

COUNCIL MEETING HELD TUESDAY 6 FEBRUARY 2024

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No.	Item	Decision
1.	The Mayors' Business	<i>Received</i>
2.	Apologies	<i>Councillor C Archibald</i>
3.	Declarations of Interest	<i>Alderman Callan, Councillor Chivers, N Archibald</i>
4.	Deputation – NHSCT	<i>Received</i>
5.	Minutes of Council Meeting held Tuesday 9 January 2024	<i>Confirmed as a correct record</i>
6.	Minutes of Finance Committee meeting held Thursday 11 January 2024	<i>Adopted and recommendations therein approved</i>
7.	Minutes of Environmental Services Committee meeting held Tuesday 16 January 2024	<i>Adopted and recommendations therein approved</i>
8.	Minutes of Leisure and Development Committee meeting held Tuesday 23 January 2024	<i>Adopted and recommendations therein approved</i>
9.	Minutes of Corporate Policy and Resources Committee meeting held Tuesday 30 January 2024	<i>Adopted and recommendations therein approved including the Amendment at Item 9.2 (Consultation Response - LGSC Trans Equality Policy)</i>
9.1	Notice of Motion proposed by Proposed Councillor Peacock, Seconded by Councillor Bateson referred from Council Meeting 7	<i>Amendment lost</i>

	November 2023 (abbrev) (Middle East conflict) (Ref Minute Item 12)	
9.2	Consultation Response - LGSC Trans Equality Policy (ref Minute Item 8)	Amendment Carried
10.	Matters for reporting to the Partnership Panel	Nil
11.	Conferences	Noted
12.	Correspondence	
12.1	Diana Stewart, Local Government Staff Commission, Local Government Staff Commission for Northern Ireland Continuing Operations Beyond 2024, 25 January 2024	Noted
12.2	David Forsey, Army Benevolent Fund, ABF 80th Anniversary – Royal Irish Concert Waterfront Hall, 6th April 2024	Four tickets to be made available for Members to attend the Army Benevolent Fund anniversary concert; this is at Council's expense
13.	Consultation Schedule	Noted
14.	Seal Documents	
	(i) Grave Registry Certificates, No's 5713 to 5728 inclusive; (ii) Covid Recovery Small Settlements Regeneration Programme All Ability Cycle Path Clyde Park, Garvagh Stage 2 Process – ITT (Ref L&D 231017 CM 231107); (iii) Renewal of Licence Agreement, 106-108 Main Street Car Park, Dungiven– Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council and National Westminster Bank T/A Ulster Bank (Ref L&P SC - 230906 CP&R – 230926 CM- 231003); (iv) Tender for Ballymoney Public Realm Environmental Improvements for Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council Project No: 533282 Form of Deed (Ref L&D 231219 CM 240109)	Seal Affixed (i-iv)
	Matters Arising 'In Committee'	
15.	Amendments - Concessionary Trading Terms and Conditions	That the 12-month discretionary period to stop using single use

		<p><i>plastics is written into the T&Cs;</i></p> <p><i>That the Concessionary Trading Terms and Conditions is referred to the Environmental Services Committee; having been discussed further at the Concessionary Trading Working Group first; and to have representation from Planning Department and Legal Department to give advice to the Working Group and the Committee</i></p>
16.	Transformation Programme Implementation Oversight Panel (Sub-Committee) Terms of Reference	Noted

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE
COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AND VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE
ON TUESDAY 6 FEBRUARY 2024 AT 7.00PM**

In the Chair : The Mayor, Councillor Callaghan (C)

Present : Alderman Boyle (C), Callan (C), Coyle (C), Fielding (C),
Hunter (R), Knight-McQuillan (C), John McAuley (C), S
McKillop (C), Scott (R), Stewart (C)

Councillors Anderson (C), N Archibald (C), Bateson (R),
Chivers (C), Holmes (C), Huggins (C), Kane (C), Kennedy
(C), Kyle (C), Mairs (C), Jonathan McAuley (C), McCully
(R), McGurk (C), MA McKillop (R), McMullan (C),
McQuillan (C), McShane (C), Nicholl (R), Peacock (C),
Schenning (R), Stirling (C), Storey (C), Wallace (R),
Watson (C), Watton (C), Wilson (R), Wisener (C)

Officers Present : D Jackson, Chief Executive (C)
M Quinn, Director of Corporate Services (R)
A McPeake, Director of Environmental Services (C)
P Mulvenna, Director of Leisure and Development (C)
P Donaghy, Democratic and Central Services Manager (R)
D Wright, Chief Finance Officer (R)
J Mills, Land and Property Solicitor (R)
W McCullough, Head of Sport and Wellbeing (R)
P Thompson, Head of Tourism and Recreation (R)
P O'Brien, Funding Unit Manager (R)
S Gamble, Corporate Communications and Public
Relations Manager (R)
I Owens, Committee and Member Services Officer (R)
J Keen, Committee and Member Services Officer (C)

In attendance : J Welsh, Chief Executive, NHSCT (R)
O Harkin, Deputy Chief Executive/Director of Finance, NHSCT (R)
Gillian Traub, Director of Operations, NHSCT (R)
Neil Martin, Director of Strategic Planning, Performance and ICT (R)

C Thompson, ICT Officer (C)
A Lennox, Mobile Operations Officer (C)

Press (1 No) (R) (1 No) (C)

Key – C = Attended in the Chamber
R = Attended Remotely

The Chief Executive undertook a roll call.

The Mayor opened the meeting and extended a welcome to members of the press and public in attendance and provided guidance in relation to Council's Remote Meetings Protocol and audio recordings.

1. THE MAYOR'S BUSINESS

The Mayor welcomed Pat Mulvenna, newly appointed Director of Leisure and Development stating that he looked forward to working with her in Council.

The Mayor stated it is his intention to send a message of comfort to Buckingham Palace on behalf of the inhabitants of the Borough to wish King Charles a speedy recovery.

During last month the Mayor attended or hosted 25 events and thanked the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Margaret Anne McKillop, for accompanying him or deputising when the Mayor was unable to attend an event.

The Mayor provided a reminder that the Mayor's Charity this year is RNLI, there will be a Country Gospel Concert in the Roe Valley Arts and Cultural Centre on Friday 23rd February 2024, tickets are available at £20. The Mayor stated he would be delighted if anyone who could not attend the concert could make a donation to the charity.

Councillor Kyle stated thanks and congratulations to Councillor Philip Anderson, Council's Veterans Champion, who, during the Winter ran a number of breakfast events for Veterans throughout the Borough. Councillor McAuley and Councillor Kyle were invited to a few of the events and stated these were well thought out and well run events. Councillor Kyle stated that prior to joining Council, he was not aware there was a Veteran's Champion and was glad to see the good work that takes place to support those who are often forgotten about.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were recorded for Councillor C Archibald.

3. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Declarations of Interest were recorded for:

Alderman Callan in Agenda Item 14 Minutes of Corporate Policy and Resources Committee meeting held Tuesday 30 January 2024, Item 14 Harbour Commissioners.

Councillor Chivers in Agenda Item 8 Minutes of Leisure and Development Committee meeting held Tuesday 23 January 2024, Item 14 Small Settlement Regeneration Programme – Drumsurn Tender.

Councillor N Archibald in Agenda Item 14 Minutes of Corporate Policy and Resources Committee meeting held Tuesday 30 January 2024, Item 14 Harbour Commissioners.

4. DEPUTATION – NHSCT (NORTHERN HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE TRUST)

The Mayor welcomed the representatives from NHSCT and invited Chief Executive, NHSCT to present to Council.

Chief Executive, NHSCT presented via PowerPoint presentation. The Chief Executive, NHSCT focused on three key areas:

1. **Maternity reconfiguration.**
The Chief Executive, NHSCT, advised an interim review was completed in October which showed the changes in service provision has been made safely: the expanded plan for Antrim Area Hospital delivery unit has been delivered and there has been no adverse effects for women using the service. There has been an increase in antenatal and postnatal services in the Causeway hospital; this has reduced the number of women from this locality having to go to Antrim Area Hospital. The NHSCT are currently preparing the 6 month review; it is hoped this will be published in the next few weeks. The Chief Executive, NHSCT advised Council of a planned Women and Children’s Centre project awaiting revised DoH prioritisation.
2. **Strategic Vision.**
The Chief Executive, NHSCT restated the Health Services commitment to the Causeway Hospital as an acute hospital; this is a smaller acute hospital and there is a lot to be proud of; there is significant patient activity; approximately 500 people are being seen a day. Causeway Hospital is part of the community. In Causeway Coast and Glens there is a higher older population with a range of health problems; the Causeway locality is to lead the way in _ and promote independence in the older population. It is the vision for the NHSCT to set out a strong competitive future for the Causeway Hospital; it will continue to provide integrated services to provided the care that is required. It is also part of the vision to deliver value with the resources the NHSCT has; there is plans to have a CT and MRI scanner in the Causeway Hospital. The Chief Executive, NHSCT stated it is their ambition to restate their commitment to a 24/7 Emergency Department and acute inpatient services; the NHSCT is building on recent investment to expand ambulatory care. There are thousands of procedures completed in the Causeway Hospital annually and this will continue. There is an increased incidence of those presenting with mental health problems; Birch Hill Centre in Antrim is a good trail for what could be in the Causeway Hospital. The key is to focus on the right things, to attract investment and to attract and retain staff.
3. **Review of General Surgery.**
The Chief Executive, NHSCT advised that the plan is to engage with staff first. Acute and planned surgery is provided in Antrim Area Hospital and Causeway Hospital; neither are meeting standards; a review of how surgical procedures are configured in the Northern Trust needs to be completed in order to make

the most of the two sites. There will be a public consultation held as part of the service reconfiguration. Causeway Hospital has a bright future; it is here to stay and the NHSCT want to build confidence.

The Mayor invited questions from Elected Members.

In response to questions the Chief Executive, NHSCT advised that the review of maternity services is primarily on the impact on Antrim Area Hospital and the safety of that unit; she will pick up with the Director of that unit and address any particular issues. It was confirmed that was presented in the PowerPoint presentation is the NHSCT's vision for the future and what they would like to see happening in Causeway Hospital. The Chief Executive, NHSCT confirmed that surgery services including emergency surgery are being reviewed so they can be sustained in Antrim Area Hospital and Causeway Hospital; the challenge is retaining surgeons across the 2 sites. The Chief Executive, NHSCT confirmed statistics for the elderly population, younger population have come from Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) which were published last year. It was confirmed that the NHSCT are in the early stages of planning mental health provision ensuring it is in line with the mental health strategy. The Chief Executive, NHSCT restated the commitment to the emergency department and acute wards in the Causeway Hospital. The Chief Executive, NHSCT confirm the influx of people to the area during summer months and for major events does have an impact on services and the staff are involved in the emergency planning process. The Chief Executive, NHSCT provided a timeline for the new MRI scanner planned for the Causeway Hospital. The Chief Executive, NHSCT provided thanks to Council for the Freedom of the Borough event and for the generous number of staff invited to attend.

5. MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING HELD TUESDAY 9 JANUARY 2024

Copy, previously circulated.

Proposed by Alderman Callan
Seconded by Alderman Stewart and

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Council meeting, held Tuesday 9 January 2024 were taken as read and signed as a correct record.

6. MINUTES OF FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD THURSDAY 11 JANUARY 2024

Copy previously circulated.

Proposed by Alderman Scott
Seconded by Alderman Callan and

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held Thursday 11 January 2024, are adopted and recommendations therein approved.

7. MINUTES OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD TUESDAY 16 JANUARY 2024

Copy, previously circulated.

Proposed by Alderman Fielding
Seconded by Councillor McAuley and

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Environmental Services Committee meeting held Tuesday 16 January 2024, are adopted and recommendations therein approved.

8. MINUTES OF LEISURE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD TUESDAY 23 JANUARY 2024

Copy, previously circulated.

Proposed by Councillor Bateson
Seconded by Councillor Wisener and

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Leisure and Development Committee meeting held Tuesday 23 January 2024, are adopted and recommendations therein approved.

9. MINUTES OF CORPORATE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD TUESDAY 30 JANUARY 2024

Copy, previously circulated.

The Mayor presented the minutes to Council for approval of the recommendations subject to any questions and it was

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee meeting held Tuesday 30 January 2024, are adopted and recommendations therein approved.

Matters Arising

9.1 Notice of Motion proposed by Proposed Councillor Peacock, Seconded by Councillor Bateson referred from Council Meeting 7 November 2023 (abbrev) (Middle East conflict) (Ref Minute Item 12)

Councillor McQuillan read from a prepared statement:

I think it is shameful what happened in the Committee regarding the Motion presented by Councillor Peacock aimed at affirming our Councils commitment to peace and the alleviation of human suffering. First and foremost, I must condemn the appalling events of October 7th and advocate for the immediate

release of all the hostages however I find the use of antisemitic rhetoric during this debate to be a regrettable example of political laziness and deflection tactics. Supporting a ceasefire demonstrates our Councils adherence to humanitarian principles and international law. The current death toll in Gaza surpasses 26,000 individuals including 11,000 innocent children. The severe restrictions on medical aid have resulted in dire consequences forcing doctors to perform amputations on men, women and children without access to adequate pain relief. These hardships only represent a fraction of the overall suffering inflicted on the people of Gaza, many of whom endure starvation and live in makeshift shelters. The anguish experienced by mothers unable to provide food for their children is horrifying. I propose an amendment to the Committee decision.

Amendment

Proposed by Councillor McQuillan

Seconded by Councillor Peacock

- That this Council should endorse a ceasefire in accordance with the rulings of the Hague's Court, advocate for the release of all innocent civilian hostages and support an establishment of humanitarian quarters to facilitate the delivery of essential supplies and medical assistance to the innocent people of Gaza. As a Council committed to the upholding humanitarian and International legal standards, we stand in solitary with the international community to call for an end to bombardment and encourage a ceasefire.

Councillor Storey stated comments from Councillor McQuillan are partial; that everyone's tears are for everyone except Israel, and this was before 7th October 2023 and that loss of life is awful regardless of who it is. If we are going to condemn, we need to move away from selective condemnation. Councillor Storey stated that in the motion presented to Corporate Policy and Resources Committee or in the comments made at the Council Meeting there is no mention of the Israeli people. Councillor Storey reflected on Northern Ireland's past and is thankful that it is not what we face now.

Councillor Watton questioned why his comments from the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee meeting were not included or reflected in the Minutes; stating the Minutes are not accurate. Councillor Watton reflected on specific historic events in Northern Ireland and stated that he believes in a 2-state solution; that Palestine should have a state of their own.

Councillor Wilson questioned how the proposers of this motion feel it will it have an impact on the conflict in Middle East and if it does have an impact, why now, and why this conflict? Councillor Wilson stated there is no genuine motive behind these motions; it is for social status and is nearly an insult to those in this war and others around the world. Councillor Wilson stated he will not vote on these motions.

Councillor McQuillan stated he did not say condemned in the amendment, that he did say the release of all innocent civilians and hostages on both sides. The idea of bringing this motion forward is to show the Council's position to support

humanitarian and international law; a collective international support is a pressing issue for peace, so he takes it as an insult to say we should not take this forward.

Alderman Fielding stated he is content to stand by what was proposed at the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee meeting; it does include humanitarian aid in Gaza. The UK Government is not calling for a ceasefire. Alderman Fielding stated Hamas stated they want to see the removal of Israel so you are not dealing with someone who will have a ceasefire; Alderman Fielding wants to see Hamas surrender and until they do, Israel has to defend itself. Alderman Fielding reflected on incidents that have happened in England in relation to antisemitism.

Councillor Peacock agreed that antisemitism should be called out and questioned how it related to Councillor McQuillan's motion. Councillor Peacock stated all attacks, regardless of where they came from should be condemned, there is no selective condemnation; a call for a ceasefire offends no one. Councillor Wilson's questions on what this motion can achieve; it is that our people know war and they know peace and they champion peace around the world. Councillor Peacock stated she read the amendment at the Corporate Policy and Resources meeting as you can carry out attacks as long as humanitarian aid is provided. We are being called on to champion peace; calling for a ceasefire from both sides is a reasonable and sensible solution.

Councillor McShane stated people across the Borough are rallying to show support for a ceasefire. Council needs to show leadership in the call for a ceasefire.

Councillor McMullan referred to Ballymoney and Ballycastle (incidents which occurred during the troubles); stating that at some point we need to stand together and agree something; and Councillor Watton needs to reflect on that.

Councillor Watton responded stating he has reflected and has done his best to keep young men out of trouble and out of prison.

Councillor Kyle stated he noted comments made by Councillor Peacock and Councillor McShane stating they are not selective about what terrorism is to be condemned; are they able to condemn the comments made by their party leader in Northern Ireland when she said there was no alternative to the terrorism that took place in Northern Ireland.

Alderman McAuley referred to Councillor McMullan's comments about working together and coming to agreement and questioned if Councillors can agree to work together for the Borough and stop the politics in the Chamber; Alderman McAuley cannot see this Council making a difference to the war in the Middle East.

At the request of Alderman Boyle, Councillor McQuillan restated his amendment.

The Mayor put the Amendment to the Council to vote.
 18 Members voted For; 20 Members voted Against; 0 Members Abstained.
 The Mayor declared the Amendment lost.

9.2 Consultation Response - LGSC Trans Equality Policy (ref Minute Item 8

Amendment

Proposed by Councillor Storey
 Seconded by Alderman Fielding

- That Council note the consultation.

Councillor McShane requested a Recorded Vote.

The Mayor put the Amendment to the Council to vote.
 20 Members voted For; 18 Members voted Against; 0 Members Abstained.
 The Mayor declared the Amendment carried.

Recorded Vote Table

For (20)	Alderman Callan, Fielding, Knight McQuillan, McAuley, S McKillop, Scott
	Councillor Anderson, Callaghan, Holmes, Huggins, Hunter, Kennedy, Kyle, McAuley, Stirling, Storey, Wallace, Watton, Wilson, Wisener
Against (18)	Alderman Boyle, Coyle, Stewart
	Councillor N Archibald, Bateson, Chivers, Kane, Mairs, McCully, McGurk, MA McKillop, McMullan, McQuillan, McShane, Nicholl, Peacock, Schenning, Watson

10. MATTERS FOR REPORTING TO THE PARTNERSHIP PANEL

There were no matters to report to the Partnership Panel.

The Chief Executive advised the Partnership Panel will begin meeting in the next couple of months where issues can be referred.

11. CONFERENCES

Report previously circulated was presented as read.

Purpose of report

The purpose of the report is to inform Elected Members of conferences and courses they may wish to attend.

The following is listed:

- (i) **Northern Ireland Housing Conference 2024**

Date: 20 March 2024

Venue: The Europa Hotel, Belfast

Delegate Fee: £294 including VAT

agendaNi is organising its annual Northern Ireland Housing Conference, which has become well established as the major annual event for all those with an interest or role in housing in Northern Ireland. As with previous years, it will have a genuine, in depth understanding of the key issues via a high-level panel of local and visiting speakers. The conference is an important date in the diary of housing professionals across the region.

The Northern Ireland Housing Conference will bring together key stakeholders and look at how we can fulfil the need for safe, affordable housing both now and in the future.

[Northern Ireland Housing Conference, Wednesday 20th March • The Europa Hotel, Belfast \(agendani.com\)](https://www.agendani.com/northern-ireland-housing-conference-wednesday-20th-march-the-europa-hotel-belfast)

Elected Members should contact Democratic Services to register interest.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Council consider the Conference report.

Council Noted the report.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

Report, previously circulated, was presented as read.

Purpose of Report

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

The following correspondence has been received:

- (i) **Diana Stewart, Local Government Staff Commission, Local Government Staff Commission for Northern Ireland Continuing Operations Beyond 2024, 25 January 2024**

Extract

The Department for Communities has informed the Local Government Staff Commission (the Commission) that the provisional date for dissolution has been further extended to 31 March 2027.

In order to implement our statutory functions, it is necessary for the Commission to determine a Financial Scheme up to 31 March 2025. At its meeting on 23 January 2024 the Commission considered a draft Financial Scheme for 2024/25.

Due to the ongoing budgetary efficiencies achieved by the Commission it is estimated that there will be a below inflationary level of increase in its total financial requirement for the year ahead. Once the schedule detailing the Estimated Penny Rate Product for Rates Support Grant for the incoming financial year is forwarded by the Department for Communities, I will be in contact to advise you of your apportioned contribution for the financial year 2024/2025.

(ii) David Forsey, Army Benevolent Fund, ABF 80th Anniversary – Royal Irish Concert Waterfront Hall, 6th April 2024

An anniversary concert will be held at the Waterfront Hall, Belfast, featuring the Band, Bugles, Pipes and Drums of the Royal Irish Regiment. It will take place on the evening of Saturday 6th April 2024, to celebrate 80 years as a Service Charity, and as a salute to His Majesty the King in the second year of his reign, through the medium of music. It will also serve to raise funds for soldiers, army veterans and their families in times of need.

More information about the charity can be found at <https://armybenevolentfund.org/>

A group of Councillors and staff are invited to attend. VIP tickets cost £66pp and allow the holders to relax in a VIP lounge with drinks and nibbles as part of the ticket price, both before the show and during the interval. VIP seating is also included for the performance.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Council consider the correspondence.

Alderman S McKillop stated this is a significant anniversary for the Army Benevolent Fund – the 80th anniversary of their existence.

Proposed by Alderman S McKillop
Seconded by Councillor Huggins and

RESOLVED – That 4 tickets to be made available for Members to attend the Army Benevolent Fund anniversary concert; this is at Council's expense.

In response to Councillor McMullan the Mayor confirmed the price of the tickets at £66 per ticket.

13. CONSULTATION SCHEDULE

Consultation schedule, previously circulated, presented as read.

- Department for Economy Draft Tourism Strategy for Northern Ireland: 10 Year Plan submission by 2 February 2024
- Department of Health Request for Data to Inform Department of Health Audit of Inequalities submission by 16 February 2024

- NIE Consultation on Proposed Changes to Engineering Recommendations P2 and G5 submission by 16 February 2024
- Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council ABC Council Draft Corporate Plan - Public Consultation submission by 16 February 2024
- Department of Health Amending references to PHE and HSCB in the Human Medicines Regulations submission by 22 February 2024
- Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council Centenary Stones Consultation submission by 1 March 2024
- Department of Health Proposals to expand access to take-home naloxone supplies submission by 6 March 2024
- DAERA Reducing the rate of compensation for cattle removed under the Bovine (bTB) Programme submission by 8 March 2024
- Mid and East Antrim Borough Council Consultation on our Performance Improvement Plan 2024-2025 submission by 2 April 2024
- Department for the Economy Onshore Petroleum Licensing Policy – Notification of Consultation submission by 12 April 2024

Available to View

- Department of Education Department publishes response to the Relationships and Sexuality Education Consultation
- Department of Education Section 75 Screening Report - 01 October - 31 December 2023
- Queen's University Belfast Equality Scheme and Action Plan 2024 - 2029

Open Consultations (previously Listed)

- The Local Government Staff Commission for Northern Ireland Trans Equality Policy – submission by 19 January 2024, deadline extended to Tuesday 13th February 2024;
- Department for Communities Consultation on Voluntary and Community Sector Infrastructure Support - submission by 9 February 2024
- Department of Finance Consultation on Non-domestic and Domestic rating measures to support budget; sustainability by raising additional revenue – submission by 13 February 2024;
- Department of Health Consultation on Strategic Framework to Prevent the Harm caused by Obesity, and Improve Diets and Levels of Physical Activity – submission by 16 February 2024;
- Department of Health Consultation on proposed Regional Obesity Management Service for Northern Ireland – submission by 16 February 2024;
- Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) Consultation on Pharmacy Supervision submission by 29 February 2024;
- Department for Infrastructure Public Consultation on the Review of the Planning (Development Management) Regulations (NI) 2015 (the Development Management Regulations) submission by 3 March 2024
- Department for Infrastructure Consultation on Improvements to the Planning Application Process submission by 3 March 2024

- Department of Justice Consultation on Anti-social behaviour – submission by 4 March 2024.
- Department of Health The Department of Health is seeking views on the recommendations arising from the Children’s Oral Health Improvement Plan and Older Person’s Oral Health Improvement Plan submission by 4 March 2024
- Department of Agriculture Environmental and Rural Affairs Launch of public consultation for Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) submission by 7 March 2024
- Department for Infrastructure Consultation on options for introducing water and sewerage charges submission by 13 March 2024
- The Executive Office Launch of public consultation on the new Strategy for Victims and Survivors submission by 13 March 2024

In response to questions the Chief Executive advised that a draft response to the Tourism Strategy consultation will be provided at the next Leisure and Development Committee meeting for Members consideration and confirmed that an extension to the submission date has been sought.

14. SEAL DOCUMENTS

Members were advised of the undernoted items for signing and sealing by Council, approval having been previously granted and all necessary legislative requirements being met.

- (i) Grave Registry Certificates, No’s 5713 to 5728 inclusive;
- (ii) Covid Recovery Small Settlements Regeneration Programme All Ability Cycle Path Clyde Park, Garvagh Stage 2 Process – ITT (Ref L&D 231017 CM 231107);
- (iii) Renewal of Licence Agreement, 106-108 Main Street Car Park, Dungiven– Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council and National Westminster Bank T/A Ulster Bank (Ref L&P SC - 230906 CP&R – 230926 CM- 231003);
- (iv) Tender for Ballymoney Public Realm Environmental Improvements for Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council Project No: 533282 Form of Deed (Ref L&D 231219 CM 240109)

Proposed by Alderman Callan
 Seconded by Councillor Kane and

RESOLVED – that the Sealing of documents, as listed, be approved (Items i-iv)

MOTION TO PROCEED ‘IN COMMITTEE’

Proposed by Councillor Stirling
 Seconded by Councillor Kyle and

RESOLVED – that Council move ‘*In Committee*’.

* **Press and Public were disconnected from the meeting at 8.56pm**

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

15. AMENDMENTS - CONCESSIONARY TRADING TERMS AND CONDITIONS (T&Cs)

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

Confidential report by virtue of paragraph(s) 1, 2 and 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of the report is to provide Members with a copy of the amended T&C's as attached in Appendix 1 (circulated).

Recommendation

It is recommended that Members approve the amended T&C's within Appendix 1.

Alderman McAuley raised concern that the amended T&C's do not reflect the discretionary period that was previously discussed. This discretionary period was to allow traders to use current stock and sort out contracts they currently have with suppliers. Alderman McAuley requested the discretionary period is put into the T&C's.

In response to the concerns raised the Director of Environmental Services confirmed the advice he was given was that delegated officers had discretion within the period of time that was suggested and once the 12 month period was over Council would activate the single use plastics and enforce it. The Director of Environmental Services confirmed this is not specifically in the T&C's or Council can reflect back on the Minutes, where this is stated.

Alderman McAuley requested that this is added to the T&C's.

Proposed by Councillor Kane
Seconded by Alderman McAuley and

RESOLVED – that the 12-month discretionary period to stop using single use plastics is written into the T&Cs.

Councillor Kyle read from a prepared statement, summarised as follows:

From Environmental Services Committee Minutes "In response to a query from Councillor Jonathan McAuley, the Director of Environmental Services advised that concessionary trading stands are required to be mobile/on wheels, so a container would not be regarded as acceptable."

Councillor Kyle referred to the Northern Ireland Public Services Ombudsman's (NIPSO) investigation into a complaint against the Council about how Council had conducted a procurement exercise in March 2021 for a three-year concessionary trading licence at [REDACTED]. Councillor Kyle expressed concern that by amending the criteria in the T&Cs which related to the type of trading structure Council could expose itself to criticism or accusations of unfairness towards particular traders. He stated that Council should seek to support and assist SMEs where possible.

Councillor Kyle proposed that the structures which can be used shall be mobile on wheels or structures with a history of planning approval for such use. Councillor Kyle stated that if his proposal was successful the draft licence agreement should be amended to reflect this and should not say the licence only allows mobiles.

The Director of Environmental Services confirmed that advice had been sought regarding Terms and Conditions and what could be and should be allowed in each of the sites and this is why Council is going through the process of Certificate for Lawful Development, the Cleud process or planning permission, if it is required. The current contracts are finished at the end of March and Elected Members have agreed to extend these for 3 months. The Director of Environmental Services advised there will be no planning permission for the container type system at the [REDACTED] come the end of March; Council is in the process of applying for planning permission and does not intend to auction the site without planning permission in place; initial discussions with planners indicate that they might not accept a container type structure on that [REDACTED] site going forward; therefore the application being submitted will be mobile, that is, with wheels.

The Director of Environmental Services stated that traditionally mobile structures have had wheels so are moveable; and confirmed that wording can be adapted to allow containers requiring planning permission and further advised Land and Property approval would be required if a semi-permanent structure were to be located on site. Referring to a point made by Councillor Kyle, the Director of Environmental Services advised that the NIPSO report did not exclude officers from involvement in future concessionary processes.

Alderman McAuley raised concerns about planning permission not being renewed for the site at the [REDACTED]; about there being more grey areas in the agreement than black and white; and about the termination of licences.

Councillor Holmes stated the need to define the term 'mobile'.

Councillor Storey stated that a planning matter has been brought before Council and raised the need to be cautious so there can be Planning without prejudice.

The Chief Executive suggested the matter could be referred to the Environmental Services Committee for further discussion.

Councillor Kyle commented that further delays could cause concern to traders.

Councillor Kyle withdrew his earlier proposal.

Proposed by Alderman Callan
Seconded by Councillor Kane and

RESOLVED – That the Concessionary Trading Terms and Conditions is referred to the Environmental Services Committee; having been discussed further at the Concessionary Trading Working Group first; and to have representation from Planning Department and Legal Department to give advice to the Working Group and the Committee.

16. TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION OVERSIGHT PANEL (SUB-COMMITTEE) TERMS OF REFERENCE

Confidential report, previously circulated, presented by the Director of Corporate Resources.

Confidential report by virtue of paragraph(s) 3 & 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014

It is recommended that Council approves, the Terms of Reference for the Transformation Programme Working Group and Transformation Programme Steering Group.

Council NOTED the Terms of Reference.

The Chief Executive responded to a query in relation to the sale of the Dunluce Centre.

MOTION TO PROCEED ‘IN PUBLIC’

Proposed by Councillor McMullan
Seconded by Councillor McShane and

RESOLVED– that Council move ‘*In Public*’.

This being all the business, The Mayor thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting concluded at 9.49pm.

Mayor