Minutes of Meeting of the Development Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 12 May 2022 in the Council Offices, Circular Road, Dungannon and by Virtual Means

Members Present	Councillor Molloy, Chair	
	Councillors Ashton, Black, Burton, Clarke*, Corry*, Cuddy, Doris*, Elattar*, Kerr, McNamee*, Monteith and Wilson	
Officers in	Mr McCreesh**, Chief Executive	
Attendance	Mr Black, Strategic Director of Communities and Place Mr Gordon, Assistant Director of Health, Leisure and Wellbeing Mr Kelso**, Director Public Health & Infrastructure Ms Linney**, Assistant Director of Development Ms McKeown**, Assistant Director of Economic Development, Tourism and Strategic Programmes	
	Mrs Forde, Member Support Officer	
In Attendance	Deputation: Lough Neagh Partnership	

Mr G Darby Mr A Hatch Dr W Burke

- * Denotes Members present in remote attendance
- ** Denotes Officers present by remote means
- *** Denotes Others present by remote means

The meeting commenced at 7 pm.

The Chair, Councillor Molloy welcomed everyone to the meeting and those watching the meeting through the Live Broadcast. Cllr Molloy in introducing the meeting detailed the operational arrangements for transacting the business of the committee in the chamber and by virtual means, by referring to Annex A to this minute.

D073/22 Notice of Recording

This meeting will be webcast for live and subsequent broadcast on the Council's You Tube site

D074/22 Apologies

Councillor Milne

D075/22 Declarations of Interest

The Chair, Councillor Molloy reminded Members of their responsibility with regard to declaration of interest drawing attention in particular to agenda item on grants. He stated that if Members had already declared the interest it did not need reiterated.

Councillor Ashton declared an interest in Crilly Cultural and Youth Group

Councillor Clarke declared an interest in Broughderg Community Development Association

Councilor Kerr declared an interest in Coalisland Na Fianna GFC and also Coalisland Na Fianna Cycling Club.

Councillor Cuddy declared an interest in Aughintober Regeneration and Castlecaulfield 12th July Festival 2022.

Councillor Burton declared an interest in Bawn Development Association as family were members.

Councillor Burton declared an interest in COSTA and Caledon Regeneration.

Councillor Corry declared an interest in Moneyneena & District Development Initiative.

Councillor Monteith declared an interest in Dungannon Gaelic Forum, the GAA and Ballysaggart Area Community Association.

Councillor Molloy declared an interest in the GAA.

D076/22 Chair's Business

The Chair, Councillor Molloy stated it was his last meeting and thanked his party for the nomination for the role of Chair. He also thanked committee Members and staff for their work throughout the year.

The Chair, Councillor Molloy asked that officers review the swimming lesson application system used at Dungannon Swimming pool. He acknowledged it was difficult but if there was some way it could be broadened out rather than the usual 'free for all.'

Councillor Kerr spoke of the UNITE and GMB unions that had balloted Translink staff for strike action. He stated that the strike would have a major impact especially at exam time but Council should offer its support for the 6% cost of living pay claim of which the 3% offered falls short. He highlighted that Translink staff had worked during the pandemic providing an essential service. He proposed that Council outlines its support and asks for the wage increase to be implemented.

The Chair, Councillor Molloy said that Council's own staff had recently been on strike and they too were on the front line delivering services during the pandemic.

Councillor Monteith commended Councillor Molloy for how he had carried out his role of chair.

Councillor Monteith seconded Councillor Kerr's proposal and echoed the sentiments. He said Members were the corporate governance of Council which had significant number of staff who had effectively had a pay cut and were at their wits end as to how to make ends meet. He said as Members they had clapped front line services during the pandemic but clapping did not pay the rent.

He suggested that through the Local Joint Negotiating Forum Council should make it known that the Joint Negotiating Forum was not working for people in the six counties as people had different issues than those in England, Scotland and Wales. He said 1.75% rise to the lowest paid was somewhat different to the higher end of the scales.

Councillor Cuddy spoke of UNITE members attending the Council meeting and acknowledged that it was difficult position to try to help when tied into the UK wide negotiating forum. He asked if perhaps Council could help in other ways such as terms and conditions highlighting the example of the demand for lorry drivers he said that however it could, Council needed to follow through.

Councillor Wilson said he had no issue writing to Translink but Council had a duty to its own staff and in whichever way they could, they should be lobbying. He said he could appreciate the National Negotiating Forum but perhaps Council should be lobbying there.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to write to Translink to advise that Council support the cost of living wage increase put forward by UNITE and GMB.

Councillor Kerr thanked Councillor Molloy for how he carried out his role as Chair.

Councillor Burton concurred and said all had been given opportunity to raise issues. She drew attention to a presentation made by the Early Years Childcare group in Clogher who run on a cocktail of funding. Councillor Burton said there was concerns about the future funding for the group and proposed that Council set up a meeting with Early Years and the group involved. She said there was a great need for childcare places in the area and action was needed to ensure the project continued.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to progress a meeting with Early Years, Clogher

D077/22 Deputation – Lough Neagh Partnership

The Chair, Councillor Molloy welcomed representatives of Lough Neagh Partnership to the meeting and invited them to make their presentation. Mr Darby delivered the presentation and advised that Members had sight of the River Blackwater Feasibility Study and its recommendations of which the presentation was an overview. He concluded the presentation emphasizing that Lough Neagh was the largest lough in Ireland and the United Kingdom yet it had no navigational authority.

Mr Darby delivered presentation following which the Chair, Councillor Molloy commended Lough Neagh Partnership on the concise overview of the project and stated that full delivery would open many areas of tourism potential. He invited Members questions.

Councillor Doris thanked the group for the presentation and said she had brought a motion through the Council last year which all councils surrounding the Lough had endorsed. She spoke of the protest that had taken place regarding the need for dredging of the Lough and emphasized that this still had not happened. Councillor Doris referred to samples which had been taken which would determine the disposal of the waste and sought an update. She concluded by referring to news reports regarding the death of dogs at the Lough in Antrim and said she was keen to see the Lough being transferred to public ownership.

Mr Darby said that from a partnership perspective all stakeholders had been brought to the table to discuss dredging. He commended the support given by Francis Molloy MP, Councillor Doris and Keith Buchanan MLA together with support from Council who took the lead. Mr Darby said the full report was now with both Councils and acknowledged that Department for Infrastructure had not been overly enthusiastic in driving the project forward. He said the Lough Neagh Partnership would endeavour to assist Council with undertaking technical analysis and business proposals for Dfl to drive the project forward. He thanked the Chief Executive and AD: ED, T&SP for their engagement and said it was imperative for all to keep the pressure on.

Dr Burke in relation to the death of the dogs in the vicinity of the Lough at Antrim said that to his knowledge water samples had been taken but that there had been no blue algae in the water. He said post-mortems had been carried out on the deceased dogs and as it was a public matter more information would be forthcoming.

The Chair, Councillor Molloy thanked the representatives of Lough Neagh Partnership following which they withdrew from the meeting at 7.40pm.

Matters for Decision

D078/22 Strategic Community Development Update

The AD: Development presented previously circulated report which provided update on the following and to note key areas of delivery under Strategic Development:

- Response to NIHE Supporting People's Strategy Consultation note update
- Letter of support regarding Department for Economy's proposals to raise threshold limits for entry to Draft Relief Scheme note update

Councillor Molloy commended staff on the responses compiled.

Proposed by Councillor Monteith Seconded by Councillor Kerr

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to –

(i) Approve that a response be sent to NIHE Supporting People's Strategy Consultation.

 (ii) Approve that a letter of support be sent regarding Department for Economy's proposals to raise threshold limits for entry to Draft Relief Scheme.

D079/22 Development Report

The AD: Development presented previously circulated report which provided update and sought approval on the following:

- Community Grants to agree Council Community Grants
- CCTV to agree to go to tender, and to incorporate the towns CCTV and Park N Ride CCTV contracts to one new tender
- Arts to agree to the refurbishment of the auditorium in Burnavon Arts Centre (and electronic marketing signage) conditional on the release of funding from Policy and Resources Committee
- DFC Advice provision to agree to release the additional funding from DfC for advice provision in Mid Ulster
- Development to update on Development

Proposed by Councillor McNamee Seconded by Councillor Burton

Resolved To propose the Development Report as detailed below:

• Community Grants

The Chair Councillor Molloy commended staff on the delivery of the current community grants programme totaling over half a million being spent in the community.

Councillor Ashton concurred stating it was marvelous to see the groups proactive following COVID. In response to the balancing of the overall budget the AD: Development said she would revert to the Member to provide clarity.

Councillor McNamee commended officers said it was great to see events taking place again and welcomed the Burnavon project.

Councillor Kerr welcomed the grants in the Torrent area and spoke of the ambitious plans of the hurling club highlighting that hurling in particular deserved support. He further welcomed the grants to Tyrone Ladies GAA.

Councillor Kerr spoke of Derry and Strabane District Council launch of a cost of living grant and said whilst he was aware Council needed to have cash reserves proposed that a report be brought to the June meeting to outline possibilities for similar grant in Mid Ulster.

Councillor Monteith seconded the proposal.

The AD: Development sought clarity as to whether the report should be considered primarily by Policy & Resources committee.

The Chair, Councillor Molloy clarified that Policy & Resources would need to consider any funding which would be required for any fund the Committee proposed.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that an initial paper outlining possibilities for a cost of living grant be presented to June Development Committee.

Councillor Burton commended the community grant spend across the district and in particular welcomed funding to Clogher Valley Show stating that it was an important event in the calendar which drew many people to the district. She requested that roundabouts leading to Clogher Valley be enhanced together with street clean to ensure the area is at its best for visitors to the show.

- **Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to agree the rolling community grant programmes Good Relations and Local Community Festivals.
 - CCTV
- **Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to agree to go to tender, and to incorporate the towns CCTV and Park N Ride CCTV contracts to one new tender.
 - Arts
- **Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to agree to the refurbishment of the auditorium in Burnavon Arts Centre (and electronic marketing signage) conditional on the release of funding from Policy and Resources Committee.
 - DFC Advice Provision
- **Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to agree to release the additional funding from DFC for advice provision in Mid Ulster.
 - Development
- **Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to not the update on Development.

D080/22 Leisure and Outdoor Recreation Service Level Agreements 2022/23

The AD: Health, Leisure & Wellbeing presented previously circulated report which sought approval for the Leisure and Outdoor Recreation Service Level Agreements for the period 202/23 financial year.

Councillor Burton highlighted the service provided by Fivemiletown Youth Annex and said Council could not provide such a service alone and urged that consideration is given in supporting groups to the rising costs of oil and electricity.

Councillor Kerr sought an update regarding the shoreline erosion issues in response the AD: HLW said that there had been an on site meeting and that he would speak to the capital team and revert directly to the Member to provide an update.

Proposed by Councillor Burton Seconded by Councillor Kerr

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the Leisure and Outdoor Recreation Service Level Agreements for the period 2022/23 financial year only as outlined within the report.

D081/22 Newmills Path Creation

The AD: Health, Leisure & Wellbeing presented previously circulated report which sought approval to enter into one Permissive Path Agreement (PPA) with one landowner in relation to lands adjacent to the Torrent River for the creation of a path network, known as Newmills Community River Trail.

Proposed by Councillor Cuddy Seconded by Councillor Ashton and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that approval be given to:

- Enter into one Permissive Path Agreements with one landowner in relation to the development of the path network along the Torrent River, Newmills known as the Newmills Community River Trail.
 Estimated annual path maintenance costs of £1,000 requires to be budgeted within annual maintenance allocations – subject to agreement in the rates estimates process for April 23 – March 24.
- (ii) Investigate the potential of establishing a Service Level Agreement with Torrent River Enhancement Group. A future detailed report to be submitted to Development Committee for Members consideration at the appropriate time.

D082/22 Derrynoyd and Drumcairne Forests, Funding Opportunities

The AD: Health, Leisure & Wellbeing presented previously circulated report to update Members of two Expressions of Interest made to DAERA for Tackling Rural Poverty and Social Isolation (TRPSI) funding to assist in the development of Derrynoyd and Drumcairne Forests. Approval is sought to enter into a licence and lease agreement with Forest Service NI (FSNI) for the creation of an enhanced outdoor recreation product and associated welfare facilities within Drumcairne Forest.

Councillor Doris welcomed the progress but expressed disappointment in the time involved in reaching this stage. She said she had been contacted by a primary school wishing to plant wildflowers and this had now been delayed for the second year. She emphasised that Council needed to 'keep its foot on the pedal' to bring the projects to fruition.

Councillor Burton said that Derrynoyd and Drumcairne Forests had been on the radar for a shorter period than Lumpfords Glen and expressed disappointment that it was not progressing at this time. She said that during lockdown these areas had been much used but some areas may be dangerous for walkers. She sought clarity as to how Derrynoyd and Drumcairne projects had progressed yet Lumfords Glen which was a beautiful area had not.

Councillor Kerr welcomed the report.

In response the AD:HLW said he was actively reviewing the strategies involved and that having picked up the remit for parks was actively seeking funding opportunities to progress where and when possible.

Proposed by Councillor Doris Seconded by Councillor Burton

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that approval be granted to enter into a licence and lease agreement with FSNI to allow for the development of Drumcairne Forest.

D083/22 Economic Development Report – OBFD

The AD: Economic Development, Tourism and Strategic Programmes presented previously circulated report which provided an update on the below -

- River Blackwater Feasibility Study
- UK Tentative List Process of World Heritage Sites
- Annual Funding Request from Irish Central Border Area Network (ICBAN) for 2022-2023
- Funding Request from MEGA Network for 2022-2025
- Data Sharing Agreement with Invest NI
- Mid Ulster Labour Market Partnership (LMP)
- Economic Development, Tourism and Strategic Projects Action Plan 2022/23
- Service Level Agreement Sperrins Partnership

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the key activities as listed below in the Economic Development Report – OBFD.

• River Blackwater Feasibility Study

The AD: ED, T&SP reminded Members that ABC Council would also be asked to adopt the Feasibility Study.

The Chair, Councillor Molloy said that the document should be published on the website and made available for presentations to, for example, the Department for Infrastructure. He said everyone needed to take cognisance that it is a joint approach and no organisation could work in isolation on it.

Councillor Kerr drew attention to the report and spoke of the dredging issues which raise boat safety concerns. He also drew attention to page 20 of the report, Ferry

Bridge, and said there is also great potential along the Coalisland Canal and Council should be aspiring for full regeneration. In relation to jetties at Brocagh and Castlebay he proposed that the jetties should be upgraded. He concluded by making reference to planning applications for drilling on the Lough by overseas multinational companies should be rejected as such plans as presented tonight would be scuppered. He also welcomed the strong case for dredging.

The Chair, Councillor Molloy said that Council would look at aforementioned but highlighted that Brocagh and Castlebay were different projects and not part of this Study.

The Chair, Councillor Molloy said that Council own the jetty and slipway at Moy which is too steep for canoeists and that there is opportunity through other projects to develop other access points. He also said there was good opportunities to develop walkways.

Councillor Cuddy said that he kayaks on the River Blackwater and concurred that Moy jetty is very steep. He spoke of stopping at the ABC Council facility at Saltmarine and said that the costs involved in similar was significant. He mentioned that there should be focus at Moy as it was the largest town along the route and people could stop off at Moy and Charlemont and spend the evening.

Proposed by Councillor Kerr Seconded by Councillor Molloy

- **Resolved** That it be recommended to Council to approve the River Blackwater Feasibility Study & recommendations on Appendix 1, subject to Members amendments being included.
 - UK Tentative List Process of World Heritage Sites

Councillor Corry welcomed progress and said that it falls within the motion brought by herself and fellow Councillor Clarke the previous year.

Councillor Burton asked if this was the only site which fitted the criteria.

The AD: ED&TSP said that a project of this magnitude requires a significant amount of work and should it progress, Council would have to consider making financial support and resources available to drive it forward. As such, she recommended that Council only consider one project at a time. She highlighted that a neighbouring Council had worked for upwards of 20 years to get their project over the line.

Proposed by Councillor Corry Seconded by Councillor McNamee

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve that Mid Ulster District Council makes an application to the UK Tentative List of World Heritage Sites and selects the 'Heart of Ancient Ulster' site located within an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, incorporating OM Dark Sky Park, area around Davagh Forest and Broughderg.

Annual Funding Request from Irish Central Border Area Network (ICBAN) for 2022-2023

Proposed by Councillor McNamee Seconded by Councillor Corry and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to -

- Approve Council's annual contribution to ICBAN for 2022/2023 of £15,000 and release the full payment to ICBAN subject to Council being provided with the requisite documentation as detailed in the SLA.
- (ii) Approve Mid Ulster District Council's Service Level Agreement with ICBAN for the year 2022-2023 (subject to final review by Legal Services).
- Funding Request from MEGA Network for 2022-2025

Councillor Monteith said that it was disappointing that the wish of Members to see trade union engagement written into the service level agreement had been omitted and Council needed to go back and ensure that trade union and workers were incorporated in the agreement. He spoke of the presentation made by MEGA in February and stated that when questioned about trade union involvement they could not answer the questions asked thus it is obvious it is not part of their remit.

Councillor Monteith proposed that Council do not progress the project at this time but re-engage to include trade union representation on the board. He said Council could not move forward with this project to encourage skills and engaging workers without trade union representation. He said if trade unions could not be included could the £15k per annum be redirected to trade unions for them to carry out similar work.

Councillor Kerr seconded the proposal and said that some of the attitudes of local manufacturing companies towards trade union representation is poor. He said members of trade unions were not welcome but public money was being used to assist financing the project to create and retain jobs. He said many local workers were moving from manufacturing towards telecommunications were workers' rights are somewhat better.

The AD: ED&TSP confirmed that there is a trade union representative serving on the MEGA steering committee from a local manufacturing company. She said that the trade union representative had the opportunity to contribute towards MEGA's new strategic action plan and outlined the breakdown of MEGA's proposed 3 year funding from 2022-23 to 2024-25 as follows;

Invest NI	£170,000
Private / Members Funding / Conferences / Sponsorship	£211,000
Mid Ulster District Council	£45,000 (pending approval)
Total Funding	£426,000

Councillor Monteith said that within the documentation presented there was no reference to trade unions and nowhere within the action plan were they referenced.

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The AD: ED&TSP said she would ensure trade union membership was written into the Service Level Agreement.

The Chair, Councillor Molloy asked that the paper be brought to June committee with the revised service level agreement.

Councillor McNamee asked if the project would be impacted by the delay.

The AD: ED&TSP said that the project had been out of pocket since 1 April. She reiterated that there are trade union representatives from one of the local companies on the steering committee.

Councillor McNamee asked if the matter could be brought before full Council as the minute had to be ratified.

The Chief Executive said that clarification could be issued following the committee which would allay concerns and asked if that would be satisfactory.

The AD: ED&TSP said that the revised version could be brought to Council meeting.

Councillor Monteith was emphatic that trade union representation was written into the agreement.

Councillor Kerr concurred with Councillor Monteith and said that some of the organisations involved were massive and thus the delay in the impact of the funding was laughable.

The Chief Executive said that other councils were replicating the MEGA concept and that Council was fortunate to have the project and should be conscious of its position. He said that MEGA was predominantly made up of human resources officers from the companies and together all were endeavouring to address skill shortages. He reiterated that Council was fortunate to be involved in its creation and that trade union input was involved.

Proposed by Councillor Ashton Seconded by Councillor Black

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to

- (i) Provide confirmation of revised Service Level Agreement to include Trade Union participation.
- (ii) Approve annual contributions to the MEGA Network of £15,000 in each of the next 3 years, totalling £45,000;
 - Year 1 April 2022-March 2023 £15,000

• Year 2 - April 2023-March 2024 £15,000

• Year 3 – April 2024-March 2025 £15,000 The release of Year 1 funding (£15,000) to MEGA from Council's economic development budget is subject to Council being provided with the requisite documentation as detailed in the SLA. Funding in Years 2 & 3, being released annually, subject to satisfactory completion of agreed actions and Council being furnished with the necessary information in a timely manner.

(iii) Approve Mid Ulster District Council's revised Service Level Agreement with MEGA for the period April 2022-March 2025 (subject to final review by Legal Services); with the proviso that an additional clause be added to stipulate the MEGA Network must have Trade Union representation during the three year period to March 2025.

• Data Sharing Agreement with Invest NI

Proposed by Councillor McNamee Seconded by Councillor Corry

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the Data Sharing Agreement with Invest NI, dated 16 March 2022.

• Mid Ulster Labour Market Partnership (LMP)

The AD: ED&TSP advised that a letter of offer was pending but that additional correspondence had been received from the Department for Communities to advise a reduction in the operational budget of approximately £100k, and stated at this time it is unclear whether this funding will be received later in the year. She advised that a revised action plan had to be submitted to Department for Communities to reflect this and sought delegated authority for the Chief Executive to sign off the revised plan and submit back to Department for Communities.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee Seconded by Councillor Corry

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to -

- (i) Note update report.
- (ii) Approve to proceed at risk to tender for programmes and initiatives included within the Mid Ulster LMP Action Plan 2022-23, and to holdoff on appointing delivery organisations until Council is in receipt of an official letter of offer from the Department for Communities; and
- (iii) That following receipt of correspondence from Department for Communities advising Mid Ulster LMP's annual budget for 2022-23 was reduced from £374,700 to £274,334, that council officers liaise with representatives of Mid Ulster LMP to scale back the operational programme and associated budget, following which delegated authority be granted to the Council Chief Executive to approve and

return the revised Action Plan for 2022-23 to Department for Communities.

• Economic Development, Tourism and Strategic Projects Action Plan 2022/23

Proposed by Councillor Corry Seconded by Councillor Cuddy

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve projects and indicative costings within the Economic Development, Tourism and Strategic Projects Action Plan 2022/23.

• Service Level Agreement – Sperrins Partnership

Proposed by Councillor McNamee Seconded by Councillor Corry

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve Mid Ulster District Council's Service Level Agreement with Sperrins Partnership for the financial year 2022-2023 (subject to final review by Legal Services) and release the full payment of £22,000 subject to Council being provided with the requisite documentation as detailed within the SLA.

Matters for Information

D084/22 Minutes of Development Committee held on 6 April 2022

Members noted Minutes of Development Committee held on 6 April 2022.

Councillor Kerr sought an update on the WISE contract. He also welcomed the additional bins along the Coalisland Canal.

Councillor Doris expressed her thanks for the bins installed along the Stewartstown Road and stated that similar was now needed on the Brackaville and Clonoe approach roads.

Councillor Doris reiterated her request for a paper to be brought to committee regarding the transfer of lands from Department for Communities to Council at Stewartstown carpark. She said the paper had not been brought to Environment Committee and she would like to see this progressed in June.

D085/22 Health and Wellbeing Programme

The AD: Health, Leisure and Wellbeing presented previously circulated report which provided an update on the current programmes available to residents within the District through Council's Health, Leisure and Wellbeing service.

D086/22 Economic Development Report - OBFI

The AD: Economy, Tourism & Strategic Programmes presented previously circulated report which provided an update on key activities as detailed below –

- Meet the Buyer 2022
- Tourism Development Group Minutes 3 February 2022
- Cookstown Town Centre Forum Minutes 19 January 2022
- Events to Celebrate the Achievements of Women

Councillor McNamee on behalf of the Cookstown Town Centre Forum commended the recent street clean-up which restored the Cookstown Public Realm works to its original stance. He said he would welcome this as an annual programme.

Live broadcast ended at 8.25 pm.

Local Government (NI) Act 2014 – Confidential Business

Proposed by Councillor Burton Seconded by Councillor Kerr

Resolved In accordance with Section 42, Part 1 Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014 that Members of the public be asked to withdraw from the meeting whilst members consider item D087/22.

Matters for Decision

Matters for Information

D087/22 Confidential Minutes of Development Committee held on Wednesday 6 April 2022

D088/22 Duration of Meeting

The meeting commenced at 7 pm and concluded at 8.26 pm.

Chair _	
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Date _____

Annex A – Introductory Remarks from the Chairperson

Good evening and welcome to the Council's [Policy & Resources/Environment/ Development] Committee in the Chamber, [Dungannon/Magherafelt] and virtually.

I specifically welcome the public watching us through the Live Broadcast. The Live Broadcast will run for the period of our Open Business but will end just before we move into Confidential Business. I let you know before this happens.

Just some housekeeping before we commence. Can I remind you:-

- If you have joined the meeting remotely please keep your audio on mute unless invited to speak and then turn it off when finished speaking
- Keep your video on at all times, unless you have bandwidth or internet connection issues, where you are advised to try turning your video off
- If you wish to speak please raise your hand in the meeting or on screen and keep raised until observed by an Officer or myself
- Should we need to take a vote this evening please raise your hand in the normal way and keep raised until advised to lower it
- o When invited to speak please introduce yourself by name to the meeting
- For any member attending remotely, if you declare an interest in an item, please turn off your video and keep your audio on mute for the duration of the item
- If referring to a specific report please reference the report, page or slide being referred to
- Lastly, I remind the public and press that taking photographs of proceedings or using any means to enable anyone not present to see or hear proceedings, or making a simultaneous oral report of the proceedings are not permitted

Thank you and we will now move to the first item on the agenda.