

**ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY 14 APRIL 2026**

Table of Recommendations

No	Item	Summary of key Recommendations	Estimated Timescale for completion
1.	Apologies	<i>None</i>	<i>-</i>
2.	Declarations of Interest	<i>Councillor C Archibald</i>	<i>-</i>
3.	Minutes of previous meeting held Tuesday 10 th March 2026		<i>-</i>
	Matters Arising		
3.1	Any Other Relevant Business (notified in accordance with Standing Order 12 (0)) - Enforcement of Dog Control regulations (Councillor Elder) (Item 5.2)	<i>Information</i>	
3.2	Adoption of the Minutes	<i>Confirmed as a correct record</i>	
4.	Entertainment Licensing Report	<i>To recommend that Council approve Annual Entertainments Licences as above at (i) – (vi)</i>	
5.	Temporary Street Trading Licence	<i>To recommend that Council grant a temporary street trading licence subject to compliance with any recommendations of the Council's Licensing Department</i>	<i>n/a</i>

No	Item	Summary of key Recommendations	Estimated Timescale for completion
6.	Amusement Permit Report	To recommend that Council grant an Amusement Permit subject to compliance with any recommendations of the Council's Licensing Section and no objections being received from representations or NIFRS	
7.	Review of Street Naming and Property Numbering Policy including Dual Language Street Signage	To recommend that Council agree Option 1 for Decision A and Option 4 for Decision B	<i>n/a</i>
8.	Replacement Waste Transfer Stations(s) at Letterloan Composting Facility – Progress to Stage 2 of the procurement gateway	To recommend that Council approve permission to progress to Stage 2 of the procurement gateway, 'Detailed Design & Procurement', with the resultant procurement process evaluation and recommendation brought back to Members for consideration. Thereafter, to seek approval to proceed to Stage 3, 'Construction phase' of the procurement gateway in respect of replacement waste transfer station(s) at Letterloan Composting Facility	<i>n/a</i>
9.	Climate Change Champion	To recommend to Council that the Climate Change Champion is Appointed via D'Hondt from the membership	

No	Item	Summary of key Recommendations	Estimated Timescale for completion
		of the Environmental Services Committee	
10.	Appointment of ES Committee to act as Duty Holder	To recommend that Council appoint the Environmental Services Committee as the PMSC Duty Holder and appoint the ES Committee Chair as the point of contact	
11.	Amusement Permit Renewals	Information	
12.	Cinema Licence Renewals	Information	
13.	Entertainment Licence Renewals	Information	
14.	Licences issued under Delegated Authority	Information	n/a
15.	Petroleum Spirit Licence Renewals	Information	
16.	Society Lottery Registrations	Information	
17.	Borough Street Cleansing Inventory and Schedules	To recommend to Council that quarterly reporting of street cleansing inventory and schedules is brought to the Environmental Services Committee meetings to determine progress and discuss issues raised and solution options	n/a
18.	DAERA Consultation – Rethinking our Resources:	Information	n/a

No	Item	Summary of key Recommendations	Estimated Timescale for completion
	Northern Ireland Resources and Waste Management Strategy		
19.	Period 11 ES Management Accounts and Financial Position 2025/26	Information	
20.	Matters for Reporting to Partnership Panel	Nil	
21.	Consultations	Nil	
22.	Correspondence	Nil	
23.	Any Other Relevant Business (Notified in Accordance with Standing Order 12 (0))		
23.1	Structural Status of Portrush and Coleraine Town Halls (Alderman Fielding)	Noted	
23.2	JustPark app Payment Issues (Councillor McCully)	Noted	
	In Committee (Items 24-26)		
24.	Houses in Multiple Occupancy – Service Level Agreements	To recommend that Council agree three Service Level Agreements (SLA) with the Northern Ireland Houses in Multiple Occupation Unit (NIHMO), based in Belfast City Council, in relation to the administration of this function	
25.	Coleraine Marina Economic	To recommend to Council	

No	Item	Summary of key Recommendations	Estimated Timescale for completion
	Appraisal	<i>that the asset is declared surplus, thereby advancing the asset to the asset realisation team within the Land and Property Department</i>	
26.	Changing Places Compartment at Rathlin Island	<i>To recommended that Council approve the lowest tender and therefore grant permission to engage in a contract with CivCo at a tendered figure of £75,705.00 plus VAT, and including a 10% contingency, approve a Stage 3 progression figure of £83,275.50 plus VAT to progress the Changing Places Compartment at Rathlin Island to Stage 3 of the Capital Procurement Gateway</i>	<i>8 weeks from contractor appointment</i>

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF
THE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE HELD
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC HEADQUARTERS
AND VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE
ON TUESDAY 14 APRIL 2026 AT 7.00 PM**

In the Chair: Alderman S McKillop (C)

Members Present: Alderman Coyle (C), Fielding (C), Hunter (R)
Councillors C Archibald (C), Bateson (C), Chivers (R),
Elder (C), Holmes (C), Huggins (C), Kane (C), Jonathan
McAuley (R), McQuillan (R), Mairs (C), Watson (C),
Wilson (R)

Officers Present: A McPeake, Director of Environmental Services (C)
J Richardson, Head of Capital Works and Infrastructure
(C)
S McAfee (C), Head of Health and Built Environment (C)
J Morton, Senior Harbour Master (C)
O Dath, Climate Change Lead Officer (C)
I Owens, Committee and Member Services Officer (C)

**Non-Committee
Members**

In Attendance: Alderman Callan (R)

In Attendance: A Lennox, ICT Manager (Interim) (C)
L Boyd, ICT Officer (C)

Press: (3 no.) (R)

Public: (1 no.) (R)

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

Substitutions: Councillor Watson substituted for Councillor McGlinchey
Councillor Wilson substituted for Councillor Callaghan

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

The Director of Environmental Services undertook a roll call.

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Archibald declared an interest in Item 24 – Coleraine Marina Economic Appraisal. Having declared an interest Councillor Archibald left the Chamber during consideration of the Item.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD TUESDAY 10 MARCH 2026

Copy, previously circulated, was presented as read.

Matters Arising

3.1 Any Other Relevant Business (notified in accordance with Standing Order 12 (0)) - Enforcement of Dog Control regulations (Councillor Elder) (Item 5.2)

At the request of Alderman Fielding the Director of Environmental Services agreed to provide details of targets set for Enforcement Officers for the May Committee meeting.

3.2 Adoption of the Minutes

Proposed by Councillor Huggins
Seconded by Alderman Fielding and

AGREED – that the Minutes of the Environmental Services Committee meeting held Tuesday 10 March 2026 are confirmed as a correct record.

4. ENTERTAINMENT LICENSING REPORT

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

ENTERTAINMENTS LICENCE

GRANT OF INDOOR ENTERTAINMENTS LICENCE

(i) Licence No EL299

Recommendation

It is recommended to grant an Annual Entertainments Licence subject to compliance with any recommendations of the Council's Licensing Department and no objections being received from representations, PSNI or NIFRS.

(ii) Licence No EL451

Recommendation

It is recommended to grant an Annual Indoor Entertainments Licence subject to compliance with any recommendations of the Council's Licensing Department, provision of all relevant documentation and no objections being received from PSNI, NIFRS or Representations.

(iii) Licence No: EL449

Recommendation

It is recommended to grant an Annual Indoor Entertainments Licence subject to compliance with any recommendations of the Council's Licensing Department, provision of all relevant documentation and no objections from NIFRS.

(iv) Licence No: EL448

Recommendation

It is recommended to grant an Annual Indoor Entertainments Licence subject to compliance with any recommendations of the Council's Licensing Department.

(v) Licence No: EL289

Recommendation

It is recommended to grant an Annual Indoor Entertainments Licence subject to compliance with any recommendations of the Council's Licensing Department, provision of all relevant documentation and no objections being received from PSNI, NIFRS or Representations.

(vi) Licence No: EL252

Recommendation

It is recommended to grant an Annual Indoor Entertainments Licence subject to compliance with any recommendations of the Council's Licensing Department, provision of all relevant documentation and no objections being received from PSNI, NIFRS or Representations.

Proposed by Councillor Bateson

Seconded by Councillor Archibald and

AGREED – To recommend that Council approve Annual Entertainments Licences as above at (i) – (vi).

5. TEMPORARY STREET TRADING LICENCE

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

STREET TRADING LICENCE

GRANT OF TEMPORARY STREET TRADING LICENCE

Licence No: TST 089/2026

Recommendation

It is recommended to grant a temporary street trading licence subject to compliance with any recommendations of the Council's Licensing Department.

Proposed by Councillor Kane
Seconded by Councillor Bateson and

AGREED – To recommend that Council grant a temporary street trading licence subject to compliance with any recommendations of the Council's Licensing Department.

6. AMUSEMENT PERMIT REPORT

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

AMUSEMENT PERMIT

GRANT OF AMUSEMENT PERMIT

Ref: AP019

Recommendation:

It is recommended to grant an Amusement Permit subject to compliance with any recommendations of the Council's Licensing Section and no objections being received from representations or NIFRS

Proposed by Alderman Fielding
Seconded by Councillor Mairs and

AGREED – To recommend that Council grant an Amusement Permit subject to compliance with any recommendations of the Council's Licensing Section and no objections being received from representations or NIFRS.

7. REVIEW OF STREET NAMING AND PROPERTY NUMBERING POLICY INCLUDING DUAL LANGUAGE STREET SIGNAGE

Report, previously circulated, was presented by the Director of Environmental Services who advised that the Head of Health and Built Environment was also in attendance.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to seek the direction of Members in respect of key matters arising from the ongoing review of the Council's Street Naming and Property Numbering Policy, namely:

- a) The approach to be adopted in respect of dual language street signage procedures
- b) The potential separation of dual language street signage provisions into a standalone policy

Further information was provided in the report under the following headings:

- Background
- Policy Review and Draft Status

• Decision (a) – Approach to Dual Language Street Signage

Options for Dual Language Street Signage Policy

Council Members' direction is sought to confirm the approach to dual language street signage in the revised policy. Members are invited to consider the following options:

Option 1 – Retain Current Policy (2015)

- Petition from at least one-third of occupiers required to initiate process
- Threshold of support of two-thirds of all occupiers on electoral register required
- Non-responses effectively treated as opposition
- Five-year restriction on reapplication

Option 2 – Simple Majority Approach

- Initiated in writing by any resident or Elected Member acting on their behalf

- Threshold of support from more than 50% of responding occupiers
- Only returned responses are counted

Option 3 – ECRML - Aligned Approach

- Application may be initiated by a resident of the street, Elected Member who represents the DEA or a developer
- Threshold of 15% support from all occupiers
- Non-responses are not treated as opposition
- Reapplication period to be determined by Members

Benchmarking

A review of policies across other councils Table 1 in Appendix 3, previously circulated, provides an overview of policy across other Northern Ireland Councils.

Decision (b) – Separation of Dual language Street Signage into a Standalone policy

At present, dual language street signage provisions are incorporated within the Street Naming and Property Numbering Policy. Any amendments to any element of a combined policy are likely to require an Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA).

Council Members' direction is sought on whether dual language street signage provisions should remain incorporated within the Street Naming and Property Numbering Policy or be separated into a standalone policy. Members are invited to consider the following options:

Option 4 – Retain Current Approach and Maintain Dual Language Street Signage within the Street Naming and Property Numbering Policy.

This option retains dual language street signage provisions within the existing Street Naming and Property Numbering Policy.

Option 5 – Separate Dual Language Street Signage into a Standalone Policy

This option separates dual language street signage provisions into a standalone policy, allowing updates to be made independently and potentially reducing the need for a full EQIA for any amendment, including non-language amendments.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Environmental Services Committee recommend to Council the approach on:

- **Decision (a):** The procedural framework for dual language street signage (Options 1, 2 or 3)
- **Decision (b)** - Whether dual language street signage should remain within the Street Naming and Property Numbering Policy or be separated into a standalone policy (Options 4 or 5)

Councillor Watson thanked Officers involved in the compilation of the report and welcomed the input from the Irish Language Commissioner and said that the review has been initiated following 50 constituents contacting Council to request an update to the dual-language street signage policy. She stated that:

- The current policy has been consistently criticised by the Irish language community, as well by international experts, primarily due to its unjustifiably high thresholds of support, as well as the provision that treats non-responses as opposition to an application.
- There has never been a successful application for dual language street signage in this Council area, which is a direct result of our outdated, flawed policy deterring residents from applying.
- Dual-language street signage is a physical manifestation of equality, and affording rights to a minority does not infringe upon the rights of the majority.
- The claim of damage to community/good relations is frequently misused in an attempt to block, delay and deny policies which pertain to the Irish language, but these claims are never backed up by evidence.
- With regard to the 15% of residents element of option 3: This 'minority rights' compliant threshold was based on guidance from the United Nations (2017). Other Council areas who have already adopted this policy threshold state that survey conducted with residents is not to be classified as a referendum; rather it is to be considered a means to demonstrate that there is a sufficient minority community interest in the erection of a dual language sign.
- Current policy has subjected minority rights to majoritarian quotas and this approach is restrictive, actively flying in the face of the recommendations of the Council of Europe's Committee of Experts.
- This policy has stood up to legal scrutiny time and time again in the other Council areas. When Belfast City Council were updating their dual language street signage policy in October 2021, it was subject to a call-in. However, it was deemed not to satisfy the grounds for a call-in on which evidences that the threshold is legally sound, minority compliant and internationally and domestically endorsed.

Councillor Watson proposed that Committee agree Option 3 for Decision A and Option 5 for Decision B.

Alderman Fielding said no-one was being denied dual-language signage and the policy which had been in existence for 10 years was democratic and appropriate and considered the express consent of two-thirds of residents. Alderman Fielding said that the relevant policy in Belfast City Council had proved to be oppressive and undemocratic and had enabled positioning of signage which was unwanted by the vast majority of the people. He said that the bar should not be lowered to allow ratepayers wishes to be overwritten. Alderman Fielding said that such a policy would be damaging to community relations and felt that the time, resource and financial input could be better used providing service delivery to ratepayers. He referred to statistics from 2021 which stated that only 3.45% of people in Northern Ireland speak, write or understand the Irish language.

Alderman Fielding proposed that Committee agree Option 1 for Decision A.

Councillor Bateson seconded Councillor Watson's proposal.

Councillor Bateson said it was not a culture preference or symbolic gesture but a matter of legal obligations, saying the current policy was out of step and posed barriers and referred to the clear responsibilities on public authorities. He stated that there have been 15 applications which were not fulfilled in the lifespan of this Council and the Identities and Language Act 2022 further strengthens the recognition and protection of the Irish language, which should not just be tolerated but facilitated in a fair and proportionate way. He stated that Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council's policy is not compatible with these obligations. He stated that the Irish language does not diminish anyone but rather enriches public space and that this is an opportunity to show leadership, ensure good practice, compliance and a shared future.

Councillor Wilson said he supported Alderman Fielding's proposal and referred to the figures contained in the report pointing to 0.033% of constituents requesting dual-language signage. He said some Elected Members will be passionate around this topic and have differing views and referred to media speculation in this regard. He spoke of the current plight of constituents struggling to buy food, oil and electricity at this time and said some may find it deeply distressing to see dual language being a focus for discussion this evening.

Councillor Kane said he hoped there would be no clashes and spoke of the impact on constituents and the valid views of those on both sides of the argument. Councillor Kane said it was important to achieve an appropriate

balance and not to impose unwanted signage on anyone and said that it was not about winning an argument but understanding what was important for our neighbours. Councillor Kane said he was in favour of Option 2 as he finds it fair, proportionate and reflective of local voices. He cautioned against using voting as a blunt instrument as it does not capture the nuances of a debate. He emphasised the need for conversation and engagement to demystify the notion of dual-language signage.

Councillor Holmes spoke of the contention around issues of land in this country and referred to townland names having Irish roots. He expressed concern that for decades the Irish language has been used as a weapon and referred to the marking of territory on both sides of the community. Councillor Holmes stated that there was a lack of interest in this item and that the proposal by Sinn Féin was for political gain. He stated that the two-thirds threshold was high and that he could not support a change to the current policy.

Alderman Coyle said he had considered the commentary by other members of the Committee and said that he supported the proposal by Councillor Watson. Alderman Coyle said it was good to review policies and said that the Irish language is already part of our culture.

Councillor Watson emphasised the relevant legislation and spoke of the outworkings of a decision which could lead to a Judicial Review which would not be helpful to the purse of Council, saying this report had been requested some time ago. Councillor Watson said that her proposal was not based on politics, although she is a member of Sinn Féin and noted that she grew up and works in an Irish Language community.

Councillor Huggins requested a recess.

- * **The meeting took a recess at 7.45 pm**
- * **The meeting resumed at 7.50 pm**

Councillor Huggins seconded Alderman Fielding's proposal. At the request of the Director of Environmental Services Alderman Fielding clarified that the 'B' element of the proposal was Option 4.

Proposal

Proposed by Councillor Watson

Seconded by Councillor Bateson

-That Council agree Option 3 for Decision A and Option 5 for Decision B.

Amendment

Proposed by Alderman Fielding

Seconded by Councillor Huggins

- That Council agree Option 1 for Decision A and option 4 for Decision B.

The Chair put the Amendment to the Committee to vote

8 Members voted For; 8 Members voted Against; 0 Members Abstained

Using her Casting vote the Chair voted For

The Chair declared the Amendment carried.

AGREED – To recommend that Council agree Option 1 for Decision A and Option 4 for Decision B.

Councillor Watson said she wished to bring another amendment to the table and the Chair ruled that the vote had been taken and the decision reached.

At the request of Councillor Kane the Director of Environmental Services agreed to seek legal advice on the motion agreed.

8. REPLACEMENT WASTE TRANSFER STATION(S) AT LETTERLOAN COMPOSTING FACILITY-PROGRESS TO STAGE 2 OF THE PROCUREMENT GATEWAY

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

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to seek Members approval to grant officers permission to progress to Stage 2 of the procurement gateway, 'Detailed Design & Procurement', with the resultant procurement process evaluation and recommendation brought back to Members for consideration. Thereafter, to seek approval to proceed to Stage 3, 'Construction phase' of the procurement gateway in respect of replacement waste transfer station(s) at Letterloan Composting Facility.

Recommendation(s)

It is recommended that Committee approve permission to progress to Stage 2 of the procurement gateway, 'Detailed Design & Procurement', with the resultant procurement process evaluation and recommendation brought back to Members for consideration. Thereafter, to seek approval to proceed to Stage 3, 'Construction phase' of the procurement gateway in respect of replacement waste transfer station(s) at Letterloan Composting Facility.

Councillor Holmes spoke of the elongated process of Stage 1 and the Director of Environmental Services advised that the next stage would be undertaken at pace and referred to the significant work involved in stage 1.

Alderman Coyle welcomed the assurance of the next stage moving at pace.

Proposed by Councillor Holmes
Seconded by Alderman Coyle and

AGREED – To recommend that Council approve permission to progress to Stage 2 of the procurement gateway, 'Detailed Design & Procurement', with the resultant procurement process evaluation and recommendation brought back to Members for consideration. Thereafter, to seek approval to proceed to Stage 3, 'Construction phase' of the procurement gateway in respect of replacement waste transfer station(s) at Letterloan Composting Facility.

9. CLIMATE CHANGE CHAMPION

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

Purpose of Report

To seek members approval for the appointment of Climate Change Champion for Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council.

Proposal

To nominate a member of the ES Committee for the role of Climate Change Champion.

The climate change Champion will act as an advocate for climate action within the council and wider borough. The role will include:

- Acting as a link between elected members and officers on climate related matters
- Supporting the implementation of the Climate Change Action Strategy
 - Attending regular meetings with the Climate Change Lead Officer
 - Promoting climate awareness and engagement with local communities
 - Representing the council at relevant climate related events and forums.

The role is intended to be strategic and advisory, rather than operational, and will be supported by council officers.

Champions are usually appointed via the rolling d'Hondt list.

Recommendation:

Members are asked to consider the content of this report and recommend to Full Council that;

- a) The Climate Change Champion is appointed via D'Hondt from the full membership of Council.
- Or
- b) The Climate Change Champion is appointed via D'Hondt from the membership of the Environmental Services Committee.
- Or
- c) The appointment is made via another method as agreed by the Committee.

Proposed by Councillor Huggins
Seconded by Councillor Kane and

AGREED – To recommend to Council Option b, that the Climate Change Champion is appointed via D'Hondt from the membership of the Environmental Services Committee.

10. APPOINTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE TO ACT AS DUTY HOLDER

Report, previously circulated, was presented by the Director of Environmental Services who advised that the Head of Capital Works and Infrastructure and Senior Harbour Master were in attendance.

Purpose of Report

To seek members consideration and decision to appoint the ES committee to act as the "Duty Holder" in line with the Port Marine Safety Code PMSC ensuring best practice and governance in the delivery of the marine management and safety systems within the code. The "Duty Holder" is defined as follows

A Duty Holder within the Port Marine Safety Code (PMSC) is the individual or group of individuals accountable for complying with the Code and ensuring safe and efficient marine operations in a harbour or marine facility. The duty holder represents the top-level management (such as a board of directors, harbour commission, or local authority committee) and is responsible for ensuring the organisation fulfils its statutory duties and maintains a, Marine Safety Management System (MSMS)

Further background information is provided in the report.

Proposal

1. Members are appointed as the Duty Holder in line with the PMSC recommended governance (see section appendix 2 1.9 below). The PMSC recommends that the Duty Holder take time to gain a full insight and understanding of the organisations marine activities with a focus on the Marine Safety Management System.
2. It is further proposed that the ES Committee chair acts as the point of contact for the Designated Person to liaise as and when required on an operational need basis. Appendix 2, previously circulated – is the excerpt from the attached PMSC which clarifies the roles of the Duty Holder.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that Members consider proposals 1 and 2 above and that these proposals recommended to Council thereby appointing the ES committee as the PMSC Duty Holder and appointing the ES committee chair as the point of contact.

Proposed by Councillor Kane
Seconded by Councillor Holmes and

AGREED – To recommend that Council appoint the Environmental Services committee as the PMSC Duty Holder and appoint the ES Committee Chair as the point of contact.

* **The Climate Change Lead Officer left the Chamber at 8.05 pm**

11. AMUSEMENT PERMIT RENEWALS

For information report, previously circulated, was presented as read by the Director of Environmental Services.

THE BETTING, GAMING, LOTTERIES AND AMUSEMENTS (NI) ORDER 1985

RENEWAL OF AN AMUSEMENT PERMIT

The applications, previously circulated for renewal of an amusement permit have been received and processed during the report period.

Committee NOTED the report.

12. CINEMA LICENCE RENEWALS

For information report, previously circulated, was presented as read by the Director of Environmental Services.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) (NI) ORDER 1985

CINEMAS (NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER 1991

The application previously circulated for a cinema licence has been received, acknowledged and processed during the report period.

Committee NOTED the report.

13. ENTERTAINMENT LICENCE RENEWALS

For information report, previously circulated, was presented as read by the Director of Environmental Services.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) (NI) ORDER 1985

ENTERTAINMENT LICENCES

The application previously circulated for an entertainments licence have been received, acknowledged and processed during the report period.

Committee NOTED the report.

14. LICENSES ISSUED UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

For information report, previously circulated, was presented as read by the Director of Environmental Services.

The licence, previously circulated, was issued under Delegated Authority during the last report period:

The Licensing of Pavement Cafés Act (Northern Ireland) 2014

Committee NOTED the report.

15. PETROLEUM SPIRIT LICENCE RENEWALS

For information report, previously circulated, was presented as read by the Director of Environmental Services.

PETROLEUM (REGULATION) ACTS 1929 AND 1937

PETROLEUM SPIRIT LICENCES

The undernoted applications for renewal of petroleum spirit licence have been received, acknowledged and processed during the report period.

Committee NOTED the report.

16. SOCIETY LOTTERY REGISTRATIONS

For information report, previously circulated, was presented as read by the Director of Environmental Services.

THE BETTING, GAMING, LOTTERIES AND AMUSEMENTS (NI) ORDER 1985

REGISTRATION OF A SOCIETY

The undernoted application for society lottery registration has been received, acknowledged and processed during the report period.

Committee NOTED the report.

17. BOROUGH STREET CLEANSING INVENTORY AND SCHEDULES

For information report, previously circulated, was presented as read by the Director of Environmental Services.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to advise Members of the Borough street cleansing inventory (vehicles, equipment & staff) and schedules.

Further background information and Street Cleansing Inventory and Schedules is provided in the report.

Recommendation(s)

It is recommended that the Environmental Services Committee note the Borough wide street cleansing service delivered on a daily and weekly basis, including associated resources

Councillor Wilson thanked the Director of Environmental Services for the significant piece of work provided in relation to cleansing inventory and schedules, saying this matter had been raised by constituents.

On behalf of Councillor McShane, Councillor Bateson raised the matter of criteria for power washing on the paths at the Promenade and on Castle Street, Ann Street and North Street in Ballycastle.

Councillor Huggins welcomed the report and raised the issue of sand on the road in the vicinity of Castlerock and Downhill beaches and asked if this could be included in the cleansing schedule, especially during the summer and expressed concern around difficulties seeing the yellow lines on the road.

Councillor Bateson welcomed the article in the Citizens Newsletter recognising the commitment and hard work of Mark Smyth, the Town Warden in Kilrea who works long hours in all weathers keeping the Diamond area and streets spotless. Councillor Holmes concurred with these remarks.

At the request of Alderman Fielding the Director of Environmental Services advised of the remit of responsibilities for Council and Roads Service and the mapping method to determine responsibility.

Alderman McKillop said that she would speak to the Director of Environmental Services outside of the Committee meeting regarding issues in Liscolman, Dervock and Bushmills.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson
Seconded by Councillor Elder and

AGREED – To recommend to Council that quarterly reporting of street cleansing inventory and schedules is brought to the Environmental Services Committee meetings to determine progress and discuss issues raised and solution options.

Committee NOTED the report.

18. DAERA CONSULTATION – RETHINKING OUR RESOURCES: NORTHERN IRELAND RESOURCES AND WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

For information report, previously circulated, was presented as read by the Director of Environmental Services.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to advise Members on the DAERA consultation entitled 'Rethinking our Resources: Northern Ireland Resources and Waste Management Strategy'.

Further background information was provided in the report.

Recommendation(s)

It is recommended that the Environmental Services Committee notes the consultation entitled 'Rethinking our Resources: Northern Ireland Resources and Waste Management Strategy' and the accompanying response.

At the request of Councillor Holmes the Director of Environmental Services confirmed that available resources of Council were reflected in response and that the position of Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council was in keeping with other Councils.

Alderman Fielding said that the DUP will be responding as a political party.

Committee NOTED the report.

19. PERIOD 11 ES MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS AND FINANCIAL POSITION 2025/26

For information report, previously circulated, was presented as read by the Director of Environmental Services.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report to provide Members with information on the current financial position of Environmental Services Directorate at the end of Period 11.

Further background information was previously circulated in relation to variances against budgets, In-year savings and Capital expenditure.

Recommendation

Members are requested to note the paper

Committee NOTED the report.

At the request of Councillor Huggins the Director of Environmental Services advised of the status of agency staff and recruitment campaigns. The Director of Environmental Services advised that recruitment campaign was ongoing and that it was the aim and drive to get permanent staff in post and referred to the impact of staff turnover including retirements.

The Director of Environmental Services advised that agency staff who applied for permanent posts have gained valuable experience but had to go through the open competition for filling vacant posts. He advised that when a post is filled, a reserve list is retained to fill future vacancies.

Councillor Wilson referred to the large increase in fuel prices and the impact on finances. The Director of Environmental Services advised that he would provide figures at the Council Meeting on the impact of rise of fuel costs and referred to the rates setting process in February which could not have predicted this scenario of events.

Councillor Wilson spoke of the impact to Leisure and Development Directorate also in respect of increased fuel costs.

Committee NOTED the report.

20. MATTERS FOR REPORTING TO PARTNERSHIP PANEL

There were no matters for reporting to the Partnership Panel.

21. CONSULTATIONS

There were no consultations.

22. CORRESPONDENCE

There were no items of correspondence.

Change to the Order of Business

The Chair advised that agenda Item 26 – Any Other Business (notified in accordance with Standing Order 12 (o)) would be heard next.

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

23.1 Structural Status of Portrush and Coleraine Town Halls (Alderman Fielding)

When was the last survey report on the structural condition both internal and external undertaken in (1) Portrush Town Hall and (2) Coleraine Town Hall and was any remedial action recommended?

The Chair invited Alderman Fielding to address the Committee.

Alderman Fielding spoke of how iconic Portrush and Coleraine Town Halls were and said that Portrush Town Hall was one of the most used Council facilities. He stated that Portrush Town Hall require slates on the roof and Coleraine Town Hall is also in need of repair. Alderman Fielding said that both of these Council owned buildings were listed and said it was important for them to look their best internally and externally and asked about available budgets for these types of buildings.

The Director of Environmental Services said that condition surveys had been completed for both which had identified a number of remedial actions some of which were more urgent than others, with some urgent work already underway with instructions for remedial work ongoing. The Director of Environmental Services advised the Committee that works required an application to the Heritage division for these buildings.

At the request of Elected Members the Director of Environmental Services said he would confirm if grants could be available for works on Council owned listed buildings and if an application was required to be made to the Heritage division for planned works. At the request of Alderman Fielding the Director of Environmental Services said that Elected Members could get sight of the condition reports for Coleraine and Portrush Town Hall.

23.2 JustPark app Payment Issues (Councillor McCully)

To ask for further information on recent payment issues constituents have faced using the JustPark app

The Chair invited Councillor Kane to speak on behalf of Councillor McCully.

At the request of Councillor Kane the Director of Environmental Services confirmed that 10,000 customers in the Causeway Coast and Glens area had been affected by the overcharge, all monies had been re-imbursed and

assurances had been given by JustPark that there would not be a reoccurrence.

MOTION TO PROCEED 'IN COMMITTEE'

Proposed by Councillor McAuley

Seconded by Councillor Huggins and

AGREED – to recommend that Council moves 'In Committee'.

*** Press and Public left the meeting at 8.24pm.**

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

24. HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPANCY – SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS

Confidential report by virtue of paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014, previously circulated, was presented by the Director of Environmental Services who advised that the Head of Health and Built Environment was in attendance.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to consider and agree three Service Level Agreements (SLA) with the Northern Ireland Houses in Multiple Occupation Unit (NIHMO), based in Belfast City Council, in relation to the administration of this function.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Council agrees to the three above mentioned Service Level Agreements.

The Chair asked the Director of Environmental Services for clarity on why this item was being considered In Committee. The Director of Environmental Services said that Service Level Agreements were to be taken In Committee but would check this. The Chair said she would take proposals to discuss the matter in public. No proposal was made.

At the request of Councillor Elder the Head of Health and Built Environment provided commentary on the changes which had been made to the proposed Service Level Agreement and confirmed that the last Service Level Agreement had been completed in 2019 and required review which had resulted in minor changes.

At the request of Councillor Elder the Head the Director of Environmental Services agreed to confirm if the Service Level Agreement was publicly available.

Proposed by Councillor Bateson
Seconded by Alderman Coyle and

AGREED – To recommend that Council agree three Service Level Agreements (SLA) with the Northern Ireland Houses in Multiple Occupation Unit (NIHMO), based in Belfast City Council, in relation to the administration of this function.

* **Having declared an interest Councillor Archibald left the Chamber at 9pm.**

25. COLERAINE MARINA ECONOMIC APPRAISAL

Confidential report, by virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014, previously circulated, was presented by the Director of Environmental Services.

Purpose of Report

Due to Coleraine Harbour Commissioners recent urgent interest in acquiring Councils Coleraine Marina facility, it is requested that Members re-consider the comprehensive Economic Appraisal (EA) report and its recommendations (completed in March 2023 by Cogent Management Consulting). The EA is attached for ease of reference. (Appendix 1, previously circulated)

Proposal

The economic appraisal attached, has examined the socio economic, tourism destination and financial merits of Councils ownership of the marina.

Identification of Options

In line with Treasury guidance, potential options were identified and considered within the appraisal. **TWO** eventual options were short listed, namely to:

1. Maintaining the Status Quo – That is, the Council would continue to own and manage Coleraine Marina in the same or similar manner as it has done in recent years with an investment request report being brought back to members for further consideration to address the maintenance identified in the EA.
2. The asset is declared surplus, thereby advancing the asset to the asset to the asset realisation within the Land and Property Department.

A Surplus Declaration need to be made in accordance with Council's Land and Property Policy (CCG/5/20)

The criteria for declaring the asset surplus within Councils L&P Policy is listed (excerpt from the policy) (L& P policy attached appendix 5, previously circulated)

Excerpt below from policy below

A site will be deemed to be surplus to the Council's requirements by the appropriate Committee if either of the following has been established:

- makes no contribution to the delivery of the Council's services following consultation with all stakeholders including other service areas.*
- has no potential for future strategic, regeneration or development purposes. 6 Land and Property Policy Version 1.0 adopted 3rd March 2020*
- an alternative site has been identified which would achieve a more cost effective service delivery*
- its disposal would help facilitate the achievement of the Council's Strategic objectives.*

A site will be deemed to be under-used if:

- the income being generated from the site is below that which could be achieved from an alternative use; disposing of the site and investing the income or intensifying the existing use.*
- part of the site is vacant and is likely to remain vacant for the foreseeable future*
- demand can be facilitated through other arrangements*

Note the 2023 valuation is also attached (appendix 4, previously circulated)

The two options have been explored in depth by the appraisal team together with the supporting evidence on each option (both monetary and non-monetary benefits). The option that scored the highest within the analysis was option TWO (disposal). The results are shown in table 10.1 within the appraisal. (refer Appendix 1, previously circulated).

As part of the appraisal, a user survey and consultation were also carried out to assess their reason for using the marina, their satisfaction with facilities and how they compare with other facilities.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Members consider both options and make an option recommendation to Council.

Note If the ES Committee Members wish to proceed with option 2, they need to declare the asset surplus in accordance with the Land and Property Policy CCG/5/20. The asset would then transfer to the Land & Property Department to proceed with asset realisation.

Councillor Kane referred to the deputation from the Coleraine Harbours Commissioner which set out their vision around delivery of the Masterplan and Riverside redevelopment and said the key which unlocks this potential hinges on the marina.

Elected Members spoke of the prolonged process and concerns around potential for missed funding opportunities and asked if other options could be explored.

The Director of Environmental Services referred to the requirement to follow policy, saying placing conditions outside of policy would cause difficulty. He confirmed the D1 process, advising Members that they could adapt or halt the process at any time during the process. The Director of Environmental Services said the process could take at least 6 months.

Councillor Kane said he would like clarification from the Land and Property Solicitor on the proposal options.

The Director of Environmental Services spoke of the costs of retaining the asset and confirmed that he had no responsibility for the Land and Property Sub Committee remit of the process and confirmed that both sale and leasing options required DfC process and approval if Members agreed to release it at less than best value.

*** Councillor Watson left the meeting at 9.25pm**

Proposed by Councillor Elder

Seconded by Councillor Huggins and

AGREED – To recommend to Council that the asset is declared surplus, thereby advancing the asset to the asset realisation team within the Land and Property Department.

A Surplus Declaration need to be made in accordance with Council's Land and Property Policy (CCG/5/20)

* **Councillor Archibald returned to the Chamber at 9.35 pm**

26. CHANGING PLACES COMPARTMENT AT RATHLIN ISLAND

Confidential report, by virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland), previously circulated, was presented by the Director of Environmental Services.

Purpose of Report

To request Members consideration and approval of the tender received for the Changing Places Compartment at Rathlin Island and to request permission to proceed with the most advantageous tender (Stage 3 of the Capital Procurement Gateway - Construction Phase).

Recommendation

It is recommended that Members recommend to Council that they approve the lowest tender and therefore grant permission to engage in a contract with CivCo at a tendered figure of £75,705.00 plus VAT, and including a 10% contingency, approve a Stage 3 progression figure of £83,275.50 plus VAT to progress the Changing Places Compartment at Rathlin Island to Stage 3 of the Capital Procurement Gateway

Proposed by Councillor Bateson
Seconded by Councillor Elder and

AGREED – To recommended that Council approve the lowest tender and therefore grant permission to engage in a contract with CivCo at a tendered figure of £75,705.00 plus VAT, and including a 10% contingency, approve a Stage 3 progression figure of £83,275.50 plus VAT to progress the Changing Places Compartment at Rathlin Island to Stage 3 of the Capital Procurement Gateway.

MOTION TO PROCEED 'IN PUBLIC'

Proposed by Councillor Kane
Seconded by Councillor Huggins and

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

This being all the business, the Chair thanked Elected Members for their attendance. The meeting closed at 9.40 pm.

Chair