



January 21st, 2026

**TO: The Right Worshipful the Mayor and Members
of Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council**

A meeting of **Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council** will be held on **Tuesday, 27th January 2026** at **7:00 pm** in the Council Chamber for the transaction of the business on the undernoted agenda.

DAVID BURNS
CHIEF EXECUTIVE
LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

Agenda

1.0 BUSINESS OF THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR

 *Mayors Engagements for January Council Meeting.pdf*

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2.0 APOLOGIES

3.0 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

- (i) conflict of interest on any matter before the meeting (Members to confirm the specific item)
- (ii) pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest (Member to complete disclosure of interest form)

 *Disclosure of Interests form Sept 24.pdf*

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4.0 COUNCIL MINUTES

4.1 Meeting of Council - 16 December 2025

For Approval

 *MM 16.12.2025 Draft Minutes for Adoption.pdf*

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5.0 MATTERS ARISING

6.0 DEPUTATIONS

7.0 BUSINESS REQUIRED BY STATUTE

7.1 Signing of Legal Documents

For Decision

- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and McKinstry Skip Hire Ltd (McKinstry Biomass), 81-83 Belfast Road, Crumlin BT29 4TL – Contract for the Collection, Transportation and Recovery of Waste Wood from Council Household Recycling Centres (Ref: STA 25/26-023)
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Tourist Wise Ltd (t/a Brilliant Trails), 4 The Courtyard Galgorm Castle, 114 Galgorm Road, Ballymena BT42 1HL – Contract for T24/25-046 Tender for Maintenance/Repair of Display Features
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Bennett Freehill Ltd, 380c Belmont Road, Belfast BT4 2NF; and Knox Clayton Architects, 2A Wallace Avenue, Lisburn BT27 4AA; and FCM Partnership, 216-218 Holywood Road, Belfast BT4 1PD; and ADD Consulting Engineers Ltd, 21 High Street, Lurgan BT66 8AH – Contract for T25/26-004 Tender for Design

Team for Proposed Changing Rooms at Aghalee Playing Fields and Seycon Park

- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Norspace, 2 Glenavy Road, Upper Ballinderry, Lisburn BT28 2EU; and Balloo Hire Centre Ltd, 31 Sydenham Road, Belfast BT3 9DH; and KDM Hire Ltd, Alexander Road, Castlereagh, Co Down BT6 9HP – Contract for T25/26-057 Tender for Hire of Chemical Toilets

8.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

8.1 Communities & Wellbeing Committee - 6 January 2026

For Approval

□ *CWC 06.01.2026 Draft Minutes for Adoption.pdf*

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8.2 Environment & Sustainability Committee - 7 January 2026

For Approval

□ *ESC 07.01.2026 Draft Minutes for Adoption.pdf*

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8.3 Regeneration & Growth Committee - 8 January 2026

For Approval

□ *RGC 08.01.2026 Draft Minutes for Adoption.pdf*

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8.4 Corporate Services Committee - 14 January 2026

For Approval

□ *CSC 14.01.2026 Draft Minutes for Adoption.pdf*

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8.5 Planning Committee - 1 December 2025 (for Noting)

For Noting

□ *PC 01.12.2025 - Ratified Minutes - FOR NOTING.pdf*

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9.0 REPORT FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE

None

10.0 REPORTS FROM MEMBERS ON BOARDS

None

11.0 REPORTS ON DECISIONS SUBJECT TO THE

RECONSIDERATION PROCEDURE

None

12.0 NOTICES OF MOTION

12.1 No.1 on the subject of Freedom of the City of Lisburn & Castlereagh for Mr Tommy Doherty in the name of Alderman Aaron McIntyre

For Decision

 [*NoM 1 - Freedom of the City, Mr Tommy Doherty.pdf*](#)

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12.2 No.2 on the subject of Winter Services in the name of Councillor Andrew Gowan

For Decision

 [*NoM 2 - Winter Services.pdf*](#)

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13.0 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

14.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

MAYORS ENGAGEMENTS FOR FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday 14th January

Mayor to visit Tommy Doherty, local veteran on his 99th birthday

Thursday 15th January

Mayor & Chief Executive to attend the Handover of the Sheriffs Co Down event, Lissanoure Castle, Ballymena

Sunday 18th January

Mayor to attend Lisburn Cross Community Service, First Lisburn Presbyterian Church

Monday 19th January

Mayor to attend the launch of the IFA George Best Community Cup 2026, National Stadium, Windsor Park

Wednesday 21st January

Mayor to attend the Handover of the Sheriffs Co Antrim event, Montalto Estate, Ballynahinch

Thursday 22nd January

Mayor to host Drumbo & District Community Association, LVI

Friday 23rd January

Mayor to host Aghalee Village Hall Committee, named runner up at the IPB Pride of Place Awards in Limerick, LVI

LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

MEMBERS DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

1. Pecuniary Interests

The Northern Ireland Local Government Code of Conduct for Councillors under Section 6 requires you to declare at the relevant meeting any pecuniary interest that you may have in any matter coming before any meeting of your Council.

Pecuniary (or financial) interests are those where the decision to be taken could financially benefit or financially disadvantage either you or a member of your close family. A member of your close family is defined as at least your spouse, live-in partner, parent, child, brother, sister and the spouses of any of these. Members may wish to be more prudent by extending that list to include grandparents, uncles, aunts, nephews, nieces or even close friends.

This information will be recorded in a Statutory Register. On such matters you must not speak or vote. Subject to the provisions of Sections 6.5 to 6.11 of the Code, if such a matter is to be discussed by your Council, you must withdraw from the meeting whilst that matter is being discussed.

2. Private or Personal Non-Pecuniary Interests

In addition you must also declare any significant private or personal non-pecuniary interest in a matter arising at a Council meeting (please see also Sections 5.2 and 5.6 and 5.8 of the Code).

Significant private or personal non-pecuniary (membership) interests are those which do not financially benefit or financially disadvantage you or a member of your close family directly, but nonetheless, so significant that could be considered as being likely to influence your decision.

Subject to the provisions of Sections 6.5 to 6.11 of the Code, you must declare this interest as soon as it becomes apparent and you must withdraw from any Council meeting (including committee or sub-committee meetings) when this matter is being discussed.

In respect of each of these, please complete the form below as necessary.

Pecuniary Interests

Meeting (Council or Committee - please specify and name):

Date of Meeting:

Item(s) in which you must declare an interest (please specify item number from report):

Nature of Pecuniary Interest:

Private or Personal Non-Pecuniary Interests

Meeting (Council or Committee - please specify and name):

Date of Meeting:

Item(s) in which you must declare an interest (please specify item number from report):

Nature of Private or Personal Non-Pecuniary Interest:

Name:

Address:

Signed:

Date:

Signed:	Date:
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If you have any queries please contact David Burns, Chief Executive,
Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council

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LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Council held in the Council Chamber, Lagan Valley Island and Remote Locations on Tuesday 16 December, 2025 at 6:00 pmPRESENT IN CHAMBER:

The Right Worshipful the Mayor
Alderman A Grehan

Deputy Mayor, Alderman H Legge

Aldermen J Baird, A G Ewart MBE, O Gawith, M Gregg,
A McIntyre and S P Porter

Councillors J Bamford, R T Beckett, S Burns,
P Catney, D J Craig, K Dickson, A P Ewing,
A Givan, A Gowan, J Harpur, B Higginson, G Hynds,
C Kemp, J Laverty BEM, S Lowry, U Mackin, B Magee,
A Martin, T Mitchell, G McCleave, C McCready, M McKeever,
R McLernon, N Parker, G Thompson and Hon N Trimble

PRESENT REMOTELY:

Alderman S Skillen and Councillors D Bassett, R Carlin,
J Gallen and D Lynch

IN ATTENDANCE:

Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council

Chief Executive
Director of Organisation Development and Innovation
Director of Leisure and Community Wellbeing
Director of Environmental Services
Director of Regeneration and Growth
Head of Governance & Communications
Member Services Manager (Acting)
Member Services Officer (EW)
Technician
IT Officer

Commencement of the Meeting

At the commencement of the meeting, The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Alderman A Grehan, welcomed those present to the December meeting of Council, including Judith McNamee who had commenced her employment with the Council as Head of Governance & Communications on 1 December 2025.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor reminded that the meeting was being livestreamed to enable members of the public to hear and see the proceedings. The Mayor pointed out that, should the meeting go into committee to consider confidential business, any members of the press and the public in attendance would be required to leave the Council Chamber for the duration of those matters.

The Chief Executive outlined the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency.

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Commencement of the Meeting (Cont'd)

Councillors J Bamford, R McLernon, M McKeever, and N Parker entered the meeting during the safety announcement (6.02 pm).

The Right Worshipful the Mayor requested that all mobile phones be put on silent or switched off for the duration of the meeting and pointed out that, in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders, whilst the meeting was being live-streamed, unauthorised recording was not permitted.

Councillor D Lynch joined the meeting remotely during the following statement by The Right Worshipful the Mayor (6.04 pm).

Statement by The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Alderman A Grehan, on the Bondi Beach Atrocity

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Alderman A Grehan, thanked members of the public and Elected Members who had reached out with suggestions on how this Council could show respect and sympathy following the tragic shooting on Bondi Beach during the Hanukkah Festival. The Mayor stated that this was a shocking and heartbreakening event, the impact of which was felt deeply across our community. As a Council we have come together to express condolences and solidarity with those who have lost their lives, those who were injured and everyone who had been affected by this devastating tragedy. The Mayor acknowledged that many families in the Council's constituency have relatives in Sydney and throughout Australia and that this horrific attack has profoundly affected so many people and it must have been deeply distressing for those who witnessed the event first hand.

On behalf of Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council and the community The Right Worshipful the Mayor advised that she would be writing to the organisers of the Hanukkah Festival and also the Lord Mayor of Sydney to convey condolences and offer support and solidarity. The Right Worshipful the Mayor also advised that the Council had gathered earlier that evening to open a book of condolence which was also available to sign online allowing the community to share words of comfort, remembrance and support.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor then asked everyone present to observe minute's silence to honour the victims of this tragic events on Bondi Beach, to acknowledge the profound impact on families and first responders, and offer heartfelt support to the Jewish community."

The Council stood and observed a minute's silence at 6.06 pm.

Prayers

In the absence of the Mayor's Chaplain, The Right Worshipful the Mayor welcomed the assistant minister to the Mayor's Chaplain, Rev Graeme Read from Elmwood Presbyterian Church, Lisburn, to the meeting of Council. Rev Read addressed the meeting and said a prayer, during which he remembered all those people affected by the Bondi Beach tragedy. Rev Read also expressed condolences to:

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Prayers (Cont'd)

- Veronica Kearney, Tourism Development Officer, on the death of her mother, Sarah Elizabeth Morris, and
- Heather Nightingale, on the death of her mother, Mary Nightingale.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Alderman A Grehan, thanked Rev Read for his attendance and contribution, following which he left the meeting.

1. Business of The Right Worshipful the Mayor

1.1 Mayor's Engagements

The Council noted a number of engagements attended by The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Alderman A Grehan, and the Deputy Mayor, Alderman H Legge, since the last meeting of Council.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor put on record her thanks to the Deputy Mayor, Alderman H Legge, and the Mayor's driver, who had been particularly busy during the lead up to Christmas.

At this juncture, The Right Worshipful the Mayor introduced a video taken during Stepping Stones' Christmas party, at which Pauline Connell, who attends the Day Centre, sang 'O Holy Night.'

2. Apologies

There were no apologies for non-attendance at the meeting.

3. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest declared at the meeting.

4. Council Minutes

4.1 Council Meeting – 25 November, 2025

It was proposed by Alderman A G Ewart, seconded by Councillor C Kemp, and agreed that the minutes of the meeting of Council held on 25 November, 2025 be confirmed and signed.

5. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

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6. Deputations

There were no deputations.

7. Business Required by Statute

(i) Signing of Legal Documents

It was proposed by Alderman J Tinsley, seconded by Alderman O Gawith, and agreed that the following legal documents be signed at the meeting:

- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and WEEV.IE Ltd, Buildings 8-9, 11-12 Edgewater Business Park, Edgewater Road, Belfast BT3 9JQ – Concession Agreement to Supply, Maintain and Operate Electric Vehicle Charging Units within 9 of the Councils in Northern Ireland
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and J T Sheds and Joinery Limited, 65aq Bridge Street, Lisburn BT28 1ZX – For Delivery of Wooden Huts and Associated Costs (Storage, Maintenance, Build-Up/Take Down) (T25/26-058)
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Hanna and Hutchinson Consulting Engineers Ltd, 2A Wallace Avenue, Lisburn BT27 4AA – For Delivery of LCCCs Greenways Investment Framework
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Stepping Stones NI, 39 Seymour Street, Lisburn BT27 4SY – For delivery of T25/26-015 – Accessible Graduate Apprenticeship Programme as per the Lisburn and Castlereagh Labour Market Action Plan 2025/26
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Stepping Stones NI, 39 Seymour Street, Lisburn BT27 4SY – For delivery of T25/26-015 – Pathways to Employment for Individuals with a Disability Programme as per the Lisburn and Castlereagh Labour Market Action Plan 2025/26
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Civco Ltd, 25A Hillside Road, Maghera BT46 5SD – Contract for Tender for Moira Community Hub (Re-Tender) (T24/25-053)
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and Kompan Play Equipment, 5 Dunlop Square, Deans Industrial Estate, Livingston EH54 8SB; Haffey Play Grounds, 47 Derrycarne Road, Portadown BT62 1PT; and Play and Leisure Services, 31 Carrowdore Road, Greyabbey, Newtownards BT22 2LU – Contract for T25/26-007 Tender for Supply of Play Park Equipment
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council and McNaughton Blair, 10 Falcon Road, Belfast BT12 6RD – Contract for T24/25-015 Tender for Supply of General Hardware Materials

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8. Adoption of Minutes of Committees**Communities and Wellbeing Committee**

Proposed by Councillor T Mitchell
 Seconded by Councillor A Givan

2 December, 2025**Environment and Sustainability Committee**

Proposed by Alderman A Gawith
 Seconded by Councillor S Burns

3 December, 2025**Regeneration and Growth Committee**

Proposed by Councillor C Kemp
 Seconded by Councillor J Harpur

4 December, 2025

The Chairman, Councillor C Kemp, reminded Members that the minutes were subject to the Call-In procedure until 10.00 am on Friday, 19th December, 2025.

Corporate Services Committee

Proposed by Councillor B Higginson
 Seconded by Councillor J Bamford

10 December, 2025

The Chairman, Councillor B Higginson, reminded Members that the minutes were subject to the Call-In procedure until 10.00 am on Monday, 22nd December, 2025.

Governance and Audit Committee

Proposed by Councillor D Lynch
 Seconded by Councillor M McKeever

11 December, 2025

Adopted subject to the names of Councillors P Catney and G Hynds being included in the list of attendees.

The Chairman, Councillor D Lynch, reminded Members that the minutes were subject to the Call-In procedure until 10.00 am on Monday, 22nd December, 2025.

Planning Committee**8 September, 2025**

The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting of 3 November, 2025 had been circulated for noting only as these minutes had been agreed at the subsequent meeting of the Planning Committee on 1 December, 2025. It was proposed by Councillor G Thompson, seconded by Councillor D J Craig, and agreed that their contents be noted.

9. Report from Chief Executive9.1 Changes to Standing Orders

The Chief Executive's report set out a number of further changes to Standing Orders following a number of key amendments that had been agreed by Council at its meeting in November 2025. A copy of the updated Standing Orders, dated

9.1 Changes to Standing Orders (Cont'd)

November 2025, had been appended to the report, as well as a paper setting out a number of further changes that were now required.

The Chief Executive highlighted that one key change to Standing Orders was in respect of an update to the Protocol for the Operation of the Planning Committee which took account of recent changes in legislation removing the requirement for mandatory pre-determination hearings. Consequently, paragraph 34 in the previous Protocol had been removed. As the Protocol of the Operation of the Planning Committee is appended to the Council's Standing Orders, the updated version required Council agreement.

In order that the further amendments to Standing Orders could be considered, it was proposed by Councillor D J Craig, seconded by Councillor A Givan, and agreed unanimously that Standing Order 27.2 be suspended for the duration of this item of business.

It was proposed by Alderman A McIntyre, seconded by Alderman M Gregg, and agreed that:

- (a) Appendix D of Standing Orders be amended to take account of the updated Protocol for the Operation of the Planning Committee
- (b) Appendix B of Standing Orders be amended to take account of the updated Terms of Reference as agreed by Council in November 2025
- (c) Standing Orders be amended to reflect changes in relation to working practices and other minor changes, as outlined in the appended document.

In addition, it was also agreed, on a further proposal by Alderman A McIntyre that paragraph 5.3 Remote Environment of Appendix C be amended to remove "where practicable."

10. Reports from Members on Boards

There were no reports from Members on Boards.

11. Reports on Decisions Subject to the Reconsideration Procedure

There were no reports on decisions subject to the reconsideration procedure.

12. Notice of Motion

There were no Notices of Motion for consideration.

13. Confidential Business

There was no confidential reports for consideration.

14. Any Other Business**14.1 Bondi Beach Atrocity – Sunday 14th December 2025**
Councillor B Higginson

Councillor B Higginson spoke of his sadness on hearing about the atrocity on Bondi Beach, Sydney, Australia, on the morning of Sunday 14th December. Councillor Higginson having quoted a Bible verse from Exodus Chapter 20 Verse 13 which is also the fifth Commandment, 'Though shalt not kill,' stated that there are times when the end of the earth seems very near to us. He stated that this was how he felt on Sunday morning when he heard about the brutal murder of innocent Jewish people, men, women and children, as they gathered to light the first candles for the Jewish Hanukkah festival to remember the rededication of the Second Temple in Jerusalem.

Councillor Higginson stated that this would be a deeply unhappy Hanukkah for many of the Jewish faith. Councillor Higginson assured that his thoughts and prayers were with the victims and the families of those affected by this atrocity, as well as the Jewish community in Northern Ireland, and those of the Jewish faith affected by creeping antisemitism which plagues so many parts of the world today. He stated that antisemitism was more destructive to those who practice it than those who bear the brunt of it. Hard as it may be to contemplate the anguish of the Jewish people who have suffered such cruelty at the hands of their enemies throughout this century, it was even more frightening to consider the eternal judgement accorded by those who are determined to hate but whom God loves himself.

Aldermen S P Porter & A McIntyre, and Councillors G Hynds, P Catney & R Carlin also addressed the Council on this atrocity during which they reiterated the sentiments expressed by Councillor B Higginson.

Following Members' contributions The Right Worshipful the Mayor advised that a number of Councillors had emailed her, including Councillor Hynds, Alderman Porter and Alderman McIntyre, to ask that we do either a book of condolence or light up the Civic Centre at Lagan Valley Island, as well as having received various other requests, to show support to this atrocity. The Right Worshipful the Mayor stated that tonight has shown the Council's solidarity to what happened in Bondi Beach, and thanked Members for that.

14.2 The 'Big Tree Project'
Councillor J Harpur

Councillor J Harpur put on record his thanks and appreciation to the Parks & Amenities team and to those on the Big Tree project who had assisted him with the tree planting sessions with local school children in Colby Park and Carryduff Park. Councillor Harpur welcomed the fact that over 150 trees had been planted by 48 school children from four schools in the local area.

14.2 The 'Big Tree Project' (Cont'd)
Councillor J Harpur

Councillor Harpur advised that Castlereagh South DEA was the only DEA in the Council area that had benefited from this tree planting initiative with school children and requested that Officers consider if other schools from across the Council area could avail of this initiative next year.

14.3 House Fires Across the Province
Councillor D J Craig

Councillor D J Craig expressed sadness in regard to the fact that the shadow of death hung over communities this Christmas as a result of a number of recent house fires. Councillor Craig also referred to the shadow of death at the very first Christmas which was about the celebration of the reincarnation of Christ coming into this world. Sadly King Herod saw that as a threat and the mothers in Bethlehem wept because he sent soldiers out to murder those children.

Councillor Craig advised that following these house fires across the Province in recent weeks he had contacted the Chief Fire Officer. He stated that these incidents had been horrific for all concerned and that one cannot forget those families who had lost loved ones at a time when they expected to be rejoicing and celebrating with each other. He also expressed concern that there were other victims such as those who have to deal with these situations, and when he had spoken with the Chief Fire Officer, he had raised the important matter of 'duty of care' for those dealing with horrific incidents such as house fires.

Councillor Craig stated that many house fires were caused by electrical faults where circuits were being overloaded with electrical devices which then overheat and go on fire. He emphasised that it was important to get safety messages out to the communities about the dangers of overloading extension leads with several heavy duty electrical devices. Councillor Craig requested that Officers work with NIFRS to consider how these important fire safety messages could be promoted on the Council's various social media platforms.

14.4 Pride of Knockmore Flute Band – 50th Anniversary
Alderman S P Porter

Alderman S P Porter having advised that Pride of Knockmore Flute Band were celebrating their 50th anniversary this year, paid tribute to one of the founder members, Kenneth Herron, who along with a number of other individuals had formed Knockmore Flute Band in 1975. Kenneth began his musical experience as a base drummer, but went on to teach himself to play the flute showing exceptional commitment over many years. As well as playing instruments Kenneth had served as Chairman, Treasurer and Bandmaster, as well as teaching the next generation of flutists. In recognition of Kenneth's long service the band made him president. Alderman Porter also advised that after 50 years of dedicated service Kenneth has agreed to retire from the band.

Alderman Porter, on behalf of the Council, extended best wishes to Kenneth on his retirement from Pride of Knockmore Flute Band and conveyed thanks to

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14.4 Pride of Knockmore Flute Band – 50th Anniversary (Cont'd)
Alderman S P Porter

Kenneth for his long service and commitment to the band and to the marching band scene in Lisburn and Northern Ireland.

At the request of Alderman S P Porter it was agreed that a letter from The Right Worshipful the Mayor conveying congratulations and best wishes to Kenneth on his retirement from Pride of Knockmore Flute Band and also conveying thanks to Kenneth for his long service and commitment with the band.

It was also agreed at the request of Alderman Porter that the Council sends a letter of congratulations to Pride of Knockmore Flute Band on its 50th anniversary and also thanking the band for 50 years of continued musical services, and wishing the band every success in the future.

14.5 Congratulations to Stephen Robinson, Manager, St Mirren Football Team
Councillor G Hynds

At the request of Councillor G Hynds it was agreed that a letter of congratulations be sent to Stephen Robinson as manager of St Mirren Football team following the team's first major trophy in 12 years, having won the Scottish Premier Sports Cup final against Celtic the previous weekend. Councillor Hynds advised that this was a fantastic achievement, being the team's first major trophy under Stephen's management and stated that this success should be recognised by the Council via a social media post, in addition to a letter of congratulations to the Club.

14.6 Congratulations to Carryduff Ladies Gaelic Minor Team
Councillor J Gallen

The Right Worshipful the Mayor agreed, at the request of Councillor J Gallen, that a Mayoral reception be held for the Carryduff Ladies Gaelic Minor team to mark the team's success on winning the Ulster Minor Club title against Clann Eirean earlier in the month. Councillor Gallen advised that Carryduff Ladies Gaelic Minor team was the first team to win the Ulster title for the third consecutive year, this being an historic win and unprecedented success for the Club.

14.7 Brooklands Primary School – 40th Anniversary Year
Deputy Mayor, Alderman H Legge

The Deputy Mayor, Alderman H Legge, reminded the Council that Brooklands Primary School were celebrating its 40th anniversary this year and was pleased to report that the school has had a very successful year of celebrations with a huge range of events at which a number of Members had been in attendance.

The Deputy Mayor highlighted that one of the most bizarre fundraising events by Brooklands Primary School was the Conga event on Friday past which had included pupils, classroom assistants, teachers, parents and also the school's therapy dog. The conga procession had gone through part of Brooklands estate through to Ballybeen estate.

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14.7 Brooklands Primary School – 40th Anniversary Year
Deputy Mayor, Alderman H Legge

The Deputy Mayor advised that the school had raised £5,555.55 to date during it's 40th anniversary year and extended congratulations and well done to all.

14.8 Thanks of The Right Worshipful the Mayor
Alderman A Grehan

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Alderman A Grehan, extended thanks to everyone who had supported her during her first six months of her term of office. Having advised that to date a total of £55,500 had been raised for her Mayoral Charity, The Right Worshipful the Mayor expressed thanks and appreciation to everyone on her Charity Committee for their efforts during the past six months, many of whom had been out in the cold weather supporting the various fundraising activities.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor expressed thanks to the Chief Executive for his efforts and support during the last six months and also to the Directors and the Heads of Service and all the staff whom, she stated, went out of their way and worked hard for all of the constituents across the Council area.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

Conclusion of Meeting

At the conclusion of the meeting the Right Worshipful the Mayor, Alderman A Grehan thanked those present for their attendance.

There being no further business for consideration, the meeting was terminated at 6.51 pm.

Mayor

LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of the Communities & Wellbeing Committee held remotely and in the Council Chamber, Island Civic Centre, The Island, Lisburn on Tuesday 6th January 2026 at 6.00 pm.

**PRESENT IN
COUNCIL CHAMBER
(COMMITTEE):**

Councillor T Mitchell (Chair)

Councillor A Givan (Vice-Chair)

Deputy Mayor
Alderman H Legge

Alderman A McIntyre

Councillors T Beckett, R Carlin, K Dickson, B Higginson, G McCleave and G Thompson

**PRESENT IN A
REMOTE LOCATION
(COMMITTEE)**

Alderman S Skillen

Councillors J Craig, J Gallen, C Kemp, S Lowry and The Hon N Trimble

**PRESENT IN
COUNCIL CHAMBER
(NON-COMMITTEE)**

Councillors P Catney and G Hynds

**PRESENT IN A
REMOTE LOCATION
(NON-COMMITTEE)**

Alderman J Tinsley

IN ATTENDANCE:

Director of Leisure & Community Wellbeing
Head of Communities
Head of Sports Services
Business Support Officer (SC)
Member Services Officers (RN & FA)

Commencement of Meeting

The Chair, Councillor T Mitchell, welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished them a Happy, Healthy and Peaceful New Year.

The Chair reminded Members that the meeting would be audio recorded unless the item on the agenda was to be considered under confidential business. Unauthorised recording was not permitted, as per 8.5 of the Council's Standing Orders. Mobile phones were to be turned off or on silent mode for the duration of the meeting.

The Director of Leisure & Community Wellbeing outlined the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency. The Chair asked that any Member entering or leaving the meeting alert the Member Services Officer accordingly so that this might be accurately reflected in the minutes.

1. Apologies

There were no apologies.

Councillor S Lowry joined the meeting on a remote basis. (6.02 pm)

2. Declarations of Interest

During the course of the meeting the following Declarations of Interest were made by Alderman S Skillen:-

- Item 4.1 of Report of Head of Communities – “Notice of Motion on Childcare – Update”. Daughter had participated in a number of the Council’s holiday schemes in the Castlereagh East DEA. Did not leave the meeting.
- Item 5.3 of Any Other Business – “EVAWAG Local Change Fund”. Associated with Ballybeen Improvement Group which had been a recipient of funding. Did not leave the meeting.

3. Report of Director of Leisure & Community Wellbeing

3.1 Dundonald International Ice Bowl – Project Update

Members had been furnished with a report providing an update and progress made to date in respect of the redevelopment of Dundonald International Ice Bowl, together with associated programmes. A workshop and tour for Members was scheduled for the 23rd January 2026 at 1.00 pm.

Members welcomed the progress that was being made on site.

The Director and Head of Sports Services responded to Members’ questions and:-

- noted comments that – given that the existing facilities would be in use for some time – essential and routine maintenance should continue in order to reflect the standards expected by customers and Members alike;
- confirmed that the process was in hand for the formal procurement of the catering provision.

It was proposed by the Deputy Mayor, Alderman H Legge, seconded by Councillor A Givan and agreed to recommend that the update and progress report be noted.

3.2 Update on Process for Overseeing Bonfires on Council-Owned Sites

In addition to the narrative report, Members had been provided with the link to the previously agreed process from February 2025.

The Director responded to Members' questions and noted several queries to include the expansion of the interagency group.

In order to address one section of the report, it was proposed by Councillor G Thompson, seconded by Councillor G McCleave and agreed to go "into Committee. (Recording was paused at this stage in proceedings. The press member left the meeting and there were no public present. 6.25 pm)

During the course of discussion whilst "in Committee", the Director:-

- reminded Members of the previously agreed process for overseeing bonfires on Council-owned sites and noted how steps taken by Officers aligned with the agreed process;
- advised Members that the report was focused on the physical site location and outlined the work that had been undertaken to inform the report;
- noted that the review should capture all items pertaining to the process of overseeing bonfires on Council-owned sites and advised the Committee of a related staffing consideration;
- confirmed that groups seeking financial assistance under the proposed process would require to be fully constituted.

During discussion of this item whilst "in Committee", Councillor P Catney left and returned to the Council Chamber at 6.30 pm and 6.32 pm respectively.

On a Proposal made by Councillor G Thompson and seconded by Councillor K Dickson, it was agreed to come "out of Committee". (Normal business and the audio recording were resumed; and the press member returned to the Chamber. 6.39 pm)

It was proposed by Councillor K Dickson, seconded by Councillor A Givan and agreed to recommend that:-

- the sum of £25,000.00 included in the 2026/2027 budget estimates to support the hiring of beacons for events on Council-owned lands be agreed;
- the hiring of beacons on behalf of community groups for events on Council-owned lands be procured by Officers of the Council.

4. Report of Head of Communities

4.1 Notice of Motion on Childcare – Update

A Notice of Motion on the subject of Childcare had been considered by the Committee in December 2023 with a commitment that Officers would continue to work on providing safe, affordable and enjoyable opportunities for children and young people.

In addition to the narrative report, a schedule of services and schemes offered by the Council was also provided.

The progress report provided an update in relation to supporting childcare provision within the Council area and its content and that of the related appendix were duly noted on a Proposal made by Councillor G Thompson and seconded by Councillor R Carlin.

The Head of Communities agreed to:-

- provide Members with (i) further detail as to how the programmes referred to in the report had expanded since December 2023; (ii) any plans for expansion of the schemes in general; (iii) any plans for enhanced provision being put in place in rural areas;
- have a Rural Needs Impact Assessment prepared so as to inform on childcare provision that should be offered by the Council for rural areas.

During discussion, Alderman S Skillen declared an interest in this item of business. (See Item 2, above)

5. Any Other Business – Non-Confidential

5.1 Success of local football clubs

Councillor T Mitchell (Chair) & Councillor G Hynds

The Chair, Councillor T Mitchell, congratulated the following clubs on their recent successes:-

- Ballymacash Rangers Football Club on winning the Steel & Sons Cup (Christmas Day);
- Derriaghy Cricket Club Football Club on winning the Border Cup (27th December 2025)

Councillor G Hynds concurred with these comments and highlighted that Derriaghy CC FC had won four trophies recently which was remarkable given the small size of the club. Councillor Hynds asked that the successes of the above football clubs be recognised. The Chair undertook to progress this request with The Right Worshipful The Mayor and the Director.

5.2 Anna Cheyne Visual Art Award 2026 and Exhibition
Alderman A McIntyre

Alderman A McIntyre thanked the Director and her staff for the re-introduction of the Anna Cheyne Visual Art Award. The attendant exhibition would launch on the 13th January 2026.

5.3 EVAWAG Local Change Fund
Councillor S Lowry

Councillor S Lowry referred to the inclusion of an amended Letter of Offer from the Executive Office in regard to the Change Fund Action Plan which was to do with the EVAWAG initiative (Ending Violence Against Women And Girls).

Councillor Lowry sought confirmation that this correspondence and information on associated events would be promoted via the Council and the Lisburn & Castlereagh Policing & Community Safety Partnership. This was confirmed by the Director.

During discussion, Alderman S Skillen declared an interest in this item of business. (See Item 2, above)

6. Confidential Report from Director of Leisure & Community Wellbeing

The reason for confidentiality was as set out in the agenda, ie:-

6.1 Leisure and Community Wellbeing Directorate
Draft Estimates 2026/2027

(Confidential for reason of information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information)).

Report never to become available. (Final Estimates will be released.)

"In Committee"

It was proposed by Councillor B Higginson, seconded by Councillor K Dickson and agreed that the Confidential Report of the Director be considered "in Committee". (Recording was paused at this stage in proceedings. The press member left the meeting and there were no public present. (6.51 pm)

6.1 Leisure and Community Wellbeing Directorate
Draft Estimates 2026/2027

This item was presented by the Director of Leisure & Community Wellbeing with the Heads of Service and the Business Support Officer being present to assist in discussion if so required.

6.1 Leisure and Community Wellbeing Directorate
Draft Estimates 2026/2027 (Continued)

In addition to the narrative report which outlined the background and key issues in relation to the Estimates' process for 2026-2027 for the Leisure & Community Wellbeing Directorate, the following in relation to that Directorate had been provided:-

- Estimates for 2026/2027 with 2025/2026 Period 7 Actuals;
- Payroll, Non-Payroll and Income split;
- Detailed Estimates Overview per Service Unit;
- Repairs & Renewals;
- Capital Programme Listing.

The Director responded to Members' questions and:-

- provided a verbal update in relation to factors affecting the domestic and non-domestic rate movements.
- agreed to furnish Members with the timeline for works to the Aghalee Changing Facilities.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor B Higginson, seconded by Councillor R Carlin and agreed to recommend that the draft Estimates 2026/2027 as presented for the Leisure & Community Wellbeing Directorate be agreed, and be submitted into the overall Estimates of the Council for the year commencing the 1st April 2026.

7. Any Other Business – Confidential

7.1 Lough Moss – Feasibility Study
Councillor B Higginson

In response to comments from Councillor B Higginson, the Director and the Head of Sports Services provided an update as to the preparation of a Feasibility Study for Lough Moss, which would be presented to the Committee in due course.

7.2 Pitches Strategy
Councillor G McCleave

In response to comments from Councillor G McCleave, the Director provided an update as to the Pitches Strategy, it being noted that late February/March 2026 was the likely timeline for a Members' workshop.

7.3 Community Investment Fund
Holy Trinity Church of Ireland, Ballylesson, Drumbo
Councillor J Craig

In response to comments from Councillor J Craig, the Director agreed to confirm the funding streams agreed by the Council in regard to the project at Holy Trinity Church of Ireland, Ballylesson, and to revert to Councillor Craig off-line accordingly.

7.4 Billy Neill Country Park – Boardwalk
Alderman S Skillen

Alderman S Skillen referred to a boardwalk within the Billy Neill Country Park that required to be repaired.

The Director noted these comments for appropriate action.

Resumption of Normal Business

It was proposed by the Deputy Mayor, Alderman H Legge, seconded by Councillor R Carlin and agreed to come "out of Committee". Normal business and the audio recording were resumed. (7.08 pm)

8. Any Other Business

Dealt with under Item 5.

The Chair, Councillor T Mitchell, thanked those present for their attendance and - there being no further business - the meeting concluded at 7.08 pm.

MAYOR/CHAIR

LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL**Minutes of Meeting of the Environment and Sustainability Committee held in the Council Chamber, Island Civic Centre, on Wednesday 7 January, 2026 at 6.01 pm****PRESENT IN CHAMBER:**

Alderman O Gawith (Chair)

Councillor S Burns (Vice-Chair)

Alderman J Baird

Councillors J Bamford, P Catney, A Givan, G Hynds, B Magee, C McCready, M McKeever and N Parker

PRESENT IN REMOTE LOCATION:

Alderman S Skillen

Councillors D Bassett and R McLernon

IN ATTENDANCE:

Director of Environmental Services

Head of Service (Environmental Health, Risk & Emergency Planning)

Head of Service (Waste Management & Operational Services)

Business Support Manager (DI)

Member Services Officers (EW and BS)

Commencement of the Meeting

The Chair, Alderman O Gawith, welcomed those present to the meeting and advised that it would be audio recorded unless the item on the agenda was to be considered under confidential business. The Chair stated that unauthorised recording was not permitted, as per the Council's Standing Orders. The Chair asked that mobile phones be put on silent or switched off for the duration of the meeting.

In accordance with the Protocol for Remote Meetings, the Chair asked that those attending via zoom to ensure that the meeting could not be seen or heard by any other person at their remote location when confidential business was being considered. The Chair proceeded to outline the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency.

1. Apologies

Apologies were recorded on behalf of the Mayor, Alderman A Grehan and Councillor A Gowan.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

3. Report by Head of Service (Environmental Health, Risk and Emergency Planning)

3.1 Office of Product Safety & Standards (OPSS) Grant Funding for Reporting on Regulatory Capability and Capacity

Councillor D Bassett joined the meeting via Zoom during consideration of this item (6.07 pm)

Following a request from Councillor B Magee, regarding reporting against the performance for the funding received, the Head of Service (Environmental Health, Risk and Emergency Planning) agreed to furnish Members with the Performance Report.

In response to a query from Councillor G Hynds regarding the ability of the team to carry out the work and the impact of the withdrawal of the OPSS funding, the Head of Service advised that implementation would be completed by the end of the financial year and there would be no additional cost to the council as the result of the cessation of the funding.

It was proposed by Alderman J Baird, seconded by Councillor P Catney, and agreed to recommend approval for the acceptance of the 2025/2026 grant offer of up to £49,500 from OPSS, the national regulator for product safety, for activities carried out by the Environmental Health, Risk and Emergency Planning Unit as detailed in the report.

3.2 Environmental Crime

In response to comments from Councillor N Parker about the plans set out in the report for addressing the various elements of Environmental Crime, the Head of Service advised that the additional money from the Out Of Hours Dog Warden Service (OOHDWS) was being used to support both new and existing initiatives. He also advised that there were currently five enforcement officers which were split into two teams, one of whom dealt with dog fouling and the other team dealing with the other types of environmental crime. He also advised that within the new structure there would be an additional enforcement officer from the start of February 2026, and he further advised that the team would be multi-disciplined officers delivering the full functions of environmental crime.

Following comments from Councillor G Hynds about the community supporting the implementation of measures to address environmental crime, the Head of Service advised that the removal of graffiti was the responsibility of the property owner or the agency responsible for the street furniture. However, the council would support the removal of graffiti where possible and particularly in the case of "offensive" graffiti and would welcome any community support and local cooperation to reduce this matter.

In response to a query from Alderman S Skillen about the dog micro chipping events referenced in the report, the Head of Service advised that three community events for dog micro chipping would be held before the end of March 2026 and that they would be advertised through media channels.

3.2 Environmental Crime (Cont'd)

It was proposed by Councillor G Hynds, seconded by Alderman J Baird, and agreed to note the details of how the re-allocation of the OOHDWS funding will be used to target environmental crime across the council area.

3.3 Update on the Landlord Registration Scheme NI Transfer to LCCC

It was proposed by Councillor A Givan, seconded by Councillor P Catney, and agreed to note the updated report on the implementation of the Landlord Registration Scheme NI and its transfer to the council.

4. Report by Head of Service (Waste Management & Operational Services)

4.1 Eco Schools Request for Financial Support 2026/2027

In response to a question from Councillor B Magee about educational school visits by the environmental officers from Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful (KNIB), the Head of Service (Waste Management & Operational Services) advised that if Option 1 was put forward there would not be a reduced capacity for council officers to attend school visits.

Following a query from Alderman J Baird, the Head of Service advised that the funding to the Eco Schools Programme was in addition to the annual KNIB funding and would be taken from the Waste Management & Operational Services budget.

In response to a query from Councillor N Parker, the Head of Service advised that in the letter from Eco Schools requesting funding it didn't suggest how numbers would be increased in the 'Wheelie Big Challenge'.

It was proposed by Councillor P Catney, seconded by Alderman S Skillen, and agreed to recommend approval that:

- KNIB be provided with funding totalling £7,270 to support the Eco Schools Programme and Awards Ceremony in 2026/2027; and
- a community planning approach to develop enhanced levels of engagement in this area of work to maximise outputs/outcomes for the council area.

In advance of consideration of confidential business, the Chair, Alderman O Gawith advised that Any Other Business would be considered at this stage.

5. Any Other Business

5.1 Update on Bryson Recycling Councillor S Burns

Councillor J Bamford left and returned to the meeting during this item of business (7.10 pm and 7.13 pm respectively)

In response to a query from Councillor S Burns about the uplift of bins in Castlereagh East, the Head of Service (Waste Management & Operational Services) advised that he, along with the Director and contract management

5.1 Update on Bryson Recycling (Cont'd)
Councillor S Burns

officers, met with the Chief Executive of Bryson House on Monday 5 January and asked the Director to provide an update.

The Director apologised for the prolonged and continued disruption of service in Castlereagh. She further stated that Bryson were equally apologetic, and gave assurances that a recovery plan was being put in place with more immediate measures. This includes additional collection crews that will operate on an evening and weekend basis to complete as many collections as possible on the scheduled day or within 24 hours. This will ensure that each household has had at least a weekly collection. The Director also advised that any staff in Bryson with the relevant licence are being redeployed from other duties to driving collection rounds and there has been a comprehensive review of recruitment and retention practices that have been undertaken including job descriptions, rates of pay and training. There have been three new members of staff recruited this week and a further five are due to start by mid-January. The implementation of the recovery plan will take a number of weeks to embed and it is unlikely that improvements to service will be fully implemented until the start of February.

5.2 Bryson Recycling
Councillor D Bassett

In response to comments made by Councillor D Bassett, the Director advised that the terms and conditions of the contract with Bryson were being robustly monitored by the Head of Service and his team. In response to a proposal put forward by Councillor Bassett for Bryson to come to the Council Chamber, the Director asked that the committee afford Bryson the opportunity to implement its recovery plan over the next four to six weeks at which time a further assessment can be made regarding improvements to the service delivery.

5.3 Bryson Recycling
Alderman S Skillen

Alderman S Skillen stated that she had received complaints from frustrated constituents over bins not being emptied and she said that with food wasted being left for four weeks it had the potential to attract vermin.

5.4 Bryson Recycling and DAERA Consultation Update
Councillor P Catney

Councillor P Catney stated that as there was now a plan in place with Bryson that this should be given time to work through and revisit after the time allocated if required. He also enquired about an update to the DAERA consultation on 'Rethinking Our Resources'. The Director advised Councillor Catney that there was no update available at present.

5.5 Updated Report
Councillor M McKeever

In response to comments made by Councillor M McKeever around bins not being lifted for a long period of time, the Director advised that the service was still deliverable with the monitoring of the contract and that Bryson reported twice daily on the crews that are out, the crews that are not out, the disruption to the service and the mop-up they will perform, either that evening or the next day. The Director also wanted to reassure the committee that there was no additional cost to the council and that Bryson has borne the cost of the remedial actions. It was agreed by the Director in response to a request by Councillor McKeever to bring an update report to the committee in respect of the service disruption experienced by council through its contract with Bryson, how it has been monitored and plans for improvement.

5.6 Advice to Constituents
Councillor S Burns

In response to a query from Councillor S Burns regarding information to constituents, the Head of Service (Waste Management & Operational Services) agreed that the DEA representatives would be given information as to when there would be a disruption to service and when to expect this service to be reinstated.

5.7 Capacity to Help
Councillor A Givan

In response to a query from Councillor A Givan around the potential for council to perform the bin collections in the affected areas, the Head of Service (Waste Management & Operational Services) advised that the council did not have the spare capacity in terms of drivers to undertake this contract.

5.8 Email Correspondence
Councillor D Bassett

Following a request from Councillor D Bassett, the Director agreed to send email correspondence to all the DEA representatives to include what Bryson have agreed with council to restore the service.

5.9 Bin Collections, Localised Winter Programme, Litter and Fly-tipping and Condition of Roads and Paths
Councillor G Hynds

Councillor B Magee left and returned to the meeting during this item of business (7.18 pm and 7.20 pm respectively)

Councillor G Hynds wished it to be put on record his praise to staff and thanked the Head of Service for his advice and support during the week. He also praised the staff at The Cutts for helping an elderly woman at this facility.

In response to a query from Councillor G Hynds regarding fly-tipping, the Director said that the council would welcome any evidence he had about this matter in order that it can be pro-actively addressed.

5.9 Bin Collections, Localised Winter Programme, Litter and Fly-tipping and Condition of Roads and Paths (Cont'd)
Councillor G Hynds

Councillor Hynds further asked the Director about gritting in the city centre to which she replied that there was a protocol in place for adverse weather conditions, but it didn't extend to areas further than the city centre. It was on main thoroughfare routes where council staff as advised by DFI would grit as directed. Such gritting would be undertaken by teams from Street Cleansing and Parks & Amenities.

5.10 Suspension of Brown Bin Collection
Councillor B Magee

Councillor M McKeever left and returned to the meeting during this item of business (7.16 pm and 7.18 pm respectively)

In response to a query from Councillor B Magee regarding brown bins, the Head of Service advised that the suspension of the brown bin collection was the first time trying this out over the Christmas period, but he understood that some people may not have been checking the website to see this information and that it would be looked at to see how best the information can be relayed in the future.

5.11 Missed Bin Collection
Councillor G Hynds

In response to a query from Councillor G Hynds regarding missed bin collections, the Head of Service advised that collections affected at the start of the week due to the weather conditions should be completed by Saturday at the latest, however if there were any areas not completed, he asked that Members get in touch with him in order to get these scheduled for collection.

5.12 Localised Winter Programme
Councillor G Hynds

In response to a query from Councillor Hynds regarding gritting in adverse weather, the Director advised that the council would not have the funding, resources or manpower to carry out such an extensive programme of gritting across the council area. The Director advised that DFI supplied grit boxes to residential areas and the request for a grit box could be applied for on the NI Direct website.

6. Confidential Report by the Director of Environmental Services

The Chair, Alderman O Gawith, advised that the confidential report items would be dealt with "In Committee" due to containing information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information).

"In Committee"

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It was proposed by Councillor P Catney, seconded by Councillor A Givan, and agreed that the following matters be considered "In Committee," in the absence of members of the press and public being present.

The member of the press seated in the public gallery left the Council Chamber (7.23 pm).

6.1 2026/2027 Packaging Extended Producer Responsibility (pEPR) Update
(A Redacted Report will become available following ratification by Council in January 2026)

Following the presentation of the report, the Director of Environmental Services and the Head of Service (Waste Management & Operational Services) responded to questions raised by Members.

It was proposed by Alderman J Baird, seconded by Councillor P Catney, and agreed to the recommendations as set out in the report which included:

6.1 2026/2027 Packaging Extended Producer Responsibility (pEPR) Update
(Cont'd)

- noting the updated payment value to be received through pEPR in 2026/2027;
- agreeing to contribute to revenue budgets to support uplift in waste management costs, specifically those associated with recycling disposal; and
- agreeing to allocate the remaining balance to the Waste Fund for allocation in accordance with the terms and conditions of the pEPR Scheme.

6.2 Evaluation and Award criteria in the Tender for the Collection, Transportation and Recovery of Waste Wood from Council Household Recycling Centres

(A Redacted Report will become available following council approval at the end of January 2026)

Following the presentation of the report, the Head of Service (Waste Management & Operational Services) responded to a question raised by a Member.

It was proposed by Councillor A Givan, seconded by Alderman J Baird, and agreed to recommend approval of the evaluation and award criteria as outlined in the report for the tender for the collection, transportation and recovery of waste wood from council Household Recycling Centres.

6.3 Estimates Process – Directorate Update
(The Report will never become available, final estimates will be released)

Councillor R McLernon and Alderman S Skillen left the meeting during this item of business (7.40 pm and 7.43 pm respectively)

6.3 Estimates Process – Directorate Update (Cont'd)

Following the presentation of the report, the Director of Environmental Services responded to questions raised by Members.

It was proposed by Councillor P Catney, seconded by Alderman J Baird, and agreed to recommend approval of the draft estimates for the Environmental Services Directorate as presented in order to be submitted into the overall estimates of the council for the year commencing 1st April 2026.

7. Any Other Business (Confidential)

The Director of Environmental Services and the Head of Service (Waste Management & Operational Services) responded to a number of questions raised by Members.

Resumption of Normal Business

It was proposed by Councillor P Catney, seconded by Councillor A Givan, and agreed to come out of Committee and normal business was resumed.

The Chair, Alderman O Gawith, thanked Members for their attendance.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 7.59 pm.

Chairperson

LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL**Minutes of Meeting of the Regeneration & Growth Committee held in the Council Chamber, Island Civic Centre, The Island, Lisburn and in remote locations on Thursday, 8 January 2026 at 6.00 pm****PRESENT IN THE CHAMBER:**

Councillor C Kemp (Chairperson)

Councillor J Harpur (Vice Chairperson)

Aldermen J Baird, A G Ewart MBE, M Gregg and A McIntyre

Councillors K Dickson, A Gowan, U Mackin, A Martin, T Mitchell and C McCready

PRESENT REMOTELY: Councillors J Laverty BEM and D Lynch**OTHER MEMBERS IN THE CHAMBER**

Councillors B Higginson and G Hynds

OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT REMOTELY:

Councillors D Bassett and R Carlin

IN ATTENDANCE

Director of Regeneration & Growth
Head of Assets
Head of Economic Development
Head of Planning & Capital Development
Member Services Manager (Acting)
Member Services Officer
IT Officer

Commencement of Meeting

The Chairperson, Councillor C Kemp, extended a welcome to everyone in attendance at the January meeting of the Regeneration & Growth Committee.

The Chairperson reminded those present that the meeting was being audio recorded unless the item was being considered under confidential business. The Chairperson also outlined the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency.

1. Apologies

It was agreed to accept apologies for non-attendance on behalf of The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Alderman A Grehan and Alderman A G Ewart.

2. Declarations of Interest

During the course of the meeting Councillor A Martin declared an interest in item 5.2 Consultation for the Proposed Listing of a Building in view of his membership of Dromore Presbytery which oversees the building proposed to be listed by DfC.

3. Report of Head of Economic Development

3.1 EU Trade Programme (NI-NL Trade Initiative)

Councillor R Carlin joined the meeting remotely at 6.04 pm.

The Head of Economic Development's report detailed the background and key issues in connection with the EU Trade Programme known as the NI-NL Trade Initiative.

The Head of Economic Development updated the Committee on developments since the issuing of the report in that the Department for the Economy had confirmed that the Local Economic Partnership (LEP) funding would be eligible to fund the NI-NL trade activity element of this initiative.

It was noted that a revised Programme was re-tendered and successfully awarded at the beginning of December 2025 and that the detailed programme of activities for the event was currently under development, which included the New Year Trade Dinner which was proposed to take place in early 2026.

The Head of Economic Development having outlined the recommendations as set out in his report, highlighted that nominees to take part in the NI-NL Trade initiative would be sought through the Party Group Leaders on a cross party basis.

It was proposed by Councillor K Dickson, seconded by Councillor J Gallen, and agreed to recommend that:

- a) the EU Trade Programme and NI-NL Forum are scaled up in line with the agreed Local Economic Partnership (LEP) Action Plan,
- b) delegated authority for the approval of the final programme be granted to the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of the Committee in consultation with the Director of Regeneration & Growth, and
- c) the EU Trade Programme be progressed as outlined in the report.

In addition and at the request of Councillor K Dickson, it was agreed to recommend that full costings for a cross-party delegation to take part in the civic element of the initiative be brought to Committee for consideration.

4. Any Other Business

4.1 Free Car Parking During January 2026 Councillor G Hynds

It was agreed at the request of Councillor G Hynds that social media posts be issued to advertise the free car parking in Council car parks on Saturdays during January 2026.

4.2 Street Signage Councillor A Martin

Councillor A Martin welcomed the new signage in and around Lisburn City Centre, which, he stated, looked good and also directed to where the public toilets were located. Councillor Martin commended the Council for having progressed this initiative.

5. Confidential Report from Director of Regeneration & Growth

The Chairperson, Councillor C Kemp, advised that confidential reports were required to be considered under confidential business due to containing information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information).

In Committee

It was proposed by Alderman J Baird, seconded by Councillor T Mitchell, and agreed that the Confidential Reports be considered “in Committee” in the absence of press or members of the public. The audio recording was paused at this stage in proceedings.

5.1 Letting of Pitch 5i, Lough Moss Leisure Centre (Redacted report to be published 31 March 2026)

The Head of Assets presented this item of business during which she, along with the Director of Regeneration & Growth responded to comments from Members present in connection with key issues set out in the report.

It was proposed by Councillor J Gallen, seconded by the Vice Chairperson, Councillor J Harpur, and agreed to recommend that:

- a) the insertion of a five year break clause within the draft lease be agreed, and
- b) the abandonment of the letting of pitch 5i at Lough Moss be agreed should the draft lease as amended not be signed by the end of June 2026, and not by the end of February 2026 as detailed in the Officer's recommendation.

Councillors D Bassett and R Carlin left the meeting remotely at 6.30 pm.

Councillor A Martin left the meeting at this juncture, having declared an interest in the following item of business (6.30 pm).

5.2 Consultation for the Proposed Listing of a Building

(Report to be published when a decision is made by the Department for Communities on whether the buildings should be added to the list of buildings of special architectural or historic interest)

Councillor B Higginson left the meeting during consideration of this item of business (6.33 pm).

The Head of Planning & Capital Development presented this item of business and responded to a question from a Member in regard to the above-mentioned consultation.

Copies of related correspondence from the Department for Communities (DfC) Historic Environment Division dated 24 November 2025 and 5 December 2025 had been appended to the Officer's report together with the consultation report, a location Map and an extract of the Planning (Northern Ireland) Act 2011 (ref Section 81).

It was proposed by Alderman A McIntyre, seconded by Councillor U Mackin, and agreed that the Officer's recommendation be agreed; namely; the Committee agrees that the tests for issuing a building preservation notice are not met in this instance and that the Council has no comment to make in respect of the proposed listing.

5.3 Regeneration & Growth Estimates 2026/2027

(Full Estimates to be published in February 2026)

Councillor A Martin returned to the meeting at 6.36 pm.

The Committee had been furnished with a copy of the current year-to-date budget position for the Regeneration & Growth Directorate together with the current proposed budgets for 2026/2027.

The Director of Regeneration & Growth outlined the background and key issues in connection with the draft Estimates for the Regeneration & Growth Directorate for 2026/2027 during which he provided a verbal update following a recent notification from LPS. The Director and the Head of Economic Development responded to questions and comments raised by Members in connection with draft estimates, as presented.

Councillor A Gowan left the meeting during the Director's presentation (6.37 pm).

It was proposed by Alderman J Baird, seconded by Councillor T Mitchell, and agreed that the draft Estimates for the Regeneration & Growth Directorate 2026/2027, as presented, be agreed and be submitted into the overall Estimates of the Council for the year commencing 1 April 2026 for consideration at a Special Meeting of the Corporate Services Committee on 22nd January 2026.

6. Any Other Business - Confidential

6.1 Lease Agreements

Vice Chairperson, Councillor J Harpur

The Director of Regeneration & Growth and the Head of Assets responded to comments from the Vice Chairperson, Councillor J Harpur in relation to a previous request for a report to come to Committee on the subject of Council rental and lease agreements across the Council area. The Director advised that it was intended that such a report would come forward in the next couple of months, along with an update on the Estate.

Councillor D Lynch left the meeting remotely at 7.03 pm.

6.2 Issue with a Pathway in Castlereagh South DEA

Vice Chairperson, Councillor J Harpur

Councillor C McCready left the meeting at 7.04 pm.

The Director of Regeneration & Growth responded to comments from the Vice Chairperson, Councillor J Harpur, in connection with an issue relating to a pathway within Castlereagh South DEA.

6.3 February Meeting of the Regeneration & Growth Committee

Director of Regeneration & Growth

The Director of Regeneration & Growth apologised for his unavailability at the February meeting of the Committee which had been re-scheduled to Thursday, 12 February due to the Council meeting to strike the rate taking place on Thursday, 5 February. The Director advised that one of the Heads of Service from his Directorate would take the lead at this meeting.

Resumption of Normal Business

It was proposed by Councillor T Mitchell, seconded by Alderman A McIntyre, and agreed to come out of Committee and normal business was resumed.

Conclusion of Meeting

The Chairperson thanked everyone for their attendance and wished everyone a Happy New Year. There being no further business for consideration the meeting was concluded at 7.08 pm.

Chairperson

LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of the Corporate Services Committee held remotely and in the Council Chamber, Island Civic Centre, The Island, Lisburn on Wednesday 14th January 2026 at 6.00 pm.

**PRESENT IN
COUNCIL CHAMBER
(COMMITTEE):**

Councillor B Higginson (Chair)

Councillor J Bamford (Vice-Chair)

The Right Worshipful The Mayor
Alderman A Grehan

Aldermen A Ewart MBE, M Gregg and P Porter

Councillors T Beckett, K Dickson, A Ewing,
J Harpur, G McCleave, R McLernon and N Parker

**PRESENT IN
REMOTE LOCATION
(COMMITTEE)**

Councillors R Carlin and J Laverty BEM

**OTHER MEMBERS
OF COUNCIL
PRESENT IN
COUNCIL CHAMBER:**

Alderman O Gawith

Councillors P Catney, G Hynds, U Mackin and
M McKeever

**OTHER MEMBERS
OF COUNCIL
PRESENT IN A
REMOTE LOCATION**

Alderman J Tinsley

Councillors A Givan and B Magee

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Executive
Director of Organisation Development & Innovation
Head of Assets
Head of Finance
Head of Governance & Communications
Head of Planning & Capital Development
Member Services Officers (RN & EW)

Commencement of Meeting

The Chair, Councillor B Higginson, welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished them a Happy, Healthy and Peaceful New Year.

The Chair advised that the meeting would be audio recorded unless the item on the agenda was to be considered under confidential business.

Unauthorised recording was not permitted, as per 8.5 of the Council's Standing Orders. Mobile phones were to be turned off or placed on silent mode for the duration of the meeting. Members attending remotely were asked to keep their cameras on. Finally, the Chair asked that any Member entering or leaving the meeting alert the Member Services Officer accordingly so that this might be accurately reflected in the minutes.

The Chief Executive outlined the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency.

1. Apologies

There were no apologies.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

3. Report of Head of Governance & Communications

3.1 St Patrick's Day – Presentation of Shamrock

In addition to the narrative report, Members had been provided with copy of a letter dated the 7th January 2026 from the Commanding Officer of 2nd Battalion The Royal Irish Regiment, regarding its St Patrick's Day Presentation of Shamrock event being held in Royal Hillsborough on Saturday 14th March 2026.

2nd Royal Irish was seeking assistance from the Council to enhance the event and to bring it into the community for the first time.

It was proposed by Councillor J Bamford and seconded by Alderman P Porter that financial assistance in the sum of £10,000 be made available to support infrastructure and event planning associated with 2 Royal Irish's Presentation of Shamrock event being held in Royal Hillsborough on Saturday, 14th March 2026.

Councillor G McCleave stated that he was unable to accept the recommendation before the Committee as he considered that the evaluation of this request for assistance appeared to have been less rigorous than normal.

A recorded vote was taken, the voting being as follows:-

For the Proposal: Councillor J Bamford, Councillor T Beckett, Councillor K Dickson, Alderman A Ewart, Councillor A Ewing, Alderman M Gregg, Alderman A Grehan, Councillor J Harpur, Councillor B Higginson, Councillor J Laverty, Councillor R McLernon, Councillor N Parker, Alderman P Porter. (**Total = 13**)

Against the Proposal: Councillor R Carlin, Councillor G McCleave. (**Total = 2**)

3.1 St Patrick's Day – Presentation of Shamrock (Continued)

The proposal in the name of Councillor J Bamford and seconded by Alderman P Porter was declared "carried" on a vote of 13 for the proposal and two against it.

Councillor R Carlin joined the meeting on a remote basis during the Head of Service's presentation of this item. (6.05 pm)

Alderman J Tinsley left the meeting on a remote basis after the conclusion of this item. (6.10 pm)

4. Any Other Business – Non-Confidential

4.1 Plaque at Lagan Valley Island for the former Prince Andrew Councillor G Hynds

Councillor G Hynds sought information as to the decision-making process associated with the removal of the plaque at the tree planted in the grounds of Lagan Valley Island by the former Prince Andrew. The Right Worshipful The Mayor, Alderman A Grehan, and Alderman P Porter also sought clarity on this. The Chief Executive responded to this matter in confidential business.

5. Confidential Report from Chief Executive

The reasons for confidentiality were as set out in the agenda, ie: -

5.1 Tender Awards

(Confidential for reason of information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information).)

Redacted report to become available following Council on the 27th January 2026 and the signing of the contract.

5.2 Quarterly Update on the Financial Position of the Capital Programme 2025-2030

(Confidential for reason of information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information).)

Redacted report to become available post financial year-end with the Capital Programme released as part of the budget setting process each year.

5.3 Movements & Changes in the Capital Programme to November 2025

(Confidential for reason of information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information).)

Redacted report to become available post financial year-end with the Capital Programme released as part of the budget setting process each year.

5.4 Debt Write-Off Request

(Confidential for reason of information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information).)

Redacted report to become available following Council on the 27th January 2026.

5.5 Estimates 2026/2027 – Directorate Position

(Confidential for reason of information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information).)

Report will never become available. (Final estimates will be released in February 2026.)

5.6 Estimates 2026/2027 – Corporate Update

(Confidential for reason of information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information).)

Report will never become available. (Final estimates will be released in February 2026.)

5.7 Efficiency Review Steering Group (ERSG) Meetings

(Confidential for reason of information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the Council or a Government Department and employees, or office holders under, the Council.)

Redacted report to become available following Council on the 27th January 2026.

5.8 Finance and Legal Support

(Confidential for reason of information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information).)

Report will never become available.

“In Committee”

It was proposed by Alderman M Gregg, seconded by Alderman A Ewart and agreed that the Confidential Report of the Chief Executive be considered “in Committee”. (Recording was paused at this stage in proceedings. The press member left the meeting and there were no public present.) (6.15 pm)

5.1 Report on Tender Awards

Presented by the Head of Assets.

A tender report and a summary of the tender awarded had been provided with the narrative report.

It was proposed by Alderman M Gregg, seconded by Councillor G McCleave and agreed to recommend that the tender awarded in regard to the following contract, together with the attendant tender report, be noted:-

- T25/26-022 PPM & RM 25: Kitchen Grease Extract Systems.

It was further agreed on the Proposal made by Alderman M Gregg and seconded by Councillor G McCleave to recommend that the signing and sealing of the Tender documents be approved.

The Right Worshipful The Mayor, Alderman A Grehan, left the Chamber during the Head of Service's presentation of this item. (6.16 pm)

5.2 Quarterly Update on the Financial Position of the Capital Programme 2025-2030

Presented by the Head of Planning & Capital Development.

In addition to the narrative report, the Capital Programme Review as at the 30th November 2025 had been provided. The Head of Planning & Capital Development responded to Members' questions thereon.

It was proposed by Alderman P Porter, seconded by Councillor G McCleave and agreed to recommend that:-

- the narrative report be noted;
- the capital budget as at the 30th November 2025 and as set out in the report be agreed, it being noted that the net cost of the Capital Programme remains within the approved budget, taking account of the most recent movements and changes.

The Head of Planning & Capital Development undertook to speak off-line with Councillor N Parker about the Stockdam Glen Linear Park project.

The Right Worshipful The Mayor, Alderman A Grehan, returned to the Chamber during discussion of this item. (6.20 pm)

5.3 Movements & Changes in the Capital Programme to November 2025

Presented by the Head of Planning & Capital Development who responded to Members' questions.

It was proposed by Alderman P Porter, seconded by Councillor J Harpur and agreed to recommend that the following be agreed:-

- the narrative report;
- the movements, changes and revised budgets of the projects as specified in the report;
- the financial uplift as detailed in regard to the overall Capital Programme budget so as to accommodate the Carryduff Primary School Pitches project.

In regard to the Carryduff Primary School Pitches project, the Head of Planning & Capital Development pointed out that the decision to include this project followed consultation with the Members for the DEA.

Alderman P Porter referred to the active contribution which Christopher Stalford MLA (now deceased) had made to bring the Carryduff Primary School Pitches project to fruition and asked to have this placed on record. Alderman Porter also commended the work of Councillor B Higginson in bringing this project forward.

5.4 Debt Write-Off Request

Presented by the Head of Finance who responded to Members' questions.

It was proposed by Councillor A Ewing, seconded by Alderman M Gregg and agreed to recommend that the debt as set out in the Head of Finance's report be written off.

Councillor T Beckett left the Chamber during the Head of Finance's presentation of this item. (6.27 pm)

5.5 Estimates 2026/2027

5.5.1 Directorate Position

Presented by the Head of Finance.

The report and appendices covered the Finance & Corporate Services Directorate; the Organisation Development & Innovation Directorate; and the Chief Executive's Office.

5.5 Estimates 2026/2027 (Continued)

5.5.1 Directorate Position (Continued)

An extensive narrative report together with the following for the two directorates and the office named above had been provided:-

- 2026/2027 Estimates with 2025/2026 Actuals for Period 7;
- 2026/2027 Payroll/Non-Payroll/Expenditure/Income Split with corresponding figures for 2025/2026;
- Detailed Estimates Overview per Service Unit;
- Repairs & Renewal Schedule for 2026/2027;
- Capital Programme Spend Profiles (December 2025).

The Head of Finance and the Director of Organisation Development & Innovation responded to Members' questions and clarified a number of issues.

The Head of Finance agreed that any future reports would include further narrative where there were significant changes from the previous year's budget.

It was proposed by Alderman M Gregg, seconded by Councillor J Laverty and agreed to recommend that the Draft Estimates as presented for the Finance & Corporate Services Directorate; the Organisation Development & Innovation Directorate; and the Chief Executive's Office, be agreed and be submitted into the overall estimates of the Council for the year commencing the 1st April 2026.

Councillor A Ewing left the Chamber during presentation of the item. (6.32 pm)

5.5.2 Estimates 2026/2027 – Corporate Update

Presented by the Head of Finance who responded to Members' questions.

An extensive narrative report had been provided. The Head of Finance took Members through the report, and its content was duly noted.

5.5.3 Special Meeting of Corporate Services Committee

The Chair reminded Members of the Special Meeting of the Corporate Services Committee scheduled for Thursday 22nd January 2026 at 6.00 pm, the purpose of which being to make recommendations as to the Domestic and Non-Domestic Rates to be struck for 2026/2027.

5.6 Efficiency Review Steering Group (ERSG) Meetings

Presented by the Director of Organisation Development & Innovation. The Head of Assets and the Head of Planning & Capital Development were also available at the meeting to provide clarification if so required.

5.6 Efficiency Review Steering Group (ERSG) Meetings (Continued)

In addition to the narrative report, the following had been provided:-

- minutes and action document of a meeting of the Efficiency Review Steering Group (ERSG) held on the 2nd September 2025,
- minutes and action document of a meeting of the Efficiency Review Steering Group (ERSG) held on the 4th November 2025, together with related presentations which had been made to that meeting in regard to the Planning & Capital Development Unit and the Assets Unit (Procurement Section).

It was proposed by Alderman M Gregg, seconded by Alderman A Ewart and agreed to recommend that:-

- the minutes and action documents of the meetings of the Efficiency Review Steering Group held on the 2nd September and 4th November 2025 be noted;
- the recommendations of the Efficiency Review Steering Group in regard to the proposed staffing structures as detailed in the Director's report for amendments to the Planning & Capital Development Unit and the restructuring of the Assets Unit (Procurement Section) be agreed.

As no meetings of the ERSG would be taking place before April 2026, the Director of Organisation Development & Innovation had agreed to provide the ERSG with a monthly update. It was agreed that the circulation of this update be widened to the Committee.

5.7 Finance and Legal Support

Being dealt with at conclusion of meeting.

5.8 Council Mobile Phones

The Head of Governance & Communications made a verbal report on a number of aspects in regard to mobile phones. A further report would be brought to the next meeting.

The Head of Assets and the Head of Planning & Capital Development left the Chamber. (6.59 pm)

5.9 Plaque at Lagan Valley Island for the former Prince Andrew

The Chief Executive advised that, - in order to mitigate against vandalism of the plaque at the tree planted by the former Prince Andrew and also at Lagan Valley Island in general, the plaque had been removed prior to Christmas 2025.

6. Any Other Business – Confidential

No further business of a confidential nature was raised by Members.

All officers apart from the Chief Executive and the Director of Organisation Development & Innovation left the meeting. (7.00 pm)

7. Finance and Legal Support

The Chief Executive circulated and presented a tabled report, and responded to questions posed.

It was proposed by Alderman P Porter, seconded by Councillor R McLernon and agreed to agree the recommendations within the report, namely:-

- to progress with financial and legal support as outlined in the report; and
- that a further update be provided to the Committee in due course.

During the course of this item of business:-

- Councillor B Magee joined the meeting on a remote basis at the start of this item. (7.01 pm)
- the meeting adjourned at 7.50 pm and re-convened at 8.09 pm;
- Councillor A Givan left the meeting on a remote basis when it adjourned at 7.50 pm and did not return thereafter;
- Councillor A Ewing returned to the Chamber during the adjournment at 8.03 pm;
- Councillor B Hynds returned to the Chamber at 8.10 pm;
- Alderman O Gawith left and returned to the Chamber at 8.19 pm.

“Out of Committee”

It was proposed by Councillor J Harpur, seconded by Councillor J Bamford and agreed to come “out of Committee”.

The Chair, Councillor B Higginson, thanked everyone for their attendance and - there being no further business - the meeting concluded at 8.22 pm.

MAYOR/CHAIR

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LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL

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Minutes of Planning Committee Meeting held in the Council Chamber and in Remote Locations on Monday, 1 December, 2025 at 10.02 am**PRESENT IN CHAMBER:**

Alderman J Tinsley (Chair)

Aldermen O Gawith and M Gregg

Councillors S Burns, P Catney, D J Craig, J Laverty BEM, A Martin and N Trimble

PRESENT IN REMOTE LOCATION:

Councillor D Bassett

IN ATTENDANCE:

Director of Regeneration and Growth
Head of Planning & Capital Development
Principal Planning Officer (PS)
Senior Planning Officers (MB, PMcF and GM)
Member Services Officers (CR, EW and FA)

Cleaver Fulton Rankin

Mr B Martyn, Legal Advisor
Ms C McPeake (remote attendance)
Mr P Lockhart (remote attendance)

Before commencing the business on the agenda, the Chair, Alderman J Tinsley, advised that correspondence had been received late the previous night in respect of the first application on the schedule, LA05/2023/0344/F. The Head of Planning & Capital Development pointed out that the late representation had not been uploaded to the Planning Portal, nor had the applicant had sight of it. In consultation with the Chair, it was agreed that the meeting be adjourned for approximately 30 minutes to allow the representation to be circulated to Members for consideration, to allow the applicant to have sight of the objection and to afford Officers time to consider its contents and offer advice. This application would then be moved to the end of today's schedule.

Adjournment of Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 10.05 am.

Resumption of Meeting

The meeting was resumed at 10.44 am.

Councillor D J Craig arrived to the meeting during the adjournment.

Commencement of Meeting

At the commencement of the meeting, the Chair, Alderman J Tinsley, welcomed those present to the Planning Committee. He pointed out that, unless the item on the agenda was considered under confidential business, this meeting would be audio recorded. The Head of Planning & Capital Development outlined the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency.

1. Apologies

It was agreed to accept an apology for non-attendance at the meeting on behalf of the Vice-Chair, Councillor G Thompson.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of Meeting of Planning Committee held on 3 November, 2025

It was proposed by Councillor J Laverty, seconded by Alderman M Gregg and agreed that the minutes of the meeting of Committee held on 3 November, 2025 be confirmed and signed.

4. Report from the Head of Planning & Capital Development4.1 Schedule of Applications

The Chair, Alderman J Tinsley, advised that there were 1 major and 3 local applications on the schedule for consideration at the meeting.

4.1.1 Applications to be Determined

The Legal Advisor, Mr B Martyn, highlighted paragraphs 43-46 of the Protocol for the Operation of the Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council Planning Committee which, he advised, needed to be borne in mind when determinations were being made.

- (i) LA05/2023/0377/F – Proposed social housing scheme comprising 20 apartments (mix of 18 2 bed and 2 1 bed wheelchair) with communal amenity space, bin and cycle storage, landscaping, carparking, new site access and all associated site and access works on lands adjacent to 3-19 Moira Road, Lisburn

The Senior Planning Officer (PMcF) presented the above application as outlined within the circulated report.

Messrs D Broderick and E Neeson were in attendance remotely and they addressed a number of Members' queries.

(i) LA05/2023/0377/F – Proposed social housing scheme comprising 20 apartments (mix of 18 2 bed and 2 1 bed wheelchair) with communal amenity space, bin and cycle storage, landscaping, carparking, new site access and all associated site and access works on lands adjacent to 3-19 Moira Road, Lisburn (Contd)

A number of Members' queries were responded to by Planning Officers.

Debate

At the discretion of the Chair, Alderman J Tinsley, a number of Members' questions were permitted to be answered during the debate stage. In response to queries raised, the Head of Planning & Capital Development confirmed, that should the planning application be approved, conditions 6 and 7 dealing with impact of noise, could have additional wording inserted to require that a report be submitted to verify that necessary mitigation works had been carried out.

During debate:

- the Chair, Alderman J Tinsley, welcomed this application which would greatly improve the site at Moira Road. The provision of wheelchair access to the development, as well as its proximity to public transport, was also welcomed;
- Alderman O Gawith welcomed this application. He was glad to see the development set back off the road and more in line with the adjacent commercial properties, which meant no overbearing onto the road. He stated that he was disappointed that the level of energy efficiency would only be as per requirements, rather than the opportunity taken to provide anything more innovative and more efficient;
- Councillor D Bassett welcomed this application, particularly the inclusion of 2 wheelchair accessible ground floor apartments;
- Councillor D J Craig stated that, with the assurances provided by Officers, he was content that approval be granted to this application. He looked forward to seeing how the Housing Association would control tenants within the facility and ensure they adhered to the terms and conditions they signed up to; however, that was outside of the Council's control;
- Councillor P Catney welcomed this application, which together with the recently developed Eurospar, would improve the area. He referred to the provision of bike racks at the proposed development but stated that there was no bike lane on the busy Moira Road. He stated that the Council could do more to enhance sustainable travel; and
- Alderman M Gregg stated that social housing was much welcomed and much needed in the area. He welcomed the additional wording that was identified for conditions 6 and 7, but was surprised it was needed. He welcomed the fact that the application met policy RE2 and that the fabric first approach was being taken, although if the facility could be developed to higher standards that would be welcomed. He had had concerns regarding the number of parking spaces, but those had been addressed during discussion. Alderman Gregg was in support of the recommendation of the Planning Officer to grant planning permission.

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(i) LA05/2023/0377/F – Proposed social housing scheme comprising 20 apartments (mix of 18 2 bed and 2 1 bed wheelchair) with communal amenity space, bin and cycle storage, landscaping, carparking, new site access and all associated site and access works on lands adjacent to 3-19 Moira Road, Lisburn (Contd)

Vote

Having considered the information provided within the report of the Planning Officer, the Committee agreed unanimously to adopt the recommendation to approve this application, it being noted that additional wording would be included in conditions 6 and 7, as discussed.

Adjournment of Meeting

The Chair, Alderman J Tinsley, declared the meeting adjourned at this point for a comfort break (11.39 am).

Resumption of Meeting

The meeting was resumed at 11.49 am.

(ii) LA05/2024/0799/F – Farm building for livestock and farm machinery located 90 metres southwest of 135 Pond Park Road, Lisburn

The Senior Planning Officer (PMcF) presented the above application as outlined within the circulated report.

The Committee received Mr A McCready, accompanied by Mr R Belshaw, to speak in support of the application and a number of Members' queries were addressed.

A number of Members' queries were responded to by Planning Officers.

Debate

During debate:

- Alderman O Gawith stated that, unfortunately, the Committee had been drip-fed information in respect of this application. It was not convincing to him, especially given that there was a small building there that could have been brought up standard to store the small amount of hay that would be generated from a two-acre holding. Alderman Gawith was in support of the recommendation of the Planning Officer to refuse planning permission; and
- the Chair, Alderman J Tinsley, stated that he believed it was sometimes harder for a small farmer to produce as much as they could. He understood that storing hay until it was dry would command a better price when it was sold and he also appreciated that the applicant would be taking on more land at a later stage. He agreed with the point made by Alderman Gawith that

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(ii) LA05/2024/0799/F – Farm building for livestock and farm machinery located 90 metres southwest of 135 Pond Park Road, Lisburn (Contd)

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information had been drip-fed. However, he considered this was a genuine case and all the pieces did add up. Alderman Tinsley was satisfied in respect of integration with the surrounding land and the condition of the field and was not in support of the recommendation of the Planning Officer to refuse planning permission.

On a vote being taken, it was agreed to adopt the recommendation of the Planning Officer to refuse planning permission, the voting being:

In favour: Councillor D Bassett, Councillor S Burns, Councillor P Catney, Councillor D J Craig, Alderman O Gawith, Alderman M Gregg, Councillor J Laverty, Councillor A Martin and Councillor N Trimble (9)

Against: Alderman J Tinsley (1)

It was agreed that, prior to adjourning the meeting for lunch, items 4.2 – 4.7 on the agenda would be considered.

Councillor P Catney left the meeting at 12.44 pm.

4.2 Statutory Performance Indicators – October 2025

During this item of business, Councillor P Catney returned to the meeting (12.46 pm), Councillor A Martin left the meeting (12.47 pm) and Alderman O Gawith left, and returned to, the meeting (12.46 pm and 12.49 pm).

It was agreed that information relating to Statutory Performance Indicators for October 2025 be noted. The Chair, Alderman J Tinsley, welcomed the improvement in performance outlined in the report and commended Officers for that.

4.3 Appeal Decision – LA05/2023/0863/A

It was agreed that the report and decision of the Planning Appeals Commission in respect of the above appeal be noted.

4.4 Notification by Telecommunication Operator(s) of Intention to Utilise Permitted Development Rights

It was agreed that information regarding notification by telecommunication operators of intention to utilise Permitted Development Rights at locations in the Council area be noted.

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4.5 Pre-Application Notice (PAN) for the refurbishment of existing Household Recycling Centre and Council Operations Depot. Upgrade of existing site entrance and construction of improved internal traffic flows with a new split level recycling centre, vehicle parking, shed and new staff office and welfare building at Carryduff Household Recycling Centre, Comber Road, Carryduff

It was proposed by Councillor P Catney, seconded by Councillor D J Craig and agreed that information on the pre-application notice be noted and that it be submitted in accordance with the relevant sections of the legislation and related guidance.

4.6 Consultation from DfI Planning on the Review of Planning Fees

Members were provided with a copy of a draft response to the above consultation and noted that a separate report seeking approval of the response would be presented to the Regeneration and Growth Committee.

4.7 Proposed Change of Dates to Planning Committee Meetings

The Head of Planning & Capital Development reported that, due to Christmas/New Year holidays, Easter holidays and May Day, Planning Committee meetings in January, April and May were required to be rescheduled. It was proposed by Councillor S Burns, seconded by Alderman M Gregg and agreed that meetings take place as follows:

- January – Monday 12th
- April – Monday 13th
- May – Monday 11th

Adjournment of Meeting

The Chair, Alderman J Tinsley, declared the meeting adjourned for lunch at this point (12.55 pm).

Resumption of Meeting

The meeting was resumed at 1.33 pm.

Councillor A Martin had returned during the lunch break.

(iii) LA05/2022/0831/F – Proposed retention of recently constructed agricultural building on land adjacent to 112 Back Road, Drumbo

The Senior Planning Officer (PMcF) presented the above application as outlined within the circulated report.

The Committee received Mr N Reid and Councillor U Mackin to speak in support of the application.

(iii) LA05/2022/0831/F – Proposed retention of recently constructed agricultural building on land adjacent to 112 Back Road, Drumbo (Contd)

A number of Members' queries were responded to by Planning Officers.

Debate

During debate:

- Alderman M Gregg stated that perhaps there was a gap in policy to allow the establishment of new farms or hobby farms. He found it bizarre that, should the applicant in this case build a garage or a small permanent structure made of brick and tile under permitted development, that would be a further building and the agricultural shed applied for would be allowed under policy as it would be considered a cluster. He stated that, between the Committee making a decision and the decision being issued, there could well be another building established beside the applicant's house, which would then be considered a cluster. Alderman Gregg stated that, of all the refusal reasons listed, COU15 (b) and COU16 (b), relating to clustering, were the only two he struggled to have met by this application. He agreed with Officers that the exception in this case would struggle to make that apply. In deeming this an exception, a precedent would be set. Despite his view that this application should be approved, Alderman Gregg could not consider the proposal to form part of a cluster and, unfortunately, had to support the recommendation of the Planning Officer to approve planning permission;
- Councillor N Trimble, on behalf of everyone, apologised to the applicant for how long this application had taken to consider and the number of times it had been heard. He appreciated that, every step of the way, there had been valid reasons for deferment but there had not been a good outcome of process. He stated that, in general terms, this was a sound application as this was the type of structure that an agricultural development should be, was in the best location possible and was meeting a verifiable agricultural need. Although the dwelling had been replaced a number of years ago, it was still a farmhouse dwelling and there had been a farm business at this location for years. The difficulty was that, had even only one of the pre-existing agricultural sheds that had been cleared to make way for the new dwelling been retained, then policy would absolutely be met. It was a huge weakness of policy that it referred to a group of buildings. Whilst that may be appropriate for 99% of cases where there was a group of buildings or structures on a farm, this case had demonstrated that there was a viable route for how there could not be additional structures on a viable farm. The Committee was not in a position to change policy or to reinterpret it, rather it could only strictly apply it. Councillor Trimble stated that, if the application was not approved today, he had no doubt it could very easily come back without any change to the application, but the lay of the land could have changed in that a structure could be built through permitted development that did not require full planning permission and, if there was one additional building on the site, the application would meet policy. He could not argue with the fact that there was not an existing group of buildings on the farm;

(iii) LA05/2022/0831/F – Proposed retention of recently constructed agricultural building on land adjacent to 112 Back Road, Drumbo (Contd)

- Councillor P Catney referred to reference having been made previously to a small chicken shed at the site. However, he stated that, whilst he had sympathy for the applicant, he was in support of the recommendation of the Planning Officer to refuse planning permission;
- Councillor D J Craig stated that policy had let this application down. This was a very bureaucratic system and this was one occasion where the Committee found itself in disagreement with policy. There was no cluster at this site. Although mention had been made to a chicken shed at the site, he had not witnessed that at the site visit.

At this stage, Councillor D J Craig sought clarification from Officers regarding the presence of a chicken shed. Although at debate stage, the Chair, Alderman J Tinsley, permitted Officers to respond. The Head of Planning & Capital Development stated that Officers had not observed a chicken shed when on site, but acknowledged that that was in excess of 12 months ago. This was the first time this had been drawn to Officers' attention.

Alderman Tinsley also permitted Mr Reid to provide a description of the chicken shed which, he stated, had been in place since 2020.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor D J Craig and seconded by Alderman O Gawith that this application be deferred to allow Officers to visit the site and verify information that had come to light in respect of the presence of a chicken shed in order that the Committee could come to a conclusion on this application having considered the full information. On a vote being taken this proposal was agreed, the voting being 9 in favour and 1 against. The Chair, Alderman J Tinsley asked that Mr Reid provide as much information as possible regarding the history of the chicken shed.

Given that the applicant was a teacher, Councillor N Trimble asked that consideration be given to the application being heard at a time outside of term-time. The Chair, Alderman J Tinsley, agreed that this could possibly be accommodated by scheduling the application to be heard at the end of a future meeting.

Adjournment of Meeting

The Chair, Alderman J Tinsley, declared the meeting adjourned at this point for a comfort break (2.28 pm).

Resumption of Meeting

The meeting was resumed at 2.32 pm.

PC 01.12.2025

(iv) LA05/2023/0344/F – Erection of discount food store (with solar panels on roof), provision of accesses, car parking, landscaping and associated site works on land 140 metres north of Unit 5 (Sainsbury's), Sprucefield Park, Lisburn

The Senior Planning Officer (GM) presented the above application as outlined within the circulated report. She went on to address the content of the late representation submitted the previous evening.

The Committee received Mr C Fegan, accompanied by Mr D Monaghan and Mrs E Greenlees) to speak in favour of the application and a number of Members's queries were addressed.

A number of Members' queries were responded to by Planning Officers.

Debate

During debate:

- Councillor P Catney stated that, in light of what had been passed at Stormont that no new liquor licences would be issued, it was necessary to look at the hospitality sector and how it was affected in city centres. This would be a surrender of a licence that would go out to a supermarket close to Sainsbury's, which already had licence. Therefore, there were more factors coming into play than the out-of-town shopping centre. As for where the proposed development was situated, Councillor Catney believed the applicant could have given more consideration to sustainable transport. Councillor Catney was not against the application, but stated that some decisions made had consequences for the nighttime economy and city centres;
- Councillor N Trimble welcomed the application. He believed the Committee should be in favour of more development, not less, when it came to expanding the retail core in the vicinity. This development would bring employment and economic opportunity to the area. He stated that he was encouraged by the pedestrian construction. Being able to get access to the greenway from all areas of the site was welcomed and would be a good improvement. Councillor Trimble was in support of the recommendation of the Planning Officer to approve planning permission;
- the Chair, Alderman J Tinsley, was also in support of the recommendation of the Planning Officer to approve planning permission. A development such as this would bring more jobs. He was comforted by the fact that the plan was to retain the two existing Lidl stores in Lisburn. Alderman Tinsley commended Officers for taking the time to deliberate on the content of the late representation; and
- Councillor D J Craig stated that this development was an excellent opportunity for the city as a whole. He remembered in 2005 having meetings with regard to another retailer coming to that site. He now welcomed the fact that a lower cost retailer would be operating at Sprucefield which would add to the spread of facilities at the Sprucefield site and cater for all levels of shoppers. Councillor Craig referred to the vote of confidence for the Sprucefield site by well-known manufacturer, Tesla, having installed of a number of electric vehicle charging points, making Sprucefield one of the key charging sites for electric vehicles in Northern Ireland.

PC 01.12.2025

(iv) LA05/2023/0344/F – Erection of discount food store (with solar panels on roof), provision of accesses, car parking, landscaping and associated site works on land 140 metres north of Unit 5 (Sainsbury's), Sprucefield Park, Lisburn (Contd)

Vote

Having considered the information provided within the report of the Planning Officer, the Committee agreed unanimously to adopt the recommendation to approve this application.

5. Any Other Business

5.1 Member Services Officer – Early Retirement
Chair, Alderman J Tinsley

The Chair, Alderman J Tinsley, advised that this was the last Planning Committee meeting at which Member Services Officer, Mrs C Roe, would be in attendance before her forthcoming early retirement. He paid tribute to her work with the Council and particularly the Planning Committee.

Conclusion of the Meeting

At the conclusion of the meeting, the Chair, Alderman J Tinsley, thanked those present for their attendance and wished them all a Happy Christmas.

There being no further business, the meeting was terminated at 3.19 pm.

Chair/Mayor

Alliance

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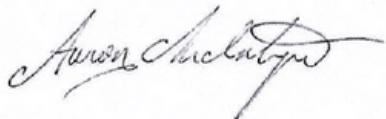
Notice of Motion

Freedom of the City of Lisburn & Castlereagh for Mr Tommy Doherty

Motion

That Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council resolves to confer the Freedom of the City upon Mr Tommy Doherty, in recognition of his distinguished wartime service, lifelong connection to the Lisburn area, and his contribution to the collective memory and heritage of our community.

Proposer:



Ald Aaron McIntyre





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NOTICE OF MOTION

Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council notes the recent period of snow and ice and the understandable public concern about the condition of roads and footpaths across the borough during severe winter weather.

The Council recognises the vital importance of a safe and reliable road network in ensuring people can access schools, healthcare, workplaces and other essential services, particularly during challenging weather conditions.

The Council also wishes to commend the Department for Infrastructure's frontline staff and others, including farmers, who work in difficult and often hazardous conditions to keep roads open and safe, and to acknowledge their efforts during the recent cold weather.

At the same time, the Council believes it is important that the public has confidence in winter service arrangements on the grounds of public safety, reputation and supporting our thriving economy. The Council therefore seeks reassurance from the Department for Infrastructure regarding road gritting schedules, response arrangements, and the continued availability of salt boxes and grit piles in local communities, including confirmation that provision has not been reduced.

Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council agrees to write to the Minister for Infrastructure requesting these assurances, and to reaffirm the Council's commitment to work constructively with the Department for Infrastructure to help ensure the best possible winter service for the people of Lisburn and Castlereagh.

Proposed by Councillor Andrew Gowan



(2)