

**NEWRY, MOURNE AND DOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Ref: SE/2025

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**Minutes of Sustainability & Environment Committee Meeting held on  
Wednesday 29 January 2025 at 6.00pm in Council Chamber,  
Monaghan Row, Newry**

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**Chair:** Councillor G Kearns

**In attendance in  
Chamber:**

Councillor P Campbell	Councillor C Enright
Councillor V Harte	Councillor J Jackson
Councillor M Larkin	Councillor H Reilly
Councillor M Ruane	Councillor D Taylor
Councillor H Young	

**Committee Members in  
Attendance online:**

Councillor T Andrews	Councillor D Finn
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**Officials in Chamber:**

Mrs S Murphy, Director Sustainability and Environment  
Mr C Sage, Assistant Director Sustainability  
Mrs S Trainor, Assistant Director Environment  
Miss S Taggart, Democratic Services Manager (Acting)  
Mrs F Branagh, Democratic Services Officer

**SE/001/2025: APOLOGIES AND CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

Apologies were received from Councillors Brennan, Feehan and Magennis.

**SE/002/2025: DECLARATIONS OF "CONFLICTS OF INTEREST"**

There were no declarations of interest.

**SE/003/2025: ACTION SHEET: SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT  
COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 18 DECEMBER 2024**

Read: Action Sheet of the Sustainability and Environment Committee  
Meeting held on 18 December 2024. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** **On the proposal of Councillor Enright, seconded by  
Councillor Jackson, it was agreed to note the Action  
Sheet of the Sustainability and Environment  
Committee Meeting held on 18 December 2024.**

## FOR DECISION

SE/004/2025:

### **ELECTRICAL SAFETY STANDARDS FOR PRIVATE TENANCIES REGULATIONS (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2024**

Read: Report from Ms S Trainor, Assistant Director: Environment, regarding Electrical Safety Standards for Private Tenancies Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2024 (**Copy circulated**)

Ms Trainor outlined the key points of the report regarding the Electrical Safety Standards under the Private Tenancy Regulations Northern Ireland, which had been implemented in November 2024.

Councillor Taylor queried if Council had any estimations regarding resource and financial implications for the introduction of the Electrical Safety Standards given that the Department for Communities were not providing any resources.

Ms Trainor stated that the changes involved co-ordinated group work across Northern Ireland and nothing had been raised to indicate risk or resource intensity but that she would revert to Committee regarding this.

#### **AGREED:**

**On the proposal of Councillor Campbell, seconded by Councillor Enright, the following was agreed:**

- **To note the new legislative powers to be enforced by Councils in relation to the private rented sector under the Electrical Safety Standards for Private Tenancies Regulations (NI) 2024**
- **To agree the proposed level of £1000 for the fixed penalty fine for offences created under the Electrical Safety Standards for Private Tenancies Regulations (NI) 2024.**

### **ITEMS RESTRICTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 1 OF SCHEDULE 6 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (NI) 2014**

#### **Agreed:**

**On the proposal of Councillor Harte, seconded by Councillor Larkin, it was agreed to exclude the public and press from the meeting during discussion on items 8-13, which related to exempt information by virtue of para. 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local /Government (Northern Ireland) 2014 – Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Council holding that information) and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business.**

#### **Agreed:**

**On the proposal of Councillor Harte, seconded by Councillor Taylor, it was agreed to come out of closed session.**

**The Chairperson advised the following had been agreed whilst in closed session:**

**RESTRICTED – FOR DECISION**

**SE/005/2025: BUSINESS CASE – CAMERAS IN COUNCIL VEHICLES**

Read: Report from Mr C Sage, Assistant Director: Sustainability, regarding a Business Case for Cameras in Council Vehicles. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Enright, seconded by Councillor Campbell, it was agreed to approve the Business Case to procure recordable camera systems for Council fleet as outlined in Appendix 1 of the Officer’s Report.**

**SE/006/2025: BUSINESS CASE – ENERGY CONTRACTS**

Read: Report from Mr Conor Sage, Assistant Director, Sustainability and Environment, regarding a Business Case for Energy Contracts **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Taylor, seconded by Councillor Campbell, it was agreed to proceed with a joint procurement exercise with other NI Councils for electricity and natural gas contracts commencing in May 2025.**

**SE/007/2025: FEMININE HYGIENE CORPORATE CONTRACT**

Read: Report from Mr Conor Sage, Assistant Director, Sustainability and Environment, regarding Feminine Hygiene Corporate Contract. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Harte, seconded by Councillor Young, it was agreed to approve the extension of the Feminine Hygiene services corporate contract as detailed in the Officer’s Report.**

**SE/008/2025: RESIDUAL WASTE CONTRACTS**

Read: Report from Ms S Murphy, Director: Sustainability & Environment, regarding Residual Waste Contracts. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED: On the proposal of Councillor Enright, seconded by Councillor Larkin, it was agreed to approve the procurement and appointment of an Economist to develop an Economic Appraisal for a Residual Waste Contract.**

**SE/009/2025: MIXED DRY RECYCLABLES CONTRACT**

Read: Report from Ms S Trainor, Assistant Director: Environment, regarding Mixed Dry Recyclables Contract **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** **On the proposal of Councillor Enright, seconded by Councillor Campbell, it was agreed to approve the following:**

- **The extension of the contract for the receipt and processing of Mixed Dry Recyclables with the organisation noted in the Officer's Report**
- **The extension of the current haulage contract with the organisation noted in the Officer's Report**

**Both to be extended from 1 April 2025 to 30 September 2025, subject to the approval of the arc21 Joint Committee.**

**SE/010/2025: DIRECT AWARD CONTRACTS**

Read: Report from Ms S Trainor, Assistant Director: Environment, regarding Direct Award Contracts. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** **On the proposal of Councillor Young, seconded by Councillor Campbell, it was agreed to approve the Direct Award Contract as detailed at Appendix 1 of the Officer's Report.**

**FOR NOTING - ITEMS RESTRICTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PART 1 OF SCHEDULE 6 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT (NI) 2014**

**SE/011/2025: TREE SURGERY UPDATE**

Read: Report from Mr Conor Sage, Assistant Director: Sustainability regarding Tree Surgery Update. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** **On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Taylor, it was agreed to note the following:**

- **The extensive work being undertaken by Council Grounds Maintenance section from a landscape development and daily management perspective and additional impacts following severe weather events.**
- **That business cases will be brought to future committee meetings regarding additional future resource requirements for Grounds Maintenance.**

**SE/012/2025: BUSINESS CASE – CONTRACT FOR ASBESTOS CONTROL MEASURES**

Read: Report from Mr Conor Sage, Assistant Director: Sustainability regarding Business Case – Contract for Asbestos Control Measures. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** **On the proposal of Councillor Ruane, seconded by Councillor Taylor, it was agreed to note the contents of the report.**

**FOR NOTING**

**SE/013/2025: LANDLORD REGISTRATION SCHEME**

Read: Report from Ms S Trainor, Assistant Director: Environment, regarding Landlord Registration Scheme. **(Copy circulated)**

**AGREED:** **On the proposal of Councillor Campbell, seconded by Councillor Jackson, it was agreed to note the contents of the report and the update provided.**

Following a query from Councillor Jackson regarding Christmas illuminations, the Chairperson advised that queries for items not on the agenda should be directed to the relevant officer following the meeting.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 6.30pm

For adoption at the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 3 February 2025

**Signed: Councillor Geraldine Kearns**  
**Chairperson**

**Signed: Mrs Sinead Murphy**  
**Director of Sustainability & Environment**