

***NILGA***  
***CAUSEWAY COAST AND GLENS***  
***BOROUGH COUNCIL***

**23<sup>rd</sup> February 2016**

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CEO, NILGA

*the voice of local government*

## **TONIGHT IN BRIEF**

- New Councils, New NILGA, Strengthening Local Government
- Investment Impact in CCG
- The Council Led Work Plan for 2016/17
- What's to come in the world of NI Councils in this mandate?

## **STRONGER TOGETHER**

***“A strong local government sector must form part of the outcome of any devolution and reform agenda in Northern Ireland / UK .  
NILGA is key to making it happen.”***

**(Lord Porter, 18<sup>th</sup> January 2016,  
Westminster)**

# THE UNACCEPTABLE COUNCIL

INSTEAD OF RISKING ANYTHING NEW,  
LET'S PLAY IT SAFE BY CONTINUING OUR  
SLOW DECLINE INTO OBSOLESCENCE.



# THE ACCEPTABLE COUNCIL

- Ensures local people's needs are at the heart of government and public services
- Ensures high quality services & representation at affordable costs – always
- Invests in performance & development
- Collaborates locally, nationally & internationally as necessary & gets returns
- Creates sustainable jobs **LOCALLY** as the hub of the economy

# **INVESTMENT RETURN FOR CCG. GUARANTEED.**

- **Regional lobbying** - LG Act, Business Rates, Coastal Management, EU, B.I.D.s, Assembly Reform, Partnership Panel
- **Capacity Building for members** - NILGA Charter Award, Code of Conduct, governance, General Power of Competence
- **Ways to finance and sustain Local Government**
- **Officer & elected member driven improvement work**
- **Policy and performance planning with the new NI Executive**  
– nothing imposed

# INVESTMENT RETURN. GUARANTEED.

- **Events, information, discounts, knowledge, ideas, strength, unity** (Flagship Annual Conference, Social Media, LGA 430+ Councils, Strengthening Democracy, PfG = DELIVERED)
- **National negotiation** on Pay, Workforce, Terms, Conditions with Member Input (Pay Freeze, National Living Wage)
- **Finance for the Local Economy, Services and Infrastructure.**  
NILGA directly and in partnership bringing over £27 million p.a. into the sector

## **NILGA MEMBERSHIP**

- Every councillor not just nominations is a NILGA beneficiary, avail of core services (including advice on any aspect of LG, in confidence if necessary)
- 11 councils provide members, but NILGA events open to all
- The Representative Body for Councils (aka Wales, England, Scotland, Commonwealth)
- NILGA is a Council owned body



# NILGA INDEPENDENT REVIEW

- VFM and Business Like representation
- Key Actions, One Voice, One Purpose
- Professional, Championing, Go To
- Regional Core Team for ALL councils utilisation
- CAMPAIGNS incl. Programme for LOCAL Government
- Skills Development & Key
- Representing, Developing, Lobbying, Policy Co-ordinating, World Class Best Practice Tailored to NI

## 2015 & 2016 TESTIMONIALS

- I learn so much from NILGA
- David amongst Goliaths
- Held us together
- Not an Empire
- Needs to work within each Council
- Has transformed in recent years
- Must do less, well, and has listened and responded to the new Councils
- Must be even more radical
- More work on the economy
- Better relationship with SOLACE sought

# SUCCESS

- 2015 European Entrepreneurial Region
- Economy, EU Work
- Ulster / Britain in Bloom
- Reform & rates support investment
- New legislation to protect councils & give them power
- Policy Work
- Investment Work
- Events & Knowledge
- Member Led Development
- Legislation Work
- Devolution Work
- Programme for Government Work
- Representation of officers and members from all councils, professionally delivered - Westminster, Stormont and Europe

# **SUCCESS**

**Causeway Coast & Glens Members & Officers local issues as part of a collective policy & lobbying voice**

**Cllr Dermot Nicholl, Cllr William King MBE , Cllr William Blair,  
Cllr Ian Stevenson , Cllr Sam Cole, Cllr Stephanie Quigley,  
Cllr Boyd Douglas, Cllr Joan Baird, Mr David Jackson,  
Mr Richard Gillen & Ms Margaret Craig.**



# = ULSTER IN BLOOM



## **RATE STRUCK. ELECTION LOOMING...**

- NILGA's work plan for 2016/17, as prepared by and agreed by the 11 councils, will bring the local into the hearts and heads of new Ministers and Departments from Day One.
- New investment for those powers transferred and to be transferred
- All 11 member Councils to be part of the Constitutional Forum on Devolution
- New Investment Guide - March 2016
- New Planning Guide – May 2016
- Always working. The 24/7 councillor / council

# **LOCAL GOVERNMENT IS EFFECTIVE, EFFICIENT & INNOVATIVE**

- *COUNCILS & NILGA prove this daily.*
- *Feared and respected in high places*
- *A united sector & NILGA's professionalism are BIG strengths.*
- *LG not to be a dumping ground for failed initiatives or services without resources*
- *NILGA & Causeway Coast / Glens = Team Local Government.*

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT:  
SOMETIMES PEOPLE TRY TO EXPOSE WHAT'S WRONG WITH IT AS  
THEY CAN'T HANDLE WHAT'S RIGHT WITH IT.**

**Thanks.  
Questions, Issues?**



**Causeway  
Coast & Glens  
Borough Council**

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