

**ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING  
TUESDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2021**

**Table of Recommendations**

<b>No</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Summary of key Recommendations</b>
1.	Apologies	<i>Nil</i>
2.	Declarations of Interest	<i>Nil</i>
3.	Order of Business	<i>Information</i>
4.	Any Other Relevant Business (notified in accordance with Standing Order 12 (o))	
(i)	Bulky goods lifting (Councillor Bateson)	<i>Information</i>
(ii)	Recycling centres Summer opening hours (Councillor Bateson)	<i>Information</i>
(iii)	Craigahulliar Landfill Site (Alderman Fielding)	<i>Information</i>
(iv)	Appointments system at Recycling Centre across the Borough (Alderman Baird)	<i>Information</i>
(v)	Role of Grave diggers (Councillor McCandless)	<i>Information</i>
(vi)	Grave diggers jobs (Councillor McQuillan)	<i>Information</i>
5.	Minutes of Environmental Services Committee meeting held 10 August 2021	<i>Confirmed</i>
6.	Update on Air Quality Monitoring and Consideration of Additional Passive Diffusion Tube Screening	<i>to recommend that Council approve the instigation of passive diffusion tube monitoring with Main Street Ballykelly to determine current NO2 levels.</i>

7.	Water Bottle Refill Scheme	<b><i>to recommend that Council defer consideration and bring a report back in 6 months' time; that a report is brought back on H2O On The Go scheme with a view to promotion in the interim.</i></b>
8.	Towards a LitterSmart Borough Litter Strategy 2021 to 2025	<b><i>to recommend that Council approve the draft Litter Strategy 2021-2025 and proceed with a 12 week public consultation period.</i></b>
9.	Approval of Premises as a Venue for Civil Marriage	<b><i>Information</i></b>
10.	Approval of Premises as a Venue for Civil Partnership	<b><i>Information</i></b>
11.	Petroleum Spirit Licence Renewals	<b><i>Information</i></b>
12.	Houses in Multiple Occupation: Quarterly Statistics 1st April – 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2021	<b><i>Information</i></b>
13.	Confirmation of Funding from the Public Health Agency for the Delivery of Services 2021-2022	<b><i>Information</i></b>
14.	Private Contractor Litter Enforcement Statistics (WISE)	<b><i>to recommend that with immediate effect, Council establish a Working Group of 8 Members nominated by d'hondt from the Environmental Services Committee, to meet with representatives from WISE, to give direction.</i></b>

15.	Repairs & Maintenance Update	
16.	Castlerock Footbridge Update	<i>to recommend that a site visit is held and a report is brought each month</i>
17.	Correspondence	
(i)	Sustainableni	<i>to recommend that Council nominate 2 Elected Members by d'Hondt</i>
(ii)	Department for Infrastructure	<i>Information</i>
18.	Consultation Documents	<i>Nil</i>
19.	Conferences	<i>Nil</i>
20.	Matters for Reporting to Partnership Panel	<i>Nil</i>
	<b>'In Committee' Items 21-23 inclusive)</b>	
21.	Purchase of Slope Mower	<i>to recommend that Council approve the purchase of 1no. Slope Mower to further reduce risks to grounds maintenance staff and improve the standard of</i>
22.	Replacement Coastal Path Lighting Scheme, Cushendall	<i>to recommend that Council approve that the lighting be replaced/upgraded as per the attached proposal at a cost of £40,965</i>
23.	Period 4 ES Management Accounts	<i>Information</i>

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF  
THE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE  
IN CIVIC HEADQUARTERS AND VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE, ON  
TUESDAY 14 SEPTEMBER AT 7:00 PM**

- In the Chair:** Councillor Wilson (C)
- Members Present:** Alderman Boyle (C), Fielding (C), Robinson (C),  
Councillors Beattie (R), Bateson (R), Chivers (R), Holmes  
(C), Hunter (R), McAuley (C), McGlinchey (R), MA  
McKillop (R), McLean (C), McQuillan (C), Wallace (C)
- Non-Committee  
Members Present:** Alderman Duddy (C), Hillis (C) (Item 4(v)) ;  
Councillor McCandless (C) (Item 4(vi))
- Officers Present:** A McPeake, Director of Environmental Services (C)  
B Edgar, Head of Health and Built Environment (R)  
A Mullan, Head of Operations (R)  
S Duggan, Civic Support & Committee & Member Services Officer (C)
- In Attendance:** A Lennox, ICT Mobile Operations Officer (C)  
C Thompson, ICT Operations Officer (C)
- Public (1no.) (R)  
Press (3no) (R)

**Key:** (C) Attended in the Chamber  
(R) Attended Remotely

The Chair advised Committee of its obligations and protocol whilst the meeting was being audio recorded; and with the remote meetings protocol.

The Director of Environmental Services undertook a roll call of committee members present.

**1. APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies recorded.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3. ORDER OF BUSINESS**

The Chair advised the AORB Items would be considered first as there were non-committee Members present, that Committee would be required to move '*In Committee*' for some AORB Items.

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

The following Items were submitted in accordance with Standing Order 12 (o).

**(i) Bulky goods lifting (Councillor Bateson)**

*Can this be looked at being reintroduced FOC? How much saving is council making not providing this as a free service anymore? Could a group fee be looked at if areas wanted to club together to get a bulky goods lift organised at one time?*

Councillor Bateson spoke on behalf of Councillor McGurk.

The Director of Environmental Services advised the proposal would be a significant cost and anticipated significant uptake and administration. The Director of Environmental Services advised a report would be brought back with advantages and disadvantages.

**(ii) Recycling centres summer opening hours (Councillor Bateson)**

*Can we look at introducing more late evenings opening for next year? Several complaints this year regarding only one late night opening.*

The Director of Environmental Services advised he was content to look at the matter raised.

**(iii) Craighulliar Landfill Site (Alderman Fielding)**

*How do residents living close to Craighulliar Landfill Site address the infestation of flies that occurs during warm weather and often at bank holiday weekends, and what measures have Council in place to control an infestation during holiday periods.*

The Director of Environmental Services agreed to look at the mechanism where there may be a contact to facilitate, he advised a private contractor was on call as and when required.

**(iv) Recycling Centres Appointments system (Alderman Baird)**

*Council continue to operate an appointments system at Recycling Centre across the Borough. This system was introduced as a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic. Given current Government easements can you advise when we might return to our original open system for our citizens at recycling centres? The current system is inconvenient and difficult for many people in the Borough especially those who require assistance from neighbours and friends to take goods to the centres?*

Alderman Hillis was in attendance to speak on behalf of Alderman Baird.

The Director of Environmental Services outlined the system brought in during Covid for a controlled mechanism of entry and for the health and safety of staff and allowed for tracking potential commercial users.

The Director of Environmental Services advised there had been significant positive feedback, however, was content to take a view if there had been complaints received from Elected Members.

Councillor McQuillan considered the booking system was working well.

\* **Alderman Hillis left the meeting at 7.22pm.**

The Chair advised the role of gravediggers would be considered '*In Committee*'. Councillor McQuillan felt the more widely the information was in the public domain, the better for everyone concerned.

Proposed by Councillor McQuillan  
Seconded by Councillor McLean and

**AGREED** – to recommend that Council consider the matter '*In Public*'.

The Chair put the motion to the Committee to vote.  
12 Members voted For; 0 Members voted Against; 1 Member Abstained.  
The Chair declared the motion carried.

The Chair reminded Committee to speak generally regarding the issue and received the Items together.

**(v) Role of gravediggers (Councillor McCandless)**

*I would ask on behalf of Alderman Fielding and I that the matter of the role of gravediggers be on the agenda under AORB for discussion Tuesday evening.*

**(vi) Grave digger jobs (Councillor McQuillan)**

*Is this council planning to do away with the grave diggers jobs.*

Councillor McCandless stated concern regarding any detriment to the valuable personal service carried out by grave diggers and would require consultation to include clergy.

Alderman Fielding concurred, the role of grave diggers involved further engagement and liaising with bereaved family, any alternative role would require the views of the relevant stakeholders.

Councillor McQuillan advised the role a specialist job that required a special person and reflected on a personal experience where a grave digger had assisted a bereaved family member.

The Director of Environmental Services clarified the process of harmonising Terms and Conditions, an operational matter currently in process and with Unions. The Director of Environmental Services clarified Council were not removing the role of grave diggers, and advised of a proposed change to the job title and job description going forward.

The Chair asked the Director of Environmental Services to convey their thanks from Committee to the staff, that the job they do was appreciated.

\* **Councillor McGlinchey joined the meeting at 7.35pm.**

## **5. MINUTES OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 10 AUGUST 2021**

Summary, previously circulated.

**AGREED** – to recommend that the Minutes of the Environmental Services Committee meeting held 10 August 2021 were confirmed as a correct record.

## **6. UPDATE ON AIR QUALITY MONITORING AND CONSIDERATION OF ADDITIONAL PASSIVE DIFFUSION TUBE SCREENING**

Report, previously circulated, presented by the Head of Health and Built Environment, to provide members with additional information of Air Quality Monitoring within the Borough and of proposals to undertake additional screening with one location.

### **Background**

Further to previous report item ES210810 Item 10, members had requested an update on the Air Quality Monitoring undertaken within the Borough and specifically a review to be undertaken with respect to Ballykelly.

The department are currently finalising an Updated Screening Assessment (USA) for submission to DAERA and will be presented to Council prior to submission.

Members will be aware that Council operates a continuous monitor located in Dungiven, which forms part of the NI Network  
<https://www.airqualityni.co.uk/>

The data captured by this monitor is currently being ratified by our appointed quality control and quality assurance contractors.

The information collected and audited recently is provided below.

### **Dungiven AQMA Main Street**

National Air Quality Objective for Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>):

- ❖ Annual mean concentration **40 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$**
- ❖ Hourly mean 200  $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$  not to be exceeded more than 18 times a year

YEAR	Annual mean concentrations	Hourly mean
2018	<b>51<math>\mu\text{g m}^{-3}</math></b>	No exceedances
2019	<b>56<math>\mu\text{g m}^{-3}</math></b>	No exceedances
2020	21 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$	No exceedances
2021 (Jan-June)	27 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$	No exceedances

- Figures in bold represent an exceedance of the Air Quality objective

Note: It is assumed that the 2020 & 2021 figures have been influenced by COVID restrictions on travel/unnecessary journeys. It should not be assumed that data for these periods shows a sustained decrease in pollutant concentrations.

It is anticipated that the annual mean concentrations will reduce considerably on completion of the current A6 road extension programme.

Further to members requests consideration has been given to the review of Air Quality within Ballykelly specifically, due to increasing traffic volumes. This has included a review of previous screening assessments and updated traffic flow data.

#### **Excerpt from Air quality Review and Assessment (Limavady Borough Council) –Interim Report 2006**

Table 1 below lists the predicted annual average and 99.8<sup>th</sup> percentile of maximum hourly average kerbside concentrations (equivalent to 18 exceedances per year) of nitrogen dioxide for 2005 within Ballykelly and Greysteel. The 99.8<sup>th</sup> percentile of hourly averages has been estimated as 3.5 times the annual mean for roadside locations as advised in LAQM TG4 (00).

Table 1:

Nitrogen dioxide concentrations at roadside locations in Limavady Borough Council

Description of Link	Distance to nearest receptor from kerbside (m)	NO <sub>2</sub> Annual mean ( $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) 2005	NO <sub>2</sub> 99.8th percentile of hourly averages ( $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ) 2005
Main St, Ballykelly	2.5	29.2	102.2
Clooney Rd, Greysteel	4	24.7	86.4

#### **Excerpt from Further Assessment Limavady Borough Council 2012**



Passive monitoring was carried out within Ballykelly between March 2011 and January 2012. Data collected was detailed within the 2012 Further Assessment report. Data has been annualised and bias adjusted as per Technical Guidance TG(09).

**Bias adjusted NO<sub>2</sub> concentrations March 2011- January 2012**

Monitoring site	Bias adjusted concentration (x 0.85) $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$
Main St Ballykelly	35.11

- Annual mean objective level of  $40\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$

**Dfl Traffic data 2012 – 2020: Ballykelly & Greysteel (A2 Clooney Road)**

YEAR	AADT 24-hr	%cars/vans	%car/van with trailer/medium commercial	%HGV's	Rigid	Artic	Bus/Coach
<b>2012</b> (Greysteel)	1390 0	89.3	3.3	7.4	6.2	1.2	0.0
<b>2013</b> (Greysteel)	1443 0	89.5	3.3	7.2	1.4	3.6	0.8
<b>2014</b> (Greysteel)	1442 0	89.3	3.5	7.2	6.0	1.2	0.0
<b>2015</b> (Greysteel)	1505 0	89.3	3.6	7.1	5.9	1.2	0.0
<b>2016</b>	No data available						
<b>2017</b> (Ballykelly)	1655 0	92.4	0.7	7.7	4.7	1.1	0.7
2018	No data available						
2019	No data available						

<b>2020</b> (Ballykelly)	1349 0	91.0	1.1	8.1	5.4	1.6	0.6

AADT – 24-hr annual average daily traffic

- Dfl traffic counts carried out along the A2 within the Ballykelly and Greysteel areas.
- Decrease in traffic volume in 2020 assumed to be a result of COVID lockdowns.
- Composition of traffic remained similar between 2012 and 2015 with an increase noted in 2017

### Proposals

It is proposed that passive monitoring be instigated over the next 12 months to establish current NO2 levels within Main Street Ballykelly.

**It is recommended** that the Environmental Services Committee recommends to Council the instigation of passive diffusion tube monitoring with Main Street Ballykelly to determine current NO2 levels.

Councillor Beattie thanked the Officers for looking at the issue.

Proposed by Councillor Bateson  
Seconded by Councillor Beattie and

**AGREED** – to recommend that Council approve the instigation of passive diffusion tube monitoring with Main Street Ballykelly to determine current NO2 levels.

## 7. WATER BOTTLE REFILL SCHEME

Report, previously circulated, presented by the Director of Environmental Services.

### Purpose of Report

This report is in response to Members Notice of Motion to identify suitable locations to establish a water refill scheme to reduce dependence on single use plastic water bottles.

### Background

Significant quantities of plastic finds its way into our seas each year. Much of this pollution comes in the form of single use plastic drinks bottles. Providing water refill points could help reduce the amount of plastic entering the seas around the Causeway coast.

Water refill points can also encourage healthy hydration, reduction in sugary drink intake, reduce litter, reduce cost as water is free and reduce the carbon footprint associated with plastic production.

**Cost.** A suitable vandal proof refill station (see appendix circulated) costs £2,645 to purchase. Depending on location, installation can cost another £2,000 to £4,000. Annual maintenance will cost £1,000 to £2,000 per year. Total cost £5,645 to £8,645 (year 1).

#### **Benefits.**

- Supports the aim of reducing the Single Use Plastic usage.
- Prevents plastic pollution at source.
- Encourages healthy hydration.
- Provides alternative to sugary drinks.
- Cleaner streets - decreases litter and “clean up” costs, especially important with influx of tourists in the summer.
- Refilling saves money - so supports low income people and families.
- Adaptation to climate change and increasingly hot summers.
- Reduces carbon footprint compared to using bottled water.

#### **Potential Risks.**

- Water borne disease
- Potential contamination of water supply/outlet – a pilot scheme elsewhere noted that fountains which dispense water from a hidden spout below and not above are less likely to be contaminated. Note this design would favour filling of bottles.
- Potential poor public perception may result in no/low uptake of use
- Poor maintenance, unsightly/unkept appearance, e.g. traces of mould, algae etc. may impact on perception of water quality
- Vandalism to fountain structure
- Water wastage due to pipe bursts etc. and improper use of fountains
- Spills and potential slip hazard
- Winter freeze Public liability
- Council liability for such potential hazards

#### **Proposal**

A number of sites are suggested as being suitable for the trial installation of water refill points. The proposal is that a trial be carried out for a 2 year period at one of the following locations to complement the H2O on the Go scheme:

- The Crescent, Portstewart
- The Water Sports Centre, Portrush
- The Promenade, Ballycastle

- Riverside Park, Ballymoney
- The Diamond, Coleraine
- Market St, Limavady

These sites have been selected as they experience high footfall from a mix of both tourists, shoppers and recreational users. Exact location of refill points in Coleraine/Limavady would be determined following consultation with adjacent premises owners and DFI Roads Service.

Each refill point would be fitted with a flow meter to determine usage

This pilot scheme would test the durability of the units, user reaction and maintenance issues

A report will be brought back to Members with a view to providing more refill points subject to the success of this pilot scheme.

### **Options**

Given the indicative cost, Members to agree which of the above sites should be trialled. Other sites could also be considered subject to Members wishes.

Officers to bring back confirmation of costs and that chosen sites are acceptable (following consultation with premises and land owners, water easily accessible etc)

**It is recommended** that the Environmental Services Committee recommends to Council the trialling of the provision of a water refill point at a selected locations.

Councillor MA McKillop proposed that Council trial the provision of a water refill point at selected locations for one year – the four main towns of (Ballycastle, Ballymoney, Limavady and Coleraine).

The Chair sought clarification of the cost of this. The Director of Environmental Services advised the cost of £22,000-£35,000.

Councillor McLean considered he was unsure if it was the right proposal to move forward with Climate Change during a pandemic, with a multi touch refill point; the money could be used for other things, for example Riverside Park.

Proposed by Councillor MA McKillop  
Seconded by Alderman Boyle

- To recommend that Council trial of the provision of a water refill point at selected locations for one year – the four main towns (Ballycastle, Ballymoney, Limavady and Coleraine).

Proposed by Councillor McLean  
Seconded by Councillor McQuillan

- To recommend that Council does not go ahead with it at this moment in time.

Councillor Chivers felt it was a good idea, that should be brought back in 6 month's time. Councillor Bateson supported Councillor Chivers.

Councillor Wallace felt the money better spent promoting the current H2O On The Go scheme.

Councillor MA McKillop, in agreement with the seconder Alderman Boyle withdrew her proposal.

Councillor McLean, in agreement with the seconder Councillor McQuillan withdrew his proposal.

Proposed by Councillor Chivers

Seconded by Councillor MA McKillop and

**AGREED** - to recommend that Council defer consideration and bring a report back in 6 months' time; that a report is brought back on H2O On The Go scheme with a view to promotion in the interim.

## **8. TOWARDS A LITTERSMART BOROUGH LITTER STRATEGY 2021 TO 2025**

Report, previously circulated, presented by the Director of Environmental Services in response to Members Notice of Motion to create a Litter Strategy for Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council.

### **Background**

Litter is an ongoing environmental challenge for Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council. It has a negative impact on the aesthetic beauty of the borough and its natural habitats. Litter impacts both residents and visitors experience of the area.

Council spends c £2.4million annually on services relating to litter and street cleansing. Reducing littering in our Borough requires best practice in education, engagement, enforcement and infrastructure.

This Litter Strategy identifies the legislation, behaviour change, communication requirements necessary to make a significant difference within our Borough through the LitterSMART action plan.

The Strategy has been compiled by our inhouse officers (primarily through our Environmental Resource Officer (ERO) Team) in order to create buy-in from all our internal stockholders.

**It is recommended** that the Environmental Services Committee recommends to approve the draft Litter Strategy 2021-2025 and proceed with a 12week public consultation period.

Alderman Robinson felt the figure stark, £2.4M and 5% on the rates, he considered effective PR would get the message out.

Councillor Wallace stated Council should promote what it is doing currently regarding the Green Dog Walkers scheme and sought figures of the uptake for this.

The Head of Health and Built Environment advised of an uptake of 800, a report would be brought to the next Committee meeting, he advised Mid and East Antrim Council had vehicles wrapped with promotion and was something to look at for publicity.

Councillor MA McKillop commended staff within the Department, she advised Mid and East Antrim made good use of signage.

Alderman Fielding referred to his recent Notice of Motion regarding dog parks, that this would complement the Green Dog Walkers Scheme. The Director of Environmental Services stated areas were still being identified.

Councillor McLean commented on the McDonalds litter picking Scheme, the Director of Environmental Services clarified the litter picked was to the restaurant boundary and beyond, one element litter picking and another, enforcement.

\* **Councillor Holmes arrived at the meeting at 8.13pm.**

Proposed by Alderman Boyle  
Seconded by Councillor MA McKillop and

**AGREED** – to recommend that Council approve the draft Litter Strategy 2021-2025 and proceed with a 12 week public consultation period.

The Chair advised the following Items were presented as read for information.

**9. APPROVAL OF PREMISES AS A VENUE FOR CIVIL MARRIAGE**

**MARRIAGE REGULATIONS (NI) 2003**

**THE MARRIAGE (NI) ORDER 2003**

Approval of premises as a venue for Civil Marriage.

The undernoted application for renewal as an approved place for Civil Marriage was received, acknowledged and processed during the report period.

<u>Unique Reference Number</u>	<u>Premises Name</u>	<u>Approval Type</u>
MA009	Manor House Kilrea	Civil Marriage

## 10. APPROVAL OF PREMISES AS A VENUE FOR CIVIL PARTNERSHIP

### THE CIVIL PARTNERSHIP REGULATION (NI) 2005

### THE CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004

Approval of premises as a venue for Civil Partnership.

The undernoted application for renewal as an approved place for Civil Partnership was received, acknowledged and processed during the report period.

<u>Unique Reference Number</u>	<u>Premises Name</u>	<u>Approval Type</u>
CP009	Manor House Kilrea	Civil Partnership

## 11. PETROLEUM SPIRIT LICENCE RENEWALS

### PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS 1929 AND 1937

### PETROLEUM SPIRIT LICENCES

The undernoted applications for renewal of petroleum spirit licence have been received, acknowledged and processed during the report period.

<u>Licence No:</u>	<u>Name of Premises</u>
PL038	Moores of Cloughmills Ltd
PL030	Wild Geese Parachute Centre

## 12. HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION: QUARTERLY STATISTICS 1ST APRIL – 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2021

The purpose of this report is to provide members with statistical information on the performance of the NIHMO unit over the last reporting quarter.

### Background

Members will recall that since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019, the licensing of Houses in Multiple Occupation, became the responsibility of local Councils, a function transferred from the Northern Ireland Housing Executive. This service is undertaken by the Northern Ireland Houses in Multiple Occupation Unit (NIHMO), based in Belfast City Council on behalf of all NI Councils.

A House in Multiple Occupation (HMO) is a property which is:

- living accommodation
- the main residence of three or more people who are from more than two households
- rented by at least one of the people living in the accommodation.

All HMO owners must comply with the Houses in Multiple Occupation Act (Northern Ireland) 2016 and must have a licence from their local council to continue running it as an HMO.

Quarterly returns are now provided to the Department for Communities with respect to key performance indicators. The data for 1<sup>st</sup> April -30<sup>th</sup> June 2021 is provided at Appendix 1 (circulated) to this report for information.

**It is recommended** that the report be noted

### **13. CONFIRMATION OF FUNDING FROM THE PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCY FOR THE DELIVERY OF SERVICES 2021-2022**

#### **Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is provide members with confirmation of the level of funding from the Public Health Agency to continue to deliver the Energy Efficiency Advice Service and the Home Safety/Accident Prevention.

#### **Background**

The Public Health Agency (Northern Office) have confirmed in correspondence dated 15<sup>th</sup> July 2021 the level of funding to ensure the continuation of existing contracts until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 in respect of the following services:-

Accident Prevention £65,798.00

Energy Efficiency Advice £50,142.00

This represents a 2.0% increase on the previous year's funding.

A delivery work plan including key performance indicators has been agreed for each of the service areas with the funders. For Accident Prevention, this includes the provision of home safety advice, the supply and delivery of equipment, a reprofiling of funding initially allocated to support Hazard House and the delivery of home safety initiatives as per the Regional Home Accident Prevention Strategy.



With respect to Energy Efficiency, this includes advice and support including signposting to grant providers, addressing fuel poverty and energy efficiency, supporting fuel stamp schemes, oil buying clubs, distribution of keep warm packs, delivering initiatives such as Energy Detectives, Slow and Sew Energy Efficient programmes where possible taking into account current restrictions and protocols.

These and all other terms and conditions of the contracts remain unchanged from the previous year.

**It is recommended** that Committee note the funding being provided by the PHA with respect to the continuation of these services.

#### 14. PRIVATE CONTRACTOR LITTER ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS (WISE)

##### Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to update members as to the introduction of the private contractors first 4 weeks operations.

##### Background

Further to report item ES210810 Item 22, members will be aware that this service commenced 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2021.

Statistical information for the period 2<sup>nd</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021 of operation are provided in Tables 1 to 3 below.

Table 1. Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN's) Issued by Offence type

OFFENCE TYPE		
Offence Type	Offence Type Count	Percentage
Dog Fouling-Dog Fouling	<u>9</u>	<u>1.2</u>
Littering-Bottle	<u>8</u>	<u>1.07</u>
Littering-Bottle Top	<u>1</u>	<u>0.13</u>
Littering-Chewing Gum	<u>2</u>	<u>0.27</u>
Littering-Cigarette Butt	<u>487</u>	<u>65.02</u>
Littering-Confectionary Packs	<u>5</u>	<u>0.67</u>
Littering-Discarded Food	<u>9</u>	<u>1.2</u>
Littering-Fast Food Related	<u>7</u>	<u>0.93</u>
Littering-Food Wrapper	<u>6</u>	<u>0.8</u>
Littering-Non-Alcoholic Drinks Related	<u>5</u>	<u>0.67</u>
Littering-Other Litter	<u>32</u>	<u>4.27</u>
Littering-Packaging	<u>13</u>	<u>1.74</u>
Littering-Printed Literature	<u>7</u>	<u>0.93</u>
Littering-Rolled up cigarette	<u>119</u>	<u>15.89</u>
Littering-Scratch Card	<u>8</u>	<u>1.07</u>

Littering-Snack Packs	<u>12</u>	<u>1.6</u>
Littering-Soft Drink Bottle	<u>6</u>	<u>0.8</u>
Littering-Soft Drink Can	<u>8</u>	<u>1.07</u>
Littering-Sweet Wrapper	<u>5</u>	<u>0.67</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>749</b>	

Table 2. FPN's issued by Town

ISSUED BY TOWN		
Town	Town Count	Percentage
Ballarena	<u>1</u>	<u>0.13%</u>
Ballintoy	<u>1</u>	<u>0.13%</u>
Ballycastle	<u>12</u>	<u>1.60%</u>
Ballymoney	<u>103</u>	<u>13.75%</u>
Bushmills	<u>3</u>	<u>0.40%</u>
Castlerock	<u>4</u>	<u>0.53%</u>
Coleraine	<u>461</u>	<u>61.55%</u>
Cushendall	<u>1</u>	<u>0.13%</u>
Downhill	<u>2</u>	<u>0.27%</u>
Limavady	<u>18</u>	<u>2.40%</u>
Portballintrae	<u>2</u>	<u>0.27%</u>
Portrush	<u>124</u>	<u>16.56%</u>
Portstewart	<u>16</u>	<u>2.14%</u>
Rasharkin	<u>1</u>	<u>0.13%</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>749</b>	

Table 3. FPN's issued by gender and age profile

GENDER		
Gender	Gender Count	Percentage
Female	<u>314</u>	<u>41.92%</u>
Male	<u>435</u>	<u>58.08%</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>749</b>	
Age Binding	Age Binding Count	Percentage
15 and under	<u>1</u>	<u>0.13%</u>
17	<u>4</u>	<u>0.53%</u>
18	<u>5</u>	<u>0.67%</u>
19	<u>11</u>	<u>1.47%</u>
20 - 29	<u>116</u>	<u>15.49%</u>
30 - 39	<u>161</u>	<u>21.50%</u>
40 - 49	<u>128</u>	<u>17.09%</u>
50 - 59	<u>161</u>	<u>21.50%</u>

60 - 69	<u>87</u>	<u>11.62%</u>
70 - 79	<u>45</u>	<u>6.01%</u>
Not known	<u>30</u>	<u>4.01%</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>749</b>	

Please note that a number of FPN's were cancelled to those under 18.

Officers continue to be deployed across the Borough, 7 days per week to detect offences with the aim of reducing the amount of litter across the Borough.

It is the intention to provide regular performance updates on a quarterly basis. Members are reminded that should they wish to accompany any of the officers on patrol to observe first-hand how they engage with the public, that may be arranged.

All those that have been given a FPN have the right of representation directly to the company to challenge the issue. Details are provided on the FPN and on the Councils website.

<https://www.causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk/live/health-and-built-environment/environment-health-and-well-being/environmental-health/litter-enforcement>

For those who do not have internet access an address for written representations can be provided.

Council officers will continue to work with WISE officers targeting litter hotspots and promoting anti-litter initiatives such as the Butt Ballot boxes, use of litter bins, distribution of cigarette butt pouches and the Green Dog Walker scheme.

**It is recommended** that the Environmental Service Committee recommends to Council to note the above.

Councillor McAuley thanked the Officers for producing the figures. Councillor McAuley advised the problems were the same, there had been no change in the behaviour of enforcement officers and cited adverse experiences from members of the public. Councillor McAuley referred to the statistics and type of offending litter, 749 fixed penalty notices with 600 for cigarette butts, on locations both on private and public land. He stated the telephone number provided had been for payment only, there was no means to make a complaint.

Alderman Robinson recalled discussion on the Service Level Agreement, given the information from neighbouring Councils. He stated targeting of dog fouling and fast food wrappers was required.

Proposed by Councillor McQuillan  
Seconded by Councillor McAuley and

**AGREED** – to recommend that with immediate effect, Council establish a Working Group of 8 Members nominated by d'hondt from the Environmental Services Committee, to meet with representatives from WISE, to give direction.

In response to Councillor McLean, the Head of Health and Built Environment clarified Legislation for Enforcement Officers, they can access *any ground open to the air and the public has access to*. He clarified representatives from WISE had offered to come and present to Committee. Referring to the Keep NI Beautiful campaign, the Head of Health and Built Environment advised year on year, the highest percentage of litter was for tobacco related products.

Councillor Holmes stated, in his capacity as Mayor, he had been involved in the promotion of the campaign and had seen at first hand the experiences of enforcement, who were less popular than traffic wardens; that the hours of work may have to be looked at, as fast food more popular on evenings and weekends.

The Director of Environmental Service advised the contract was for 7 days a week and they also worked outside 9am-5pm working hours.

## **15. REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE UPDATE**

### **Purpose of Report**

To inform Members on the process for dealing with planned and unplanned maintenance issues.

### **Background**

Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council has a significant asset base requiring repair and maintenance. The extent of the assets were summarised in the table circulated within the report.

Repairs and maintenance are co-ordinated through a computerised maintenance management system. In summary a budget holder can go on to the system and input request for repairs, renewals and any other issue which needs addressing to ensure the continued safe operation of their asset

Each request is assessed and awarded a priority rating:

- Priority 1 – 24hours
- Priority 2 – 3 days
- Priority 3 – 10 days
- Priority 4 – 28 days
- Project – 90 days

The request is then forwarded to the appropriate Supervisor or contractor for action. Issues raised are wide and varied in scale and complexity. Examples include changing a light bulb or unblocking a drain at one

extreme to major refurbishment of a public toilet block or office at the other extreme. This work utilises a full range of operational skills from semi-skilled through to painting, joinery, plumbing and electrical.

The table circulated summarised the number of requests logged on the system each month for this calendar year along with 'close out' rate and outstanding work:

### **Comment**

A significant number of outstanding requests are outside our control. For example, there are issues with paperwork for parts being sent from abroad. A supplier has struggled to get a swing sent to us for a play area due to new Brexit protocols. There are also issues with sourcing parts in the first place due to a supply/demand problems.

The ongoing pandemic continues to impact on the 'clear up' rate – with staff either suffering with or isolating due to Covid. Some contractors have not responded as quickly as usual but their response rates have started to improve.

The Estates Structure was approved in February 2020 but with the onset of the pandemic no move was made to fill the vacant posts for financial reasons. These posts remain unfilled pending the ongoing cap on spending and the current work on the implementation of new Terms & Conditions for permanent staff.

During 2020 the focus was on H&S issues as there were fears over budgets and the extent of central government support. Much of the non H&S work has rolled over to 2021.

There have been difficulties filling seasonal posts both in terms of getting the required numbers and then holding on to these seasonal staff.

**It is recommended** that the Environmental Services Committee note the above report.

## **16. CASTLEROCK FOOTBRIDGE UPDATE**

### **Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to update members on the status of the proposed repairs to Castlerock Footbridge.

### **Background**

In 1996 Coleraine Borough Council entered into a 10,000 year lease with NI Transport Holding Co. (NITHC) for the upkeep of the footbridge at Castlerock Railway Station. In 2017 Council approved the contract for the removal and assessment of the bridge with a view to ascertaining can it be restored and at what cost. Note NIEA has been actively involved in this decision process.

Members asked for a timeline of activity and a verbal update will be provided on the evening.

### Timeline

Oct 15	Report to Council making them aware that there are issues with bridge and there will be extensive costs repairing it
Dec 15	Report to Council on meetings held with local Community Association, NIEA & Translink updating them on views of these parties and possibility of permanent removal and/or handing bridge back to Translink
Apr 16	Report to Council confirming that Council will remain responsible for the bridge and its upkeep and as a listed structure will be expected to repair and continue to maintain. Approval given to assess what the possible costs for repair.
Sept 16	Report to Council on estimated costs for assessment, removal, repairs etc asking approval to proceed with phase 1 (remove and assess)
Oct 16 May 17	Consultant appointed and removal tender prepared
Jun 17	Approval given to proceed with removal and assessment
Dec 17	Bridge removed
Jan 18 Mar 18	Bridge assessed by Council's consultant – concern that bridge not fit to be re-instated, even with repairs which will be extensive and costly
Jun 19	Report from NIEA consultant Mann Williams (MW) saying bridge only needs cosmetic repairs. Translink (and our own consultant – Dorans) not in agreement.
Oct 19	MW carried out innovative load test. Results sent to Translink who had concerns over both the method and the results (some loading aspects failed)
Nov 19 Feb 20	Ongoing correspondence between ourselves, MW, Dorans & Translink over bridge. In short Translink not accepting MW report as a basis for repair & reinstatement
Mar 20 Dec 20	Due to Covid no additional work done on bridge (Furlough by consultant etc)
Jan 21 now	Further to several meetings/correspondence, Translink will only accept a full Cat 2 assessment on bridge. Both they,

	Dorans exasperated by MW who cannot provide the information required to prove bridge is sound enough (even with repairs – not detailed) to be re-instated.
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**It is recommended** that the Committee notes the above information.

Councillor McQuillan put questions to the Director of Environmental Services.

In response the Director of Environmental clarified:

- he would respond to Councillor McQuillan regarding the qualifications necessary to visually inspect the bridge before removal;
- clarified the costs to date for upkeep and removal;
- clarified Translink require to be convinced of the structural analysis to their satisfaction;
- clarified the issue of the concerns raised between Translink and Mann Williams regarding the analysis and structural loads used for the report.

Proposed by Councillor McQuillan  
Seconded by Councillor Holmes and

**AGREED** - to recommend that a site visit is held and a report is brought each month.

## 17. CORRESPONDENCE

Report, previously circulated, presented by the Director of Environmental Services.

### (i) **Sustainableni, (dated 30<sup>th</sup> July 2021)**

#### **Summary**

Correspondence dated 30<sup>th</sup> July 2021 has been received from sustainableni inviting nominations of two elected representatives for Northern Ireland's first ever All Party Group on Climate Action.

The Group's purpose is to provide a forum for discussion between politicians, NGOs, business leaders and academics, to drive progress on climate action and sustainable development in Northern Ireland.

Membership of the Group is cross party and includes representatives from the Northern Ireland Assembly as well as elected members from local councils. The Group usually meets monthly on the last Friday of the month, with an Annual General Meeting once a year.

The Chair advised of the next picks for rolling d'hondt.

Proposed by Councillor Bateson  
Seconded by Councillor Chivers and

**AGREED** – to recommend that Council nominate 2 Elected Members by d'Hondt.

The Chair sought clarification from the proposer whether the nomination was by rolling d'Hondt.

Councillor Holmes stated all external appointments were by rolling d'Hondt and sought clarification.

The Chair declared a recess at 9.04pm.

\* **The meeting reconvened at 9.07pm.**

The Chair enquired of the proposer the nomination put, Councillor Bateson clarified his proposal 2 Members by d'Hondt and not rolling d'hondt.

**(ii) Department for Infrastructure, (dated September 2021)**

Summary

Correspondence dated September 2021 has been received from Department for Infrastructure in response to Council's letters of 27 July to DAERA and DfI passing on Council's motion on a possible Coastal Observatory (copy correspondence circulated as Appendix 2.)

A combined response on behalf of both DAERA and DfI has been issued. Copy correspondence was circulated as Appendix 3.

Councillor Chivers welcomed the correspondence stating coastal erosion was a problem for farmers who had lost land and wildlife was in danger.

**It is recommended** that the Environmental Services Committee consider the correspondence.

**18. CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS**

There were no consultation documents.

**19. CONFERENCES**

There were no conferences.

**20. MATTERS FOR REPORTING TO PARTNERSHIP PANEL**

There were no matters for reporting to the Partnership Panel.



## **MOTION TO PROCEED ‘IN COMMITTEE’**

Proposed by Councillor MA McKillop  
Seconded by Councillor Chivers and

**AGREED** – to recommend that Council move ‘*In Committee*’.

\* **Press/public were disconnected from the meeting at 9.11pm.**

The Chair reminded Committee of its obligations and protocol whilst the ‘*In Committee*’ session was being audio recorded.

**The information contained in the following items is restricted in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.**

### **21. PURCHASE OF SLOPE MOWER**

Confidential report, previously circulated, presented by the Director of Environmental Services.

#### **Purpose of Report**

Approval is sought to purchase 1no. Slope Mower.

Background and proposal was set out within the confidential report.

Budget for this purchase is included in the ‘Essential Fleet’ capital funding 21/22.

**It is recommended** that Committee approves the purchase of 1no. Slope Mower to further reduce risks to grounds maintenance staff and improve the standard of grass cutting.

Councillor McAuley sought clarification the item purchased last year was still working and whether it was good for a particular stated area.

The Director of Environmental Services advised it was and agreed to look at the area stated.

Proposed by Councillor McAuley  
Seconded by Alderman Fielding and

**AGREED** – to recommend that Council approve the purchase of 1no. Slope Mower to further reduce risks to grounds maintenance staff and improve the standard of grass cutting.

## 22. REPLACEMENT COASTAL PATH LIGHTING SCHEME, CUSHENDALL

Confidential report, previously circulated, presented by the Director of Environmental Services.

### **Purpose of Report**

To provide details on the proposed scheme to renew the lighting along a stretch of coastal path in Cushendall (see appendix circulated).

### **Background**

The existing lighting between Dalriada Park and the Golf Club is no longer fit for purpose. Age and the exposed coastal location has resulted in significant deterioration to the point where many of the lights are beyond repair and, even when working, no longer meet current lighting standards.

### **Proposal**

The proposal is to replace and extend the lighting from the slipway at Dalriada Park to the footbridge at the Golf Club. A second line of lights would also be installed along the link path between Dalriada Park and the green area (see appendix circulated).

### **Options**

Do nothing. Given its' popularity and town centre location the path is well used throughout the year. The current lack of lighting and the twisting, undulating nature of the path leave the Council open to possible slip, trip or fall claims due to inadequate lighting. Failing to repair/upgrade the lighting is not a viable option.

Replace/upgrade the lighting. A proposal (see appendix circulated) was tendered and the three tenders were received ranging from £40,965 to £47,476 to replace and upgrade the lighting along this stretch of path.

**It is recommended** that the Environmental Committee recommends to Council that the lighting be replaced/upgraded as per the attached proposal at a cost of £40,965

Proposed by Councillor MA McKillop  
Seconded by Councillor Bateson and

**AGREED** – to recommend that Council approve that the lighting be replaced/upgraded as per the attached proposal at a cost of £40,965

## **23. PERIOD 4 ES MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS**

Confidential Information report, previously circulated, presented by the Director of Environmental Services.

### **Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report to provide Members with information on the current financial position of Environmental Services Directorate at the end of Period 4.

### **MOTION TO PROCEED '*IN PUBLIC*'**

Proposed by Councillor McLean  
Seconded by Councillor Wallace and

**AGREED** – to recommend that Council move 'In Public'.

There being no further business the Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting concluded at 9.22 pm.

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Chair