

<b>Report on</b>	Conferences, Seminars & Training
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	24 October 2019
<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 2019-20 member Conference, Seminar and Training allocations.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	<b>Approval for Consideration of Attendance by Elected Members</b>  There are occasions when it is beneficial to Members to attend training, conferences and seminars to better equip them in their role as elected representatives. Approval for attendance as detailed in Appendix A to this report is sought.
3.2	<b>Officer Approvals</b>  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.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
4.1	<b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b>  Financial: Costs to be set against Members 2019/20 conference/seminar/training allocation. Any costs incurred above annual allocation to be incurred by Member

	Human: not applicable
	Risk Management: not applicable
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b>
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: not applicable
	Rural Needs Implications: not applicable
<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>
	Appendix A    Member Conferences, Seminars & Training Appendix B    Officers Approvals

## Appendix A

### Member Training

Provider/Course	Date & Time	Location	Costs	Attendee Requests
NILGA - Environmental Impact Assessment Essentials—What Councillors Need to Know	Friday 25th October 2019 10.30-1.00pm	Dunsilly Hotel, Antrim	No fee Travel & Subsistence	Cllr McAleer
NILGA – Scrutiny and Challenge Masterclass	Friday 1 November 2019 12.30pm -	Antrim Civic Centre, Antrim	No Fee Travel & Subsistence	Cllr Graham

### Conferences

Provider/Course	Date & Time	Location	Costs	Attendee Requests
Planning for Change: Planning in Times of Change - ICLRD Annual Conference	Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> November 2019	The Great Hall, Ulster University – Magee Campus, Derry/Londonderry	Conference £65.00 (+ booking charges) plus travel & Subsistence	
Agenda Ni Northern Ireland Economic Conference 2019	Thursday 7 November 2019	Slieve Donard Hotel, Newcastle	Conference Fee £165 +vat = £198 plus Travel & Subsistence	
The Tackling Paramilitarism Programme's Annual Conference Shaping a Better Future Together	Tuesday 12 November 2019	Mossley Mill, Newtownabbey	No Conference Fee Travel & Subsistence	

<b>Provider/Course</b>	<b>Date &amp; Time</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Costs</b>	<b>Attendee Requests</b>
Northern Ireland Planning Conference 2019	Wednesday 20th November	Titanic, Belfast	Conference Fee £195 + VAT = £234 Travel & Subsistence	

## ***Environmental Impact Assessment Essentials—What Councillors Need to Know***

***Dunsilly Hotel, Antrim  
25th October 2019 10.30-1.00pm***

Environmental Impact Assessment expert Josh Fothergill, with over 15 years experience, will deliver an awareness and compliance based session for Elected Members which will cover the following:

- Environmental Impact Assessment—What is it?
- Risks and opportunities to environment from development
- Ensuring compliance and enhancing practice
- Avoiding the Courts—why planning compliance is not enough
- Role of Elected Members in delivering sustainable development
- Working with council planning officers to get it right
- Reputational Enhancement.

The delivery of this session will be interactive and interesting for councillors, allowing them to learn by asking questions regularly and through group work. Learning and discussions will be relevant to the councillor's unique role and participation on this workshop will aim to improve understanding of what environmental assessment is, why it's important, how to do it and what support is available.

***Hosted by NILGA with support from the LGTG  
(Local Government Training Group), these FREE events are open to all  
Elected Members. Councils should put forward names of interested members  
to Amy McGrath at [a.mcgrath@nilga.org](mailto:a.mcgrath@nilga.org).***

#### **Disclaimer**

The Northern Ireland local government association (NILGA) endeavours to ensure that the information contained within our website, policies and other communications is up to date and correct. We do not, however, make any representation that the information will be accurate, current, complete, uninterrupted or error free or that any information or other material accessible from or related to NILGA is free of viruses or other harmful components. NILGA accepts no responsibility for any erroneous information placed by or on behalf of any user or any loss by any person or user resulting from such information.

## ***Scrutiny and Challenge Masterclass***

***Antrim Civic Centre,  
Friday 1st November 2019, 12.30—4pm***

Councillors are the corporate body of Council and are therefore responsible for all decisions made by the Council and for the impact these decisions have on local communities. To fulfil this role councillors need to scrutinise and challenge pertinent matters contained in any numerous reports which are presented to each Council Committee and Meeting of the Council. This involves having a good knowledge and grasp of the issue and feeling confident to scrutinise and challenge where needed.

### **A Formula for Success**

- An introduction to Scrutiny and Challenge—What is it?
- Scrutiny and Challenge—Why is it Important?
- A formula for Success— W5+H
- Application of the Formula—How?
- Putting it into Practice

The delivery of this session will be interactive and interesting for councillors, allowing them to learn by asking questions regularly and through group work. Learning and discussions will be relevant to the councillor's unique role and participation in this masterclass will aim to improve understanding of what scrutiny and challenge is, why it's important, how to do it and what support is available.

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(Local Government Training Group), these FREE events are open to all  
Elected Members. Councils should put forward names of interested members  
to Amy McGrath at [a.mcgrath@nilga.org](mailto:a.mcgrath@nilga.org).***

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## **CONFERENCE INVITATION**

### **PLANNING *FOR* CHANGE: PLANNING IN TIMES OF CHANGE**

**6<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

**The Great Hall, Ulster University – Magee Campus, Derry/Londonderry**

Focusing on the theme of “Planning *for* Change: Planning in Times of Change”, the 12th Annual Conference of the International Centre for Local and Regional Development (ICLRD) will take place on the 6th November 2019. This 1-day event will take place in Ulster University – Magee Campus, Derry/Londonderry.

We live in changing and challenging times. Settlements across the island of Ireland, irrespective of scale, are facing challenges of an unprecedented magnitude. Such challenges are vast and complex, and include global warming and climate change, increasingly dispersed and fragmented settlement patterns, greater distances between where people live and where people work, housing affordability and an associated housing crisis, demographic changes, shifting retail patterns and a correlated stagnation and hollowing out of our city and town cores, a contraction of services locally, and diversifying energy supplies.

In this context, spatial planning policy and practice is increasingly operating in times of change – but, equally, must also plan for change. Planning must play a key role in preparing a more sustainable – and stable – future for our settlements, urban and rural. The conference comprises of plenary sessions and parallel thematic sessions on the following topics:

- Planning for Sustainable Change
- Planning for an Ageing Society
- Climate Change Adaptation – What this Means for Spatial Planning
- A Place with (No) Purpose? The Future of the High Street
- Principles, Policy and Practice – Looking to the 22nd Century

This conference will consider the challenges and opportunities facing spatial planning policy and practice now – and over the coming decades. It will provide a forum to both discuss and consider the future direction of planning, and the extent to which the achievement of transformative planning processes is possible.

Confirmed speakers, panellists & chairs include:

- Prof. Gerrit Knapp, National Center for Smart Growth, University of Maryland
- Dr. Louise Kempton, Newcastle City Futures
- Mr. Seamus Neely, Donegal County Council
- Mr. John Kelpie, Derry City and Strabane District Council
- Mr. Pádraig Maguire, Meath County Council
- Ms. Caitriona Mullan, Regional Development Consultant – Communities, Place-making, Health
- Mr. Diarmaid Lawlor, Architecture and Design Scotland

- Dr. Michael Cooke, Maynooth University
- Mr. Niall Cussen, Office of the Planning Regulator
- Dr. Ainhua Gonzales Del Campo, University College Dublin
- Dr. Linda McElduff, Ulster University
- Mr. Conor Skehan, TU Dublin
- Ms. Mary McIntyre OBE, Planning Consultant
- Mr. Dave Walsh, An Bord Pleanála
- Mr. Angus Kerr, Department for Infrastructure NI
- Mr. Michael Darcy, IBEC-CBI Joint Business Council

To register for this event, please book via this link @ Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/planning-for-change-planning-in-times-of-change-tickets-75682896581?aff=ebdssbdestsearch> There is a fee of £65.00 (+ booking charges) to attend this event.



Mr Anthony Tohill  
Chief Executive  
Mid Ulster District Council  
Magherafelt District Council  
Magherafelt  
BT45 6EN

9<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Dear Mr Tohill,

**Northern Ireland Economic Conference 2019**  
Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November • Slieve Donard Hotel, Newcastle

Please find enclosed the programme for the 2019 Northern Ireland Economic Conference. Now in its 24<sup>th</sup> year, the conference is firmly established as the annual autumn 'summit' for Northern Ireland's economic community, including policy makers and business leaders.

**2019 key themes:**

- ✓ Economic impact of **Brexit** on Northern Ireland
- ✓ **Economic priorities** for Northern Ireland
- ✓ Regional economic development – role of **city regions**
- ✓ Developing **vital infrastructure** for economic growth
- ✓ Strengthening **connectivity** between Belfast and Dublin
- ✓ **Post Brexit:** What's next?
- ✓ **Employment:** The quality conundrum
- ✓ Looking at the **all-island** economy
- ✓ Promoting **innovation**
- ✓ The role of **education and skills** as an economic driver

Taking place at a pivotal time for Northern Ireland, this is a not to be missed event for all the latest information on the local economy as well as an excellent opportunity for networking and discussion with key players across all sectors. There are also a limited number of opportunities for interested organisations to become involved with this conference as an exhibitor – contact us for further details.

To ensure you don't miss out, reserve a place(s) by emailing [registration@agendaNi.com](mailto:registration@agendaNi.com), calling 028 9261 9933 or online at [www.agendaNi.com/events](http://www.agendaNi.com/events).

Yours sincerely,



Lynda Millar  
Conference Manager

# Shaping a Better Future Together

#endingtheharm



You are invited to The Tackling Paramilitarism Programme's Annual Conference *Shaping a Better Future Together* which will take place at Mossley Mill, Newtownabbey, on Tuesday 12 November.

The conference will comprise of several interactive sessions including workshops and a panel discussion. Full agenda details will follow in due course.

Registration opens at 9.30am. The conference will commence at 10.00am and conclude at 4.30pm. Lunch will be provided.

Please RSVP to [TPPT@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:TPPT@justice-ni.x.gsi.gov.uk) by Wednesday 16 October highlighting any dietary or access requirements. Spaces are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

We look forward to seeing you there and thank you for your ongoing and invaluable work in helping create a society where paramilitarism has no place.

*If you are aware of anyone else who might be interested in attending the conference please let us know rather than circulating this invite. Although numbers are limited we are keen to facilitate as many people as possible and will issue invites accordingly.*

Directions to the venue are attached.



Mr Anthony Tohill  
Chief Executive  
Mid Ulster District Council  
Magherafelt District Council  
Magherafelt, BT45 6EN

25<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Dear Mr Tohill,

## Northern Ireland Planning Conference 2019

*Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2019 • Titanic Belfast*

Programme announced!

agendaNi's Northern Ireland Planning Conference, sponsored by Carson McDowell and Arup, is the major annual event for anyone with an interest or role in planning and development in Northern Ireland.

Now in its fourth year, the planning process is no longer finding its feet. 2018 saw a delay in major planning decisions. Councils play a key role in planning in Northern Ireland. In the political vacuum, the power of granting such decisions takes on further prominence. As draft Local Development Plans begin to be published, we are starting to see the future of planning in Northern Ireland taking shape.

### 2019 discussion topics include:

- ✓ An update on **Local Development Plans**
- ✓ Impact of **Brexit** on planning
- ✓ Planning **law** update
- ✓ Delivering key **infrastructure** projects
- ✓ **People-centred** planning: Wellbeing and ageing
- ✓ **Energy** networks
- ✓ Developing social **housing**
- ✓ Best practice **case studies**

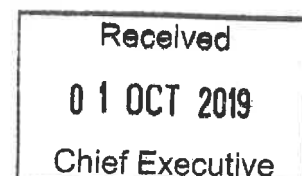
Secure your place now for this important conference. To register email your details to [registration@agendaNi.com](mailto:registration@agendaNi.com) or register online at [www.agendaNi.com/events](http://www.agendaNi.com/events).

I very much hope that you and/or your colleagues can attend what promises to be an interesting and timely event for the Northern Ireland planning sector.

Yours sincerely,



Fiona McCarthy  
Conference Director



**Approval Sought – OCTOBER COUNCIL Appendix B**

<b>Conference &amp; Seminar</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>No. of Attendees</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Attendance Fee (Yes/ No)</b>
The Power of Walking Conference	14/11/19	1	Belfast	No
HR (PPMA) Annual Conference	5/12/19	2	SHHP	No
NI Planning Conference 2019	20/11/19	1	Belfast	£195+ vat
Shaping a Better Future Together	12/11/19	1	Newtownabbey	No
British Trust for Ornithology	9/11/19	1	Oxford Island	£25