



<b>Title of Report:</b>	<b>NILGA Local Government Awards 2025</b>
<b>Committee Report Submitted To:</b>	<b>Corporate Policy &amp; Resources Committee</b>
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>28 January 2025</b>
<b>For Decision or For Information</b>	<b>For Decision</b>
<b>To be discussed In Committee YES/NO</b>	<b>No</b>

<b>Linkage to Council Strategy (2021-25)</b>	
Strategic Theme	Cohesive Leadership – Improvement & Innovation
Outcome	Council has agreed policies and procedures and decision making is consistent with them
Lead Officer	Director of Corporate Services

<b>Estimated Timescale for Completion</b>	
Date to be Completed	

<b>Budgetary Considerations</b>	
Cost of Proposal	£65 + VAT per person
Included in Current Year Estimates	No
Capital/Revenue	N/A
Code	3106
Staffing Costs	None

<b>Legal Considerations</b>	
Input of Legal Services Required	YES/NO
Legal Opinion Obtained	YES/NO

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

Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
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## 1.0 **Purpose of the Report**

1.1 The purpose of the report is to approve Councillors' attendance at the Local Government Gala Awards, Game of Thrones Studios, Banbridge on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2025, 6.30pm (timings tbc).

## 2.0 **Background**

2.1 Correspondence has been received from NILGA Chief Executive, Alison Allen, announcing the NILGA Local Government Awards 2025 (Appendix A).

Extract

2.2 *NILGA Local Government Awards 2025 are now open for applications. Celebrating the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the new councils, the awards will be an opportunity to showcase your council's achievements and excellence in specific areas, building credibility and trust with residents, stakeholders, and partners as well as recognising the efforts of staff, celebrating success and boosting morale within your team.*

*The awards will be a lever to enhance your reputation in innovation and service delivery and will complement a number of the initiatives that the sector has prioritised, including building leadership capacity, attracting & retaining talent, developing partnerships with other organisations and promoting the work of councils.*

*Independent judging panels will make awards in the following categories:*

- *Best Outcome of the Past Decade Award*
- *Service Innovation & Improvement Award*
- *Best Use of Data & Technology Award*
- *Engaging Communities Award*
- *Collaborative Partnership Award*
- *Local Government Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Award*
- *Local Government Diversity Ambassador Award*
- *Communications Campaign of the Year Award*
- *Best Initiative by a Councillor Award*
- *Employee of the Year Award*
- *Aspiring Leader Award*
- *Innovative Planning for the Future Award*

*The timeframe for the awards process is:*

- *26th November – 9th January – awards open for applications*
- *10th January – February – independent judging panels convene*
- *w/c 24th February – announcement of shortlist for each category*

2.3 Council Officers have progressed nominations for various categories within its application to NILGA.

### **3.0 NILGA Gala Awards Night**

3.1 A Gala Awards Night will take place at Game of Thrones Studios, Banbridge, on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March at 6.30pm with a welcome reception and conclude approximately 11.30pm (timings tbc). The tables are large banqueting-style tables accommodating any number of guests, rather than being limited to booking in multiples of 8, 10, or 12 (Appendix B).

3.2 NILGA has invited Council to book table numbers for the evening, in the event that Council is shortlisted.

**Cost:** Council delegate Rate £65.00 + VAT  
(reduced from the standard rate of £90 +vat)

### **4.0 Recommendation**

4.1 **It is recommended** that Corporate Policy and Resources Committee approve that Councillors attend the NILGA Gala Awards Night on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2025; subject to Council being shortlisted.

4.2 Elected Members should contact Committee & Member Services by 5pm on Friday 31 January 2025 to advise of their intention to attend.

**Appendix A:** Correspondence, Alison Allen, Chief Executive, NILGA, dated 276 November 2024

**Appendix B:** Game of Thrones Studios table layout

Mr David Jackson  
Chief Executive  
Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council  
Cloonavin  
66 Portstewart Road  
COLERAINE  
BT52 1EY

26<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Dear David,

NILGA is delighted to announce the Local Government Awards 2025 are now open for applications. Celebrating the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the new councils, the awards will be an opportunity to showcase your council's achievements and excellence in specific areas, building credibility and trust with residents, stakeholders, and partners as well as recognising the efforts of staff, celebrating success and boosting morale within your team.

The awards will be a lever to enhance your reputation in innovation and service delivery and will complement a number of the initiatives that the sector has prioritised, including building leadership capacity, attracting & retaining talent, developing partnerships with other organisations and promoting the work of councils.

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- w/c 24<sup>th</sup> February – announcement of shortlist for each category

A gala awards night will take place at Game of Thrones Studios, Banbridge on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March from 6pm. Mindful of the timing required for council approvals, we would encourage you to seek the necessary approval for attendance in the event that your council is shortlisted, as soon as possible.

For more information on the awards, including criteria & guidance notes, please visit [Local Government Awards 2025 | NILGA](#) and to reserve places at the awards night, please email [events@nilga.org](mailto:events@nilga.org)

I would be grateful if this letter could be tabled at your next council meeting, and I look forward to receiving your entries before the deadline of 9<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

Yours faithfully,



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**Alison Allen**  
**Chief Executive**

