

Report on	Correspondence to Council – September 2017
Reporting Officer	P Moffett, Head of Democratic Services
Contact Officer	P Moffett, Head of Democratic Services

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

1.0	Purpose of Report				
1.1	Provide an update on correspondence received for attention of Council.				
2.0	Background				
2.1	This paper makes reference to correspondence received to be brought to the attention of Council. Items are referred to in 3.0 below.				
3.0	Main Report				
3.1	Correspondence from BT – Notification of Consultation to Remove Payphone				
3.1.1	<p>BT has corresponded with Council to give notification of its intention to remove a payphone. The letter is attached as Appendix A and refers to a payphone at Cavan Road Junction Bush Road, Dungannon, BT71 6EZ</p> <p>BT is undertaking a 90 consultation seeking representations from interested parties. Ofcom guidance on the process identifies the Council as a consultee. A notice has been placed at the Payphone by BT advising the public to submit any views to the Council within 42 days of the notice placed. Following commentary has been received by council to date</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Organisation</th><th>Comments Received</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Bush Community Culture Group</td><td> <p>We the residents of Bush, would like our Council to use the Local Veto role as set out in BT procedure for removing telephone kiosks. For your information, we have already this text as an email to BT.</p> <p><i>"I am writing to you in my role as secretary of the Bush Community Cultural Group. This group represents the residents of the village and surrounding rural area. The Group would like to take this opportunity to put on record their total objection to the proposal to remove our telephone kiosk. As indicated this is a rural community with many elderly residents. This kiosk could prove a life saver in an emergency 999 incident. We are keen to see this kiosk painted and maintained. Perhaps then following a "spruce up" more people will use it. The traditional red kiosk is part of the history and culture of our village & we would like to see it retained for future generations. We have responded to the Planning Committee of Mid Ulster District Council regarding this issue also".</i></p> </td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Organisation	Comments Received	Bush Community Culture Group	<p>We the residents of Bush, would like our Council to use the Local Veto role as set out in BT procedure for removing telephone kiosks. For your information, we have already this text as an email to BT.</p> <p><i>"I am writing to you in my role as secretary of the Bush Community Cultural Group. This group represents the residents of the village and surrounding rural area. The Group would like to take this opportunity to put on record their total objection to the proposal to remove our telephone kiosk. As indicated this is a rural community with many elderly residents. This kiosk could prove a life saver in an emergency 999 incident. We are keen to see this kiosk painted and maintained. Perhaps then following a "spruce up" more people will use it. The traditional red kiosk is part of the history and culture of our village & we would like to see it retained for future generations. We have responded to the Planning Committee of Mid Ulster District Council regarding this issue also".</i></p>
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	Cllr Ashton	On behalf of the residents of the Bush I would like to object to BT proposal to remove the phone box relating to 02887752241. This phone box is a feature in the village and rather than removing it I would welcome BT to make investment in the phone box to tidy it up. I will be making representation to BT as well.
	Cllr Cuthbertson	I wish that this kiosk be retained within the village of Bush and council should make representations on this approach
3.2	That the Council considers writing to BT within 90 days to object, setting out their reasons. Ofcom guidance on this process states that if this is done BT cannot remove the call box and is known as the 'local veto'.	
	Correspondence from NILGA – Minibus Licencing	
	At the July meeting of Council members carried a motion concerning the proposed changes to minibus licensing arrangements and their impact on the wider community; <i>“That this council considers the current crisis threatening the future of Mid Ulster’s Rural Community Transport Partnerships, and shall make representations to the Permanent Secretary or the Minister for Infrastructure, whichever is applicable, citing our opposition to elements of the proposed changes to minibus driver licensing and opposing the unworkable timetable. And extend the Northern Trust enhanced dial a lift service to the Southern Trust Area”</i>	
	It was further agreed to write to NILGA to seek support for a campaign from all councils to oppose some of the proposed changes being put forward by the Department. Appendix B is correspondence received from NILGA	
	Correspondence from Department for Infrastructure – Minibus Licencing	
3.3	In reference to the above appendix B(i) is correspondence from the Permanent Secretary to the Dept for Infrastructure on Minibus Licencing arrangements	
3.4	Correspondence from Department of Health – Safety of Buildings	
	At the July meeting of Council it was agreed to correspond with the Department of Health to seek assurances on the safety of buildings within the Southern Health & Social Services Trust following the Grenfell Tower Tragedy in London. Appendix C is correspondence from the Department.	
	Correspondence from St James House (Media Group) – 100th Anniversary of the RAF	
3.5	Email correspondence on arrangements to mark the 100 th Anniversary of the Royal Air Force (RAF) is attached as appendix D.	
3.5	Correspondence on Receipt of Books of Condolence from Mid Ulster	
	Correspondence from respective Mayors on provision of Books of Condolence from Mid Ulster district.	

4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<u>Financial & Human Resources Implications</u> Financial: Not applicable Human: Not applicable
4.2	<u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u> Not applicable
4.3	<u>Risk Management Implications</u> Not applicable
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	That Council notes and consider, as necessary, the correspondence received.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	Appendix A Letter from BT on payphone at Cavan Road junction Bush Road, Dungannon Appendix B NILGA Appendix B(i) Department for Infrastructure Appendix C Department of Health Appendix D St James's House (media group) Appendix E Receipt of Books of Condolence