

**THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD TUESDAY 7 OCTOBER 2025**

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| <b>No</b> | <b>Item</b>                                                                                            | <b>Decision</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1.</b> | Apologies                                                                                              | <b><i>Councillors Mairs,<br/>McGlinchey,<br/>Schenning</i></b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|           |                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>2.</b> | Declaration of Members' Interests                                                                      | <b><i>Nil</i></b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|           |                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>3.</b> | Deputation – DFI Roads Annual Report                                                                   | <b><i>That Council writes to<br/>the Infrastructure<br/>Minister to request a<br/>compensation<br/>scheme for traders<br/>negatively affected by<br/>the Kilrea Bridge<br/>closure and to use<br/>any means necessary<br/>to identify a solution<br/>to the bridge closure.</i></b> |
|           |                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>4.</b> | Minutes of The Council Meeting held<br>Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2025                          | <b><i>Confirmed as a<br/>correct record</i></b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|           |                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>5.</b> | Minutes of Special Council Meeting<br>(Annual Accounts) held Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup><br>September 2025 | <b><i>Confirmed as a<br/>correct record</i></b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|           |                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>6.</b> | Minutes of Planning Committee Meeting<br>held Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> June 2025                     | <b><i>Received and noted</i></b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|           |                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>7.</b> | Minutes of Planning Committee Meeting<br>held Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> August 2025                   | <b><i>Received and noted</i></b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|           |                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

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|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>8.</b>  | Minutes of Environmental Services Committee meeting held Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> September 2025       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|            | <b>Matters Arising</b>                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>8.1</b> | Pavement Café Licence Renewals (Item 18)                                                              | <b>Information</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>8.2</b> | Consultation on Dilapidation Bill (Item 8)                                                            | <b><i>That Council endorse the response, to include the points raised by the Head of Planning.</i></b>                                                                                                                 |
| <b>8.3</b> | Consultation Responses to DAERA's Climate Action Plan (Item 13)                                       | <b><i>That Council notes the consultation but does not submit a corporate response.</i></b>                                                                                                                            |
| <b>8.4</b> | Tender for the Collection/Receipt and Reprocessing of Wood from Household Recycling Centres (Item 27) | <b><i>Considered "In Committee"</i></b>                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>8.5</b> | Adoption of the Minutes                                                                               | <b><i>That the Minutes of the Environmental Services Committee Meeting held Tuesday 9 September 2025 are adopted and recommendations therein approved, subject to amendments at Items 8.2, 8.3 and 18.1 below.</i></b> |
|            |                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>9.</b>  | Minutes of Finance Committee meeting held Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> September 2025                    | <b><i>Adopted and Recommendations therein approved</i></b>                                                                                                                                                             |
|            |                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>10.</b> | Minutes of Leisure and Development Committee meeting held Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> September 2025     | <b><i>Adopted and Recommendations therein approved</i></b>                                                                                                                                                             |
|            |                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>11.</b> | Minutes of Audit Committee meeting held Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> September 2025                     | <b><i>Adopted and Recommendations therein approved</i></b>                                                                                                                                                             |
|            |                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

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| <b>12.</b>  | Minutes of Corporate Policy and Resources Committee meeting held Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September 2025                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|             | <b>Matters Arising</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>12.1</b> | Minutes of the Land and Property Sub-Committee Meeting held on 03 September 2025 (Item 17) - Request to Use Council Land, Ref/98/23 Kilrea, Laneway, Licence Agreement for the Use of Council Land (Item 6.2) - Correspondence received | <b>Deferred</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>12.2</b> | Adoption of the Minutes                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <b><i>That the Minutes of the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held Tuesday 23 September 2025 are adopted and recommendations therein approved, subject to the deferral as detailed in Item 12.1.</i></b>                                                 |
| <b>13.</b>  | Matters for Reporting to the Partnership Panel                                                                                                                                                                                          | <b>None</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>14.</b>  | Conferences                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <b>Noted</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>15.</b>  | Correspondence                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>15.1</b> | Brendan McConville, Buddy Bear Trust                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <b><i>That Council approve and sign the resolution calling on the Department of Education and the Education Authority to give urgent consideration to the provision of statutory funding for the Buddy Bear Trust school in Dungannon, and to enable the Trust to</i></b> |

|             |                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|             |                                                                                                             | <b><i>provide satellite<br/>conductive education<br/>sessions at all their<br/>locations across<br/>Northern Ireland.</i></b>                                                                                                                                          |
|             |                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>16.</b>  | Consultation Schedule                                                                                       | <b><i>Noted</i></b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|             |                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>17.</b>  | Sealed Documents                                                                                            | <b><i>Seal approved (Items<br/>(i-ii))</i></b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|             |                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|             | In Committee (Item 18)                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>18.</b>  | Minutes of Environmental Services<br>Committee meeting held Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup><br>September 2025       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>18.1</b> | Tender for the Collection/Receipt and<br>Reprocessing of Wood from Household<br>Recycling Centres (Item 27) | <b><i>That Council award<br/>the contract for the<br/>collection/receipt and<br/>reprocessing of wood<br/>from Household<br/>Recycling Centres to<br/>BrickKiln Skip Hire in<br/>accordance with the<br/>tender specification<br/>and contract<br/>conditions.</i></b> |

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE  
COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER ON  
TUESDAY 7 OCTOBER 2025 AT 7.09 PM**

In the Chair : The Mayor, Councillor McMullan

Members Present : Alderman Boyle, Callan, Coyle, Fielding, Hunter,  
Knight-McQuillan, McAuley, S McKillop, Scott,  
Stewart

Councillors Anderson, C Archibald, N Archibald,  
Bateson, Callaghan, Chivers, Elder, Holmes,  
Huggins, Kane, Kennedy, Kyle, McAuley, McCully,  
McGurk, MA McKillop, McQuillan, McShane, Nicholl,  
Peacock, Storey, Wallace, Watson, Watton, Wilson,  
Wisener

Officers Present : D Jackson, Chief Executive  
M Quinn, Director of Corporate Services  
A McPeake, Director of Environmental Services  
P Mulvenna, Director of Leisure and Development  
D Wright, Chief Finance Officer (R)  
M Jones, Council Solicitor  
J Richardson, Head of Capital Works, Energy and  
Infrastructure  
A Hamilton, Democratic and Central Services  
Manager (R)  
O Dath, Climate Change Lead Officer  
U Harper, Committee & Member Services Officer

**In Attendance** : A Keys, Divisional Manager – Northern Division, Department for  
Infrastructure  
I Lowe, Section Engineer for Causeway Coast and Glens,  
Department for Infrastructure

A Lennox, ICT Officer  
L Boyd, ICT Officer

Press 3 No. (R)  
Public 2 No. (C), 1 No. (R)

**Key** – **R** = Attended Remotely

Councillor Huggins offered sincere thanks to all who assisted in the recovery efforts following storm Amy. She thanked the local farmers, Council staff, emergency services and partner agencies for their swift and dedicated work in clearing the debris and ensuring the safety and wellbeing of residents of the Borough.

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were recorded for Councillor Mairs, Councillor McGlinchey, and Councillor Schenning.

**2. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

**\* Alderman McAuley joined the meeting in the Chamber at 7.20pm**

**3. DEPUTATION – DFI ROADS ANNUAL REPORT**

The Mayor advised Members that they had received the Department for Infrastructure (DFI) Roads Annual Report and invited Members to address their questions to the two DFI representatives.

Several Members expressed concern about the impact of the closure of the Kilrea Bridge and noted the massive impact on the daily lives of local residents and the financial impact on local businesses. Councillor Bateson suggested that a compensation package should be considered for businesses that have been impacted.

The DFI Northern Division Manager advised that specialist contractors are working to identify a temporary solution to get the bridge open as quickly as possible, and they hope that a solution will be in place in coming weeks. He advised that the issue is not with the bridge itself but with a retaining wall on the approach to the bridge. Alderman Knight-McQuillan welcomed this information and expressed her preference that the structure be maintained if possible.

The DFI Northern Division Manager stated that, in the next few days, the Department plans to launch a dedicated webpage with updates on Kilrea Bridge, as several Councillors indicated that communication from DFI had been poor.

Councillor Holmes asked that DFI look not just at a short-term fix but a long-term solution for Kilrea Bridge. He proposed that Council write to the Infrastructure Minister requesting a compensation scheme for affected businesses. This was seconded by Alderman Hunter. Alderman McAuley suggested that Council also ask the Department to consider all opportunities to resolve the situation, including the use of military support for the construction of a temporary structure

if appropriate. Councillor Holmes stated that he was content for his proposal to state that all solutions should be considered.

In response to a question from Councillor Bateson, the DFI Northern Division Manager advised that the Agivey Road scheme is awaiting funding but is at the top of the list.

Councillor Peacock asked that the Duneany Road be assessed for addition to the gritting schedule.

Councillor Storey expressed his gratitude for the resurfacing works in Ballymoney and expressed reservations about the Local Development Plan and the Active Travel strategy. The DFI Northern Division Manager advised that a breakdown of the Active Travel expenditure can be provided, but noted that that expenditure is mandated by the Climate Change Act.

In response to a query from Alderman Knight-McQuillan about the Ardreagh Road, the DFI Northern Division Manager advised that he believed that the land issues had been resolved and the scheme is ready to go when funding becomes available.

The Section Engineer for Causeway Coast and Glens agreed to follow up with Alderman Knight-McQuillan regarding the repairs to Moneycarrie Road.

In response to a query from Councillor McGurk regarding DFI's capacity to deliver general maintenance, the DFI Northern Division Manager advised that plant can be transferred between divisions according to the maintenance schedule and that there is an ongoing project to track gullies using GPS.

Councillor McShane asked for the mini-roundabout at Leyland Road/Ramoan Road in Ballycastle to be repainted as it difficult for visitors to navigate. She requested an update on the Ballycastle Active Travel scheme. In response to her request for "keep left" signage to be installed at tourist areas, the DFI Northern Division Manager indicated that this is being looked into.

Councillor Watson expressed concern regarding the lack of communication about the work to the Glenshesk Road. The DFI Northern Division Manager advised that it was still on course for completion in November.

In response to a query from Councillor Chivers about Rathmore Road in Limavady, the Section Engineer for Causeway Coast and Glens advised that it is on the resurfacing schedule for the current financial year.

The Section Engineer for Causeway Coast and Glens agreed to look into Councillor MA McKillop's request that the road at Fair Hill is included in the ongoing resurfacing works at Gaults Road.

Councillor N Archibald requested an update on the road going into the Jet Centre. The DFI Northern Division Manager advised that DFI is currently doing investigations and taking legal advice and will provide an update. He further advised that he could not currently advise on whether the Department would be able to adopt it when it has been repaired.

Alderman S McKillop expressed concern regarding the work carried out at Priestland Road/Dunluce Road junction and queried why a two-lane approach to the junction was not included. She requested an update on the road markings at Ballytober Primary School.

In response to Councillor Kennedy's concerns about a wall on the road from Armoy to Dry Arch that is repeatedly being hit by vehicles, the Section Engineer for Causeway Coast and Glens agreed to meet him on site to discuss a solution.

Alderman Stewart raised concerns about delays with responses to reports to DFI and about the delays with the works to the Kerr Street steps in Portrush. The DFI Northern Division Manager stated that the contractor is not performing and the Department is pushing to get it finished up.

In response to a query from Alderman Coyle regarding the lights at Abbeyfields in Dungiven, the DFI Northern Division Manager advised that he would check whether the road had been fully adopted and get back to Alderman Coyle.

In response to a query from Councillor Elder, the DFI Northern Division Manager advised that the Minister has asked that schools on 60mph roads be prioritised for the 20mph restrictions.

Councillor Anderson requested an update on the situation at Grasmere. The DFI Northern Division Manager advised that there is currently nothing in the budget to allow for work there.

The Mayor requested that DFI try to get the lane at Waterfoot pier taken off Google maps as a route for large vehicles.

The DFI Northern Division Manager encouraged Members to use the online reporting system, as it is more efficient than emails or phone calls.

Proposed by Councillor Holmes  
Seconded by Alderman Hunter and



**RESOLVED** – That Council writes to the Infrastructure Minister to request a compensation scheme for traders negatively affected by the Kilrea Bridge closure and to use any means necessary to identify a solution to the bridge closure.

**4. MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD TUESDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 2025**

Copy previously circulated, presented as read by the Mayor.

Proposed by Councillor Watton  
Seconded by Alderman Coyle and

**RESOLVED** – That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held Tuesday 2 September 2025 are confirmed as a correct record.

**5. MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL (ANNUAL ACCOUNTS) MEETING HELD MONDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2025**

Copy previously circulated, presented as read by the Mayor.

Proposed by Councillor MA McKillop  
Seconded by Councillor Watson and

**RESOLVED** – That the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting (Annual Accounts) held Monday 22 September 2025 are confirmed as a correct record.

**6. MINUTES OF PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2025**

Copy previously circulated, presented as read by the Mayor.

**RESOLVED** – That the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held Wednesday 25 June are received and noted.

**7. MINUTES OF PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2025**

Copy previously circulated, presented as read by the Mayor.

**RESOLVED** – That the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held Wednesday 27 August are received and noted.

## **8. MINUTES OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD TUESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2025**

Copy previously circulated, presented as read by the Mayor.

### **Matters Arising**

#### **8.1 Pavement Café Licence Renewals (Item 18)**

Alderman McAuley raised a concern regarding businesses that are owed compensation following a court ruling on this matter. The Director of Environmental Services advised that three businesses were impacted by the court ruling. He stated that Council is reviewing the compensation request sent by one of the businesses and will be contacting that business in the coming week.

#### **8.2 Consultation on Dilapidation Bill (Item 8)**

##### **Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to provide a Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council response to the consultation.

##### **Background**

At the Environmental Services Committee on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2025 it was agreed to defer the decision on the Responses to the Consultation on Dilapidation Bill. The Director of Environmental Services agreed to incorporate additional elements, having consulted with Planning Department and bring a revised report back to the Council Meeting for further consideration.

The Dilapidation Bill moved to the Second Stage in the Northern Ireland Assembly in June 2025. The Bill aims to provide district councils with a modern, consistent and fit for purpose Northern Ireland-wide enforcement regime to deal with the negative impact of dilapidated and dangerous buildings, and neglected sites which reflects the powers already available to enforcement bodies in the rest of the UK.

The Bill's other key proposal is to significantly enhance the cost recovery powers available to councils, making the option of them carrying out the relevant works themselves much more viable.

As part of the Assembly's normal legislative processes, the Dilapidation Bill has been referred to the Assembly's Committee for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (AERA) for scrutiny and evaluation.

The Committee is seeking views from stakeholders on the objectives, proposals and potential consequences of the Bill to help inform the AERA Committee's consideration of the Bill and any recommendations it may suggest as it moves to the next stage of the legislative process.

The online survey form, the Dilapidation Bill 'as Introduced' and Explanatory and Financial Memorandum can be found at:

<https://consult.nia-yourassembly.org.uk/agrienvra/dilapidation-bill/>

A suggested response to the consultation was previously circulated as Appendix 1.

The Head of Planning has responded with the following feedback. Members are asked to consider the feedback and any other amendments they wish to make to the officer's response.

*'I am disappointed that the draft legislation did not take this opportunity to address a number of issues experienced through issuing of the Dangerous Structures Notice. Timeframes remain very tight in terms of the owner of the property accepting to carry out the works – this is very tight for someone to consider the notice and review the associated costs and ability to engage someone to carry out the works. It then puts the onus on Council to step in and carry out the works at expense to public purse with no timeframe for recovery of costs. It is also disappointing that there is no provision for council, when required to carry out the works, to vest the property should costs exceed a certain threshold.*

*I have serious concern that the legislation will end up costing Councils millions in repairs to maintenance of buildings across the Borough.'*

The closing date for submission of responses is 10<sup>th</sup> October 2025.

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that Council endorses the response.

Alderman S McKillop stated that the response from Council's Planning department highlights two problems: a restrictive timeframe for property owners to comply with a Dangerous Structure Notice and, when they can't stabilise the property within the stipulated timeframe, the onus is on Councils to step in and carry out the work at a cost to ratepayers, potentially to the tune of millions. She proposed that this crucial information be included in Council's consultation response.

Alderman Storey seconded this proposal and expressed concern about Councils and ratepayers bearing the financial burden of this legislation.

Proposed by Alderman S McKillop  
Seconded by Councillor Storey and

**RESOLVED** - That Council endorse the response, to include the points raised by the Head of Planning.

### **8.3 Consultation Responses to DAERA's Climate Action Plan**

#### **Purpose of Report**

To inform members of the consultation being undertaken by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) on their draft climate action plan, and to seek endorsement of council's officer led draft response.

#### **Background**

DAERA has been leading on Climate Change on behalf of the Northern Ireland Executive. DAERA has opened consultation on their proposed Climate Action Plan with a closing date of 08/10/2025

A copy of the consultation was previously circulated at Appendix 1.

#### **Proposal**

To provide the feedback on DAERA's consultation (previously circulated, Appendix 2)

**Note:** Consultation responses to questions 29 to 41 are now included.

#### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that Members note the consultation process and approve the consultation response for submission to DAERA (appendix 2, previously circulated).

Alderman Fielding stated that his party is opposed to the proposals in the consultation. He expressed concern about a lack of clarity and stated that there has not been an assessment of the financial, social and economic impact of the proposals. He stated that the issue is too contentious for a corporate response, and the best option is for the individual parties to make their own representations. He advised that the DUP is submitting a formal response to the consultation. He proposed that Council notes the consultation but does not submit a corporate response.

Proposed by Alderman Fielding

Seconded by Councillor Kyle and

**RESOLVED** - That Council notes the consultation but does not submit a corporate response.

### **8.4 Tender for the Collection/Receipt and Reprocessing of Wood from Household Recycling Centres (Item 27)**

The Director of Environmental Services advised that an update on this Item would be provided 'In Committee', at the end of the meeting.

### **8.5 Adoption of the Minutes**

Proposed by Alderman S McKillop

Seconded by Councillor Callaghan and

**RESOLVED** - That the Minutes of the Environmental Services Committee Meeting held Tuesday 9 September 2025 are adopted and recommendations therein approved, subject to amendments at Items 8.2, 8.3 and 18.1 below.

**9. MINUTES OF FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD THURSDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2025**

Copy, previously circulated, presented as read by the Mayor.

Proposed by Councillor Kyle  
Seconded by Councillor Kane and

**RESOLVED** – That the Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held Thursday 11 September 2025 are adopted and recommendations therein approved.

**10. MINUTES OF LEISURE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD TUESDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2025**

Copy, previously circulated, presented as read by the Mayor.

Proposed by Councillor Anderson  
Seconded by Councillor Watson and

**RESOLVED** – That the Minutes of the Leisure and Development Committee Meeting held Tuesday 16 September 2025 are adopted and recommendations therein approved.

**11. MINUTES OF AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2025**

Copy, previously circulated, presented as read by the Mayor.

Proposed by Councillor Kane  
Seconded by Councillor McGurk and

**RESOLVED** – That the Minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting held Wednesday 17 September 2025 are adopted and recommendations therein approved.

**12. MINUTES OF CORPORATE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD TUESDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER 2025**

Copy, previously circulated, presented as read by the Mayor.

## **Matters Arising**

### **12.1 Minutes of the Land and Property Sub-Committee Meeting held on 03 September 2025 (Item 17) - Request to Use Council Land, Ref/98/23 Kilrea, Laneway, Licence Agreement for the Use of Council Land (Item 6.2)**

Councillor McShane proposed the adoption of the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee minutes, subject to the deferral of Item 6.2 of the Minutes of the Land and Property Sub-Committee meeting held on 3 September 2025 (Item 17 of the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee meeting 23 September 2025). She advised that legal advice has been sought in respect of Item 6.2, Request to use Council land, Ref/98/23 Kilrea, Laneway, Licence Agreement for the use of Council land, and it is hoped that it will be brought to the next Corporate Policy and Resources Committee meeting.

### **12.2 Adoption of the Minutes**

Proposed by Councillor McShane  
Seconded by Councillor McCully and

**RESOLVED** – That the Minutes of the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held Tuesday 23 September 2025 are adopted and recommendations therein approved, subject to the deferral as detailed in Item 12.1.

## **13. MATTERS FOR REPORTING TO THE PARTNERSHIP PANEL**

The Chief Executive advised that there was one item for referring to the Partnership Panel, arising from the 9 September Environmental Services Committee Meeting. He further advised that, going forward, Partnership Panel minutes would be circulated with this agenda Item, so that Members would have them available.

In response to Councillor Storey's query regarding the effectiveness of the Partnership Panel, the Chief Executive advised that NILGA is aware of frustration and is considering looking at the Partnership Panel Terms of Reference. Alderman Callan stated that it would be good for Council to query the effectiveness of the Partnership Panel.

## **14. CONFERENCES**

Report, previously circulated, was presented as read by the Chief Executive.

### **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:

Northern Ireland Economic Conference

Date: 19th November 2025

Location: Titanic Hotel, Belfast

Cost: £195 plus VAT

Extract:

The Northern Ireland Economic Conference, now in its 30th year, is Northern Ireland's premier economic analysis event and is unique in being the only forum that takes a high-level look at the performance of, and prospects for the local economy. Speakers include King's College London, the Financial Times, Ulster University and the Economic and Social Research Institute.

Elected Members should contact Committee and Member Services to register their interest.

#### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that Council consider the Conference report.

**RESOLVED** - that Council note the Conference report.

## **15. CORRESPONDENCE**

Report, previously circulated, was presented as read by the Chief Executive.

The following correspondence has been received:

### **15.1 Brendan McConville, Buddy Bear Trust**

(email dated 21 September 2025, copy of letter previously circulated)

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.*

### **Recommendation**

**It is recommended** that Council considers the correspondence.

Councillor Huggins emphasised the life-changing support provided by the Buddy Bear Trust to children and families from across Northern Ireland. She stated that this specialist education and conductive therapy is vital to ensure children reach their full potential and improve their quality of life. She proposed that Council approve and sign the resolution calling on the Department of Education and the Education Authority to give urgent consideration to the provision of statutory funding for the Buddy Bear Trust school in Dungannon, and to enable the Trust to provide satellite conductive education sessions at all their locations across Northern Ireland so that they can carry out this valuable and vital work.

Alderman Knight-McQuillan seconded the proposal.

Councillor Peacock expressed her support for the proposal and welcomed the expansion of this wonderful service.

Proposed by Councillor Huggins

Seconded by Alderman Knight-McQuillan                      and

**RESOLVED** - that Council approve and sign the resolution calling on the Department of Education and the Education Authority to give urgent consideration to the provision of statutory funding for the Buddy Bear Trust school in Dungannon, and to enable the Trust to provide satellite conductive education sessions at all their locations across Northern Ireland.

## **16. CONSULTATION SCHEDULE**

The following Consultation Documents were listed:



- Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs Public Consultation on Northern Ireland's draft Climate Action Plan 2023-2027 submission by 8 October 2025
- Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs Fisheries and Water Environment Bill – Protection of the Water Environment submission by 5 November 2025
- Waterways Ireland Equality Consultations 2025 submission by 24 November 2025
- Department of Health Extend medicines for optometrists and contact lens opticians submission by 27 November 2025
- Department of Health Enabling pharmacist flexibilities when dispensing medicines submission by 11 December 2025

**RESOLVED** – that Council note the Consultation Schedule.

## 17. 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.

Seal Documents

- (i) Grave Registry Certificates, No's 6049 to 6066 inclusive, No 2663 (Reissue);
- (ii) Advance for Purchase of a Car – Employee Ref 6233038

Proposed by Alderman Callan  
Seconded by Councillor Holmes and

**RESOLVED** – That the sealing of documents, as listed, are approved (Items i-ii).

### **MOTION TO PROCEED 'IN COMMITTEE'**

Proposed by Councillor Kane  
Seconded by Councillor Peacock

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

- \* **Public and Press were disconnected from the meeting at 8.58pm.**
- \* **The Mayor advised that there would be a short comfort break. The meeting resumed at 9.06pm.**

**18. MINUTES OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD  
TUESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2025**

**Matters Arising**

**18.1 Tender for the Collection/Receipt and Reprocessing of Wood from  
Household Recycling Centres (Item 27)**

Confidential by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI).

The Director of Environmental Services advised that the preferred contractor for the tender, RiverRidge recycling, had withdrawn their tender bid. As such, he asked that Council award the contract to the second-place bidder, BrickKiln Skip Hire.

Proposed by Alderman Hunter  
Seconded by Councillor MA McKillop and

**RESOLVED** – that Council award the contract for the collection/receipt and reprocessing of wood from Household Recycling Centres to BrickKiln Skip Hire in accordance with the tender specification and contract conditions.

**MOTION TO PROCEED ‘IN PUBLIC’**

Proposed by Councillor McShane  
Seconded by Councillor Watson and

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

This being all the business, the Mayor thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting concluded at 9.08pm.

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Mayor