Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council

Title of Report:	**Correspondence**
Committee Report Submitted To:	**The Council Meeting**
Date of Meeting:	**3 November 2026**
For Decision or For Information	**For Decision**
To be discussed In Committee	**No**

Linkage to Council Plan 2026–2031			
Strategic Theme	Governance, Quality & Continuous Improvement		
Outcome	Continuous improvement embedded in all services based on evidence, performance data, and customer feedback		
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 Councillor Deirdre Varsarni, Chair, Mid Ulster District Council (letter dated 28 September 2026, copy attached)

Extract
Council at its September meeting carried the undernoted motion following a vote with 25 Members voting in favour of the motion and 12 against.
That this Council becomes one of the first local authorities to formally condemn the scheduling of the upcoming UEFA Nations League fixtures between Ireland and Israel, due to take place in September and October 2026.
The members note and support the massive public outcry and recent fan protests at the Aviva Stadium, which reflect the deep-seated anger of the Irish public regarding these fixtures.
...
Therefore, this Council calls directly on the Football Association of Ireland (FAI) to take full institutional responsibility, show true moral leadership, and withdraw the Ireland team from the match.
...
If passed, the Council agrees that the motion will be forwarded immediately to the Chief Executive of the FAI, the 26 County Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport as well as to every other local authority in the country, North and South asking they support this motion.

2.1 Grace Uí Niallais, Mayor of Derry City and Strabane District Council (letter dated 9 October 2026, copy attached)

Extract
At a Meeting of Derry City and Strabane District Council held on 23 September 2026, the following motion was passed and it was agreed that a copy of the Motion was to be forwarded to Mid Ulster, Causeway Coast and Glens and Fermanagh and Omagh Councils:

This Council agrees:

(1) Real-time-mapping – To establish and publish, and thereafter maintain and keep up to date, a publicly accessible real-time map and accompanying schedule showing major energy and electricity-related developments within the Council's knowledge, including operational, approved, live, appealed, pending and undetermined proposals.
...

(2) District-wide cumulative assessment – To request officers to prepare and present, a standalone cumulative impact report for the full district, with

particular focus on the Sperrins AONB and other areas already experiencing a significant concentration of development.
...

(3) The approach to applications – Pending completion of the district-wide assessment, officer reports relating to relevant energy infrastructure or major electricity-demand developments shall identify the current cumulative baseline in the surrounding area and clearly state where material uncertainty remains because a completed district-wide cumulative assessment is not yet available.
...

(4) Community engagement – Without prejudice to the determination of any individual planning application, Council recognises the need for communities affected by major energy and electricity infrastructure development to be suitably informed and empowered to participate meaningfully in the planning process, particularly given the difference in resources available to local communities compared with developers and statutory bodies.

Council will therefore review what further practical support, information and planning guidance can be provided to affected communities.

The completed cumulative assessment, together with recommendations for any further planning, policy or advocacy action required, shall be presented to the relevant Committee and thereafter to full Council.

2.2 **Adrian Moyne, Department for Communities (letter dated 27 October 2026, copy attached)**

Extract
Partnership Panel for Northern Ireland

Thank you for your correspondence of 15 October 2026 regarding the Partnership Panel for Northern Ireland and requesting an update on its current status. I have been asked to reply on behalf of the Department.

The Department recognises the importance of constructive engagement between central and local government and the valuable role of the Partnership Panel in facilitating discussion on matters of shared strategic interest.

Departmental officials are considering the future arrangements for the Partnership Panel, including the timing, format and potential areas for discussion. No firm arrangements have been agreed at this stage. The Department will communicate with relevant partners when the position has been confirmed.

In relation to the Council's request for feedback on issues raised over the past five years, the agreed minutes of Partnership Panel meetings constitute the official record of the matters considered by the Panel and the position recorded at the time. These are published by the Department and are available on the Department for Communities website: Minutes of the Partnership Panel for Northern Ireland (Minutes of the Partnership Panel for Northern Ireland | Department for Communities). Taken together, the published minutes provide the formal record of discussions raised by members and any associated actions or updates reported through the Panel.

Thank you for your interest in this matter. The Department remains committed to constructive engagement between central and local government and will continue to engage with local government representatives through the appropriate channels.

3.0 Recommendation

It is recommended that Council considers the correspondence.

Comhairle Ceantair
Lár Uladh
Mid Ulster
District Council

28 September 2026

Our ref: C184.26

By Email:

Dear/A chara Chief Executive

Council at its September meeting carried the undernoted motion following a vote with 25 Members voting in favour of the motion and 12 against.

> That this Council becomes one of the first local authorities to formally condemn the scheduling of the upcoming UEFA Nations League fixtures between Ireland and Israel, due to take place in September and October 2026.
>
> The members note and support the massive public outcry and recent fan protests at the Aviva Stadium, which reflect the deep-seated anger of the Irish public regarding these fixtures.
>
> We strongly support the sentiments of Irelands captain Seamus Coleman, who rightly highlighted that this moral dilemma should never have been landed “on the toes of the players”, and that the footballing authorities need to show leadership. The burden of international diplomacy and human rights advocacy must not be forced onto individual athletes, and no Irish player should be put under pressure or left exposed to career threatening sanctions by taking a standalone personal position.
>
> Therefore, this Council calls directly on the Football Association of Ireland (FAI) to take full institutional responsibility, show true moral leadership, and withdraw the Ireland team from the match.
>
> While the FAI highlights potential UEFA sanctions and estimates a disputable financial impact of €5.5 million to €10.3 million, claiming a boycott would cause lasting harm, this Council firmly asserts that while the FAI may fear financial cost by standing up for human rights, that is absolutely no excuse for being morally bankrupt as they are now.

/ While the FAI…..

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BT71 6DT

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While the FAI abdicates its moral duty by hiding behind its UEFA 'obligations' and claiming they have “no choice” but to play, they completely ignore the people of Palestine who truly have “no choice” as a genocide continues to be carried out against them.

Moving the fixtures to neutral venues behind closed doors, such as shifting the October 4th match to Serbia, fails entirely to address the ethical issue at hand. The FAI must be prepared to accept whatever regulatory or financial consequences UEFA may impose, rather than forcing our players and hoping our fans participate in fixtures that run entirely counter to the ethics, heart, and conscience of the Irish people.

If passed, the Council agrees that the motion will be forwarded immediately to the Chief Executive of the FAI, the 26 County Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport as well as to every other local authority in the country, North and South asking they support this motion.

I would request that you bring this motion to the attention of your elected members.

Is mise, le meas

Councillor/Comhairleoir Deirdre Varsani
Chair/Cathaoirleach

GUILDHALL
Derry~Londonderry~Doire



An Comhairleoir Grace Uí Niallais
Méara
Councillor Grace Uí Niallais
Mayor

Our ref: C386/26

9 October 2026

Mr David Jackson
Chief Executive

Email: @causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk

A Phríomhfeidhmeannaigh a chara

At a Meeting of Derry City and Strabane District Council held on 23 September 2026, the following motion was passed and it was agreed that a copy of the Motion was to be forwarded to Mid Ulster, Causeway Coast and Glens and Fermanagh and Omagh Councils:

This Council agrees:

(1) Real- time-mapping – To establish and publish, and thereafter maintain and keep up to date, a publicly accessible real-time map and accompanying schedule showing major energy and electricity-related developments within the Council's knowledge, including operational, approved, live, appealed, pending and undetermined proposals.

The accompanying schedule shall, where information is available, identify the type and status of each development, its location, generating, storage or electricity-demand capacity in MW, and the scale of the development, including the number and height of wind turbines, BESS capacity in MW/MWh and other relevant key infrastructure details.

The map shall include wind energy development, single turbines, battery energy storage systems, substations, grid and transmission infrastructure, associated access roads, cable routes, construction compounds, worker

Derry City & Strabane District Council
Comhairle Chathair Dhoire & Cheantar an tSratha Báin
Derry Cittie & Stràbane Destrick Cooncil

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Mayor's Parlour
Guildhall, Derry, BT48 6DQ

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accommodation or camps and other enabling works, other major renewable generation where relevant, and major electricity-demand developments including all data centres and associated infrastructure.

The map shall also show relevant environmental and landscape designations, including the Sperrins AONB, Special Countryside Areas, Areas of Special Scientific Interest and other relevant protected or sensitive areas. Where legally permissible, it should also include anonymised pre-application approaches made to Council for planning advice, together with other relevant proposals known through the pre-application process.

(2) District- wide cumulative assessment – To request officers to prepare and present, a standalone cumulative impact report for the full district, with particular focus on the Sperrins AONB and other areas already experiencing a significant concentration of development.

The report shall assess the combined effects of existing and proposed development on landscape and residential amenity, noise and shadow flicker, peatland, hydrology and water catchments, biodiversity and protected habitats, archaeology and built heritage, health and wellbeing, tourism and recreation, transport and construction traffic, grid and infrastructure pressures, and wider social and economic impacts upon affected communities.

It shall also identify whether particular settlements, rural communities, landscapes or environmental assets are experiencing a disproportionate concentration of development and associated burdens and review relevant Planning Appeals Commission and other appeal decisions where previous permissions, existing baseline compromise or cumulative change have been relied upon in support of further development.

(3) The approach to applications – Pending completion of the district-wide assessment, officer reports relating to relevant energy infrastructure or major electricity-demand developments shall identify the current cumulative baseline

in the surrounding area and clearly state where material uncertainty remains because a completed district-wide cumulative assessment is not yet available.

The Head of Planning will also engage with the Department for Infrastructure and other relevant regional bodies on the need for a coordinated approach to cumulative assessment across major energy and electricity-demand developments affecting this district, including associated grid connections, transmission infrastructure and enabling works, and report back to the relevant Committee on progress.

(4) Community engagement – Without prejudice to the determination of any individual planning application, Council recognises the need for communities affected by major energy and electricity infrastructure development to be suitably informed and empowered to participate meaningfully in the planning process, particularly given the difference in resources available to local communities compared with developers and statutory bodies.

Council will therefore review what further practical support, information and planning guidance can be provided to affected communities.

The completed cumulative assessment, together with recommendations for any further planning, policy or advocacy action required, shall be presented to the relevant Committee and thereafter to full Council.

I would appreciate your consideration in this important matter and would be grateful for a response at your earliest opportunity.

Is mise le meas

Councillor Grace Uí Niallais
Mayor of Derry City and Strabane District Council

Department for Communities
www.communities-ni.gov.uk

From: Adrian Moyne
Head of Community Planning &
Local/Central Government Relations

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BELFAST
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Telephone: 028 9072 4884
E-mail: lghrd.secretariat@communities-ni.gov.uk
Our Ref: TOF-1173-2026
Date: 27 October 2026

Dear Ms Quinn

Partnership Panel for Northern Ireland

Thank you for your correspondence of 15 October 2026 regarding the Partnership Panel for Northern Ireland and requesting an update on its current status. I have been asked to reply on behalf of the Department.

The Department recognises the importance of constructive engagement between central and local government and the valuable role of the Partnership Panel in facilitating discussion on matters of shared strategic interest.

Departmental officials are considering the future arrangements for the Partnership Panel, including the timing, format and potential areas for discussion. No firm arrangements have been agreed at this stage. The Department will communicate with relevant partners when the position has been confirmed.

In relation to the Council's request for feedback on issues raised over the past five years, the agreed minutes of Partnership Panel meetings constitute the official record of the matters considered by the Panel and the position recorded at the time. These are published by the Department and are available on the Department for Communities website: *Minutes of the Partnership Panel for Northern Ireland* (Minutes of the Partnership Panel for Northern Ireland | Department for Communities). Taken together, the published minutes provide the formal record of

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discussions, issues raised by members and any associated actions or updates reported through the Panel.

Thank you for your interest in this matter. The Department remains committed to constructive engagement between central and local government and will continue to engage with local government representatives through the appropriate channels.

Yours sincerely

[redacted]

Adrian Moyne

Head of Community Planning & Local/Central Government Relations
Department for Communities