

Title of Report:	Correspondence
Committee Report Submitted To:	The Council Meeting
Date of Meeting:	7 October 2025
For Decision or For Information	For Decision
To be discussed In Committee	No

Linkage to Council Strategy (2021-25)			
Strategic Theme	Cohesive Leadership		
Outcome	Council operates as one effective and efficient corporate unit with a common purpose and culture		
Lead Officer	Director of Corporate Services		
Estimated Timescale for Completion			
Date to be Completed		N/A	
Budgetary Considerations			
Cost of Proposal			
Included in Current Year Estimates		No	
Capital/Revenue		N/A	
Code		N/A	
Staffing Costs		N/A	
Legal Considerations			
Input of Legal Services Required		YES/NO	
Legal Opinion Obtained		YES/NO	
Screening Requirements	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:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:

1.0 Purpose of Report

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

1.2 The following correspondence has been received:

2.0 Brendan McConville, Buddy Bear Trust

(email dated 21 September 2025, copy of letter attached)

2.1 Re: Buddy Bear Trust Support for Children with Cerebral Palsy

We the leaders of the main political parties in Northern Ireland, would encourage your Council to give urgent consideration to the attached resolution in support of the work of the Buddy Bear Trust and the need for statutory funding to enable them to continue their important work through the medium of Conductive Education at their school in Dungannon and through the provision of satellite Conductive Education Sessions at other locations in Northern Ireland.

We recognize the transformative support that the Buddy Bear Trust can provide to the children with cerebral palsy and motor disorders through the medium of Conductive Education and we believe it is vital that the Department of Education and the Education Authority provide statutory funding for this valuable work.

We understand that the Buddy Bear Trust are happy to provide your Council with additional information regarding their work and we trust that you will be able to consider and approve the enclosed resolution and forward this to both the Minister of Education and to the Education Authority.

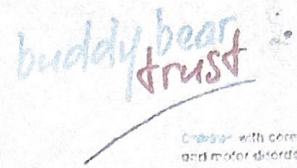
Your support in this request is deeply appreciated.

3.0 Recommendation

It is recommended that Council considers the correspondence.

Buddy Bear Trust
Conductive Education School
Killybeg Road
DUNGANNON
BT1 1AD

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Email: info@buddybeartrust.co.uk



**POLITICAL PARTY LEADERS
TO EACH OF THE DISTRICT COUNCILS**

Dear Sir/Madam

We the leaders of the main political parties in Northern Ireland, would encourage your Council to give urgent consideration to the attached resolution in support of the work of the Buddy Bear Trust and the need for statutory funding to enable them to continue their important work through the medium of Conductive Education at their school in Dungannon and through the provision of satellite Conductive Education Sessions at other locations in Northern Ireland.

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We understand that the Buddy Bear Trust are happy to provide your Council with additional information regarding their work and we trust that you will be able to consider and approve the enclosed resolution and forward this to both the Minister of Education and to the Education Authority.

Your support in this request is deeply appreciated.

With kind regards

Your faithfully


MRS NAOMI LONG MLA

Leader - Alliance Party


GAVIN ROBINSON MP

Leader DUP


COLUM EASTWOOD MP

Leader - SDLP


MRS MICHELLE O'NEILL MLA

Leader - Sinn Fein


DOUG BEATITIE MC MLA

Leader - UUP

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Registered Charity No.
XN91573
Company Limited by
Guarantee



"a lifetime of difference"

Children with cerebral palsy
and motor disorders

POLITICAL PARTY LEADERS

PROPOSED RESOLUTION FOR DISTRICT COUNCILS IN NORTHERN IRELAND

BUDDY BEAR TRUST – FUNDING SUPPORT BY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EDUCATION AUTHORITY

Recognising the excellent work that is undertaken by the Buddy Bear Trust through the medium of Conductive Education to support children with cerebral palsy and motor disorders, this Council calls upon the Department of Education and the Education Authority to give urgent consideration to the provision of funding support for the Buddy Bear Trust School in Dungannon and to enable the Trust to provide satellite Conductive Education Sessions at other locations across Northern Ireland.

The Council believes that this would enable many more children with cerebral palsy and motor disorders to have access to the transformative support that can be provided through the medium of Conductive Education.

This Council commends the Buddy Bear Trust for all that they do to enhance the lives of these vulnerable young children and urges the Department and the Education Authority to give this matter their priority consideration

Name _____

Date