

## **Derry City and Strabane District Council**

**Open Minutes of Health and Community Committee of Derry City and Strabane District Council held in the Council Chamber, Guildhall, Derry on Thursday 14 September 2017 at 4.00pm.**

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

**Non-Members of Committee: - Alderman Hussey; Councillors Donnelly, and P Kelly .**

**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).**

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### **HC173/17 Notice and Summons for Meeting**

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

### **HC174/17 Members Attendance and Apologies**

There were no apologies.

### **HC175/17 Declarations of Members' Interests**

Alderman Thompson declared an interest in the following agenda items:

- Agenda item 24 – Derry and Strabane Policing and Community Safety Partnership Funding Update
- Agenda item 25 – Derry and Strabane Policing and Community Safety Partnership Annual Report 2016/17.

Councillor McGinley declared an interest in the following agenda items:

- Agenda item 24 – Derry and Strabane Policing and Community Safety Partnership Funding Update
- Agenda item 25 – Derry and Strabane Policing and Community Safety Partnership Annual Report 2016/17.

Councillor Jackson declared an interest in the following agenda item:

- Agenda item 24 – Derry and Strabane Policing and Community Safety Partnership Funding Update.

Councillor Tierney declared an interest in the following agenda item:

- Agenda item 24 – Derry and Strabane Policing and Community Safety Partnership Funding Update.

Councillor Hastings declared an interest in the following agenda item:

- Agenda item 24 – Derry and Strabane Policing and Community Safety Partnership Funding Update.

### **Open for Decision**

#### **HC176/17 Deputation: Western Health and Social Care Trust – Consultation on Draft 2017/18 Savings Plan Proposals**

The Chairperson welcomed Mr Kieran Downey, Director of Women's and Childrens Services and Executive Director of Social Work, Western Health and Social Care Trust (WHST); Mrs Leslie Mitchell, Director of Finance and Contracting; Mr Bob Brown, Director for Primary Care and Older Persons; Ms Teresa Molloy, Director of Performance and Service Improvement; Mr Trevor Millar, Director of Adult Mental Health and Disability Services and Mr Dermot Hughes, Medical Director and invited them to make their presentation.

Before making the presentation, Mr Downey expressed apologies from the following: Dr Anne Kilgallen, Chief Executive; Ms Ann McConnell, Director of Human Resources and Geraldine McKay, Director of Acute Services.

The representatives proceeded to deliver the presentation on the Draft Savings Proposals highlighting the following:

- The Trust Board had approved a draft savings plan for consultation
- Department of Health has asked the Health and Social Care Trusts to consult on proposals to release £70m cash
- £12.5m is the share from WHST
- Trust intends to undertake extensive engagement with the public, key stakeholders and staff
- Will listen to all views on impacts and other possibilities for savings in its consultation report
- Plans and proposals to include:

1. Reduce Goods and Services Spend
2. Apply vacancy controls (£510k)
3. Accelerate efficiency projects (£950k)
4. Increase income to the Trust (£900k)
5. Reduction in agency spend (£1.63m)
6. Temporarily reduce routine elective activity (£1.780m)
7. Operate a cap on agency locum payment rates (£700k)
8. Temporarily reduce the provision of Domiciliary Care and Nursing Home packages (£1.16m)
9. Consolidate services onto fewer sites; Merge William Street and Rectory Field and reform Gortin, Dromore and Rosslea daycare services (£170k)
10. Apply additional vacancy controls across services and accrue in year savings due to revised annual leave policy (£1m)
11. Temporarily reduce or delay some service developments (£2.49m)
12. Remodel/reform neonatal and Older Peoples Liaison Services on a temporary basis (£470k).

A Member of the DUP grouping thanked the representatives for their presentation. She stated that an awful situation had been imposed upon the Trust by having to make the cuts which would have long term implications. She enquired if the extra funding awarded to the Trust to help deal with issues surrounding high numbers of locum staff and looked-after children would still be allocated.

In response, Mrs Mitchell confirmed that they would receive additional funding to cover exceptional costs such as looked-after children and locum staff.

A Member of the Sinn Fein grouping expressed major concerns as the majority of the proposals were contrary to the plan as set out by Minister O'Neill. He referred to the consultation events and enquired if there had been any consultation with the Trade Unions regarding the proposals. He also referred to the proposals for flexible staff and locums where the objective would be to protect front line staff and services. He expressed his concern that the staff were already under existing pressure and stated any cuts to this provision would have a direct effect on available beds. He stated that the proposals regarding elective care was very concerning as waiting lists were already too long with some patients waiting for up to four years for elective care. He added that the extended waiting lists may also cause medical problems in the long term which would have further expense for the Trust. He

further stated that the proposed cuts to domiciliary care would be a direct attack on the most vulnerable as some people may have to remain in hospital because of a care package not being in place. With reference to the proposed merger between Rectory Field and William Street, he stated that a lot of older people do need and rely on care and support so once again it is an attack on the most vulnerable. He added that the residents will be devastated by this news as they were left with an uncertain future.

Mr Downey stated that he had noted the comments which will form part of the response to the consultation document.

Ms Molloy stated that the Trust valued the relationship with Trade Union colleagues and had spent a long time fostering those relationships. She reported that Trade Unions were very exercised in the proposals that all Trusts had included in their consultation plans. She added that whilst they may come from different perspectives they were very committed to continuing to engage and ensure that everyone was well informed whilst working through the consultation process.

Mr Dermot Hughes, stated that the trust had a budget of £17m for medical locums and the trust was attempting to reduce this. He further reported there was a high reliance on locum staff because of the distance of the Trust area from Belfast.

He referred to domiciliary care with the proposal to merge Rectory Field and William Street Nursing homes and stated that as a member of the nursing profession, there was a responsibility to the most vulnerable. He explained the reason for the proposal was that almost £40m was spent on domiciliary packages and the Trust had to look at what services had significant expenditure. He stated that the vulnerability and uncertainty of those individuals must be taken into consideration and they would be consulting with residents and staff. He added the merger could actually improve services for older people in those homes as both environments could be enhanced.

A Member of the SDLP grouping thanked the representatives for their presentation. One of the proposals she referred to was the issue of unpaid leave. She stated that staff were already under pressure with working above and beyond and her understanding of carrying over annual leave was that it occurred in the course of your duties and were unable to take it because of work commitments. She felt that there was no way that Council could support the proposals as the cuts would create the perfect storm as it discriminated against people who could

not afford private health care. She then asked the Trust Executives if the problems could be solved by the restoration of the power-sharing executive at Stormont.

In response, Mr Downey stated that neither he nor other Trust members could comment on the current political situation. He further stated that the task was firmly fixed on trying to ensure delivery of a range of proposals to consult on for a 6 week period and that they would hear the opinions of the people, staff, users of our service and our political representatives. He stated that they had a professional responsibility but also had a responsibility to break even. He referred to the staff annual leave entitlement carry over and reported that the Trust depended on their committed staff whom they believed were the best that there is. He added that this was an opportunity for the Trust to make savings to meet their £12.5m target that did not directly impact on patient care.

An Independent Member of Council commented that he had looked at the savings plan which was a cut to health and social care and would impact on many lives. He felt that Council should be consulted on how to challenge these proposed cuts. He then asked Mr Downey if the Trust had questioned why the cuts were happening.

In response, Mr Downey reported that since 8 August 2017, they had been fixed on attempting to put proposals out for consultation within a very short timeframe. He informed Members that the money had already been deducted from the budget and that the Trust had a legal responsibility to break even. He added that since that date there had been engagement with the Directors of Service and Performance Improvement and Chief Executives to consider how to move forward.

A non-committee Independent Member of Council commented on the proposals and the impact on patients. He stated that the increase in car park charges would have an effect on low income families especially those who had to attend hospital because of long term illness. He referred to the proposals regarding Gortin Day Care Centre that was regularly used by residents from Plumbridge and Cranagh and stated that this was targeting the most vulnerable in our City and District. He added that DUP and Sinn Fein, must now put their heads together and see what effects these cuts would have on our communities.

A non-committee Member of the UUP grouping stated that he appreciated the situation and was of the legal obligations of the Trust. However, he stated that there had been no mention of the moral obligations of the Trust and how that would affect the electorate. He

further stated that some of the proposals that were outlined were irreversible as once the process began there would be services that would not return to our community and that the Political aspects must be addressed.

A non-committee Independent Member of Council stated that this was a planned attack on the most vulnerable in our society. He referred to the proposed merger of Rectory Field and William Street nursing homes and expressed concern on the affect this would have on the residents who needed to be cared for.

A Member of the SDLP grouping expressed her shock at the proposals. She queried the reason and the rationale behind the cuts-; who was responsible for them, and if there was any way they could be reversed. She asked if the lack of an Executive at Stormont was the reason. She stated that it was highly insulting and offensive for parties in the Chamber to wax lyrical about how terrible the situation was when they could do something about it.

Mr Downey stated that he could not comment on the political situation. He commented that the team were ensuring that the Trust was run with the available resources that were in place.

A Member of the DUP grouping remarked that there was no easy way to make the proposed cuts. She stated that the politicians had a responsibility and called on all parties to get back into Stormont immediately.

A Member of the Sinn Fein grouping stated that the reason the province did not have an Executive was because of the very absence of equality in the Government. He added that until there was equality, respect and integrity there would not be an Assembly.

The Chair thanked the trust for their presentation outlining the proposed cuts and encouraged everyone to make their response and hoped that some positive results could be achieved.

The Committee

**Recommended that Members make their recommendations to the consultation document by 13 October 2017.**

## **HC177/17 Chairperson's Business**

### **Vandalism Attack on Christ Church**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the Chamber after the Summer recess. He expressed his condemnation at the recent attack on Christ Church and asked anyone who had any information to pass it on to the PSNI.

## **HC178/17 Confirmation of the Open Minutes of the Health and Community Committee held on Thursday 6 July 2017**

The open Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 July 2017 (HC142/17 – HC171/17) were confirmed and signed by the Chairperson as correct.

## **Matters Arising**

### **HC179/17 Renewal of Entertainment Licence for Granny Annie's, Waterloo Street, Derry (HC159/17) – (Amusement Permit for Oasis)**

An Independent Member of Council expressed his concern that a renewal licence had been granted for an amusement arcade that had been transferred from Bank Place to Shipquay Street. He stated that the licence had been subject to a Court ruling in June 2017 and reported that the licence should not have been a renewal but a new application. He added that subject to the findings in the report that all matters in this application be suspended in order to ensure that proper procedures were followed.

The Director of Health and Community stated that the legal team had advised the matter had been raised at a recent Audit Committee meeting and had referred the matter for assessment by a QC and were awaiting advice.

The Independent Member appreciated the response however, felt that there should have been a suspension of those matters.

The Chair stated that Officers were waiting on legal information on the matter.

### **HC180/17 Information Sharing Protocol with Department for Communities Landlord Registrar**

The Head of Health and Community Wellbeing presented Members with the above report, a copy of which had been previously circulated. The purpose of the report was to seek Members' approval to sign a revised information sharing protocol with the Department for Communities Landlord Registrar.

A Member of the SDLP grouping commented on the report stating that there were a lot of derelict properties within the City and District. She enquired if Officers would have the contact details of all the landlords in the area if there were any issues regarding properties.

The Head of Health and Community Wellbeing informed the Member that there was a full list of contact details.

The Committee

**Recommended that Council approves the signing of the revised Information Sharing Protocol provided by the Landlord Registrar.**

**HC181/17 Consultation on the proposed Food Hygiene (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2017**

The Head of Community Health and Wellbeing presented the above report, which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to inform Members on the consultation on the draft Food Hygiene (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2017.

A Member of the DUP grouping referred to raw drinking milk and enquired about farmers and their families who drank the milk directly from cows.

In response, the Head of Community Health and Wellbeing stated that farmers would be aware of the risk and this legislation and amendment concentrated on the labelling of processed products to increase consumer awareness.

The Committee

**Recommended that Council approves Derry City and Strabane District Council's response to the consultation on the draft Food**

**Hygiene (Amendment) Regulations  
(Northern Ireland) 2017.**

**HC182/17 Annual Health and Safety and Consumer Protection Plan 2017/18**

The Head of Health and Community Wellbeing presented the above report, which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to seek Members' approval of the Health and Safety and Consumer Protection Service Plan for 2017/18 for the Environmental Health Service.

A Member of the Sinn Fein grouping welcomed the report which highlighted the work undertaken by Officers and encouraged them to keep up the dialogue with businesses to encourage best practice and advice.

A Member of the SDLP grouping enquired if the regulations had changed or extended with a more rigorous approach.

In response, the Head of Health and Community Wellbeing stated that the regulations were broadly similar to the previous ones. However, the priority areas had changed in terms of identifying which areas officers would target.

The Committee

**Recommended that Council approves the proposed  
Health and Safety and Consumer  
Protection Service Plan 2017/18.**

**HC183/17 Health, Housing and Public Conveniences Team Service Plan**

The Head of Health and Community Wellbeing presented the above report, which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to seek Members' approval of the Health, Housing and Public Conveniences Service Plan for 2017/18.

The Committee

**Recommended that Council approves the Health,  
Housing and Public Conveniences Service  
Plan for 2017/18.**

**HC184/17 Transposition of the Medium Combustion Plant Directive including the regulation of thermal electricity generators**

The Head of Health and Community Wellbeing presented the above report, which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to inform Members on the consultation on Transposition of the Medium Combustion Plant Directive (MCPD) including the regulation of thermal electricity generators.

The Committee

**Recommended that Council approves the DCSDC response to the consultation on Transposition of the Medium Combustion Plant Directive including the regulation of thermal electricity generators.**

**HC185/17 Air Quality and Health Programme**

The Head of Health and Community Wellbeing presented the above report, which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to seek Members' approval for the adoption of the Air Quality and Health Programme funded by the Public Health Agency.

The Committee

**Recommended that Council approves the adoption of the Air Quality and Health Programme.**

**HC186/17 Sunday Trading**

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 whether the Council should extend the designated area or specific part(s) of the Council area as a holiday resort under the provisions of Article 6 of the Shops (Sunday Trading & c) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997.

A Member of the SDLP grouping recommended that Council hold a consultation with the Trade Unions on this issue. She stated that there

would be implications for people employed in the larger stores if the opening hours were extended. She further stated that in terms of Strabane coming under the designation of holiday resort, the type of businesses that would attract tourism would be small, family owned shops, coffee shops, craft and jewellery and these shops can already trade for extended hours, therefore the impact would only be on the larger stores.

A Member of the Sinn Fein grouping stated that the deputation by USDAW at the July Committee meeting showed evidence of why Council should not adopt the proposal and recommended that Members did not approve the proposal.

An Independent Member of Council stated that Council should be attempting to create tourism, in the Strabane area instead of designating it as a holiday resort.

A Member of the SDLP grouping stated for clarification that the former Derry City Council area had already been designated a holiday resort but there was not the same parity for Strabane. She expressed her concerns that there had been no responses to the consultation and that it was the decision for the people of Strabane. The Member proposed that the recommendation be deferred until Council had consulted with the people of Strabane.

A non-committee Member of the UUP grouping enquired if a corporate body could have a section designated as a holiday resort and another not. He felt that the description 'holiday resort' was not suitable.

The Head of Health and Community Wellbeing confirmed that he understood this to be the case.

The Committee

**Recommended that Council does not support the recommendation to designate the legacy Strabane District Council areas as a holiday resort under Article 6 of the Shops (Sunday Trading & c) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997.**

The Head of Health and Community Wellbeing presented the above report, previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to inform Members of Entertainment and Street Trading Licence Applications recently granted under delegated authority and to seek Members' approval to grant the renewal of an Entertainment Licence for Granny Annie's, Waterloo Street, Derry.

A Member of the DUP grouping enquired if there had been any recent complaints regarding the noise levels at Ebrington Square.

The Head of Health and Community Wellbeing confirmed that there had been complaints and noise monitoring was being carried out as part of an ongoing investigation.

A Member of the SDLP grouping referred to the entertainment licence for Granny Annie's and enquired if residents were happy with the outcome and whether the noise levels will continue to be monitored.

The Head of Health and Community Wellbeing stated that noise levels would be continually monitored and the licence was due for renewal in November 2017 with consultation through public advertising and confirmed if the owners were not compliant with the conditions of the licence, it would be revoked.

### **The Committee**

**Recommended**      **that (i) Council approves the renewal of an Entertainment Licence for Granny Annie's, Waterloo Street, Derry with the noise condition specified as '*Music noise levels in the 63Hz and 125Hz octave frequency bands (Leq) should be controlled so as not to exceed (in habitable rooms of adjacent residential property) 51dB and 39dB (Leq), respectively, and (ii) that the Entertainment Licence may be revoked if conditions are not adhered to.***

**HC188/17      The Roads Miscellaneous Provisions Act (NI) 2010 – Prohibition or restriction of use of public roads for Special Events**

The Head of Health and Community Wellbeing presented the above report, which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to seek Members' approval in relation to fees, delegated powers and administration process for the restriction or closing of roads.

A Member of the Sinn Fein grouping expressed his concern on the process and asked to defer the recommendation so Members can have more details. He referred to the conversations between SOLACE NI and the Permanent Secretary but there had been no opportunity for Members to discuss the matter. He commented on the lack of engagement with Elected Members. He also raised concerns from a community perspective regarding the administration fees and newspaper advertising for small local events such as fun days. The Member suggested writing to the Permanent Secretary to have the concerns addressed and stated that Sinn Fein would be opposed to the recommendation that small community groups would have to pay administration and advertising costs. He enquired if any organisation that applied through the parades commission were exempt from this particular process.

The Head of Health and Community Wellbeing stated that groups who had applied to the Parades Commission and submitted the 11/1 form would be exempt from this process.

The Committee

**Recommended**      **that Council (i) defers the decision in relation to the administration of licence application process, fees and delegated powers until Members have received more information on the process and (ii) A letter is sent to the Permanent Secretary to seek clarification on the Commencement Order and to have Members' concerns addressed.**

**HC189/17      Review of Public Convenience Service Provision for the Derry City and Strabane District Council Area**

The Head of Health and Community Wellbeing presented the above report, which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to seek Members' approval of the recommendations of the Working Group tasked with reviewing the current provision of public conveniences in the Derry City and Strabane District Council area.

A non-committee Member of the UUP grouping stated that as a member of the Public Convenience group he wished to clarify a situation regarding the Community Toilet Scheme (CTS). He referred to the recommendation to close automatic toilets in Castledearg and Victoria Market with the feasibility of providing a permanent Council toilet facility at Castle Site, Castledearg, therefore closure of the public toilet in Castledearg was dependent on the successful implementation of the CTS. He stated that he hoped for a successful feasibility study for the Castle Site.

A non-committee Independent Member of Council expressed his concerns regarding the recommendation to close the public conveniences at Cranagh. He stated that the scenic area was popular with tourists. He stated that the Head of Tourism was planning a visit to the area and will be informed of Council's plans. He asked that Officers consult with Cranagh residents and businesses and reconsider closing the public conveniences at Cranagh as it would have an impact on visitors to the area.

A Member of the Sinn Fein grouping referred to the toilet facilities in Castledearg and agreed with the comments made by the Member of the UUP grouping that toilet facilities in Castledearg and Victoria Market did not close until the implementation of the CTS.

The Director of Health and Community stated that the recommendations would be taken on board and a timeline and relevant consultation would be developed before any action took place.

A Member of the SDLP grouping stated that the issue was not the need for toilet provision but how often the facilities would be used. He added that the logic should be based on usage and cost.

A non-committee Member of the UUP grouping referred to toilet provision at Cranagh which was to become part of the CTS. He stated that the Member of the SDLP grouping was correct in identifying the number of people who actually use the facility. He added that the issue

was how the CTS will alleviate the difficulty of removing the actual facility.

An Independent Member of Council reminded Members that members of the public had incurred criminal convictions arising from lack of toilet provision.

The Head of Community Health and Wellbeing outlined briefly some of the considerations when making the decisions on toilet provision and reported that the CTS had received expressions of interest. He stated that Officers had consulted with local businesses, many of which have supported the idea. He reported that the contract for Victoria Market and Castleberg was £30,000 per annum and would not generate a lot of income in terms of usage. Therefore the CTS in terms of financial incentive to make toilets of good quality available to the public was the way forward.

A non-committee Independent Member of Council stated that the scheme may work in the City but was not suitable for the rural areas.

The Committee

**Recommended that Council approves the recommendations with the proviso that (i) the timeline for provision of permanent toilet facilities in Castleberg is agreed prior to closures taking place: (ii) consultation takes place in Cranagh.**

After a vote was taken by a show of hands the result was as follows:-  
For – 8; Against – 0; Abstentions – 0. The proposal was carried.

### **HC190/17 Automatic Flushing Shower Units for Sports Pavilions**

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 installation of Automatic Flushing Shower Units to Sports Pavilions across the Council area.

The Committee

**Recommended that Council approves the procurement and installation of Automatic Flushing Units in Council Sports Pavilions.**

**HC191/17 Everybody Active 2020 Active Awards Grant Aid for Sports Clubs**

The Head of Community Development and Leisure presented the above report, which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was for Members' approval on the joint grant aid programme for sports clubs in 2018/2019.

The Committee

**Recommended that Council approves the delivery of the 2018/2019 Grant Aid programme, subject to confirmation of external funding from Sport NI.**

**HC192/17 Neighbourhood Renewal Active Citizenship through Sport 2017/18 update**

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 funding secured to implement the Neighbourhood Renewal Active Citizenship through Sport Project.

A Member of the DUP grouping referred to item 3.3 in the report and enquired how the programme costs were allocated.

The Head of Community Development and Leisure explained that the model used was similar to the one used with the Advice Services, based on population and deprivation.

A non-committee Member of the UUP grouping enquired if any of the five areas were based on population.

In response, the Head of Community Development and Leisure stated that in terms of population he did not have the exact figures but it was approximately in the region of 2:1.

The Committee

**Recommended** that Council approves the delivery of the Strabane allocation of £7,112.72 programme costs.

#### **HC193/17 Community Services Emergency Fund**

The Head 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 on the allocation of a Community Emergency Fund to community and sporting groups operating within the Council area. He noted that since the report was issued, a further group, Kilcooney Cricket Club was allocated emergency funding.

A Member of the Sinn Fein grouping requested details on any groups turned down for the emergency funding. The Head of Community Development and Leisure agreed to provide same.

The Committee

**Recommended** that Council approves the allocation of £10,000 to the 18 Community and Sporting organisations, to include Kilcooney Cricket Club.

#### **Open for Information**

#### **HC194/17 Drinking Water Report for Northern Ireland 2016**

The Head of Health and Community Wellbeing presented the above report for information, previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to inform Members of a report produced by Northern Ireland Water on drinking water quality in the Derry City and Strabane District Council area during 2016.

The Committee

**Recommended** that Members note the contents of the report.

**HC195/17 Social Investment Fund: Community Premises Support Programme**

The Head of Community Wellbeing and Leisure presented the above report for information, previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to provide Members with an update on the Social Investment Fund Community Premises Support Programme.

The Committee

**Recommended that Members note the contents of the report.**

**HC196/17 Derry and Strabane Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP) Funding Update 2017/18**

The Head of Community Development and Leisure presented the above report for information, previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to update Members in relation to funding support for the Derry and Strabane PCSP.

The Committee

**Recommended that Members note the contents of the report.**

**HC197/17 Derry and Strabane Policing and Community Safety Partnership Annual Report 2016/17**

The Head of Community Development and Leisure presented the above report for information, previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to inform Members of the Derry and Strabane Policing and Community Safety Partnership (PCSP Annual Report for 2017/17).

A non-committee Independent Member of Council referred to the list of future strategic priorities in the report and noted that there was no provision for CCTV in Strabane Town or the Community Warden Scheme for the rural area.

In response, the Head of Community Development and Leisure stated that the report contained provision for the 2016/17 financial year. The Community Safety Warden Scheme was Derry based as a proportion of the funding came from Ulster University. However, subject to 2018/19

PCSP budget, Officers were assessing the implications of extending the Community Safety Warden Scheme into the rural areas.

An Independent Member of Council highlighted a matter of accuracy within the report. He stated that there were 4 Independent Elected Members and not 7 elected after the 2015 Elections.

The Director of Health and Community stated that the necessary changes would be made.

A Member of the Sinn Fein grouping stated that prior to the amalgamation of Councils, the issue of CCTV in Strabane District Council would have been subject to consultation within the local community as people did have strong views on this issue with not everyone in agreement with it. She then referred to the Community Safety Warden Scheme and stated that the scheme had been in operation in Strabane for a short period of time. However, it was not particularly effective as the wardens worked for G4S and were not familiar with the area. She referred to the Mourne Search and Rescue Group who provided a very valuable service to the area. She proposed that when future provision was being considered for the Strabane Town area, that home grown organisations would be recommended as they provided on the ground services in terms of providing adequate provision and monitoring of behaviour in Strabane.

A non-committee Member of the UUP grouping commented on the lack of Community Safety Wardens in the Strabane area and hoped the PCSP had taken this into consideration. He stated that Mourne Search and Rescue Group had been adopted as a community safety team by the people in Strabane. However, when Community Safety Wardens were on the ground in areas such as Castlederg, Donemana, Sion Mills and Newtownstewart, they were welcomed and accepted by the community. He stated that the scheme operated on a yearly basis which meant there was no continuity within the service. He referred to funding by Ulster University to the CSWS and stated that NIHE also contributed to the scheme and therefore had a responsibility to become more involved in the wider area.

The Committee

**Recommended that Members note the contents of the report.**

**HC198/17 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.**

**HC199/17 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 6.25pm

**Chairperson:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

