

**CORPORATE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY 26 MAY 2026**

No	Item	Summary of Key Recommendations	<i>Estimated Timescale for completion</i>
1.	Apologies	<i>Alderman Fielding, Councillors Nicholl, Storey, Wisener</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 28 April 2026	<i>Confirmed as a correct record</i>	<i>-</i>
4.	Minutes of the Women's Working Group Meeting held on Tuesday 28 April 2026	<i>Confirmed as a correct record</i>	<i>-</i>
5.	ODHR Policies and Procedures – Legislative Updates • Family Rights at Work Policy • Sickness Absence Policy & Procedure	<i>Noted</i>	
6.	Live Streaming of Council Meetings	<i>To recommend to Council that live streaming is implemented for meetings of full Council and all Committee meetings.</i>	
7.	Subscription Renewals	<i>To recommend that Council approves the contribution</i>	<i>-</i>

		<i>to other bodies/subscription renewals detailed at Item 2.1 of the report, and payment of same is processed on receipt of invoice and in line with the budget allocated.</i>	
8.	Consultations	None	-
9.	Conferences	None	-
10.	Correspondence	Noted	-
11.	Matters for Reporting to the Partnership Panel	None	-
	'In Committee' (Item 12 - 13 inclusive)		
12.	Minutes of the Land & Property and Strategic Assets Sub-Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 06 May 2026		-
	Matters Arising		
12.1	5.1 - RTU Ref.98.23 Kilrea Townhall, Laneway	Information	
12.2	Item 5.2 – Asset Realisation - Waterworld, Portrush	Amendment lost	
12.3	Adoption of the Minutes	Adopted and recommendations therein approved	
13.	Tender Outcome - Council Chamber Audio Visual (AV) System	To recommend that Council approves the award of the Council Chamber AV tender to the preferred supplier identified through the procurement process and authorises Officers to proceed with contract award and implementation.	

14.	Any Other Relevant Business (notified in accordance with Standing Order 12(o))	<i>Nil</i>	
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**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE
CORPORATE POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AND VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE
ON TUESDAY 26 MAY 2026 AT 7.00 PM**

In the Chair: Councillor McShane (C)

Present: Alderman Boyle (C), Coyle (R), Knight-McQuillan (C), McKillop (R)
Councillors C Archibald (C), Elder (C), Holmes (R/C), McAuley (C), McCully (C), Peacock (R), Watson (R), Watton (C), Wilson (C)

Officers Present: M Quinn, Director of Corporate Services (R)
A Hamilton, Democratic and Central Services Manager (R)
J Winfield, Acting Head of ICT (R)
G McIlroy, Strategic Assets Manager (R)
U Harper, Senior Democratic Services Officer (C)

In Attendance: L Boyd, ICT Operations Officer (C)
C Taggart, ICT Operations Officer (C)

Press 1 no.(C) 2 no.(R); Public 1 no. (R)

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

Substitutions: Councillor Elder substituted for Alderman Fielding.
Councillor Holmes substituted for Councillor Wisener.

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 Alderman Fielding, Councillor Nicholl, Councillor Storey and Councillor Wisener.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. MINUTES OF THE CORPORATE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD TUESDAY 28 APRIL 2026

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

AGREED – that the Minutes of the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee meeting held on Tuesday 28 April 2026 are confirmed as a correct record.

4. MINUTES OF THE WOMEN'S WORKING GROUP MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 28 APRIL 2026

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

Proposed by Alderman Boyle
Seconded by Alderman Knight-McQuillan and

AGREED – that the Women's Working Group Meeting held on Tuesday 28 April 2026 are confirmed as a correct record.

5. ODHR POLICIES AND PROCEDURES – LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

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

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to present Members with the following policy for information on recent legislative amendments:

- Family Rights at Work Policy – Update
- Sickness Absence Policy & Procedure – Update

Further information is included in the report.

Consultation

The draft policies has been considered and agreed at the Senior Management Team and the Trade Unions through the Action Group and Joint Consultative and Negotiating Committee (JCNC).

Equality Screening

In accordance with Council's duty under Section 75 Equality Legislation, the policies have been screened, and the result is that they were screened "out".

Committee NOTED the report.

- * **Councillor Holmes joined the meeting in the Chamber at 7.07pm**

6. LIVE STREAMING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

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

Introduction

At the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee Meeting on 24 March 2026, it was agreed that Officers would bring back a Report covering public accessibility of Council Meetings Online (live streaming).

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

- Current Situation
- Current Practice – Remote Access to Meetings
- Proposed Arrangements for Live streaming Meetings
- Next Steps
- Screening Exercise, Rural Proofing Exercise and Policy Development
- Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)
- Staff Consultation
- Timescales

Recommendation

It is recommended that Elected Members

- decide which Council meetings will be live streamed and
- note the update with further updates being provided at future Corporate Policy and Resources Committee Meetings.

Councillor Peacock welcomed the report and stated that other Councils will have established procedures and protocols that could be used to inform this work. She proposed that meetings of full Council and all Committee meetings are live streamed.

Councillor Wilson seconded this proposal. He queried why this process is required given that the meetings are currently accessible to anyone who requests access via Democratic Services. The Director of Corporate Services advised that Council has a statutory duty to consider the implications of its procedures.

Alderman Coyle agreed that public access to meetings is already provided via MS Teams, audio recording and minutes. He noted that there is and will continue to be an In Committee option for confidential matters.

Councillor McCully queried why meetings of the Planning Committee are not audio recorded. Members were advised that this was a decision reached by the Planning Committee and that it would be for the Planning Committee to decide how its meetings are dealt with. Alderman Coyle noted that access to the Planning Committee is already provided online to those who request it. Councillor McCully stated that Council should explore the possibility of providing recordings of the Planning Committee.

In response to a query from the Chair regarding the timeline for implementation, the Director of Corporate Services advised that there is a working group set up and she expects a further report to the September meeting of this Committee.

Proposed by Councillor Peacock
Seconded by Councillor Wilson and

AGREED – To recommend to Council that live streaming is implemented for meetings of full Council and all Committee meetings.

7. SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL

For information report, previously circulated, was presented by the Director of Corporate Services.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of the Report is to inform Members of subscriptions due to other bodies, and details of payments made during the 2025/26 financial year.

Background

The report includes a table that provides information on the subscriptions paid during 2025/26 and those which are due for renewal in the current year.

There are several invoices yet to be received, as detailed in the table as “awaiting invoice”. The total budget allocated to Contributions to other bodies/Subscriptions for 2026/27 is £160,764.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee recommends that Council approves the contribution to other bodies/subscription renewals detailed at Item 2.1 of the report, and payment of same is processed on receipt of invoice and in line with the budget allocated.

In response to queries from Members, the Director of Corporate Services advised that she believes that the Local Government Staff Commission is

expected to wind up in 2027/28. She further advised that for some of the subscriptions, contributions are calculated pro-rata, based on population size.

Proposed by Councillor McCully
Seconded by Councillor Wilson and

AGREED – To recommend that Council approves the contribution to other bodies/subscription renewals detailed at Item 2.1 of the report, and payment of same is processed on receipt of invoice and in line with the budget allocated.

8. CONSULTATIONS

No consultations were listed.

9. CONFERENCE

No conferences were listed.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

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

Purpose of the Report

The purpose of the report is to present correspondence for Members' consideration.

10.1 Stephen Magee, Committee for Finance, dated 30 April 2026

Extract: Deaths, Still-Births and Baby Loss Bill

The NI Assembly Committee for Finance had previously sought your views on the Deaths, Still-Births and Baby Loss Bill.

The Bill was introduced by the Finance Minister, John O'Dowd MLA, on 25th March 2025. The purpose of the Bill is to amend the law relating to the manner of notification of deaths and still-births and the manner of giving particulars relating to them. It will also provide a legislative basis for the introduction of a baby loss scheme and will address differences in registration processes for births and stillbirths between some same-sex female couples and opposite-sex couples.

The Department of Finance has provided more details to the Committee for Finance on the process of certificate production in general and the fields that may be included on the printed certificate in particular. Attached is a briefing note detailing the background to the design options for the proposed baby loss certificates, the production process and includes copies of the certificate templates intended for use. The Committee agreed to share this information [attached] with your organisation.

10.2 Northern Ireland Local Government Association, dated 30 April 2026

Extract

As we look ahead in 2026, we do so in the context of a sector that has continued to evolve rapidly. The experience of 2025 in particular reinforced the scale of the pressures facing local government and the importance of a strong collective voice for councils.

Councils continue to navigate sustained financial and inflationary pressures, increasing demand for essential services, workforce recruitment and retention challenges, and heightened expectations around climate resilience, community planning and transformation. Alongside this, the policy environment continues to shift, with the need for timely engagement, clear guidance and coordinated delivery across partners.

In response, NILGA focused on turning member priorities into practical support and influence. We strengthened collective advocacy on sectoral sustainability and funding; convened councils and partners to support joined-up delivery; provided timely policy briefings and consultation responses to ensure local government views were reflected in policy design and decision-making; expanded member development and leadership support; and continued workforce and communications support to help councils attract, retain and develop the talent needed to deliver services.

I am pleased to provide our 2025/2026 NILGA Impact Report, setting out the difference we are making for councils through our work on sectoral sustainability, policy and future development.

To enable the continuation of this work, the annual core subscription for your council for 26/27 is £57,164 (plus VAT), an invoice is attached. Any increases are due entirely to the same unavoidable inflationary and staffing costs facing councils and we have made every effort to keep your subscription as low as possible.

On behalf of NILGA, I want to thank the NILGA Members from your council and your Officers that so willingly give of their time in supporting our work.

10.3 Cllr Jackson Minford, Mayor of Mid and East Antrim Borough, dated 18th May 2026

Extract: Annual Battle of the Somme Remembrance Parade and Service Knockagh War Memorial, Carrickfergus – Sunday 28th June 2026

Mid and East Antrim Borough Council and the Knockagh Monument Joint Committee invite the Mayor, Alderman and Councillors to attend the Annual Battle of the Somme Remembrance Parade and Service to be held at the Knockagh War Memorial on Sunday 28th June 2026. The parade will form up at the Knockagh War memorial at 10.40 am, to be followed by a Service at 11.00 am.

For registration of attendance please contact Democratic Services.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee note the correspondence.

Committee NOTED the Correspondence.

11. 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 Wilson

Seconded by Alderman Knight-McQuillan and

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

*** Public and Press were disconnected from the meeting at 7.24pm.**

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.

12. MINUTES OF THE LAND AND PROPERTY AND STRATEGIC ASSETS SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 06 MAY 2026

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

Matters Arising

12.1 Item 5.1 - RTU Ref.98.23 Kilrea Townhall, Laneway

The Director of Corporate Services advised Members of further correspondence that had been received since the meeting.

12.2 Item 5.2 – Asset Realisation - Waterworld, Portrush

Councillor McCully stated that he feels that the option agreed by the Land and Property and Strategic Assets Sub Committee is the wrong course for Council. He stated that the site should be kept in public ownership and that other options for its use should be explored.

Councillor McCully proposed the following amendment:

Option 4 - The Land & Property & Strategic Assets Subcommittee agree to recommend that Council retain Waterworld, Portrush and the Strategic Assets Team liaise with Council's Estates Team to agree a plan for re-instatement and maintenance and future plans for the building.

Alderman Boyle seconded this amendment.

Members discussed the proposal and noted that it is a complex issue with various factors to consider. Alderman Knight-McQuillan stated that the option that was agreed at the Sub Committee will still allow Council an element of control regarding the site.

Amendment

Proposed by Councillor McCully

Seconded by Alderman Boyle

- That Council agree Option 4 - The Land & Property & Strategic Assets Subcommittee agree to recommend that Council retain Waterworld, Portrush and the Strategic Assets Team liaise with Council's Estates Team to agree a plan for re-instatement and maintenance and future plans for the building.

Councillor McCully requested a recorded vote.

The Chair put the Amendment to the Committee to Vote.

3 Members voted For; 11 Members voted Against; 0 Members abstained.

The Chair declared the Amendment lost.

Recorded Vote Table

For (3)	Alderman Boyle, Coyle
	Councillor McCully
Against (11)	Alderman Knight-McQuillan, S McKillop
	Councillors C Archibald, Elder, Holmes, McAuley, McShane, Peacock, Watson, Watton, Wilson

12.3 Adoption of the Minutes

Proposed by Alderman Knight-McQuillan
Seconded by Councillor McCully and

AGREED – To recommend that the Minutes of the Land and Property and Strategic Assets Sub Committee meeting held Wednesday 06 May 2026 are adopted and recommendations therein approved.

13. TENDER OUTCOME – COUNCIL CHAMBER AUDIO VISUAL (AV) SYSTEM

Confidential report, by virtue of paragraph 2 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014, previously circulated, was presented by the Director of Corporate Services.

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to provide Members with the results of the Council Chamber Audio Visual (AV) tender process and request approval to engage the recommended supplier for replacing the Council Chamber AV infrastructure, which was damaged by Storm Eowyn on January 24, 2025.

Further information was provided in the report.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Council approves the award of the Council Chamber AV tender to the preferred supplier identified through the procurement process and authorises Officers to proceed with contract award and implementation.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson
Seconded by Councillor C Archibald and

AGREED – To recommend that Council approves the award of the Council Chamber AV tender to the preferred supplier identified through the procurement process and authorises Officers to proceed with contract award and implementation.

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

There were no Items of Any Other Relevant Business.

MOTION TO PROCEED '*IN PUBLIC*'

Proposed by Alderman Knight-McQuillan
Seconded by Councillor McAuley and

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

The meeting concluded at 7.49pm

Chair