



**LEISURE & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING  
TUESDAY 17 OCTOBER 2023**

<b>No</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Summary of key Recommendations</b>
1.	Apologies	<b><i>Councillor McShane</i></b>
2.	Declarations of Interest	<b><i>Councillor Bateson</i></b>
3.	Minutes of Leisure and Development Committee meeting held Tuesday 19 September 2023	<b><i>Signed as a correct record</i></b>
4.	Grants Policy Annual Review	<b><i>To recommend to Council that Section 5.4 of the Grant Funding Policy be altered to account for the wording outlined above in section 4.0</i></b>
5.	Landfill Community Fund Annual Review	<b><i>To recommend that Council accept no change to the current Policy</i></b>
6.	Festive Fund Grant Awards	<b><i>To recommend that Council approves grant-aid totalling £40,105 to projects numbered 1-30 listed in Annex A (circulated)</i></b>
7.	ORNI Peace Plus Walking Project	<b><i>To recommend that Council consider the request from ORNI and recommend for approval by Council that CCG agrees to be a named partner in the ORNI Peace Plus "Walking for All" project</i></b>  <b><i>Note: in parallel with this recommendation, officers will complete Council's</i></b>

		<b>“Partnership Business Case” documentation for final approval</b>
<b>8.</b>	Foreign Direct Investment Action Plan	<b><i>To recommend to Council that Officers move forward with implementing initial actions identified in FDI Action Plan for the contract sum of £20,000 (excl. VAT) to establish baseline that will support additional activities undertaken in the next financial year (budget subject to rates setting process)</i></b>
<b>9.</b>	Labour Market Partnership Annual Report	<b><i>Noted</i></b>
<b>10.</b>	Coleraine Revitalise Update	<b><i>Noted</i></b>
<b>11.</b>	Digital Transformation Flexible Fund	<b><i>Noted</i></b>
<b>12.</b>	Portrush Harbour & Kerr Street EIS	<b><i>Noted</i></b>
<b>13.</b>	NI Entrepreneurship Support Scheme Agreement	<b><i>Noted</i></b>
<b>14.</b>	Landfill Community Fund Grant Awards	<b><i>Noted</i></b>
<b>15.</b>	Halloween Event Coleraine	<b><i>to recommend to Council that Officers explore other options for a venue for next year, not just Ulster University; to keep as much of the event in the town centre as possible to encourage economic activity and boost the town centre; to consider how the wider Halloween Programme can be prepared and advertised in order to ensure members of the public know what is happening at each event</i></b>

16.	Correspondence	<i>Nil</i>
17.	Matters Reporting to the Partnership Panel	<i>Nil</i>
18.	Consultations	<i>Nil</i>
19.	Notice of Motion proposed by Councillor C Archibald, seconded by Councillor McShane (abbrev LGBTQIA+ citizens)	<b><i>To recommend that Council support the Notice of Motion</i></b>
	<b>For Confidential Consideration (Items 20-29 inclusive)</b>	
20.	Growth Deal EPB Minutes	<b><i>Noted</i></b>
21.	SSRP Active Travel Garvagh Paths Tender	<b><i>To recommend to Council that the contract is awarded as follows: Garvagh – Northstone Materials Limited for a contract sum of £76,064 (exc.VAT)</i></b>
22.	SSRP Magilligan MUGA Tender	<b><i>To recommend that Council award the contract as follows: Magilligan MUGA – Kane Contracts for a contract sum of £241,670 (excl..VAT)</i></b>
23.	Ballycastle Museum Repairs	<b><i>To recommend that Council accept the lowest tender return from Devity Contract Services Ltd, for the sum of £43,014.50 (exclusive of VAT) as this is a legitimate tender return which offers the best value for money for the council</i></b>
24.	Museum Storage	<b><i>To recommend to Council that Museum Services proceed with option 2, securing a 5 year rental lease of a unit within the</i></b>

		<b><i>Diamond Centre in Coleraine to be used as a centralised store for museum collections with a small exhibition space/research area at the cost to the museum budget of £23,000 per annum plus overheads, providing that the building control work is completed and signed off and that the lease is approved by the Land &amp; Property committee</i></b>
<b>25.</b>	SWB Essential Maintenance	<b><i>To recommend to Council to approve tender exercises for the listed projects in this report, with an expected expenditure of circa £191k</i></b>
<b>26.</b>	Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre Essential Work	<b><i>To recommend that Council approve officers to; Appoint the necessary specialist consultants, Appoint the necessary contractors to produce the necessary analysis / report (with necessary remediations), in pursuance of and completion of Stage 1 of the said capital project management process, (feasibility and Scoping), at the aforementioned costs as noted under 3.0 of this report item</i></b>
<b>27.</b>	CLC Filter Refurbishment Tender	<b><i>To recommend that Council note the tender process in Annex A (circulated), Coleraine Leisure Centre Refurbishment of Learner Pool &amp; Main Pool Filter Vessels including Associated Works and</i></b>

		<b><i>recommend to Full Council the award of the tender to Complete Water Treatment Ltd at a cost of £114,563.97</i></b>
<b>28.</b>	Ballycastle Leisure Centre	<b><i>To recommend that Council note the considerable progress made on the design and development of a new Ballycastle Leisure Centre; and approve additional professional fees of up to £347k to complete Stage 2: detailed design</i></b>
<b>29.</b>	Growth Deal	<b><i>To recommend that Council to approve the allocation of the £8.8m remaining budget within the Growth Deal to the development of a new Coleraine Leisure Centre / Health &amp; Wellbeing Hub; and for the final complete list of nine prioritised projects (and associated SOCs/OBCs) to be submitted to Government</i></b>
<b>30.</b>	Any other relevant business notified in accordance with Standing Order 12. (o)	<b><i>Nil</i></b>

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEISURE AND DEVELOPMENT  
COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AND VIA VIDEO  
CONFERENCE ON TUESDAY 17 OCTOBER 2023**

**In the Chair:** Councillor Bateson (C)

**Members Present:** Alderman Callan (C), McAuley (C), Stewart (C)  
Councillors Anderson (C), N Archibald (C), Kennedy (R),  
Kyle (C), McCully (C), McGurk (R), Schenning (C),  
Stirling (C), Watson (R), Wilson (C), Wisener (C)

**Non Committee  
Members Present:** Councillor Wallace (R)

**Officers Present:** D Jackson, Chief Executive (C)  
R Baker, Director of Leisure and Development (C)  
J Welsh, Head of Community and Culture (C)  
N McGurk, Head of Prosperity and Place (C)  
W McCullough, Head of Sport and Wellbeing (C)  
S Calvin, Museum Services Development Manager (R)  
J Beggs, SIB Project Officer (R)  
N Harkness, SIB Project Officer (R)  
P O'Brien, Funding Unit Manager (R)  
J Keen, Committee & Member Services Officer (C)

**In Attendance:** C Thompson, ICT Operations Officer (C)  
A Lennox, Mobile Operation Officer (C)

Press 2 no. (R)

Public 1 no. (R)

**Substitutions:** Councillor Wilson substituted for Councillor Holmes.

**Key:** (C) Attended in the Chamber  
(R) Attended Remotely

The Director of Leisure and Development undertook a roll call of committee members present.

The Chair acknowledged that this was the Director of Leisure and Development's last meeting and on behalf of the Committee thanked him for his hard work.

**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were recorded for Councillor McShane.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Bateson declared an interest in Item 6 - Festive Fund Grant Awards. Having declared an interest Councillor Bateson did not participate or vote on the Item.

### **3. MINUTES OF LEISURE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD TUESDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2023**

Summary previously circulated.

**AGREED** – to recommend that the Minutes of the Leisure and Development Committee meeting held Tuesday 19 September 2023 were signed as a correct record.

### **4. GRANTS POLICY ANNUAL REVIEW**

Report, previously circulated, was presented by the Funding Unit Manager.

#### **Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to inform members that Council's Grant Funding Policy has been reviewed for the incoming year with recommendations to Council for changes. The policy is attached as Annex A (circulated).

#### **Background**

Council is committed to distributing available grants fairly, efficiently and effectively. The purpose of Council's Grant Funding Policy is to outline the agreed approach to Grant Funding in relation to resourcing external bodies to assist in the delivery of its strategic objectives and priorities.

Council annually review and approve the Grant Funding Policy for the distribution of grants. The policy was reviewed and agreed in October 2016, November 2017, October 2018, October 2019, September 2020, October 2021 and September 2022.

#### **Grant Funding Policy**

The policy sets out a framework for the processing of grants. The overall aim of the funding process outlined in the policy is:

*"To have a consistent, customer focused process with relevant assessment and evaluation procedures with appropriate appeal and monitoring systems in place".*

#### **Principles**

- Grant funding awards are at the sole discretion of Council but will be dependent on the Council's available and agreed level of funding which is determined in the annual budget.
- Activities grant funded must be fully consistent with the strategic aims and priorities of the strategies to be addressed.
- Due regard will be given to equality considerations in accordance with Section 75 and any other statutory duty.

- All funding applications will be determined on their objective merits. No organisation is entitled to funding because it may have been granted funding in the past or for any other reason.
- Council must ensure proper, prudent and effective use of Public Money.
- Contracted services must be tendered in adherence to the Council's Procurement Process.
- Eligibility for funding is enabled through the grant programmes with specified criteria. This allows Council to focus on supporting organisations to achieve their best and to meet clearly identified needs, which must all be bound by Council's strategic priorities.

### **Grant Funding Policy Changes / Amendments**

A desktop review of the policy has been carried out by Council's Funding Unit and the following changes are recommended:

Under Section 5.4 Eligibility

#### Exclusions

Some exclusions will initially apply, unless specifically allowed for within specific funding sources:

Individuals, unless within a bursary framework.

Businesses and for-profit organisations where funding would contravene local government, State Aid rules or other legislation. (Councils Enterprise Fund will grant-aid local businesses but state aid rules will apply).

Change to:

#### Exclusions

Some exclusions will initially apply, unless specifically allowed for within specific funding sources:

Individuals, unless within a bursary framework.

Businesses and for-profit organisations where funding would contravene local government, State Aid rules or other legislation. (*Some Economic Development Programmes such Councils Enterprise Fund or the Rural Business Development Programmes will grant-aid local businesses but state aid rules will apply*).

This policy will be reviewed in 12 months' time.

### **Recommendations**

It is recommended that Section 5.4 of the Grant Funding Policy be altered to account for the wording outlined above in section 4.0.

Councillor Schenning and the Chair thanked the Funding Unit for the work they do.

Proposed by Councillor Schenning

Seconded by Councillor Wilson and

**AGREED** – to recommend to Council that Section 5.4 of the Grant Funding Policy be altered to account for the wording outlined above in section 4.0.



## 5. LANDFILL COMMUNITY FUND ANNUAL REVIEW

Report, previously circulated, was presented by the Funding Unit Manager.

### **Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to review the Landfill Communities Fund (LCF) Policy.

### **Background**

In Feb 2016 Council agreed the Landfill Communities Fund Policy. The policy sets out a framework for the processing of Landfill Communities Fund applications. The overall aim of the process outlined in the policy is: *“To ensure a consistent and transparent process with proper and accountable procedures is in place”*.

The Ulster Wildlife Trust are the Environmental Body that administer the fund. The LCF Policy is reviewed annually by Council. The expected value of the fund for 2024/25 is in the region of c£120k net of fees.

### **Landfill Communities Fund Policy**

The purpose of the Landfill Communities Fund Policy is to outline the agreed approach to approval of the funding in relation to LCF applications.

### Principles

The Landfill Communities Fund Policy is built on a set of agreed principles and an understanding that:

- Council approval of projects to the LCF is at the sole discretion of Council and will be dependent on the current available LCF funds.
- Activities funded must be fully consistent with the objects of the fund.
- Due regard will be given to equality considerations in accordance with Section 75 and any other statutory duty.
- Council must ensure proper, prudent and effective use of Public Money.
- Contracted administration services must be tendered in adherence to the Council's Procurement Process.
- Eligibility for funding is determined through ENTRUST's specified criteria.

### **Policy Changes / Amendments**

A desktop review of the policy has been carried out by Council's Funding Unit and no changes are recommended.

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that Elected Members accept no change to the current Policy.

The Landfill Communities Fund Policy is attached at Annex A (circulated).

Proposed by Councillor Wisener

Seconded by Councillor N Archibald and

**AGREED** - to recommend that Council accept no change to the current Policy.

## **6. FESTIVE FUND GRANT AWARDS**

Report, previously circulated, was presented by the Funding Unit Manager.

### **Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to recommend grant awards for the Christmas Festive Fund 2023-24.

### **Background**

Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council launched the Christmas Festive Fund in 2015 to offer assistance to Community and Voluntary Organisations from the smaller towns, villages and hamlets in the Borough to help celebrate Christmas. This fund is specifically designed to mark the lighting of the Christmas tree and help facilitate outdoor festive celebrations within the Borough.

In June 2023 the Leisure and Development Committee agreed to alter the parameters of the fund and changed grant awards from £250 per application to offering 2 different levels of grant-aid:

Fund A - Settlements with a population of 1,000 and above can apply for up to £2,500 towards costs relating to festive entertainment. Priority will be given to projects that promote wide community involvement for outdoor events.

Fund B - Settlements with a population between 100 -1,000 can apply for up to £750 towards costs relating to festive entertainment. Priority will be given to projects that promote wide community involvement for outdoor events.

### **Overview of the Fund**

Community groups and voluntary organisations can apply for grant-aid to allow small towns, hamlets and villages to celebrate Christmas by organising outdoor events and activities in their local communities. Applicant areas must have a population of over 100 residents or have been allocated a Christmas tree from Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council.

Projects/events must take place in the local community between 25<sup>th</sup> November and 16<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

Activities must be cross community and open for all residents offering an opportunity for all within the locality to participate.

Only one grant per settlement will be awarded. Should Council receive more than one application per settlement the application which is the most inclusive and has the most far-reaching community involvement will be selected. Council can also request that applicants work together to produce one all-inclusive event.

Table circulated detailing the Criteria for Assessment

## **Outcome**

35 applications were received by the closing date. The Funding Unit carried out the Stage 1 eligibility checks, three applications were deemed ineligible and a further two were unsuccessful – summary below (circulated).

The remaining 30 applications progressed for assessment and scoring against the agreed criteria.

A summary of the outcome including applications received and grants recommended is included in Annex A (circulated).

## **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Leisure & Development Committee approves grant-aid totalling £40,105 to projects numbered 1-30 listed in Annex A (circulated).

Proposed by Councillor Schenning  
Seconded by Alderman Stewart and

**AGREED** – to recommend that Council approves grant-aid totalling £40,105 to projects numbered 1-30 listed in Annex A (circulated).

## **7. ORNI PEACE PLUS WALKING PROJECT**

Report, previously circulated, was presented by the Head of Sport of Wellbeing.

### **Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to ask Members to consider the request received from Outdoor Recreation NI, for Councils across Northern Ireland to support the “Walking for All” (WFA) Project and agree to be “named partners” in the forthcoming application to SEUPB’s Peace Plus programme – Theme 4, Healthy & Inclusive Communities, Investment Area 4.2 / Rural Regeneration and Social Inclusion.

### **Background**

The ORNI/SEUPB project is detailed in Annex A (circulated) – This is a request for Councils with rural settlement populations to work in partnership with ORNI to promote the benefits of “led” walking in rural areas as a conduit towards the creation of healthy communities in rural areas, whilst also tackling social isolation and promoting social inclusion.

The project will work along similar lines to the current partnership Councils have with the PHA (Age Friendly Strategy & Action Plan), through the employment of an officer to coordinate an Action Plan devised by ORNI throughout the duration of the project. Cost of the officer will be met by funding through the Peace Plus programme and Councils will act as the employing authority for the local WFA coordinator, providing office space and officer support (line management).

### **Current position**

Officers have engaged with ORNI to understand the aims of the programme and its synergy with current strategic priorities within Sport & Wellbeing and Outdoor Recreation. ORNI have also met with Council's Peace Plus Manager to explore the compatibility with the project's aims with CCG's Peace Plus Local Action Plan. Based on that engagement it is recognised that the project, if successful in securing funding, would be compatible with the aforementioned priorities and provide additionality to programmes and activities currently provided by Council.

Annex B (circulated) provides details of the spread of settlements (by population) across Northern Ireland, and cross border, which will be the focus for the ORNI programme.

Annex C (circulated) provides details of the medium, small towns, villages, and settlements specific to CCG.

It is anticipated that call for application to the Peace Plus programme will be made in the Autumn with a closing date of December 2023. If successful in securing Peace Plus funding for the project, it is envisaged by ORNI that the coordinator posts will commence in April 2025.

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that Members of the Leisure & Development Committee consider the request from ORNI and recommend for approval by Council that CCG agrees to be a named partner in the ORNI Peace Plus "Walking for All" project.

Note: in parallel with this recommendation, officers will complete Council's "Partnership Business Case" documentation for final approval.

In response to questions the Head of Sport and Wellbeing confirmed that ORNI have acknowledged there is a settlement on Rathlin and that she will query with them why Rathlin has not been included in the project.

Proposed by Councillor Schenning  
Seconded by Councillor McCully and

**AGREED** - to recommend that Council consider the request from ORNI and recommend for approval by Council that CCG agrees to be a named partner in the ORNI Peace Plus "Walking for All" project.

## **8. FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT ACTION PLAN**

Report, previously circulated, was presented by the Head of Prosperity and Place.

### **Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to update Members on the proposed Causeway Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Action Plan 2024-26.

## **Background**

In recent years, Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council has relied exclusively on external support agencies, such as Invest NI (INI) to support the international ambitions of our local companies. Financial pressures affect all aspects of society and support for business growth into external markets is not immune, therefore it is now appropriate for Council to reengage with local SMEs to achieve the key objectives outlined in our FDI Action Plan (Annex A) (circulated).

Over the years many local businesses have been proactive in developing new customer bases and/or partnerships in markets outside of NI. A small part of this success can be attributed to Council's Alchemy Support Programme (to be replaced by the NI Enterprise Support Service) which provided local businesses with access to bespoke mentor/ consultancy support in business growth/expansion, delivered by industry professionals.

The new NI Enterprise Support Service will provide a similar level of bespoke mentor/ consultancy support to businesses seeking expertise on entering new markets. However, this support on its own will not achieve the outcomes suggested within the Action Plan. There needs to be a holistic approach provided by Council, to support businesses who engage with Council through our Business Development Team, in terms of FDI i.e. understanding the sectoral needs and developing bespoke export support programmes to ensure that any future trade missions (virtual or in-person) are targeted to ensure positive outcomes.

The Borough will see a transformational change as a result of the proposed £72m Growth Deal investment which aims to help harness additional inward investment, create new jobs and speed up inclusive economic growth. This creates the prime opportunity for Council to get ahead of this investment and renew its FDI ambitions to firmly establish on a global market the import/export potential which exists across our Borough. Two types of markets have been identified:

*Core Markets – where there is both current and future opportunity.*

*Emerging Markets – with a medium/long term opportunity which will need curating.*

Sometimes FDI can hinder domestic investment as local companies start losing interest to invest in their domestic products. However, Brexit (NI Protocol) and the Windsor Framework have created a unique opportunity within NI that needs to be exploited. By providing businesses already based in NI or those planning to set up here with full market access to the European Union (EU) and Great Britain (GB). Whilst retaining 'seamless' market access for GB goods destined for Northern Ireland.

When you combine this unique market access with NI's skilled workforce, competitive operating costs, and business-friendly environment, it further strengthens the Borough's proposition as a prime location to establish or grow a business.

## **Proposal**

The FDI Action Plan will provide Officers with a succinct approach that will lead to reinstating of an annual programme of international trade activity, as part of the Business Development Team's overall strategy to support local businesses achieve growth.

The initial FDI Action Plan pertains to the next 24 months of foundational building to support the long-term vision identified in the strategic objectives for the Action Plan:

1. *Position Causeway Coast and Glens at the forefront of innovation, with cutting-edge research taking place at Ulster University's Coleraine Campus, to support economic growth through collaboration between business and academia.*
2. *Build a globally competitive borough by increasing trade, foreign investment, R&D and Innovation and visitor numbers, supporting business development and partnership working to deliver local growth ambitions and bring benefits to local businesses and residents.*
3. *Promote the Causeway Coast and Glens brand internationally to attract investment, business visitors and increase visitor spend in the Borough, celebrating the excellent quality of life on offer. Highlight the Borough's capacity to host large-scale international events, such as The Open, NI International Air Show.*
4. *Establish Causeway Coast and Glens as a place that attracts and retains talent and investment in all of our priority sectors, with an emphasis on our talent pipelines.*

It is imperative that Members understand that this is a long-term proposal and successful delivery will be measured in many different ways. In short, Council's FDI Investment ambition by March 2026 is to:

- *Support three new or expansion FDI Projects;*
- *Establish linkages (civic and business focused) with four new territories worldwide;*
- *Seek to develop partnerships with neighbouring Councils to enhance investment opportunities;*
- *Target 20 companies per year for investment support/promotion; and*
- *Encourage investments which are linked to innovation for the company.*

## **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Leisure & Development Committee recommends to Council that Officers move forward with implementing initial actions identified in FDI Action Plan for the contract sum of £20,000 (excl. VAT) to establish baseline that will support additional activities undertaken in the next financial year (budget subject to rates setting process).

In response to questions, the Head of Prosperity and Place confirmed there were 5 key areas where the £20,000 will be spent as stated in the Action Plan. The Head of Prosperity and Place confirmed that Invest Causeway is Council's

own brand; that the linkage to twinned towns and cities can be strengthened and that Council were working with Invest NI, who have endorsed the Action Plan.

The Head of Prosperity and Place confirmed he expected another request for £20,000 investment next year; he confirmed that Council will build on the Action Plan and that a good relationship has been formed with the Executive Office; that Council intend to source funding and will make the most of investment opportunities available; these will be reported to the Tourism Sub Group. The Head of Prosperity and Place confirmed there was no additional staffing required at present. The Head of Prosperity and Place confirmed that Invest NI would be presenting to the Leisure and Development Committee in November.

In response to further questions, the Head of Prosperity and Place confirmed the £20,000 would be used for a mixture of in-house spending and external consultancy work.

Proposed by Councillor Anderson  
Seconded by Alderman Callan and

**AGREED** - to recommend to Council that Officers move forward with implementing initial actions identified in FDI Action Plan for the contract sum of £20,000 (excl. VAT) to establish baseline that will support additional activities undertaken in the next financial year (budget subject to rates setting process).

## 9. LABOUR MARKET PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL REPORT

For Information report, previously circulated, was presented as read.

### **Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to update Members on the 2022-23 Annual Report for the Labour Market Partnership. The total budget for the 2022-23 Action Plan was £517,667. £466k was 100% funded by the Department for Communities; and £50k was 100% funded by DfE.

### **Background**

Action 27 of the Causeway Community Plan aims to:

*‘Support the development of the Labour Market Partnership - supporting educational and skills initiatives within the Causeway Coast and Glens area to match current and future business needs.’*

Further to the reports of August 2021 and June 2022, the Causeway Coast and Glens LMP Action Plan for 2022/23 was developed and agreed with Council, DfC and the Regional Labour Market Partnership. The key aims of the Causeway Coast and Glens LMP in 2022-23 were to:

- Review and confirm priority employability and labour market issues locally based on strategic assessment;
- Ensure the Action Plan reflects local employability and labour market needs, priorities or emerging issues; and

- Develop and monitor their Action Plan, to measure the impact their actions have in this borough and to help with the evaluation of projects and programmes of work.

The Strategic Priorities in the 2022-23 Action Plan were:

- *SP1: To form and successfully deliver the functions of the local Labour Market Partnership for the area.*
- *SP2: To improve employability outcomes and/or labour market conditions locally.*
- *SP3: To support delivery of Employability NI.*

The Causeway Coast and Glens Labour Market Partnership 2022-23 Annual Report is detailed in Annex A (circulated).

Committee NOTED the report.

## 10. COLERAINE REVITALISE UPDATE

For Information report, previously circulated, was presented as read.

### **Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to inform members of the successful completion and outcome of the most recent Revitalise 2021-23 grant scheme in Coleraine which opened in December 2021 and closed 31 March 2023.

### **Background**

Coleraine Revitalise 2021-23 was primarily a shop front improvement grant scheme open to business and property owners in Coleraine Town Centre in designated areas of the town, namely: Queen Street, Abbey Street, The Diamond, Church Street and the side streets leading from the Diamond and Church Street areas. This scheme was 100% funded by DfC and administered by Council. The maximum grant allowable for each property was £5,000 with a minimum 10% contribution being required towards the costs of their works by each grant recipient. Three calls for applications were issued from December 2021 to January 2023. With a surplus in the budget for the grant scheme, a decision was then taken to also fund several Council procured initiatives.

### **Outcome**

60 Properties received grants for Revitalise works (total cost of £234,000). In addition, four Council procured initiatives were later included (total cost of £40,000) i.e.:

1. *Street Art – over 50 small and large (keynote) pieces;*
2. *Living Wall floral display;*
3. *Replacement of damaged hoardings; and*
4. *Half Moon hanging baskets.*

Property and business owners were surveyed in September 2023 to establish their views on the benefit of the Revitalise Scheme. Owners of 25 properties have so far responded and, without exception, they rated the benefits as follows:



- *They were motivated to make improvements to their properties as a result of the availability of grant funding;*
- *They were happy with the result of the works carried out;*
- *They felt that the works have had a positive impact on their trading, notwithstanding continuing issues with the current economic climate;*
- *The improvements to their properties have contributed toward re-let (where vacancies existed);*
- *They all felt that the overall streetscape of their area has been improved along with the appeal and attractiveness of the town;*
- *They felt that small grants of this nature is a very effective way of supporting businesses; and*
- *They felt that the street art project further enhanced the appeal of Coleraine, creating additional interest and bringing the town to life.*

Committee NOTED the report.

## **11. DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION FLEXIBLE FUND**

For Information report, previously circulated, was presented as read.

### **Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to members on the new £7.5m Digital Transformation Flexible Fund to support small and micro businesses across Northern Ireland.

The Digital Transformation Flexible Fund (DTFF) has been in development since May 2020 and the business case has gone through a series of iterations as it has migrated through the City and Growth deal approval process. The project was approved by Invest NI and Department for Economy in June 2023 and more recently by Department of Finance, in September 2023.

DTFF is an important step forward for Councils in positioning their intent to drive their local economies – with an increasing focus on innovation support for local businesses.

### **Background**

DTFF is a new initiative developed by Belfast Region City Deal partners and all 11 local councils and is supported by the wider City and Growth Deals across the region. It is a unique project as it is one of the first cross-growth deal initiatives to be developed. It is delivered by all local authorities across Northern Ireland, under the Full Fibre Northern Ireland Consortium (FFNI) and supported by Invest NI. The project is jointly funded by the NI Executive, UK Government, Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) and all local authorities in Northern Ireland.

### **DTFF Aims**

DTFF's key purpose is to support economic recovery and fast-track the progress of the micro and small business community to respond to the opportunities of digital transformation, using advanced and emerging technologies.

The programme seeks to address the financial barrier that many small businesses face when seeking to digitally transform, by establishing a capital grant fund that will support investment in equipment critical to their strategic digital transformation ambitions. This grant can assist those smaller businesses that do not have the necessary capital available to develop and trial new products and services using new and advanced technologies.

The DTFF capital investments are designed to enable business transformation and not improve the 'digitisation' of existing business models/operations. As such, the DTFF will fund advanced digital technologies projects which include the following:

- Smart technologies/ smart environments and the Internet of Things (IoT);
- Process automation via robotics/cobotics;
- Big-data and analytics;
- Immersive Technologies (AR/VR/MR/Haptics);
- Artificial intelligence and machine learning; and
- Distributed ledger systems/ blockchain technologies.

For full eligibility guidelines, please refer to the DTFF website: [www.dtff.co.uk](http://www.dtff.co.uk) DTFF can offer a grant towards a Digital Transformation Project up to £20,000 costs at a 70% intervention rate with 30% match funding from the applicant business. The 70% intervention rate is highly unusual in government funded grants but is crucial to help stimulate innovation amongst local micro and small businesses.

The programme aligns with several other key projects in the Digital and Innovation Ecosystem including those offered through the City and Growth Deals and is supported by several key stakeholders operating in this space. Newry, Mourne and Down District Council will manage and administrate the DTFF grant, with support from all local Councils. Marketing and PR activities will be coordinated across NI with local animation conducted by Economic Development teams in all local councils.

The first funding call is expected to launch in October 2023, and will include a series of face to face and on-line pre-briefing sessions in all council areas, for interested businesses.

Eligibility and Application guidance will be made available at these pre-briefing sessions and provided through the DTFF website, along with Expression of Interest documentation: [www.dtff.co.uk](http://www.dtff.co.uk)

The priority is to open the first funding call to allow businesses to apply, however a formal launch is being developed, in parallel, to further promote the scheme.

### **Resource**

The revenue element of the programme is funded by local councils. Revenue contributions, totalling £60,938 to 31 March 2026 (final call anticipated Nov 2025), were approved by council in October 2022.

Committee NOTED the report.

## 12. PORTRUSH HARBOUR & KERR STREET EIS

For Information report, previously circulated, was presented as read.

### **Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to inform Members of the successful completion of the Environmental Improvement Scheme at Portrush Kerr Street and Harbour.

### **Background**

The Environmental Improvement Scheme at Portrush Kerr Street and Harbour was the final stage of the Department for Communities (DfC) funded works for improvements to the Portrush town area which began in the town in 2012. It serves to draw together previous projects and the final part of the Executive-endorsed £17m Portrush Regeneration Programme.

The final design involved environmental improvements largely to the Harbour walkway on Kerr Street. It extends from Station Square to the Harbour and on to Lower Main Street to link with previous improvements carried out during the Portrush Regeneration Project. Improvements have included the widening of pathways, resurfacing, improved lighting, additional seating and the installation of railings to certain areas.

Stage One of the Capital Works Project Management process was approved by Leisure and Development on the 15<sup>th</sup> December 2020. Stage One was 100% funded by DfC at a value of £113,159 and took the project to Outline Business Case stage – full scheme design (including cost estimates, planning approval (where applicable), and preparation of the tender for construction works. Moving to Stage Two of the Capital Works Project Management process was approved by Leisure and Development on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2022. On 20<sup>th</sup> September 2022 the Leisure and Development Committee considered the tender report for the construction phase and approved the appointment of the successful tenderer at a Stage Two at a cost of £1.4m.

Works to the Portrush Kerr Street and Harbour area commenced in November 2022 and were completed on time and within budget on 30 September 2023. The official launch of the Scheme took place on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2023 and a press release was issued to the local press. News of the event was also posted to the Council website, X Twitter and Facebook as per **Annex A** and the link below:

<https://www.causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk/news/reception-marks-completion-of-portrush-kerr-street-and-harbour-public-realm>

Committee NOTED the report.

## 13. NI ENTREPRENEURSHIP SUPPORT SCHEME AGREEMENT

For Information report, previously circulated, was presented as read.

## **Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to update members on mobilisation of the new Northern Ireland Council-led Entrepreneurship Support Service (NI ESS). All 11 NI Councils are delivering this collaborative Enterprise Support Service funded by UK Shared Prosperity Fund to the value of £17 million, making it the largest single SPF award.

Belfast City Council, as lead council, is currently drafting collaboration agreements to set the basis for delivery of NI ESS, via a dedicated Programme Management Office currently being recruited. All 11 NI Councils continue to work on the planning and delivery of the service, via the ESS Working Group, overseen by the SOLACE Economic Development Group with representation at senior management level.

## **Background**

In March 2023 Council approved participation in the NI ESS, to continue to meet its statutory obligations in respect of supporting local businesses to start and grow. Members are reminded of the programme delivery pillars as outlined below:

Table 1 circulated

As detailed in Table 1 above (circulated), the proposed delivery model for the new Entrepreneurship.

Support Service consists of four pillars i.e.:

1. Engage;
2. Foundation;
3. Enabling Growth; and
4. Accelerated Scaling.

The new Entrepreneurship Support Service represents a continuum of support from pre-start support, through start-up and the growth journey thereafter. This may lead to transition to Invest NI support and/or acceleration of high-growth potential at any point.

ESS will also provide funding for businesses via delivery of a grant scheme available to those businesses identified through the foundation or growth stages of the service. Currently, the working assumption is grant amounts of between £1,000 and £4,000, administered via Council's Funding Unit. It is expected that the service will have its official launch during Global Entrepreneurship Week 2023 (13 to 17 November).

## **Contractor Appointment**

Procurement for multiple programme strands is now complete with awards as follows:

Engage and Foundation – Enterprise NI and Partners.  
Growth and Scaling – Deirdre Fitzpatrick and Associates.

Annual Service Plans are currently being agreed to reflect local delivery priorities and project initiation meetings are pending. Additionally, regional contracts for supporting architecture have been awarded as follows:

Tele-handling – Like Us NE.  
Communications and Marketing – Ardmore.

In parallel, a regional CRM (Customer Relationship Management) system is being developed by Belfast City Council's Digital Support Services, to underpin all programme delivery and ensure GDPR compliance.

Committee NOTED the report.

#### **14. LANDFILL COMMUNITY FUND GRANT AWARDS**

For information report, previously circulated, was presented as read.

##### **Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to inform members of the recommendations for grant awards to ENTRUST (Landfill Regulator) for projects to be supported under the Landfill Communities Fund in the 2023-24 period.

##### **Background**

The Landfill Communities Fund (LCF) is regulated by ENTRUST (Landfill Regulator) and managed by Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs (HMRC). The Landfill Communities Fund is an innovative tax credit scheme that enables Landfill Operators to use some of their landfill tax to directly fund projects that improve the lives of communities living within a 10-mile radius of the landfill sites.

Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council operate the Craighuiller landfill site just outside Portrush and are able to claim a credit against their landfill tax liability, they then make this contribution to Ulster Wildlife, the registered Environmental Body who administers this fund on behalf of Council. Applications are assessed and scored by Ulster Wildlife and Funding Unit Officers. Successful projects are submitted to ENTRUST (Landfill Regulator) whose role is to ensure that the LCF monies are spent by organisations on projects which comply with the objectives set out in The Landfill Tax Regulations 1996.

##### Strategic Context

Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council review and agree the Landfill Communities Fund Policy and programme on an annual basis.

The policy sets out a framework for the processing of Landfill Communities Fund applications. The overall aim of the process outlined in the policy is:

*“To ensure a consistent and transparent process with proper and accountable procedures is in place”.*

In November 2022 Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council agreed the Landfill Communities Fund programme and criteria for 2023-2024. (See Annexes A, B, & C (circulated)).

Council further agreed that the fund would be a rolling grant programme, remaining open throughout the year until available funds are allocated, with Officers bringing reports into Council to inform members of the outcome of the process.

In June 2023 Council were informed that 2 projects had successfully applied to the 2023-24 LCF Grant programme:

Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council – Glenullin Play Park £15,000.  
Boveedy Community Association – Community Hall refurbishment £5,400.

### Eligibility

Applications are accepted from properly constituted, not for profit community or voluntary based organisations. Projects must be located within a 10 mile radius of the 2 licensed landfill sites in the Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council area. (Craigahulliar Landfill site, 45 Craigahulliar Road, Portrush BT56 8NN or Craigmore Landfill Site, Craigmore Road, Garvagh, Coleraine BT51 5HF).

Applications must be made under one of the following Objects set out in the Landfill Tax Regulations 1996:

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Object D  | Public Parks and Amenity,  |
| Object DA | Conservation of Biodiversity; or   |
| Object E  | Restoration of Religious Buildings or Buildings of Architectural or Historical Interest. |

### Assessment Overview

The fund opened for applications on 12th December 2022, and will remain open until all available grant-aid is committed for the year, or Council closes the fund.

5 applications were received with requests totalling £67,000.

All 5 applications passed the stage 1 eligibility assessment and proceeded to full assessment and scoring.

All 5 applications were assessed and scored against the stage 2 criteria, scoring above the 65% minimum threshold. (Full criteria set out in Annex A).

Table 1(circulated) provides detail on applications and their outcome.

### **Grant Awards**

As per Council's Landfill Communities Fund Policy, approval of projects is dependent on the current available LCF funds.

The current available funds available in the Landfill Community Fund pot are £143,379.10 There are sufficient funds available to award grant aid to all 5 successful applications.

#### Fund Awards

Funding awards for projects 1-5 totalling £67,000 have been recommended to ENTRUST, the Landfill Regulator leaving £76,379.10 remaining in the budget. The Landfill Communities Fund will remain open for further applications.

Committee NOTED the report.

## **15. HALLOWEEN EVENT COLERAINE**

For information report, previously circulated, was presented as read.

### **Purpose of Report**

To update Elected Members on the requirement to make significant changes in the operational delivery of the Coleraine Halloween event format for Friday 27 October 2023.

### **Background**

At the February 2023 Leisure and Development Committee, Elected Members were presented with proposals for the Council-Led Tourism Event programme for 2023-2024. The proposed dates and budget for Seasonal Halloween events were approved as follows:

Coleraine	-	Friday 27th October
Limavady	-	Saturday 28th October
Ballycastle	-	Monday 30th October
Ballymoney	-	Tuesday 31st October
Total budget	-	£75,840

### **Planning**

As part of the review and planning process for Halloween event delivery for 2023, the Tourism Events Team identified a number of issues that need to be addressed. A major reoccurring issue with the Coleraine event was the requirement to cancel events, due to prevailing wind conditions at the Rugby Avenue site.

Over the last number of years, the playing fields at Council's Rugby Avenue site has been used for the evening entertainment and fireworks display. The site however does present significant operational challenges with the strong possibility that the fireworks cannot proceed due to the location of the firing point and prevailing wind conditions. In 2022 Council had to cancel the fireworks display on the evening. On other occasions firework displays at this location have resulted in cancellations or significant display reductions due to excessive winds adjacent to a dual carriageway.

With the prevailing wind from the southwest, and with the time of year, there is a strong possibility that Council would have to cancel again in 2024, hence the Tourism Events Teams efforts to look at suitable alternative sites.

Council Officers have had discussions with the University who have been very receptive to the idea of working with Council on the evening entertainment element of the event. The University site is much bigger and also allows ample car parking with over 2,000 parking spaces and greater hard standing, as well as facilities for accommodating a shuttle service if required. The Events team is looking into a number of activities in conjunction with the BID team for Coleraine Town Centre in the afternoon.

### **Proposed Activities**

Below is a synopsis of the programme of activities proposed:

#### **Draft Programme for Halloween in Coleraine (table circulated)**

Transport to the evening venue at the University is being scoped with Translink and will likely take the form of double deck buses from The Mall town centre car park to a drop off location before the Sports campus of the University. The service will commence 30 minutes prior to University gates opening and up to one hour after the event.

### **Next Steps**

Working with the Coleraine BID Team and the Estates Management Team at the University, the Tourism Events Team will deliver Halloween festivities for Coleraine in both the Town Centre and the University site on Friday 27 October 2023. The post-event review will determine the success of this new arrangement and potentially look for opportunities where greater collaboration and input from the University can take place in future years.

Proposed by Councillor McGurk  
Seconded by Councillor Wilson and

**AGREED** – to recommend to Council that Officers explore other options for a venue for next year, not just Ulster University; to keep as much of the event in the town centre as possible to encourage economic activity and boost the town centre; to consider how the wider Halloween Programme can be prepared and advertised in order to ensure members of the public know what is happening at each event.

## **16. CORRESPONDENCE**

There were no Items of Correspondence.

## **17. MATTERS REPORTING TO THE PARTNERSHIP PANEL**

There were no matters for reporting to Partnership Panel.

## **18. CONSULTATIONS**

There were no Consultations.



**19. NOTICE OF MOTION PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR C ARCHIBALD,  
SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR MCSHANE**

*This Council recognises and values the huge contribution our LGBTQIA+ citizens make to the area and rejects all forms of discrimination against the LGBTQIA+ community.*

*Takes note of the first Causeway Pride event which was a significant and positive initiative for the north coast.*

*As a statement of our solidarity with our LGBTQIA+ citizens and community and as a show of positive and progressive change this Council commits to supporting the organisation of an annual Pride parade.*

*And calls on Council to engage with the Causeway Pride Committee, other relevant groups and organisations to work collectively on the organisation of a parade or pride festival.*

The Director of Leisure and Development summarised the Notice of Motion; provided clarity on internal and external events and clarified that his understanding of the Notice of Motion was that Council support this event as it supports other external events, such as North West 200.

The Director of Leisure and Development stated what would be included in the support package as follows:

The Tourism Event Support Funding Programme - Council would work with the organisers of the Festival or the Parade to ensure they are able to make a successful funding application and signpost the organisers to other funding sources. Council would support the organisers in an Event Management Plan. The Director of Leisure and Development stated the Events Team were experienced in providing the required support for external events, such as the Open Golf, North West 200, SuperCup. He advised there was a significant amount of expertise to support the event organisers in terms of developing their mandatory event management plan, advice on marketing opportunities and planning would also be provided. All event organisers were required to attend a Safety Advisory Group and provided with the required support. Council could provide assistance with direct and indirect promotion or third party events to ensure there was the necessary detail to promote the event. In terms of the safety of the event, the event organisers would be provided with support for traffic management, stewarding, road closures and health and safety; which was mandatory. Council would be in a supporting role and the Events team would engage with the event organisers, subject to Elected Members agreement, to work through that Programme.

Councillor N Archibald spoke in support of the event, stating that last year provided the organisers with a lot of learning and that the support from Council would enhance the event. Councillor N Archibald thanked the Director of Leisure and Development for the report and stated this would be a positive

motion to pass in the Council as it would show members of the LGBTQIA+ community in Council they are supporting them and see them as equal citizens.

In Councillor McShane's absence, Councillor McGurk seconded the motion. The Chair clarified the Notice of Motion was being put to Committee for implementation. Councillor McGurk queried whether the Motion had been passed by Full Council or if it had been referred to Committee. The Director of Leisure and Development corrected himself to clarify the Notice of Motion had been referred to Committee. Councillor McGurk stated she did need to second the Motion.

#### Amendment

Proposed by Alderman Callan

Seconded by Alderman McAuley

- To recommend that this Council recognises the contribution that various sections of our community make and we reject all forms of discrimination against any group based on identity, political outlook or faith and any group seeking support should be directed towards applying to the relevant Council funding schemes available.

The Director of Leisure and Development clarified with the Chief Executive that the Amendment could be accepted.

Councillor Kyle thanked the Director of Leisure and Development for providing more information on the Motion; stating the motion was light on detail of what Council were being asked to sign up to. Councillor Kyle stated there were other issues this could open up, in passing this motion would Council be endorsing all campaigns bound up in the acronym of LGBTQIA+, would Council be rejecting the views of people in the LGB Alliance, for example, who state on their website we recognise sex is binary, male and female and that for the vast majority of people sex is determined at conception observed at birth and recorded. Councillor Kyle stated rejection of the coopting of environmental differences in sexual development, in order to cast out in the binary nature of sex. Councillor Kyle questioned of the proposers, do they agree that female toilets across Council should be open to biological men who identify as transgender, advising there were many who object to the movement and public displays of sexuality, which often goes with pride parades, and that he stood with those people.

At the request of Councillor McGurk Alderman Callan repeated the amendment.

Councillor McGurk questioned whether Alderman Callan was proposing that Council do not support this specific event. Councillor McGurk clarified the Notice of Motion was dealing with one specific event which had been received well in its inaugural year.

Alderman Callan responded, that any group needing support should be directed to funding streams available.

Councillor Wilson stated there was support available for any event taking place in the Council area; for years people have been signposted to the relevant support. Councillor Wilson stated he supports the event and acknowledged the first Causeway Pride was well received and urged Members to be mindful this was a sensitive issue involving people's lives.

Councillor McCully stated that Causeway Pride was a positive event for Portrush; that the town has a proud alternative streak and this event recognised Portrush in all its diversity. The event organisers should be congratulated for bringing the event together in a short period of time and this motion should help take the event to the next level, which would be a positive contribution to the Causeway DEA and wider area.

At the request of the Chair Alderman Callan repeated the amendment.

In response to the Director of Leisure and Development, Alderman Callan confirmed the amendment would replace the motion in its entirety.

The Chair put the Amendment to the Committee to vote.  
6 Members voted for; 7 Members voted Against; 2 Members Abstained.  
The Chair declared the Amendment lost.

The Chair put the Notice of Motion to the vote.  
7 Members voted For; 6 Members voted Against; 2 Members Abstained.  
The Chair declared the Notice of Motion carried.

In response to Alderman Callan, the Director of Leisure and Development confirmed that for any event there were a number of prerequisites that need to be considered, for example if it is on Council Land it would need to go through the Land and Property Sub Committee; if there was grant funding a decision will need to be made by Council; if it was on public roads there may be a requirement for the Parades Commission to pass the 11 Bar 1 certification. The Director of Leisure and Development stated he would need to come back and confirm if the event would require an Equality Impact Assessment or if it falls within the general grant funding process.

Alderman Callan requested that this information and a Legal Opinion be brought back to the Council meeting.

#### **MOTION TO PROCEED 'IN COMMITTEE'**

Proposed by Councillor McCully  
Seconded by Councillor Wilson and

**AGREED** – to recommend that Council move '*In Committee*'.

\* **Public and Press were disconnected from the meeting at 8:02pm**

***The information contained in the following item is restricted in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act***

*(Northern Ireland) 2014.*

**20. GROWTH DEAL EPB MINUTES**

Minutes, previously circulated, presented as read.

Committee NOTED the report.

**21. SSRP ACTIVE TRAVEL GARVAGH PATHS TENDER**

Confidential report, previously circulated, was presented by the Head of Prosperity and Place

**Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the outcome of the procurement process to appoint contractors to undertake the construction of a new path around Clyde Park in Garvagh to facilitate all ability use as part of the Covid Recovery Small Settlement Regeneration Programme.

**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the contract is awarded as follows:

Garvagh – Northstone Materials Limited for a contract sum of £76,064 (exc.VAT)

Proposed by Alderman Callan  
Seconded by Alderman McAuley and

**AGREED** – to recommend to Council that the contract is awarded as follows:

Garvagh – Northstone Materials Limited for a contract sum of £76,064 (exc.VAT)

**22. SSRP MAGILLIGAN MUGA TENDER**

Confidential report, previously circulated, was presented by the Head of Sport and Wellbeing

**Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the outcome of the procurement process to appoint contractors to undertake the construction of a Multi- Use Games Area (MUGA) at the community centre grounds in Magilligan as part of the Covid Recovery Small Settlement Regeneration Programme.

**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the contract is awarded as follows:

Magilligan MUGA – Kane Contracts for a contract sum of £241,670 (excl..VAT)

In response to questions the Head of Sport and Wellbeing confirmed that Council are reviewing their play and pitch strategy, which includes MUGA's, and that the Interim Head of Estates has engaged with the Sport and Wellbeing team concerning the upkeep of existing pitches and MUGA's.

Proposed by Alderman Callan  
Seconded by Councillor Schenning and

**AGREED** – to recommend that Council award the contract as follows:  
Magilligan MUGA – Kane Contracts for a contract sum of £241,670 (excl. VAT)

### **23. BALLYCASTLE MUSEUM REPAIRS**

Confidential report, previously circulated, was presented by the Head of Culture and Community.

#### **Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the outcome of a tender process to carry out repairs to Ballycastle museum. These works form part of the condition report and subsequent conservation management plan to complete the 'urgent' and 'high' priority items and follow the initial health and safety works completed in 2022.

#### **Recommendation**

The consultant's recommendation is to accept the lowest tender return from Devity Contract Services Ltd, for the sum of £43,014.50 (exclusive of VAT) as this is a legitimate tender return which offers the best value for money for the council.

Proposed by Councillor Schenning  
Seconded by Councillor N Archibald

**AGREED** – to recommend that Council accept the lowest tender return from Devity Contract Services Ltd, for the sum of £43,014.50 (exclusive of VAT) as this is a legitimate tender return which offers the best value for money for the council.

### **24. MUSEUM STORAGE**

Confidential report, previously circulated, was presented by the Head of Community and Culture.

#### **Purpose of Report**

To update members on the progress made in securing a centralised store for Museum collections.

#### **Options**

Option 1: Continue looking for other suitable office/retail space. There are no suitable spaces available which meet all requirements at present. Any retail space would have to go through a similar process to the Diamond Centre unit, in terms of planning, building control and lease agreements which would delay the store relocation further.

Option 2: Proceed with Diamond Centre unit subject to conditions outlined in the proposal.

**Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Leisure & Development Committee recommends to Council that Museum Services proceed with option 2, securing a 5 year rental lease of a unit within the Diamond Centre in Coleraine to be used as a centralised store for museum collections with a small exhibition space/research area at the cost to the museum budget of £23,000 per annum plus overheads, *providing* that the building control work is completed and signed off and that the lease is approved by the Land & Property committee.

Proposed by Councillor Wisener  
Seconded by Councillor Schenning and

**AGREED** - to recommend to Council that Museum Services proceed with option 2, securing a 5 year rental lease of a unit within the Diamond Centre in Coleraine to be used as a centralised store for museum collections with a small exhibition space/research area at the cost to the museum budget of £23,000 per annum plus overheads, *providing* that the building control work is completed and signed off and that the lease is approved by the Land & Property committee

**25. SWB ESSENTIAL MAINTENANCE**

Confidential report, previously circulated, was presented by the Head of Sport and Wellbeing.

**Purpose of Report**

To update Members on priority works / maintenance / repair required at Sport & Wellbeing Facilities and seek approval for expenditure of more than £10k at a number of sites / facilities.

**Recommendation**

**It is recommended** that the Leisure & Development Committee recommends to Council to approve tender exercises for the listed projects in this report, with an expected expenditure of circa £191k.

As appropriate for each project, further reports will be brought back to Council for approval of tendered costs.

Councillor Wilson wished it to be noted there was an issue with smaller scale maintenance within Sport and Wellbeing facilities, particularly leisure centres and requested a report exploring the options was brought back to Committee.

The Director of Leisure and Development noted Councillor Wilson's comments and advised he would refer the request for a report on the smaller maintenance projects to Environmental Services as this work is completed by the Estates Department.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson  
Seconded by Councillor Schenning

**AGREED** – to recommend to Council to approve tender exercises for the listed projects in this report, with an expected expenditure of circa £191k

## **26. JOEY DUNLOP LEISURE CENTRE ESSENTIAL WORK**

Confidential report, previously circulated, was presented by the Head of Sport and Wellbeing.

### **Purpose of Report**

For Members to consider and approve officers to carry out various condition surveys, inclusive of mechanical, electrical (M&E) systems & pool structures. Approval is also requested for officers to engage;

- External specialist's consultants and,
  - Contractors to assist in intrusive on-site investigations and testing.
- The above shall be in pursuance of stage 1 of the capital management process, (*feasibility and scoping*).

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that Members approve officers to;

- Appoint the necessary specialist consultants,
- Appoint the necessary contractors to produce the necessary analysis / report (with necessary remediations), in pursuance of and completion of Stage 1 of the said capital project management process, (feasibility and Scoping), at the aforementioned costs as noted under 3.0 of this report item.

NOTE 1: - Whilst the consultants shall be taken of the competitively procured framework (already approved). The appointment of contractors shall be by a competitive tender competition.

NOTE 2: - A report shall be brought back to Members for consideration and pursuance of Stage 2 of the said capital project management process, (Detailed Design & procurement).

Proposed by Alderman McAuley  
Seconded by Councillor Stirling and

**AGREED** – to recommend that Council approve officers to;

- Appoint the necessary specialist consultants,
- Appoint the necessary contractors to produce the necessary analysis / report (with necessary remediations), in pursuance of and completion of Stage 1 of the said capital project management process, (feasibility and Scoping), at the aforementioned costs as noted under 3.0 of this report item.

## **27. CLC FILTER REFURBISHMENT TENDER**

Confidential report, previously circulated, was presented by the Head of Sport and Wellbeing.

**Purpose of Report**

The purpose of the paper is to update Members on progress to date on the refurbishment of Learner Pool and Main Pool Filter Vessels, including the associated works in Coleraine Leisure Centre and to request approval to award the contract as per the associated Tender Report at a cost of £114,563.97.

**Recommendation**

Members are asked to note the tender process in Annex A (circulated), Coleraine Leisure Centre Refurbishment of Learner Pool & Main Pool Filter Vessels including Associated Works and recommend to Full Council the award of the tender to Complete Water Treatment Ltd at a cost of £114,563.97.

In response to questions, the Head of Sport and Wellbeing confirmed the pictures of Roe Valley Leisure Centre were included in the report in error; the work there had been completed.

Proposed by Councillor McCully  
Seconded by Councillor N Archibald                      and

**AGREED** - to recommend that Council note the tender process in Annex A (circulated), Coleraine Leisure Centre Refurbishment of Learner Pool & Main Pool Filter Vessels including Associated Works and recommend to Full Council the award of the tender to Complete Water Treatment Ltd at a cost of £114,563.97

**28. BALLYCASTLE LEISURE CENTRE**

Confidential report, previously circulated, was presented by the Head of Sport and Wellbeing.

**Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this paper is to update Members on the considerable progress made in the design and development of a new Ballycastle Leisure Centre; and request approval for additional professional fees of up to £347k to complete Stage 2: detailed design.

**Recommendation**

Members are asked to note the considerable progress made on the design and development of a new Ballycastle Leisure Centre; and approve additional professional fees of up to £347k to complete Stage 2: detailed design.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson  
Seconded by Councillor Schenning                      and

**AGREED** - to recommend that Council note the considerable progress made on the design and development of a new Ballycastle Leisure Centre; and



approve additional professional fees of up to £347k to complete Stage 2: detailed design

## **29. GROWTH DEAL**

Confidential report, previously circulated, was presented by the Head of Prosperity and Place

### **Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this paper is to request approval for the unallocated funds of £8.8m remaining within the Growth Deal to be allocated to the development of a new Coleraine Leisure Centre / Health & Wellbeing Hub; and for the final complete list of nine prioritised projects (and associated SOCs/OBCs) to be submitted to Government.

### **Recommendation**

Members are asked to approve the allocation of the £8.8m remaining budget within the Growth Deal to the development of a new Coleraine Leisure Centre / Health & Wellbeing Hub; and for the final complete list of nine prioritised projects (and associated SOCs/OBCs) to be submitted to Government.

Alderman Callan acknowledged the good feedback from Central Government and the positives of investing in Coleraine Leisure Centre Health and Wellbeing Hub.

Proposed by Alderman Callan  
Seconded by Councillor Anderson

**AGREED** - to recommend that Council approve the allocation of the £8.8m remaining budget within the Growth Deal to the development of a new Coleraine Leisure Centre / Health & Wellbeing Hub; and for the final complete list of nine prioritised projects (and associated SOCs/OBCs) to be submitted to Government

## **30. ANY OTHER RELEVANT BUSINESS NOTIFIED IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDING ORDER 12. (O)**

There were no items of Any Other Relevant Business.

### **MOTION TO PROCEED 'IN PUBLIC'**

Proposed by Councillor Wilson  
Seconded by Alderman Stewart and

**AGREED** - to recommend that Council move '*In Public*'.

There being no further business the Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and the meeting concluded at 8:49pm.

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Chair