

December 17th, 2025

Notice Of Meeting

You are requested to attend the meeting to be held on **Wednesday, 17th December 2025** at **6:00 pm** in **Boardroom, Warrenpoint Town Hall.**

Committee Membership 2025-26

Councillor O Magennis **Chairperson**

Councillor M Hearty **Deputy Chairperson**

Councillor T Andrews

Councillor W Clarke

Councillor C Enright

Councillor K Feehan

Councillor D Finn

Councillor J Jackson

Councillor M Larkin

Councillor K Murphy

Councillor S O'Hare

Councillor H Reilly

Councillor M Ruane

Councillor D Taylor

Councillor H Young

Agenda

1.0 Introduction and Apologies

2.0 Declarations of Interest

3.0 Action Sheet of the Sustainability and Environment Committee Meeting Held on 19 November 2025

📄 *Action Sheet - 19.11.2025 inc. historic actions updated.pdf*

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For Consideration and/or Decision

4.0 Nuclear Free Local Authority Membership Fee 2025/26

For Decision

📄 *SE committee Report NFLA Membership Fee.pdf*

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📄 *Appendix 1 - NFLA Annual Report.pdf*

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📄 *Appendix 2 - NFLA Letter requesting subscription to NMD Council 4.1.25.pdf*

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Items deemed to be exempt under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014

5.0 Business Case - Cleaning of Drains, Interceptors and Septic Tanks

For Decision

This item is deemed to be exempt under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014 – information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business

📄 *SE Committee Report Business Case for Drains Gullies Interceptor Cleaning.pdf*

Not included

📄 *Appendix 1 - Business Case - Drains Interceptors Septic tank cleaning.pdf*

Not included

6.0 Business Case - Electrical Testing, Maintenance and Minor Works

For Decision

This item is deemed to be exempt under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014 – information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person and the public

may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business

 ***SE Committee Report Fixed Wiring Emergency Lighting and Minor Electrical Works Contract.pdf*** ***Not included***

 ***Appendix 1 - Full Economic Appraisal - Electrical Contract.pdf*** ***Not included***

7.0 Business Case - Winter Gritting

For Decision

This item is deemed to be exempt under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014 – information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business

 ***SE Committee Report Business Case for Winter Gritting.pdf*** ***Not included***

 ***Appendix 1 - Business Case - Winter Gritting.pdf*** ***Not included***

8.0 Waste Contracts

For Decision

This item is deemed to be exempt under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014 – information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business

 ***SE Committee Report - Waste Contracts December 25. 12.12.25.pdf*** ***Not included***

FOR NOTING Items deemed to be exempt under Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014

9.0 Arc21 Joint Committee Meeting in Committee Minutes of Thursday 30 October 2025 & Joint Committee Members' Monthly Bulletin held on 2 December 2025

For Information

This item is deemed to be exempt under paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014 – information relating to the financial or business affairs of a particular person and the public may, by resolution, be excluded during this item of business

 ***ARC 21 - JC 101-2Dec25-JC MembersBulletin-F.pdf*** ***Not included***

10.0 Action Sheet from the S&E Working Group Meeting of 19 November 2025

For Information

📄 [Action Sheet from S&E Working group 19 November 2025.pdf](#)

Not included

📄 [S&E WG Presentation 19.11.25 - Combined Refuse Collection and C'mas illuminations.pdf](#)

Not included

For Noting

11.0 Arc21 Joint Committee Meeting Held on Thursday 30 October 2025

For Information

📄 [ARC21 - JC100-30Oct25-Minutes-e-signed.pdf](#)

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12.0 The Northern Ireland Local Authority Collected (LAC) Municipal Waste Management Statistics Annual Report for 2024/25

For Information

📄 [lac-municipal-waste-2024-25-infographic.pdf](#)

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Invitees

Cllr Terry Andrews

Cllr Callum Bowsie

Cllr Jim Brennan

Lorraine/Emma Burns/McParland

Mr Gerard Byrne

Cllr Pete Byrne

Cllr Philip Campbell

Cllr William Clarke

Cllr Laura Devlin

Cllr Cadogan Enright

Cllr Killian Feehan

Cllr Doire Finn

Cllr Conor Galbraith

Cllr Mark Gibbons

Cllr Oonagh Hanlon

Cllr Glyn Hanna

Cllr Valerie Harte

Cllr Martin Hearty

Cllr Roisin Howell

Cllr Jonathan Jackson

Joanne/Noelle Johnston

Cllr Geraldine Kearns

Miss Veronica Keegan

Mrs Josephine Kelly

Mrs Sheila Kieran

Cllr Cathal King

Cllr Aurla King

Cllr Mickey Larkin

Cllr David Lee-Surginor

Cllr Alan Lewis

Cllr Oonagh Magennis

Mr Conor Mallon

Cllr Aidan Mathers

Cllr Declan McAteer

Cllr Leeanne McEvoy

Sinead Murphy

Cllr Selina Murphy

Cllr Kate Murphy

Cllr Declan Murphy

Cllr Siobhan O'Hare

Mr Andy Patterson

Cllr Áine Quinn

Cllr Henry Reilly
.....
Cllr Michael Rice
.....
Cllr Michael Ruane
.....
Mr Conor Sage
.....
Cllr David Taylor
.....
Cllr Jarlath Tinnelly
.....
Ms Sinead Trainor
.....
Cllr Jill Truesdale
.....
Mrs Marie Ward
.....
Cllr Helena Young
.....

SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE**HISTORIC ACTIONS TRACKING SHEET**

NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING 21 APRIL 2022					
Minute Ref	Subject	Decision	Lead Officer	Actions taken/ Progress to date	Remove from Action Sheet Y/N
NS/052/2022	Compost Week 2022	Note and approve the additional activities in 2.2 to highlight and promote the importance of recycling food waste. Note and approve the launch of an application process, with set criteria, to establish demand for deploying brown bins to residents of high rise buildings who were not previously provided with these.	S Trainor	In progress	N
NS/057/2022	Various issues concerning the Events Space Kilkeel	Approve the Officers recommendation that the legal position of the Council regarding its maintenance of the events space, Kilkeel, is reviewed with a separate report to be provided to the Council once this has been considered further.	C Sage	Legal position and maintenance of the events space being confirmed. Report to be brought back to S&E Committee.	N
NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING 22 JUNE 2022					
NS/091/2022	Enforcement Improvement Plan Update	Agreed to note the content of this update report and to agree review of key actions from the	S Trainor	Education and Enforcement Manager now in post	N

		Enforcement Improvement Plan to be incorporated into a timebound programme of work for 2022/23 and annually thereafter. Test case footpaths – small footpath leading to WIN – officers to examine this area for dog fouling.		which will permit a full review of the Enforcement Improvement Plan to be undertaken.	
SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 17 OCTOBER 2023					
SE/107/2023	Notice of Motion – Animal Welfare	It was agreed to remove the final sentence of the notice of motion. It was agreed to defer a decision on the Notice of Motion until the outcome of the legal process was known.	S Trainor	On hold pending legal process	N
SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 22 NOVEMBER 2023					
SE/125/2023	Report on Notice of Motion in relation to Livestock worrying	It was agreed that a meeting be organised with relevant partners to discuss a way forward to produce a publicity campaign highlighting the importance of ensuring dogs are kept under control in the Mourne Mountains.	S Trainor	In Progress	N
SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 24 JANUARY 2024					
SE/004/2024	Report on Notice of Motion – Flood Defences	The following was agreed: - Further investigate the possibility of a Shared Island application to assist with flood defences - Write to DFI Rivers and request a river maintenance schedule.	S Murphy	In Progress	N

SE/005/2024	Report on Notice of Motion – Flood Preparedness	The following was agreed: - Liaise with local DEA forums to discuss and plan the set-up of Community Resilience Groups - Investigate the facilitation of sandbag availability and management through these Community Resilience Groups - Look into sharing information the website from the Regional Community Resilience Group	S Murphy	Complete In Progress In Progress	N N
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SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 21 FEBRUARY 2024					
E/018/2024	Report on Notice of Motion – Climate Change	It was agreed that this Council acknowledges the work done to date to help address the climate emergency; reaffirms previous motions regarding the degenerating global situation; and again, reiterates that the crisis is the biggest threat posed to our constituents, our district, and our planet. Further acknowledges, however, that recent data collated by Climate Emergency UK ranks NMDDC 8th out of the 11 Councils within NI; and thus, pledges to include ambitious targets in the forthcoming Sustainability and Climate Strategies and Action Plans to expedite implementation. It was also agreed that a benchmark report would be brought back to Committee regarding Council actions and progress to mitigating climate change impact.	C Sage	Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy was presented at S&E Working Group – September 25. Draft Strategy to progress to public consultation – in December 25. Climate mitigation report completed and submitted on 31st October 25 in accordance with Climate Change Act (NI) 2022. This includes carbon copying baseline reporting.	N N
SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 20 MARCH 2024					

SE/036/2024	Former landfill site review – Aughnagun and Drumanakelly	It was agreed that officers develop a Business Case for the installation of Solar Panels at the former landfill site Aughnagun for further consideration.	S Murphy	In Progress	N
		It was agreed that Council further explore the benefits of installing reed beds at both sites in order to make the sites self-sustaining in terms of the management of the leachate generated on site.	S Murphy	In Progress	
SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 23 APRIL 2024					
SE/046/2024	Notice of Motion – Newry Market	Officers continue their commitment to revitalise the market through engagement with traders, the business community and other potential stakeholders.	C Sage	A focussed social media campaign has been completed.	N
		It was also agreed that Officers reach out to other local councils with successful markets and explore additional uses to encourage footfall, including with arts and community groups	C Sage	Council Officers met with Belfast City Council colleagues to review St George’s market.	
		It was further agreed that a report be brought back to committee in 6 months to provide detail of any progress made.	C Sage	An update on Newry Market will be provided at S&E Working Group in February 2026	

SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 21 AUGUST 2024					
SE/091/2024	Notice of Motion – Dog Fouling	it was agreed that a mapping exercise to be undertaken by Officers of identified hotspots or problem areas against litter bin provision data to determine if additional litter bins can be provided to assist with the disposal of dog fouling.	S Trainor	Enforcement officer patrols within hotspots are ongoing and once further data is obtained from the above a mapping exercise will be undertaken.	N
SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 20 NOVEMBER 2024					
SE/133/2024	Action Sheet item: NS/091/2022	it was agreed to submit a league table of other Councils' enforcement practices to the Strategic Finance Working Group	S Murphy	To refer through SFWG	N
SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 18 DECEMBER 2024					
SE/150/2024	NOM – Vaping	it was agreed that the Council recognised the 2024 Northern Ireland Audit Office report on tackling the public health impacts of smoking and vaping that showed an increase in 11-16 year olds vaping; that Council is concerned that children vaping in schools is detrimental to a child's health and educational outcomes; agrees that greater awareness must be raised with children in schools about the risks of vaping; acknowledges that teachers and school staff must have the support and resources they require to raise awareness and inform children on the risks of vaping; agree to write to both the Minister of Education and Health	S Murphy	In progress	N

		urging them to bring forward a plan to end vaping in school grounds, to reduce the number of young people vaping and to eradicate the sale of vapes to children. It was also agreed to write to all Councils in the North asking them for support in tackling this issue.			
SE/151/2024	NOM – Newry Canal	it was agreed to request support from support from Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council to write to the Minister for Infrastructure and the Minister of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs for the urgent establishment of a multi- agency Newry Canal regeneration taskforce to work in partnership to deliver on the potential of inland waterways across both Council areas.	S Murphy	In progress Initial meeting has taken place with ABC Council on 2 nd May 2025. Newry Canal Regeneration Working Group meeting took place in September 25. A further meeting to be arranged in October with representatives from ABC Council.	N
SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 19 FEBRUARY 2025					
SE/018/2025	NOM – Vital Role of trees	Council will also write to other Councils request support of this motion	C Sage	In Progress	N
SE/020/2025	Application for bus shelter at Hilltown Road, Newry	It was agreed to the installation of a new bus shelter at Hilltown Road, Newry as per the recommendations stated in Appendix 1 of the officer's Report	G Kane	In progress	N

SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 19 MARCH 2025					
SE/034/2025	Officer Report on NOM – Street Lighting	It was agreed to write to DFI Roads to advise of concerns in relation to areas that have little of no street lighting and request that a scoping exercise is undertaken to identify areas that could avail of additional street lighting across the district.	C Sage	In progress	N
		It was also agreed that Council owned green spaces would be reviewed to identify any areas that could avail of additional lighting across the District	C Sage	In Progress	N
SE/036/2025	Home to Hospital update	it was agreed to approve the continued funding for The Mournes and Slieve Gullion Home to Hospital Volunteer driver schemes from 01 April 2025 – 31 March 2026, and that Council seek Expressions of Interest from suitable Community and Voluntary Sector organisations to administer the schemes, subject to funding being identified.	S Trainor	In progress	N
SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 29 APRIL 2025					
SE/045/2025	Notice of Motion re Memorial Garden, Newcastle	It was agreed to approve the proposal to create a memorial garden to acknowledge the 180 th anniversary of the Newcastle Fishing Disaster	C Sage	NIW infrastructure project now complete. Works scheduled to commence in December 25.	N
SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 21 MAY 2025					
SE/056/2025	Officer Report on Notice of Motion – Fossil Fuel Non-	the following was agreed: •Members considered and approved the endorsement of the Fossil Fuel Non-	C Sage	In Progress	N

	Proliferation Treaty & Air Quality Management Areas	Proliferation Treaty by Newry, Mourne and Down District Council and agree to write to the Northern Ireland Executive urging them to support this initiative. •Members noted the current on-going review process on the effectiveness of the Council's Air Quality Management Areas in liaison with DAERA and the potential expansion of the number of air quality monitor stations throughout the District, subject to funding.			
SE/060/2025	Request to approach DFI about transfer of ownership of Carparks	it was agreed to approve the request for Council Officers to formally approach DFI and research the feasibility of a land transfer of their portion of the site into Council ownership	C Sage	In Progress	N
SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 19 AUGUST 2025					
SE/088/2025	Cycle To Work Scheme	The following was agreed: - To proceed with the appointment of a new Provider for the Council's Cycle to Work Scheme as detailed in section 2.2 of the report. - To increase the upper limit for purchases via the Cycle to Work scheme and that the scheme remains open for applications all year round as detailed in section 2.3 of the report.	C Sage	Contractual arrangements being finalised.	N
SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 19 NOVEMBER 2025					
SE/131/2025	Action Sheet: Sustainability And Environment Committee Meeting	It was agreed to note the action sheet	S Murphy	Noted	Y

	Held On 22 October 2025				
SE/132/2025	Climate Mitigation Report	it was agreed to approve submission of the report to DAERA and to allow DAERA to analyse and publish information from the submitted report as required by the Climate Change (Reporting Bodies) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2004.	C Sage	Complete	Y
SE/133/2025	Mid-Year Assessment of S&E Directorate Business Plan	the Mid-Year assessment of the Sustainability and Environment Directorate Business Plan 2025-26 was agreed.	S Murphy	Agreed	Y
SE/134/2025	Health Forums	it was agreed to approve the Membership update and Meeting schedule as detailed within the officers' report.	S Murphy	Approved	Y
SE/135/2025	Waste Contracts	it was agreed to approve the contract modification to two contracts as detailed in Appendix 1 of the officer's report.	S Murphy	Approved	Y
SE/136/2025	CCTV Contract	it was agreed to approve the contract modification as detailed in section 2 of the officers' report.	C Sage	Approved	Y
SE/137/2025	Business Case for Driver Licence Training	it was agreed to approve the findings of the Business Cases as detailed in Appendix 1 of the Officers' report.	C Sage	To be progressed in accordance with S&E procurement action plan	Y
SE/138/2025	Arc21 Joint Committee Meeting In-Committee Minutes of Thursday 25 September 2025 & Joint Committee	it was agreed to note the documents.	S Murphy	Noted	Y

	Members' Monthly Bulletin Held On 30 October 2025				
SE/139/2025	Arc21 Joint Committee AGM And Meeting Held On Thursday 25 September 2025	it was agreed to note the document.	S Murphy	Noted	Y
SE/140/2025	S&E Working Meeting Schedule	it was agreed to note the document.	S Murphy	Noted	Y
SE/141/2025	Christmas And New Year Arrangements - Refuse Collections And Household Recycling Centres	it was agreed to note the report.	S Murphy	Noted	Y
SE/142/2025	NI Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste Management Statistics Q1 2025-26	It was agreed to note the document.	S Murphy	Noted	Y
SE/143/2025	DAERA Consultation on NI Climate Adaption Plan	It was agreed to note the report.	C Sage	Noted	Y

Report to:	Sustainability and Environment Committee
Date of Meeting:	17 th December 2025
Subject:	NFLA Membership Fee 2025/2026
Reporting Officer (Including Job Title):	Conor Sage, Assistant Director Sustainability and Environment
Contact Officer (Including Job Title):	Eamonn Keaveney, Head of Sustainability

For decision		X	For noting only		
1.0	Purpose and Background				
1.1	To consider renewing payment of the 2025/26 Membership Subscription to NFLA (Nuclear Free Local Authorities).				
2.0	Key issues				
2.1	The NFLA (Nuclear Free Local Authorities) group is a local authority group made up of Councils from England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. It raises issues over all aspects of nuclear policy and energy policy in order to assist local government in meeting its commitment to sustainable development, energy policy development, environmental protection and public safety. Nuclear Free Local Authorities tackle in practical ways, and within their powers, the problems posed by civil and military nuclear hazards. As the local government voice on nuclear issues, the NFLA are keen to encourage local authorities to adopt nuclear free policies and support renewable energy initiatives. Councils are encouraged to join the network.				
2.2	An NFLA All Ireland Forum was established in 2001 (following on from a number of annual UK and Ireland Conferences on Nuclear Hazards). In 2019, Forum councillors, agreed to refocus the Forum to assist local authorities with advice and best practice on dealing with the climate emergency, promoting sustainable energy and mitigating the worst effects of climate change.				
2.3	Newry, Mourne and Down District Council has held the Chair and Vice Chair positions for the NFLA in Ireland and also provides secretariat support. NMDDC Councillors attend meetings and receive correspondence and information sheets regularly.				
2.4	NFLA regularly produces useful and informative Reports and Informational Sheets on Nuclear issues as well as Climate Change and Energy issues. NFLA also organise and host relevant events and meetings across the UK and Ireland engaging respected international expert speakers on current topics. The NFLA Annual Report for 2024/25 is included in Appendix 1.				
2.5	The NFLA Membership Fee remains unchanged this year again at £1,283.00.				
3.0	Recommendations				
3.1	To approve renewal of the annual subscription for membership of the NFLA to the value of £1283.00.				
4.0	Resource implications				
4.1	Annual Membership Subscription Fee of £1283.00 is included within the existing budget.				

5.0	Due regard to equality of opportunity and regard to good relations (complete the relevant sections)
5.1	<i>General proposal with no clearly defined impact upon, or connection to, specific equality and good relations outcomes</i> It is not anticipated the proposal will have an adverse impact upon equality of opportunity or good relations ☒
5.2	<i>Proposal relates to the introduction of a strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or sensitive or contentious decision</i> Yes ☐ No ☒ If yes, please complete the following: The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) has been equality screened ☐ The policy (strategy, policy initiative or practice and / or decision) will be subject to equality screening prior to implementation ☐
5.3	<i>Proposal initiating consultation</i> Consultation will seek the views of those directly affected by the proposal, address barriers for particular Section 75 equality categories to participate and allow adequate time for groups to consult amongst themselves ☐ Consultation period will be 12 weeks ☐ Consultation period will be less than 12 weeks (rationale to be provided) ☐ <i>Rationale:</i>
6.0	Due regard to Rural Needs (please tick all that apply)
6.1	Proposal relates to developing, adopting, implementing or revising a policy / strategy / plan / designing and/or delivering a public service Yes ☐ No ☒ If yes, please complete the following: Rural Needs Impact Assessment completed ☐ If no, please complete the following: The policy / strategy / plan / public service is not influenced by rural needs ☐
7.0	Appendices
	Appendix 1 NFLA Annual Report 2024/25 Appendix 2 Letter requesting support for Membership of NFLA for 2025/26
8.0	Background Documents
	None



UK & Ireland NFLA Secretariat

Nuclear Policy Section,
Policy and Partnerships, City Policy
Level 6, Town Hall Extension,
Library Walk, Manchester, M60 2LA
Secretary: Richard Outram
Tel: 07583 097793

Email: richard.outram@manchester.gov.uk
Website: <https://www.nuclearpolicy.info>

Annual Report 2024/25

NFLA Nuclear Free Local Authorities UK and Ireland

Contents:

This report sets out the key activities and achievements for the period since the last AGM on 6 December 2024.

It is not a complete summary of all activity and elected members will find greater detail in the various bulletins mailed to them by the NFLA Secretary.

The sections are:

- **Consultations**
- **Letters**
- **Media, Briefings and Newsletters**
- **Meetings**
- **Webinars, Seminars and Conferences**
- **Work with campaign groups and elected members**

Consultations:

The NFLAs have responded to the following consultations this year (with = our position):

- 6.2.25 UK Treasury Consultation on introducing a new Taxonomy for nuclear (= opposed)
- 28.2.25 Natural Resources Wales and Environment Agency Consultation Disposal facilities for solid radioactive waste: guidance on requirements for authorisation (= critical)
- 3.4.25 DESNZ Consultation on draft new developer-led Siting Policy for future fission nuclear plants (called EN-7) (= opposed)
- 22.4.25 NDA Consultation on NDA Draft Business Plan 2025 – 8, Closing Date for submissions 22 Apr 2025 (= critical).
- 23.4.25 Environment Agency Consultation on the Box Encapsulation Plant Product Store 2 Abstraction Licence Application at Sellafield Limited. Joint submission with Lakes against Nuclear Dump (= opposed)

- 6.5.25 Cumberland Council consultation on future Housing Strategy (= critical)
- 16.5.25 SEPA Consultation on Near-Surface Disposal Facilities in Scotland (= broadly supportive but critical)
- 16.5.25 Response to ECOSSENS stakeholder survey (= critical)
- 20.5.25 Nuclear Regulatory Taskforce consultation on nuclear deregulation. Sent in an NFLA response and endorsement for a collective response from the NGO members of the ONR-NGO Forum (=opposed)
- 20.6.25 DESNZ Consultation on making solar panels mandatory on car parks (=support)
- 16.7.25 DESNZ Consultation on Community Benefits and Shared Ownership for Low Carbon Energy Infrastructure: Working Paper (= critical)
- 7.9.25 Nuclear Regulatory Taskforce Consultation. Further response by the NGO members of the ONR-NGO Forum to the NRT's Interim Report.

The NFLA Secretary was unable to respond to the NDA Strategy 5 Consultation to due to lack of capacity.

Letters:

Letters were sent to:

- 8.1.25 – The Chair of Theddlethorpe Geological Disposal Facility Community Partnership urging him to make a name change.
- 19.1.25 and 23.1.25 - Windcluster and Thrive, two operators of wind turbines near Haverigg in West Cumbria about the threat of a Geological Disposal Facility being co-located.
- 3.2.25 – Joint letter to Senedd members in opposition to nuclear redevelopment at Wylfa.
- 12.2.25 – The Governor of HMP Haverigg with the offer of an airfield marker for the former RAF Millom (upon which the prison sits. A marker was later erected).
- 18.2.25 – Prisons Minister Lord Timpson seeking an assurance that HMP Haverigg will remain open if a Geological Disposal Facility is co-located there.
- 19.3.25 – Energy Minister Michael Shanks with an appeal to guarantee and extend the Community Energy Fund (the government later did this).
- 21.4.25 – Lakenheath Alliance for Peace with a message of solidarity for the Peace Camp.
- 28.4.25 – Millom and Whicham Parish Councils urging them to include information about the GDF on their websites
- 30.5.25 - Energy Minister Baroness Margaret Curran urging her to delay sign off on Sizewell C.
- 2.6.25 - Prime Minister Mark Carney of Canada urging him to take the renewable energy path towards Net Zero, rather than investing in new nuclear.
- 6.6.25 – A message of solidarity sent to Stop Sizewell C and Together Against Sizewell C on the event of their Outrage March
- 9.6.25 - KIMO International Secretariat on joint campaigning for a ban on and the regulation of nuclear shipping.
- 25.6.25 - David Peattie, NDA Chief Executive, urging him to invite HM The King to lead the demolition of the Calder Hall turbine halls (a joint letter with Lakes against the Dump).
- 14.7.25 – A letter of congratulations sent to the Chair of Guardians of the East Coast over the recent victory against the threat of the Geological Disposal Facility.
- 30.10.25 – Energy Minister Michael Shanks asking him to provide more funding for community energy.

Media, Briefings and Newsletters (to 4 Dec 2025):

Month	No of media releases issued	No of briefings issued
Dec 2024	4	1
Jan 2025	11	2
Feb 2025	13	5
March 2025	15	0
April 2025	11	1
May 2025	5	4
June 2025	10	2
July 2025	6	1
Aug 2025	6	1
Sept 2025	8	1
Oct 2025	11	1
Nov 2025	5	1
Dec 2025 (to date)	3	2
Totals	108	22

The NFLA Secretary has issued weekly media releases and periodic briefings. A monthly newsletter was also published until June, when sadly capacity issues meant that this activity had to be curtailed.

These materials are promptly uplifted to the NFLA website. Each story has a photograph to make the article more inviting. These materials are also widely circulated to local media outlets and to many groups and activists, who frequently repost them on social media.

The former NFLA Secretary kindly continues to update the NFLA Facebook page and Twitter account.

Meetings:

Meetings of the NFLA UK/Ireland Steering Committee have been held on 21 March, 20 June, 26 September, and 12 December. Sophie Bolt, General Secretary of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, made a presentation to our September meeting.

The NFLA Scottish Forum has met on 13 June.

The partnerships / networks the NFLA Secretary is in (as a member at meetings, usually 2-3, but some are 4+ times per year *)

- Nuclear Decommissioning Authority NGO Forum (*)
- Nuclear Waste Services NGO Exchange (*)
- Office for Nuclear Regulation NGO Forum (*)
- Environment Agency Forum (*)
- Department for Energy Security and Net Zero NGO Forum (*)
- Mayors for a Nuclear Power Free Japan (watching brief)
- Nuclear Free Transatlantic Alliance (*)
- Nuclear Legacy Advisory Forum (Nuleaf) (*)ⁱ
- Nuleaf Radioactive Waste Planning Group (*)
- Nuclear Consult (watching brief)
- Scottish Councils Committee on Radioactive Substances (SCCORS) (watching brief)
- Cities for a Nuclear Free Europe (watching brief)

- EPA Radiological Protection Agency (Republic of Ireland) (see below)
- Labrats International (watching brief)
- KIMO International (watching brief)
- Lakenheath for Peace (watching brief)

And as Mayors for Peace Chapter Secretary

- Mayors for Peace European Chapter – Officers working group (* Monthly)
- ICAN in the UK (* Quarterly)
- No Trident Replacement group managed by CND (* Monthly)
- Heddwch ar Raith (Peace Action Wales) – Working Group 4 (* Monthly)
- Senedd Cross-Party Group on Peace and Reconciliation (Wales) (* Quarterly)
- Scottish Parliament Cross-Party Group on Nuclear Disarmament (watching brief)
- ACDD (Arms Conversion Defence Diversification) UK Steering Group managed by Labour CND (* occasional)

The Nuclear Free Transatlantic Alliance was my initiative and grew out of a collaboration with Californian documentary filmmakers to embrace groups campaigning against new nuclear plants and nuclear waste in Canada, the UK and USA. We even had an attendee from Hawaii at our most recent public meeting, which prompted a related media release.

Pete Roche the NFLA Scotland Advisor attends meetings of CoRWM (the Committee on Radioactive Waste Management).

Dr Paul Dorfmann also kindly represents the NFLAs at meetings of the Irish Republic's Radiological Protection Advisory Committee.

Webinars, Seminars and Conferences:

The NFLA Secretary has attended a range of such events throughout the year.

- 13 February – Speaker on a webinar to mark the 60th anniversary of the first French nuclear test in Algeria.
- 11 June – Speaker on webinar with Californian filmmakers discussing 'SOS: The San Onofre Syndrome'.
- 31 August – Speaker at the opening of the marker at RAF Millom (see image below).
- 25 September - Speaker on the online inaugural meeting of the Transatlantic Nuclear Free Alliance.
- 23 October – Speaker at the launch of the Portraits of the Hibakusha exhibition in Cardiff.
- 25 October – Joined a film showing in Wrexham, and launch of the Wrexham Declaration, as an online speaker.
- 7 November – Speaker at the NFLA 45th anniversary event in Manchester.
- 18 November – Attendee at the SCRAM 50th anniversary event in Edinburgh.

Work with Campaign Groups and Elected Members:

Throughout the year, NFLA has provided advice and support to campaign groups in Cumbria, Essex, Lincolnshire, and Suffolk, as well as to groups in Scotland and Wales.

We have worked particularly closely with the groups that have been formed to oppose the GDF in South Cumbria and Lincolnshire to highlight the democratic deficit in the GDF process. The GDF campaign in Lincolnshire was ultimately successful with both major local authorities pulling their support by June, meaning the abandonment of any plan to locate the facility in East Lindsey.

The initial contact with Canadian colleagues opposed to nuclear waste dumps has expanded with further contacts made with Californian film directors leading to the formation of the Transatlantic Nuclear Free Alliance.

The NFLA Secretary also spoke at the invitation of Highlands against Nuclear Power at a meeting in Inverness.

Elsewhere, we have been particularly supportive of Stop Sizewell C and Together against Sizewell C by backing their campaigns against new nuclear power plants and Stop Hinkley in connection with the removal of the Acoustic Fish Deterrent.

Lastly, the NFLA Secretary regularly participates in several forums attended by representatives of NGOs and civil servants, regulators, and the nuclear industry. These are detailed in the Meetings section and each meet 3 or 4 times a year.



Above: The memorial at RAF Millom outside HMP Haverigg; hopefully the only time my name will be associated with a prison.

ⁱ After April 2026, only contributing member authorities will be able to attend meetings.



UK & Ireland NFLA Secretariat

Nuclear Policy Section,
Policy and Partnerships, City Policy
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Library Walk, Manchester, M60 2LA
Secretary: Richard Outram
Tel: 07583 097793

Email: richard.outram@manchester.gov.uk

Website: <https://www.nuclearpolicy.info>

**To whom it may concern,
Newry, Mourne and Down Council**

4 December 2025

Dear Colleagues,

We are delighted that Newry, Mourne and Down District Council continues to be a member of the UK / Ireland Nuclear Free Local Authorities. The annual membership fee is now due, and you will be pleased to hear that the amount has remained the same as last year.

The fee is therefore £1,283.

Please regard this as a request for payment of the 2025/6 membership subscription.

Please in the first instance reply to our NFLA Secretary, Richard Outram, by email to richard.outram@manchester.gov.uk

Yours Sincerely,

Councillor Lawrence O'Neill,
Chair, UK/Ireland Nuclear Free Local Authorities

ARC21 JOINT COMMITTEE
Meeting No 100
MINUTES
Thursday 30th October 2025
Using MS Teams

Members Present:

Councillor A Bennington (<i>Chair</i>)	Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council
Councillor E Thompson	Ards & North Down Borough Council
Councillor J Cochrane	Ards & North Down Borough Council
Councillor A Givan	Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council
Alderman O Gawith	Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council
Councillor G McKeen (<i>Deputy Chair</i>)	Mid & East Antrim Borough Council

Members' Apologies:

Councillor M Goodman	Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council
Councillor H Cushman	Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council
Councillor C Blaney	Ards & North Down Borough Council
Councillor M Collins	Belfast City Council
Councillor A Groogan	Belfast City Council
Councillor E McDonough-Brown	Belfast City Council
Alderman O Gawith	Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council
Alderman S Skillen	Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council
Alderman M Morrow	Mid & East Antrim Borough Council
Councillor R Quigley	Mid & East Antrim Borough Council
Councillor T Andrews	Newry, Mourne & Down District Council
Councillor D Lee-Surginor	Newry, Mourne & Down District Council
Councillor K Murphy	Newry, Mourne & Down District Council

Officers Present:

T Walker	arc21
H Campbell (<i>Secretary</i>)	arc21
K Boal	arc21
J Green	arc21
B McKeown	arc21
M Lavery	Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council
G Bannister	Ards and North Down Borough Council
S Leonard	Belfast City Council
W Muldrew	Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council
D Carey	Mid & East Antrim Borough Council

Officers' Apologies:

A McCann	Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council
S Morely	Mid & East Antrim Borough Council
S Murphy	Newry, Mourne & Down District Council

Item 1 - Conflicts of Interest Statement

The Chair read out the Conflicts of Interest Statement, and none were noted.

Action: Noted

Item 2 - Apologies

Apologies were noted.

Action: Noted

Item 3 - Minutes of Joint Committee Meeting 099 held on 25 September 2025

The Joint Committee approved the minutes. Proposed by the Chair, seconded by Cllr Thompson, and agreed by all.

Action: Agreed

Item 4 - Matters Arising

Any matters arising were dealt with under the main agenda.

Action: Noted

IN COMMITTEE

The Chair recommended that the meeting would now move "*in committee*" which was agreed. Proposed by Cllr Givan and seconded by Cllr Thompson.

Matters of a confidential and commercially sensitive nature were discussed under these agenda items.

Following discussion on the commercially sensitive matters, the Chair recommended that the meeting would now return to the main agenda, which was approved, but whilst "*In Committee*" during this section of the meeting, there were five matters discussed.

Item5 - Minutes of Joint Committee Meeting 099 held on 25 September 2025 'in committee' - approved

Item 6 - Matters Arising - noted

Item 7 - Residual Waste Treatment Project - approved

Item 8 - Commercially Sensitive Contract & Procurement Issues - approved

Item 9 - Audit Committee Meeting 23 September 2025 Report - noted

OUT OF COMMITTEE

Proposed by Cllr Givan and seconded by Cllr Thompson.

Item 10 - Governance Paper

Mr Walker presented a paper suggesting consideration be given to Members' training on their roles and responsibilities within arc21, along with a brief summary of the recent Northern Ireland Audit Office (NIAO) report on *Waste Crime in NI which* highlights a series of recommendations which have been raised with the NIEA and DAERA.

Discussion ensued and it was agreed that it would be beneficial to have some refresher training as well as providing an opportunity to stress the importance of attendance at meetings. The Chair proposed that NILGA should be contacted to ascertain what training they could provide in addition to that already provided to Members in councils.

Mr Walker is to progress.

Action: Mr Walker

The Chair advised of her recent visit to Belgium and a proposal that had arisen to arrange a visit to Indaver facilities and inquired if this would be of interest to the Committee for knowledge building.

Members agreed that such a visit would be of interest but closer to home in the first instance, and a visit to the Indaver plant in Duleek was agreed.

Mr Walker advised that a similar visit had been arranged for Members previously and that he was content to progress this proposal with Indaver.

Action: Mr Walker

Following discussion, the Joint Committee agreed that members' training be arranged as well as a site visit to the Indaver plant at Duleek, and noted the NIAO report.. Proposed by Cllr Givan, seconded by Ald Gawith, and agreed by all.

Action: Agreed

Item 11 - Contracts & Operations Briefing Report

Ms Boal presented a report to provide the Joint Committee with an update in relation to contracts and operations.

Service Status

She reported that all services were operational and running well during the month of September 2025.

She noted that there had been an incident at the Bryson Recycling facility on 14 October with a smouldering battery and had fortunately been noticed by one of the operatives and extinguished. She highlighted that arc21 has seen increasing evidence of these fires and one within councils' own facilities.

She advised that Bryson had issued a communique reminding residents about the importance of disposing of batteries in the correct manner, and that arc21 had also highlighted this with council officers to ensure it remained in the public eye regarding how best to handle battery disposal. She noted that this is being monitored on an ongoing basis.

Cllr Givan inquired about the type of batteries causing the issues. Ms Boal advised that they are domestic batteries which it is not always possible to detect within the waste.

Cllr Givan noted that it was not particularly easy for householders to dispose of only one or two batteries at a time other than going to a recycling centre and suggested that more education on disposal options was required for the householder.

The Chair agreed with this and noted that batteries could also be disposed of at supermarkets, chemists and other locations now, but this was worthy of more consideration.

Performance

Ms Boal provided an update on contractor performance across all the contracts in September and highlighted where service credits had been applied for turnaround times, the number of overweight vehicles, reporting issues by contractors, and the bring contracts rectification requests issued and serviced.

Health & Safety

There were no reported health and safety incidents or near misses in September.

She reported that an external health and safety audit had been carried out at ReGen's facility in Newry, where minor issues were identified and actions arising from the visit had been completed.

Rejected Loads

She reported that there had been two rejected loads delivered to the organics delivery sites in September which were due to vehicles not being fully emptied before going out to collect other materials and that arc21 continues to highlight this with council officers at the monthly Steering Group meetings.

arc21 Contract Tonnages

Details of the tonnages delivered in September for the main contracts were provided, along with a comparison against the same period last year.

Supplies

A summary of the orders and deliveries of supplies for September 2025 was included in Ms Boal's report and she noted that there was one non-compliance where a delivery intended for two locations was only delivered to one location.

She advised that arc21 continues to remind officers to ensure they check their stock orders so that sufficient time is permitted for them to be fulfilled – given the increase in demand arising from the introduction of *Simpler Recycling* in England.

Following discussion, the Joint Committee noted the report. Proposed by Cllr Givan and seconded by Ald Gawith.

Action: Noted

Item 10 - Waste Tonnage Trends

Ms Boal presented a report showing the tonnage comparisons for material received through the arc21 contracts over the last four years, and she discussed the increases and decreases in the tonnage trends.

The following was highlighted:

- organics - coming towards the end of the contract year and the rebate for tonnages received over 100,000 tonnes will be reported on around February when all the information is received;
- mixed dry recyclables combined tonnages for September 2025 were greater than over the last three years, a positive result;
- street sweepings - an upturn, but expected at this time of the year due to the season and the weather;

- glass - a reduction in the amount of glass collected through the bring site network; this is not unexpected, given that councils have been introducing kerbside collections;
- textiles - a significant increase and the highest in the last three years. She noted that CTR is still experiencing market difficulties and a more detailed report, including reporting on the amount of material handled and future plans in terms of market engagement and development, will be brought to the next meeting following a site visit to the facility.

She advised that within the next month, the annual statistics for the 2024/25 year would be published, as the NIEA are completing their validation process, after which arc21 will incorporate them into a report. This will provide Members with up to date figures and the trends for each council.

Following discussion, the Joint Committee noted the report. Proposed by Cllr Thompson and seconded by Cllr Givan.

Action: Noted

Item 13 - Consultation on the setting of Northern Ireland's Fourth Carbon Budget (2038-2042)

Mr Walker presented Members with the proposed arc21 response to the consultation on the setting of *Northern Ireland's Fourth Carbon Budget (2038-2042)*.

He noted that the consultation had been well written but noted the lack of reference to either the *Circularity Gap* report completed by the Department for Economy in 2022, or the follow-on consultation, the draft *Circular Economy Strategy 2023*. The latter report identified the need to reduce consumption from 16 tonnes per person per year to 8 tonnes per person per year by 2050, and the impact that would deliver in terms of carbon. He reported this was not reflected in the present consultation document in any way.

He also noted that there was little cross referencing in a number of strategies produced under the Executive, each seemingly being issued as a stand-alone document, and not being integrated one with another.

In terms of this, he advised that the present consultation appeared underwhelming and did not address, from a waste management perspective what needed to be done to deliver against this agenda. He noted his concerns regarding the amount of work and time put into responding to these consultations which in turn were not being internalised by the Department.

It was recommended that the Joint Committee approve the arc21 response to the consultation on the setting of *Northern Ireland's Fourth Carbon Budget (2038-2042)*, further to any final comments either at the meeting or in advance of the deadline of 17 November.

Cllr Givan thanked Mr Walker for all his work in responding to the consultation.

Following discussion, the Joint Committee approved the recommendation. Proposed by Cllr Givan and seconded by Ald Gawith.

Action: Noted

Item 14 - Update on Policy and Engagement

Ms Boal presented some updates in relation to waste policy and engagement.

1) NI Waste Strategy

She reported that at the recent NCAP meeting, a Departmental official had indicated that the consultation on the *NI Waste Strategy* was still scheduled to commence later this year, and stated that the consultation period would be twelve weeks rather than eight as originally intended.

2) WEEE Compliance Fee Methodology 2026

She advised that DEFRA had launched a four-week consultation, running from 13 October 2025 until 10 November 2025 on the Waste Electrical & Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Compliance Fee Methodology for 2026.

She reported that the scheme did not really apply to arc21 but rather to the compliance scheme administrators themselves as well as the producers. She advised therefore that arc21 did not intend to respond to this consultation on this occasion due its nature, and the short timescale given.

3) Update On Circular Economy Roadmap

A diagram was presented in the report providing an update on the preparation of the *Circular Economy Roadmap* for England which she noted Defra periodically provides as part of the engagement session.

She reported that the session highlights the different areas of work underway within Government including PEPR, DRS, *Simpler Recycling*, digital waste tracking and the Circular Economy, and that updates are provided on these interventions in terms of progress reports and timescales. She noted that not all aspects covered in these engagement sessions apply to all jurisdictions (e.g. *Simpler Recycling* only applies to England and aspects of the *Circular Economy Roadmap* are unlikely to apply here).

She advised that a concern had been expressed recently in a number of forums about digital waste tracking and how it was going to operate, what resources were likely to be needed by councils and at what particular time. She reported that she was seeking to gather further information on this matter, on behalf of the 11 councils, and see whether arc21 can ascertain what the plan is given that implementation of this programme is due to commence next year.

4) NI RECYCLING TRACKER – SPRING 2025

An overview of the results from the *WRAP Recycling Tracker Survey - Spring 2025* was presented for Members' information.

This included a series of graphs with a breakdown of responses on the following:

- perceived worthwhileness of one's own recycling effort;
- citizen knowledge of what can and cannot be recycled,
- barriers to recycling,
- levels of potential missed capture and contamination as a result of knowledge gaps
- food waste recycling in NI and overtime,
- last disposal of food in the home
- efficiency of using the food waste recycling collection
- and service satisfaction.

She reported that some of the results will be of interest to councils' communication teams in terms of preparing campaigns and that WRAP would be working on literature which councils could use to bolster their messaging.

A link to the full report was noted in the report.

Cllr Givan inquired if the caddy liners had been changed as he had personally found recent ones to be of poorer quality than previously. Ms Boal advised that the specification had not changed and that there had not been any other complaints raised recently. She noted that the bags are biodegradable and may deteriorate if not used relatively promptly but this would depend on the turnover rate at which the bags were issued within each of the councils, but she said she would raise this matter internally with staff.

Action: Ms Boal

Ald Gawith inquired if cognisance had been taken in these figures around the material that supermarkets are now taking.

Ms Boal advised that the recycling tracker report was more about people's perceptions as opposed to whether the facilities are actually physically available to them and, as such, it was seeking to identify the gap between perception and reality and focusing upon that.

She advised that she had attended a recent *FlexCollect* presentation about collecting flexible plastics. She noted that it was likely to become mandatory in the next few years, and the issue at the moment was around the markets and what happens to this material once it is collected. She highlighted that considerable effort is being put into developing markets.

She noted that Defra were looking at the flexible plastics capacity and locally efforts were being made to contribute to this. She advised it was likely that within the next few years it will feature in councils' collection systems. She noted that there had been discussion at the meeting about the best way to deliver this – through technology, or by presenting householders with additional bags.

She noted that both this and textiles were two things in the next couple of years that will see more of a focus on in terms of councils' own collection arrangements.

Following discussion, the Joint Committee noted the report. Proposed by Cllr Ald Gawith and seconded by the Chair.

Action: Noted

Item 15 - ISO 9001:2015 Update

Ms Boal reported that this year the external audit had carried out a surveillance certification process, and she was happy to report that there had been no observations or non-conformances, and that arc21 had received a clean bill of health.

She advised that next year there will be a full certification process.

The Chair congratulated the team and all involved on this achievement.

Following discussion, the Joint Committee noted the report. Proposed by the Chair and seconded by Cllr Thompson.

Action: Noted

Item 16 - AOB

Item 17 - Next Meeting Tuesday 2 December 2025

The Chair advised that the next meeting was scheduled to be held on Tuesday 2 December and was a **hybrid meeting, hosted by Mid and East Antrim Borough Council in the Council Chamber, the Braid, 1-29 Bridge Street BT43 5EJ**. Members were asked to confirm their attendance with Ms Campbell in advance of the meeting.

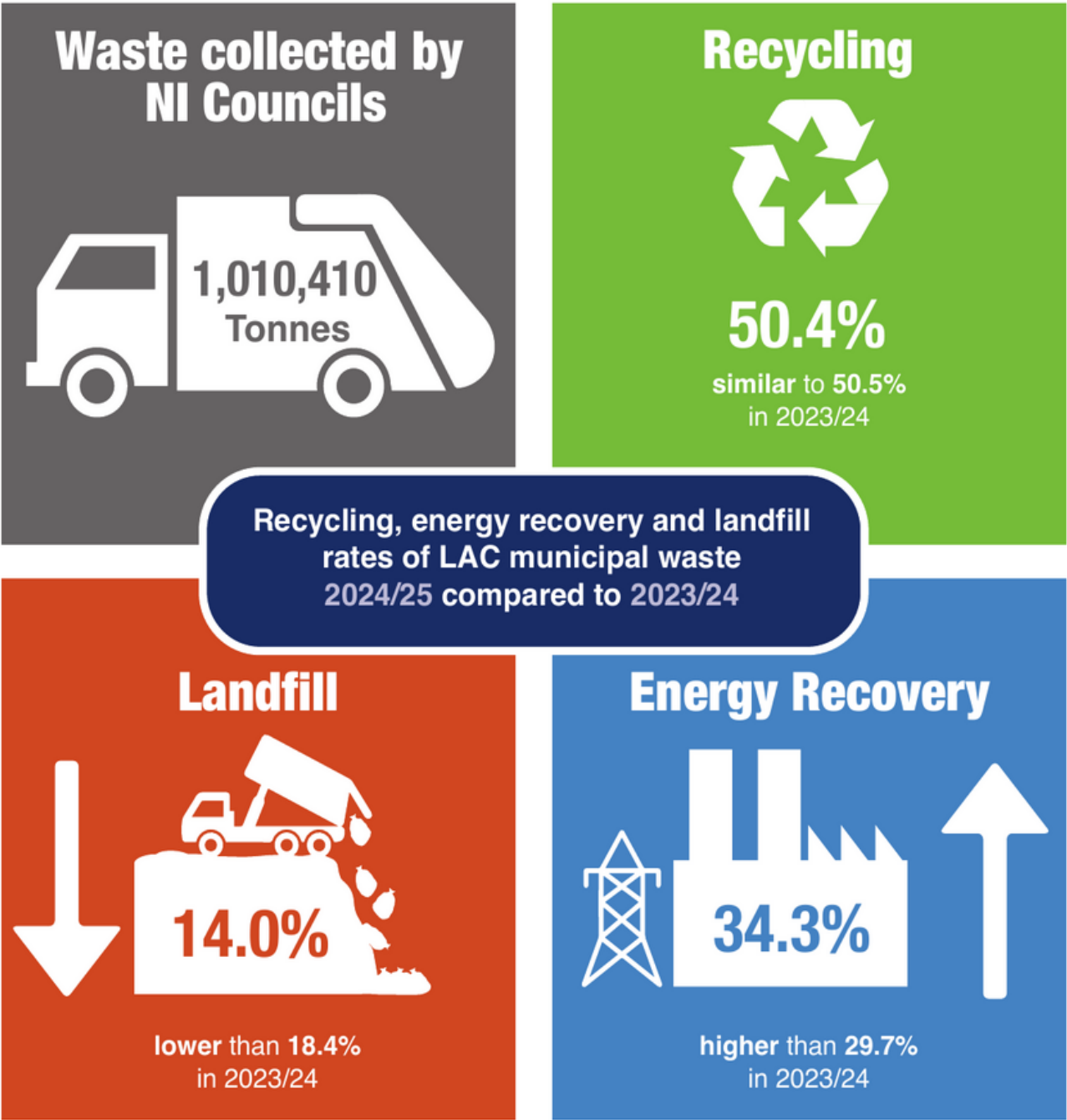
All members were encouraged to attend.

Action: ALL

Date: 2 December 2025

Chair: *A Bennington*

Waste Collections by NI Councils 2024/25



NI EA Northern Ireland Environment Agency
Gníomhaireacht Comhshaoil Thuaisceart Éireann
Norlin Airlan Environment Agency
www.daera-ni.gov.uk