



Society of Local Authority Chief Executives and Senior Managers

EXECUTIVE MINUTES

Venue: **Ards Borough Council**

Date: **Friday 18 June 2010**

POSITION	PRESENT	APOLOGY
CHAIR	David McCammick	
VICE CHAIR	Ashley Boreland	
SECRETARY	Liam Hannaway	
TREASURER		Valerie Watts
PAST CHAIR	Trevor Polley	

IN ATTENDANCE		
SOLACE EXECUTIVE OFFICER		Christine Horner
ARDS BOROUGH COUNCIL	David Anderson (Minutes)	

NO.	ITEM	ACTION
1.0	APOLOGIES	
	Valerie Watts	
2.0	PRESENTATIONS / Discussions	
2.1	None	
3.0	MINUTES	
3.1	Minutes of the Executive Committee meeting on Friday 21 May 2010	
	The minutes of the Executive Committee on Friday 21 May 2010 were proposed to be adopted as an accurate reflection of the meeting by Trevor Polley and seconded by Liam Hannaway.	
3.2	Matters Arising (Action Sheet)	
	Sustainable Development Implementation Plan	CH
	David McCammick stated that the meeting was due to be held with OFMDFM and that Local Government would have involvement in the development of the implementation plan.	
	He added that the re-writing of the strategy was a move away from having a national plan, which was, in his opinion not the best way forward. He added that there were implications for Local Government.	
	Fly-Tipping	
	Trevor Polley enquired if there was any further update on the fly tipping issue.	
	Ashley Boreland stated that it was important to determine why Northern Ireland was being considered differently from the rest of the UK.	
	NIEA Financial Provisions	
	David McCammick stated that he was uncertain whether the full consultation process had taken place.	
	Dinner with Graham Cash	
	David McCammick reported that the date had been set for 22 June 2010 and there were six or seven members of SOLACE available to attend.	
	Planning Service	
	David McCammick reported that a meeting was due to be held on 21 June 2010 to review outstanding issues.	

Ashley Boreland commented that Planning Service had encountered some difficulties in the transfer process for staff.

4.0 CHAIR'S BUSINESS

4.1 Elections 2011 – 26 Councils

David McCammick reported that John Dempsey was making inquiries about the proposed 2011 elections specifically relating to the process for holding the elections.

Trevor Polley stated that it was likely Councils would have responsibility for counts. He commented that there was an issue of limited experience in organising elections due to changes in senior roles in the Electoral Office.

Liam Hannaway added that another boundary review was due on the 26 Council model.

5.0 PRIORITY ISSUES

5.1 Working Groups

David McCammick referred to the SOLACE meeting which had been scheduled for 23 June 2010, and had been cancelled in order to have a meeting with the Minister for the Environment.

A discussion ensued on the issues which should be raised at the meeting with the Minister, and it was noted that the key issues were:-

- Clarity on the 11 Council model
- Boundary Issues
- Modernisation Funding

It was generally felt that the meeting should have been held under the remit of the SLB as opposed to a private meeting with the Minister.

It was further suggested that the period between now and the elections was an opportunity for SOLACE to provide greater leadership and direction.

With reference to the Governance working group, it was noted that consideration could be given to local government re-organisation within its own structures, to make the sector more practical and constructive in the delivery of services.

6.0 CORPORATE PARTNERS

6.1 Liam Hannaway reported that Christine Horner was taking forward work on the Corporate Partners agreement.

Noted

7.0	PROPOSALS FOR PRESENTATIONS FOR BRANCH MEETINGS	
7.1	Liam Hannaway reported that there were three proposed presentations at the Branch Meeting. A discussion ensued, and it was agreed that NIEA Waste Issues should be invited to present first.	Noted
8.0	SOLACE Conference & Events	
8.1	Sustainable Development Implementation Plan Liam Hannaway stated that he would check progress with Christine Horner.	LH
8.2	Joint Event with CCMA 3 November 2010 Liam Hannaway gave a brief overview of the event, and reported that the Agenda had been agreed.	
8.3	SOLACE Membership Event – 24 June 2010 Nothing Further to report.	
8.4	SOLACE Autumn Conference – 6 & 7 October 2010 Ashley Boreland stated that links could be identified between HR and efficiency, Capacity Building and new Economics. Liam Hannaway undertook to set up a meeting with David McCammick, Christine Horner and Diana Stewart	LH
8.5	Local Government Awards 2010 It was proposed by Liam Hannaway, seconded by Ashley Boreland, that the awards be held every other year.	
9.0	CORRESPONDENCE FOR ACTION	
9.1	DOE Consultation Paper on the Future of Bus Operator Licensing in Northern Ireland It was agreed to note.	Noted.
9.2	Request to partner LGSC in half day conference with participation network It was agreed to seek further information.	
10.0	CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION	
10.1	DEL Consultation on Success through Skill 2 It was agreed to forward the Consultation to the Economic Group.	

11.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

11.1 Staffing Issues – RPA

David McCammick stated that it was important for progress to be made on Human Resource Issues.

It was generally believed that the existing Vacancy Control mechanism was not helpful, and it was important that it be removed as soon as possible.

12.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the next meeting was due to take place on Friday 17 September 2010.