

**LEISURE & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY 13 AUGUST 2019**

Table of Recommendations

No	Item	Summary of key Recommendations
3	Minutes of meeting held Tuesday 11 th June 2019	Information
	3.1 Matters Arising	
	Leisure Facilities Project Board Terms of reference (Item 9)	
4	Members will receive a presentation from Riverside Theatre (UU) –Amanda Castray (Director of Campus Life) and Roseanne Sturgeon (Riverside Theatre Manager)	Received
5	Local Full Fibre Network (LFFN) Funding Bid	Bring Amendments to Clauses to Council Meeting Authorise, In Principle
6	Capital Grants Programme	Reject large Capital grant Applications not achieved 70%; Award 4 applicants scoring 70% or above
7	Leisure and Development Business Plans 19/20	Defer to September
8	PCSP Annual Report 18/19	Noted

9	Community and Culture Annual Report 18/19	Information
10	Girona Project	Information
11	Correspondence	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ulster University 	Place correspondence on next Committee Meeting Agenda
12	Matters reporting to the Partnership Panel	Nil
13	Consultations	Nil
	<i>IN COMMITTEE</i>	
14	Digital Causeway Project – Contractor Award	Award 42 Digital Ltd
15	Cultural Services Restructure	Agree Voluntary Service request for consideration by Corporate Policy & Resources; Implement Option 2 and proceed with restructuring of Cultural Services
16	Any other relevant business notified in accordance with Standing Order 12. (o)	
	16.1 Mountsandel Discovery and Heritage (Councillor MA McKillop)	Economic Appraisal to be presented to Council
	16.2 Leisure and Development costs (Councillor Holmes)	Information
	16.3 Atlantic Link Enterprise Zone (Councillor Homes)	Monthly Update as Standing Item

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF
THE LEISURE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
IN CIVIC HEADQUARTERS, COLERAINE ON
TUESDAY 13 AUGUST 2019 AT 7:00 PM**

In the Chair: Councillor Callan

Members Present: Alderman Duddy, Hillis, McCorkell and S McKillop;
Councillors Baird, Holmes, Knight-McQuillan,
McAuley, McCaw, McGlinchey, MA McKillop,
McShane, Schenning

Officers Present: R Baker, Director of Leisure & Development
P Beattie, Head of Prosperity & Place
J Beggs, SIB Support Officer
M Edgar, Cultural Services Manager
W McCullough, Head of Sport & Wellbeing
P O'Brien, Funding Manager
J Welsh, Head of Community & Culture
S Duggan, Committee & Member Services Officer

In attendance: R Sturgeon, Riverside Theatre Manager
A Castray, Director Campus Life, UU

Public (3)
Press (1 no)

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were recorded for Councillor Bateson.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declaration of Interest was recorded for Councillor Schenning in Item 6,
Capital Grants Programme.

Councillor McKillop sought guidance on declarations of Interest.

The Chair reminded Committee it was up to each individual to keep their
record of declarations of interest up to date.

3. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD TUESDAY 11TH JUNE 2019

Summary previously circulated.

Matters Arising

3.1 Leisure Facilities Project Board – Terms of Reference (Item 9)

In response to comments, the Director clarified the Item would be brought to the September meeting.

4. MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE A PRESENTATION FROM RIVERSIDE THEATRE (UU) –AMANDA CASTRAY (DIRECTOR OF CAMPUS LIFE) AND ROSEANNE STURGEON (RIVERSIDE THEATRE MANAGER)

The Chair invited the Riverside Theatre Manager and Director of Campus Life to present to Committee. The Riverside Annual report was made available in hard copy.

The Riverside Theatre Manager presented via PowerPoint, and advised the Riverside Theatre was Northern Ireland's oldest operating theatre outside of Belfast, celebrating its 40th birthday in 2017.

The Riverside has had a long-standing partnership with the local council as the borough's only dedicated professional performing arts space. Its purpose - to ensure that both local ratepayers and visitors to the area have continuous access to high quality, accessible, inclusive and affordable cultural services.

The Manager advised of last year's figures in terms of impact, engaging 30,000 children and adults across 144 events, 100 participatory workshops and 4 visual arts exhibitions.

Demand for accessible and quality arts experiences remained high in the area and the community reach has been vast this year and far exceeded targets through partnership work with Ulster University's Provost and council delivering a large community outreach programme of events celebrating 50 years of the Ulster University in Coleraine in 2018-19.

84% of participation came from all areas of the Causeway Coast and Glens area, attendance was recorded for all 11 local authority areas in NI (reflective of the area as a tourist destination and location for many second holiday homes).

The additional investment by Ulster around the 50 years celebrations and Garfield Weston Trust meant an additional 5,000 children and adults attended events for free at the venue.

Attendance recorded through Box Office showed 90 schools and community groups from all across the borough and beyond and workshops last year, from early years – nursery groups to primary and secondary children and young people to adult and ageing community groups such as the U3A.

The Manager stated the Riverside is an intergenerational space, many of events and programmes are supported by 50-community volunteers.

Access and Inclusivity is at the heart of the programme:

- 40% of the Riverside Youth Theatre enrolment is offered in free bursary places.
- Ulster's Widening Access Department committed a further £2,000 to transport and travel costs and programme last year for the most disadvantaged and marginalised schools and groups in the local area to attend the Riverside.
- Riverside sourced another £15,000 from the Garfield Weston Fund in 2018-19 to offer more youth projects to schools for free- full details in the annual report.

The lack of investment in the arts over the past few years in NI is no secret. Riverside's funding has significantly changed over the years, losing Arts council funding back in 2007. The Manager stated Causeway Coast and Glens support was critical to the survival of the venue. As the venue was no longer attached to any formal academic programme in the University.

Riverside's vision is to:

- Continue to strengthen its partnership with the council and work together as one entity in order to widen access and increase participation in the arts – targeting as many disadvantaged and marginalised groups in the community as possible.
- Increase its national and international connections to raise aspirations and create opportunities for the next generation of children and young people –next year Riverside Youth Theatre has been selected as one of the youth organisations to take part in the National theatre in London's Connections programme.
- Continue to explore new ways to increase public engagement with the venue through wider council initiatives, volunteering and continuous learning and well-being programmes.

- Begin to explore collaborative and producing opportunities with the councils Tourism and Events department in terms of maximising the unique Cultural Tourism product the area offers.

The Manager stated the possibilities of collaboration were endless, the arts and neutral creative spaces were a wonderful vehicle to address all of society's aspirations and challenges and looked forward to another era of collaboration with Causeway Coast and Glens to see what they can achieve together.

In response to questions from Elected Members, the Director of Campus Life advised of equivalent financial contributions from Ulster University, theatre bar sales and sourced grants, to deliver education and outreach activities which had resulted in break-even Accounts.

The Director of Campus Life advised of aspirations for investment in a Tourist Destination Campus, a Walking Trail had been introduced and there were hopes for an Arts and Cultural Trail linked to Riverside for Tourists, a movie night was hosted, for example, during The Open.

The Riverside Theatre Manager stated the Management Committee was due to meet on 3rd September 2019 and were seeking new membership The Director of Campus Life offered an explanation as to why it had not met for 1 ½ years, due to internal restructuring.

The Director of Campus Life advised of sustainable measures that had been undertaken to include updating of booking systems, however, seating capacity was limited and a further uplift required. £100,000 of infrastructure investment had been made for equipment, windows, flooring and an internal fit out. She advised a new roof was required, new services such as water, Wi-Fi and accessibility upgrades had been completed using the University subsidy, an advantage of accessing Ulster University Estates and of being part of the Institution.

Councillor Duddy advised it would have been beneficial to have sight of the Annual Accounts.

Councillor McCaw advised further measures surrounding KPI's were required to be looked at as targets were highly exceeded.

Councillor McGlinchey stated it was vital the Riverside was kept open, the funding well used and Theatre needed in the Borough for all sections of the community.

The Chair questioned whether there was a Business Plan going forward. The Director of Campus Life advised the Annual Plan would be

presented to the Management Team regarding operations and operational projections.

The Chair thanked the Representatives for their presentation and congratulated Ulster University on its 50th Anniversary Celebrations.

- * **Director of Campus Life and Riverside Theatre Manager left the meeting at 7.37pm.**

The Director of Leisure and Development advised he would make available the Annual Accounts.

5. LOCAL FULL FIBRE NETWORK (LFFN) FUNDING BID

Report previously circulated, presented by The Head of Prosperity and Place.

The FFNI (Full Fibre Northern Ireland) Consortium is a consortium of the ten councils outside Belfast, hosted by Newry, Mourne and Down District Council (NMD). (Circulated Consortium Agreement).

The Consortium made a successful collective bid for £15m funding from the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) Local Full Fibre Networks Challenge Fund, to support digital infrastructure development across Northern Ireland.

The Consortium has now received the Letter of Offer from DCMS, confirming that the capital grant of £15m has been approved. The paper requests permission from the Committee for the Council's officers to sign the FFNI Consortium Agreement and authorise Officers to participate in the procurements operated by NMD, on behalf of the Consortium, to deploy the funding.

The background detail was circulated within the report.

Proposals

The market from which we will procure the services is complex. To secure the best value outcome for the consortium, the procurements are designed to encourage strong competition between a range of suppliers.

The Council expects to run three procurements on behalf of the consortium, but up to five could be necessary to ensure maximum value and coverage.

Each procurement will be carefully constructed to deliver the best value from the market, including spreading the delivery effort across multiple

supply chains to reduce risk. The European Journal (OJEU) Open Procurement Procedure is planned.

The site list is primarily based on funding eligibility rules set by DCMS. The consortium aims to procure services to as many of the sites as possible within the funding constraints. The sites eventually selected will be determined through the procurements to deliver best value based on the market response. See Annex B for provisional site list (please note, for information only).

Subject to agreement from each Consortium Member and from DCMS, the first of the procurements will start in summer of 2019. Each procurement will take approximately 10 weeks.

The procurements will be run by the FFNI Operations Team. The Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Procurement Team will oversee the procurement process.

FFNI has secured £15m from DCMS for this programme. It is anticipated that this will meet all project financial requirements including resources. The breakdown of funding and costs for this programme have been previously presented to Members. Any additional unforeseen costs which may arise will be brought back to Council for consideration. The costs of the Operations Team will be met from the grant funding.

The estimated costs of the procurement and delivery, and the resource to support it, formed part of the Financial Case of the consortium Bid to DCMS, and have previously been shared with Council. There are no material changes from previously submitted estimated costs.

It is recommended that the Leisure & Development Committee:

- i. Authorise Officers to sign the Consortium Agreement, on behalf of the Council.
- ii. Authorise Officers to participate in the procurements operated by Newry and Mourne District Council, on behalf of the Consortium, to deploy the funding.

Concerns were expressed with Clauses within the Agreement, that Council may be tied, with no alternative.

The Head of Prosperity and Place advised he would take the Agreement back and bring amendments to the Council Meeting.

Proposed by Councillor Holmes

Seconded by Councillor Duddy and

AGREED – to recommend that, in principle:

- i. Council Authorise Officers to sign the Consortium Agreement, on behalf of the Council.
- ii. Authorise Officers to participate in the procurements operated by Newry and Mourne District Council, on behalf of the Consortium, to deploy the funding.

6. CAPITAL GRANTS PROGRAMME

Report previously circulated. The Funding Manager was available for questions.

The purpose of the report was to recommend grant decisions for the Large Capital Grants Programme 2018-19.

The Capital Grants Fund is available to local sports and community organisations who wish to request support towards the development of new, or the enhancement of existing facilities to meet unmet need. It seeks to support external infrastructure projects that are aligned to Council's aims and objectives and that require additional capital funding to achieve completion.

In November 2017 Council agreed that both a Large Capital Grant Programme and a Minor Capital Grant programme would operate in 2018-19 with a combined budget of £750k.

In September 2018 Council agreed to award funding to 4 Minor Capital Grant projects.

Applicant	Award Amount
Limavady Recreation Grounds	£12,500.00
Ballymoney Bowling Club	£25,000.00
Ballybrakes Community Indoor Bowling Club	£22,207.50
Milburn Community Association	£10,468.17
	£70,175.67

In September 2018 Council agreed to close the capital grants programmes to applications for 2019-20 and reserve the budget in that year in case it is needed to fund the 2018-19 applications.

In September 2018 Council agreed to invite 6 successful Stage 1 Applications to the Large Capital Grants Programme to progress to stage

2 and submit their Outline Business Cases for assessment against the agreed criteria:

Applicant	Project description & Advice from Council regarding OBC submission
Corrymeela Community	Upgrade to sewage system. Explore engineering solutions to minimise cost.
Coleraine FC	Convert main pitch to 3G. Consider the club's current financial position with a view to a reduced % request to Council. Consider the installation of a hybrid rather than a 3G pitch.
Derry GAA	Conversion of grass training area to floodlit sand mattress pitch and hard standing. Consider an option of pitch upgrades only with the installation of flood lighting when budgets allow or at a 100% cost to the applicant.
Limavady Community Development Initiative	Building extension: large hall, ancillary facilities, multipurpose covered area. Consider the lower cost option with no outdoor covered area.
Glens Youth Club	120m x 70m floodlit training area and 2 team changing pavilion. Consider the upgrade of existing changing rooms rather than the construction of new.
St Canices GAC	2 team changing pavilion. Consider the construction of a toilet block rather than a new changing pavilion to reflect the mostly training use of the site and the spare capacity in nearby changing facilities.

In January 2019 Council agreed to progress Eoghan Rua Stage 1 application to Stage 2 and invited them to submit an Outline Business Cases for assessment against the agreed criteria.

Applicant	Project Description
Eoghan Rua	Floodlit sand mattress pitch. Consider synthetic surface rather than grass.

Glens Youth Club withdrew from the process in December 2018.

Maximum award values and percentage grants available are as follows:

Scale of Project	Max Award%	Max Award Value
£30,000 - £100,000	80%	£80,000
£100,001 - £200,000	60%	£120,000
£200,001 - over	50%	£500,000

Stage 2 Applications

- A workshop for Stage 2 applicants was held in November 2018.
- One to one meetings were held with all Stage 2 applicants to support them in the process and provide advice and support in the development of their Outline Business Cases.
- Mentor support was provided to all Stage 2 applicants with a mentor assigned to each applicant to advise and support in the development of their Outline Business Cases.
- 6 x Outline Business Cases were received before the deadline.

The Grant Assessment Panel of relevant officers assessed the outline Business Cases against the advertised criteria (Circulated at Annex A within the report).

Applicant	Project Value Stage 1	Project Value Stage 2	Amount Requested in Stage 1	Amount Requested in Stage 2	Project Description	Score
Corrymeela Community*	£477,000	£380,000	£148,500	£100,000	Upgrade to sewage system.	77%
Coleraine FC*	£420,000	£498,000	£200,000	£240,000	Convert main pitch to 3G	53%
Derry GAA*	£325,200	£189,000	£189,700	£94,500	Conversion of grass training area to floodlit sand mattress pitch and hard standing	61%
Limavady Community Development Initiative*	£200,000	£199,481	£120,000	£120,000	Building extension: large hall, ancillary facilities, multipurpose covered area	76%
St Canices GAC*	£396,000	£401,500	£196,000	£198,000	2 team changing pavilion	85%
Eoghan Rua	£489,900	£448,000	£244,950	£244,000	Sand mattress pitch	84%
Totals	£2,308,100	£2,115,981	£1,099,150	£997,500		

As per the agreed criteria, to be considered for grant-aid all projects must achieve the threshold score of 70%.

It is recommended that Members consider the following:

- Reject the Large Capital Grant applications that have not achieved the 70% threshold score.
- Award Capital Grants to the 4 applicants successfully scoring 70% or above.

Applicant	Amount Recommended	% of Total Costs
Coleraine FC*	No Award	n/a
Derry GAA*	No Award	n/a
Corrymeela Community	£100,000	26%
Limavady Community Development Initiative*	£120,000	60%
St Canices GAC*	£198,000	49%
Eoghan Rua	£244,000	50%
Total	£642,000	

Budget Available £679,825.

Amount Recommended in grant-aid £642,000.

Proposed by Councillor McShane
Seconded by Councillor McGlinchey and

AGREED – to recommend that Council:

- Reject the Large Capital Grant applications that have not achieved the 70% threshold score.
- Award Capital Grants to the 4 applicants successfully scoring 70% or above.

7. LEISURE AND DEVELOPMENT BUSINESS PLANS 19/20

Report previously circulated.

The purpose of the report was to present to Members the 2019/2020 Leisure and Development Business Plans for consideration and approval.

The report detailed that as Council enters the first year of the new Council term, this plan provides an interim focus for officers (for an 8 month period) prior to the start of strategic and corporate planning scheduled in September 2019.

The business plans represent a continuation of work from the 18/19 period for:

- Sport and Wellbeing
- Community and Culture
- Tourism and Recreation
- Prosperity and Place
- The Funding Unit

The plans for each of the aforementioned service area are developed based upon:

- The emerging actions from the Community Planning Process.
- The Council's exiting Corporate Plan.
- Endorsed service area strategies.
- Relevant Central government strategies and policies.
- Council decisions and direction from the 2018/19 period.

The Purpose of The Plans

The purpose of the annual business plans is to:

- Give a clear sense of what the service is for and the challenges it faces.
- Show how it is supporting Council's priorities.
- Show how it is contributing to the efficiency drive and transformation of service delivery.
- Show how it is aligning its resources to meet the challenges ahead.
- Help us to hold ourselves to account and ensure we deliver for Council and its residents.
- Bring key information together in one place about the service, which Members, staff and stakeholders can understand.

The report set out detailed paragraphs of the First Term of the Causeway Coast and Glens; 2018 / 2019 Achievements; 2019 and Beyond; 2019 – 20 Business Plans and Financial Position.

Based upon the requirement to achieve a £348,000 saving in year, each business plan includes the adjusted net budgetary position, which is summarised below:

The committee was asked to consider and approve the proposed business plans for the remainder of 2019 / 20 period, providing a focus for officers responsible for delivering Leisure and Development services.

Councillor McShane requested detail of the twenty-four engagements by the Chambers of Commerce to be provided to her.

The Director of Leisure and Development drew Members' attention to a typographical error within the report, the Town and Village Manager structure had omitted one Project Officer.

Proposed by Councillor Holmes
Seconded by Councillor Duddy and

AGREED – to recommend that Council defer the L&D Business Plans 2019/20 until September 2019 following consideration of Council's in-year financial position.

8. PCSP ANNUAL REPORT 18/19

* **Councillor McAuley arrived at the meeting at 8.06pm.**

Information report previously circulated.

The purpose of the report was to present the PCSP Annual Report 2018-19 for committee's information.

Under the Justice Act (Northern Ireland) 2011, a Joint Committee was established to oversee the work of Policing and Community Safety Partnerships. It consists of representatives of the Department of Justice and Northern Ireland Policing Board. The committee provides strategic direction to PCSPs.

As per legislative requirement, all PCSPs must submit an Annual Report to the Joint Committee not later than 3 months after the end of the financial year i.e. by 01 July each year and submit the report to Council for information.

The report covers both the work of the Policing Committee and the wider PCSP and must contain specific information as to how the PCSP has carried out its functions on engagement and enhancing community safety.

This report contains general information on the exercise of functions, both in terms of policing and community safety.

It is recommended that the PCSP Annual Report 2018-19 is noted for information.

AGREED – to recommend that the PCSP Annual Report 2018-19 is noted for information.

9. COMMUNITY AND CULTURE ANNUAL REPORT 18/19

Information report previously circulated.

The purpose of the report was to provide Council with an overview of performance against the targets as set out within the Business Plan for the 2018- 19 period.

Background

The purpose of the business plan for 18-19, as approved by Council was to:

- Give a clear sense of what the service is for and the challenges it faces.
- Show how it supports Council's priorities.
- Show how it contributes to the efficiency drive and transformation of service delivery.
- Show how it aligns its resources to meet the challenges ahead.

Overview & Vision for the service area

The Community & Culture Service area, established in 2015, is comprised of Community Development & Tackling Deprivation, Good Relations, Policing & Community Safety Partnership, Peace IV, and Culture, Arts & Heritage services, which includes cultural venues (Museums & Arts Centres) and cultural outreach/engagement.

The net budget for 2018/19 was £1,722,415, with additional income secured of £2,164,681 through income generation, EU grant programmes, match funding from departmental programmes (NIPB/DOJ, DfC, The Executive Office) and charitable trusts/funders.

The vision for the service area is twofold and includes:

'To address local issues associated with disadvantage, social exclusion, good relations, community safety and the reduction of crime.

To enhance the well-being and increase the prosperity of citizens, communities and visitors by enabling access to and an understanding of culture, arts and heritage.'

Strategic Themes / Functions - These include:

- Community Development including management of funding programmes. Tackling Deprivation/Neighbourhood Renewal. Community facility development/policy.

- Management and development of cultural facilities, arts centres and museums. Museum services including collections management. Cultural engagement, outreach & development.
- Management of the Good Relations strategy and programmes to support Council in its Section 75 (2) functions.
- Facilitation of the Policing and Community Safety Partnership structure, strategic & operational plans.
- Facilitation of the PEACE IV Partnership, including the management and delivery of the Peace IV Local Action Plan for the Causeway Coast & Glens Borough area.

2018-2019 Headline performance against targets

The net operational budget for the service was £1,722,415. The final operating expenditure for 18/19 showed expenditure at £1,546,132. Income, including grant income equated to an additional £2,164,681 to the service equating to total expenses of £3,663,054 for the 18/19 period.

123 performance targets had been set in 18/19 for the Community & Culture service area. The table below provides an overview of attainment against target key performance targets.

Performance target total	Target achieved (81% attainment & above)	% change from 17/18 attainment	Target partially achieved (51-80% attainment)	% change from 17/18 attainment	Target not achieved (0-50% attainment)	% change from 17/18 attainment
123	99 (80%)	+5%	15 (13%)	-1%	9 (7%)	-3%

Details of the performance report were contained within Annex A.

In 2018/19 period the service facilitated a total 744 activities/events/workshops to local communities and visitors, registering 202,448 participants in the activities, services and events delivered.

A number of the service area's specific achievements were highlighted in the report: Cultural Services, Policing & Community Safety Partnership, Peace IV Local Action Plan, Community Development and Good Relations.

The Head of Community and Culture responded to questions from Councillor Duddy on, 'Our Shared Community' and measures quantifying participation levels.

The Head of Community and Culture agreed to liaise with the Good relations Manager and respond to Councillor Duddy on the problems experienced with '1.4 'Our Cultural Expression'.

10. GIRONA PROJECT

Information report previously circulated.

The purpose of the report was to inform members of progress to date in relation to Project Girona (Girona). The overall aim of Girona is to develop and pilot Northern Ireland's first clean and secure energy microgrid in Coleraine to support under-served domestic customers and business customers.

The Community Plan has identified energy as a key priority issue for attracting investment and increasing employment in the council area. Specifically, Action 32 of the Community Plan identifies the need to *'develop an Energy Strategy within CC&G's area that addresses connectivity, connection cost, unit cost and unit cost certainty'*.

High energy prices are already a barrier to local business investment and this is compounded by the limited energy capacity from the network in the area. This results in additional costs and long lead times for new or expanded network connections. This is particularly acute for the energy intensive users and major employers in the borough.

The Girona project seeks to prove that a combination of targeted grid development, commercial and domestic energy storage, and other innovative methods of energy supply can resolve the issues of growing need and constrained supply as exemplified by the constraint in the Loguestown substation and in the CC&GBC area. If successful, it will offer the opportunity for similar solution(s) to be deployed quickly and more widely across Northern Ireland.

Proposals

The Girona Collaborative Network and in particular the lead company, PowerOn Technologies, has collaborated successfully with the key stakeholder group (i.e. CC&GBC, Department for Economy, Invest NI, NI Consumer Council, NIE Networks, NI Housing Executive, and the Utility Regulator) since 2017. The Girona group actively engage with the network members on issues and challenges with the development of the new market including electric vehicle uptake, energy storage, grid constraints, increased renewables and how best to share potential benefits.

The targeted benefits of Girona are:

- To alleviate fuel poverty and decarbonise lifestyles;

- Improve network resilience / energy security;
- Support housing build programmes;
- Enable business expansion / economic growth;
- Provide evidence to support / inform decision making in relation to policies; regulations; and business investment;
- Showcase NI skills and expertise;
- Attract inward investment;
- Opportunity for skills building - higher value jobs; and
- Production of exportable products and services.

Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council, along with Invest NI have already committed funds and resources to the project as a 'pump primer' for the potential benefits accruing to the area. In addition, the Housing Executive have included the network in some of their own projects to explore solutions to fuel poverty arising from their Social Housing Policy remit. There is an established working relationship with the stakeholder group which is based on openness and desire to explore potential solutions for the complex problem of ensuring all stakeholders are prospering from the Energy Revolution which is underway.

The Girona Project has just recently completed Phase One of Invest NI's Collaborative Growth Programme, and if successful, will secure additional funding to develop the project further over the next three years.

In addition, Girona is also currently the subject of an application to Business Energy Industrial Strategy (BEIS) under the Innovate UK 'Prospering from the Energy Revolution' Detailed Design Call.

In summary Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council, will continue to be a key stakeholder on the Girona Project; providing ongoing funding and support in line with the Prosperity and Place 2019/20 Business Plan objectives. In addition, Council will continue to support both current and future funding applications in support of the Girona project.

Councillor Baird referred to cuts in the Warm Homes Scheme Funding and the cost of energy soaring and hoped the pressure would work.

11. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence report.

The Chair verbally advised he was in receipt of correspondence from Ulster University inviting Council to hold a committee meeting on its

Campus, the correspondence would be presented to the next committee meeting.

12. MATTERS REPORTING TO THE PARTNERSHIP PANEL

There were no matters reporting to the Partnership Panel.

13. CONSULTATIONS

There were no consultation documents.

MOTION TO PROCEED 'IN COMMITTEE'

Proposed by Councillor Baird
Seconded by Councillor Schenning and

AGREED – that Council move 'In Committee'.

* **Press left the meeting at 8.30pm.**

14. DIGITAL CAUSEWAY PROJECT – CONTRACTOR AWARD

Confidential report previously circulated.

The purpose of the report was to seek Members approval to award the Digital Causeway Project Contract to 42 Digital Limited.

At the February 2019 Leisure and Development Committee, Members approved the acceptance of a funding Letter of Offer from Invest Northern Ireland for Council to deliver a Digital Causeway Project following a successful application.

A competitive procurement exercise has been carried out with Central Procurement Directorate to enable Council to appoint a contractor to deliver of all aspects of the Project.

Four companies submitted tenders and details of their scores were circulated within the report.

It is recommended that Council agrees to award the contract to 42 Digital Limited to enable promotion and marketing for the Project to commence in September 2019.

Proposed by Councillor McKillop
Seconded by Councillor Baird and

AGREED – to recommend that Council agrees to award the contract to 42 Digital Limited to enable promotion and marketing for the Project to commence in September 2019.

15. CULTURAL SERVICES RESTRUCTURE

Confidential report previously circulated.

The purpose of the report was to set out proposals to restructure the Cultural Services team within Community & Culture, and to consider a request for Voluntary Severance. A key outcome of the report was to ensure that the service remains fit for purpose and continues to deliver agreed strategic and operational objectives.

It is recommended that Members:

1. Agree the Voluntary Severance request for consideration by Corporate Policy & Resources Committee.
2. Agree to implement Option 2 and proceed with the restructuring of Cultural Services accordingly.

The recommendation was debated, the Head of Community and Culture clarified the restructuring process had been ongoing since January.

Proposed by Councillor Duddy
Seconded by Councillor McShane

– to recommend that Council:

1. Agree the Voluntary Severance request for consideration by Corporate Policy & Resources Committee;
2. Agree to implement Option 2 and proceed with the restructuring of Cultural Services accordingly.

The Chair put the motion to the Committee to vote. 10 Members voted For, 0 Members voted Against and 2 Members Abstained.

The Chair declared the motion **CARRIED**.

16. ANY OTHER RELEVANT BUSINESS NOTIFIED IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER 12. (O)

In Accordance with Standing Order 12 (o), the following business was notified accordingly:

16.1 Mountsandel Discovery and Heritage (Councillor MA McKillop)

'The Mountsandel Discovery and Heritage Committee did a well-received presentation to council which was supported by all parties, could you give an update on when the Economic Appraisal will be coming before council.'

The Director of Leisure and Development advised the Economic Appraisal had been completed and would be presented to Council, there were six options available and a Workshop required.

Councillor Duddy requested prior sight of the Economic Appraisal.

16.2 Leisure and Development costs (Councillor Holmes)

'What is the total monthly cost of L&D labour for the previous 12 months against budget? Please provide figures separately for Operational and Office staff.'

'What are the total monthly hours worked by L&D staff for the previous 12 months against budget? Please provide figures separately for Operational and Office staff.'

'What is the monthly overtime cost and hours worked per month for the past 12 months against target?'

*'How is labour productivity measured within L&D and the various L&D functional departments?
(If weekly data is more readily available then please provide by the week instead of by month.)'*

The Director of Leisure and Development advised budget salaries for 2018/19 of £9,854,262M and actual spend of £9,857,963M an overspend of £3,701.00.

16.3 Atlantic Link Enterprise Zone (Councillor Homes)

'Please provide an update on the Enterprise Zone in terms of sales activity and potential for new entrants to the EZ.'

The Head of Prosperity and Place provided an update.

International professional property agents, CBRE were appointed in September 2018 via SIB's Asset Management Framework. The key role of CBRE is to market/promote/sell ALEC regionally, nationally and internationally to secure large-scale tenant/s to locate on site.

On the 12th February 2019, the Atlantic Link Enterprise Zone Development Brief was officially launched and is being actively marketed by both CBRE and Council. Sales activity to date includes:

- Ongoing promotion/marketing of outline Development Brief to prospective tenants regionally, nationally and internationally via CBRE's networks and regional offices.
- Newspaper Adverts
- Atlantic Link Enterprise Zone information events/roadshows to explain the offering; benefits and eligibility criteria.
- Wide-spread mailshot of both new hard and soft copies of the Atlantic Link Enterprise Zone Brochure and Development Brief to prospective investors.

The threat of a "no deal Brexit" and the continued lack of government within Northern Ireland has resulted in a general decline in demand for property across the province. Despite the difficult market conditions, there has been a number of informal inquiries regards the site.

Proposed by Councillor Holmes
Seconded by Councillor Duddy and

AGREED – to recommend that Council have a monthly update on the Enterprise Zone as a Standing Item on the Leisure and Development Committee Agenda.

There being no further business the Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting concluded at **9.06pm.**

Chair