

<b>Report on</b>	Conferences, Seminars & Training
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	25 October 2018
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Philip Moffett, Head of Democratic Services
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Eileen Forde, Member Support Officer

<b>Is this report restricted for confidential business?</b>	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	x

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	Provide an update on seminars and conferences received. To seek approval for (i) elected member attendance and the payment of registration/ attendance fees and associated costs, as incurred and, (ii) council officer approvals.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	Costs associated will be set against 2018-19 member Conference, Seminar and Training allocations.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	The following are seminar/ conference sessions and member training requests presented for consideration of representation from Mid Ulster District Council.
3.1	<b>Approval for Consideration of Attendance by Elected Members</b>
3.1.1	<b>Conferences &amp; Seminars</b>  <b><i>Centre for Cross Border Studies: Working for Wellbeing: Crossing sectors, crossing borders</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St Columb's Park House, 4 Limavady Road, Derry / Londonderry</li> <li>• Wednesday 14 November 2018, 11.00 am - 1.00 pm</li> <li>• Conference fee: nil, travel and subsistence</li> </ul> <b><i>Northern Ireland Planning Conference: Planning Who Decides</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Titanic Centre, Belfast</li> <li>• Tuesday 20 November 2018, 9.00am – 2.00pm</li> <li>• Conference Fee: Discounted rate for local government £195 + VAT @ 20% = £234, travel and subsistence</li> </ul> <b><i>NILGA, GLOBAL, GOALS, LOCAL ACTION</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coffee Cure at the Museum, Town Hall Bangor</li> <li>• Friday 23rd November 2018, 9.30am – 1.30pm</li> <li>• Conference fee: nil, travel and subsistence</li> </ul>

	<p><b><i>Policy Forum for Northern Ireland Keynote Seminar: Developing infrastructure, promoting investment and economic development, and meeting the needs of communities: next steps in delivering the Belfast City Region Deal</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Belfast (venue to be confirmed)</li> <li>• Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> December 2018 9am - 1pm (registration from 8.30am)</li> <li>• Conference Fee: , 230 plus VAT, travel and subsistence;</li> <li>• Copies of the <a href="#">briefing document</a>, including full transcripts of all speeches and the questions and comments sessions and further articles from interested parties, will be available approximately 12 days after the event for £95 plus VAT;</li> </ul>
3.1.2	<p><b>Member Training Requests</b></p> <p>None requested.</p>
3.2	<p><b>Officer Approvals</b></p> <p>There are occasions when it is beneficial to the council for Officers to attend conferences and seminars. Approval for attendance as detailed in Appendix B to this report is sought.</p>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<p><b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b></p> <p>Financial: Costs to be set against Members 2018/2019 conference/seminar/training allocation. Any costs incurred above annual allocation to be incurred by Member</p> <p>Human: not applicable</p> <p>Risk Management: not applicable</p>
<b>4.2</b>	<p><b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b></p> <p>Equality &amp; Good Relations Implications: not applicable</p> <p>Rural Needs Implications: not applicable</p>
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	Approval for attendance at the conferences, seminars and training by members and council officers as required.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
	<p>Appendix A Member Conferences, Seminars &amp; Training</p> <p>Appendix B Officers Approvals</p>



### **Working for Wellbeing: Crossing sectors, crossing borders**

Wednesday 14 November 2018

11.00 am - 1.00 pm

St Columb's Park House, 4 Limavady Road, Derry / Londonderry



In times of constant change and changing challenges facing our populations' wellbeing today, there is an ever greater need for decision-makers at all levels of government to work together, not only within their own jurisdictions, but also with their counterparts in neighbouring countries. For wellbeing is dependent on the wellbeing of your neighbours, and of those further afield. A cross-border approach can reveal opportunities to achieve greater degrees of sustainable wellbeing. It is therefore time, as we move into uncertain chapters in our future, to focus on the wellbeing of border regions, including the extent to which cross-border cooperation may be necessary to guarantee that wellbeing.

This is why the Centre for Cross Border Studies is bringing together representatives from the local authority-led cross-border networks on the island of Ireland, as well as representatives from community organisations from both sides of the border and the Carnegie Foundation to share their experiences of the application of the concept of wellbeing, and to *discuss* what is needed to achieve wellbeing properly in border regions in future.

This will be an invaluable opportunity for policy-makers, political representatives, academic experts, cross-border practitioners and citizens to make an active contribution to the achievement of wellbeing, the strengthening of cross-border cooperation and ensuring economic, social and territorial cohesion even as the island of Ireland and its citizens face a changing context.

**Places will be limited, so if you would like to attend this event and contribute to the discussion please [REGISTER HERE](#) by Friday 9 November 2018.**

For further information please email [tricia.kelly@gub.ac.uk](mailto:tricia.kelly@gub.ac.uk)



TEL: 028 9261 9933

**Delegate fee £225 + VAT @ 20% = £270**

**Discounted rate for local government £195 + VAT @ 20% = £234**

**Discounted rate for voluntary/community sector £195 + VAT @ 20% = £234**

## PLANNING: WHO DECIDES?

agendaNi's Northern Ireland Planning Conference is now firmly established as the major annual event for all those with an interest or role in planning and development in Northern Ireland. Planning has now been devolved to local government in Northern Ireland for three years. The conference will look at the performance of the planning system since then, particularly looking at how we can get the best out of Area Plans.

The Department for Infrastructure still retains responsibility for processing planning applications for projects deemed to be of regional significance. However, due to the ongoing lack of a functioning Executive in Northern Ireland, this poses a fundamental problem – when it comes to key planning decisions, who decides? Earlier this year both the High Court and subsequently the Court of Appeal ruled that civil servants had no power to approve arc21's proposed waste incinerator. This has massive implications not only for planning but across all government departments.

### 2018 discussion topics

- **Who decides:** Impact of the arc21 decision on planning for major infrastructure projects
- A review of **Local Development Plans**
- Planning in a **political void**
- Impact of **Brexit** on planning
- An update on all **significant planning judgements**
- Planning for **resilience**
- Use of **planning agreements** by local authorities
- Planning for developing **social housing**
- **Best practice** case studies

The conference will provide an opportunity for all those with a role or interest in planning locally to come together for discussion and debate. An expert speaker panel comprising local and visiting speakers will look at these issues in detail. Attendees will come from across all sectors and will include government policy-makers and decision-takers, other government agencies and NDPBs, local government officials, planners, developers, waste companies, advisory organisations, community representative groups and political representatives. The conference aims to be as interactive as possible with delegates able to put questions directly to the expert panel.

## Conference Programme

0900

### **Chairman's welcome and introduction**

**Stewart Beattie QC**

### **Spatial planning for uncertain times**

Angus Kerr, Chief Planner and Director of Regional Planning  
**Department for Infrastructure** (*invited*)

### **Planning in Northern Ireland: Notable judgements**

Grant McBurney, Partner  
**Carson McDowell**

### **Making planning work for people from an appeals perspective**

Andrea Kells, Chief Commissioner  
**Planning Appeals Commission**

### **Local Development Plans: Making them work**

Stewart Beattie QC

*Questions & answers / Panel discussion*

## **1045 Morning coffee / networking break**

1115

### **Planning for the resilient city**

Aidan Thatcher, Director of Planning  
**Belfast City Council**

### **Strengthening the link between spatial and community planning for better outcomes**

Irene Beautyman, Planning for Place Programme Manager  
**Improvement Service (Scotland)**

### **Getting the best out of Area Plans for social housing**

Ben Collins, Chief Executive  
**Northern Ireland Federation of Housing Associations**

### **Planning: A developer's perspective**

Conor Mulligan, Managing Director  
**Lagan Homes** (*invited*)

### **The increasing importance of planning agreements**

Derek McCallan, Chief Executive  
**Northern Ireland Local Government Association**

*Questions & answers / Panel discussion*

## **1315 Chairman's summary and conference close followed by networking lunch**

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Ards and  
North Down  
Borough Council



# GLOBAL GOALS, LOCAL ACTION

**Friday 23rd November**

Coffee Cure at the Museum, Town Hall Bangor

**YOU ARE INVITED**

## to join us at:

**Coffee Cure at the Museum, Town Hall,  
The Castle, Bangor BT20 4BT**

Friday 23rd November 2018 | 9.30am – 1.30pm

Sustainable NI invites you to attend:

**Global Goals, Local Action -  
Advancing Sustainable  
Development Locally**

## This conference will address:

- What is sustainable development and how can it be used to deliver wellbeing locally
- Why the Sustainable Development Goals are relevant in local planning and decision making
- How local government and others can implement sustainable development, showcasing practical examples of best practice

## Why Attend?

Elected members, council officers and partner agencies are invited to attend this free event to learn more about sustainable development and how it can be used as a framework to deliver wellbeing locally, in partnership with government.

This conference will specifically highlight practical ways that local authorities and their partners can help implement the UN Sustainable Development Goals at a local level, and contribute to building a sustainable, prosperous and resilient society.

## Registration



To reserve your place  
please register via  
Eventbrite at:

Eventbrite

[goo.gl/y7Gki9](https://goo.gl/y7Gki9)

Alternatively contact Amy McGrath  
on [office@nilga.org](mailto:office@nilga.org)

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# GLOBAL GOALS, LOCAL ACTION

**Friday 23rd November**

Coffee Cure at the Museum,  
Town Hall Bangor

**9.30 - 10:00**

**Registration & Networking**  
- refreshments available

**10:00 - 10:30**

**(Moderator: Cara Augustenborg)**

- Opening remarks from Andrew Cassells, SNI Chairman and Cllr Dermot Curran, NILGA President
- Welcome from David Lindsay, Director of Environment, Ards & North Down Borough Council

**10:30 - 11:00**

**Key Note: What are the SDGs & why are they relevant locally? (Speaker TBC)**

- What are the SDGs in layperson's terms and what is the case for local authority engagement

**11:00 - 11:15**

**Coffee Break - refreshments available**

**11:15 - 12:30**

**Showcasing practical action  
on the SDGs - Panel Q&A**

Short introduction from panellists on how sustainable development goals can be achieved locally, showcasing best practice case studies in:

- Sustainable tourism (Dr Susann Power, Ulster University)
- Planning and resilience (Richard Kirk, ICE)
- Responsible business (Gillian McKee, BITC NI)
- Resource management (Alan McVicker, Circular Economy Steering Group)
- Sustainable food (Tom Andrews, Sustainable Food Cities)
- Responsible procurement (John McMullan, CEO Bryson Charitable Group)

Panellist presentations followed by interactive discussion on why and how local authorities and their partners should get involved in this agenda.

**12:30 - 12:50**

**How can individuals and organisations engage with the Sustainable Development Goals?**

- Facilitated table discussions on selected SDGs to help attendees connect with the goals on a personal level

**12:50 - 13:00**

**Plenary and close**

- Tools & resources for SDG engagement & Next Steps
- Thanks to hosts/speakers/attendees

**13:00 - 13:30**

**Networking Lunch**

## **Policy Forum for Northern Ireland Keynote Seminar**

**Developing infrastructure, promoting investment and economic development, and meeting the needs of communities: next steps in delivering the Belfast City Region Deal**

With **Liam Hannaway**, Chief Executive Officer, Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

**Stephen Wallace**, Associate Director, KPMG Belfast

**Professor Gordon Matheson**, Visiting Professor and Consultant, Institute for Future Cities, University of Strathclyde

*and*

**Professor Paddy Nixon**, *Ulster University*; **Professor Ian Greer**, *Queen's University Belfast*; **Allen Irwin**, *BT*; **Didar Dhillon**, *Pinsent Masons*; **Richard Kirk**, *Institution of Civil Engineers*; **Robin Totten**, *Belfast Rapid Transit and Translink*; **Deborah Colville**, *Belfast City Council*; **Dr Norman Apsley**, *Catalyst*; **Marie-Thérèse McGivern**, *Belfast Metropolitan College* and a senior speaker confirmed from **CBI**

*Chaired by:*

**Claire Hanna MLA**, Member of the Legislative Assembly for South Belfast and Finance Spokesperson, SDLP

Date: **Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> December 2018**

Timing: **9am - 1pm (registration from 8.30am)**

Venue: **Belfast**

Price Per Place: **£230 plus VAT**

Booking Includes:

One delegate place including delegate materials and refreshments. One PDF copy of the briefing document. (including transcripts of the speeches, questions and comments, as well as extra articles submitted by delegates, which is distributed to all attendees approximately twelve working days after the seminar).

For those who cannot attend:

- Copies of the [briefing document](#), including full transcripts of all speeches and the questions and comments sessions and further articles from interested parties, will be available approximately **12 days** after the event for **£95** plus VAT;



Conference & Seminar	Date	No. of Attendees	Location	Attendance Fee (Yes/ No)
HR & OD Conference	22 & 23 Nov	2	Belfast	Yes
NI Planning Conference	20th October	1	Belfast	Yes
APSE Cemeteries & Crematoria Seminar 2018	16 November	1	Preston	Yes + Flights
Northern Ireland Leadership & Governance Conference	27 November	1	Lisburn	Yes