



**CORPORATE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2026**

No	Item	Summary of Key Recommendations	Estimated Timescale for completion
1.	Apologies	<i>Councillor Nicholl</i>	<i>n/a</i>
2.	Declarations of Interest	<i>None</i>	<i>n/a</i>
3.	Minutes of the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held Tuesday 27 January 2026		
	Matters Arising		
3.1	Item 13.1 – Correspondence, Ethos Partnership	<i>Noted</i>	
3.2	Adoption of the Minutes	<i>Confirmed as a correct record</i>	
4.	Notes of Women’s Working Group meeting held on Tuesday 27 January 2026	<i>Noted</i>	
5.	Minutes of the Commemoration and Celebration Sub Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 4 February 2026	<i>Confirmed as a correct record</i>	
6.	Corporate Services Management Accounts P9	<i>To recommend that the Management Accounts for Period 9 - Corporate Services and Planning - and the associated narrative</i>	<i>N/A – monthly update</i>

		contained within the report are accepted.	
7.	Second Quarterly Report on Planning Performance	Noted	
8.	Update to Council's Standing Orders	To recommend to Council to note the revised Standing Orders, to reflect the Council decisions of 6 August 2024 and 7 October 2025.	
9.	Consultations	None	
10.	Conferences		
10.1	International Women's Day Conference	Noted	
10.2	Northern Ireland Local Government Association - Effective Communication for Influence: Debating Skills for Councillors Workshop	Noted	
10.3	Northern Ireland Local Government Association - Ending Violence Against Women and Girls - Shared Island Event, 24-25 March 2026, Slieve Russell Hotel, Co Cavan	Noted	
11.	Correspondence	None	
12.	Matters for Reporting to the Partnership Panel	None	
	'In Committee' (Item 13 inclusive)		
13.	Minutes of the Land and Property and Strategic Assets Sub-Committee Meeting held		

	on Wednesday 04 February 2026		
	Matters Arising		
13.1	Attendance	<i>Noted</i>	
13.2	Item 5.1 - RTU Ref/07/24 NIE Wayleave – Ballymoney, Burnquarter Road	<i>Information</i>	
13.3	Item 5.2 - RTU Ref/83/25 Coleraine, New Market Street, Gap Site – Update	<i>Information</i>	
13.4	Adoption of the Minutes	<i>Adopted and recommendations therein approved.</i>	
14.	Any Other Relevant Business (notified in accordance with Standing Order 12(o))	<i>None</i>	

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE
CORPORATE POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AND VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE
ON TUESDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2026
AT 7.00 PM**

In the Chair: Councillor McShane (C)

Present: Alderman Boyle (C), Coyle (C), Fielding (C), McKillop (R)
Councillors C Archibald (C), McAuley (C), McCully (R),
Peacock (R), Storey (R), Watson (R), Watton (C), Wilson
(C), Wisener (C)

Officers Present: M Quinn, Director of Corporate Services (C)
A Hamilton, Democratic and Central Services Manager
(R)
S Mathers, Development Management Manager (R)
U Harper, Committee and Member Services Officer (C)

L Boyd, ICT Operations Officer (C)
C McTaggart, ICT Operations Officer (C)

Press 2 no. (R)

Key: (C) Attended in The Chamber
(R) Attended Remotely

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

The Director of Corporate Services undertook a roll call of Committee Members present.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received for Councillor Nicholl.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. MINUTES OF THE CORPORATE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD TUESDAY 27 JANUARY 2026

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

Matters Arising

3.1 Item 13.1 – Correspondence, Ethos Partnership

In response to a query from Alderman S McKillop, the Director of Corporate Services advised that further information is being sought regarding the Ethos Partnership and it is hoped to bring this to the March Committee meeting.

3.2 Adoption of the Minutes

AGREED – that the Minutes of the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee meeting held on Tuesday 27 January 2026 are confirmed as a correct record.

4. NOTES OF WOMEN'S WORKING GROUP MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 27 JANUARY 2026

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

Committee NOTED the notes.

5. MINUTES OF THE COMMEMORATION AND CELEBRATION SUB COMMITTEE MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY 04 FEBRUARY 2026

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

Proposed by Councillor Wisener
Seconded by Alderman Fielding and

AGREED – that the Minutes of the Commemoration and Celebration Sub Committee meeting held Wednesday 04 February 2026 are confirmed as a correct record.

6. CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS P9

Report, previously circulated, was presented by the Director of Corporate Services.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to provide Members with information on the current financial position of Corporate Services Directorate at the end of Period 9.

Background

Council has approved the annual budget for Corporate Services and delegated authority to officers to utilise this budget in the provision of services to the rate payers. Corporate Services budget for 2025/26 is **£7,167,859** and the Planning Budget is **£1,956,420**.

Detailed Analysis

The Corporate Services position at Month 9 shows a **£446,544** positive variance, as a result of **£435k** under budget in expenditure and **£12k** over budget in income.

Table 1 Analysis of Expenditure – Corporate Services Months 1-9 was previously circulated.

Democratic Services (DS)

£339k favourable due to various elements of expenditure being less than budget in Period 9 including the following: Members allowances £166k, PR Salaries £35k (Vacant post), PR Printing £22k (Spent in Month 10/11), Corporate & Democratic salary Costs £69k (Vacant Posts), and Registration services £17k.

Land and Property

£35k favourable at Period 9, £29k favourable on salary costs, £6k favourable on Valuation costs and £3k adverse on Legal Costs.

Human Resources

£63k favourable in Period 9.

£9k favourable in salary costs, £19k favourable on staff training, £10k favourable on employee relations and £10k favourable on Occupational Health.

ICT

£132k adverse overall in Period 9 due to adverse variances in Telephones £129k, Security £25k, Photocopying/Printing Expenses £18k, Computer Licences £14k, offset by positive variances areas include Mobile Telephony, Supplies and Procurement.

Contributions to other bodies

£21k favourable at period 9, as budget has been released in period 9 and there have been no further costs to date.

Internal Audit

£64k favourable as at Period 9, £62k favourable on salary Costs, £5k favourable on Internal Audit services and £5k adverse on Legal Costs.

Centrally Managed

Overall, £48K favourable position at the end of Period 9, due to underspends in Telephones £23k and £15k on other Professional costs.

Policy & Community Planning

Overall, £8k favourable variance at the end of Period 9, due to overspend on salary costs of £13k, and other Professional Costs £6k and underspends in Programme Management Costs of £30k.

Planning

£278k favourable at end of Period 9, largely due to improvement in income from planning applications and property certificates, £213k favourable and maintaining staff costs and wages within budget, £10k favourable. Other favourable variances include Programme Management Costs £15k, Development Plan £11k and Other professional costs £11k.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Management Accounts for Period 9 - Corporate Services and Planning - and the associated narrative contained within the report are accepted.

Proposed by Alderman Boyle
Seconded by Alderman Coyle and

AGREED – to recommend that the Management Accounts for Period 9 - Corporate Services and Planning - and the associated narrative contained within the report are accepted.

7. SECOND QUARTERLY REPORT ON PLANNING PERFORMANCE

Report, previously circulated, was presented as read.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to provide a quarterly update on Planning performance against the Planning Department Business Plan 2025/26.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Corporate Policy & Resources Committee notes the Planning Department's Second Quarterly Report.

Committee NOTED the report.

8. UPDATE TO COUNCIL'S STANDING ORDERS

Report, previously circulated, presented as read.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of the report is to present Council's updated Standing Orders (Appendix A, previously circulated) which contains previously agreed amendments for the operation of the Council and Committee Meetings as detailed below.

Background

At the Council Meeting held on 6 August 2024, Council resolved to amend the protocol for the operation of the Council and Committee Meetings as follows:

That Council notes the approval of Local Government (Remote Meetings) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2024 which became operational on 25th June 2024; and further

That meetings of the full Council be held in person, with provision for remote attendance by Council staff and external consultants, and that Committees meetings be hybrid.

At the Council Meeting held on held on 7 October 2025, Council resolved to amend Standing Orders as follows:

That Standing Order 18(2) allows Members to alter a motion with the consent of the meeting and the seconder and that Standing Order applies to Committees as well as full Council. This will be reinforced with an addition to Standing Order 15 stating that a member who is not a member of the relevant Committee may amend a motion that they have moved at full Council, at the relevant Committee, of which they are not a member.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the revised Standing Orders (Appendix A v3.6, previously circulated) are noted, to reflect the Council decisions of 6 August 2024 and 7 October 2025.

AGREED – to recommend to Council to note the revised Standing Orders, to reflect the Council decisions of 6 August 2024 and 7 October 2025.

9. CONSULTATIONS

No consultations were listed.

10. CONFERENCES

Report, previously circulated, presented by the Director of Corporate Services.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of the report is to inform Elected Members of conferences and courses that they may wish to attend. The following are listed:

10.1 International Women's Day Conference

Date: Thursday 5 March 2026 8:45am – 2:30pm
Location: Ulster University Coleraine Campus
Cost: £35 per person

Extract

CelebrateHER Conference 2026

Join us on 5 March 2026 for an inspiring and uplifting day, celebrating women and their incredible contributions across our community.

Host Caroline O'Neill (Digg Mama) will oversee thought provoking keynote speakers and a panel of motivational ladies, with opportunities to connect with like minded women!

Event delivered in partnership with Enterprise Causeway and Ulster University and supported by Go Succeed.

Please see link below for further information:

https://www.facebook.com/events/2687691044947432/?ref_source=NEWS_FEED

Recommendation

It is recommended that Council considers the Conference report and Members wishing to attend the International Women's Day Conference contact Democratic Services to book a place.

The Director of Corporate Services advised Members to contact Democratic Services if they wish to attend this event.

10.2 Northern Ireland Local Government Association - Effective Communication for Influence: Debating Skills for Councillors Workshop

Date: 6pm – 8pm, 18 March 2026
Location: Online
Cost: n/a

Extract

Online workshop for councillors delivered by Bello Consulting.

Healthy debate is one of the things that makes local democracy work. When it is done well, it strengthens decision-making, builds trust in public institutions, and models to communities that disagreement can be constructive.

This 90-minute interactive online session gives councillors a practical framework for debating well: how to share opposing views with genuine openness, how to challenge without it becoming personal, and how to come to a considered conclusion even when the room is divided. The focus is on behaviour change, not theory. Councillors will leave with one or two things they can actually do differently next time the temperature rises in a meeting.

Learning outcomes from the session:

- *Improved understanding and awareness of how to share opposing views, discuss these with respect and an open mind and come to informed conclusions for the benefit of the community.*
- *Developed communication and interpersonal skills for use in formal and informal settings, including in the chamber, in committee, and online.*
- *Confidence to engage in meaningful debate and handle challenging situations without defaulting to entrenched positions.*

Elected Members wishing to attend can contact Democratic Services or email events@nilga.org

10.3 Northern Ireland Local Government Association - Ending Violence Against Women and Girls - Shared Island Event

Date: 24-25 March 2026
Location: Slieve Russell Hotel, Co. Cavan
Cost: €130pp for accommodation

Extract:

Following a successful application to the Shared Island Civic Society Fund, NILGA & the Association for Irish Local Government (AILG) will hold a cross-border event on developing the leadership and influence of councillors in relation to Ending Violence Against Women & Girls (EVAWG), on 24-25 March in the Slieve Russell Hotel, Co. Cavan.

We have been working with TEO to develop the leadership role of councillors in EVAWG and would like to bring councillors with experience of tackling this issue together to discuss challenges and opportunities with their counterparts in AILG. Given your council's role in supporting EVAWG action locally, we would ask each council to consider sending two elected members to the event which is free to attend. Overnight accommodation can be booked directly with the hotel at a cost of €130pp.

The outline agenda is as follows:

Tuesday 24 March

3.30 Registration & networking

4.00 Welcome

4.10 The Strategic Context

4.40 Violence against female politicians – the impact

5.15 Allyship for councillors workshop

6.45 Feedback & close

8.00 Dinner

Wednesday 25 March

9.30 Registration & networking

10.00 Opening remarks & reflections

10.10 Local EVAWG initiatives

10.40 The role of the media & responsible reporting

11.30 Scenarios & Solutions workshop

12.40 Feedback from roundtables

13.00 Next steps & lunch

I would therefore be grateful if you would bring this matter to the most relevant council committee for approval as soon as possible and I look forward to hearing back from you at the earliest opportunity.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Council nominate 2 Elected Members to attend the Ending Violence Against Women and Girls - Shared Island Event via d'Hondt.

The Director of Corporate Services advised that NILGA have confirmed that places are not limited to two, and that they are happy to facilitate as many Councillors as wish to attend. She advised Members to inform Democratic Services if they wish to attend this event.

11. CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence was received.

12. MATTERS FOR REPORTING TO THE PARTNERSHIP PANEL

There were no matters for reporting to the Partnership Panel.

MOTION TO PROCEED 'IN COMMITTEE'

Proposed by Councillor McAuley

Seconded by Councillor Wisener and

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

- * **Public and Press were disconnected from the meeting at 7.09pm**

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

13. MINUTES OF THE LAND AND PROPERTY AND STRATEGIC ASSETS SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 04 FEBRUARY 2026

Copy, previously circulated, was presented by the Chair as read.

Matters Arising

13.1 Attendance

Alderman Fielding stated that he is listed as having attended that meeting but he did not. The Chair advised that this would be corrected in the minutes.

13.2 Item 5.1 - RTU Ref/07/24 NIE Wayleave – Ballymoney, Burnquarter Road

In response to a query from Councillor Storey, the Director of Corporate Services advised that the valuation was based on a LPS valuation report.

13.3 Item 5.2 - RTU Ref/83/25 Coleraine, New Market Street, Gap Site – Update

In response to a query from Councillor Watton, the Director of Corporate Services advised that Council will retain right of way.

13.4 Adoption of the Minutes

Proposed by Councillor C Archibald
Seconded by Councillor Wilson and

AGREED – to recommend that the Minutes of the Land and Property and Strategic Assets Sub Committee meeting held Wednesday 04 February 2026 are adopted and recommendations therein approved.

MOTION TO PROCEED ‘IN PUBLIC’

Proposed by Councillor Watton
Seconded by Alderman Boyle and

AGREED – to recommend that Committee move ‘In Public’.

15. ANY OTHER RELEVANT BUSINESS (NOTIFIED IN ACCORDANCE WITH

STANDING ORDER 12(O))

There were no items of Any Other Relevant Business.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for their participation and attendance.

The meeting concluded at 7.17pm.

Chair

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