Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council

CORPORATE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY 27 OCTOBER 2026

No	Item	Summary of Key Recommendations	*Estimated Timescale for completion*
1.	Apologies	***Councillors Nicholl, Watson***	***n/a***
2.	Declarations of Interest	***None***	***n/a***
3.	Minutes of the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held Tuesday 22 September 2026	***Confirmed as a correct record***	**-**
4.	Minutes of the Women's Working Group Meeting held on Tuesday 22 September 2026	***Adopted and recommendations therein approved***	**-**
5.	Local Government Elections 2027	***Noted***	
6.	Corporate Services Management Accounts P5	***To recommend that Council accept the Management Accounts for Period 5 - Corporate Services and Planning - and the associated narrative contained within the report.***	
7.	Elected Member Development	***Noted***	**-**
8.	Update on Progress - Causeway Coast and Glens Community Plan	***Noted***	**-**

UNCONFIRMED

9.	ODHR Policies and Procedures - Learning & Development Policy	***To recommend that Council approves the Learning & Development Policy with recommendations including:*** • ***that managers clearly understand the 'roles and responsibilities for managing learning and development and the underlying procedures to identify, budget for, arrange and record training consistently.'*** • ***Operational areas who have their own allocated budget should submit a notification/request to HR in advance of all training***	**-**
10.	Consultations Consultation on the Draft Local Government Staff Commission Dissolution Order	***Noted***	**-**
11.	Conferences	***None***	**-**
12.	Correspondence	***None***	**-**
13.	Matters for Reporting to the Partnership Panel	***None***	
14.	Notice of Motion proposed by Councillor Ciaran McQuillan and seconded by Councillor Leanne Peacock referred from Council Meeting held Tuesday 06 October 2026	***To recommend that Council pause the Notice of Motion pending legal advice.***	
	'In Committee'		

UNCONFIRMED

	(Item 15 - 16 inclusive)		
15.	Minutes of the Land & Property and Strategic Assets Sub-Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 07 October 2026	***Adopted and recommendations therein approved***	
16.	ICT Resourcing Report	***To recommend that Council approve the Phase 1 option presented: with a Phase 2 report presented following the appointment of the Head of Service***	
17.	Any Other Relevant Business (notified in accordance with Standing Order 12(o))	***None***	

UNCONFIRMED

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE CORPORATE POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AND VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE ON TUESDAY 27 OCTOBER 2026 AT 7.00 PM

In the Chair:	Alderman Fielding (C)
Present:	Alderman Boyle (C), Coyle (C), Knight-McQuillan (C), McKillop (R) Councillors C Archibald (C), McAuley (C), McCully (R), McQuillan (R), McShane (R), Peacock (R), Storey (C), Watton (C), Wilson (C), Wisener (C)
Officers Present:	M Quinn, Director of Corporate Services (C) G McIlroy, Strategic Assets Manager (R) H Campbell, Democratic Services Officer (C)
In Attendance:	L Boyd, ICT Operations Officer (C) C Taggart, ICT Operations Officer (C) Press 1 no.(C) Public 1 no. (C)
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, and Councillor Watson.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. MINUTES OF THE CORPORATE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD TUESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2026

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

UNCONFIRMED

Proposed by Alderman Knight-McQuillan
Seconded by Councillor McAuley and

AGREED – that the Minutes of the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee meeting held on Tuesday 22 September 2026 are confirmed as a correct record.

4. MINUTES OF THE WOMEN'S WORKING GROUP MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2026

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

Proposed by Alderman Knight-McQuillan
Seconded by Councillor McShane and

AGREED – that the Women's Working Group Meeting held on Tuesday 22 September 2026 are confirmed as a correct record.

5. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS 2027

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

Purpose of Report
The purpose of this Report is to provide Members with a further update for next year's Local Government Elections.

The Director of Corporate Services advised that a response to the Polling Places Scheme Consultation had been submitted for Balnamore Primary School, and that the report is due for publication in November. She further advised members that the interactive map is still live and informative. The Director also advised members that previous concerns noted in Section 7 of the report regarding the dates of the North West 200 and 2027 Elections have been addressed as the race will take place the week after the Elections.

Committee NOTED the report.

6. CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTS PERIOD 5

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

Purpose of Report

UNCONFIRMED

The purpose of this report to provide Members with information on the current financial position of Corporate Services Directorate at the end of Period 5.

The Director of Corporate Services advised that all areas under Corporate Services are showing an underspend, and as per previous update, the shown overspend regarding Armed Forces Day 2026 is to be corrected to the Strategic Reserve Budget.

In response to a query from Councillor McShane the Director advised that there had been a budget as advised by Ards and North Down Council who had previously hosted Armed Forces Day and that total spend had come in under that total.

Committee NOTED the report.

7. ELECTED MEMBER DEVELOPMENT

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

Purpose of Report
The purpose of the report is to provide an update on the Elected Member Development Chartered Steering Group.

The Director of Corporate Services highlighted that Council had achieved Chartered status in 2017, and that this accreditation will be audited for performance and development. A training needs analysis report had been prepared and was included in the report. She advised on the importance of Elected Members completing mandatory training modules.

Councillor Storey raised his concerns regarding the remote aspect of the training modules and stated he would like in-person training to be considered.

Committee NOTED the report.

8. UPDATE ON PROGRESS- CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS COMMUNITY PLAN

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

Purpose of Report

UNCONFIRMED

The purpose of the report is to provide information and further details on the Community Plan.

Councillor Watton raised concerns that the numbers listed for new social housing units differed from previously advised by the Housing Executive.

Councillor Storey agreed that accuracy and consistency was needed between Council and NIHE figures reported.

Committee NOTED the report.

9. ODHR POLICIES AND PROCEDURES – LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT POLICY

Purpose of Report
The purpose of this report is to present Members with the following policy for consideration and approval:

- Learning & Development Policy

Further information was provided in the report.

Recommendation
It is recommended that the Corporate Policy and Resources Committee recommends to Council the Learning & Development Policy for approval**.** A Learning & Development Policy has been recommended through an internal audit, with recommendations including:

- that managers clearly understand the 'roles and responsibilities for managing learning and development and the underlying procedures to identify, budget for, arrange and record training consistently.'
- Operational areas who have their own allocated budget should submit a notification/request to HR in advance of all training

Proposed by Alderman Boyle
Seconded by Councillor Wisener and

AGREED – to recommend that Council approves the Learning & Development Policy with recommendations including:

- that managers clearly understand the 'roles and responsibilities for managing learning and development and the underlying procedures to identify, budget for, arrange and record training consistently.'
- Operational areas who have their own allocated budget should submit a notification/request to HR in advance of all training

UNCONFIRMED

10. CONSULTATIONS

Consultation on the Draft Local Government Staff Commission Dissolution Order.

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

Purpose of the Report
The purpose of this Report is to advise Members of the Consultation on the draft Local Government Staff Commission Dissolution Order.

The Director of Corporate Services advised Members that the Department for Communities was inviting responses to their consultation in regard to the dissolution of the Local Government Staff Commission.

Councillor Storey raised concerns that there may be future costs incurred to Council and asked that further information and assurance be sought in regards that the DfC not plan to outsource costs to Councils.

Committee NOTED the report.

11. CONFERENCES

There were no conferences.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

13. MATTERS FOR REPORTING TO THE PARTNERSHIP PANEL

There were no matters to report

14. NOTICE OF MOTION PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR MCQUILLAN, SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR PEACOCK

Motion: Safeguarding Local Digital Designers and Artists from AI Displacement

That this Council recognises the vital contribution of digital designers, artists, and creative professionals to the cultural, economic, and community life of the Causeway Coast and Glens area.

UNCONFIRMED

This Council further notes growing concerns within the creative sector regarding the rapid and unregulated use of artificial intelligence in design, illustration, branding, and digital content production, which risks undermining local employment, devaluing creative skills, and eroding opportunities for emerging artists.

Therefore, this Council commits to:

- *Prioritising the use of locally produced human created digital design and artwork in all Council communications, branding, promotional materials, and commissioned projects.*

- *Developing guidance to ensure AI generated content does not replace professional designers or artists within Council procurement processes.*

- *Engaging with local creative practitioners to understand the challenges posed by AI and to support sustainable, fair employment within the sector.*

- *Advocating for ethical, transparent, and responsible use of AI technologies across the council area, ensuring they complement rather than replace human creativity.*

Councillor McQuillan spoke briefly to summarise the motion and confirm that it already aligned with key elements of The Executive Office's draft AI Strategy.

Councillor Peacock stated the need for Council to lead by example to support local artists, designers and keep the creative economy alive in the area.

Alderman Boyle spoke to confirm that the Alliance Party were in support of the motion, and raised her concerns regarding the use of AI in relation to human creative endeavours and the non-consensual subsummation of intellectual property into AI databases. Alderman Boyle proposed to amend the motion suggesting "*that Council should engage with The Executive Office in terms of the draft AI strategy consultation, which closes on 4th November; and also write to the Minister of Communities asking for appropriate support for artists in these challenging circumstances"*

Councillor Storey agreed with the motion however raised concerns regarding ensuring that the policy be compliant with the procurement policies in place. He asked that legal counsel be sought before a decision was made in regards to the motion to ensure that it does not encounter difficulties in future.

UNCONFIRMED

Councillor Wilson concurred with Councillor Storey on need for future consideration to ensure the motion was in line with policy.

Alderman Knight-McQuillan asked if Council were already using AI and raised concerns that use of AI has impacted employment opportunities for graphic designers.

The Director stated she was unable to provide an answer across all aspects of Council.

Alderman Coyle agreed with the sentiments of the motion, but stated that there was no singular agreed definition of AI, and that as it was still a developing technology he believed Council needed to be considerate in its use.

Amendment
Proposed by Councillor Storey
Seconded by Councillor Wilson

- To recommend that Council pause the Notice of Motion pending legal advice.

The Chair moved that the Motion be amended to pause the decision until legal advice was received and put the motion to the vote. The Chair declared the motion carried.

AGREED – To recommend that Council pause the Notice of Motion pending legal advice.

MOTION TO PROCEED *'IN COMMITTEE'*

Proposed by Councillor Wilson
Seconded by Councillor McAuley and

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

* **Public and Press were disconnected from the meeting at 7:45pm.**

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.

UNCONFIRMED

15. MINUTES OF THE LAND & PROPERTY AND STRATEGIC ASSETS SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 07 OCTOBER 2026

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

Proposed by Alderman Knight-McQuillan
Seconded by Councillor Wisener and

AGREED – To recommend that the Minutes of the Land and Property and Strategic Assets Sub Committee meeting held Wednesday 7 October 2026 are adopted and recommendations therein approved.

16. ICT RESOURCING REPORT

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
This report seeks Members' approval to progress with additional permanent resources as a Phase 1 of a Structural Review.

Recommendation
It is recommended that Committee approve the Phase 1 option presented; with a Phase 2 report presented following the appointment of the Head of Service.

Proposed by Councillor Storey
Seconded by Alderman Coyle and

AGREED – to recommend that Council approve the Phase 1 option presented; with a Phase 2 report presented following the appointment of the Head of Service.

17. 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 Storey and

UNCONFIRMED

There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for their participation and attendance. The meeting concluded at 7.54pm

_____

Chair

UNCONFIRMED