

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD THURSDAY 12 MARCH 2026

No	Item	Summary of Key Recommendations	Estimated Timescale for completion
1.	Apologies	Councillors Mairs, Schenning, Wilson	N/A
2.	Declarations of Interest	None	N/A
3.	Minutes of Finance Committee held Thursday 22 January 2026	Confirmed as a correct record	N/A
4.	Prompt Payments	Noted	
5.	Management Accounts Period 9	Noted	
6.	APP Forecast	Noted	
7.	De-Rating Grant Forecast	Noted	
8.	Finance Business Plan update	Noted	
9.	Strategic Events Reserve	To recommend that Council approve the reallocation of £110,000 to the Armed Forces Day event and £100,000 be ear marked potentially for USA250 pending a confirmed budgetary requirement.	
10.	Management Accounts Period 10	To recommend to Council that the Chief Finance Officer be authorised to create a Waste Management Reserve, to transfer the	

		current surplus of £1,412,273.41 into that reserve and to move any future surplus EPR funding into that reserve. To recommend to Council that the Chief Finance Officer be authorised to increase the Election Reserve by £100,000 out of the current year surplus.	
11.	Bulk fuel contract	To recommend that Council approve the participation in the Crown Commercial Supplies bulk fuel contract for a two year period up to 31st March 2028. It is further recommended that this authority extends to the use of local fuel suppliers where increased value for money can be demonstrated after benchmarking against the CCS contract.	
12.	Scheme of Allowances 2026/2027	To recommend that Council approve the scheme of allowances for 2026/27 as tabled and authorises the Chief Finance Officer to implement any further amendments as and when announced by the Department for Communities for the same period.	
13.	Rates Support Grant Review response	To recommend that Council approve the response to the	

		<i>consultation and also invite the MLAs that represent the Council area to be briefed on the importance of separating other sources of funding from the rates income.</i>	
14.	Budget Setting Process and Timetable	<i>To recommend that Council approves the revised Rates Setting Process and timetable for the 2027/2028 budget process as set out in Appendix 1.</i>	
15	Correspondence		
15.1	LG 02-26 - Capitalisation Direction 2026-27	Noted	
15.2	Reval 2026 RSG 2026-2027 - Revised Percentage of Eligibility% February 2026		
15.3	Annex 3 - Feb 2026		
15.4	Annex 5 - Feb 2026		
15.5	LG 07-26 - Accounts Direction to Councils 2025-26 - cover letter		
15.6	LG 07-26 - Accounts Direction to Councils 2025-26 - Annex A		
15.7	LG 07-26 - Accounts Direction to Councils 2025-26 - Annex B		
15.8	LG 07-26 - Accounts Direction to Councils 2025-26 - Annex E - Remuneration Report Notes		
15.9	LG 08-2026 rate Statistics covering Letter		
15.10	LG 08-2026 rate statistics		
15.11	Letter from Minister O'Dowd to SOLACE		
	<i>In Committee (Items 16-17)</i>		
16.	Debt Management	<i>To recommend to Council that the Chief Finance Officer be authorised to write off</i>	

		<i>the debt detailed at 4.2 above and make the appropriate entries in Council's accounts.</i>	
17.	Minutes of FMT meeting Tuesday 8 January 2026	<i>Noted</i>	
18.	Any Other Relevant Business (notified in accordance with Standing Order 12 (0))	<i>Nil</i>	

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE
FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AND VIA
VIDEO CONFERENCE,
ON THURSDAY 12 MARCH 2026 AT 7.00PM**

In the Chair: Councillor Kyle (C)

Members Present: Alderman Callan (R), Coyle (R), Knight-McQuillan (R), Scott (C) Councillors Holmes (R/C), Huggins (C), Kane (C), McQuillan (R), Nicholl (R), Peacock (R)

Officers Present: D Wright, Chief Finance Officer (C)
J Culkin, Management Accountant (C)
L Clyde, Financial Accountant (C)
J Keen, Democratic Services Officer (C)

A Lennox, ICT Operations Manager (Interim) (C)

In Attendance: Press 1 no. (R) Public 1 no. (C)

The Chief Finance Officer undertook a roll call.

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

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were recorded for Councillors Mairs, Schenning, and Wilson.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD THURSDAY 22 JANUARY 2026

Copy previously circulated.

AGREED –the Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on Thursday 22 January 2026 were confirmed as a correct record.

- * **Alderman Knight McQuillan joined the meeting remotely at 7:04pm**
- * **Councillor Holmes joined the meeting in the Chamber at 7:05pm having been in attendance remotely**

4. PROMPT PAYMENTS

Report, previously circulated, was presented by the Financial Accountant.

Background

Department for Communities (DfC) requires Council to record and publish statistics regarding the payment of supplier invoices with specific reference to two distinct measures namely invoices paid within 10 working days and invoices paid within 30 calendar days.

Detail

These figures are published on a quarterly basis by DfC with Councils required to do likewise. The purpose of the statistics is to encourage Councils to support businesses especially those local and/or small businesses for whom cash flow is of vital importance to their continued survival. In addition, as part of Council's performance improvement plan for this year the payment of our suppliers has been identified as one of the performance improvement objectives with a target of 90% of suppliers being paid within 30 calendar days. The tables below detail Council's performance since April 2023 the latest data being for quarter 4 of 25/26 year, up to and including end of February 2026.

Analysis

The statistics will be continually monitored to ensure the performance levels are maintained and where possible improved. Council's self-imposed target remains at 90% of invoices being paid within 30 days. During February 92.15% (January 87.25%) of invoices were paid within 30 days. This is a good improvement on recent months but we remain below our 90% target, finance staff are continuing their efforts to maintain and improve this level of performance.

Prompt Payment Statistics 2023/2024					
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Total No of Invoices	6512	7263	6847	7031	27653
Total amount paid	£ 23,864,802	£ 17,139,245	£ 13,837,183	£ 13,491,210	£ 68,332,440
Number of invoices paid within 10 days	3675	5233	5444	5774	20126
% of invoices paid within 10 days	56.43%	72.05%	79.51%	82.12%	72.78%
Number of invoices paid within 30 days	5398	6232	6215	6301	24146
% of invoices paid within 30 days	82.89%	85.80%	90.77%	89.62%	87.32%
Number of invoices paid outside 30 days	1114	1031	632	730	3507
% of invoices paid outside 30 days	17.11%	14.20%	9.23%	10.38%	12.68%
No. of Disputed Invoices	33	162	35	169	399
% of disputed invoices	0.51%	2.23%	0.51%	2.40%	1.44%
Average Payment Days	18.71	15.59	11.36	13.58	14.64
Prompt Payment Statistics 2024/2025					
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Total No of Invoices	6890	7030	7234	6931	28085
Total amount paid	£ 15,645,094	£ 14,616,411	£ 13,040,366	£ 11,221,971	£ 54,523,842
Number of invoices paid within 10 days	5304	5316	5820	5220	21660
% of invoices paid within 10 days	76.98%	75.62%	80.45%	75.31%	77.12%
Number of invoices paid within 30 days	6274	6336	6813	6208	25631
% of invoices paid within 30 days	91.06%	90.13%	94.18%	89.57%	91.26%
Number of invoices paid outside 30 days	616	694	421	723	2454
% of invoices paid outside 30 days	8.94%	9.87%	5.82%	10.43%	8.74%
No. of Disputed Invoices	37	54	40	42	173
% of disputed invoices	0.54%	0.77%	0.55%	0.61%	0.62%
Average Payment Days	11.86	11.64	9.84	12.60	11.47
Prompt Payment Statistics 2025/2026					
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4*	Total
Total No of Invoices	6819	7136	7446	4508	25909
Total amount paid	£ 15,915,510	£ 18,756,784	£ 15,511,095	£ 8,605,054	£ 58,788,442
Number of invoices paid within 10 days	5003	5254	5807	3356	19420
% of invoices paid within 10 days	73.37%	73.63%	77.99%	74.45%	74.95%
Number of invoices paid within 30 days	6112	6248	6666	4043	23069
% of invoices paid within 30 days	89.63%	87.56%	89.52%	89.69%	89.04%
Number of invoices paid outside 30 days	707	888	780	465	2840
% of invoices paid outside 30 days	10.37%	12.44%	10.48%	10.31%	10.96%
No. of Disputed Invoices	30	30	45	7	112
% of disputed invoices	0.44%	0.42%	0.60%	0.16%	0.43%
Average Payment Days	12.59	14.01	12.84	13.70	13.24
*Incomplete period					

In response to questions the Chief Finance Officer stated that there is not a specific reason for the sharp drop in disputed invoices this month. The Chief Finance Officer advised that there is an ongoing relationship with suppliers to ensure the correct information is placed on invoices.

Alderman Scott considered it important to meet the target of paying 90% of suppliers within 30 calendar days, especially for smaller businesses.

Committee NOTED the report.

5. MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS PERIOD 9

Report, previously circulated, was presented by the Management Accountant.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to present the current management accounts to Council for information and analysis.

Background

Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council (CC&GBC) provides a range of services to the Borough of Causeway Coast and Glens which stretches from Lough Foyle in the west to the Glens of Antrim in the east covering an area of 1,968 square kilometres and with a population of approximately 145,000. The council is currently made up of 3 directorates (Leisure and Development, Environmental Services, Corporate Policy and Resources) and includes a Planning, Finance and Legal department, that are reported separately in this report. The Annual Budgeted Spend for 2025/26 controlled by the Directorates is £86.408m (excludes depreciation, actuarial adjustments, provisions, accumulated absences, and it is these figures that change the figures in the Audited Accounts). Gross Income is budgeted at £86.408m meaning a balanced budget was approved for the year.

Further information was provided within the report detailing financial overview by Directorate.

Summary

This report represents steady performance following a solid start to the financial year, especially again with regards some of our income streams however it is imperative that Council remains vigilant over the coming months to ensure the performance is maintained.

Committee NOTED the report.

6. APP FORECAST

Report, previously circulated, was presented by the Management Accountant.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to inform members of the latest Actual Penny Product (APP) forecast supplied by Land and Property Services (LPS).

Background

LPS has issued to Councils further in year forecasts as at 31 December 2025 and 31 January 2026. The forecast for Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council has been based on in year assumptions:

Monthly Analysis

Month	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan
Forecast	£(21)	£28	£118	£204	£670	£739	£913	£994

All figures £'000

Additional analysis

The figures indicate significantly improved projected finalisation in terms of rates income for Council, a very encouraging position for Council to be in although there could still be reductions before year end. As previously reported it is worth noting that costs of collection have increased significantly from last year due to back date pay awards for civil service staff.

APP analysis

The tables below set out the analysis of the APP forecast for the current financial year in terms of both domestic and non-domestic properties.

Revaluations

There are still a number of outstanding revaluation challenge cases and whilst they could impact on our future rates income most of the significant challenges have by now been dealt with. Officers added that LPS are currently conducting debt write-offs as year end approaches and the finalisation figure will be reduced as a consequence, current projections are approximately £850k.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Council note the report.

AGREED – to recommend that Council note the report.

7. DE-RATING GRANT FORECAST

Report, previously circulated, was presented by the Management Accountant.

Background

De-rating is a central government policy which reduces the rating burden on a number of sectors, the most notable being manufacturing. The effect of this policy is that less rates are collected than would be expected applying the district and regional rate factors to a property's Net Annual Value (NAV) consequently there is a reduction in the income to Council from rates.

Detail

As Council has no operational influence in the application any such policy De-Rating grant is a statutory mechanism through which central government compensates the local Councils for any loss incurred as a result of the central policy. The grant is linked to the NAV's of those non-domestic properties where de-rating applies and is therefore affected by any increase in the District Rate factor as set by Council annually.

Quarterly Analysis

Land and Property services have provided us with the third quarterly projection for de-rating grant for 2025/26. This indicates a positive forecast of approximately £60k (Qtr2 - £59k positive). The tables in the Appendix A to this report show some analysis of the de-rating grant for all Councils.

Committee NOTED the report.

8. FINANCE BUSINESS PLAN UPDATE

Report, previously circulated, was presented by the Chief Finance Officer.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to present to Council an update on the Finance department's Business Plan for 2025/26.

Background

Each Council section is required annually to provide Council with a Business Plan for approval and a subsequent 6 month update on progress.

The Finance department Business Plan update is attached as an appendix to this report.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Finance Committee note the progress of the Finance Department Business Plan as detailed in the appendix.

AGREED – to recommend that Council note the progress of the Finance Department Business Plan as detailed in the appendix.

9. STRATEGIC EVENTS RESERVE

Report, previously circulated, was presented by the Chief Finance Officer.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to inform members of the latest balance position with regards the Strategic Events Reserve.

Background

The Strategic Events Reserve was created by Council to provide funding for major events in the Borough.

Current Balance

The current balance in the reserve stands at £415,209.82.

Additional analysis

The reserve was initially credited with £350,000 regarding support of the Open Championship and £200,000 in preparation for the next Airshow. In year spending has accounted for £134,790.18 with regards the Open championship, the Chief Finance Officer having previously been authorised to release funds from the reserve to cover the costs of supporting the event. It is anticipated at this stage that there will be no further significant costs in relation to the golf event therefore a surplus balance of £215,209.82 currently exists within the reserve.

Future Events

Council is currently in the process of planning for Armed Forces Day and USA250 both of which will require funding. The current budgetary expectation in relation to Armed Forces Day is £110,000.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Council approve the reallocation of £110,000 to the Armed Forces Day event and £100,000 be ear marked potentially for USA250 pending a confirmed budgetary requirement.

In response to questions the Chief Finance Officer advised that £135,000 of the budget was spent on the Open Championship, that £5,000 would be kept for contingencies and the remainder allocated to Armed Forces Day and potentially USA250.

Proposed by Councillor Kane

Seconded by Alderman Scott

and

AGREED – to recommend that Council approve the reallocation of £110,000 to the Armed Forces Day event and £100,000 be ear marked potentially for USA250 pending a confirmed budgetary requirement.

- * **Alderman Callan joined the meeting remotely at 7:27pm during consideration of the following item.**

10. MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS PERIOD 10

Report, previously circulated, was presented by the Management Accountant.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to present the current management accounts to Council for information and analysis.

Background

Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council (CC&GBC) provides a range of services to the Borough of Causeway Coast and Glens which stretches from Lough Foyle in the west to the Glens of Antrim in the east covering an area of 1,968 square kilometres and with a population of approximately 145,000. The council is currently made up of 3 directorates (Leisure and Development, Environmental Services, Corporate Policy and Resources) and includes a Planning, Finance and Legal department, that are reported separately in this report. The Annual Budgeted Spend for 2025/26 controlled by the Directorates is £86.408m (excludes depreciation, actuarial adjustments, provisions, accumulated absences, and it is these figures that change the figures in the Audited Accounts). Gross Income is budgeted at £86.408m meaning a balanced budget was approved for the year.

Further information was provided within the report detailing financial overview by Directorate.

Recommendations

Enhanced Producer Responsibility (EPR) funding

As referenced in the main body of the report above this period's figures include a surplus against budget of £1,412,273.41, **it is recommended that** the Chief Finance Officer be authorised to create a Waste Management Reserve, to transfer the current surplus of £1,412,273.41 into that reserve and to move any future surplus EPR funding into that reserve.

Election Reserve

As preparations commence for the Local Government Elections in May 2027 early indications are that costings particularly around mailing are going to be higher than on previous occasions. Our Election reserve currently stands at

£500,000, initial estimates are that an additional £100,000 may be required to finance the election. **It is recommended that** the Chief Finance Officer be authorised to increase the Election Reserve by £100,000 out of the current year surplus.

The Management Accountant read the recommendation relating to the Enhanced Producer Responsibility (EPR) funding and requested a proposal.

Councillor Peacock considered it prudent to create the fund particularly with the closure of landfill sites and associated unknown costs.

In order to provide clarity the Chief Finance Officer advised that costs for closure and aftercare of landfill sites are already provided for within the budget. The Chief Finance Officer further advised that the gas from the Craigahullier site is used to generate electricity and Council receives an income from this, waste and recycling costs are also being accounted for in reserves. The Chief Finance Officer confirmed the recommendation is to approve surplus monies to be put into reserves, any expenditure will be brought back to Committee.

Councillor Kane considered it good to have reserves and stated discussions are also being had in Environmental Services Committee regarding this.

Proposed by Councillor Wisener
Seconded by Councillor Peacock and

AGREED – to recommend to Council that the Chief Finance Officer be authorised to create a Waste Management Reserve, to transfer the current surplus of £1,412,273.41 into that reserve and to move any future surplus EPR funding into that reserve.

The Management Accountant read the recommendation relating to the Election Reserves and requested a proposal.

In response to questions regarding the increase to the Election reserves the Chief Finance Officer advised recent meetings regarding the Elections have highlighted increased mailing costs and an increase in minimum wage which will increase staffing costs. The Chief Finance Officer confirmed that postage costs included posting election materials as well as polling cards.

Proposed by Councillor Huggins
Seconded by Councillor Kane and

AGREED – to recommend to Council that the Chief Finance Officer be authorised to increase the Election Reserve by £100,000 out of the current year surplus.

11. BULK FUEL CONTRACT

Report, previously circulated, was presented by the Chief Finance Officer.

Purpose of Report

To seek approval to join Crown Commercial Service fuel framework.

Background

Council has accessed the crown commercial bulk fuels framework for the last eight years, the current framework expires on 31st March 2026.

Participation guarantees that Council has a guaranteed supply of fuel oils, which is particularly important at this current time of spiking prices and possible supply issues.

Participation in the framework comes at no cost to council, best price return is still being used for fuel purchasing, with the CCS cost being the benchmark used for comparisons.

The current contract was approved by Council in March 2024.

The new contract will expire on 31st March 2028.

Current spend year to date on liquid fuels is £ 911,328 out of an annual budget of £1,433,371.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Council approves the participation in the Crown Commercial Supplies bulk fuel contract for a two year period up to 31st March 2028. **It is further recommended that** this authority extends to use of local fuel suppliers where increased value for money can be demonstrated after benchmarking against the CCS contract.

In response to questions the Chief Financial Officer stated that local firms would be used to purchase fuel if it is cheaper to do so.

Proposed by Alderman Scott

Seconded by Councillor Holmes and

AGREED – to recommend that Council approves the participation in the Crown Commercial Supplies bulk fuel contract for a two year period up to 31st March 2028. **It is further recommended that** this authority extends to the use of local fuel suppliers where increased value for money can be demonstrated after benchmarking against the CCS contract.

12. SCHEME OF ALLOWANCES 2026/2027

Report, previously circulated, was presented by the Chief Finance Officer.

Purpose of Report

This report provides information to members regarding the Scheme of Allowances for 2026/2027 in light of updated Department Guidance, LG17/25 issued in October 2025.

Background

Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council must establish a scheme of allowances payable to Members annually. The scheme provides for the payment of allowances to Councillors on the basis that:

- 1 – The maximum level of basic allowance as determined by the Department for Communities (DfC) is paid
- 2 – The maximum level of carers allowances as determined by the DfC are paid
- 3 – The maximum level of mileage rates as determined by the DfC are paid
- 4 – Councillors' payments are made on the third last banking day of each month

Detail

The scheme of allowances for 2026/27, a copy of which has been included with this report, considers a number of factors:

- 1 – basic allowance – remains at 2025/26 level – an increase has been budgeted for in the 2026/27 estimates pending Departmental review of basic allowance
- 2 – mileage rates
- 3 – increases in rates for dependant carer's allowance in line with the National Living Wage
- 4 – Special Responsibility Allowance (SRA)

The four items are in keeping with the normal periodic update of the scheme of allowances.

Amendments

Circular LG 17/25 (attached as an appendix) from DfC dated October 2025 sets out the revised consolidated Councillor's Allowances guidance, as our scheme is predicated on the inclusion of the maximum rates allowable under departmental guidance. Any updates to rates of basic allowance will be automatically applied should Council approve this report. The Basic allowance remains at £18,916 per annum, it should be noted that an increase had been allowed for in the rates estimates for 2026/27. Other changes include the hourly and maximum monthly rates payable in respect of dependant carer's allowance.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Council approves the scheme of allowances for 2026/27 as tabled and authorises the Chief Finance Officer to implement any further amendments as and when announced by the Department for Communities for the same period.

Proposed by Alderman Scott
Seconded by Councillor Huggins and

AGREED – to recommend that Council approve the scheme of allowances for 2026/27 as tabled and authorises the Chief Finance Officer to implement any further amendments as and when announced by the Department for Communities for the same period.

13. RATES SUPPORT GRANT REVIEW RESPONSE

Report, previously circulated, was presented by the Chief Finance Officer.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to present to Council with a draft response to consultation from the Department for Communities (DfC) regarding the recent review of Rates Support Grant conducted by DfC.

Background

DfC has conducted a review of Rates Support Grant and the resulting report on that review was circulated in 2025 containing a number of recommendations.

This element of the consultation relates to recommendation 8 of that report.

Council's draft response to the consultation is attached as an appendix to this report for consideration.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Finance Committee consider and approve the response to the consultation.

Councillor Holmes considered it important to separate other sources of funding from the rates income. Councillor Holmes proposed to approve the response to the consultation and added that the MLAs that represent the Council area are invited to Council to be provided with a briefing on the importance of separating the sources of funding so they are better able to argue it in Stormont.

In response to questions regarding showing expenditure within the Council the Chief Finance Officer advised that this part of the review only considers wealth, the next part considers expenditure under specific categories and the responses to this will be presented to the Finance Committee in April.

Proposed by Councillor Holmes
Seconded by Alderman Scott and

AGREED – to recommend that Council approves the response to the consultation and also invite the MLAs that represent the Council area to be briefed on the importance of separating other sources of funding from the rates income.

14. BUDGET SETTING PROCESS AND TIMETABLE

Report, previously circulated, was presented by the Chief Finance Officer.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to present to Council an updated Rates Setting process and timetable for 2027/28.

Background

District councils are obliged under legislation, Section 3 of the Local Government Finance Act (Northern Ireland) 2011, as part of the annual budget procedures to submit estimates of income and expenditure of the council for the next financial year. Regulation 3 of the Local Government (Capital Finance and Accounting) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2011 states the prescribed date for the annual budget for a financial year beginning on or after 1st April 2012 shall be 15th February. This report recommends a process and timetable for the annual Council budget setting.

2025/2026 Rates setting cycle saw the implementation of a new process and timetable.

One minor recommendation has arisen from that process which is a procedural one that had not been anticipated in advance of implementation. This concerned the reporting line of the Finance Committee and was corrected in the most recent process setting the budgets for 2026/27.

As was the case this year in January of 2027 there will be two Finance Committee meetings, one dealing with regular monthly business reporting to the regular Council meeting and a second rates estimates Finance Committee reporting to the Rates Strike meeting. Both meetings can take place on the same evening, the rates estimates Finance Committee meeting occurring immediately after the regular monthly meeting. An updated rates setting process and timetable for the 2027/28 rates setting cycle has been attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Council approves the revised Rates Setting Process and timetable for the 2027/2028 budget process as set out in Appendix 1.

In response to questions the Chief Finance Officer stated that he had no further updates regarding the status of the revaluation of non-domestic rates but would seek further information from the Department of Finance.

Proposed by Alderman Scott
Seconded by Councillor Kane and

AGREED – to recommend that Council approves the revised Rates Setting Process and timetable for the 2027/2028 budget process as set out in Appendix 1.

15. CORRESPONDENCE

The Chair presented Agenda Items 9.1 – 9.10 inclusive as read.

15.1 LG 02-26 - Capitalisation Direction 2026-27

Copy, previously circulated was presented as read.

Correspondence re: Capitalisation

15.2 Reval 2026 RSG 2026-2027 - Revised Percentage of Eligibility% February 2026

Copy, previously circulated was presented as read.

Correspondence re: Rates Support Grant 2026/27

15.3 Annex 3 - Feb 2026

Copy, previously circulated was presented as read.

Correspondence re: Rates Support Grant 2026/2027

15.4 Annex 5 - Feb 2026

Copy, previously circulated was presented as read.

Correspondence re: % Movement in the Wealth Measurement of the Rates Support Grant Calculation from 2025/26 to 2026/27

15.5 LG 07-26 - Accounts Direction to Councils 2025-26 - cover letter

Copy, previously circulated was presented as read.

Correspondence re: Accounts Direction 2025/26: Northern Ireland District/Borough Councils

15.6 LG 07-26 - Accounts Direction to Councils 2025-26 - Annex A

Copy, previously circulated was presented as read.

Correspondence re: Accounts Direction Circular 2025/26: Northern Ireland District/Borough Councils

15.7 LG 07-26 - Accounts Direction to Councils 2025-26 - Annex B

Copy, previously circulated was presented as read.

Correspondence re: Accounts Direction Given by the Department for Communities, in Accordance with Article 24(2) of the Local Government (Northern Ireland) Order 2005 and Regulation 7 of the Local Government (Accounts and Audit) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 for the Year Ended 31 March 2026

15.8 LG 07-26 - Accounts Direction to Councils 2025-26 - Annex E - Remuneration Report Notes

Copy, previously circulated was presented as read.

Correspondence re: Remuneration report for the year ended 31 March 2026

15.9 LG 08-2026 rate Statistics covering Letter

Copy, previously circulated was presented as read.

Correspondence re: District Council (Northern Ireland) Rate Statistics 2026/2027

15.10 LG 08-2026 rate statistics

Copy, previously circulated was presented as read.

Correspondence re: District Council (NI) Rate Statistics 2026/2027

15.11 Letter from Minister O'Dowd to SOLACE

Copy, previously circulated was presented as read.

Correspondence re: Implementation of Stop on Reval 2026

MOTION TO PROCEED 'IN COMMITTEE'

Proposed by Alderman Scott

Seconded by Councillor Huggins and

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

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

*** The meeting moved '*In Committee*' at 7:47pm**

The Chair advised Committee of its obligations and protocol whilst '*In Committee*'.

16. DEBT MANAGEMENT

Confidential report, by virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014 was presented by the Financial Accountant.

Purpose of Report

This report informs members of the current position surrounding debt owed to the Council by its customers.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Chief Finance Officer be authorised to write off the debt detailed at 4.2 above and make the appropriate entries in Council's accounts.

In response to questions about the 60 day debt being high the Chief Finance Officer advise it is due to timing and that the figures overall are in a good position.

In response to questions the Financial Accountant provided further detail about the debt that has been written off.

Proposed by Alderman Scott
Seconded by Councillor Holmes and

AGREED – To recommend to Council that the Chief Finance Officer be authorised to write off the debt detailed at 4.2 above and make the appropriate entries in Council's accounts.

17. MINUTES OF FMT MEETING TUESDAY 8 JANUARY 2026

For information, confidential Finance Management Team Meeting minutes Tuesday 8 January 2026, previously circulated, were presented as read by the Chief Finance Officer.

Committee NOTED the report.

MOTION TO PROCEED 'IN PUBLIC'

Proposed by Councillor Kane
Seconded by Alderman Scott and

AGREED – to recommend that Finance Committee move '*In Public*'

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

There were no items of Any Other Relevant Business.

This being all the business, the Chair thanked Elected Members for their attendance and the meeting closed at 7:56pm

Chair

UNCONFIRMED