

Causeway Coast and Glens Shadow Council

Minutes of Transferring Functions & Group Committee

Held in: Ballymoney Borough Council Chamber at 7pm 10 July 2014

Present:

Councillors

J Baird	M Knight-McQuillan
O Beattie	R Loftus
A Callan	W McCandless
B Chivers	T McCaul
S Cole	P McGuigan
B Douglas	S McKillop
G Duddy	G Mullan
M Fielding	I Stevenson
W King	R Watton

Officers

D Jackson
R Baker
S Duggan
S McMaw
D Wright

In Attendance

E Beattie
P Beattie
W Cameron DSD
L Johnston
V Richmond
J Welsh

Apologies

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Press

Item	Detail/ Summary/Action	Officer
1.	Declarations of Interest	
	Nil	
2.	Transferring of Functions and Group draft Terms of Reference	
	<p>D Jackson reported. The Shadow Council created four committees to guide the convergence of the constituent councils, transferring functions and new powers by the 1st of April 2015. D Jackson outlined Terms of Reference for the Transferring Functions and Group Committee.</p> <p>It was proposed by Councillor King, seconded by Councillor Loftus and AGREED:</p> <p align="center"><i>To recommend that the Causeway Coast and Glens Shadow Council approve the Transfer of Functions and Group Committee Terms of Reference as set out in the report, circulated.</i></p>	
3.	Transfer of Functions Due Diligence update	
	<p>S McMaw reported. To assist with the Transfer of Functions and Powers to Local Government, Deloitte has been commissioned by the Transfer of Functions Working Group (ToFWG) to review the resources proposed to accompany the Transfer of Functions to Local Government. Its primary aim is to provide assurance to Local Government that the resources transferring meet the stated principles.</p> <p>At the last Transfer of Functions Working Group held on 15th May 2014, the report was considered and a number of queries were raised concerning the level</p>	

	<p>of resources transferring and the principle that the related transfer should be cost neutral to the local ratepayer.</p> <p>The intention is that the Transfer of Functions Working Group will review the Due Diligence Report once the issues raised have been addressed. The final report will then be circulated to each new Council for consideration and approval.</p>	
4.	<p>DoE Planning Service transfer action plan</p> <p>S McMaw reported. To date a number of meetings have been held involving Shadow Council staff and Department of the Environment (DoE) Planning staff to agree a work plan and associated timelines. There have also been meetings with the Human Resources Management within the DoE to discuss staff transfer arrangements, staff numbers transferring, accommodation options, and the internal process for identifying which staff would prefer to transfer to the Causeway Coast and Glens District Council.</p> <p>It was proposed by Councillor Baird, seconded by Councillor Douglas and AGREED:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>To recommend that the Causeway Coast and Glens Shadow Council approve the Transfer of Planning project plan, circulated.</i></p>	
5.	<p>Synopsis of Function Transferring from the Department of Social Development</p> <p>R Baker was introduced as the Lead for TMT Leisure and Development Working Group and presented information to Members using PowerPoint, circulated.</p> <p>The Northern Ireland Executive has decided that town and city regeneration, area-based regeneration, and support for the voluntary and community sectors at a local level should transfer to local government. In practice, this means that the following business areas, currently being delivered by DSD will transfer to the new council structure on 1st April 2015 - Tackling Deprivation, Physical Development, Voluntary and Community.</p> <p>D Jackson added by way of context that this would potentially form part of the overarching Leisure and Development Strategy will be brought to the Organisation Development Committee in due course for consideration.</p>	
6.	<p>Interim Work Plan for Tackling Deprivation</p> <p>R Baker reported using PowerPoint presentation, circulated.</p> <p>In response to member queries, R Baker clarified, that the Shadow Council is being given the function of Tackling Deprivation and it is up to Council how it applies a measure of deprivation. A study is underway to look at deprived areas within Causeway Coast and Glens so that options can be presented in terms of tackling deprivation. The draft Community Development Study will be presented to members at the Transferring Functions Committee and at the Organisation Development Committee. Councillor Duddy considered a workshop would be useful for Members to make informed decisions about Tackling Deprivation.</p> <p>It was proposed by Councillor Stevenson , seconded by Councillor Chivers and AGREED:</p>	RB

	<p><i>To recommend that Shadow Council approve the requirement for an Interim Service Provision for the purpose of Tackling Deprivation applicable to the Causeway Coast and Glens demography to be implemented from 1st April 2015, with the specific Stage 1 tasks:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Confirm strategic position for year 1 – Aims and objectives of Tackling Deprivation.</i> <i>2. Review existing evaluations, situational analysis/audit of need.</i> <i>3. Agree interim partnership/engagement framework with service providers.</i> <i>4. Agree interim funding priority areas and weighting thereof, eligibility criteria and levels of funding.</i> 	
<p>7.</p>	<p>Interim Work Plan for the delivery of Physical/Urban Regeneration</p>	
	<p>R Baker reported. Urban Regeneration is one of the functions which will be transferred to new District Councils post 1st April 2015. It is therefore necessary that any strategy developed is cognizant of The Department for Social Development’s Regeneration and Community Development Framework 2013.</p> <p>It was proposed by Councillor King, seconded by Councillor Chivers and</p> <p>AGREED:</p> <p><i>To recommend that the Shadow Council agree the 15 / 16 period Interim Work Plan for the delivery of Physical/Urban Regeneration and prioritise the urban regeneration projects in each existing Council area in order to develop an Interim Service Plan.</i></p> <p>Prioritisation will allow officers to develop interim resourcing and financing mechanisms for the purposes of Urban / Physical Regeneration.</p>	
<p>8.</p>	<p>DETI (INI) Overview of Function Transferring</p>	
	<p>R Baker reported. The Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1992, supplemented by the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill (2002) provides the current legislative framework within which council-led local economic development activity is undertaken in Northern Ireland and subsequently in the Causeway Coast & Glens District Council.</p> <p>The legislation permits local government to incur expenditure “for the purpose of taking such steps, as the council considers appropriate, for promoting economic development of its district and to acquire, hold and develop land for economic development purposes”. R Baker outlined the current Council Economic Development Services, Transferring Functions, the functional responsibilities transferring to Council and managing the transfer, report circulated.</p> <p>R Baker responded to member queries, highlighting that the extension of the Regional Start Initiative would allow options to be developed for future delivery post October 2015.</p> <p>It was proposed by Councillor Stevenson, seconded by Councillor McKillop and</p> <p>AGREED:</p> <p><i>To recommend that the Shadow Council approve the extension to the Regional Start Initiative (RSI) contracted Programme of</i></p>	

	<i>advice and mentoring delivered by Enterprise Northern Ireland (ENI) until October 2015.</i>	
9.	DCAL Transfer of Knocknacarry Water Recreation Site	
	<p>A request has been received from the Department for Culture Arts and Leisure (DCAL) for the Causeway Coast and Glens Shadow Council to transfer of a Water Recreation Site at Knocknacarry to the Council from DCAL, images circulated.</p> <p>It was proposed by Councillor Stevenson, seconded by Councillor Baird and AGREED:</p> <p><i>To recommend that the Causeway Coast and Glens Shadow Council agree to the transfer of the Knocknacarry Water Recreation Site from DCAL to the Causeway Coast and Glens District Council on 1st April 2015.</i></p>	
10.	Houses of Multiple Occupancy (HMOs)	
	<p>D Jackson sought member views. Preliminary discussions are taking place within the sector regarding Local Government Models for delivering the HMO and Housing Unfitness Functions in the future. It is understood that a two Council delivery model for administration of HMO's and an 11 Council model for Unfitness responsibility are options being considered. This could result in a proposal that the regional element of the HMO outside Belfast be delivered by the Causeway Coast and Glens District Council.</p> <p>Members were content to explore the regional element of the HMO outside Belfast being delivered and retained within the Causeway Coast and Glens District Council locale. A detailed report will be brought back.</p>	
11.	Correspondence	
	<p>Consultation on Proposals for an Off-Street Parking (Functions of District Councils) Bill</p> <p>D Jackson reported for members' information.</p> <p>Proposed direction of travel for the resolution of Group Structures within Councils and Transferring Functions</p> <p>D Jackson reported for members' information. Councillor Duddy expressed a wish for Political involvement and Councillor consultation in the process.</p>	

This being all the business the meeting closed at 8.41pm.