

<b>Title of Report:</b>	<b>Correspondence</b>
<b>Committee Report Submitted To:</b>	<b>Council Meeting</b>
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>6 December 2022</b>
<b>For Decision or For Information</b>	<b>FOR DECISION</b>

<b>Linkage to Council Strategy (2021-25)</b>	
Strategic Theme	Cohesive Leadership
Outcome	Council operates as one effective and efficient corporate unit with a common purpose and culture
Lead Officer	Director of Corporate Services

<b>Budgetary Considerations</b>	
Cost of Proposal	
Included in Current Year Estimates	
Capital/Revenue	
Code	
Staffing Costs	

<b>Screening Requirements</b>	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.	Yes/No	Date:
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:		
	EQIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	Yes/No	Date:
	RNA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:

## 1.0 Purpose of Report

The purpose of the report is to present correspondence for Members' consideration.

2.0 The following correspondence has been received:

2.1 Department for Communities, Sharleen Fleming (dated 11 November 2022) (copy attached)

### **Notice of Listing of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest**

**Address: War Memorial Ballydevitt Road, Aghadowey, Co. Londonderry**

Following consultation with Historic Buildings Council and Council, the above property has been listed under section 80 of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 which states that 'the Department shall compile lists of buildings of special architectural or historic interest'. The building has been listed at grade B2 and the extent of the listed structure is outlined in red on the map attached to the enclosed formal Notice of Listing. Where this letter refers to building(s), this term includes all types of structures.

Council's attention is drawn to the explanatory notes on the reverse of the Notice which places certain responsibility on the owner, for example, a listed building has to be maintained in a way appropriate to its character and cannot be altered or demolished without prior approval. It also explains that certain controls also apply to structures which are within the curtilage of a listed building.

2.2 **Correspondence from Allison McCullagh, Chief Executive, Fermanagh & Omagh District Council** (copy attached)

At its recent Council meeting held on 1 November 2022, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council adopted the following Motion:

#### **Motion**

*This Council notes with concern how, since Local Government Reform in April 2015, the Department for Infrastructure (and the Department for the Environment before that) has failed to commence section 129 of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 on the Review of Old Minerals Permissions (ROMPs).*

*Members are concerned that such delays in legislating for the need for historic minerals permissions to comply with modern-day environmental standards have already given rise to significant environmental harm that are beginning to*

*impose undue liabilities and responsibilities on public authorities due to repeated*

*Ministerial decisions since 2006 not to commence ROMPs legislation. In recognition of the considerable pressures that the implementation of ROMPs will place on the financial and staffing resources of this Council, it is considered unreasonable to have these responsibilities and liabilities imposed upon it due to past Departmental decisions and delays.*

*Therefore, this Council calls on the Minister for Infrastructure to legislate for the removal of responsibility for the implementation, administration and delivery of ROMPs from this, and all local authorities, and to be implemented, administered and delivered by his Department in the interests of fairness, consistency, accountability and the public good as a matter of urgency.*

Fermanagh and Omagh District Council have requested that Council support and to make similar representation to the Minister/Department for Infrastructure.

### **2.3 Correspondence from Maire Ward, Chief Executive, Newry & Mourne District Council dated 14 November 2022 (copy attached)**

Re: Notice of Motion – Government help with Cost of Living Crisis

At a meeting of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council held on 7 November 2022 the following motion was agreed:

#### **Motion**

*Over the past few months and due to a variety of reasons and circumstances we have seen price hikes and increases on a wide scale that have impacted severely on so many in our district resulting in hardship and unable to make ends meet. Newry Mourne and Down District Council demands that the Government put in place much needed measures to provide much necessary help and support to residents of the District who have been affected by the Cost of Living Crisis. If this motion is adopted Council writes to the Prime Minister and Chancellor of the Exchequer, also the other 10 Councils in Northern Ireland enlisting their support for this motion.*

Council is asked to give this matter consideration.

**2.4 NI Housing Council** (email correspondence dated 10 November 2022) (copy attached)

The Housing Council's November bulletin and October Housing Council minutes are enclosed for Elected Member information.

**2.5 The Electoral Office for Northern Ireland, Virginia McVea** (correspondence dated 29 November 2022) (copy attached)

**Extract**

*I am writing in relation to the public consultation on the Local Council Polling Station Scheme which will be published on the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022. You will find all the details on our website <http://www.eoni.org.uk/Elections/Polling-stations> at that time. The consultation runs for twelve weeks.*

*As you know we created a mapping application for previous consultations where you can see all of the properties and their respective polling premises on a colour coded map. The mapping application for this consultation is currently being developed and we will circulate the URL in due course.*

*The input of political representatives is sought in order that we do all that we can to ensure that electors are supported to come out to vote and I look forward to receiving your submissions.*

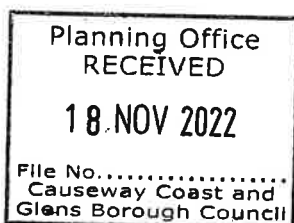
**It is recommended** that Council consider the correspondence.

**IMPORTANT – THIS AFFECTS YOUR PROPERTY**



Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council  
Cloonavin  
66 Portstewart Road  
COLERAINE  
Co Londonderry  
BT52 1EY

Historic Environment Division  
Heritage Buildings Designation  
Branch  
Ground Floor  
9 Lanyon Place  
Town Parks  
Belfast  
BT1 3LP  
Direct Tel No: 9056 9281



Our Ref: HB03/03/011

Date: 11<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Dear Sir/Madam

**NOTICE OF LISTING OF BUILDINGS OF SPECIAL ARCHITECTURAL  
OR HISTORIC INTEREST**

**ADDRESS: WAR MEMORIAL BALLYDEVITT ROAD, AGHADOWEY, CO.  
LONDONDERRY**

I refer to previous correspondence regarding the above property.

Following consultation with Historic Buildings Council and your local district council it has been decided to list the above property under section 80 of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 which states that *'the Department shall compile lists of buildings of special architectural or historic interest'*. Your building has been listed at grade B2 and the extent of the listed structure is outlined in red on the map attached to the enclosed formal Notice of Listing. Where this letter refers to building(s), this term includes all types of structures.

I would draw your attention to the explanatory notes on the reverse of the Notice which places certain responsibility on the owner, for example, a listed building has to be maintained in a way appropriate to its character and cannot be altered or demolished without prior approval. It also explains that certain controls also apply to structures which are within the curtilage of a listed building.

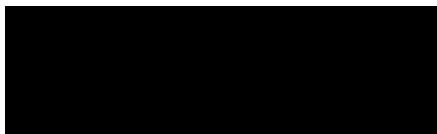
I attach a copy of the report previously sent to you which explains our understanding of the current heritage value of the building in more detail. This report, which may have been amended to reflect comments received during the consultation period, will be published (with the exclusion of internal information) on our website in due course. If you have details of the history of the property additional to that contained in the report, I should be most grateful if you would make this information available to me and I will ensure that it is considered by the appropriate architect.

Buildings such as yours make a particular contribution to Northern Ireland's heritage and to the character of our communities. One of the main purposes of placing them on the List is to ensure that they receive special consideration.

The Department provides advice on maintenance in the form of technical notes which can be accessed from our website [www.communities-ni.gov.uk](http://www.communities-ni.gov.uk) or forwarded to you upon request. Our network of area conservation architects would also be happy to discuss proposals for repair or change with you at an early stage.

If you would like to find out more about Northern Ireland's historic buildings in general and the work of this Department to protect and promote this legacy in particular, this information is also available on our website.

Yours faithfully



**SHARLEEN FLEMING**

Enc      Listing Notice  
            Map  
            Second Survey Report (HBC)

NOTICE THAT A BUILDING HAS BECOME LISTED

IMPORTANT ---- This communication affects YOUR PROPERTY

Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011  
*Buildings of special architectural or historic interest*

Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council  
Cloonavin  
66 Portstewart Road  
COLERAINE  
Co Londonderry  
BT52 1EY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the building known as War Memorial and stone walls, Ballydevitt Road

Situate in Aghadowey, Co. Londonderry.

has been included in the list of buildings of special architectural or historic interest in that area, compiled by the Department for Communities under section 80 of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Dated: 11<sup>th</sup> November 2022



Authorised Officer

For Explanatory Note see over

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

### *Listing of buildings of special architectural or historic interest*

This notice is addressed to you as owner or occupier of the building named, which has been included in one of the lists of buildings of special architectural or historic interest prepared under section 80 of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 (the "Act") by the Department for Communities ("the Department"). The lists are compiled by the Department as a statutory duty, on the advice of a committee of people including architects and historians interested in historic buildings ---- the Historic Buildings Council.

This notice does not call for any action on your part unless you propose at any time to demolish the building or to do any works (either to the exterior or to the interior) which would affect its character. In that event you will need to seek "listed building consent", that is to say, the consent of the council to the work you wish to do. Certain buildings are exempt from this requirement, notably ecclesiastical buildings in use for the time being for ecclesiastical purposes.

You should however note that it is an offence under section 85(1) of the Act to carry out any of those works without obtaining listed building consent. It is also an offence under section 85(5) to fail to comply with any condition attached to a listed building consent. A conviction for an offence could result in a fine, imprisonment or both.

Where works which are urgently necessary in the interests of safety or of health or for the preservation of the buildings are carried out without consent it is a defence to prove that ----


- (a) it was not practicable to secure safety or health or the preservation of the building by works of repair or works for affording temporary support or shelter;
- (b) the works carried out were limited to the minimum measures immediately necessary; and
- (c) notice in writing justifying in detail the carrying out of the works was given to the council as soon as reasonably practicable. (section 85(7) of the Act).

Your attention is drawn to section 80(7) of the Act which provides that objects or structures described in that section within the curtilage of a listed building are entitled to the same protection as the building.

There is no right of appeal as such against the listing of a building but if the council should refuse consent for the carrying out of any proposed works, or grant it subject to condition, section 96 of the Act provides a right of appeal to the Planning Appeals Commission. You are not precluded at any time from writing to the Department claiming that the building should cease to be listed on the ground that it is not in fact of special architectural or historic interest; and any such claim, with the evidence supporting it, will be carefully considered.

If at any time you propose to take any action which may affect the character of your building, you should refer to the provisions of Chapter 1 Part 4 of the Act and the Planning (Listed Buildings) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015. Further details can be obtained from your council.



<p><b>Address</b> War Memorial Ballydevitt Road Aghadowey Co. Londonderry</p>	<p><b>HB Ref No</b>    HB03/03/011</p>
<p><b>Extent of Listing</b> War memorial and stone boundary walls</p>	
<p><b>Date of Construction</b> 1920 - 1939</p>	
<p><b>Townland</b> Aghadowey</p>	
<p><b>Current Building Use</b> Memorial</p>	
<p><b>Principal Former Use</b> Memorial</p>	

<b>Conservation Area</b>	No	<b>Survey 1</b>	Not_Listed	<b>OS Map No</b>	31-10
<b>Industrial Archaeology</b>	No	<b>HED Evaluation</b>	B2	<b>IG Ref</b>	C8652 2124
<b>Vernacular</b>	No	<b>Date of Listing</b>	27/10/2014	<b>IHR No</b>	
<b>Thatched</b>	No	<b>Date of Delisting</b>		<b>HGI Ref</b>	
<b>Monument</b>	Yes			<b>SMR No</b>	
<b>Area of Townscape Character</b>	No				
<b>Local Landscape Policy Area</b>	No				
<b>Historic Gardens Inventory</b>	No				
<b>Vacant</b>	N/A				
<b>Derelict</b>	No				

**Owner Category**    Local Govt

### Building Information

**Exterior Description and Setting**

A granite memorial on a stepped concrete plinth by John Robinson commemorating the two world wars and dating from 1921, with bronze flag and rifle motif and a bronze laurel wreath on a tapering granite obelisk. Located to the north side of Ardreagh Road, at the junction with Ballydevitt Road in Aghadowey.

Granite pedestal with polished panels to four sides inscribed to four sides with names of those lost in both wars. Inscription to base, reading clockwise from southwest; "AT THE GOING DOWN OF THE SUN AND IN THE MORNING WE WILL REMEMBER THEM"/ THE MEN OF ULSTER HAVE SHOWN HOW NOBLY THEY FIGHT AND DIE KING GEORGE V./ THEIR NAME LIVETH FOR EVERMORE/ THE PATH OF DUTY WAS THE WAY TO GLORY." Obelisk decorated at southwest face with bronze

flags and rifles motif and a laurel wreath over; sits on a stepped concrete plinth accessed by a set of concrete steps.

A modest additional flat granite slab monument to "those killed in other conflicts" has been set into the SE bank of the grassy slope with a low cast-stone surround and a twisted metal rail and corner finial posts.

**Setting:**

The memorial is situated on a triangular corner site at junction of Ardreagh Road and Ballydevitt Road, enclosed to three sides by a rockfaced blackstone wall with dressed stone coping; modern timber fence to northeast; wrought-iron entrance gates to southwest. Laid with gravel and brick pavior pathway. Memorial sits on a grassy mound, accessed by a set of concrete steps enclosed by plinth walls. Granite slab memorial to grassy verge commemorates those lost in other conflicts. Flagpole to southeast.

**Material:** Granite, bronze and concrete.

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**Interior Description**

N/A

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**Architects**

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**Historical Information**

Aghadowey War Memorial dates from 1921 and is thought to have been one of the first to be erected in Northern Ireland. The piece, consisting of a granite obelisk with polished panels, mounted on a cement pedestal, was carved by John Robinson & Son of York Street, Belfast and cost £700 ([www.ulsterwarmemorials.net](http://www.ulsterwarmemorials.net)). The memorial is first shown on the fourth edition OS map of 1924-33.

Two hundred and five people in the parish had volunteered to fight and thirty five were lost. Most of the funds required to build the memorial, over £500, had been collected by December 1918 from all creeds and classes in the area. A free site, in the immediate vicinity of the Presbyterian and Episcopal churches, was offered by George Gilmore of Carrnallagh and the memorial had been put up by November 1921. A panel on the front carries the names of those who died, while those who served are recorded on the other three sides (Thompson).

The obelisk was unveiled after a service of commemoration in the Presbyterian church at which the names of the fallen were read out. Lieutenant Colonel R S Knox was then presented with a pair of silver scissors by Miss Betty Morrison of Meath Park with which he cut the ribbon and a union jack fell away to reveal the names. A gun which had been used in the war stood against the memorial for many years but has since disappeared (Thompson).

**References:**

**Primary Sources**

1. PRONI OS/6/5/18/4 Fourth Edition OS Map 1924-33

**Secondary Sources**

2. Thompson, R "Garvagh and Aghadowey Heroes 1914-18"
3. [www.ulsterwarmemorials.net](http://www.ulsterwarmemorials.net)

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**Criteria for Listing**

NB: In March 2011, revised criteria were published as Annex C of Planning Policy Statement 6. These added extra criteria with the aim of improving clarity in regard to the Department's explanation of historic interest. For records evaluated in advance of this, therefore, not all of these criteria would have been considered. The criteria used prior to 2011 are published on the Department's website under 'listing criteria'.

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**Architectural Interest**

**Historical Interest**

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A. Style  
B. Proportion  
C. Ornamentation  
J. Setting

S. Authenticity  
T. Historic Importance  
Y. Social, Cultural or Economic Importance  
X. Local Interest  
R. Age

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**Evaluation**

A landmark granite and bronze memorial carved by John Robinson commemorating those who gave their lives during two world wars and dating from 1921. It is located to the north side of Ardreagh Road, at the junction with Ballydevitt Road in Aghadowey. The well-proportioned granite obelisk is decorated with a bronze rifle and flag motif and a laurel wreath. This War Memorial is of local and social interest to the local community and is located on a prominent site surrounded by low basalt walling at the junction of two roads.

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**Replacements and Alterations**

None

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**If inappropriate, Why?**

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**General Comments**

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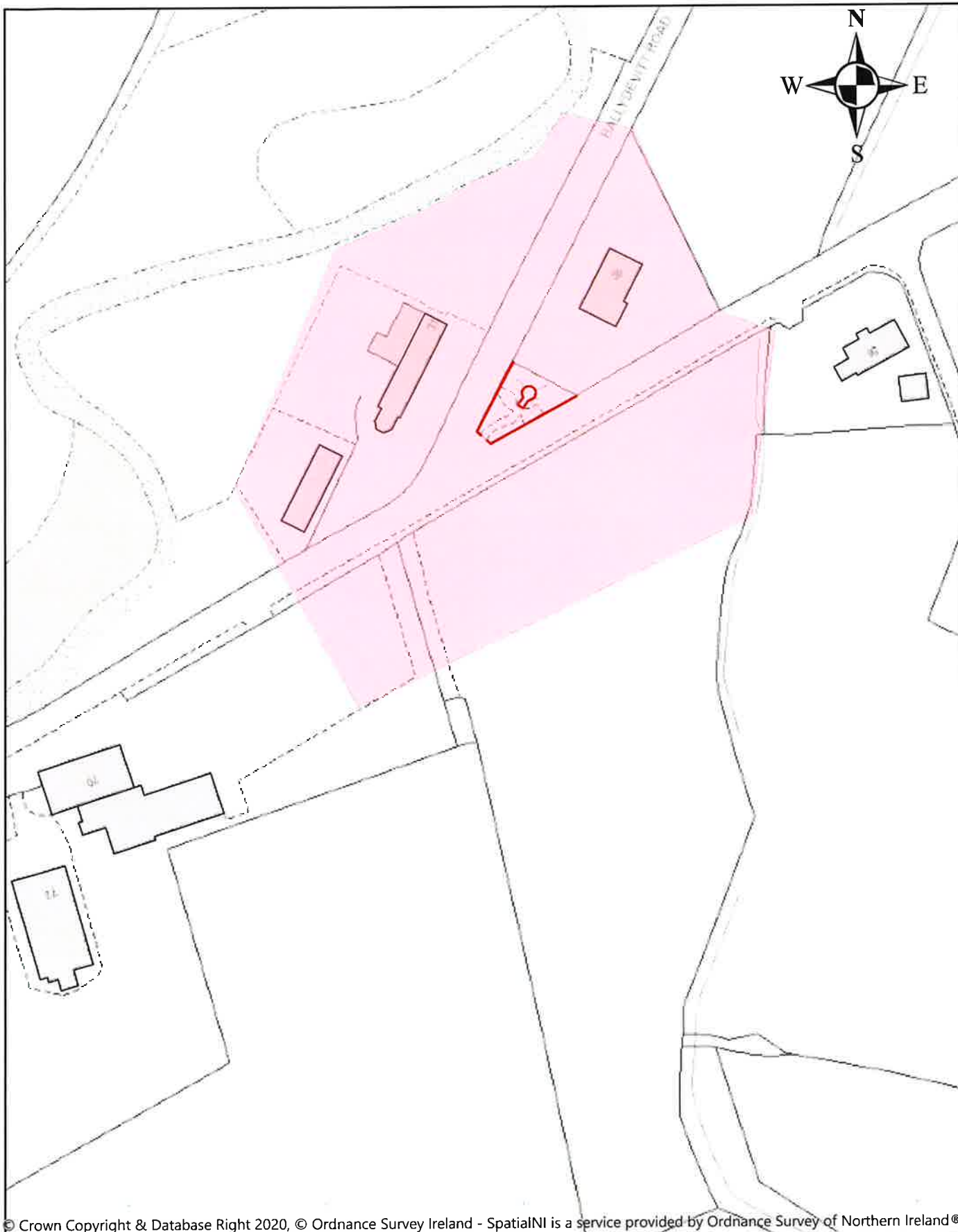
**Monitoring Notes – since Date of Survey**

Since the time of the survey, a steel framework for the mounting of wreaths has been added to the steps at the base of the front (SW) of the monument. Aug 2022.

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**Date of Survey**    07/03/2013

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**Listing Map War Memorial  
Ballydevitt Road  
Aghadowey**

**Title:** HB03/03/011  
**Scale:** 1:1,250

**Date Printed:** 15 November 2022  
**Drawn By:** JMCL



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Our Ref: Democratic Services

Date: 7 November 2022

Email: [democratic.services@fermanaghomagh.com](mailto:democratic.services@fermanaghomagh.com)

Chief Executive  
Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council  
66 Portstewart Road  
COLERAINE  
BT52 1EY

Dear Chief Executive,

### **Re: Motion – Implementation of ROMPs Legislation**

At the recent Council meeting held on 1 November 2022, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council adopted the following Motion:

***This Council notes with concern how, since Local Government Reform in April 2015, the Department for Infrastructure (and the Department for the Environment before that) has failed to commence section 129 of the Planning Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 on the Review of Old Minerals Permissions (ROMPs).***

***Members are concerned that such delays in legislating for the need for historic minerals permissions to comply with modern-day environmental standards have already given rise to significant environmental harm that are beginning to impose undue liabilities and responsibilities on public authorities due to repeated Ministerial decisions since 2006 not to commence ROMPs legislation.***

***In recognition of the considerable pressures that the implementation of ROMPs will place on the financial and staffing resources of this Council, it is considered unreasonable to have these responsibilities and liabilities imposed upon it due to past Departmental decisions and delays.***

***Therefore, this Council calls on the Minister for Infrastructure to legislate for the removal of responsibility for the implementation, administration and delivery of ROMPs from this, and all local authorities, and to be implemented, administered and delivered by his Department in the interests of fairness, consistency, accountability and the public good as a matter of urgency.***

Furthermore, we will contact the other Councils in the North to support this call and to make similar representation to the Minister/Department for Infrastructure.

The Council trusts that you will support this Motion.

Yours sincerely



**Alison McCullagh**  
**Chief Executive**

**Marie Ward**  
Chief Executive



Comhairle Ceantair  
**an Iúir, Mhúrn  
agus an Dúin**  
**Newry, Mourne  
and Down**  
District Council

Our ref: C/183/2022

14 November 2022

Dear Chief Executive

**Re: Notice of Motion – Government help with Cost of Living Crisis**

At a Meeting of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council held on 7 November 2022 the following motion was agreed:

*"Over the past few months and due to a variety of reasons and circumstances we have seen price hikes and increases on a wide scale that have impacted severely on so many in our district resulting in hardship and unable to make ends meet. Newry Mourne and Down District Council demands that the Government put in place much needed measures to provide much necessary help and support to residents of the District who have been affected by the Cost of Living Crisis. If this motion is adopted Council writes to the Prime Minister and Chancellor of the Exchequer, also the other 10 Councils in Northern Ireland enlisting their support for this motion".*

Members spoke at length about concerns for everyone affected by and impacted by price rises on a daily basis for everyday essentials and how the absence of the Assembly was only exacerbating the already dire situation.

Members fully supported the motion and the need for immediate action to deal with the crisis.

I would ask that you give this matter serious consideration and I look forward to your response.

Yours faithfully

**Marie Ward**  
**Chief Executive**

**Minutes of the 494<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Northern Ireland Housing Council held on Thursday 13  
October 2022 at 10.00 am in the Boardroom, the Housing Centre and via Zoom**

	<p><b><u>PRESENT:</u></b></p> <p>Councillor A Fitzgerald      Fermanagh &amp; Omagh District (Chair)  Alderman A Bresland      Derry &amp; Strabane Council – Left the meeting at 11.25 am  Alderman T Nicholl      Mid &amp; East Antrim Borough – Left the meeting at 11.20 am  Councillor C Elattar      Mid Ulster Borough  Alderman J Speers      Armagh City, Banbridge &amp; Craigavon Borough  Alderman A Grehan      Lisburn &amp; Castlereagh City  Councillor A McQuillan      Causeway Coast &amp; Glens</p>
	<p><b><u>IN ATTENDANCE:</u></b></p> <p>Mr P Price      Director of Social Housing Policy &amp; Oversight, DfC  Mr D Polley      Director, Housing Supply Policy, DfC  Mr O McHugh      Affordable Warmth &amp; Energy, DfC – Left the Meeting at  11.15 am  Ms J Gardiner      Affordable Warmth &amp; Energy, DfC – Left the Meeting at 11.15 am  Ms G Long      Chief Executive  Miss M McLaughlin      Senior Executive Officer, Chief Executive’s office</p>
	<p><b><u>APOLOGIES:</u></b></p> <p>Councillor M Cooper      Antrim &amp; Newtownabbey Borough (Vice Chair)  Councillor M Kelly      Belfast City  Councillor M Ruane      Newry, Mourne &amp; District</p>



1.0	<p><b><u>Welcome</u></b></p> <p>Cllr Fitzgerald welcome all to the meeting, including representatives from DfC and the Housing Executive. She also welcomed Cllr A McQuillan, who was representing Causeway Coast &amp; Glens. She asked that all in attendance introduce themselves.</p>	
2.0	<p><b><u>Apologies</u></b></p> <p>The above apologies were noted.</p>	
		<b><u>Action</u></b>
3.0	<p><b><u>Declarations of Interests</u></b></p> <p>None.</p>	
4.0.	<p><b><u>To adopt the Minutes of the 493rd Housing Council Meeting held on Thursday, 8th September 2022</u></b></p> <p>It was proposed by Alderman Grehan, seconded by Alderman Bresland and resolved, that the Minutes of the 493rd Meeting of the Housing Council held on Thursday, 8th September 2022 be approved and signed by the Chair.</p>	<b><u>Chair</u></b>
5.0	<p><b><u>Matters Arising from the Minutes</u></b></p> <p>There were no matters arising.</p>	

6.0	<p><b><u>Forward Workplan</u></b></p> <p>The forward workplan was noted.</p>	
7.0	<p><b><u>Update by DfC on Housing Top Issues</u></b></p> <p>Mr Price and Mr Polley spoke in detail to their circulated report, which provided the Housing Council with an update summarising a range of strategic, major or routine matters, including any emerging issues. A summary of the current / emerging issues were outlined under the headings as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social Housing Development Plan</li> <li>• Programme for Government Targets / Co-ownership</li> <li>• Revitalisation</li> <li>• Housing Executive's House Sales Scheme</li> <li>• Supporting People Programme</li> <li>• Homelessness Strategy</li> <li>• Private Rented Sector</li> <li>• Affordable Warmth Scheme</li> <li>• Caravans Act (Northern Ireland) 2011</li> <li>• ERDF</li> <li>• Housing Executive Historical Debt</li> <li>• Housing Executive Rent</li> <li>• Non-ACM Cladding Remediation Scheme</li> </ul> <p>PP and DP voiced a standing offer to provide a more comprehensive update, on any topic, should any member require it.</p> <p>Cllr McQuillan asked if further information could be given regarding where social housing is required and map it against investment and if</p>	<p><b><u>PP/DP</u></b></p>

	<p>there are any issues regarding planning in different council areas. DP advised that DfC/NIHE work in partnership with councils on LDP and their ambitions at planning policy level.</p> <p>Cllr Speers asked for an update on the issue of separate storm and foul sewers and the opportunities available to divide both. DP provided a brief update and asked if it would be beneficial to invite NI Water to a future meeting to discuss this issue.</p> <p>GL advised that NI Water, like the Housing Executive, are unable to borrow and has to ensure its statutory functions are met.</p> <p><b>AGREED:</b> That NI Water should be invited to a future meeting of the Housing Council to discuss separate sewage and storm drains.</p>	<p><b><u>MMcL</u></b></p>
<p><b>8.0</b></p>	<p><b><u>Presentation on Affordable Warmth Scheme</u></b></p> <p>JG and OMcH, DfC gave Members a presentation on the Affordable Warmth Scheme outlining the follow:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is Fuel Poverty?</li> <li>• What Impacts Fuel Poverty?</li> <li>• DfC Fuel Poverty Strategy and Engagement</li> <li>• The Path to Net Zero</li> <li>• Mitigations to Tackle Fuel Poverty</li> <li>• What Does the Affordable Warmth Scheme Offer?</li> <li>• Affordable Warmth Scheme statistics to date and for 2022/23</li> <li>• Challenges Ahead &amp; Next Steps</li> </ul> <p>Cllr Fitzgerald thanked JG and OMcH for their very interesting presentation and invited questions from Members.</p>	

	<p>Cllr McQuillan commented that some of his constituents, who owned Housing Executive properties and required removal and replacement Cavity Wall Insulation, were being refused by contractors when they were told that it was an ex Housing Executive property. GL advised that any constituent could contact the Housing Executive's Energy Advice Unit who would provide advice and signpost them to the relevant agency, even if they were above the threshold for the Affordable Warmth Scheme. Contact details as follows:</p> <p><a href="mailto:Nienergyadvice@nihe.gov.uk">Nienergyadvice@nihe.gov.uk</a> and 0800 111 4455  <a href="https://www.nihe.gov.uk/Community/NI-Energy-Advice/NI-Energy-Advice-GET-IN-TOUCH">https://www.nihe.gov.uk/Community/NI-Energy-Advice/NI-Energy-Advice-GET-IN-TOUCH</a></p> <p>Cllr McQuillan also commented that DfC had now cut referrals for the Scheme from 30 a month to 20 and asked for the reasoning for this. OMCh confirmed that fewer referrals related directly to budget constraints and the number of referrals had reduced to ensure there is no overspend on the budget. Further discussion took place on the end of the AWS and it was noted that the Minister has been asked to review the Scheme to see if can be extended.</p> <p>Cllr McQuillan commented that the Cold Weather Payment, of £25, needed to be revised.</p>	<b><u>ALL</u></b>
9.0	<p><b><u>Draft Corporate Plan 2022/23 – 2024/25 and Year 1 (2022/23) Business Plan – For Public Consultation</u></b></p> <p>GL provided a presentation on the Housing Executive's Corporate Plan including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who the Housing Executive have helped</li> </ul>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Successes over the past year</li> <li>• Development of the new Plan including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A need to building and invest in affordable, sustainable housing</li> <li>○ A strategic shift to help prevent homelessness</li> <li>○ Support economic development by investing in skills and supply chains</li> <li>○ The delivery of green growth, to help create a carbon free future</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The Role and Purpose of the Housing Executive</li> <li>• The Scale of the Business</li> <li>• Engagement with Customers and Stakeholders and their opinions</li> <li>• Changes in approach</li> <li>• Amended Vision Statement</li> <li>• Strategic Changes</li> <li>• New Objectives</li> </ul> <p>GL advised that the Corporate Plan is currently out for consultation with all partners, including the Housing Council. She also advised that she had recently met with the Central Housing Forum who have a pro-active set of tenants who are interested in helping to shape what the Housing Executive do for its customers.</p> <p>Cllr Fitzgerald thanked GL for a very interesting and informative presentation and invited questions from Members.</p> <p>Cllr Fitzgerald commented that there was an issue with private landlords and the standard of accommodation offered from them for emergency accommodation. She asked how programmes are rolled out. GL responded adding that it depends on the programme but the Housing Executive are working with councils.</p>	
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	<p><b>AGREED:</b> GL to send the Housing Council information on programmes.</p> <p>Cllr Speers voiced his concerns regarding constituency issues and not being able to contact Housing Executive managers directly. He found it unsatisfactory that he couldn't contact relevant managers to receive guidance and updates. GL advised that details should be forwarded to her.</p> <p>GL also advised that the Pandemic has had an impact on the ability to be close to customers and the Housing Executive is building connectivity and relationships are improving. She added that she attends all HIP presentations at councils.</p> <p>GL also asked if it would be beneficial for the Director of Housing Services, Jennifer Hawthorne to attend a future meeting to talk through the changes being made within the organisation regarding customers.</p> <p><b>AGREED:</b> that Jennifer Hawthorne attend a future meeting of the Housing Council to present on NIHE structures.</p> <p><b>AGREED:</b> that any individual issues regarding customers should be raised with GL directly.</p>	<p><u>GL</u></p> <p><u>JS</u></p> <p><u>GL</u></p> <p><u>ALL</u></p>
10.0	<p><b><u>Quarterly Report – Social Housing Development Programme (SHDP) Progress Report</u></b></p> <p>Members noted the Report.</p>	

11.0	<p><b><u>Housing Starts – August 2022</u></b></p> <p>Members noted the Report.</p>	
12.0	<p><b><u>Temporary Accommodation Expenditure</u></b></p> <p>Noted.</p>	
13.0	<p><b><u>Cost of Living Crisis Paper</u></b></p> <p>Members noted the paper.</p>	
14.0	<p><b><u>Any Other Business</u></b></p> <p>Cllr Speers asked if the full quota, of 11 members, had been reached. It was noted that Cllr McQuillan was now the representative for Causeway Coast &amp; Glens. North Down and Belfast Councils to be confirmed.</p>	<b>MMcL</b>
15.0	<p><b><u>Date of next Meeting</u></b></p> <p>The next Housing Council Meeting is scheduled to take place on Thursday, 10th November 2022 at 10 am in the Housing Centre</p>	

Meeting ended 11.40 am



**CHAIR**  
**Councillor Anne-Marie Fitzgerald**

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## **NOVEMBER HOUSING COUNCIL BULLETIN**

The Northern Ireland Housing Council met on Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 10.00 am in the Boardroom, the Housing Centre of via Conference Call.

For Information, a report of the attendance is undernoted:-

### **Present**

Anne-Marie Fitzgerald	Fermanagh & Omagh District (Chair)
Jim Speers	Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough
Adrian McQuillan	Causeway Coast & Glens Borough
Allan Bresland	Derry City & Strabane District
Amanda Grehan	Lisburn & Castlereagh City
Tommy Nicholl	Mid & East Antrim Borough
Catherine Elattar	Mid Ulster Borough
Michael Ruane	Newry & Mourne District

### **Apologies**

Mark Cooper	Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough (Vice Chair)
Michelle Kelly	Belfast City
David Polley	Department for Communities

Discussions on the undernoted matters took place as follows:-

### **Report from Grainia Long, Chief Executive, Housing Executive**

The Report provided the Housing Council with a monthly update summarising a range of strategic, major or routine matters, including any emerging issues. A summary of the current / emerging issues are outlined as follows:-

1. Planned Maintenance contact
2. Green End Rathcoole
3. Annual Performance with the Minister, Deirdre Hargey MLA
4. Corporate Plan
5. Waterside Triangle
6. New Leasehold Policy
7. Sustainable Development Strategy Update
8. Cost of Living Crisis
9. Future Working Practices & Accommodation Strategy
10. Industrial Action and Pay Claims for 2022/23
11. Pay & Grading Review
12. Staff Conference



13. Fundamental Review of Allocations (FRA)
14. Ukrainian Resettlement Programme

Members also received a Presentation by the Housing Executive on Lifetime Homes in Northern Ireland

Once the minutes of the meeting are ratified at the December Meeting, they can be accessed on the Housing Council website: [www.nihousingcouncil.org](http://www.nihousingcouncil.org)

The next Housing Council Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at 10.00 am via conference call.

Should you require any further information or have any questions regarding the content.

**Contacts**

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# THE ELECTORAL OFFICE FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

Chief Electoral Officer: Virginia McVea



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To: Councillors

29 November 2022

Dear Councillor,

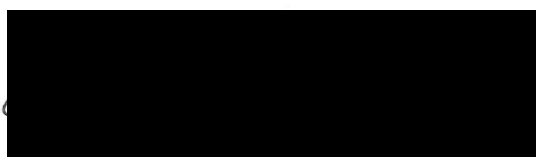
I am writing in relation to the public consultation on the Local Council Polling Station Scheme which will be published on the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022. You will find all the details on our website <http://www.eoni.org.uk/Elections/Polling-stations> at that time. The consultation runs for twelve weeks.

As you know we created a mapping application for previous consultations where you can see all of the properties and their respective polling premises on a colour coded map. The mapping application for this consultation is currently being developed and we will circulate the URL in due course.

I should be very much obliged if you would share this correspondence with your councillors. The input of political representatives is sought in order that we do all that we can to ensure that electors are supported to come out to vote and I look forward to receiving your submissions. Please email submissions or requests to meet to [premises@eoni.org.uk](mailto:premises@eoni.org.uk).

I look forward to further engagement and should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully



Virginia McVea  
Chief Electoral Officer NI