

Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council

To: Corporate Policy and Resources Committee Date: 19th January 2016

NILGA Summary Product and Work Plan for 2016/17 and Investment Subscription

For Decision

Linkage to Corporate Plan	
Strategic Priority	Leader and Champion
Objective	Establish key relationships with Government agencies and potential strategic partners
Lead Officer	Moira Quinn
Income	N/A

1.0 NILGA Summary Product and Work Plan 2016/17

The Chief Executive of NILGA has written to Council enclosing NILGA's Summary Product and Work Plan for 2016/17. Further details about the Work Plan are outlined in the correspondence. Council's approval for the Work Plan is requested by 29th February 2016.

- 1.1** A copy of the correspondence and the NILGA Product/Work Plan is attached as Appendix 1.

2.0 Investment Subscription

The Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council's investment subscription, as outlined in the Work Plan document, to enable investment in the Work Plan is £43,178 for 2016/17. Council's approval for the Investment Subscription is requested.

3.0 Recommendation

It is recommended that Committee considers and recommends approval of the Summary Product and Work Plan and the Investment Subscription of £43,178 for 2016/17

APPENDIX 1

Mr D Jackson
Chief Executive
Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council
Cloonavin
66 Portstewart Road
COLERAINE
BT52 1EY

7th January 2016

Dear David

I have pleasure in enclosing NILGA's Summary Product & Work Plan for 2016/17, together with the investment subscription required to deliver it.

The Work Plan directly meets the requirements articulated by Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council in its response to the Association's Independent Review, drawing also, of course, on the feedback from all other member councils, which was substantial and constructive.

Members of the Association, including NILGA Executive elected members, Alderman William King MBE and Councillor Dermot Nicholl, are valued members and will continue to participate in our work, our review and our modernisation.

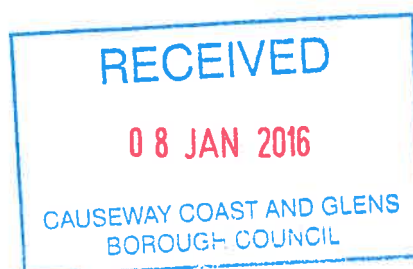
Of equal importance has been the direct involvement of individual members and officers across the 11 councils not just in terms of the independent review, but in developing the core product requirements from and associated work of NILGA.

In 2016/17, all of our work will be geared to **supporting, developing and championing councils, together with bringing world class practice into local government in Northern Ireland**. NILGA will continue to develop its very strong relationship at corporate level with Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council, including, I trust, the aspiration of your council to gain the Charter award and taking advantage of new investment opportunities for the local economy.

We will also seek to use and promote venues across the council area for member and officer awareness events on matters as important, yet diverse, as the Code of Conduct, new economic investment opportunities, EU investment, and the new Powers of councils resulting from the Local Government Act 2015.

Northern Ireland Local Government Association

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The constructive comments received from the 11 councils, as well as government departments, Colleges NI, regional enterprise bodies and the sister local government bodies in England, Scotland and Wales, highlight

- the need for a strong representative body for all councils in NI
- the importance of delivering the clear changes worked on by NILGA to date
- member development and bringing best practice to NI councils drawing on our Network
- the Association's role in supporting the independent, sovereign work of each member council
- the demonstration at all times of performance and value for money
- the need for member council commitment aligned to each local government mandate, to provide professional resource planning for the Association.

NILGA looks forward to continuing to engage in an overall strategic set of outcomes **for and with Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council**, and to realising some of your corporate and member development aspirations, promoting your successes and championing the sustainability of the wider local government sector in Northern Ireland.

Councils are an essential and growing part of democracy, community cohesion and public service delivery for citizens in Northern Ireland. NILGA's regional co-ordination, communication and related support work is fully aligned to this new ambition, underpinned by the practical support requested in your constructive response.

Approval of the attached Work Plan and Investment for 2016/17 is requested by 29th February 2016.

I look forward to working with you, your members and officers in 2016/17.

Yours sincerely



Derek McCallan
Chief Executive

Enc.

11 Council, New NILGA, Product / Work Plan 2016/17

1. National and Regional Policy, Lobbying, Guidance, Publications, Representation:

Provision of Policy Guidance and evidence submission spanning all NI Executive Departments and Westminster, co-ordinating sector's representation to ensure NI council input / participation in National strategic work of the Local Government Group UK and Ireland wide, drawing down investment and collating best practice for NI councils on matters including member development, enterprise and job development, coastal erosion, infrastructure and community investment.

2. Regional and Sub Regional Events, Awareness, Flagship Annual Conference:

Holding 15 key events in 2016/17 on matters critical to NI councils including General Power of Competence, new parts of the Code of Conduct, and future economic investment roles of councils, with specific sessions on key topics including Waste, Planning and the proposed Programme for Government. **These bespoke events will be free to members and subject matter determined by council representatives.**

NILGA's flagship conference is scheduled for 6th October 2016, and will emphasise Enterprise, Excellence and Investment in Local Government, and this will be subsidised for members with free places for First Citizens.

3. Elected Member Development including Charter / Charter Plus:

All council working group delivering regional member development initiatives and publications pertinent to enhancing the role of the councillor and councils in NI, including The New Councillors Guide / all Council regionally co-ordinated training / Code of Conduct Revision / General Power of Competence / Planning Guide 2016.

4. European Policy, Investment, Representation:

Co-ordination of input into Committee of the regions, reestablishment of Council led NI European Forum with OFMDFM, Negotiation re Small Business Act, Regulations, Structural Funds, and Showcasing NI Councils as part of European Entrepreneurial Region Award.

5. Regional Communication, Bulletins, Information Portal, Member Liaison:

12 NILGA Member Council Bulletins, related Press Releases, Presentations to councils and group leaders as required, Party Conference input, revised interactive website, Ulster in Bloom media work

6. Strategic, Regional Working Groups:

18-20 sessions during 2016/17, NILGA dedicated (and supporting Government Departments where appropriate) Working Groups for Planning, Community Planning, Economic Development, Interreg, Growth & Jobs, Rural Development and Waste. These will have specific work plans tailored exclusively to councils requirements and can be further shaped to assist the emerging modernisation and shared services agenda.

7. Partnership Panel:

Support, co-ordination, administration and communication for Panel Meetings, Preparation Meetings, delivery of Work Plan and revised governance, inclusion of council items on agenda, auctioning outcomes, delivering reports and bulletins for Standing Committees.

8. Locally Important Research and Development:

Work on Council required initiatives such as Devolution, New Financial Models, Coastal Erosion, Economic Policy, Un-adopted Roads, developing a Programme for Local Government, advising on / engaging in new NICS / Programme for Government outcomes, and additionally as required by councils.

9. Corporate Planning & Performance Management:

NILGA will provide a new Corporate Plan for the period June 2016 – May 2019, to succeed the present Plan and in accordance with member councils needs, at its 2016 AGM, together with performance measurement and management aligned to this.

10. Back Office:

Support for member & council liaison, Full Members and Executive Meetings, Personnel, Finance and Office Management, Ulster in Bloom, Audit Committee.

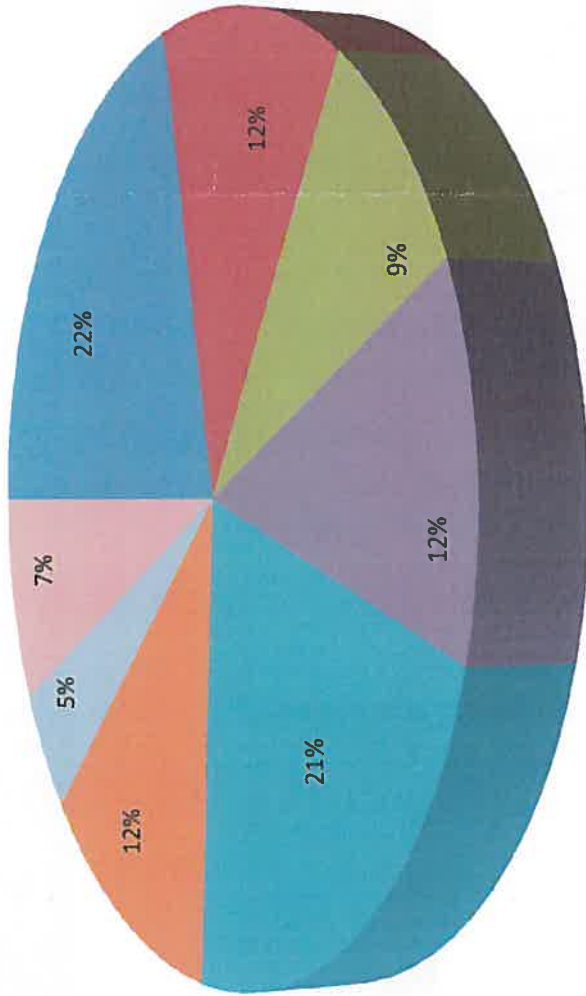
NILGA's subscriptions did not increase between 2010/11 and 2015/16. Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council Subscription* to enable investment in the above for 2016/17 is £43,178 (excluding VAT), which equates to 2015/16 plus 1% to accommodate National Pay Proposals. An invoice will be sent to your Council on 1st April 2016.

NB: NILGA will maintain the link with National Pay machinery (NJC) but will not engage in workforce or industrial relations work pending an Independent Review of such matters. Maintaining this link is part of the above costs, but the investment to Local Government Employers to benefit from wider policy, negotiation and fiscal work performed by the LGE (about £2,727 per Council) is not and will be billed separately following agreement with SOLACE.

*Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council along with Lisburn & Castlereagh, Antrim & Newtownabbey, Fermanagh & Omagh, Mid & East Antrim, Mid Ulster, is a Band C Council, which is a Council with a population below 145,000.

Investment Breakdown 2016/17

- National & Regional Policy, Lobbying, Guidance, Publications & Representation
- Regional and Sub Regional Events, Awareness, Flagship Annual Conference
- Elected Member Development including Charter/Charter Plus
- Regional Communication, Bulletins, Information Portal, Member Liaison
- Strategic, Regional Working Groups
- Locally Important Research and Development
- Corporate Planning & Performance Management
- Administration, Finance & Back Office



Total Band C Subscription: £43,178

NILGA Organisational Chart 2016/17

