

LISBURN CITY & CASTLEREAGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

**Minutes of Meeting of Shadow Planning Committee held in the Chestnut Room,
Lisburn City Council Offices, Island Civic Centre, The Island, Lisburn on Monday
8th December 2014 at 5.00 pm**

PRESENT: Councillor D Drysdale (Chairman)

Deputy Presiding Councillor
Councillor S Martin

Councillors : Anderson, Beckett, Butler, Catney, Dillon, Ewing,
Hanvey, Henderson, Jeffers, McIntyre, Mackin, Mitchell, John
Palmer

OTHER MEMBERS: Councillors Gawith and Gallen

IN ATTENDANCE: Lisburn City & Castlereagh District Council

Chief Executive

Lisburn City Council

Director of Environmental Services
Transition Manager
Assistant Director of Environmental Services (Econ Dev)

Castlereagh Borough Councillor
Planning Officer

Planning Service
Area Planning Manager

Commencement of Meeting

The Chairman, Councillor D Drysdale, welcomed all present to the Meeting and wished to record condolences on behalf of the Committee to Councillors Tinsley and Dillon who had recently been bereaved.

1. **Apologies**

Apologies for non-attendance at the Meeting were accepted and recorded on behalf of The Presiding Councillor, Councillor J Tinsley, Councillors Rice, Grehan and Tolerton. It was also noted that Councillors Martin and Anderson had both advised that they would be arriving late.

2. Declarations of Interest

The Chairman sought Declarations of Interest from Members and reminded them to complete the supporting form which had been left at each desk.

There were no Declarations of Interest.

3. Minutes of Meeting of Shadow Planning Committee held on 10 November 2014.

It was proposed by Councillor Henderson, seconded by Councillor Dillon and agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Shadow Planning Committee held on 10 November 2014 as adopted by the Shadow Council at their Meeting held on 26 November 2014 be signed.

4. Reports of Chief Executive

It was proposed by Councillor Catney, seconded by Councillor Henderson and agreed that the reports and recommendations of the Chief Executive be adopted, subject to any decisions recorded below:-

4.1 Presentation by Mrs Barbara Elliott, Area Planning Manager, on BMAP

It was agreed to accept a presentation on Enforcement from Mrs Barbara Elliott, Area Planning Manager, on BMAP.

The Chairman welcomed Mrs Elliott to the meeting.

With the aid of a power-point presentation, Mrs Elliott provided information on BMAP which was followed by a question and answer session at the culmination of which, the Chairman thanked Mrs Elliott for her presentation the content of which was noted by Members.

4.2 Report and Presentation on Committee Structure from Mrs Barbara Elliott, Area Planning Manager.

It was agreed to accept a presentation and Report on Committee Structure from Mrs Barbara Elliott, Area Planning Manager.

With the aid of a power-point presentation and a previously circulated Report, Mrs Elliott provided information on options in respect of the size and composition of Planning Committees.

This was followed by a question and answer session at the culmination of which it was proposed by Councillor Mackin, seconded by Councillor Anderson and agreed that Officers put together a Report, to be discussed at a future meeting of the

Committee, which would provide recommendations for the development of a Planning Committee comprising approximately 10 Members.

(Councillor Anderson arrived at 5.25 pm)

4.3 Provision of Legal Services to Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council

Presented by the Chief Executive.

After consideration of the information circulated, it was agreed that the practicalities of retaining the existing legal services model are researched and that a Report providing further information and comparisons with recruiting a Council Legal Team be brought back to the Shadow Planning Committee at its next meeting.

Councillor Henderson drew attention to the importance of legal indemnity for Council Members and the Chief Executive confirmed that Councillor Rice had raised this at Partnership Panel meetings.

(Councillor Gawith arrived at 5.45 pm)

(Councillor Martin arrived at 5.55 pm)

4.4 Draft Response to Consultation on Planning Reform and Transfer to Local Government

Presented by the Planning Officer (CBC).

It was agreed that the Planning Officer (CBC) would liaise with the Chairman to agree the wording of an additional paragraph which would strengthen the view of the Committee in relation to the use of Fixed Penalties and in respect of Article 40. After incorporation of this paragraph it was agreed that the Draft Response to Consultation on Planning Reform and Transfer to Local Government should be sent.

4.5 Draft Response to Consultation on Costs Awards in Planning and Related Appeals.

Presented by the Planning Officer (CBC).

It was agreed that the Planning Officer (CBC) would liaise with the Chairman to agree the wording of an additional paragraph seeking further detail in relation to costs from the Department for the Environment. After incorporation of this paragraph it was agreed that the Draft Response to Consultation on Planning Reform and Transfer to Local Government should be sent.

4.6 Work Plan For Shadow Planning Committee

Presented by the Area Planning Manager.

Members noted the draft information circulated and it was also noted that a Report giving fuller information would be provided at a future meeting once the team of personnel is finalised.

It was further noted that a capacity building programme for Planning Service staff would be developed.

4.7 Turley Associates Report on BMAP

Presented by the Transition Manager

Members noted the provision of a copy of the Report on BMAP provided by Turley Associates.

4.8 Planning in Other Jurisdictions

Presented by the Area Planning Manager

Members noted the information provided on the operation of Planning Committees in Wales.

4.9 Response from The Department for the Environment re Capacity Building and Training on Planning

Presented by the Chief Executive

Members noted correspondence from The Department for the Environment regarding the series of Capacity Building and Training on Planning.

4.10 Response to Consultation on the Planning Element of the Councillors' Code of Conduct

Presented by the Transition Manager.

Members noted a copy of the Response sent on their behalf to the above Consultation together with a copy of an acknowledgement received from the Department.

4.11 Notification of Change in Senior Staff at the Planning Service

Presented by the Area Planning Manager

Members noted information provided by Mrs Barbara Elliott, Area Planning Manager, in relation to changes in Senior Staff at The Planning Service and that

additional information by way of a Report would be provided at the next meeting (Item 4.6 also refers).

4.12 Newry, Mourne & Down Pathfinder Project – Lessons Learned

Presented by the Transition Manager

Members noted that the Department for the Environment's Planning Reform and Transfer Project Board had agreed that information on the above project be circulated and noted the contents of the Reports provided.

5. Any Other Business

1. The Chairman, Councillor David Drysdale
Study Visit – Dundee

The Chairman advised that a study visit to Dundee was being organised for February and that further information would be provided in due course.

2. Councillor Dillon
Belfast Telegraph Article on Shadow Council Study Visits

Councillor Dillon referred to an article published in the Belfast Telegraph recently on the subject of Study Visits and associated costs and advised that it was his opinion that incorrect information had been issued to the journalist involved. He wished Members to note that NILGA were currently considering a response to the published article.

Members noted the above information at 5.1 and 5.2.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 6.15 pm.

CHAIRMAN / PRESIDING COUNCILLOR
PRESIDING COUNCILLOR/CHAIRMAN