

Appendix 1

From: Cousins, Robert <Robert.Cousins@communities-ni.gov.uk>

Sent: 11 December 2018 14:29

To:

Cc:

Subject: The Honours Process

Dear Chief Executive

During 2018 our team organised two awareness seminars on the Honours nomination process in Ards & North Down Borough Council and Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council. Attendees included officials and elected members.

The seminars included a presentation on the process and discussion around the following areas:

- The two routes a nomination can take i.e. via the council or the public nomination;
- The tight window of 2 weeks in which nominations are invited in March and September each year and ways around this constraint;
- The process itself which included selection criteria, timelines, types of award and the importance of the quality of citations; and
- Queries on content of citations which must be routed back through councils or in the case of a public nomination through TEO.

We agreed at the time to arrange further individual council seminars / events should there be an interest from councils by March 2019. This note seeks to ascertain the level of interest to carry out further sessions.

If you feel there is such a need in your council I would be grateful if you would contact me at 028 9082 3387 or email

Robert.Cousins@communities-ni.gov.uk by **Friday 11 January 2019**.

Many thanks.

Robert Cousins | Local Government & Housing Regulation Division | Department for Communities

Level 4 | Causeway Exchange | 1-7 Bedford Street | Belfast | BT2 7EG

Contact: ✉ robert.cousins@communities-ni.gov.uk | ☎ **Tel:** (028) 9082 3387 | 📠 **DD:** 39387



Planning Department
Mid Ulster District Council
Cookstown Office
Burn Road
Cookstown
BT80 8DT

16th January 2019

TIME SENSITIVE DOCUMENT – REPLY REQUIRED

Our reference: - JB-02886762786

Dear Sir or Madam,

REMOVAL OF PUBLIC PAYPHONE:

I am writing to advise you that the kiosk at 20 Churchtown Road Junction Turnaface Road Cookstown BT80 9XD has recently been involved in an incident, a fire, which damaged the kiosk beyond repair and it had to be removed on safety grounds. As a result we have completed an assessment of the area and the need for a payphone at this location. During our assessment we discovered that the payphone has received very low or no use during the past twelve months. Due to the high costs to replace the kiosk, we are proposing not to replace it and permanently cease service at this site.

Our obligation to provide a Universal Service will be maintained, as there are other kiosks within the vicinity. The nearest alternative kiosk is at Lissan Post Office, 120 Lough Fea Road Cookstown. BT80 9QL.

Before we can permanently remove a kiosk we have an obligation to consult with relevant public bodies on the proposed removal. As part of the consultation process it is a requirement that the Council reply in writing to BT after 42 days and within 90-days giving their comments or any objections received from the local community. Further information on the consultation process can be found at:

http://stakeholders.ofcom.org.uk/binaries/consultations/uso/statement/removing_callboxes.pdf

If you do not reply, it will be taken that the council and interested parties have no objection to the permanent removal of this payphone.

A notice of our proposal has been included with this letter, as you may wish to display this near the site of the recovered kiosk.

If you require any further information or have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me via email at btpcf@bt.com

Yours faithfully
Jim Blanch

BT Payphones - Commercial Field Officer



Our Ref: TJ

4 December 2018

Mr Anthony Tohill
Chief Executive
Mid Ulster District Council
Circular Road
Dungannon
BT71 6DT

Dear Mr Tohill

At a Meeting of Derry City and Strabane District Council held on 22 November 2018, the following Motion was unanimously passed:

This Council notes that the Community Pharmacy network in NI delivers community-based healthcare services and promotes well-being, with around 123,000 people visiting a community pharmacy every day.

This Council further notes that in 2015 a report was commissioned by the Department of Health and carried out by Pricewaterhouse Coopers for the financial year 2011/12. That report verified that the total HSC cost of running the community pharmacy service in NI is in the region of £130 million - £136 million annually. Despite this, the community pharmacy network remains underfunded by at least £20million per year.

This Council will write to the Secretary of State and the Permanent Secretary in the Department of Health urging that the Department ; Opens further discussions with the representative body Community Pharmacy NI; Urgently introduces an interim rescue package; Introduce changes to the payment arrangements for Chemists to address the issue of 'dispensing at a loss'; Ensures sufficient funding is maintained across the network including rural areas; Delivers a new community pharmacy contract as a matter of urgency.

Finally, this Council will write to the other 10 Councils across N.I. asking them to support this resolution.

I look forward to receiving your response in relation thereto.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Kelpie". The signature is stylized with a large, looping initial "J" and a trailing flourish.

John Kelpie
Chief Executive

Your Ref
Our Ref BH
Date 15 October 2018
Email brendan.hegarty@fermanaghmagh.com



Fermanagh & Omagh
District Council
Comhairle Ceantair
Fhear Manach agus na hÓmaí

Brendan Hegarty
Chief Executive

Mr Richard Pengelly
Department of Health
Permanent Secretary
C5.11, Castle Buildings
Stormont
Belfast
BT4 3SQ


Dear Mr Pengelly,

RE: FUNDING CRISIS FOR COMMUNITY PHARMACIES IN NORTHERN IRELAND

The Council has asked that I write to you regarding the funding crisis for Community Pharmacies in NI. As you are aware the Council met with a representative of Community Pharmacy NI, a number of local community pharmacists and a representative from both your own Department and the Health and Social Care Board on Tuesday 9 October 2018 when the seriousness of the current funding position was discussed with the Council. Such are the concerns of the Council that this serious matter was discussed further at Committee meetings of the Council held on 9 and 10 October respectively.

The Council has grave concerns about the present situation and the urgency with which this funding shortfall needs to be addressed. The Council is fully aware of the current crisis in Community Pharmacy provision but is alarmed at the apparent lack of response by your Department. The Council welcomed the opportunity to engage with the representatives from your Department and HSCB at the meeting but got no sense that this very serious matter is going to be addressed urgently and satisfactorily.

The Council believes that a properly funded community pharmacy sector offers significant opportunities to both local communities and the health service. The Council believes that community pharmacy should be front and centre of the transformation programme, should be maximised to work upstream to all early intervention with referral pathways to GPs and other health care professionals and signposting to other sources of community support. The Community Pharmacy network must be properly funded to secure the sustainability of this vital service. It is no longer sustainable to underfund the service and to expect community pharmacists to provide the full range of current services, some of which are currently unfunded.

The potential to shift significant volumes of work from GP practice to community pharmacy was discussed at the meeting but the Council is alarmed that, in the current crisis, this has not been progressed before now. The Council is at a loss to understand why your Department, having carried out two studies into the funding of Community Pharmacies, which highlighted the requirement to inject additional funding into this service, has stalled on

moving forward with a new and appropriately funded community pharmacy contract. It is a matter of grave concern to the Council that your Department continues to dispute the findings of the CoSi review commissioned and published by the Department in November 2017 and has failed to bring forward proposals to properly resource this vital service.

Given the current funding crisis the Council asks that, (a) immediate and urgent action is taken to stabilise the local community pharmacy network through providing an interim rescue package with an adequate funding injection to create stability across the network and, (b) that you facilitate further discussions with CPNI as the representative body and take solid steps towards developing a new, appropriately funded, community pharmacy contract, with new community pharmacy-based services, as a matter of urgency.

Further given the current situation the Council is seeking clarification as to whether the existing policy and changes to the funding of the service have been subject to rural proofing and the Council is seeking a copy of the latest rural proofing assessment.

The Council has heard first hand from local community pharmacists and pharmacy owners how the current situation is having an extremely detrimental impact on them personally and on the services, they provide to the local community. These engagements have only served to confirm the validity of the serious concerns that have been raised with elected representatives by the local community. The Council is of the view that we are currently beyond crisis point with this vital community-based service and calls on your Department to provide an immediate injection of funding and to move swiftly to a new, properly resourced, contract.

As the matter is urgent the Council would welcome a timely response.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Hegarty', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Brendan Hegarty
CHIEF EXECUTIVE