

LISBURN & CASTLEREAGH CITY COUNCIL**Minutes of Meeting of the Development Committee held remotely and in the Council Chamber, Island Civic Centre, The Island, Lisburn on Thursday 6th October 2022 at 6.00 pm.****PRESENT IN THE CHAMBER:**

Alderman A G Ewart, MBE (Chairperson)

Alderman A Grehan (Vice Chairperson)

Aldermen J Baird and W J Dillon MBE

Councillors R T Beckett, A Givan, G McCleave, C McCreedy, U Mackin and A Swan

PRESENT IN A REMOTE LOCATIONDeputy Mayor, Councillor M Guy
Alderman D Drysdale and Councillors F Cole, H Legge and S Mulholland**OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT IN A REMOTE LOCATION**

Alderman J Tinsley and Councillor T Mitchell

IN ATTENDANCEDirector of Service Transformation (Council Chamber)
Head of Economic Development (Council Chamber)
Head of Communities (Remote Location)
Portfolio Manager (Council Chamber)
Regeneration & Infrastructure Manager (Council Chamber)
Member Services Officers (BS and RN)
IT Officer
Technician**Commencement of Meeting**

The Chairman, Alderman A G Ewart, extended a welcome to all present at the meeting and advised that it was being live streamed to enable members of the public to both hear and see the proceedings. The Chairman welcomed those watching on the livestream.

At this point in proceedings, the Member Services Officer read out the names of the Elected Members in attendance at the meeting.

The Chairman asked that any Member entering or leaving the meeting advise the Member Services Officer accordingly so that this might be accurately reflected in the minutes.

Commencement of Meeting (Cont'd)

The Chairman stated that, although the meeting was being live streamed, unauthorised recording was not permitted, as per the Council's Standing Orders. The Chairman also reminded everyone to ensure mobile phones were turned off or on silent mode for the duration of the meeting and proceeded to outline the evacuation procedures in the case of an emergency.

The Chairman read out the safety announcement in the case of an emergency.

1. Apologies

Apologies for non-attendance at the meeting were accepted and recorded on behalf of Councillor J Gallen.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest made at the meeting.

3. Report by Head of Economic Development

3.1 ERDF Sales & Trade Programme – Export Trade Visits

The Head of Economic Development outlined the background and key issues in connection with the ERDF Sales and Trade Programme which was a support programme for participating local SMEs to access bespoke workshops and one-to-one mentoring to assist businesses in generating new sales within the local market or target new sales in Great Britain or the Republic of Ireland.

The Head of Economic Development advised that the final trade visit of this programme was due to take place from Tuesday 15th to Thursday 17th November with a delegation of businesses and Elected Members travelling to Galway. This visit would include a civic itinerary to include engagement with local government and businesses to promote new opportunities between the two regions and forge links to promote growth and development in readiness for exporting.

The Committee had been furnished with a copy of the equality screening document for this Business Support Programme.

It was proposed by Alderman W J Dillon, seconded by Alderman A Grehan, and agreed to recommend that the Chairman and/or Vice Chairman of the Committee, or their nominees, together with appropriate Officer representation, take part in the export trade visit to Galway, as outlined.

3.2 Social Enterprise NI (SENI) Annual Gala Awards Ceremony 2022

The Head of Communities and Alderman J Tinsley joined the meeting during this item of business (6.09 pm and 6.10 pm respectively).

The Head of Economic Development's report outlined the background and key issues in connection with the Social Enterprise NI (SENI) Annual Gala Awards Ceremony 2022.

The Head of Economic Development reported that the Council had entered the 'Council of the Year' category and had been shortlisted as a finalist by the independent judging panel. He also highlighted the Council's efforts in partnering in a successful collaborative bid to the EU Interreg fund to deliver a European-wide Support Network for Social Entrepreneurs (SuNSE) which had been completed in May 2022.

The Committee had been furnished with a copy of the equality screening document for this Business Support Programme.

It was proposed by Alderman A Grehan, seconded by Councillor A Givan, and agreed to recommend that the Chairman and/or Vice Chairman of the Committee, or their nominees, together with appropriate Officer representation, attend the SENI Annual Gala Awards Ceremony on Friday, 14th October 2022 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Belfast, the cost per attendee being outlined in the report circulated.

4. Confidential Report from Director of Service Transformation

The reasons for confidentiality were as set out in the agenda, ie:-

4.1 Belfast Region City Deal (BRCD) - Update

(Confidential for reason of information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information)).

4.2 Food and Drink Campaign Proposals for In Year Programme

(Confidential for reason of information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information)).

4.3 Lisburn Light Festival & Christmas Programme

(Confidential for reason of information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information)).

At this juncture comments were noted from Councillor A Swan who was of the opinion that the information contained within the report on the Lisburn Light Festival & Christmas Programme (agenda item 4.3) was not of a confidential nature.

In Committee

It was proposed by Councillor C McCready, seconded by Councillor A Swan, and agreed that the Confidential Report of the Director of Service Transformation be considered “in Committee”. The live-stream was paused at this stage in proceedings (6.10 pm).

The Director of Service Transformation undertook to address Councillor A Swan’s comments later in the meeting when at item 4.3 on the agenda.

4.1 Belfast Region City Deal (BRCD) - Update
(Report to be published March 2023)

The Portfolio Manager presented this item of business. The Director of Service Transformation and the Head of Economic Development also addressed the Committee on a number of salient issues arising from the report.

During the discussion on this item of business Alderman A Grehan left the meeting at 6.37 pm and returned at 6.38 pm.

A number of Members expressed appreciation to the Portfolio Manager and the Head of Economic Development, and their team of Officers, in progressing the BRCD projects. The Director commended the efforts of the Programmes Manager for his efforts in getting the BRCD projects to the level they were at.

The Officers present responded to a number of questions from the Committee on issues raised.

It was proposed by Alderman W J Dillon, seconded by Alderman J Baird and agreed to recommend that the recommendations of the Director be approved, namely;

- a) the progress of the Destination Royal Hillsborough City Deal proposal, and associated cost, to include the approval timelines in advance of contract for funding issue, be noted, and
- b) a contribution from the Council towards the revenue costs to deliver the Digital Transformation Flexible Fund from November 2022 to March 2026, as detailed in the report circulated, be approved.

It was also proposed by Councillor U Mackin, seconded by Councillor A Swan and agreed to recommend that the option of a two-hour time limit for parked vehicles in Royal Hillsborough be the preferred option for inclusion in the Royal Hillsborough Public Realm scheme.

4.2 Food and Drink Campaign Proposals for In Year Programme
(Report to be published March 2024)

The Head of Economic Development presented this item of business.

A discussion ensued on the proposals and options for the Food and Drink Campaign as set out in the Head of Economic Development's report. The Director of Service Transformation also addressed the Committee and provided clarification on issues raised.

During the discussion of this item of business the Portfolio Manager left the meeting at 7.00 pm and returned at 7.01 pm. Councillor T Mitchell left the meeting at 7.11 pm. The Portfolio Manager left the meeting again at 7.18 pm and returned at 7.21 pm. Alderman J Baird left the meeting around 7.22 pm and returned at 7.24 pm.

It was proposed by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor M Guy, seconded by Councillor H Legge, and agreed to recommend that:

- a) the outcome of the tender exercise for the Food and Drink Campaign be noted,
- b) the proposals as outlined at option 2 be approved, subject to the inclusion of appropriate budget and or funding being identified for Christmas markets to take place in both Dundonald and Carryduff. Members noted that Officers may require to accept Option 3 as alternative.
- c) the relative prioritisation, as outlined in the report, be approved, should additional budget become available.

4.3 Lisburn Light Festival & Christmas Programme
(Report to be published March 2023)

The Portfolio Manager left the meeting at this point (7.29 pm).

The Director of Service Transformation presented this item of business.

The Director responded to questions from the Committee in connection with a moderated programme for the Lisburn Light Festival and Christmas Programme, as set out in the report circulated.

The Director undertook to follow up on a question from a Member in connection with the timeframe for the completion of the erection of the light poles.

The Head of Communities left the meeting at 7.40 pm.

4.3 Lisburn Light Festival & Christmas Programme (Cont'd)

It was proposed by Councillor U Mackin, seconded by Councillor A Swan, and agreed to recommend that:

- a) the Letter of Offer from the Department for Communities for funding be accepted, as detailed in the Director's report,
- b) match funding from the Council to be identified within the Regeneration budget be approved, as detailed in the report,
- c) the Council proceeds with the moderated programme for the Lisburn Light Festival and Christmas programme, as outlined, with the requisite flexibility required in order to respond to operational needs, and
- d) an appropriate and timely media communication, as outlined by the Director, be progressed.

Resumption of Normal Business

It was proposed by Councillor C McCready, seconded by Alderman W J Dillon, and agreed to come out of Committee. Normal business and the live-stream were resumed (7.54 pm).

5. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

There being no further business for consideration the meeting was concluded at 7.55 pm.

Chairperson