

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 16 November 2017 at 4.00pm.

Present: - Councillor R McHugh (Acting Chair); Alderman R Hamilton, Councillors Campbell, Carlin, Cusack, Duffy, Gallagher, Gardiner, Hastings, Jackson, McGinley and Tierney.

Non-Members of Committee: - Aldermen Hussey and Warke; Councillors Carr and D 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).

HC227/17 Notice and Summons for Meeting

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

HC228/17 Members Attendance and Apologies

The Director of Health and Community recorded Members attendance. There were apologies received from Aldermen McClintock and Thompson (Chair).

HC229/17 Declarations of Members' Interests

Councillor Duffy declared an interest in the following agenda item:

- Agenda item 15 – Everybody Active 2020 Grant Aid Programme.

Councillor Carlin declared an interest in the following agenda item:

- Agenda item 13 – Grant Aid Programme 2018/2019.

Councillor McGinley declared an interest in the following agenda item:

- Agenda item 15 – Everybody Active 2020 Grant Aid Programme.

Open for Decision

HC230/17 Deputation: The Executive Office and Co-operation Ireland – Tackling Paramilitary Activity, Criminality and Organised Crime

The Chairperson welcomed Angela Fitzpatrick and Linsey Farrell, Director of Urban Villages, Racial Equality and Communities in Transition Division TEO and Mr Anthony Quinn, Co-operation Ireland, to the meeting. He then invited them to make their presentation to the Committee.

Ms Fitzpatrick proceeded to deliver the presentation to Members highlighting the following:

- Action B4 – where The Executive should establish a fund to support ambitious initiatives aimed at building capacity in communities in transition, including through developing partnerships across civil society and across community divisions.
- Building Capacity to Support Transition – Building the capacity of communities transitioning away from violence and the impact of coercive control is complex and a whole society issue.
- Synergies with other related Executive programmes; Good Relations, TBUC and Community Planning.
- Stage 1 – PQQ and Stage 2 – Tender, have been completed.
- Strategic Partner appointed on 29 September 2017.
- First Phase to be completed by the end of February 2018.
- Under Phase 1 the consortium will undertake a co-design and stakeholder engagement process
- The Second Phase from April 2018 to March 2021 will include the oversight, co-ordination, monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the plan.
- Geographical areas for the plan include: New Lodge and Greater Ardoyne; Shankill, including Woodvale; Larne, Carrickfergus and Lurgan; Lower Falls, Twinbrook, Poleglass, Upper Springfield, Turf Lodge and Ballymurphy; Brandywell and Creggan; Ballymacarrett, Clondeboye and Conlig.
- Plan will include liaison with Statutory Service Providers, Elected Representatives, Community Representatives and Paramilitary associates.

The Acting Chair thanked the representatives for their presentation and invited comments from Members.

Councillor McGinley welcomed the representatives and stated that due to the nature of the issues being addressed by the scheme, a very careful and sensitive approach was required. He further stated that an element of the plan would be the active participation of communities within the areas highlighted and added that adequate resources had to be made available for those areas for confidence to be instilled within the communities. He then commented that those tasked with upholding the law were also held accountable in the process. He added that he looked forward to a further meeting with the representatives to furnish Members with more details on the programme.

Mr Quinn, explained that the plan had a two stage process including an initial fact finding phase; then establishing liaison groups which would invite suggestions and ideas on how the plan would progress. He stated that the liaison groups would continue to work throughout the delivery of the plan as situations within communities would be expected to change and they had to respond to those changes. He added that the transition was a process of participation and engagement.

Councillor Tierney concurred with Councillor McGinley's comments regarding resources and building confidence within the communities for a successful delivery of the programme and the outcomes. He raised concerns with the research which had identified eight target areas for the programme particularly the Bogside and Brandywell which had been acknowledged as having the most paramilitary activity within the City and District. Councillor Tierney stated that he disputed the information as over the last number of months, the increase locally had been in the Ballyarnett District Electoral Area (DEA). He referred to the academic assessments submitted as part of the plan but emphasised that local input was a vital element in the process. He enquired if there was adequate funding for the plan given the current political situation.

In response, Ms Farrell stated that there had been academic work commissioned last year on behalf of the Tackling Paramilitarism Programmes Board (TPPB). She reported that the academics considered a range of data including housing, intimidation and paramilitary style attacks with the collated information brought to the Programme Board. She referred to the areas identified within the plan and stated that the TPPB had ascertained those areas would achieve maximum impact in those particular communities. She further stated

that those areas were a starting point for supporting communities in transition and welcomed any new developments to update information on areas that could be included in the programme. Ms Farrell reported that in terms of resources, these were being jointly provided by The Executive Office and the Treasury.

Mr Quinn stated that without input from the local community, the programme could not be delivered successfully and that it was vital that those local communities were at the centre of the delivery process.

Councillor Gallagher raised concerns that the scheme was very 'Belfast heavy' and Belfast would be allocated the majority of resources. He felt that 3 to 4 months would not be an adequate timescale for the first phase of the programme. He then referred to the involvement of Elected Representatives in the programme and enquired if party politics could hamper the process. He stated that there was a perception in the City that a proportion of people in the community sector may be gatekeeping for political parties which should be considered when carrying out any research. He further stated that on occasion, political parties could hamper the transition process. He referred to the bonfire situation in the Bogside area of the City and stated that, in his opinion, political parties had hindered some of the processes at that time which had escalated the situation.

In response, Mr Quinn stated that funding and resources would be allocated according to results of the research and which communities were expressing a wish to achieve transition throughout the process. He further stated that the timeframe of 3 to 4 months was needed to gather evidence which would be a continuous process throughout the programme. Mr Quinn then referred to comments made regarding party politics and explained that the programme was for the whole of Northern Ireland and in order for the programme to succeed, they would require guidance and support from all sides of the political spectrum to develop the plans in the right direction.

Ms Fitzpatrick stated that the 3 to 4 month timeframe was an important aspect of Phase One which had to be completed before progression to Phase Two of the programme. She stated that if this timeframe was inadequate they would review the situation and make representation to the Programme Board.

Alderman Hussey stated that in the past he could accept the definition 'paramilitary activity' but not in this day and age and suggested that the term was being used as a flag of convenience. He stated that it was

violent criminality and by using the term paramilitary activity, was giving kudos to those engaged in such activity.

Mr Quinn referred to communities in transition and stated that there were organisations who were paramilitary in origin and that elements of those organisations had progressed into criminality. He further stated that there were other elements within organisations that wished to transition and to stereotype them was not reflective of the aims of the programme. He added that there were people who wished to transition, however because of the power and influence of paramilitary organisations and organised criminal gangs, had found it difficult to do so. He emphasised that there was a role for law enforcement.

Councillor Campbell described the remarks made by Councillor Gallagher as disgraceful and added that problems around the bonfire situation had been caused by a handful of negative elements within the community. He stated that the community and voluntary sectors within the Bogside did a fantastic job and were not gatekeepers for any political party. Councillor Campbell stated that Councillor Gallagher should retract his comments.

Councillor McGinley stated that in regard to perceptions, there was a perception that people were being targeted by armed groups for not sharing proceeds of criminality and businesses and invited comment on same.

Councillor Gallagher stated that the remarks made had been based on perceptions and would not be withdrawn.

The Acting Chair thanked the representatives for their presentation.

The Committee

Recommended **that representatives from the Transition programme meet with Members for a more detailed report on the process.**

HC231/17 Chairperson's Business

The Acting Chair informed Members that correspondence had been received from Limerick City & County Council in relation to the partnership on the organ donor commemorative event.

HC232/17 Confirmation of the Open Minutes of the Health and Community Committee held on Thursday 12 October 2017

The open Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 October 2017 (HC202/17 –HC223/17) were confirmed and signed by the Chairperson as correct.

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

HC233/17 Western Health and Social Care Trust – Draft Savings Plan 2017/18: Outcome on Consultation and Trust Board Decisions made on 13 October 2017

Lesley Mitchell, Director of Finance and Contracting and Teresa Molloy, Director of Performance and Service Improvement presented Members with the above report, a copy of which had been previously circulated. The purpose of the report was to brief Members on the outcome of the Trust Board on the proposals within its draft savings plan 2017/18 which were publicly consulted on over the period from 24 August to 5 October 2017.

Councillor Jackson thanked the staff from the Trust on how they had conducted themselves during the challenging consultation events in the City. He expressed his concern that there had been very little feedback on Options 1-4 within the report. He stated that it had to be taken in the context that there had been more controversial proposals which gained more attention. He enquired if a full equality impact assessment had been carried out on each of the proposals and if the information was available from those assessments.

In response, Ms Molloy concurred that the focus of attention was on the major and controversial proposals and therefore a little less spotlight was turned to proposals 1-4 which the Trust decided to move ahead with. She assured Members that an equality screening process was carried out as a requirement on all twelve proposals. The screening suggested that proposals 1-4 would have no or very little impact on Section 75 groups and she said she would be content to share the information with Members.

Councillor Gardiner acknowledged the challenges faced by the Trust. However, she stated that people in the City and District were living on the wrong side of a 'postcode lottery' especially with the situation

regarding locums and retaining staff. She further stated that the cuts could not be supported as the other Trusts throughout Northern Ireland were not as disadvantaged. She enquired what action the Trust was taking to oppose the proposed cuts in the North West region.

Ms Mitchell stated that the approach taken this year by the Department of Health was to balance the books on a regional basis and this was the first time that all Trusts were facing financial difficulties. However the extent of the difficulties faced by the Western Trust were greater. She added that as a result the balancing of the regional plan meant that the Trust received more funding to cover the deficits. She further stated that over the past three years, they held an international recruitment campaign which resulted in the Trust being able to recruit thirty medical doctors from abroad. She reported that the Trust had been pressing the Department of Health regarding the implementation of a cap on the hourly rate for medical locums. She remarked that the supply of doctors within Northern Ireland was such that the majority were recruited through agencies with the hourly rate increasing on the basis of the market forces. The view of the Trust would be that there should be a regional locum cap, maintained by all Trusts, which would break the market and allow them to recruit doctors at a lower hourly rate. She also reported that the Trust had a very extensive efficiency programme focusing on procurement initiatives and reducing absenteeism. She explained the difficulty was that the Department of Health had instructed the Trust to make savings which they had to deliver on. However, they had some discretion internally and reminded Members of the difficulties previously faced regarding learning and physical disability assessment on which they had made internal decisions to protect these areas.

Ms Molloy reported on the proposal for reduced cleaning. She stated that the reductions were very modest in respect of cutting down on the number of times in a week or month that offices would be cleaned. She added that the proposals had suggested more significant savings in that area but it had been pared down to non-clinical areas.

Councillor Gallagher felt that the situation had not been based on savings or efficiencies and the Trust should outline to Members the real crisis faced by the Trust. He added that the £40 million funded to the Trust was a temporary measure until April 2018. He then referred to the increased car park charges and asked if the money made from the increase was going into front-line services.

In response, Ms Mitchell stated that the Trust had been open with the public on the savings they were required to make in terms of the consultation process and documentation. She reported that the £40 million was non-recurring funding and that next April there will be a sizeable financial challenge faced by all of the Trusts. She added that they required a 6 percent increase of recurring funding for the provision of Health and Social Care.

Ms Molloy referred to the increase in car parking charges and reported that the Trust had taken steps to mitigate increases in charges. However, a temporary increase had been introduced on 1 November 2017 and the Trust would now be looking at making that increase permanent with a consultation planned for next month. She added that any income generated from the charges went back into the upkeep of the car parks or the wider Trust services.

Alderman Hussey stated that he was well aware of the financial challenges faced by the Trust prior to the current situation. He referred to the closure of the Tyrone County Hospital and the angst directed at the Trust regarding the redirection of earmarked funding. He remarked on the new state of the art facility in Omagh which did not have the appropriate personnel as an issue that must be addressed.

In response, Ms Mitchell stated that the Department of Health had a significant initiative on the back of the Minister's Document, 'Delivering Together', which was a new strategy for health in Northern Ireland. She added that this was a major transformation programme by the Department of Health, however from a Trust perspective, it would be over a ten year period and there would have to be some very significant decisions made within that context.

Councillor Hastings thanked the Trust on their comprehensive plan and enquired if they received extra funding at the beginning of the year which could have perhaps prevented the reductions.

Ms Molloy reported that the Trust began each year with an opening recurring balanced budget with non-recurring monies allocated throughout the year. However they were not aware of the funding until they had been informed by the Department of Health.

Councillor Hastings stated that it was a failure of the Executive and that the Assembly needs to return to Stormont. He added that the cuts did not focus on the number of people requiring operations or the number

of social worker and mental health referrals and was more focused on the services that they can currently deliver.

The Acting Chair thanked the representatives for their presentation.

HC234/17 Animal Welfare

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 advise and update Members regarding the levels of activity in the Animal Welfare function within the Derry City and Strabane District Council area and beyond.

Councillor Cusack referred to the breakdown of calls and referrals in the report which stated there had been 186 animal welfare cases within the City and District compared to 249 inspections with 3 cases of animals being seized. She reported that 79 calls to animal welfare had been referred elsewhere and asked for clarity on the breakdown as a lot of resources were going towards inspections and cases which may not hold any real issues. She referred to an information leaflet by NI Direct which educated people on animal welfare and asked if it will be distributed to households within the DCSDC area.

The Head of Community Health and Wellbeing stated that expectations from the public were very high regarding animal welfare with tolerance being very low which was reflected in the number of calls recorded. He reported that a number of calls related to noise from barking dogs which were not animal welfare related. He then referred to calls to animal welfare and that improvement was needed on how they are filtered through the system and that a voicemail message was available for phone users. He stated that the number of animals seized was reduced which hopefully would continue. He referred to information that was available to the public regarding animal welfare and reported on plans to update Council's website.

Councillor Cusack felt that 5 welfare officers was a small amount of resources to deal with the amount of cases that were reported and that actions were time bound in terms of cases involving animal cruelty. She enquired if there was sufficient budget allocation to deal with the situation.

In response, the Head of Community Health and Wellbeing stated that the matter was currently under review. He reported that care and

collection costs contributed to 30 percent of the budget and hoped the service would remain fully funded with adequate resources in place.

Alderman R Hamilton referred to additional enforcement actions within the report and enquired how many had taken place in the Strabane area compared to Derry.

In response the Head of Community Health and Wellbeing stated that he would furnish her with a full breakdown of figures.

The Committee

Recommended that Council (i) Note the level of activity in relation to Animal Welfare within the DCSDC area and endorse the enforcement actions; and (ii) Note the ongoing implementation of review recommendations; MoU's; Information sharing protocols; sub-regional liaison and funding of the service.

HC235/17 Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service – People at Risk Partnership Working Agreement

The Head of Health and Wellbeing presented the above report, which had been previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to update Members on the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service (NIFRS) Home Fire Safety Check service and seek Members approval for Council to sign up to the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue – People at Risk Partnership Working Agreement.

Councillors Duffy and Tierney endorsed the recommendations and acknowledged the sterling work carried out by the Fire Service. They stated the importance of the project to ensure that vulnerable people were educated in fire safety.

The Committee

Recommended that Council's Health and Community Wellbeing Department sign up to the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue – People at Risk Partnership Working Agreement.

HC236/17 Service Level Agreement for the Delivery of Tobacco Control

The Head of Health and Community Wellbeing presented the above report, which had been previously circulated to Members. The report was to seek Members approval for the Service Level Agreement with Fermanagh and Omagh District Council for the delivery of Public Health Agency funded Tobacco Control services within Derry City and Strabane District Council and the Legacy Limavady Borough Council area of Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council.

Councillor Hastings enquired as to how many tests had been carried out in the last twelve months and if they had been successful.

The Head of Community Health and Wellbeing reported that compliance had improved over recent years due to the capacity to enforce controls. He stated that he will forward the exact number of tests to Councillor Hastings for information.

The Committee

Recommended that Council approve the Service Level Agreement with Fermanagh and Omagh District Council for the delivery of Public Health Agency funded Tobacco Control services within Derry City and Strabane District Council and the Legacy Limavady Borough Council area of Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council.

HC237/17 Foyle Arena Events Schedule

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 advise Members of the proposed structured Events Schedule for Foyle Arena.

Councillor Gardiner commended the staff at Foyle Arena regarding the effective changes that had been made at the leisure centre. She stated that in relation to Tier 1 and 2 events people living in the area were not always aware of events taking place which resulted in noise complaints for events outside of normal working hours. She enquired if there had

been any plans to mitigate the situation and suggested ensuring that prior notice was given to residents before events took place. She stated that events of this type need to happen but there had to be a balance.

The Head of Community Development and Leisure stated that there had been consternation expressed by residents over the past eighteen months regarding late night events. He further stated that they were finding a balance between Foyle Arena being used as a leisure centre and also for large events. He added that they were meeting with residents on a regular basis to update them on any forthcoming events.

Councillor Jackson stated that there had been a number of successful events held at Foyle Arena, however they had caused concern to nearby residents. He further stated that users of the leisure centre should be first and foremost. He remarked that Foyle Arena had the capacity to hold large events and enquired if restrictions would be put in place to allow space for such events. He raised concern regarding the amount of time taken for set up and take down of equipment and the disruption it caused to service users.

In response, the Head of Community Development and Leisure stated that since the opening of Foyle Arena they had responded to event requests on an ad hoc basis but these proposals would allow for effective planning to meet all requirements. He further stated that the staff involved in set up and take down also had a role in managing the leisure centre. He added that depending on what type of Tier event was forthcoming, casual staff would be brought in with the charge put on the event promoter.

The Committee

Recommended that Council note the proposed structured Events Schedule at Foyle Arena and contribute to the consultation process.

HC238/17 Grant Aid Programme

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 2017/18 Grant Aid Programme, to seek Members' consideration of the financial implications arising from potential VCU funding reductions and to seek

Members' approval in principle of an increased allocation of £137,500 of rates revenue support.

Councillor Carlin expressed her shock at the content of the report and said that the idea that budget allocations to the voluntary community sector could be reduced by 20 percent on an already strained budget was alarming. She commended the officers in their attempts to secure remedial action within the rates process and stated that the rates would have to bear it as the voluntary community sector was the fabric of the community. She endorsed the recommendation and proposed that officers write to the Permanent Secretary for information on other proposed cuts and ask if there was any mitigation the Department for Communities could bring forward in terms of front loading some of the services and plan for the future. She added that the cuts would create chaos in the community in terms of the loss of services that were not equipped to withstand the cuts.

Councillor Gallagher stated that the corporate position of Derry City and Strabane District Council was not to implement cuts, therefore Council should not be servicing the proposed reductions. He further stated that if the shortfall was put on the rate payers, it was going against Council's corporate position.

The Acting Chair noted the comments and stated that legal advice be taken before the next Council meeting.

Councillor Tierney stated that if Members did not endorse the recommendation the effects would be felt across our communities throughout the Council area. He raised his concern with remarks made by Councillor Carlin and stated that it was not Council's responsibility. He proposed that Members write to the Permanent Secretary to have the matter addressed. Councillor Tierney stated that Council must be assertive in opposing any cuts until a satisfactory outcome had been received from the Permanent Secretary. He added that the failure of the Executive had brought down the people of the City and District and that political representatives needed to lobby their own political parties and local ministers to have the issues addressed.

Councillor Carlin stated that she had proposed to take on board and endorse the officers' recommendations on how to mitigate the worst of the cuts. She then proposed that an attempt be made to prevent further cuts and to ask for mitigation measures from the Department for Communities and the Department of Justice. She stated that the

SDLP had not supported any budget or striking of the rate and were now calling for Stormont to reassemble and provide a budget which they had not voted on. She further stated that political point scoring would not help the situation.

Councillor Tierney concurred that point scoring would not help and that he was stating the reality of the situation. He stated that the reason for the report being presented was the fact that there were no local ministers in place to mitigate against the proposed cuts. He added that SDLP had not supported the budget as the mitigation in those budgets for welfare reform was not enough.

The Acting Chair clarified the proposal to write to the appropriate departments to find out if any mitigating measures could be put in place.

In response to Alderman Hussey's query regarding the increase on the rates, the Head of Community Development and Leisure confirmed that the proposal would have a 0.3 percent impact on District rates.

Councillor Carlin proposed that a letter be sent to all the Departments to determine if there were any proposed cuts in the future and what mitigating measures they can put in place.

After voting by a show of hands the result was as follows:
For – 9; 1 - Against and 1 Abstention.

The Committee

Recommended **that (i) Council approve in principle an increased allocation of £137,500 of rates revenue support; (ii) write to all Departments to determine if there were any proposed cuts in the future and if so, what mitigating measures could be put in place.**

HC239/17 Support for Sport Events Fund

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 Support for Sport Event's Grant Aid 2017/18.

In response to Councillor Carlin's query regarding provision for the funding, the Head of Community Development and Leisure reported that allocations for the Support for Sport Events Fund were approved annually with any sporting organisations being able to apply for funding.

The Committee

Recommended that Council endorses the Support for Sport Event Fund Grants at a total value of £5,000.

HC240/17 Everybody Active 2020 Grant Aid Programme

The Head of Community Development and Leisure presented the above report, previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to inform Members of the decisions of the EBA 2020 Active Awards 2017/2018 selection panel and to seek approval for same.

Councillors McGinley and Carlin endorsed the recommendations and emphasised the importance the funding presented for all of the local clubs. They highlighted the benefits derived from the DEA based approach for the allocation of funding and that the work carried out with local groups was evident. Councillor Carlin expressed her delight at the Strabane and Castlederg area being well represented in their successful funding application and commended the work carried out by officers.

At this point Alderman Hussey and Councillor R McHugh declared an interest in this agenda item.

The Committee

Recommended that (i) Council endorse the decisions of the Assessment Team and the Sports Committee to award EBA 2020 Active Award Grants to those applicants who scored 65% or above; and (ii) approve the use of the Support for Sport underspend in 2017/18 to deliver

**disability specific programmes to meet
the KPI's set by Sport Northern Ireland.**

HC241/17 Local Community Planning Governance Structures Update

The Head of Community Development and Leisure presented the above report, previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to update Members on the process to develop governance arrangements for the eight Local Community Growth Partnerships and invite Members' comments.

Councillor McGinley thanked Officers for the update and noted that parties be given the opportunity to meet separately with the consultant in the ongoing process.

Alderman Hussey enquired why the consultants were meeting with party groupings rather than elected representatives.

In response, the Head of Community Development and Leisure stated that the process had a two pronged approach with views from local parties and independent members being the first stage in the process and community engagement events would be held in all the local DEA's where Members would be invited to contribute. He reported that the process will consider how governance arrangements work and how they are constituted. It will also look at allocation and funding, for example, how Grant Aid programmes are delivered.

Councillor Gallagher commented that through this engagement with the community it will give people the opportunity to have information on the processes related to Governance.

Councillor Tierney welcomed the report and stated that on behalf of the SDLP they looked forward to attending the engagements as a group and then as individual DEA's within the community. He added that the consultation for Elected Members was equally as important and that the views of the community should be considered.

The Committee

Recommended that Council note the update on the process to develop governance arrangements for the 8 Local Community Growth Partnerships and provide input

**via meetings with the consultant for
Parties and Independent Members.**

HC242/17 Brandywell Stadium Update

The Head of Community Development and Leisure presented the above report, previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to update Members on the proposed operations at the stadium and dog track racing facility and agree the pricing policy and schedule of charges; approve the costs for an upgrade of the Southend Stand; and approve leisure fit out and grounds maintenance equipment costs for the facility.

Councillor Campbell welcomed the report and endorsed the recommendation. He stated that the redevelopment of the Brandywell was a good news story for the area.

Councillor Tierney seconded the recommendation and stated that it was fantastic that Phase One of the Brandywell project was finally in its closing stages of completion. He emphasised to Officers the importance of Phase Two of the project and reminded them that the regional sub stadia funding was still available and the application should be made ready for submission. He stated that in terms of the Southend Stand, that all seats would require replacement rather than just a particular section and sought clarification on the matter.

In response, the Head of Community Development and Leisure, reported that in the short term the most weather beaten seats would be replaced immediately with the intention of replacing all of the seating in due course. He stated that in terms of Phase Two of the project, planning permission had been received and when the sub stadia application process comes to fruition, the application would be submitted.

Alderman Hussey remarked that the approximately £8,000 running costs for the facility was 'some subvention' and asked what the scenario was in going forward.

In response, the Director of Health and Community stated that the regional sub stadia fund was not yet open for Phase Two projects.

Councillor Gallagher welcomed the report and thanked Officers for bringing the project to near conclusion. He stated that he had visited the site at the Brandywell and was very impressed by the entire project. He referred to previous remarks regarding subvention and asked that other Council venues and facilities that received subvention be considered.

The Committee

Recommended that Council (i) agree the pricing policy and schedule of charges for the stadium (ii) approve fit-out costs of £120,000 to be found within 'In Year' efficiencies in the Brandywell Stadium budgets and ground maintenance equipment costs of £35,000 and (iii) approve refurbishment costs for the Southend Stand of £110,000 with any underspend of fit out costs to go into Southend Stand refurbishment.

HC243/17 Update on Active Travel Grants Scheme 2017/18

The Director of Health and Community presented the above report, previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to update Members on the second round of applications for the Active Travel Grant Scheme and to seek Members' approval for the continuation of the scheme for 2018/19.

The Committee

Recommended that Council endorse the second round of applications for grants and continue this scheme into 2018/19 financial year with an investment of £10,000.

HC244/17 Sports Development and Physical Activity Plan

The Director of Health and Community presented the above report, previously circulated to Members. The purpose of the report was to seek Members' comments on proposals to develop a District-wide Sports Development Plan which builds upon participation, performance

and development opportunities and outlines how these align to the outcomes of the Inclusive Strategic Growth Plan.

Councillor McGinley stated that the report outlined the importance of this type of activity with Council being above average regarding the scheme. He added that this was testament to the Officers in Sports Development and Council who had been proactive with the community.

Alderman Hussey referred section 3.2 within the report '*raising the profile and strength of popular sports outside major team sports (e.g. GAA, IFA and IRFU)*' and presumed that this was confined to Gaelic football as opposed to hurling or camogie which came under the GAA remit. He expressed his hope that hurling, camogie and hockey would also have their profiles raised.

The Committee

Recommended that a Members' workshop would be arranged in December.

Open for Information

HC245/17 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.

HC246/17 Consultation List

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

Councillor Gallagher referred to the Proposed Ionising Radiation (Medical Exposure) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2018 and enquired if Council was participating in this consultation particularly regarding the

Department of Health who proposed the draft regulations. He stated that there had been many issues raised regarding gold mining and prospecting activities and asked the Members bear that in mind when considering the consultation. He informed Members that he attended a meeting with Dalradian Gold Ltd where concerns had been raised regarding their intention to take 15000 tonnes of rock from the ground for gold extraction. He stated that this may result in repercussions which Members should be aware of during the consultation process.

The Committee

Recommended that Members note the contents of the report.

The Meeting then went into Confidential Business.

The Meeting terminated at 6.45pm

Chairperson: _____

Date: _____