

**LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Remote Meeting of the Environmental Services Committee held on Wednesday, 1 December, 2021 at 5:31 pm**

**PRESENT IN CHAMBER:**

Councillor A P Ewing (Chairman)  
Councillor C McCready (Vice-Chairman)  
The Right Worshipful the Mayor  
Alderman S Martin  
Alderman J Baird  
Councillors N Anderson, M Gregg and H Legge

**PRESENT IN REMOTE LOCATION:**

Alderman S P Porter  
Councillors S Eastwood, S Lowry, A McIntyre, R McLernon and S Skillen

**OTHER MEMBERS IN REMOTE LOCATION:**

Alderman J Tinsley  
Councillor U Mackin

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

In Chamber:

Director of Environmental Services  
IT Officer  
Technician  
Acting PCSP/Member Services Manager  
Member Services Officer

In Remote Location:

Head of Service (Building Control)  
Head of Service (Environmental Health)  
Head of Service (Waste Management and Operational Services)

**Commencement of the Meeting**

At the commencement of the meeting, the Chairman, Councillor A P Ewing, welcomed those present to the remote meeting of the Environmental Services Committee, which was being live streamed to enable members of the public to hear and see the proceedings.

At this point, the Acting PCSP/Member Services Manager read out the names of the Elected Members and Officers in attendance at the meeting.

The Chairman, Councillor A P Ewing, stated that, whilst the meeting was being live streamed, unauthorised recording was not permitted, as per the Council's Standing Orders. He asked that mobile phones be put on silent or switched off for the duration of the meeting and proceeded to outline the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency.

Alderman J Tinsley left the meeting (5.33 pm).

1. Apologies

It was agreed to accept apologies for non-attendance at the meeting on behalf of the Deputy Mayor, Councillor T Mitchell, Alderman M Henderson MBE and Councillor S Lee.

The Chairman, Councillor A P Ewing, referred to the recent death of Alderman Henderson's wife, Arenee, and stated that thoughts and prayers were with Alderman Henderson at this sad time. Those present stood and observed a minute's silence as a mark of respect.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Report from Director of Environmental Services

3.1 Environmental Services Performance Report

Councillor N Anderson arrived to the meeting and Councillor U Mackin joined the meeting during consideration of this item of business (5.38 pm).

Members were provided with, and noted the contents of, a copy of the following:

- (a) Management Accounts covering the period 1 July to 30 September, 2021;
- (b) the outturn of operational metrics/service KPIs for quarter 2 (July to September 2021);
- (c) the outturn of Performance Improvement KPI for quarter 2; and
- (d) Directorate Risk Dashboard and summary of risk fluctuations.

The Director of Environmental Services answered several queries raised in respect of the risk dashboard and the risk outlining staff resourcing and then responded to queries on the management accounts/rates process.

4. Report from Head of Service (Building Control)

4.1 Street Naming – Off Ballymaconaghy Road, Castlereagh

The Head of Service (Building Control) reported that Dingles Builders (NI) Ltd had proposed names (first and second preference), as set out in his report, for a development of 5 dwellings situated off the Ballymaconaghy Road, Castlereagh.

4.1 Street Naming – Off Ballymaconagh Road, Castlereagh (Contd)

Members were provided with copy of the development layout and were advised that the request met the requirements of the Council's Street Naming Policy in that the names proposed reflected the existing street names approved in the area.

Building Control Service having received no objections to the proposed names from Elected Members of the relevant District Electoral Area, nor the Royal Mail Address Management Team, it was proposed by Councillor M Gregg, seconded by Councillor H Legge and agreed to recommend that the name Bracken Hill Park be approved for this development of 5 dwellings off Ballymaconagh Road, Castlereagh.

4.2 Street Naming – Off Knockbracken Road, Castlereagh

The Head of Service (Building Control) reported that J.W. and J. Porter Ltd had proposed names (first and second preference), as set out in his report, for a development of 3 dwellings situated off the Knockbracken Road, Castlereagh. Members were provided with copy of the development layout and were advised that the request met the requirements of the Council's Street Naming Policy in that the names proposed reflected the geography and topography of the area with a burn (small river) on the south east boundary of the site.

Building Control Service having received no objections to the proposed names from Elected Members of the relevant District Electoral Area, nor the Royal Mail Address Management Team, it was proposed by Councillor M Gregg, seconded by Councillor H Legge and agreed to recommend that the name Woodburn Manor be approved for this development of 3 dwellings off Knockbracken Road, Castlereagh.

Verbal Matter

4.3 Department of Finance Consultations on Part F Building Regulations and Building Regulation Fees Review

The Head of Service (Building Control) reminded Members that he had circulated the above consultations the previous day. Given that the closing date for both was 19 December, 2021, he requested that Members provide him with any comments they wished to be included in the consultation responses no later than 8 December. The responses would be presented to a future meeting of the Committee for retrospective approval.

5. Report from Head of Service (Environmental Health)

5.1 Northern Ireland Food Strategy Framework: Food at the Heart of our Society – A Prospectus for Change Public Consultation

The Head of Service (Environmental Health) reported receipt of the above consultation from the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs

5.1 Northern Ireland Food Strategy Framework: Food at the Heart of our Society – A Prospectus for Change Public Consultation (Contd)

(DAERA), the closing date for submission of responses to which was 19 November, 2021.

It had been agreed at a meeting of the Northern Ireland Food Managers' Group on 13 October 2021 that the Food and Nutrition Working Group, which included a member of the Council's Environmental Health Food Team, would draft a response to the consultation on behalf of all 11 councils. Members having been provided with a copy of the consolidated response, as submitted to DAERA by the closing date, it was proposed by Alderman J Baird, seconded by Councillor M Gregg and agreed to recommend that retrospective approval be given to this response.

5.2 Draft Environment Strategy for Northern Ireland

The Head of Service (Environmental Health) reported receipt of the Draft Environment Strategy for Northern Ireland Consultation from DAERA. This consultation was corporately cross-cutting and would impact all service units and would, therefore, require a coordinated corporate response.

It was proposed by Councillor C McCready, seconded by Councillor M Gregg and agreed to recommend that delegated authority be granted to the January 2022 meeting of the Environmental Services Committee to consider and approve the coordinated response to allow Officers sufficient time to submit the response by the closing date of 18 January, 2022.

6. Report from Head of Service (Waste Management and Operational Services)

6.1 Consultation for the Reduction of Single-Use Plastic Beverage Cups and Food Containers

Members were provided with a copy of a draft response to the above consultation, the deadline for submission of which was 17 December, 2021. It being noted that delegated authority had been granted to the Environmental Services Committee to consider this matter, it was proposed by Councillor M Gregg, seconded by The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Alderman S Martin, and agreed that the draft response be approved.

6.2 Consultation on Amending Options for the Assessment of Technical Competence under the Northern Ireland Waste Management Licensing and Permitting Regime

Members were provided with a copy of a letter dated 15 November, 2021 from DAERA inviting responses to the above consultation by 10 January, 2021. Given the short timeframe for production of a response and the technical nature of the consultation, it was proposed by Councillor C McCready, seconded by Councillor M Gregg and agreed to recommend that approval be granted to Officers to develop and submit an appropriate response which would be provided to Members for noting following the submission date.

6.2 Consultation on Amending Options for the Assessment of Technical Competence under the Northern Ireland Waste Management Licensing and Permitting Regime (Contd)

Councillor M Gregg put on record his thanks to Officers within the Environmental Services Directorate for their work in drafting responses to a number of recent consultation documents. These sentiments were echoed by the Chairman, Councillor A P Ewing, and Councillor N Anderson.

Councillor Gregg referred to the Head of Service (Building Control) having circulated a further two consultations documents the previous day (as outlined in item 4.3) and stated that it would be preferable if future consultation documents could be provided to Members as soon as possible in a similar manner.

7. Confidential Business

The matters contained in the confidential report 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”

It was proposed by The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Alderman S Martin, seconded by Councillor M Gregg and agreed that the following matters be considered “in committee”, in the absence of members of the press and public being present.

The live-stream was paused at this point (5.54 pm).

7.1 Replacement of 8 No. Multi-Occupancy Cage Wagons

Councillor R McLernon joined the meeting during consideration of this item of business (5.59 pm).

Members having been provided with a copy of a Financial Appraisal, together with Net Present Value figures, and having considered information set out in the Director’s report, it was proposed by The Right Worshipful the Mayor, seconded by Councillor M Gregg and agreed to recommend that approval be given to the purchase of 8 no. multi-occupancy cage wagons.

The Right Worshipful the Mayor, Alderman S Martin, left the meeting (6.00 pm).

7.2 Extension of arc21 Bring Bank Contracts

Members having considered information set out in the Director’s report, it was proposed by Councillor M Gregg, seconded by Alderman J Baird and agreed to recommend that (a) current Bring Bank Contracts be extended as outlined in the report; and (b) the revenue share element of the contract in relation to textiles be considered in the first quarter of 2022.

7.2 Extension of arc21 Bring Bank Contracts (Contd)

Alderman S P Porter requested that Members be made aware at a future meeting, of the percentage of arc21 contracts over the last 5-6 years that had been extended.

Alderman J Baird referred to a number of bottle banks that required emptying and agreed to provide details of those to the Head of Service (Waste Management and Operational Services) in order that the contractor could be made aware. The Head of Service also took note of comments by Alderman Baird that it would be beneficial if Council staff could report back on any bottle banks they noticed were filling up quicker than others.

7.3 Extension to Contract for the Receipt, Processing, Treatment, Recycling and Disposal of Street Sweepings Waste (Lot 2)

It was proposed by Councillor M Gregg, seconded by Councillor C McCready and agreed to recommend that extension of the above contract as outlined in the Director's report be approved.

7.4 Environmental Services Charges Scheme 2022/23

Members having been provided with a copy of the Environmental Services Charges Scheme 2022/23, it was proposed by Councillor M Gregg, seconded by Councillor H Legge and agreed to recommend that the Environmental Services Charges Scheme 2022/23 be approved, as outlined in the Director's report.

Following discussion in relation to car parking, the Head of Service (Environmental Health) agreed, at the request of Alderman S P Porter, to liaise with Roads Service to ask that the Council be provided with a direct contact number for the manager in charge of local traffic wardens.

7.5 Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful: Live Here Love Here Initiative and Eco Schools

Councillor S Skillen left the meeting at this point (6.21 pm).

Members were provided with a number of pieces of correspondence regarding the above.

It was proposed by Alderman Baird that approval be given to (a) the Council's continuing commitment to the Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful Live Here Love Here initiative, as outlined in the Director's report; and (b) the Council continuing to fund the Eco Schools Programme at the current level, as recommended in the Director's report. This proposal was not seconded.

Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor M Gregg, seconded by Councillor C McCready and agreed to recommend that approval be given to (a) the Council's continuing commitment to the Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful Live Here Love Here initiative, as outlined in the Director's report; and (b) the Council continuing to fund the Eco Schools Programme at the increased level requested,

7.5 Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful: Live Here Love Here Initiative and Eco Schools (Contd)

as outlined in the Director's report, but without the provision of the requested funding for an Eco-Schools Award Ceremony.

Councillor C McCready requested that Officers give consideration to the Council hosting an awards ceremony at a reduced level of cost, if this was able to happen given the ongoing pandemic.

7.6 Financial Appraisal – Supply & Fit of Tyres and Associated Services

Members having been provided with a copy of the above Financial Appraisal, it was proposed by Councillor M Gregg, seconded by Councillor C McCready and agreed to recommend that it be approved and that procurement progress to the next stage.

Verbal Matters

7.7 Mullaghglass Odour Complaints

The Head of Service (Environmental Health) gave a verbal update in respect of Mullaghglass odour complaints and advised that a written update would be provided to Members.

7.8 Waste Issues  
Councillor C McCready

Councillor C McCready referred to a recent meeting that had taken place with the Minister for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, attended by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, to discuss any assistance that that Department could provide in relation to waste issues. He proposed that a similar meeting be arranged with the Minister for Infrastructure. This proposal was seconded by Councillor N Anderson and agreed.

7.9 Enforcement of Regulations on Covid Passports  
Councillor N Anderson

Councillor N Anderson expressed concern regarding the enforcement of regulations around Covid Passports. He encouraged liaison with Departments within the Northern Ireland Assembly regarding a number of issues and suggested that legal advice may require to be sought if those issues were not resolved. Alderman S P Porter requested that a report be prepared in respect of what would be expected of Council staff in terms of enforcement, once it was clear what the role of the Council would be.

7.10 Noise Complaint – Nutt's Corner  
Councillor M Gregg

In response to a query by Councillor M Gregg regarding a noise complaint raised previously in relation to Nutt's Corner, the Head of Service (Environmental

7.10 Noise Complaint – Nutt’s Corner (Contd)  
Councillor M Gregg

Health) confirmed that a report on this matter was due to be presented to the January meeting of the Committee.

Resumption of Normal Business

It was proposed by Councillor M Gregg, seconded by Councillor N Anderson and agreed to come out of committee and normal business was resumed. The livestream was resumed at 6.50 pm.

8. Any Other Business

8.1 Tonagh Primary School Nursery Unit  
Alderman S P Porter

Alderman S P Porter referred to a classroom assistant within the Tonagh Primary School Nursery Unit who had brought in volunteers over the Halloween period to carry out improvement works at adjacent grounds. This had been a very worthwhile initiative and Alderman Porter asked that a letter of congratulations be sent to this member of staff and the school in this regard.

Conclusion of the Meeting

At the conclusion of the meeting, the Chairman, Councillor A P Ewing, wished those present a very Happy Christmas and thanked them for their attendance.

There being no further business, the meeting was terminated at 6.52 pm.

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Mayor/Chairman