).
- Significantly enhancing external & internal connectivity through the continued progression of the A5 Western Transport Corridor Upgrade, the A6 Derry to Belfast Road Upgrade, the A6 Airport Link, the A2 Economic Corridor Upgrade, and the development of the Council's Airport & Port
- Sites in Fort George, Strabane Town Centre and the City riverfront.

- Development of a major tourism attraction

The Chief Executive continued that Council will work right across the entire City and District, both urban and rural, with all of its partners and stakeholders, at a Cross Border level through the new North West Partnership arrangements, at National level with government both North and South through the North West Strategic Growth Partnership and through its many contacts, connections and diaspora at European and International level to drive forward this North West City Region /Council area and to advance and progress all of the objectives of the City and District's emerging Strategic Growth Plan.

He concluded by stating that the agreed District rates increase of 2.99% representing an increase of £1.09 per month for an average domestic ratepayer, will also ensure continued delivery across all of Council's front-line services from street cleansing and waste, building control, planning and environmental health, grounds maintenance, parks and cemeteries, leisure, sport, health and community development and support, and vital corporate support services. It would also see a continued impressive cultural and festivals offering and attractiveness to visitors and tourists including the world renowned Halloween festival and the return of the Clipper Maritime festival, building on the current record levels of hotel occupancy and reflecting our success in hosting internationally renowned events.

SC21/18 Lead Finance Officers Statement

The Lead Finance Officer followed on from the Chief Executive's report and stated that this year's rates provides a number of key financial messages.

He indicated that the rate increase of 2.99% is made up of 3 elements. 1.27% represents the baseline position, 0.76% relates to the significant central government grant cuts that have been imposed, and 0.96% relates to new investment in our capital plan and jobs and skills interventions. He emphasised that the increase was below inflation increase, and without having had to absorb central government budget cuts and with no growth or capital development ambitions, a 1.27% rates increase could have been achieved.

He continued that the baseline rates increase of 1.27% represented a range of statutory pressures and new initiatives offset by Council's rate-base growth and continued efficiency programme. In particular, nationally agreed pay awards, including living wage implementation and pension increases had presented a significant challenge in this

year's rates. Increased service provision had also been made for increased waste disposal costs due to Council's growing population and increased development. This was a significant cost for Council, representing over 12% of the global budget, and a continued focus on recycling and composting was required to ensure these costs were minimised going forward and required targets were met. Other inflationary increases had been absorbed into existing budgets with minimal impact on rates. Provision had also been made for the extension of opening hours in Riversdale Leisure Centre and further investment in rural community services support to provide additional capacity in rural areas aligned to the delivery of the emerging Local Community Plans.

He added that the continued positive growth in Council's rate-base is very positive with growth significantly in excess of the Northern Ireland average. Council's efficiency plan had now realised almost £2.3m of efficiencies and Council would continue to seek all opportunities for further efficiencies to free up further funds for growth and investment. Council's benchmarking analysis against other Councils provides assurance that Council's core services represent value for money e.g. leisure was much less expensive in this Council area in comparison to the rest of Northern Ireland. It was also clear that this Council makes significant additional investment in areas of growth such as festivals and events, tourism and capital development, and in areas of need such as community services.

The Lead Finance Officer expressed his feeling that the most challenging and disappointing aspect of this year's rates was the central government grant cuts which had a direct impact on our rates proposals of 0.76%. The 2 key areas of cuts applied were Rates Support Grant and funding for community services and advice, the very grants which were targeted towards the less wealthy Councils with the highest levels of deprivation. He advised that the Rates Support Grant is an investment and leverage tool, a means by which the no. 7 district councils with lower rates bases receive a critical investment contribution towards creating growth through enterprise and achieving greater equality of service provision and facilities. The £400k of income lost by this Council through these 2 grant cuts could have delivered a further minimum £6m of capital investment or investment in other strategic priorities identified in Council's Strategic Inclusive Growth Plan. Furthermore, The Department of Finance had recently issued a briefing paper on the Northern Ireland Budgetary outlook 2018-20 which presented very significant budgetary challenges across all Departmental areas. If implemented, these would have significant

implications for individuals, businesses and communities and for Councils in particular who relied heavily on central government funding. These would also undoubtedly place increased demand on Council services. Council has been strong in its' opposition to these cuts and whilst recognising the challenges, would continue to be so to ensure any potential cuts were implemented fairly and equitably.

He emphasised that despite this, the key message from this year's budget was the additional 0.96% investment in Council's capital plan and jobs and skills initiatives. He reported that the investment made by this Council over the past few years was paying dividends in terms of rate-base growth and employment. He stressed that continued investment in growth was therefore critical, given that capital investment represented over 15% of Council's overall budget and with almost £100m of projects either completed or progressing with full funding, the new rates would see a minimum further capital investment of £25m. He stated that this would enable Council to drive forward the strategic leisure aspirations and significant PEACE applications at Clondermott and Riverine, continue with the extensive programme of parks and greenway development, provide funding to progress with refurbishment of community centres, and develop major town centre regeneration aspirations. £1.74m of Council's overall budget was set aside for festivals and events allowing Council to continue to deliver internationally renowned events which would bring continued growth in tourism to the City and District. 2018 would see the return of the Clipper Maritime festival.

He concluded that the District rates increase of 2.99% would mean an increase of £13.10 per annum or 25p per week and would see the average domestic District rates bill increase to £451.07. He explained that rates were calculated based on pence rate x property valuation. On the basis of the average property valuations being lower than in other Council areas, the average ratepayer in the Derry City and Strabane District Council area would continue to pay lower rates bills than average ratepayers in the majority of other Council areas.

The Mayor thanked the Chief Executive and the Lead Finance Officer for their statements.

Councillor Reilly commended that positive steps had been taken to combat central government cuts. He highlighted the increase to the rate, 0.76 % of which was caused directly by cuts to the rate support grant. He stated that the SDLP leader, Mr Durkan MLA had tried to protect the Rate Support Grant but had not succeeded. He also stated that the SDLP had made a proposal not to accept the striking of the rate, however this

proposal failed due to political process. He expressed his concern that rate payers would pay the price for the failure in Stormont, since the Civil Service would not engage with Council's to protect rate payers from these cuts.

Councillor Gallagher indicated that he would not support the striking of the rate. He referred to a Motion passed at the September 2017 Council Meeting and voiced his concerns that striking the rate would be against the corporate position of the Council and would make Council guilty of implementing cuts to the rate support grant and community services. He also commented that letters to the Secretary of State and the Civil Service were not making an impact in tackling this issue.

Councillor Donnelly concurred with Councillor Gallagher's remarks and added that he could not support a Community Safety Partnership which was led by what he felt was a discredited police force.

Councillor McGinley commented that he did not find the Independent Councillors reluctance to take responsibility for fiscal management in Council surprising. He also remarked that he felt the SDLP's refusal to support the budget was a publicity stunt.

He commented that the rate increase of 2.99% would afford Council protection from the cuts to the Rate Support Grant whilst still allowing opportunity for capital investment. He also remarked that due to central government cuts to community services, work would need to take place to ensure frontline funding for community organisations continues to be provided.

Councillor McGinley also welcomed Council's commitment to the job and skills programme and praised Council staff for their commitment and work ethic. He stated that he hoped that the rates increase would ensure they received a pay rise.

He also highlighted the need for effective strategic leadership which would give rise to first class services, events and festivals.

Councillor O'Reilly stated that he felt by striking the rate, Council had missed an opportunity to oppose the cuts to the Rate Support Grant and community services.

Alderman Thompson highlighted the positive elements of the statements and the positive steps which were being taken to keep the area moving forward. He voiced his concerns over Councillor Donnelly's view on community safety stating that community safety was important to all citizens. He commended Officers on their efforts to combat the challenges which they had faced in establishing this year's budget.

Alderman Hussey conveyed his support for the striking of the rate at 2.99% and praised Officer's for establishing a rate which was below the rate of inflation and below the rate of other Council's.

Councillor P Kelly stated that he would not be supporting the striking of the rate at 2.99% as he disagreed with some of the cuts which had recently been enforced in his area, in particular cuts by the Policing and Community Safety Partnership which had impacted on the installation of a CCTV camera within Strabane town centre.

Councillor McMahon indicated his support for the 2.99% increase in the rate. He stated that he was looking forward to seeing developments such as the new Strabane Leisure centre and the Riverine Project which would regenerate the town. He suggested that it might prove detrimental not to strike the rate.

Alderman Devenney acknowledged his support for the striking of the rate of 2.99%, stating it was a wise decision.

SC22/18 Striking of the Rate 2018/19

The Chief Executive presented the following statement and proposal:

As Chief Financial Officer, in line with section 6 Local Government Finance Act 2011, I am required to report on the adequacy of Council's reserves for a financial year. With due regard to Council's in-year positive financial position, the medium term plan and Council's current General Fund balance of £4,693,118, I confirm that this reserve will be adequate for the financing of Council's services for 2018/19 and is in line with Department for Communities (DfC) guidance of between 5% and 7.5% of the net operating Expenditure.

Further to this, and having considered the detailed report of the Lead Finance Officer, as printed and circulated, on the Rates Estimates for the year ending 31 March, 2018, it is recommended that:-

- (a) Council strikes a District Rate Increase of 2.99%.
- (b) Council reallocated £200K per annum for 3 years from Council's new £500K capital rates investment on an interim basis to fund jobs and skills interventions as a key strategic priority within the Strategic Inclusive Growth Plan.
- (c) Ongoing lobbying with Central Government continues in relation to the significant budget cuts implemented, in particular the areas of

Rates Support Grant and Community Services and Advice Services funding.

- (d) Council engages further with Central Government in relation to the significant grant cuts currently forecast produce results, this funding will be recurrently allocated to jobs and skills and the interim allocation will revert back to capital.

Councillor McGinley Moved, Alderman Thompson Seconded that Council agrees the aforementioned recommendations as outlined by the Chief Executive.

The outcome of the vote; For 26, Against 13. The proposal was carried.

Adopted by the Special Council Meeting held on Monday 5 February 2018.

SC23/18 Flying of Tricolour at St. Patrick's Day Parade in Strabane

Councillor Carlin addressed Council with reference to this issue, she requested that Council confirm that there is no ban imposed on participants in the St. Patrick's Day celebrations regarding the display of the Irish national flag and associated emblems.

The Mayor asked Council to clarify their position.

The Chief Executive clarified that no ban exists.

The Mayor stated that since clarification had been given the meeting did not need to continue with any further discussion on this matter.

The Meeting ended at 5.45pm.

Signed: - _____

Mayor

Date : - _____

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Derry City and Strabane District Council

Open Minutes of Governance and Strategic Planning Committee held in the Council Chamber, Guildhall, Derry on Tuesday 30 January 2018 at 4.00 pm.

Present:- Councillor Fleming (in the Chair) (Item GSP25/18 et seq), Alderman Thompson (in the Chair) (Item GSP24/18), Aldermen Hussey, Kerrigan and Ramsey, Councillors Boyle (Item GSP25/18 et seq), Cooper (Item GSP25/18 et seq), Donnelly, C Kelly (Item GSP25/18 et seq), McKeever (Item GSP25/18 et seq), McKnight (Item GSP25/18 et seq), Robinson and Tierney (Item GSP25/18 et seq).

In Attendance: Chief Executive (Mr J Kelpie), Director of Legacy (Mrs O McGillion), Head of Human Resources (Mrs P Donnelly), Lead Democratic Services and Improvement Officer (Miss E Cavanagh), Business Support and Change Manager (Mrs R Craig), Lead Legal Services Officer (Mr P Kingston), Strategy Manager (Mr M Gallagher) and Committee Services Assistant (Ms N Meehan).

GSP24/18 Notice and Summons for Meeting

The Chief Executive read the Notice and Summons for the Meeting.

The Chief Executive advised that the Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson and other Members of the Committee were attending a Bloody Sunday Memorial and would return to the meeting shortly.

Subsequently Alderman Hussey Moved, Alderman Ramsey Seconded and the Committee

Resolved that Alderman Thompson be elected Acting Chairperson of the Committee in the absence of the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson.

The Acting Chairperson reminded Members that the Chairperson of the Committee would be in attendance within the next thirty minutes.

Subsequently Councillor Robinson Moved, Alderman Ramsey Seconded and the Committee

Resolved that the Committee recess until the Chairperson of the Committee was in attendance.

On his arrival the Chairperson thanked Members for agreeing the recess which allowed him to attend the Bloody Sunday Memorial.

GSP25/18 Apologies

There were no apologies for absence.

GSP26/18 Declarations of Members' Interests

There were no Declarations of Members' Interest.

Open for Decision

GSP27/18 Chairperson's Business

There was no Chairperson's Business.

GSP28/18 Confirmation of the Open Minutes of the Governance and Strategic Planning Committee held on Tuesday, 9 January 2018

The Open Minutes of Meeting held on 9 January 2018 (GSP1/18-GSP20/18) were accepted and adopted.

GSP29/18 Member Development Charter Plus Assessment

The Lead Democratic Services and Improvement Officer presented the above report a copy of which had previously been circulated. She advised that the purpose of the report was to inform Members of the date and process involved in the Council's assessment for the Member Development Charter Plus standard and to seek Members' commitment and support in the assessment process.

Councillor Boyle referred to 3.5 of the report and, as a member of the Member Development Working Group, thanked those Officers involved in the work carried out to date in this regard. He acknowledged that there was still a significant amount of work to be carried out in pursuit of receiving the award however, he was very hopeful that this would be completed by the timeframe of 25 April 2018. He continued that success in achieving this Charter depended on the work and co-operation of fellow elected Members across all of the Political Parties.

Alderman Hussey, having been involved with this previously through the former Strabane District Council, congratulated elected Members of the Development Group on the work carried out. He acknowledged, however, the considerable amount of work still requiring completion. He wished Council success on the outcome and said he would not doubt the quality of the material which would be submitted to the Assessment Panel.

The Lead Democratic Services and Improvement Officer advised that Officers would commit to briefing as many Members who were keen to become involved in the process. She said it would be advantageous to have as many Members as possible involved.

In response to a query from Alderman Hussey, the Lead Democratic Services and Improvement Officer said she understood the assessment scheduled on April 25 would consist of a group meeting. She undertook to advise Members if these details changed.

The Committee

Recommended that having noted the details on the assessment for the Charter Plus standard Members confirm their commitment and support in the assessment process.

GSP30/18 NILGA – Work Plan and Investment for 2018/19

The Business Support and Change Manager presented the above report a copy of which had previously been circulated. She advised that the purpose of the report was to provide Members with a copy of the Northern Ireland Local Government Association (NILGA's) Work Plan for 2018/19, together with the request to approve the £48,914 subscription fee.

The Committee

Recommended that the NILGA Work Plan and Investment for 2018/19 be approved.

GSP31/18 Pay Rates for Festivals and Events

The Head of Human Resources presented the above report a copy of which had previously been circulated. She advised that the purpose of the report was to seek Members' approval for pay rates which had been agreed with the Trade Unions for Council employees who undertake various roles at Festivals and Events.

The Committee

Recommended that Members adopt the pay rates as outlined in Appendix 1.

GSP32/18 Irish Language Week 2018

The Lead Democratic Services and Improvement Officer presented the above report a copy of which had previously been circulated. She stated that the purpose of the report was to advise elected Members of correspondence received from Conradh na Gaeilge regarding Seachtain na Gaeilge (Irish Language Week) which takes place from 1 March to St Patrick's Day.

Councillor Cooper referred to the correspondence received from Conradh na Gaeilge which he felt did not highlight what events were involved. He requested that a meeting be arranged with Conradh na Gaeilge to explore what options were available in terms of collaboration and programming possibilities for Irish Language Week and Council's possible input.

In response to a query from Alderman Ramsey, the Lead Democratic Services and Improvement Officer stated that as indicated in the report each year Council and the Irish Language Officer worked with community partners to create a programme and the Irish Language Officer would make people aware of any funding which might be available. She stated that work was ongoing in preparing events in respect of the Council's Programme for Irish Language Week.

Alderman Hussey expressed confusion as he had not been aware of Council supporting Irish Language Week in the past. He queried the date of the event from 1-17 March which more than exceeded one week. He referred to the email received from Conradh na Gaeilge on 15 January and said the programme appeared to have evolved very rapidly. He enquired as to why Members had not been given an opportunity to discuss the Programme of Events. He referred to the process which had to be undertaken by other groups who made

application to Council for community funding and queried why this application was being treated differently from other community festivals.

The Lead Democratic Services and Improvement Officer advised that the correspondence received from Conradh na Gaeilge would have been circulated to the Chief Executives of all Councils. She stated that this was in order to encourage participation in Irish Language Week and was generic in nature. She stated that Council would have commenced work on Irish Language Week prior to the correspondence having been received. She referred to 2.4 of the report and pointed out that there was no specific dedicated budget in respect of Irish Language Week and it would be carried out in collaboration with a number of partners. She concluded that as Irish Language Week coincided with The Spring Carnival it was an element of this event.

Alderman Hussey expressed concern that from the email received it did not appear that Council were contributing towards this event. Nor did it appear that Conradh na Gaeilge were aware of any Council involvement or potential contribution.

Alderman Thompson referred to the Lead Democratic Services and Improvement Officer's remarks that there was no dedicated budget for this Festival and referred to 3.3 of the report which stated that Council committed approximately £30,000 to support the St Patrick's Day Spring Carnival event, a portion of which would be allocated to celebrating the Irish language within the multicultural zone. As such he suggested that Council had committed to this event in the lead-up to the St Patrick Day Festival. He referred to the need to exercise caution regarding the manner in which this information was disclosed to the public.

Subsequently the Committee

Recommended **that a Meeting be arranged with representatives from Conradh na Gaeilge to discuss their plans for Irish Language Week in order to ascertain what assistance, if any, Council could contribute.**

The Director of Legacy presented the above report a copy of which had previously been circulated. She pointed out that the purpose of the report was to advise Members of the key findings of the Post Project Report of the UK city of Culture and the potential opportunities for additional research on the impacts and of hosting the inaugural UK City of Culture 2013.

The Director of Legacy and the Strategy Manager gave a joint presentation on the Post Project Evaluation.

Councillor Cooper thanked Officers for their presentation. He stated that he was involved in City of Culture 2013 through his work within the tourism sector and he welcomed the impact of the event and the publicity surrounding it. He referred to the considerable increase in visitor numbers to the City post 2013. He pointed out that the late Deputy First Minister, Martin McGuinness, had, in conjunction with the then Minister for Culture, Arts and Leisure, Carál Ní Chuilín, sought and secured funding in respect of this event and had also been able to leverage additional funding in respect thereof. He stated that City of Culture 2013 had created great social as well as economic benefits for the City. He stated that increased visitor numbers continued throughout the entire year.

Councillor Cooper stated that from his Party's perspective the huge participation and the level of entertainment provided throughout the year reflected the success of the event. He said it was the aim of his Party to cater for as many people as possible culturally, economically and in terms of entertainment provision. Whilst acknowledging the potential of both the Millenium Forum and Templemore Sports Complex in terms of hosting events he referred to the need for larger venues in the City capable of hosting major events. However he acknowledged that this would prove extremely costly. He referred to the increase in hotel occupancy during City of Culture year. He welcomed the confidence shown by local business people in developing new hotels in the City to cater for increased visitor numbers to the City. He stated that in general he believed City of Culture 2013 had been a success. However he stated that the money available as part of the legacy was small in comparison with the overall scale of the event.

Councillor Cooper stated that the legacy of City of Culture 2013 was evident for all to see in terms of increased employment, improved infrastructure and the number of events hosted in the City. He stated

that the Tourism Strategy was very detailed in terms of trying to identify niche markets and attracting tourists to visit the City. He referred to the need for additional work to be carried out in respect of the Cultural Strategy. He concluded that City of Culture 2013 had paid great dividends.

Councillor Boyle stated that City of Culture had proved a major challenge. He said he felt some of the most gratifying figures presented were in relation to the levels of engagement and queried if figures were available in respect of current engagement levels across culture and the arts. He suggested that if not currently available this information be provided as part of a scoping exercise. He did not anticipate however that figures in respect of current engagement levels would be as high as those recorded during City of Culture. He said he felt the year produced a number of positive experiences particularly in terms of the public realm, which immensely improved the physical nature of the City and investment in infrastructure. He stated that this was key to progressing as visitors to the City often remarked on its physical beauty.

Councillor Boyle referred to the increase in hotel occupancy during 2013 and thereafter which reflected the significant increase in visitor numbers to the City which, he said must form part of the legacy as to how and why Council engaged in the City of Culture process. He continued that as a Member of the Board of Visit Derry he had witnessed an increase in hotel occupancy rates post 2013 in comparison with previous years. He anticipated that such trajectory would continue in an upward trend. He referred to those within the private sector who have been willing to invest in additional hotel accommodation and said it was both encouraging and ambitious to see this investment in the City.

Councillor Boyle referred to one major positive aspect in that the City centre was filled with visitors during the summer months and peak seasons, which, he believed, bore testament to increased visitor numbers. Whilst welcoming the number of day visitors to the City he referred to evidence which suggested that many visitors did not tend to stay overnight. He stated that this proved a key challenge for the hospitality sector and anticipated that it would be addressed in the near future. He also referred to a number of economic challenges which could lead to fluctuations in visitor numbers together with possible confrontations resulting from Brexit which should not be overlooked. Whilst he generally felt that the citizens of Derry did

engage in arts and culture, City of Culture 2013 had raised this to a completely new stratosphere. He said it was necessary to concentrate on the positive aspects of the event.

In conclusion Councillor Boyle queried how many of the jobs created during City of Culture 2013 still existed.

The Director of Legacy said she was unable to provide information on the precise number of jobs which still existed. However, she said it was only necessary to observe the number of new hotels/restaurants which had recently opened to appreciate the obvious increase in local job creation. She stated that this was a partnership between the private and public sector in terms of providing opportunities. She referred to the number of new initiatives being rolled out across the City in terms of infrastructure necessary to ensure increasing visitor numbers to the City. She also referred to potential opportunities in attracting visitors as a result of the current weak Sterling. She stated that the key objective was to increase visitor numbers and encourage spending.

Councillor Donnelly acknowledged that some economic benefits may have been derived from City of Culture 2013 however he stated that these had been minimal. He said he was not aware of any improvements in living standards in either Creggan or the Bogside as a result of Culture Year. He stated that the thousands of jobs which the City had been promised had never materialised and said it was somewhat embarrassing that only a few hundred jobs had actually been created and it couldn't be confirmed if these still existed. He referred to the report which stated that visitor numbers had been over optimistic. He stated that over thirty percent of those people questioned disagreed that City of Culture 2013 would have encouraged them to remain in the City which was reflected in the numbers of young people leaving the City to seek education and employment elsewhere. He concluded that the City of Culture 2013 would have been an entire disaster had it not been for the Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann, which in itself had caused great division within Comhaltas.

Alderman Hussey said he had no doubt as to the major catalytic impact of City of Culture 2013 for the City and the legacy thereof. He expressed concern that prior to and during the bidding process neighbouring Councils, including Strabane and Donegal, had been approached for support and were assured that they would benefit should Derry be successful in winning the bid. He stated that the support requested was forthcoming however he expressed his regret

and disappointment that the benefits promised did not materialise, which he said, might explain his scepticism regarding the prospect of any long-term benefits being realised through legacy for the entire district and in particular the rural area. He stated that lessons must be learned in terms of going forward.

The Chief Executive stated that notwithstanding the promise to neighbouring Councils it was Council's aim to address the lessons learned through City of Culture 2013 through its Tourism Strategy and its Cultural Strategy. He said Council had taken on board many of the lessons from the legacy Council and would use this positively in terms of producing constructive ideas for the rural area.

Councillor O'Reilly referred to his career which involved working with young people who would have been young teenagers during City of Culture 2013 and who had never realised any economic benefits from this event. He referred to comments regarding business development post 2013 and pointed out that the majority of the businesses had already been created. He referred to the need to engage with young people and to become more involved and radical in terms of providing them with opportunities to remain in the City.

The Director of Legacy stated that Council was currently working with the North West Regional College in terms of skills provision. She stated that it was a matter of partnering with the College to get young people trained and educated in the skills which were required to work in the hospitality and other sectors where employment opportunities were available. She stated that unemployment was currently forty per cent lower than pre 2013.

Councillor O'Reilly stated that in attempting to address existing problems among young people it would be necessary to have more projects and opportunities made available.

The Director of Legacy stated that there were models of excellence which could be examined in terms of training young people and improving their skills. She said it was about maximising potential. She stated that opportunities would become available and the key was to link young people to jobs but first provide them with the necessary skills and expertise required to carry out these jobs.

Alderman Kerrigan welcomed the Chief Executive's comments and the need to address past weaknesses. He referred to the need for hotel

provision in a number of areas throughout the Council district to encourage overnight stays. Where shortfalls were identified these must be addressed. He referred to the growth and success of the hospitality industry in Belfast. He referred to the need to build upon what was achieved during City of Culture 2013. He agreed with the need to train young people in the necessary skills and expertise required within the hospitality industry given the recent rise in the number of hotels in the City.

Councillor Boyle stated that there were clear challenges at the outset of City of Culture 2013 and he stated that a key part of the exercise was the lessons which had been learned. He said Council were now in a position where it could host major events which would not have been possible pre-2013. He said the City staged the largest Fleadh and were now in a position to host any Fleadh should such an opportunity arise in the future. He said it was acknowledged that the City of Culture legacy had not been perfect, however to suggest that 2013 had been a waste of time was indeed mistaken. Tourism figures alone reflected how the City had benefited. He stated that it was part of Council's task to create an environment where businesses and citizens would flourish.

In response to comments made by Councillor Donnelly, the Director of Legacy advised that this report had been prepared prior to the submission of a Motion to Council on the European Capital of Culture bid 2023.

Councillor Cooper advised that Council was still perusing its options in relation to the European Capital of Culture bid. He stated that the North West Regional College could be availed of to train and develop young people with the skills necessary to find employment within the hospitality sector. He referred to the massive changes both economically and socially across the City and district as a result of City of Culture 2013.

Alderman Hussey referred to Alderman Kerrigan's comments regarding major hotel growth in Belfast. He referred to the Belfast Job Fair which the Department for Communities in partnership with Belfast City Council was hosting in the Europa Hotel on Wednesday 7 February 2018. He said he understood that in response to the ongoing growth in Belfast's hospitality sector, the Job Fair would have a specific Hospitality Zone with various employers from across the sector available to discuss opportunities directly with interested jobseekers.

In response to a query from Alderman Hussey, the Chief Executive advised that the Department for Communities had not invited Council to partake in a similar type event. He stated that the Belfast Job Fair was a positive move with regard to the growth of the hospitality sector in Belfast. However, he referred to the significant increase in the hospitality sector in the North West and as the trend continued there would be problems in terms of matching correctly qualified/trained people with jobs. He stated that he would seek the support of any government department in this regard.

Subsequently the Committee

Recommended that Council write to the Department for Communities inviting them to consider Derry City and Strabane District Council in partnership with the Department to take part in an event similar to the Belfast Job Fair.

The Meeting terminated at 5.30 pm

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Derry City and Strabane District Council

Open Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held in the Chamber, Council Offices, Strabane on Wednesday 31 January 2018 at 2.00pm.

Present: - Councillor D Kelly (Chairperson), Aldermen Bresland, M Hamilton, Kerrigan, McClintock; Councillors Boyle, Dobbins, Gardiner, Hassan, Hastings, Jackson, Logue, McGuire and R McHugh.

In Attendance: - Director of Environment & Regeneration (Mrs K Phillips), Head of Planning (Ms M Fox), Lead Legal Services Officer (Mr P Kingston), Development Officer, (Mr E Molloy) Principal Planning Officers: (Mrs S McCracken, Mrs A McNee, Mr P McCaughey), Senior Planning Officers: (Ms S Barrett, Ms R McMenamin and Mr J McNee).

Planning Administrator (Mrs C Corry & Ms L McKean), Committee Services Assistant (Mrs J Short).

P21/18 Notice and Summons for Meeting

The Head of Planning read the Notice and Summons for the Meeting.

P22/18 Member Attendance and Apologies

There were no apologies received from Members.

P23/18 Declaration of Members' Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

Open for Decision

Chairperson's Business

P24/18 Late Information Received:

LA11/2015/0759/F, A/2014/0629/F, LA11/2017/0996/F

It was noted that late information had been received in relation to the above planning applications and Members would be given the opportunity to review the information prior to presentation of the application.

P25/18 Status of Strabane Area Plan in Determination of Planning Applications

The Chair advised that the above report had been withdrawn to allow Officers to provide a more substantive report at a future meeting.

The Lead Legal Services Officer advised that a number of Planning Applications relevant to the Strabane Area Plan had been withheld for one month, pending presentation of the above report. He added however, that due to the decision to withdraw the report today, it will be necessary for Officers to review each application to determine whether progress would be further delayed if not presented at the next meeting.

P26/18 Request for Pre-Determination Hearing – Old Railway Station ‘Hub’

The Director of Environment and Regeneration reported that a request had been received from Translink for a Pre-Determination Hearing (PDH) in respect to the application for a Transport Hub.

Councillor Hassan moved, seconded by Councillor Logue to accept the request for a Pre-Determination Hearing and for a site visit to be arranged in advance of the PDH.

The Committee

Recommended that a Pre-Determination Hearing be held to discuss the proposed Transport Hub and for a site visit to be co-ordinated.

P27/18 Special Planning Committee Meeting

The Director of Environment referred to a request received for a Special Planning Committee Meeting to present the following planning applications:

- LA11/2017/0968/F
- LA11/2015/0759/F

The Committee

Recommended that a **Special Planning Committee meeting would be held on Tuesday 13 February 2018 (time and venue to be agreed) to discuss the above applications.**

P28/18 Expression of Appreciation

The Chair informed Committee that this was the last meeting for Mrs Corry, Planning Administrator to be in attendance, as she was moving to a new role within Planning section. He expressed his appreciation for her contribution to the Planning Committee. Members echoed the Chair's sentiments and wished her well in her new role in the future.

Alderman McClintock joined the meeting.

P29/18 Confirmation of the Open Minutes of the Special Planning Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 20 December 2017

The Open Minutes of the Special Planning Committee meeting held on 20 December 2017 (SP08/17-SP14/17)) were agreed and signed by the Chair of Committee.

P30/18 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the Open Minutes of the Special Planning Committee meeting held on 20 December 2017.

P31/18 Confirmation of the Open Minutes of the Planning Committee held on Wednesday 10 January 2018

The Open Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 10 January 2018 (P01/18-P15/18) were agreed and signed by the Chair of Committee.

P32/18 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the Open Minutes of the Planning Committee held on 10 January 2018.

P33/18 Planning Application List with Recommendation for Decision

The following planning applications for decision were presented by the Planning Case Officers:

Reconsidered Applications:

LA11/2015/0759/F – Proposed alterations to existing public house to include new side access door, ramp and smoking area at 21 Drumahoe Road, L’Derry

The Chair reported that a request to defer the above application had been received together with late items of information.

The Head of Planning in response to a query from Alderman McClintock advised that the objector had contacted the case officer directly and still had concerns regarding the amended proposal and wished to address Committee again in relation to the issues and had therefore requested to defer the application to a future Committee as notification was very short.

Councillor Boyle commented that it was important that applicants/agents be reminded of the Planning protocol and in particular the timeframes to be adhered to when requesting speaking rights at Committee meeting. Consideration was given to notification of applicants and objectors when applications are being presented to Planning Committee.

The Director of Environment and Regeneration advised that this issue was highlighted within the recent service review and would be addressed at the forthcoming Planning Committee workshops.

Councillor Jackson moved, seconded by Councillor Logue to defer the above application for hearing at the forthcoming Special Planning Committee.

The Committee

Recommended that planning application LA11/2015/0759/F would be deferred and presented at Special Planning Committee Meeting on 13 February 2018.

LA11/2017/0662/O – Proposed site for erection of new 1 and 3/4 storey farm dwelling, detached garage and septic tank at lands adjacent and to the South West of 82 Ballyhanedin Road, Claudy

The Principal Planning Officer (PPO) presented the above application, details of which were previously circulated to Members. The PPO reminded Members that the application was returned following a decision by Committee not to accept the recommendation to refuse planning permission. She reported that Officials had considered the recommended reasons for approval cited by Members, however continued to maintain a recommendation to refuse permission for reasons as outlined within the report. She advised that if Committee were minded to approve permission, a number of conditions were provided on a without prejudice basis.

Mr Donaghey, Agent addressed the Committee.

Councillor Boyle moved, seconded by Councillor Hastings to approve planning permission subject to the conditions as outlined within the report.

The outcome of the vote was unanimous support of the proposal.

The Committee

Resolved that planning application LA11/2017/0662/O be granted planning approval subject to the conditions as outlined within the report.

New Applications

A/2014/0629/F - Medical building (totalling 6,901 gross sq.m) with car parking in a semi-basement. Superstore (totalling 5,574 gross sq. m) associated car parking. Restaurant. Self Service Filling Station. Servicing and landscaping with access/egress via Pennyburn Pass and Pennyburn Industrial Estate Road at Arntz Belting Company Ltd site, Pennyburn Pass and former Eurocentre West site, Pennyburn Industrial Estate Road, Pennyburn Industrial Estate, Londonderry.

The PPO presented the above planning application, details of which had been previously circulated to Members. She outlined in detail the description of the proposed development. She advised that the proposal was acceptable in policy terms and in consideration of significant economic benefits and investment, it was recommended to approve planning permission, subject to the conditions as outlined within the report.

Mr Stephens addressed the Committee in objection to the proposal. He asked that the Committee defer decision for further consideration of the retail impact, flood risk and road design.

Councillor Dobbins joined the meeting.

The Chair invited Members to seek points of clarification from the objector if they so wished.

Councillor Boyle sought clarification in relation to the comments from the objector regarding the prevention of retail within the City centre, if approval was to be granted. Mr Stephens clarified that in his opinion the proposal was a speculative scheme and if granted would inhibit future investment in the City Centre. He further referred to the conditions imposed, if approval be granted which in his opinion were incomplete.

Councillor Hassan commented that such an application would regenerate this part of the City and should be welcomed. He further stated that in his opinion the City centre stretched from Fort George to Dale's Corner and as such this was a City centre development.

Mr McGurran, Agent proceeded to address the Committee. He stated that the proposal would provide accommodation for five existing medical practices in the City. He assured Members that the development would not create a negative impact on the roads infrastructure and flood risk assessments would be carried out as requested by the Planning Section.

Ms McShane who was in attendance to support the Agent also addressed the Committee. She proceeded to assure Members that if approval was granted, new traffic signals would be put in place at Fort George, Pennyburn Pass, the Collon and at the bottom of the

Springtown Road. She also stated that a traffic management system to facilitate the flow of traffic and entry onto the Buncrana Road would also be provided.

Following a lengthy discussion the PPO in response to a number of queries, advised that it was important to note that retail assessment represented only one part of the consideration process of the proposal. She added that in terms of the development location, Officials had interpreted the site location as edge of central area and in terms of turnover figures, the estimation was made based on the submission from the Consultants, and therefore Officials were confident that the proposal was robust.

She further referred to concerns raised with regards to the flood risk and advised that following assessment of the flood risk policy, she was content that the condition was reasonable and that the Agent had agreed to carry out a flood risk assessment.

The PPO further advised that cumulative impact and the fact there was no end user for the scheme, should have no bearing on the decision making process today. She added that the percentages in terms of impact on other stores was at the lower end of what was considered adverse and that the proposal location was considered as City centre edge.

The PPO clarified for Councillor Logue that a flood risk assessment was a requirement of Policy Fld 5 and although the site location was not on the flood plain, an assessment of material risk of flooding in relation to the Creggan reservoir was a requirement.

The Lead Legal Services Officer in response to a query, advised that in consideration of the late information received, the requirement is that the determination of Council must be rational and must take into account all relevant considerations and ignore all irrelevant considerations. He added that flood risk was one of those issues that Council have to take into consideration. He said that Officials were content that the focus of the policy was that the development should not commence if there was a risk of flooding and that this can be put forward on the basis of a condition that requested a flood risk assessment that can be time bound if necessary.

The Transport NI Official confirmed that they were satisfied that the developer could mitigate the traffic impact of the scheme, however there was no onus to improve the road infrastructure.

Discussion ensued after which Councillor Logue moved, seconded by Councillor Hassan to accept the recommendation to approve planning permission, subject to an amendment to the pre-commencement condition to 12 months. The outcome of the vote was unanimous support of the proposal.

The Committee

Resolved that planning application A/2014/0629/F be a

Returned Application

LA11/2017/0785/F – Proposed storey and half rear extension to existing house at No. 20 Hampstead Park, Culmore Road, Derry

The Principal Planning Officer (PPO) presented the above application, details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The PPO reported that at a previous meeting, Members voted not to accept the recommendation to refuse planning permission and the application had been returned for further review. She advised that Officials continued to maintain the recommendation to refuse permission for reasons as outlined within the report. However, she further advised that if Members were minded to approve the application, a number of conditions on a without prejudice basis were outlined within the report.

Councillor Hassan moved, seconded by Councillor Gardiner to approve planning permission subject to the conditions as outlined within the report. The outcome of the vote was unanimous support of the proposal.

The Committee

Resolved that planning application LA11/2017/0785/F be granted planning permission subject to the conditions as outlined within the report.

New Applications

A/2007/0822/F – Erection of 21 no. detached two storey dwellings and detached garages, alterations to section of Upper Galliagh

The PO presented the above application, details of which had been previously circulated to Members. She updated Members on the background to the application and recommended an approval subject to the conditions as outlined within the report.

Alderman Bresland moved, seconded by Councillor Hastings to accept the PO's recommendation to approve planning permission.

The Committee

Resolved **that planning application LA11/2017/0996/F be approved planning permission subject to the conditions as outlined within the report.**

P34/18 Consultation from DfI re. Windfarm in Co. Donegal (LA11/2017/1134/TBA)

The Principal Planning Officer presented the above report, details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to advise Members of a consultation which had been received from DfI Strategic Planning Division, in relation to the above application for the erection of a wind farm in Co. Donegal. DfI Strategic Planning are processing a transboundary application and have consulted with DCSDC with regard to any comments they wished to make regarding this planning application.

Members discussed the above report and the following outcome was agreed:

The Committee

Recommended **that Council agree to a request for an extension to the consultation response deadline, so to allow for a presentation by the Agent to all Members of the Planning Committee before submission of a response to DfI Planning.**

P35/18 IMPROVE Project – Update and Next Steps

The Senior Planning Officer presented the above report, details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to update Members on the implementation to date of IMPROVE pilot project within Council’s planning function and to seek Members’ agreement to mainstream into the planning function, prior to the project formally finishing in June 2018.

The Committee

Recommended that Council agree: a) the continuation of IMPROVE-style social media and pro-active LDP engagement throughout the remainder of the LDP-preparation process, giving appropriate weight to comments received.

b) for IMPROVE-style comments being summarised and included in Case Officers’ Committee reports for those applications selected for such social media engagement and for Members and Planning Officials to decide, on a case by case basis, on the level of weight to be attached to such IMPROVE – received comments.

Open for Information

P36/18 Appeals Update

Members received an update on planning appeals currently in the system and the current status of any live appeals and any decisions made since the previous month.

The Committee

Recommended that Council note the update on appeals.

P37/18 Status of Strabane Area Plan in Determination of Planning Applications

Members noted that the above report was withdrawn for further review and would be presented at a future meeting.

P38/18 List of Decisions Issued – January 2018

The List of Decisions Issued during the month of January 2018 were circulated to Members for information.

The Committee

**Recommended that Council note for information
the List of Decisions issued during
the month of January 2018.**

The Meeting went into confidential business.

The meeting terminated at 5.50pm.

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Derry City and Strabane District Council

Open Minutes of Assurance, Audit and Risk Committee held in the Council Chamber, Guildhall, Derry on Thursday 1 February 2018 at 4.00 pm.

Present: - Councillor McGinley (In the Chair); Alderman Thompson; Councillors Carlin, Donnelly, Duffy, Gallagher, Hastings, Kelly, McKeever, McMahon, O'Reilly, Reilly and Robinson.

Non- Members of Committee: - Councillor Carr

In Attendance: -Director of Health and Community (Mrs K McFarland), Lead Assurance Officer (Mrs D McDonnell), Internal Audit Manager (Mr J Harrigan), Lead Legal Services Officer (Mr P Kingston), Head of Health and Community Wellbeing (Mr S Donaghy), Northern Ireland Audit Office (Mrs Collette Kane), Independent Advisor (Mr T Jackson), Committee Service Assistant (Miss L Bell).

AAR14/18 Notice and Summons for Meeting

The Lead Assurance Officer read the Notice and Summons for the Meeting.

AAR15/18 Apologies

Apologies were received from Alderman McClintock.

AAR16/18 Declarations of Members' Interests

There were no declarations of Member's interests.

Open for Decision

AAR17/18 Chairperson's Business

There was no Chairperson's business.

AAR18/18 Confirmation of the Open Minutes of the Assurance, Audit and Risk Committee held on Thursday 11 January 2018.

The Open Minutes of the Assurance, Audit and Risk Committee held on Thursday 11 January 2018 (AAR1/18-AAR13/18) were confirmed and signed by the Chairperson.

AAR19/18 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

AAR20/18 Internal Audit Reports

The Internal Audit Manager presented the final audit report on the audit of 'licensing', a copy of which had been previously circulated to Members. It was advised that the purpose of this report was to update Members on the Internal Audit work carried out within Derry City and Strabane District Council in the period November 2017 to January 2018.

Councillor McMahon welcomed the report. He commended the work that had gone into the report and also the specific work carried out within the licencing department. He suggested that quarterly reports be brought to the Health and Community Committee on key performance indicators such as turnaround times, income reconciliation, programme of inspections etc.

Councillor Reilly concurred with Councillor McMahon's remarks and endorsed his proposal. He stated that he felt that the recommendations in the report needed to be implemented promptly.

Councillor Gallagher highlighted the issue of amusement licencing, referring to a court case which resulted in a judgement against Council in June 2017. He stated that a full legal analysis of this case was to be presented to Committee and felt this would be vital to ensure risk is kept to a minimum. He felt that the approval of the audit report should be postponed until the legal report had been presented to the Committee.

The Lead Legal Services Officer replied that Council had received advice that there would be no merit to appealing the ruling from Mr S Beattie QC and a verbal update was provided to Council in relation to this. He also stated that no other analysis of the matter had been sought by Council.

In response to requests from Councillor Gallagher and the Chair, the Lead Legal Services Officer agreed to bring a report on the analysis of the case to this Committee and also to the Health and Community Committee.

The Lead Assurance Officer advised Members that there was no need to delay the acceptance of the Internal Audit recommendations whilst waiting on the legal report. If the Lead Legal Services Officer and Members made any further recommendations in relation to the court case, then these could be added to the recommendations made in the

audit report. The Chair and the Independent Advisor stated that they concurred with this view.

The Committee

Recommended **That (i) Council endorse the contents of the report. (ii) Quarterly reports, in relation to Key Performance Indicators, are presented to the Health & Community Committee.**

AAR21/18 NIAO Audit Strategy

Mrs C Kane, Director from the Northern Ireland Audit Office (NIAO), presented the above report, a copy of which had been previously circulated to Members. She advised that the purpose of the report was to seek Member's endorsement of the NIAO's Audit Strategy for Derry City and Strabane District Council for 2017/2018.

The presentation outlined the following;

- Key messages including the purpose of the Strategy and actions for the Audit Committee.
- Materiality.
- The approach to the audit including risk factors.
- Audit timetable, staffing and fees.

In response to a request from Councillor Gallagher, the NIAO Director clarified that the City of Derry Airport, was not a going concern at the moment; however would continue to be monitored by the NIAO.

The Committee

Recommended **that Council endorse the contents of the NIAOs Audit Strategy.**

Open for Information

AAR22/18 Performance improvement

Councillor Gallagher left the meeting at this point.

The Lead Assurance Officer presented the above report, a copy of which had been previously circulated to Members. She advised that the purpose of the report was to update Member's in relation to the Council's performance improvement responsibilities.

The Committee

Recommended that Members note the content of the report.

The Meeting then went into Confidential Business.

The Meeting terminated at 4.30pm.

Chairperson _____

Date _____

Derry City and Strabane District Council

Open Minutes of Business and Culture Committee Meeting held in the Chamber, Derry Road, Strabane on Tuesday 6 February 2018 at 4.00pm.

Present:- Councillor Logue (Chairperson); Alderman R Hamilton, Hussey, Ramsey, Warke; Councillors Cooper, Cusack, Fleming, Logue, McKnight, McGuire, McMahon, O'Reilly and Reilly.

In Attendance:- Director of Business and Culture (Mr S Gillespie), Head of Business (Mr K O'Connor), Head of Culture (Ms A McCarter), Marketing Manager (Ms J Peoples) and Committee Services Assistant (Mrs J Short).

BC25/18 Notice and Summons for Meeting

The Director of Business and Culture read the Notice and Summons for the meeting.

BC26/18 Member Attendance and Apologies

Apologies were recorded for Councillor Boyle.

BC27/18 Declarations of Members' Interests

Councillor McKnight declared an interest with Agenda Item: National Event Scheme for 2018/19.

Councillor Cooper declared an interest with Agenda Item: DCSDC tourism Strategy 2018-2025.

Councillors Fleming, Logue, McGuire and Alderman Warke declared an interest with Agenda Item: Business Boost Update.

Councillor Reilly declared an interest with Agenda Item: PEACE IV Programme Update.

BC28/18 Presentation: Millennium Forum Update

The Chair introduced Mr Bradley, Chairperson and Mr McLaughlin, Chief Executive of Millennium Forum. Mr Bradley proceeded to update Members on progress of the Millennium Forum and provided the following information:

Original Objectives:

- Sufficient scale to cater for a multi-disciplinary programme of arts and entertainment events.
- Capable of accommodating major touring events to help position Derry as a Cultural City.
- Promote community participation in the arts and entertainment, by drawing attendances from all sections of the community facilitating both local amateur and professional productions.
- Enhance the regeneration of the City Centre.
- Positively and effectively contribute to the City's role as the regional capital.
- Be socially inclusive.

Strategic Aims:

- To develop the Millennium Forum as the regional theatre theatre of choice for the people of the North West.
- To promote the highest standards of production affordable and to introduce the audience to programming which extends their interest in and understanding of the arts.
- To engage with and support the local art community and those organisations working in the area of community arts. To work with the other arts venues in the City, NI's regional theatres and audience development initiatives to build the audience case for the arts.

Mr Bradley reported that the capital funding package equated to £13,500,000. He referred to the organisation employment statistics that resulted in a total of 107 employees for 2017/18. He also reported on a comparison turnover from 2001/2002 of £1,347,334 to £3,245,404 in 2016/2017, which showed an increase of 141% since the facility opened.

Mr Bradley further reported that the Millennium Forum was a proactive forward thinking organisation and to be part of the access and inclusion project for cultural venues ensured the delivery of the following:

- First Theatre in Ireland to provide a relaxed performance of the pantomime in 2013. Relaxed performances are designed to create an enjoyable and relaxed atmosphere for young people with learning and sensory difficulties and their families to experience the Theatre.
- First Theatre to provide a quiet area to be used for all Access needs – Foyle room in the Piazza.
- Funding applied for to provide a 'changing place' and adaptation of backstage dressing rooms/toilets into fully accessible en-suite dressing facilities.
- 25 Forum staff completed Autism Impact Training and there are 2 Autism Champions who have achieved the Autism Impact Award.

Mr Bradley also reported that in 2015, they were the first theatre in Ireland to introduce Dementia Friendly performances. The Millennium Forum recognised and embraced the challenges that a life with dementia presented to people and their support. He added that in 2016 Dementia Singing Sessions were introduced and in 2017 had become a Dementia champion and the Millennium Forum won the dementia friendly organisation of the year.

Mr Bradley in conclusion referred to current productions and reported that the Millennium Forum had toured in-house productions to every City throughout Ireland, such as the 10,000 Seat Odyssey Arena and some major UK venues. He referred specifically to the Titanic dance showcased at the China International Arts Festival in Qinghai in August 2016 where it was viewed by a live TV audience in excess of 750m.

The Chair thanked the representatives for the informative update on the success of the Millennium Forum. She then invited Members to express their views or seek points of clarification if they so wished.

Members expressed their appreciation for the update on the progress of the Millennium Forum and wished Officials continued success in the future. They also referred to the impending 20th anniversary of the Millennium Forum in 2021 and looked forward in anticipation to the celebratory programme of events.

The presenters left the meeting at this stage.

BC29/18 Chairperson's Business

The Chair had no business.

Open for Decision

BC30/18 Confirmation of the Open Minutes of the Business and Culture Committee held on Tuesday 16 January 2018

The Open Minutes of the Business and Culture Committee Meeting held on 16 January 2018 (BC01/18-BC19/18) were agreed and signed by the Chair.

BC31/18 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

Councillor McKnight left the meeting at this stage.

BC32/18 National Event Scheme for 2018/19 Award

The Head of Culture presented the above report, details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to update Members on the outcome of an assessment of an application received for the National Events Subvention Fund as outlined and agreed in a previous report to Committee and to seek approval to award the successful applicant subject to confirmation of final budget.

The Committee

Recommended that Council approve funding to Event A (as outlined within the report) and potentially to reallocate the remaining budget of £15,000 into the Headline Events fund.

Councillor McKnight returned to the meeting.

BC33/18 International Relation Activities

The Director of Business and Culture presented the above report, details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to update Members on ongoing international activities to date and seek approval to proceed with proposed programme of work in City of London and approve the visit to Dalian, China.

Councillor Cooper welcomed the report. He said that it was important to establish contacts and to raise the profile of the City and District and that he looked forward to progress being achieved through the international visitations planned.

Councillor Reilly concurred with the previous speaker's comments. He referred to the previous presentation by the Millennium Forum and remarked that he was encouraged to note the relationships being built through product development with China.

The Head of Business clarified for Members that the planned visit to China was scheduled to take place early May and the Philadelphia visit at the end of June 2018. He further clarified that the linkage with Philadelphia was huge in terms of immigration and focused initially on education and existing cultural connections.

The Committee

Recommended that Council i) approve an outward Mayoral led delegation visit to Dalian, China in 2018 ii) give approval for Officers to continue its economic outreach and investment work within the City of London.

BC34/18 SMART Cities Engagement, Development and Delivery

The Head of Business referred to the above report, details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to update Members on Council's role in the development of a SMART Cities Framework for the Council area.

Councillor McGuire welcomed the report. However, he queried the future proof of the roll-out of funding by DCMS and whether the intervention of the Gigabit Voucher Scheme would minimise the responsibility to provide fibre networks for the rural businesses throughout the District.

The Head of Business advised that the Gigabit Voucher Scheme provided a satellite solution to acquire broadband immediately and the challenge area was city based. He further explained that the rationale behind the scheme was to enable businesses to grow in a global economy in cognizance of the wider strategy in terms of fibre broadband.

The Committee

Recommended that Council i) note the contents of the report and agree a £10,000 allocation to the LpWAN SME Challenge Fund and £10,000 allocation for the All-Island SMART Cities Forum and Development of SMART Cities Framework and Plan.

BC35/18 Winterland and Market Update 2017 and Plans for 2018

The Head of Business presented the above report, details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to provide Member with an update on the Winterland Market 2017 and seek approval to scope the development of plans for 2018.

Councillor McKnight welcomed the report. She congratulated Officers involved with the event and commented that it proved popular amongst everyone and she looked forward to this year's event.

The Head of Business in response to Alderman Warke's suggestion of increasing the number of days that the market is held, advised that it was important to be mindful of the existing businesses within the City centre. He added that the main reason for the market was to increase the footfall into the city centre, so that existing businesses would benefit and to support other events being held throughout this period. He further advised that the event was at developmental stage and in terms of widening the product, it was essential to build upon existing capacity and support before extending the delivery time of the event.

Alderman Hussey also welcomed the report. However, he referred to the proposal to run the event from a Thursday to a Sunday, and commented that the Sunday may not attract as much support and suggested that consideration be given to changing the days from a Wednesday to a Saturday that week.

He also referred to the position of the trading stalls and for consideration to be given towards a walking route that would ensure that all of the stalls are within easy view point. He also suggested the inclusion of Santa's Grotto as part of the event, so to encourage families to visit the market.

The Head of Business referred to a recent Traders Meeting at which the traders had expressed the view that they were content with turnover from the previous year's event. He also referred to the bar offering and commented that it was well received and the fact that the bar closed at 10.00pm, encouraged people to move on and avail of the night-time economy within the city centre.

The Committee

Recommended **that Council notes the content of the report and gives approval to scope out the 2018 Winterland Market as outlined within the report.**

BC36/18 Lease of Foyle Valley Museum site to Destined Ltd.

The Director of Business and Culture presented the above report, details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to request approval from Members to alter the area leased to Destined Ltd at the site of the former Foyle Valley Railway Museum.

The Committee

Recommended **that Council are asked to approve the alteration of the lease map for the former Foyle Valley Railway Museum to Destined Ltd,**

**subject to confirmation from LPS
re. the value of the extended area.**

BC37/18 Proposed Membership of Tourism NI Alliance

The Director of Business and Culture presented the above report, details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to seek approval from Council to become members of a newly created Northern Ireland Tourism Alliance.

The Committee

Recommended that Council agree to join the Tourism NI Alliance and approve the associated membership fee of £2,000.

Open for Information

BC38/18 Quest Accreditation Award

The above report informed Members of the Quest Accreditation Award which the Alley Arts and Conference Centre recently secured.

The Committee

Recommended that Council notes for information the above report.

BC39/18 MEGUK 2018

The purpose of the above report was to inform Members of the MEGUK 2018 Conference scheduled to take place on 26-28 March 2018 in Derry-Londonderry, and to make Members aware of the support provided by DCSDC.

The Committee

Recommended that Council notes for information the above report.

BC40/18 Business Boost Update

The above report was tabled to provide Members with a progress update on Business Boost.

The Committee

Recommended that Council notes for information the progress update report on Business Boost.

BC41/18 PEACE IV Programme Update

The above report was tabled to provide Members with an update on the implementation of the Peace IV Local Action Plan and timescales anticipated for the 'Re-bid' for potential remaining funds from SEUPB.

The Committee

Recommended that Council notes for information the above report and encourages the involvement of the wider population and local community and voluntary sector within the programme.

BC42/18 Update on Year 3 Q3 Kickstart to Work Project funded from the European Social Fund

The above report was tabled to provide Members with an update on the Year 3, Q3 Kickstart to Work Project.

The Committee

Recommended that Council notes the contents of the above update report.

BC43/18 NI Business Start-Up Programme Update

The purpose of the above report was to provide Members with an update on the NI Business Start-Up Programme.

The Committee

Recommended that Council notes the contents of the above report.

BC44/18 Designer Business Start-Up Programme

The purpose of the above report was to provide an overview of the Designer Business Start-Up Programme.

The Committee

Recommended that Council notes for information the contents of the above report.

The Meeting went into confidential business.

The Meeting terminated at 5.55pm.

Derry City and Strabane District Council

Open Minutes of Environment and Regeneration Committee held in Council Chamber, Guildhall, Derry on Wednesday 7 February 2018 at 4.00pm

Present:- Councillor Dobbins (in the chair), Aldermen Hussey, Ramsey and Warke, Councillors Campbell, Duffy, Hassan, Hastings, C Kelly, R McHugh, Reilly and Tierney.

Non-Members of Committee – Alderman Devenney and Councillor McKeever.

In Attendance: Director of Environment and Regeneration (Mrs K Phillips), Head of Environment (Mr C Canning), Regeneration (Manager Mr T Monaghan) and Committee Services Assistant (Ms N Meehan).

ER27/18 Notice and Summons for Meeting

The Director of Environment and Regeneration read the Notice and Summons for the Meeting.

ER28/18 Apologies

An apology for absence was received from Councillor D Kelly.

ER29/18 Declarations of Members' Interests

Councillor Hastings declared an interest in Item 4 as a Member of the NWRWMG.

ER30/18 Deputation – Mr Owen Lyttle, Head of Waste Policy, DAERA (NIEA)

The Chairperson welcomed Mr Owen Lyttle, Head of Waste Policy DAERA (NIEA) to give a presentation on the Zero Waste Circular Economy Strategy (GAP Study) highlighting the following areas:

Key Strategic Challenges

- Landfill capacity
- Possible capacity issue arising through 2020s
- Dependent on delivery of other residual waste infrastructure

BREXIT

- RDF export – increasing costs due to currency exchange rate changes
- Will recycle quality be an issue for importing to EU? Especially in relation to recycle from co-mingled sources

Global Issues

China recycle import restrictions – the need to find alternative markets and improve the quality of recycles.

Waste Crime

Risks arising from these challenges can be mitigated by

- Increasing waste prevention, reuse and recycling – reduce amount of waste for landfill
- Increasing the quality of recycling – better quality = higher value: less likely to be illegally dumped; increased supply of materials to the local economy; and more likely to have broader market access
- Local integrated waste infrastructure, including residual waste infrastructure – makes Northern Ireland more resilient to volatility in global commodity markets and external actor policies

Policy Context

Circular Economy Package Proposals

Draft Programme for Government

What have been the key EU targets?

Reduce the amount of biodegradable municipal waste (BMW) going to landfill to 35% of that produced in 1995 by 2020

50% household waste recycling by 2010

How have we done? Household Waste Recycling 2005/06 – 2016/17

Key Study Conclusions

HHWRC Improvement Scenarios

Derry city and Strabane District Council Level

Northern Ireland Level

Performance results by scenario

Modelled scenarios

NI Recycling Gap Study

Summary of project to review collection options to meet 50% recycling target by 2020

Waste Compositional Analysis

The Chairperson thanked Mr Lyttle for his presentation and commended him on its detailed content. She stated that Derry City and Strabane District Council were performing well in terms of recycling targets and percentages were higher than anticipated. She queried the key to the quality of the recyclable materials.

The Head of Environment advised that provisional estimates were produced in respect of figures from July-September in terms of local authority waste in respect of the Derry City and Strabane District Council area which were 47.3% showing a significant improvement. In terms of recycling he stated that Derry City and Strabane District Council had achieved the highest score of 29.4%. He stated that Council was making significant progress but acknowledged that there was still a lot to be achieved.

Members then raised the following issues:

- Welcomed information regarding the strategic issues surrounding zero waste and recycling and the exciting prospects for this Council area.
Referred to changing attitudes towards recycling and the positive perspective which now existed particularly among young people.
- Referred to the need for more work to be carried out in terms of educating people in relation to recycling and waste management but acknowledged that considerable progress had been made.

- Acknowledged that recycle quality was key in terms of achieving savings and improving the economy.
- Referred to the need to explore options regarding separation at source which was a major issue for Council in terms of taking the strategy forward.
- Referred to the considerable progress made by Derry City and Strabane District Council in terms of waste management particularly in relation to the use of brown bins and the reduction of materials being placed in black bins.
- Welcomed the use of sign posting at Council's Recycling Centres which had also greatly contributed towards public participation.
- Referred to the financial savings which could be made and the goals to be achieved which would prove beneficial for the Council area and the local economy.
- Referred to Council's commitment to having a zero waste strategy.
- Referred to the benefits of a zero waste economy not only in terms of making financial savings but also removing waste from the environment.
- Referred to the recent China Recyclate import restriction policy as an example of the danger of being over committed to distant markets with little influence over them.
- Referred to the need for the use of plastics to be discontinued sooner rather than later because of the affect it was having on the environment which would undoubtedly require a Council policy and appropriate communications campaign.
- Referred to Council's duty to ratepayers in terms of achieving savings and getting value for money
- Referred to the need to ensure that the least materials possible were sent to landfill.
- Referred to previous suggestions regarding the erection of an incinerator in the Strathfoyle which received mass opposition.
- Referred to the need for government to realise that not all areas could accommodate incinerators.
- Referred to the need for regular inspections to be carried out at recycling centres to prevent potential dangers arising from the accumulation of waste. Such inspections should be a mandatory part of the license agreement in respect of Recycling Centres in terms of government's duty of care.
- Welcomed the involvement and enthusiasm of local school children in respect of recycling.
- In terms of aims to reduce landfill by 10% referred to the fact that there would always be unrecyclable materials and queried what

options were available. Suggested weighing up the advantages of incineration compared to illegal dumping.

- Referred to the need for options to be considered in terms of Council taking responsibility for disposing of its waste.
- There was still a considerable lot of work to be carried out before achieving a zero waste economy.
- Commended Council on the initiatives undertaken in terms of promoting recycling.
- Sought clarification on the impact of incinerators on the environment.

In response to a query from Alderman Warke, the Director of Environment and Regeneration confirmed that Council had employed Recycling Officers who regularly visited schools to deliver Waste Management/Recycling Programmes/Projects. She advised that Council had approved the allocation of additional dedicated resources in respect of carrying out Communications Campaigns to engage with and educate local communities on the importance of recycling. She referred to the "Let's Talk Rubbish" Campaign currently being carried out which involved working to inform the public regarding contamination and waste quality.

The Director of Environment and Regeneration referred to lengthy discussion which had taken place regarding the roll-out of the Brown Bin Scheme and the possibility of Council deciding not to collect contaminated bins. Whilst acknowledging the significant improvement in terms of recycling apparent throughout the Council area, she referred to the need to continue to enforce the importance of recycling. She reiterated that Council had approved additional resources which it was anticipated would deliver greater success in this area in the coming months. She stated that if resources were invested into this area, it was anticipated that Council would ultimately achieve savings much greater than the initial sum invested.

Mr Lyttle advised that he was only responsible for recycling rates in relation to household waste. He stated that there were a number of recycling rates, all of which were relative and he acknowledged that Derry City and Strabane District Council had increased its recycling rates.

Mr Lyttle stated that there was decreasing landfill capacity against a backdrop of increasing waste and it was widely acknowledged that from 2025 decreasing landfill capacity would be a potential issue that

could result in higher costs for disposal. He stated however that it should be equally considered as a positive driver to moving waste up the waste hierarchy quickly.

Mr Lyttle referred to the importance of recycle quality as a recurring necessity to mitigate against the challenges to be faced. He referred to the need to shift from a focus on quantity to understanding the importance of recycle quality and of course promoting waste prevention and reuse of materials would also offset challenges. He continued that when considering that Northern Ireland exports approximately 15% of its local authority municipal waste to energy from waste, there was an imperative to develop our own infrastructure in order to make us more resilient and less susceptible to global volatility.

In terms of landfill and energy for waste, Mr Lyttle stated that the government must adopt a pragmatic approach. He stated that in the time given to consider alternatives and sending waste to other areas paid to convert this into energy, it was worthwhile considering how we could carry out this task without transferring waste to other areas. He stated that some of the best consumer waste streams were at cost and waste could be transformed into money for the local economy. He stated that consideration was being given to possibilities for converting waste into something which would boost the NI economy. He referred to the importance of striking the right balance in terms of infrastructure and energy from waste.

Mr Lyttle referred to the need to stop illegal dumping. He stated that the key element in going forward was to have a sensible plan. He stated that the strategic outcome was top of the waste scenario.

In response to a query from Alderman Warke, the Head of Environment advised that Officers had previously presented reports to Committee on usage figures in relation to the number of vehicles from the Republic of Ireland using Council's recycling centres.

Mr Lyttle referred to the draft Programme for Government and stated that although a Circular Economy or zero waste was not mentioned specifically, the outcome based approach meant that outputs for waste management could be tied more closely to local people's needs and contribute to the Programme for Government purpose of driving economic growth. He stated that this was better than a dogmatic fixation on a weight-based target that had produced perverse

outcomes at times, such as generating large quantities of low quality recycle that could be difficult to reprocess.

Mr Lyttle was thanked for his attendance and he withdrew from the Meeting.

Open for Decision

Chairperson's Business

ER30/18 Best Wishes

The Chairperson referred to the fact that this was Councillor's Hassan's last Meeting of the Committee as he would be resigning from Council in the coming weeks. She commended Councillor Hassan on his contribution to Council during his lengthy service and wished him well in his retirement.

The Director of Environment and Regeneration extended Council's best wishes for a speedy recovery to Noel Baird the Council Refuse Collector who had been attacked by a dog whilst carrying out his duties. She advised that the Chief Executive, the Head of Environment and herself, had visited Mr Baird and he was recovering.

ER31/18 Winter Gritting Programme

The Director of Environment and Regeneration referred to Members' previous request that Council write to the Permanent Secretary seeking an urgent meeting with officials from the Department for Infrastructure (Roads) regarding the criteria and procedures applied with regard to gritting and the supply of salt boxes. She stated that Members would be aware that a meeting had been arranged with the local office however, a response had subsequently been received from the Permanent Secretary stating that he would be more than happy to arrange for the Director of Network John Irvine to meet with Council. She stated that Mr Irvine had indicated that he would be happy to meet with Council locally, or if preferred, Members could meet with him in Belfast.

It was subsequently agreed that Mr Irvine be invited to meet with Members in the City at his earliest convenience and Members be advised accordingly.

ER32/18 MUGA Pitch – Eglinton

Alderman Devenney raised the issue of a potential MUGA Pitch for Eglinton.

The Director of Environment subsequently advised that this was a matter for the Health and Communities Directorate and suggested that he raise the matter at the Monthly Meeting of that Committee scheduled for the following afternoon. However, she undertook to advise the Director of Health and Communities accordingly.

ER33/18 Lisahally Cattle Market

Councillor Hastings advised that a member of the Rural Partnership had met with a representative from the Ulster Farmers' Union in relation to a study carried out on the Cattle Market at Lisahally.

The Director of Environment and Regeneration undertook to prepare a report thereon for submission to the March Meeting of the Committee.

ER34/18 Confirmation of the Open Minutes of the Environment and Regeneration Committee held on Wednesday 17 January 2018

Minutes of the Environment and Regeneration Committee held on 6 December 2017 (ER1/18-ER19/18) were confirmed and signed by the Chairperson as correct.

ER35/18 Circular Economy/Zero Waste Strategy Implementation

The Head of Environment presented the above report a copy of which had previously been circulated. She advised that the purpose of the report was to update Members on proposals to take forward the Circular Economy/Zero Waste Strategy recently adopted by Council.

In response to a query from Councillor Tierney, the Head of Environment confirmed that he had hoped to consider the wider stakeholder forum in the first instance and within this forum to look at the issue of governance and how this could be taken forward.

Councillor Tierney referred to the excellent work being carried on this issue at local schools and as such felt it would be important to invite schools representatives onto the forum.

Councillor Duffy welcomed the report and progress made to date in relation to the adoption of a zero waste strategy. She suggested that the recommendation contained in the report resembled a proposal put forward by her at the previous Committee Meeting. She welcomed suggested representation from schools onto the forum. She referred to the role of the Youth Council and the lessons to be learnt from young people in terms of working towards the adoption of a zero waste strategy. She stated that consideration could be given to extending membership, in due course, if required.

The Head of Environment said a number of organisation would be considered for inclusion on this forum in order to determine the most appropriate.

Subsequently the Committee

Recommended that authority be granted for the setting up of a Steering Group to progress the implementation of the Circular Economy/Zero Waste Strategy.

ER36/18 Sustainable NI

The Director of Environment and Regeneration presented the above report a copy of which had previously been circulated to Members. She advised that the purpose of the report was to seek approval in relation to continued support for Sustainable NI.

The Committee

Recommended that Members endorse the annual work plan and approve annual financial support for Sustainable NI for 2018/19 to the value of £5,000.

ER37/18 Street Naming and Property Numbering – Development of 16 New Dwellings at Fir Road, Ballyarnett

The Director of Environment and Regeneration presented the above report a copy of which had previously been circulated. She advised that the purpose of the report was to seek Members' approval for the naming of a new housing development containing 16 new dwellings at

Fir Road, Ballyarnett, Derry by McGettigan Homes Limited, 10-12 Bridge Street, Strabane.

Councillor Hassan suggested that as there was already a development in the surrounding area named 'Mansfield Grove' the proposed development be named 'Grove Manor'.

The Committee

Recommended that the development of 16 new dwellings at Fir Road, Ballyarnett be named 'Grove Manor' – Nos 1-16.

Open for Information

ER38/18 DAERA Consultation – Working with Communities: Implementing Geological Disposal

The Head of Environment presented the above report a copy of which had previously been circulated. He advised that the purpose of the report was to seek Members comments with regard to a consultation exercise being undertaken by DAERA entitled Working with Communities: Implementing Geological Disposal.

Members noted the information contained in the report.

ER39/18 Applications Processed Under Building Regulations (NI)

The Director of Environment and Regeneration presented the above report a copy of which had previously been circulated. She advised that the purpose of the report was to advise Members of Applications processed under Building Regulations (NI) between 1 December 2017 and 31 December 2017.

Members noted the content of the report.

The Meeting terminated at 5.10 pm

_____ Chairperson

_____ Date

Derry City and Strabane District Council

Open Minutes of Health and Community Committee of Derry City and Strabane District Council held in the Chamber, Strabane Council Offices, on Thursday 8 February 2018 at 4.00pm.

Present: - Alderman Drew Thompson (Chairperson); Alderman McClintock; Councillors Campbell, Carlin, Cusack, Gallagher, Gardiner, Hastings, Jackson, McGinley, R McHugh and Tierney.

Non-members of Committee:- Councillors Carr, Devenney, Donnelly, P Kelly, O'Reilly and Robinson.

In Attendance: - Director of Health and Community (Mrs K McFarland), Head of Community Development and Leisure (Mr B O'Hagan), Head of Health and Community Wellbeing (Mr S Donaghy), PA to Health and Community Director (Mrs L Shields) and Committee Services Assistant (Mrs T Johnstone).

HC24/18 Notice and Summons for Meeting

The Director of Health and Community read the Notice and Summons for the Meeting.

HC25/18 Members Attendance and Apologies

The Director of Health and Community recorded Members attendance. Apologies were received from Alderman R Hamilton and Councillor Duffy.

HC26/18 Declarations of Members' Interests

Alderman McClintock declared an interest in the following agenda item:

- Agenda item 8 – Community Support Programme 2017-18 Additional Support for Front Line Advice Services.

Councillor Carlin declared an interest in the following agenda item:

- Agenda item 8 – Community Support Programme 2017-18 Additional Support for Front Line Services.

Councillor Tierney declared an interest in the following agenda items:

- Agenda item 8 – Community Support Programme 2017-18
Additional Support for Front Line Services
- Agenda item 9 - Construction of Leafair 3G Ball Catches
- Agenda item 11 – Brandywell Stadium CCTV and Privacy Impact Assessment
- Agenda item 12 – Bonfire Working Group and Action Plan.

Councillor McGinley declared an interest in the following agenda item:

- Agenda item 8 – Community Support Programme 2017-18
Additional Support for Front Line Services.

Councillor Hastings declared an interest in the following agenda items:

- Agenda item 8 – Community Support Programme 2017-18
Additional Support for Front Line Services
- Agenda item 10 – Rural Development Tender – Resourcing and Supporting the Rural DEAs Across the Council Area.

Councillor Jackson declared an interest in the following agenda item:

- Agenda item 8 – Community Support Programme 2017-18
Additional Support for Front Line Services.

Open for Decision

HC27/18 Deputations

Deputation by the Peter McVerry Trust on homelessness and drug misuse.

The Chairperson welcomed Fr Peter McVerry and Mr Brendan Magee to the meeting. He then invited them to make their presentation to the Committee.

Fr McVerry proceeded to deliver the presentation highlighting the following:

- Drug use in the Republic
- How heroin use became prevalent in inner city Dublin in the 1980's
- Attitude of the Government that drug users were victims of their own choices rather than socio-economic circumstances
- Wide range of drugs are now available in every city, town and village in Ireland.

- Communication and support were the key elements for people who were battling addiction.
- Cannabis is widely used amongst all age groups and all socio-economic groups
- Heroin use is decreasing in Dublin and being replaced by crack cocaine, a wide variety of tablets and crystal meth.
- The drug trade in the Republic is estimated at £1billion per year
- Approximately 80% of all monetary crime in the Republic is drug related.
- The policy of trying to reduce drug use by investing heavily in the criminal justice system has been a failure and a waste of money.
- Drug users come to a point when they want to give up drugs; at that point there is a window of 4-6 weeks to help them give up
- If they are put on a waiting list for three to six month, the opportunity has been lost and they become demoralised.
- A range of residential and community based detox and treatment options which can be accessed in a timely fashion is needed.
- In the Republic there are few residential centres and insufficient treatment centres with long waiting lists.
- In the Misuse of Drugs Act 1977, a provision was made for a custodial drug treatment centre, however no such treatment centre has been established.
- In 2001, Portugal did a u-turn in its approach to drug use by transferring responsibility for drug use from the Department of Justice to the Department of Health.
- Drug users were not referred to the criminal courts but for treatment options
- Since decriminalisation in Portugal drug use amongst 15-24 year olds had decreased, drug related deaths have decreased and prison population has decreased while the numbers accessing clinics or treatment centres has increased.

Alderman McClintock thanked Fr McVerry on the very insightful presentation. She enquired if there were any figures available on how many people that had received treatment had managed to beat their addiction.

In response, Fr McVerry stated that approximately 95 percent of people who were referred to a detox centre, had left drug free. However, that percentage would decrease within twelve months as research had indicated that people may have to go through treatment and detox

several times before the addiction was controlled. He added that relapse formed part of the recovery for people with drug addiction.

Councillor Jackson also thanked Fr McVerry for his informative presentation. He concurred that communication and support was key for people who were battling addictions. He stated that drugs was a major issue throughout the entire island and the response to tackling this issue should have an all island approach. He further stated the numbers of people on the waiting list for help and support was alarming.

Councillor Carlin concurred with the previous comments and queried what age drug awareness programmes should be introduced to schools, youth clubs and other youth venues to promote education and awareness.

In response, Fr McVerry reported that many young people in deprived areas begin taking cannabis at approximately 11 years of age and some much younger at 9 years of age. He stated that by around 15 years of age they will have moved onto harder drugs such as heroin. He stated that education on drugs should start when young people reach their early teens to be made aware of the dangers. He further stated that it was necessary for parents, teachers and youth leaders to become knowledgeable on drugs to enable them to offer help and support to young people who had begun to use them.

Councillor Gardiner welcomed Fr McVerry and Mr Magee to the Chamber. She enquired if they had contacted the Department of Health with their proposals for reducing drug use. She stated that Foyle Haven, who offered support to homeless people and those with addiction issues in the Derry area, had their hours reduced due to a lack of funding. She reported that workers at Foyle Haven indicated that the reduction in hours meant that opportunities were limited for assisting people who were asking for help with drug addiction. She referred to the Portugese Model and asked what elements could be adopted here.

In response, Fr McVerry explained that in Portugal, the Government transferred responsibility for drug use from the Department of Justice to the Department of Health. He stated that police now referred drug users to addiction counsellors, social workers and legal representatives to assist them in gaining access to treatment. He stated that it was vital to have the treatment options available to enable drug users to avail of the help that they required and that drug users should be medicalised, not criminalised.

Councillor Gallagher thanked Fr McVerry for his presentation which he described as enlightening. He emphasised the importance on society to focus on the issues of why young people take drugs, rather than the criminal issues and look at what can be done to address the drugs crisis before it was too late. He stated that punishment beatings and shootings were attacks on young people which affected their future. He noted the high suicide rate in the Council area and campaigns for detox centres and higher railings on the Foyle Bridge. He felt that there had been no interest in a recent tender for a Community Crisis Intervention Service because it was unworkable.

Fr McVerry highlighted the distinction between drug use and drug misuse. He stated that most people would try drugs and may take cannabis throughout their adult life without causing any harm. He explained that the issue was drug misuse which was a symptom of much deeper problems. These deeper problems must be addressed and that is why there is a need for detox and treatment facilities. He stated that most people he had helped in overcoming their problems had horrific childhoods with abuse, violence and neglect and that young people in deprived areas had no hope of employment or education in the future used drugs as an escape. He further stated that heroin gave people a 'temporary vacation from life' and that due to the social-economic conditions people were dealing with, it was surprising the problem wasn't greater.

Councillor O'Reilly thanked Fr McVerry for his presentation. He stated that he was seeing young people that he worked with using drugs at a young age and asked if there were any plans to open an early intervention centre for young people under 18 years of age. He stated that society must plan for the future as it was anticipated that harder drugs would be made more available to people at a younger age. He asked if there were any working models for drug users who were under 18 years of age.

In response, Fr McVerry stated that a young person had to be 18 years of age to avail of the services. He stated that community based facilities and counselling was very important for young people under the age of 18 to prevent them developing a serious drugs problem. He stated that the key was to educate parents on how to respond if they discover their child was using drugs. He added that a knee jerk reaction could do more harm than good as that response could cut off all communication in relation to drugs. He emphasised that if young people were unable to talk about their drugs use they were in danger of developing a more serious drug problem.

Councillor P Kelly thanked Fr McVerry for his presentation and enquired if he had taken the deputation to local government and the Department of Health.

In response, Fr McVerry stated that he had not made any representation to them. However, they were acutely aware of what he, and many others that worked with drug addiction, were working towards. He indicated that there had been some move towards the decriminalisation of drugs in the Republic of Ireland. He stated that more work was needed towards addressing the drugs issue and for people to have the same attitude as the citizens of Portugal when the use of drugs became decriminalised in 2002. He stated that a lack of public demand was also a factor and that the public want to eradicate drugs from society by prosecuting drug users and dealers. He stated that the public needed to be educated on drug misuse before the policy maker's move in the direction of decriminalisation.

Councillor Tierney thanked Fr McVerry for his presentation which he described as 'very frank and worrying'. He noted that there was a drugs issue in the council area with an increase of prescription drug abuse. He stated that many people were buying prescriptions drugs on the black market and online and asked if any measures, such as parcel screening by postal services, had been put in place.

In response, Fr McVerry stated that postal services had intercepted some packages that had contained drugs but it was almost impossible to screen every letter or small parcel that came into the country. He stated that it was a huge problem as prescription drug tablets were the hardest addiction to beat and users had no way of knowing what was in the tablets.

Councillor Donnelly stated that he wished to pay tribute to Fr McVerry on the decades of work, not only in tackling drugs but also homelessness in the Republic of Ireland. He stated that there was a huge drug problem in the Derry area and that violence and imprisonment would not stop a person who was addicted to drugs. He reported that people were able to buy ingredients to make prescription drugs and asked if there were any facilities available where the content of the tablets could be tested in order to minimise the harm to the young people who use them.

In response, Fr McVerry stated that there were no facilities for testing the contents of drugs in tablet form and that many drug users were taking tablet type drugs, total unaware of what they contained.

Mr Brendan Magee, addiction counsellor, addressed the Committee. He stated that children had to be educated about the dangers of drugs. He stated that children, especially males, had to be encouraged to express their feelings and not to bottle them up or told to 'man up'. He added that it was much easier to educate a child than to fix an adult. He urged Members to leave party politics behind and to act before it was too late.

The Chair thanked Fr McVerry and Mr Magee for their 'thought provoking' presentation.

Chairperson's Business

HC28/18 3G Pitch at Eglinton

The Chair reported that he had been contacted by a number of sporting groups, community representatives and Members regarding the possibility of a 3G/4G multi use games area (MUGA) pitch at Eglinton. He stated that discussions had taken place with the relevant officers regarding specific options on the feasibility of the project and that a report would be brought to the next Health and Community Committee meeting.

HC29/18 Confirmation of the Open Minutes of the Health and Community Committee held on Thursday 18 January 2018

On a matter of accuracy, Councillor Carlin referred to HC12/18 and stated that thirty mile radius be changed to thirty miles per hour zone. She then referred to where she had 'asked that consideration be given to extend this to the Mourne and Derg River' and asked that it be amended to the 'Sperrin and Derg DEAs as part of the Foyle Basin'.

It was agreed that the minutes be amended accordingly

Matters Arising

HC30/18 Draft Interagency Protocols in Supporting the Search Process for a Missing Person in the Foyle (HC12/18)

Councillor Carlin referred to the ongoing searches in Derry and Strabane. She stated that the remains of Mrs McHugh had been recovered from the River Foyle and proposed that Council send a letter of condolence to the McHugh family.

HC31/18 Good Relations Audit and Strategy 2018-21 (HC130/77)

The Head of Community Development and Leisure referred to HC13/17 Good Relations Grant Aid 2017/18. He stated that approval had been given to Matchbox Youth Club which was the name of the project, however the payment would be made to St Mary's Youth Club. He asked Members' approval for payment to be made to St Mary's Youth Club.

In response, to Councillor Tierney's request for clarification on the matter, the Head of Community Development and Leisure stated that Matchbox Youth Club was actually the name of the project within St Mary's Youth Club and that clarification was required for audit purposes.

HC32/18 Community Support Programme 2017-18 Additional Support for Front Line Advice Services

The Head of Community Development and Leisure presented Members with the above report, a copy of which had been previously circulated. The purpose of the report was to seek Members approval for the allocation and additional funding provided to Council by Voluntary and Community Unit.

Alderman McClintock proposed the recommendation to accept the funding as the advice centres were in need of the additional resources.

Councillor McGinley seconded the recommendation and stated that it was a busy week for advice centres with the introduction of Universal Credit.

Councillor Cusack stated that it was unfortunate that Council had to accept the funding. She reported that funding to advice services would cease on March 31 and asked what would happen after this date as the impact of the changes to the welfare system were only beginning. She stated that the funding was a pitiful amount and that her constituency office had been inundated with people seeking assistance with their benefits as a result of Universal Credit. She further stated that she had been contacted by representatives that worked within the Department for Communities as they were also unsure how the new system worked. She added that the funding on offer was 'laughable' and that she awaited clarity on the matter.

The Head of Community Development and Leisure stated that the funding offer was for this financial year. He reported that there had

been meetings with the Department for Communities who had indicated that it was likely that advice centre funding would be protected although this was not confirmed. He added that this was a mitigation measure for advice services.

Councillor Tierney stated that clarification was needed regarding next year's budget which should be protected.

In response, the Head of Community Development and Leisure stated that they had met with senior officials within the Department for Communities. He stated that they had indicated a reduction to this year's budget. However, advice services was likely to be protected although the letter of offer was still awaited.

Councillor Tierney stated that because of this and other changes to the welfare system that the budget needed to be increased for next year rather than protected and this should be made clear to the Department for Communities. He stated that advice centres could not meet the current demand and that advisers in the Resource Centre were struggling to work on appeals for people who had been turned down for the Personal Independent Payment (PIP). He believed that applicants were being turned down for PIP in the hope that they would not appeal, as the majority of appeals were being overturned.

The Head of Community Development and Leisure stated that correspondence had been sent to the Permanent Secretary and the senior officials responsible for advice services funding to highlight all of the issues and concerns. He stated that there was an officer forum of all eleven councils were sending the same message to the Department for Communities on the matter.

Councillor Gallagher stated that he did not believe in coincidences and that the £118,000 was on offer after a recent cut of £117,000 to community services. He stated that central government wanted local councils to smooth the road for the rollout of Tory cuts. He added that the funding would be better used fighting against Tory cuts rather than helping to implement them.

Councillor Carlin referred to a quote from Labour's John McDonnell who stated that, 'local councils are being used as a human shield for Tory cuts'. She stated that it was very clearly a Tory cuts policy and that Council had a choice on whether to leave people unprotected and unshielded from those cuts, or help them in whatever way we can. She

stated that Members had to make the best choice for the people that they represented.

The Committee

Recommended that Council accepts the additional funding of £118,401.77 provided by Voluntary and Community Division for allocation to those organisations currently contracted by Council to provide advices services within the Derry City and Strabane District Council area.

HC33/18 Construction of Leafair 3G Ball Catches

The Head of Community Development and Leisure presented the above report, which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to seek Members' approval for the construction of ball catches at Leafair 3G sports pitch.

Councillor Tierney proposed the recommendation for the construction of the ball catches at Leafair as it was a very positive development. He enquired if the Outer North Development Trust was the other funding body involved in the project.

In response, the Head of Community Development and Leisure clarified that Northside Development Trust was the match funding organisation and that amendment to the report should be noted.

Councillor McGinley seconded the recommendation. He referred to the ongoing work at Ballymagroarty and stated that protective fencing was required behind a goal area which bordered onto Swift Court. He stated that it would be useful to have the fence erected whilst works were ongoing.

In response, the Head of Community Development and Leisure stated that he would pass the proposal to the Environment and Regeneration Directorate. He agreed that it was beneficial to have the work incorporated into the project rather than have to carry out a retro fit.

The Committee

Recommended that (i) Members approve the construction of ball catches at Leafair 3G pitch; (ii) Members approve the contribution of £20,000 towards the total cost of the construction.

HC34/18 Rural Development Tender – Resourcing and Supporting the Rural DEAs Across the Council Area

The Head of Community Development and Leisure presented the above report, previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to request Members approval for the issue of a Tender to provide Community Development Support to the Faughan, Derg and Sperrin DEAs.

Councillor Hastings proposed the recommendation contained within the report. He stated that small, rural communities did not have the capacity to offer the support and assistance to community groups compared to neighbourhood renewal areas.

Councillor R McHugh stated that there had been a deficit in the rural areas, particularly in the skills needed to complete tender applications from community groups which had put them at a disadvantage. He stated that this tender would go some way to addressing that disadvantage.

Alderman McClintock concurred with the previous comments and that there were many small rural groups who had been struggling because they did not have the expertise or skills to make applications and that the Tender would give the much needed support in this area.

Councillor P Kelly concurred with the previous comments. However, he felt that the funding was a small drop in the ocean compared to that available within urban areas.

The Committee

Recommended that Members approve the issue of a Tender for the delivery of the Rural Community Development Support Programme for the 2018/19 financial year with possible extension for the

2019/20 financial year subject to the approval of budgets.

HC35/18 Brandywell Stadium CCTV

The Head of Community Development and Leisure presented the above report, which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to update Members on the current requirement for CCTV cameras within the newly refurbished Brandywell Stadium. The report also informed Members that the Privacy Impact Assessment, in line with Council's CCTV Policy and Operating Procedure was being developed and sought comments on the matter.

Councillor Tierney queried if there had been a needs analysis carried out for CCTV at the Brandywell and would it be part of Council's current CCTV agreement. He further queried if CCTV provision had been factored in as part of the original plans for the stadium or would this delay the planned opening.

In response, the Head of Community Development and Leisure stated that there was a requirement for CCTV at all UEFA games for crowd management and security purposes. He further stated that CCTV provision had been factored into the original plans and would not hinder the opening of the stadium. He added that he would provide a more detailed report for Members' information.

The Director for Health and Community clarified that the commissioning of the CCTV system was planned for the following week and there was a need to ensure that Council fully complied with appropriate privacy regulations. She stated that the release of the Privacy Impact Assessment was curtailed until this work had been completed and that all the guidelines regarding crowd safety were addressed.

Councillor P Kelly enquired how much had been spent on CCTV for the stadium. He stated that there was a needs analysis required for CCTV provision in Strabane Town and not just for Brandywell Stadium.

The Head of Community Development and Leisure stated that costs would be contained within the follow up report. He stated that CCTV was required by UEFA as European games would be held at the stadium and they had to follow regulations regarding crowd management and

safety of spectators within sports grounds. This would be a different type of use from CCTV provision in Strabane town or Derry City.

The Director of Health and Community stated that CCTV was part of a contracted sum and that the Project Manager would provide the appropriate costings.

Councillor Campbell welcomed the recommendation as there had been a number of break-ins at the site. He stated that Council had a duty to protect its staff and the public.

Recommended that a follow up report be brought to a future Committee meeting.

HC36/17 Bonfire Working Group and Action Plan

The Head of Community Development and Leisure presented the above report, which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to seek Members' approval for the establishment of a Member-led Bonfire Working Group in line with Council's Bonfire Policy and to seek endorsement of the Community Engagement on Bonfires Action Plan.

Councillor Campbell queried if the current Bonfire Working Group was now defunct.

In response, the Head of Community Development and Leisure stated that the Bonfire Working Group was an internal Council group and that representatives from all of the statutory sectors were invited to become involved in the new working group which was Member-led.

Councillor Campbell informed the Committee that he would be a representative on the new working group.

Alderman McClintock stated that she was happy to agree with the setting up of a multi-agency approach. She expressed her concern as to how active the multi-agencies were within the Community Safety Forum and how they would engage with the individuals who were responsible for building the bonfires. She added that different areas may require a different approach and that it was necessary for engagement to take place in each local area.

Councillor Tierney indicated that he would have preferred a meeting with the previous Bonfire Working Group before the new plan was implemented. He stated that a lot of work had already been carried out and that there was no mention in the recommendation for engagement with the bonfire builders. He stated that previously, all views from the community, the people who built the bonfires and the Community Safety Teams were fed into the working group which subsequently formed the action plan within the policy. He added that it was agreed at the outset within the Bonfire Working Group that everyone in the community had a role to play. He proposed that Members defer making any decision on the recommendation and meet and for a meeting of the current Bonfire Working Group to take place to discuss issues and concerns and decide on an approach going forward. He also felt that the Community Engagement Officer should attend the meeting.

Councillor Carlin stated that communication and education surrounding bonfires was an important issue. She felt that the Good Relations and Media sections could be combined and include an indication of the damage to Good Relations by the burning of flags.

The Head of Community Development and Leisure stated that such would be factored in as part of the Good Relations Action Plan. He stated that Council would not have the resources for officers to be part of two working groups with statutory partners and the community. Therefore, if there was a need for officers to participate in such forums, such could be carried out through existing mechanisms. He stated that there was a separate piece of work within the Action Plan which involved Rubicon Consultancy and officers on the Working Group which was separate from the Community Safety Forums. He further stated that he would reconvene a further meeting with the Bonfire Working Group to highlight all the suggestions put forward by Members. He added that the group would be Member-led and that there was a very detailed action plan which included engagement with bonfire builders throughout the City and District.

Councillor Gallagher stated that he seconded Councillor Tierney's proposal and that he was confused by what Council was trying to achieve after reading the report. He stated that it had been agreed to have a Member-led inclusive policy and action plan.

The Committee

Recommended that Members defer any decisions on the recommendation until a meeting has taken place of the Bonfire Working Group.

HC37/18 Update on the Consultation on Changes to the Affordable Warmth Scheme

The Head of Health and Community Wellbeing presented the above report, which had been previously circulated to Members. The report was for Members to consider the draft Department for Communities (DfC) consultation proposals and consultation response and submit to DfC.

Councillor Cusack welcomed the widening of the scheme and the positive changes regarding the eligibility criteria. She stated that the scheme was hugely popular particularly with the ever increasing fuel poverty which had resulted in people being unable to afford basic home improvements. She welcomed that homeowners could avail of the scheme as they rarely receive any assistance towards improving their homes. She stated that it was disappointing that the current budget did not cover the delivery of the scheme which was a further casualty of having no Executive Government in place. She proposed that Members write to the Permanent Secretary to ensure that funding for the scheme was secured.

Councillor Hastings seconded the proposal. He felt that certainty was needed in terms of waiting lists and jobs.

Alderman McClintock queried if one installer was responsible for the complete works or if local contractors were able to carry out the work.

In response, the Head of Health and Community Wellbeing stated that local contractors would be involved in carrying out works within the scheme. He added that having one installer responsible for overseeing the work would reduce the administration burden.

Councillor McGinley welcomed the report. However, he expressed concern on the reduction of the threshold for single householders had been increased and proposed that the threshold for single householders remain at £20,000.

Councillor Hastings requested clarity to ensure that one firm would not be responsible for rolling out the scheme throughout Northern Ireland.

In response, the Head of Health and Community Wellbeing stated it was his understanding that the Departments proposal in relation to one installer, managing the installation of all measures to the household would not prohibit a wide range of local contractors from carrying out the work. He stated that the proposal of having one installer manage the project would assist both householders and Building control with the administration process and ultimately speed up the installation project.

The Committee

Recommended that Members (i) endorse the consultation response with agree amendment; (ii) that the threshold for single householders remains at £20,000 and (ii) write to the Permanent Secretary to ensure that funding for the Affordable Warmth Scheme would be protected.

HC38/18 Department of Health Consultation on Promoting Human Organ Donation and Transplantation in Northern Ireland

The Head of Health and Community Wellbeing presented the above report, which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was for Members to consider the consultation from the Department of Health (DoH) on promoting human organ donation and transplantation in Northern Ireland.

Councillor Gardiner supported the recommendation for Council to sign the Code of Practice. She stated that 42 percent of the population were currently registered. However, there were still 4,000 people on the transplant waiting list. She stated that the majority of organ transplants were the result of the sudden death of a young person. She felt that it was important that people have conversations with family members on their organ donation intentions as even in the event of presumed consent, many medical staff would have to discuss the possibility of organ harvesting. She added the promotion and education, particularly with young people was very important.

Councillor Carlin stated that everyone should be ambassadors for organ donation and expressed surprise at how many may not have considered registering. She stated that she had a friend who had benefitted from organ donation and a relative who passed away and became an organ donor. She conveyed that the harvesting of his organs enriched and benefitted the lives of a number of people and that her friend had a new joie de vivre after a successful transplant. She urged everyone to sign up to the Organ Donation Register. She then remarked that the target to get 80 percent of people signed up to the Organ Donation Register by 2020 was ambitious and that a lot of work needed to be undertaken to drive the campaign forward.

Alderman McClintock agreed with the previous comments and stated that organ donation had been life changing for so many people. She stated that many people had just not got around to considering the issues and felt that the Code of Practice to promote organ donation could involve an element of education with family members.

The Committee

Recommended that (i) a response to the consultation be submitted to the Department of Health, (ii) Council sign the Code of Practice on Promoting Organ Donation.

Open for Information

HC39/18 Correspondence

The Director of Health and Community presented the above report for information, previously circulated to Members regarding correspondence received by Council.

The Committee

Recommended that Members note the contents of the report.

HC40/18 Consultation List

The Director of Health and Community presented the above report for information, previously circulated to Members regarding consultation papers received by Council.

The Committee

Recommended that Members note the contents of the report.

The Meeting then went into Confidential Business.

The Meeting terminated at 6.20pm

Chairperson: _____

Date: _____

Derry City and Strabane District Council

Open Minutes of Special Planning Committee Meeting held in the Chamber, Guildhall, Derry on Tuesday 13 February 2018 at 11.00am.

Present:- Councillor D Kelly(Chairperson), Alderman Bresland, M Hamilton, McClintock; Councillor Boyle, Gardiner, Hastings, Jackson, Logue, McGuire and R McHugh.

In Attendance:- Development Officer (Mr E Molloy) Principal Planning Officers: (Mrs S McCracken and Mr P McCaughey), Planning Officer (Mrs R McMenamin), Business Officer (Ms L McKean), Committee Services Assistant (Mrs J Short).

SP01/18 Notice and Summons for Meeting

The Development Officer read the Notice and Summons for the Meeting.

SP02/18 Member Attendance and Apologies

Apologies were noted for Alderman Kerrigan.

SP03/18 Declaration of Members' Interests

There were no declarations of interest.

Open for Decision

Chairperson's Business

SP04/18 Request for Pre-Determination Hearing re. Waterside Transport Hub

The Chair reported that a request had been received from the applicant for a Pre-Determination Hearing (PDH) in respect to the Waterside Transport Hub, prior to the presentation of the application at the next Planning Committee meeting.

The Committee

Recommended that Council agree for a Pre-Determination Hearing to be held to discuss the Waterside Transport Hub, to be scheduled prior to the next Planning Committee Meeting.

SP05/18 Planning Application List with Recommendation for Decision

Application returning to Committee:

LA11/2015/0759/F – Proposed alterations to existing public house to include new side access door, ramp and smoking area at 21 Drumahoe Road, L’Derry.

The Principal Planning Officer (PPO) presented the above application, details of which had been previously circulated to Members. She provided an overview of the current status of the application and advised that in light of the matters outlined within the report, Officials continued to maintain an unaltered recommendation to approve planning permission, subject to the conditions as outlined within the report.

Councillor R McHugh joined the meeting at this stage.

The Chair invited Mrs Pentland to address the Committee in objection to the application.

Mrs Pentland, on behalf of the objectors proceeded to address the Committee. She expressed disappointment and stated that despite refurbishment of the property, no change was made to reduce the noise issue and to relocate the smoking area. She asked Committee to consider the detrimental impact the application would have on the residential community in going forward.

The Chair invited Members to seek points of clarification from the objector if they so wished.

Alderman McClintock expressed disappointment that the site meeting had not resolved the issues of concern raised by the objector. Councillor Jackson concurred with the comment.

Mrs Pentland in response to queries raised by Councillor Boyle, explained that the property was refurbished following the recent flooding incident and that it was disappointing to discover that the owner had not availed of the opportunity to upgrade the entire glazing or to relocate the smoking area in order to address the noise complaints from the residents.

She added that the premises had only reopened during recent weeks and it was too early to pass judgement on whether the noise was controlled particularly during live entertainment band sessions and therefore the residents would continue to keep a watchful wait so to speak.

The Chair invited Mr Tate the agent representing the applicant to address the Committee.

Mr Tate proceeded to address the Committee. He reiterated the current position as outlined in detail within the report and assured Members that his Client would continue to work with the residents in order to address any further issues of concern. He referred to the issues raised by Mrs Pentland and assured Members that his Client would ensure that on occasions when there would be live music that there would be a set finishing time. He confirmed that self-closing doors had been installed at the smoking area, the existing perspex glass was upgraded to double glazed glass and the insulation had met with regulated standards.

Mr Tate clarified for Alderman McClintock that his Client was content to meet all of the conditions as outlined in due course.

Discussion ensued after which Alderman Bresland moved, seconded by Alderman McClintock to support the recommendation to approve planning permission.

The outcome of the vote was; For, 7, Against 3, Abstention 1. The proposal was carried.

The Committee

Resolved that planning application LA11/2015/0759/F be approved planning permission, subject to the conditions as outlined within the report.

New Application:

LA11/2017/0968/F – Proposed Class B4 storage and distribution facility with associated factory shop, car parking and ancillary works for O’Neill’s Sports Limited on lands at the junction of Melmount Road and Dublin Road Industrial Estate, Strabane.

The Planning Officer presented the above application details of which had been previously circulated to Members. She provided a detailed overview of the application and based on material consideration and in line with planning policy recommended an approval, subject to the conditions as outlined within the report.

The Chair invited Mr Houston to address the Committee in objection to the application.

Mr Houston who represented a number of the businesses based at the Dublin Road Industrial Estate, stated that whilst the proposed expansion to the business was welcomed there was concern in relation to the condition of the privately owned service road. He explained that the current condition of the road was poor and unsafe and would further deteriorate due to increased traffic flow associated with the proposal. He asked that Officials determine ownership, as it was considered an opportune time for the road to be restored to an adoptable standard.

Mr Molloy advised that DfI would be contacted to establish road ownership and the outcome would be reported at a future meeting of the Environment and Regeneration Committee.

Discussion ensued after which Councillor McGuire moved, seconded by Councillor Boyle to support the recommendation to approve planning permission. The outcome of the vote was unanimous support of the proposal.

The Committee

**Resolved that planning application
LA11/2017/0968/F be approved planning**

permission subject to the conditions as outlined within the report.

Open for Information

SP06/18 LDP Project Update

The Principal Planning Officer presented the above report, details of which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to update Members on the current situation with the preparation of the Council's Local Development Plan (LDP 2032), and to alert Members that a full update report would be tabled at the next Planning Committee Meeting to be held on 7 March 2018.

Councillor McGuire requested that a brief update report on the LDP be provided for information at all future Planning Committee meetings.

The Committee

Recommended that Council notes the above report and if any party wished to change their nominated representative on the LDP Project Steering Group, to advise the Head of Planning before 20 February 2018. It was also agreed that a progress update report would be provided at all future Planning Committee meetings.

The Meeting ended at 12.25pm.

**Signed: _____
Chairperson**

Date: _____

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|--|---|
| Title of Report: Responses to Motions | Officer Presenting: Chief Executive Author: Lead Democratic Services and Improvement Officer |
|--|---|

1 Purpose of Report/Recommendations

- 1.1 To advise Members of correspondence received in relation to Motions passed by Council.

2 Correspondence Received

- 2.1 Motion – Health Service Concerns

At the Meeting of Council held on 25 January 2018 the following Motion was passed:

That this Council is deeply concerned about the problems in our health service and the ever-growing pressures; recognises that without the heroic efforts of our health service staff these problems would be a whole lot worse; further recognises that with growing waiting lists and fewer nurses; there is no time to wait for action and there must be political movement; believes that the only way to deal with the challenges facing patients, doctors and nurses is to advance health service transformation; commits to writing to party leaders calling for political will and leadership and urging them to ensure healthcare is prioritised; further commits to writing to the Head of the Civil Service and the Permanent Secretary of the Department of Health raising the Councils concerns about workforce planning, waiting times and service.

- 2.2 A holding response was received from Aimee Morrow HOCS Office, Stormont, attached at Appendix 1.

3 Recommendations

- 3.1 Members to note the replies received.

Background Papers

Appendix 1- Correspondence dated 9 February 2018, The Executive Office.

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From: "Morrow, Aimee" <Aimee.Morrow@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk>
Date: 9 February 2018 at 09:55:38 GMT
To: "john.kelpie@derrystrabane.com" <john.kelpie@derrystrabane.com>, "chiefexecutive@derrystrabane.com" <chiefexecutive@derrystrabane.com>
Subject: Acknowledgement: Our ref: COR29/18 - Health Service Pressures

Mr Kelpie

Many thanks for your letter of 6 February to David Sterling re pressures facing the Health Service.

I can confirm that your correspondence is receiving attention and that a response will issue in due course.

Kind regards

Aimee

Aimee Morrow
HOCS Office
Stormont Castle
Belfast
BT4 3TT
028 90 378131 ext 88131

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Sealing List February 2018

Documents Sealed 22nd February 2018

Grant of Right of Burial in Ballyoan Cemetery

Mr Michael Lynch, 13 Moira Park, Lisburn, BT28 1SJ

Grants of Right of Burial in City Cemetery

Mrs Deirdre Campbell, 177 Carnhill, Derry, BT48 6BQ.
Mr Joseph Ferry, 166 Hatmore Park, Derry, BT48 0QJ.
Mrs Mairead Brennan, 100 Victoria Road, Derry, BT47 2RN.
Mr George Boyle, 2 Windsor Terrace, Derry, BT48 7HQ.
Mr Freddy Daly, 25 Glenvale Park, Derry, BT48 0GA.
Mr Peter Vail, 55 Petrie Way, Derry, BT48 8PW.
Mr Jimmy Hammett, 3 Cromore Gardens, Derry, BT48 9TF.
Mrs Rosaleen Wilson, 125 Bishop Street, Derry, BT48 6SU.
Mr Joseph McMonagle, 21 Cable Street, Derry, BT48 9HF.
Mr Seamus Quigley, 9 Glendale Drive, Derry, BT48 8GD.
Mrs Moya McClafferty, 18 Belmont Crescent, Derry, BT48 7RR.
Mrs Pam Cross, 98 Westway, Creggan, Derry, BT48 9NT.
Ms Mary White, 57 Carrickreagh Gardens, Derry, BT48 9QW.
Mr Sean McGillan, 4 Broadway, Creggan, Derry, BT48 9NS.
Ms Chloe McGilloway, 22 Central Drive, Derry, BT48 9QQ.
Mr Alphonsus McCaul, 22 Glenbank Road, Derry, BT48 0BA.
Mr Adrian Kelly, 31 Ballymagowan Avenue, Derry, BT48 9QR.
Mr Ned Kennedy, 9 Drumcliffe Avenue, Derry, BT48 9EZ.
Mrs Cecilia Doherty, 1 Forest Park, Derry, BT48 0JN

Grants of Right of Burial in Mountcastle Burial Ground

Lynn Buchanan, 14 Stoneyfalls Park, Donemana, Strabane, Co Tyrone, BT82 0BF
William Bresland, 4 Killycurry Road, Artigarvan, Strabane, Co Tyrone, BT82 0JY

Grants of Right of Burial in Castledearg Burial Ground

Joseph Galbraith, 20 Eden Park, Castledearg, Co Tyrone, BT81 7BD
Andrew Galbraith, 23 Hospital Road, Castledearg, Co Tyrone, BT81 7BU

Grants of Right of Burial in Strabane Burial Ground

Lorna Kildea, 39 Olympic Drive, Strabane, Co Tyrone, BT82 9BA
Roy Hetherington, 21 Ballee Road, Strabane, Co Tyrone, BT82 OAA

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