

CASTLEREAGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Minutes of the proceedings of the Technical & Environmental Services Committee meeting, held, in committee, in the Committee Room, Civic & Administrative Offices, Bradford Court, Upper Galwally, Castlereagh, BT8 6RB on Tuesday 1 April 2008 at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT: Alderman J Norris MBE
(in the chair)

COUNCILLORS: Mrs M Chambers (Mayor)
Mrs S Duncan
B Hanvey
T Jeffers
L Walker

APOLOGIES: Apologies were received on behalf of Alderman Rice, Councillors AM Beattie, J Beattie, Drysdale, Henderson and McCoy

IN ATTENDANCE: Director of Technical & Environmental Services, Client Manager, Operational Services Manager, Building Control Manager, Acting Environmental Health Manager and Assistant Members' Services Officer

T&ES/2008/148 : MINUTES OF THE TECHNICAL & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 4TH MARCH 2008

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the Technical & Environmental Services meeting held on 4th March 2008.

REPORT FROM THE BUILDING CONTROL MANAGER (copy previously circulated)

T&ESC/2008/149 : SCHEDULE OF APPLICATIONS

The Building Control Manager referred Members to the schedule of applications approved by the Building Control Service for the period 1 February 2008 to 29 February 2008.

Noted.

T&ESC/2008/150 : REPORTS ON APPLICATIONS, INSPECTIONS AND SOLICITORS ENQUIRIES

The Building Control Manager referred Members to the reports on applications, inspections and Solicitors' enquiries attached to his report.

Noted.

T&ESC/2008/151 : BUILDING CONTROL SOFTWARE

In response to a query by the Mayor, the Building Control Manager indicated that the Service was currently using software provided by Northgate. He advised however that, together with the IT Manager, he was having discussions with both Northgate and Tascomi to investigate both systems. He indicated that Lisburn City Council also used Northgate and this could be an important factor if the two Councils were to amalgamate under RPA. The Mayor indicated there could be advantages in using Tascomi on the basis that it was a web-based programme.

RESOLVED: that the Building Control Manager would keep the Committee updated on developments.

REPORT FROM THE OPERATIONAL SERVICES MANAGER

T&ESC/2008/152 : MINUTES OF BILLY NEILL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Billy Neill Advisory Committee meeting held on 25 January 2008 were tabled for Members' information (copy previously circulated).

Noted.

T&ESC/2008/153 : UPDATE ON PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY – BETWEEN GILNAHIRK ROAD AND GILNAHIRK AVENUE

The Operational Services Manager reported that, following the Special Council Meeting on 13 March 2008, he had written to the Council's solicitors instructing them to write to the developer on behalf of the Council advising that, if the public right of way between Gilnahirk Road and Gilnahirk Avenue were not reinstated as soon as possible, legal proceedings would be instigated.

In response to a query by the Mayor, the Operational Services Manager indicated that he had also written to the Equality Commission and the Environment and Heritage Service regarding issues relating to this matter and was awaiting their response.

Noted.

T&ESC/2008/154 : CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM ACTION CANCER

The Operational Services Manager reported that correspondence dated 1 February 2008 had been received from Action Cancer requesting that the Council waive the hire fee of Billy Neill Soccer Centre of Excellence for a 6-a-side football tournament being organised by Action Cancer on 7 June 2008 (copy letter previously circulated). The Manager indicated that the hire fees would amount to £469.50.

The Mayor advised that, while the request was from a worthwhile cause, agreement to waive the hire charges would set a precedent. She indicated that the Council had a policy that it did not offer free use of facilities to any charity other than the Mayor's charity. After further discussion it was

RESOLVED: that a decision on Action Cancer's request for free use of the Billy Neill Soccer Centre of Excellence on 7 June 2008 be deferred until the next meeting of the Committee in order to allow officers to investigate whether the Council had a written policy on the free provision of facilities.

T&ESC/2008/155 : CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM DUNGOYNE FOOTBALL CLUB

The Operational Services Manager reported that a request had been received from Dungoyne Football Club that the Committee consider waiving the hire fee for Billy Neill Soccer Centre of Excellence in respect of its Annual Presentation Day to be held on 31 May 2008 (copy previously circulated). The Manager advised that the competition would be raising funds to be donated to Torbank Special Care School. He also advised that the hire costs involved would be £207.30.

Members noted that this request was similar to that previously considered from Action Cancer and would create a precedent for other organisations to request free use of facilities. After discussion it was

RESOLVED: that, as the Committee had already agreed to investigate whether the Council had a written policy on the free provision of facilities, this request should not be approved until clarification had been received. It was further agreed that the request be forwarded to the Deputy Mayor to see if he would be willing to support the event.

T&ESC/2008/156 : ULSTER IN BLOOM AWARD

The Operational Services Manager reported that the Mayor and Parks Manager had attended a recent Ulster in Bloom awards ceremony and that the Council had received an award for its outstanding floral displays. The presentation plaque was circulated at the meeting and it was noted that the Mayor would decide on an appropriate location to display it.

RESOLVED: that Members, congratulations be forwarded to the Parks Section for their success in the Ulster In Bloom awards scheme.

**REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH MANAGER
(copy previously circulated)**

**T&ESC/2008/157 : STATUTORY NOTICES – PUBLIC HEALTH (IRELAND)
ACTS 1878 TO 1907**

The Environmental Health Manager drew Members' attention to Statutory Notices that had been served regarding the abatement of Public Health nuisances/conditions prejudicial to health.

Noted

T&ESC/2008/158 : SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The Environmental Health Manager advised that he had recently been tasked with progressing sustainable development, which was now a statutory duty for the Council. He stated that this would involve the creation of a Sustainable Action Plan including a review of existing Council policies and procedures. He reported that he had presented a briefing note to the Council's Management Team on this matter.

Members were advised that Sustainable NI had produced a number of manuals to assist Councils in this duty and a recent briefing note by them had been previously circulated for Members' information.

Noted.

T&ES/2008/159 : CASTLEREAGH HOME ACCIDENT PREVENTION (HAP)

A copy of the minutes of a meeting on 28 February 2008 of the above Committee had been previously circulated for Members' information. Councillor Jeffers reported that he had recently been appointed chair of Castlereagh HAP and would keep the Committee advised of progress.

Noted.

T&ESC/2008/160 : INFORMATION SHARE PROTOCOL

The Environmental Health Manager reported that the Service Unit had received an Information Sharing Protocol in relation to Anti-social Behaviour Orders (copy previously circulated) and had sought a legal opinion on it. Members were reminded that the Council was one of three authorities that could serve ASBOs.

The Manager requested the Committee to note this information and approve the signing of the Information Sharing Protocol by the Chief Executive on behalf of the Council.

RESOLVED: That the Council note information regarding an Information Sharing Protocol in relation to Anti-social Behaviour Orders and authorise the Chief Executive to sign it on behalf of the Council

T&ESC/2007/161 : CONSUMPTION OF INTOXICATING LIQUOR IN DESIGNATED PLACES – DRINKING IN DESIGNATED AREAS

Noted.

T&ESC/2008/162 : THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) (NI) ORDER 1985 - ARTICLE 3 – LICENSING OF PLACES OF ENTERTAINMENT – RENEWAL OF A LICENCE

The Environmental Health Manager referred Members to an application for the renewal of an entertainment licences received for premises detailed in his report.

RESOLVED:- that Committee recommend that the application for renewal of an entertainment licences for the premises detailed in the Environmental Health Manager's report be approved.

T&ESC/2008/163 : PETROLEUM CONSOLIDATION ACT (NI) 1929 – RENEWAL OF A PETROLEUM LICENCE

RESOLVED: that the Committee recommend that the application for a licence to store petroleum at Sainsbury Filling Station, Upper Galwally, Castlereagh, BT8 4FX, be renewed.

T&ESC/2008/164 : THE DOGS ORDER 1983 – DOGS STRAYING

The Environmental Health Manager reported that a lady from the Dundonald area had permitted two dogs to stray in contravention of the above legislation. He advised that Fixed Penalty Notices had been issued for the offences but that these had been returned unpaid by the Clerk of Petty Sessions Office.

RESOLVED: that, in line with the Council's policy, approval be given to instigate legal proceedings under the Dogs (NI) Order 1983 against the keeper of the dogs.

T&ESC/2008/165 : REQUEST FOR FLEXIBLE RETIREMENT

The Environmental Health Manager reported that a request had been received from an officer within the Service Unit wishing to avail of the Council's Flexible Retirement Policy. He advised that the officer would qualify under the 85-year rule and that there would be no cost to the Council.

The Manager reported that the officer had requested a reduction of contracted hours from 37 per week to 18.5 per week and that the balance of 18.5 hours per week would be recruited for. He indicated that the request allowed the Council to retain the skill and knowledge of an experienced officer who could assist in training a newly appointed officer to address the balance of the post. He also advised that, as the requesting officer was at the top of the salary scale and a newly appointed officer would be at the bottom of the scale, there would be a financial saving to the Council of £1,042.00 in the first year of employment.

Members expressed some concerns about the request and points raised were that the 85-year rule was subject to there being no disadvantage to the employer; that part-time hours should not be under 20 per week and, finally, that it had been

envisaged that the 85-year rule would apply over a much shorter period than 5 years. After further discussion it was

RESOLVED: that the Environmental Health Manager be asked to review the proposal in liaison with the HR Manager and taking into account comments made by Members and that he bring a further report on the matter to the Committee at its next meeting.

T&ES/2008/166 : STAFF TRAINING

The Environmental Health Manager referred to an item in his report seeking approval for Enforcement Officers to undertake a Diploma in Canine Studies sourced through the Oxford College of Distance Learning. He indicated that, as a result of further research, officers had decided that the course was not appropriate and accordingly withdrew the request for Council approval.

Noted.

T&ES/2008/167 : E-COLI 0157 INCIDENT AT BROOKLANDS NURSERY UNIT IN DUNDONALD

The Environmental Health Manager reported that the Service Unit had become aware of a confirmed case of E-Coli 0157 in Brooklands Nursery in Dondonald on Friday 14 March 2008. A meeting had been held that night with the Eastern Health and Social Services board and it was decided that every child attending the nursery unit required to be screened along with teachers, classroom assistants and family members of symptomatic children.

The Manager reported that, in order to screen approximately 100 individuals within 24 hours, contact had been made with a number of Council officers who, in the absence of an out-of-hours policy, gave up their public holiday weekend to assist with the investigation.

On Saturday 15 March 2008 the Environmental Health Manager had attended at the nursery to provide a briefing for parents. As a result of investigations, a number of secondary locations, including a birthday party, Christening event and some swimming pool parties, were found to require further analysis.

The Manager reported that 2 additional cases had been confirmed as probable but, after further screening, only 1 was confirmed as infected with E-Coli 0157. He advised that over 200 individuals had been sampled/screened; the Service Unit was awaiting the return of 14 samples, of which a number had been unwilling to provide samples; and 10 individuals had been excluded from work or school and would remain so until such times as a clear sample was returned.

The Manger advised that, to date, 192 man-hours had been spent on the investigation since the initial notification on 14 March 2008. He stated that this was a significant commitment for the Service Unit and it was still ongoing.

RESOLVED: that the Council note the efforts of all officers involved, including the surrendering of their bank holiday weekend, to prevent a major public health incident spreading to the rest of the Borough and the Province as a whole and that it thank the officers involved.

**REPORT FROM CLIENT MANAGER
(copy previously circulated)**

T&ESC/2008/168 : TONNAGES DEPOSTED AT LANDFILL

The Client Manager reported that in February 2008 1641.11 tonnages had been deposited at landfill. He indicated that, while this was an increase on the previous year's level for February, it was reflective of the month-to-month fluctuations in landfill deposit levels.

In response to a query by Councillor Harvey as to whether information regarding the fixed nature of landfill allowances (despite the Borough increasing in size) had been circulated to Members of the Waste Management Working Group, the Director of Technical & Environmental Services advised that it had been circulated to all Members of Council

Noted.

**T&ESC/2008/169 : FLYPOSTING, GRAFFITI, ETC – BELFAST CITY COUNCIL
– NOTICE OF MOTION**

The Client Manager referred Members to a letter received from Belfast City Council seeking support to progress the Clean Neighbourhoods Scheme together with information from the DoE website (copy previously circulated).

Members were asked to note that on 1 August 2007 Belfast City Council's Health & Environmental Services Committee had adopted a notice of motion calling for the establishment of an inter-agency taskforce to deal with illegal flyposting and graffiti together with the introduction in Northern Ireland of appropriate legislation similar to the Clean Neighbourhood and Environment Act 2005 enforced in England and Wales.

The Client Manager advised that the Clean Neighbourhood and Environment Act 2005 encompassed a range of other issues such as community safety, litter, dogs, noise nuisance, abandoned vehicles and nuisance parking, statutory nuisances, abandoned shopping trolleys and fixed penalty notices. He suggested that Members might have reservations supporting the introduction of similar legislation without being fully informed of the implications.

In response to a query by the Mayor, the Client Manager advised that, under existing legislation the Council could remove flyposters and recover the costs of removal but that there was no additional fine or penalty imposed on anyone responsible for flyposting.

After further discussion it was

RESOLVED: that the Committee recommend that the Council support the introduction of appropriate legislation to tackle the problems of illegal flyposting and graffiti but considered that this should not necessarily be the same legislation as applied in England and Wales and that any draft legislation should be subject to consultation.

T&ES/2008/170 : ACTING UP ALLOWANCE

The Client Manager reported that the Director's Secretary post was currently filled by two officers on a job share arrangement. He advised that one officer was currently on sick leave following maternity leave and the other was shortly to go on maternity leave. He reported that funds had been included in the estimates to enable an Administrative Officer to act into the post to cover the vacancy.

In response to a query by the Mayor, the Client Manager advised that it was proposed to recruit agency staff to fill the Administrative Officer's post for the period in question.

RESOLVED: that the Committee recommend that the Council approve that the Administrative Officer act into the Director's Secretary role and that acting up allowance be paid at the appropriate rate to cover the absence of the Director's Secretary.

T&ESC/2008/171 : MINOR WORKS SECTION - RESOURCES

The Committee was reminded that, at its meeting in December 2007, it had considered this matter and at that time there had been 102 outstanding urgent maintenance requests, 322 important maintenance requests and 360 non-critical maintenance requests relating to a variety of Council premises (copy of officer's report to December meeting and minute T&ESC/2007/501 previously circulated).

The Client Manager reported that subsequently an additional £50,000 had been provided within the 2008/2009 estimates process for maintenance purposes and that consideration was being given to the method by which those monies could be allocated.

The Manager advised that, in the first instance, the Business Support Manager, together with the Internal Auditor, had carried out a high level benchmarking exercise against similar organisations to see how other owners of significant mixed buildings stock maintained their properties (copy results had been previously circulated). Members were asked to note that the exercise had indicated that there were a variety of methods by which building maintenance services were provided and that there appeared to be no single "best method".

The Manager advised that, taking into account previous experience, the lack of a clear single best approach and forthcoming RPA boundary changes, it was considered that a major reorganisation of building maintenance would not be beneficial to the Council in the time available. He recommended that continuing

arrangements be maintained and that additional resources be applied at the practical level in carrying out necessary maintenance work.

The Client Manager reminded the Committee that in the past maintenance services had been decentralised and the Leisure Services Department had become responsible for its own buildings.

The Client Manager reported that a method should be developed for fairly applying the available resources so that outstanding maintenance requirements were addressed. He suggested that the landlord of each building be asked to review annual building inspection reports to identify items of necessary maintenance work for which no budget provision had been made. He proposed that, following this, the outstanding items of work would be prioritised and funds allocated to completion of the work.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the landlord of each building be asked to review annual building inspection reports to identify items of necessary maintenance work for which no budget provision had been made.
- (b) That, following identification of necessary maintenance work by landlords, outstanding items of work be prioritised and funds allocation to facilitate the completion of the work.

T&ESC/2008/172 : PROPOSED CEMETERY AT GREENGRAVES ROAD ADJACENT TO BILLY NEILL MBE SOCCER CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

The Client Services Manager reported that an approach had been received from a developer who was interested in acquiring lands owned by the Council at Greengraves Road which were currently the subject of a planning application by the Council for a cemetery. The developer had indicated that he felt that planning permission could be obtain for housing development on the site and that, if he acquired these lands, he could provide an alternative site for a cemetery. The Client Manager suggested that the sale of this site could generate significant sums of money that could bring additional benefits to the Borough as well as funding a new cemetery.

The alternative sites proposed by the developer for cemetery development were land adjacent to the Billy Neill Soccer Centre of Excellence or land to the west of Lisleen Road from its junction with Gransha Road. The Manager provided an analysis of both sites as follows:

- (1) Land Adjacent to Billy Neill MBE Soccer Centre of Excellence
 - Total land area available 77.7 acres, of which 27.7 acres lay within CBC area and 50 acres lay within Ards BC area
 - Lands were a considerable distance from Greengraves Road and separated from Comber Road by the former BCDR and Enler River. Practical access would be through Billy Neill MBE Soccer Centre of

Excellent. Lands are overlooked by housing but not closely overlooked.

- Lands are on various sloping hillsides above the Enler River flood plain but would present challenges to develop
- Major parts of lands are visible from the Comber and other roads, which would be an obstacle to obtaining planning permission
- Topographically lands appear developable but there has been no hydro-geological or site investigations to confirm suitability from a technical perspective.

(2) Lands at Lisleen Road

- Lands lie within the area of search identified by Belfast CC not far from Roselawn. Access would be on the Gransha Road or the Lisleen Road
- Lands are described as being within the control of the developer and there would therefore be no displacement of existing households
- The Council has already objected to the development of a cemetery in the area, part of which includes these lands
- Parts of the land would appear suitable from a topographical point of view but no site investigations have been carried out to confirm technical suitability. Significant portions of the site are steeply sloping, are close to a stream or in a visible location.

The Manager summarised that both sites could be considered as possibilities but both had significant shortcomings. He suggested that, in order to identify other possible sites, the Council could advertise in the press for expressions of interest from landowners with holdings of approximately 10-20 acres, which could then be appraised for suitability as a cemetery site. He suggested that, if this proved unsuccessful, the Council could identify potential sites for vesting in areas where there would be no major objections. Members were asked to note that the Council only required a small cemetery site (circa 10 acres with a further 10 acres for future expansion) as opposed to the circa 100 acre site being sought by Belfast City Council.

The Client Manager also suggested that, in parallel to this process, the Council could advertise the 17 acres of land at Billy Neill MBE Soccer Centre of Excellence for sale with whatever conditions it considered appropriate.

During discussions, Members expressed doubts as to the suitability of the alternative sites being proposed by the developer. The Mayor pointed out that, in view of the proposed RPA boundary changes and the proposed amalgamation with Lisburn City Council, it could be more advantageous for the ratepayers of Castlereagh if a new cemetery site were located to the west of the Borough area. The Mayor also advised that she had received a letter from the Minister of Social Development enquiring whether the Council owned any lands that were surplus to requirements and could be used for affordable social housing.

The Client Manager indicated that, if Members wished to seek expressions of interest from landowners in respect of other possible cemetery sites, officers could draw up appropriate criteria for the Committee's consideration. After discussion it was

RESOLVED:

- (a) That, in the first instance, the Council write to the Minister for Social Development indicating that it had 17 acres of land on the outskirts of Dundonald that could be suitable for housing development.
- (b) That the Client Manager be asked to bring back criteria to the Committee for consideration in respect of lands that could be suitable for development as a cemetery.

T&ESC/2008/173 : FENCING AT MOAT PARK

The Client Manager reported that Councillor Drysdale had raised a query regarding fencing at Moat Park. He advised that the contractor had replaced approximately two thirds of the fencing to the extent of the original and the Council had erected additional fencing and would be erecting further fencing along the remainder of the boundary in the next few weeks.

Noted.

T&ESC/2008/174 : FOLLIES TRUST

The Client Manager referred to a letter that the Chief Executive had received from the Chairman of the Follies Trust. He reminded Members that the Trust existed to encourage the conservation, preservation, restoration and protection in their original settings of:

- Follies
- Grottoes
- Mausoleums and Monuments
- Garden Buildings
- Other Structures of Architectural Interest

The Client Manager advised that the Chairman had written indicating that the Trust was raising funds for the restoration of the Knockbreda Mausoleums and planned to commence the work in 2008. They also planned to produce a booklet, leaflet and website at a cost of approximately £9,000. The Trust was seeking funding of £4,000 from the Council and would be happy to acknowledge help given by the Council and provide several hundred copies of the leaflet for the Council's use.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED: that the Client Manager write to the Follies Trust wishing them well but indicating that the Council declined the invitation to contribute to the costs of printing and publication of the booklet, leaflet and website.

T&ESC/2008/175 : SYNTHETIC PITCHES AT BILLY NEILL MBE SOCCER CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

The Client Manager reported that 10 responses to the advertisement for expressions of interest in the development of synthetic pitches at Billy Neill MBE Soccer Centre of Excellence had now been received. He recommended that a working group of Members from Leisure Services and Technical & Environmental Services Committees be appointed to consider the responses and progress the matter. He indicated that this matter would also be discussed at the meeting of the Leisure Services Committee.

RESOLVED: that a working group with representatives from Leisure Services Committee and Technical & Environmental Services Committee be appointed to consider responses to the Council's advertisement for expressions of interest in respect of the development of synthetic pitches at Council sites and how this matter should be progressed.

T&ESC/2008/176 : INTERAGENCY BONFIRE GROUP

The Client Manager referred to the membership of the Interagency Bonfire Group and to a previous decision that the DUP appoint a representative. He advised that he would write to the leader of the DUP in Council to seek a nomination. Members urged the Manager to progress the issue as quickly as possible.

The Manager also referred to a recent meeting regarding bonfires in the Cregagh area when he had proposed that the Council would erect two sections of fencing at the bonfire site, one for wood and the other for rubbish. He indicated that he would keep the Committee informed as to whether this proved effective.

Noted.

T&ESC/2008/177 : ARENA NETWORK

The Client Manager reminded Members that the partnership with Arena Network had ended in June 2007 and he advised that the Council had now agreed the final account of £32,909.06. He indicated that monies had been included in the estimates last year and had been carried over into the current year and he sought approval to pay this amount.

RESOLVED: That approval be given to settlement of the final account of Arena Network in the sum of £32,909.06

**REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
(copy previously circulated)**

T&ESC/2008/178 : REPORTS AVAILABLE

The Director of Technical and Environmental Services reported that the following information was available for Members' attention:

- Cl:aire. Case Study Bulletin. CSB7. February 2008
- Cl:aire. SUBR:IM Bulletin. SUB9. February 2008

- Proposals to amend the historic buildings grant aid scheme and new proposals for funding non-government organisations. Consultation Document. Environment and Heritage Service

Noted

T&ESC/2008/179 : THREE BIG WASTE CHALLENGES AHEAD

A DoE press release on the above matter had been previously circulated. The Director of Technical & Environmental Services asked Members to note that the Environment Minister had highlighted three waste management challenges at a recent Confederation of Business Waste Management Seminar.

Noted.

T&ESC/2008/180 : MINUTES OF THE ARC 21 JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING OF 28 FEBRUARY 2008

Draft minutes of the above meeting had been previously circulated to Members who were advised that it was anticipated that these would be ratified at the Joint Committee meeting being held on 2 April 2008. The Director of Technical & Environmental Services detailed some of the business addressed, as follows:

- Contracts update
- Strategic Outline Case
- Residual Waste Management Interim Diversion Capacity
- Waste Related Professional Services Framework Contract
- Strategic Environment Assessment
- Recent Meetings
- Consultation – Review of Northern Ireland Landfill Allowance Scheme (NILAS)
- Consultation – Implementation of the Batteries and Accumulators and Waste Batteries and Accumulators Directive ((2006/66/EC)
- Pensions Policy
- Local Government (Accounts & Audit) Regulations 2006 – Statement of Internal Control
- Comprehensive Spending Review
- AOB

The Director drew Members' attention to the need to peruse the content of the Minutes and to acquaint themselves with the waste management issues under consideration.

Noted.

T&ESC/2008/181 : ARC 21 JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING OF 2 APRIL 2008

The Director of Technical & Environmental Services reported that the next meeting of the ARC 21 Joint Committee would be held on 2 April 2008 at the offices of Antrim Borough Council

A copy of the Members' Bulletin for that meeting, which included details of the business to be conducted at that meeting, had been previously circulated.

Noted.

T&ESC/2008/182 : ARC21 JOINT COMMITTEE: AWARD OF PROFESSIONAL LEGAL SERVICE AND MULTI-DISCIPLINARY SERVICES FOR THE RESIDUAL WASTE INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

The Director of Technical and Environmental Services reported that the above matters had been considered in detail at the ARC 21 Joint Committee meeting of 28 February 2008. A copy of the reports presented to that meeting had been previously circulated to Members and the Director referred to previous minute T&ESC/2008/ where he had advised Members of the business matters addressed at the meeting.

The Director advised that the Executive had committed £198m funding for the Management of Residual Waste in Northern Ireland during 2008/2011 CSR period and that this had been allocated to the DoE and was now known as the Strategic Waste Infrastructure Fund. He reported that the next step in delivery of the Residual Waste Management Infrastructure was the appointment of specialist policy advisors for all legal, financial, technical, environmental and PR requirements. These advisors would then form the integrated Client-Side Project Team and would work with ARC 21 to take the project from Outline Business Case to completion.

The Director reported that ARC21 had worked with the Department of Finance & Personnel to procure a suitable Client-Side Project Team (copy report on procurement exercises had been previously circulated). He advised that it was recommended to award the Professional Legal Services to Arthur Cox (Bevan Brittan) at a tender value of £800,000 and the Multi-Disciplinary Consultancy Service contract to Price Waterhouse Coopers at a tender value of £733,979 for the Design, Build, Finance and Operate (DBFO) option and £2,339,148 in respect of the Design, Build and Operate (DBO) option.

The Director explained the difference between the DBFO and DBO options and indicated that the decision as to which would be adopted was dependent on the Outline Business Case and adoption of its recommendations by ARC 21 and government.

The Director advised that the contracts would be fully funded by the DoE and there would be no financial cost to Council.

RESOLVED: that the Council note the decisions of the ARC 21 Joint Committee on the awards of the Professional Legal Services and Multi-Disciplinary

Consultancy Services for the Residual Waste Infrastructure Projects and agree the awards prior to ARC 21 signing the respective contracts.

T&ESC/2008/183 : DRAFT PLANNING POLICY STATEMENT 18

Members were reminded that this matter had been considered at the Committee meeting in February and a copy of the report to that meeting together with Minute T&ESC/2008/83 had been previously circulated for Members' information.

The Director of Technical & Environmental Services reported that a final draft of the ARC 21 corporate response, which contained some slight amendments to the previous draft, had been prepared. The Director advised that the amendments included the suggestion that BPEO (embodied in PPS 11) might be reviewed. He indicated that an Executive Summary had been added and there had been an expansion on the technical commentary to justify why it was thought that good quality EFW (with CHP) should be included as a renewable energy resource for the purposes of PPS and the stated presumption in favour.

RESOLVED: that the final draft ARC 21 corporate response be endorsed by the Council.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

T&ESC/2008/184 : WASTE MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP MEETING HELD ON 11 MARCH 2008 (copy previously circulated)

The Director of Technical & Environmental Services drew Members' attention to the fact that a number of matters had been addressed at the meeting including:

- Tonnages deposited at landfill
- Waste Date Flow
- Commencement of Article 10 of the Waste (Amendment) (NI) Order 2007
- Yellow Woods Challenge 2008
- Official Launch of New Recycling Scheme
- The Landfill Allowance Scheme (NI) Regulations 2004 – Scheme Year 2007/2008 – Six Month Report
- Bryson Recycling Kerbside Collection Service – Proposed Changes
- Proposed HRC in Dundonald
- Development of Further Bring Sites
- Any Other Business

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the Waste Management Working Group meeting held on 11 March 2008 be adopted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

T&ESC/2008/185 : DOE PRESS RELEASE – PERMANENT SECRETARY OUTLINED PRIORITIES FOR THE ENVIRONMENT (copy previously circulated)

The Director of Technical & Environmental Services drew Members' attention to the six key areas that had been identified by the Minister as her personal priorities, as follows:

- Reform of local government
- Reform of the planning system
- Draft PPS 14
- Environmental governance
- Waste
- Climate change

The Director indicated that, as all of these key areas had implications for the Council, it was to be welcomed that the Minister had prioritised these matters.

Noted.

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 11.05 p.m.

CHAIRMAN

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Adopted by the Council this _____ day of
_____ 2007 with the exception of
Minute Nos. _____

MAYOR