

Ballymoney Borough Council**Corporate & Central Services Meeting No 363 – 25th February 2008****Table of Contents**

363.1	Compass Advocacy Network Limited	<i>Deferred</i>
363.2	Minutes – Meeting No 362 – 28 th January 2008	<i>Adopted</i>
363.3	Accounts for Payment	<i>Payment of accounts</i>
363.4	Final Penny Product 2006/2007	<i>Noted</i>
363.5	District Rates 2008/2009	<i>Noted</i>
363.6	General Grant Resource Element 2007/08	<i>Noted</i>
363.7	Absenteeism 2006/2007	<i>Noted</i>
363.8	Management of Public Sector Land and Buildings	<i>Noted</i>
363.9	Youth Justice Agency	<i>Chief Executive to provide information</i>
363.10	Somme Association	<i>Two members & one officer to attend</i>
363.11	NEELB Youth Orchestra	<i>Noted</i>
363.12	Timing of Committee Meetings	<i>Timing of council committee meetings confirmed</i>
363.13	Conference attendance	<i>Current system reviewed</i>

**BALLYMONEY BOROUGH COUNCIL
CORPORATE & CENTRAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**

Minutes of Corporate & Central Services Committee Meeting No 363 held in the Council Chamber, Riada House, Ballymoney on Monday 25th February 2008 at 6.30 pm.

IN THE CHAIR Alderman J Simpson

PRESENT

Aldermen
F Campbell
H Connolly
C Cousley

Councillors
J Finlay
M McCamphill
P McGuigan
E Robinson
I Stevenson

APOLOGIES **Councillors**
A Cavlan

IN ATTENDANCE Chief Executive
Director of Central & Leisure Services
Head of Corporate & Development Services
Chief PA

363.1 PRESENTATION - COMPASS ADVOCACY NETWORK LTD

Attached as Appendix A

The Chairman thanked the representative from Compass Advocacy Network Ltd for an excellent presentation, which was followed by questions from members.

It was proposed by Councillor McCamphill, seconded by Alderman Campbell and **AGREED:**

to recommend that Committee defer consideration of the proposal to Committee's next meeting.

363.2 MINUTES – MEETING NO 362 –28TH JANUARY 2008

It was proposed by Alderman Connolly, seconded by Alderman Cousley and
AGREED:

that the minutes of Meeting No 362 – 28TH January 2008, as circulated, be approved.

The Head of Corporate & Development Services left the meeting at 7.10pm

CENTRAL SERVICES

363.3 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Treasury advice schedules detailing payments for period 11, 2007/08 drawn on the Council's Capital & Revenue Bank Accounts were circulated.

It was proposed by Alderman Connolly, seconded by Alderman Campbell and
AGREED:

to recommend to Council that Accounts to the value of £1,026,718.78 from the Revenue Account and £106,470.61 from the Capital Account be approved for payment.

Councillor McGuigan joined the meeting at 7.20pm

363.4 FINAL PENNY PRODUCT

The final Actual Penny Products for 2006/07 have been calculated by the Land and Property Service. This has resulted in a Rates finalisation figure of £75,668.01 being due to the Council. This amount was paid to the Council in December 2007.

The Head of Corporate & Development Services rejoined the meeting at 7.40pm

363.5 DISTRICT RATES 2008/2009

Attached as Appendix B is a table setting out the detail of the non-domestic rate and domestic rate for 2008/09 for all 26 local authorities.

Ranking the Council's domestic property rates, Ballymoney's rate is 12th lowest – same position as 2007/2008.

Councillor Robinson left the meeting at 7.50pm.

363.6 GENERAL GRANT RESOURCE ELEMENT 2007/08

The Director advised that the Department had successfully bid for an additional £500,000 for the general grant resources element baseline. This has been distributed to councils under the statutory formula. The Council's allocation is £25,474, which was paid to the Council in January 2008.

363.7 ABSENTEEISM 2006/07

The Chief Local Government Auditor's Report on Absenteeism in Northern Ireland Councils 2006/07 has previously issued to all members.

In 2006/07 the total days lost due to sickness absence was 1668, of this 1024 days were due to long term absences (i.e. 20 days or more) and 644 days were due to short term absences (i.e. up to 19 days duration). The number of employees with one or more long term absence was 13.

There was a slight improvement in the 2006/07 absenteeism levels compared to 2005/06. The Director advised that 49 employees had full attendance during 2006/07.

At the request of the Chair, the Director agreed to report on the levels of Absenteeism in 2007/2008 when the information is available.

CORPORATE SERVICES

363.8 MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC SECTOR LAND AND BUILDINGS

The Department of Environment has issued a revised circular providing councils with advice on the transfer of surplus land and buildings within the public sector and the disposal of land and buildings at less than best price or best rent. This has been passed to all directorates to be applied in respect of transfer of all land and buildings falling within the advice note and relevant issues included in reports to committee/council as appropriate.

363.9 YOUTH JUSTICE AGENCY

This Agency has responsibility for delivering a range of services including community interventions, youth conferencing and custody in relation to children aged 10-17 who have offended or are at serious risk of offending. Their overall aim is to reduce youth crime and build confidence in the youth justice system. They would appreciate the opportunity to meet with councillors to explain their work and activities. The Chief Executive undertook to get information on visit to their local office and report back.

363.10 SOMME ASSOCIATION

The 92nd Anniversary of the Battle of the Somme Pilgrimage will take place 28th June – 2nd July. Est. Cost £500

It was proposed by Councillor Finlay, seconded by Councillor Stevenson and **AGREED:**

to recommend that two councillors and one officer attend the 92nd Anniversary of the Battle of the Somme Pilgrimage.

363.11 NEELB YOUTH ORCHESTRA

With regard to the application made to Council for financial support for a visit by the orchestra to Belgium the Board has now advised that it cannot be involved in fund raising for this tour and the application is therefore withdrawn.

363.12 TIMING OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Committee considered, in October 2007, a report from the Chief Executive on the result of a survey all Councillors on their attitude to timing of committee meetings.

In November 2007 Council agreed, on committees recommendation, revised arrangements with regard to timing of meetings, as follows:

[1] - **Consultation** Committee Meeting and the **Development** Committee Meeting be held on the 3rd Monday of the month with the Consultation committee meeting commencing at 2.00 pm followed by the Development Committee at 3.30 pm.

[2] - **Leisure & Amenities** Committee, the **Health & Environmental Services** Committee and **Corporate & Central Services** Committee meetings are held in the evening commencing at 7.00 pm subject to revision to an earlier time to facilitate presentations.

Below is a table showing attendance at Consultation/Development Committees during the pilot period, with comparative figures for the same month previous year.

Comparison figures – Daytime pilot November 2007 – February 2008

Consultation Committee				Development Committee			
Daytime		Evening		Daytime		Evening	
November 2007	12	November 2006	12	November 2007	10	November 2006	7
December 2007	10	December 2006	14	December 2007	8	December 2006	10
January 2008	12	January 2007	13	January 2008	12	January 2007	11
February 2008	9	February 2007	7	February 2008	postponed	February 2007	10

The pilot concludes at end of February. While the full round of February meetings have not concluded, the two day-time committees have.

After discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Finlay, seconded by Alderman Connolly and **AGREED:**

to recommend that the Consultation Committee meeting and the Development Committee meeting are held on the 3rd Monday of the month, with the Consultation Committee meeting commencing at 2.00 pm followed by the Development Committee at 3.30 pm

and

the Leisure & Amenities Committee, the Health & Environmental Services Committee and Corporate & Central Services Committee meetings are held in the evening commencing at 7.00 pm subject to revision to an earlier time to facilitate presentations.

363.13 CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

A discussion initiated by Councillor McCamphill ensued regarding members' travelling expenses incurred while attending conferences within the island of Ireland, with particular regard to instances where it was more economic to stay overnight.

It was proposed by Councillor Finlay, seconded by Councillor McCamphill and **AGREED:**

to recommend that the Chief Executive reviews the current policy on conferences attendance, surveys other councils and provides options at the next committee meeting.

Councillor McGuigan requested that it be recorded that his view was that the current system for members' travelling expenses while attending conferences should be retained. This was supported by Alderman Simpson.

The Chair put the motion to the meeting.

4 members voted in favour and 2 members voted against.

The Chair declared the motion carried.

This being all the business, the meeting closed at 8.30 pm

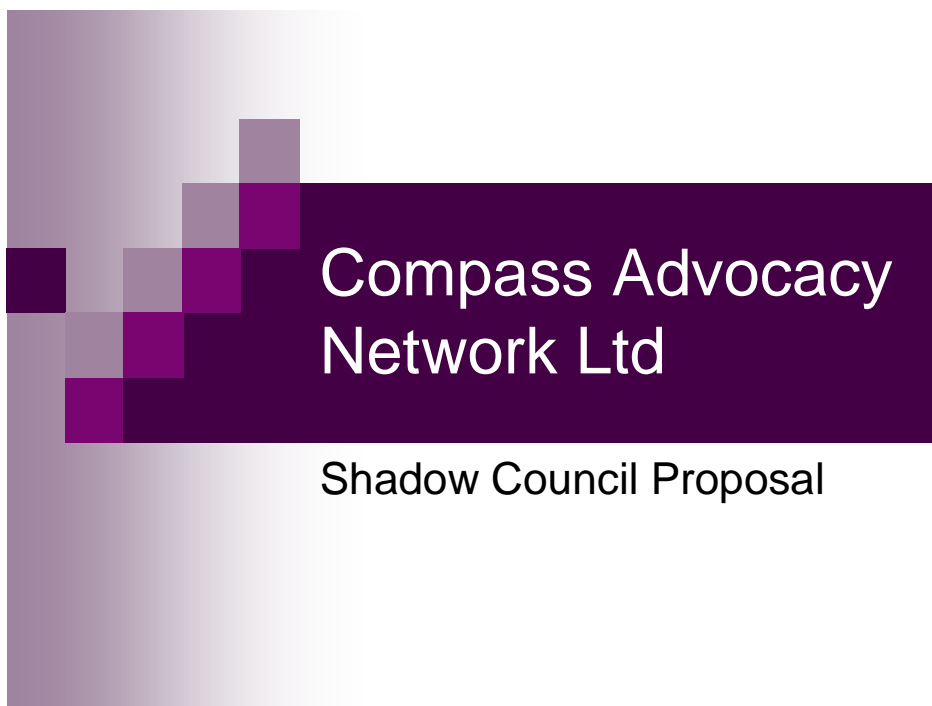
Appendices attached

Appendix A - Presentation – Compass Advocacy Network Ltd

Appendix B - District Rates 2008/2009

APPENDIX A

PRESENTATION – COMPASS ADVOCACY NETWORK LTD



APPENDIX B

DISTRICT RATES 2008/2009

District Council	Non-Domestic Rate				Domestic Rate			
	2007/2008 Pence	2008/2009 Pence	Pence Increase	% Increase	2007/2008 Pence	2008/2009 Pence	Pence Increase	% Increase
Antrim	21.5586	23.6886	2.1300	9.88	0.2875	0.3159	0.0284	9.88
Ards	19.8840	20.5819	0.6979	3.51	0.2409	0.2493	0.0084	3.49
Armagh	23.5527	25.1773	1.6246	6.90	0.3174	0.3393	0.0219	6.90
Ballymena	20.8049	22.8552	2.0503	9.85	0.2874	0.3157	0.0283	9.85
Ballymoney	21.5659	22.4239	0.8580	3.98	0.2768	0.2878	0.0110	3.97
Banbridge	22.5907	23.4803	0.8896	3.94	0.3003	0.3121	0.0118	3.93
Belfast	21.1641	22.1853	1.0212	4.83	0.2423	0.2540	0.0117	4.83
Carrickfergus	21.8348	23.3575	1.5227	6.97	0.2986	0.3195	0.0209	7.00
Castlereagh	15.5642	15.8224	0.2582	1.66	0.1871	0.1902	0.0031	1.66
Coleraine	18.9978	20.1177	1.1199	5.89	0.2506	0.2654	0.0148	5.91
Cookstown	19.3003	20.2480	0.9477	4.91	0.2444	0.2564	0.0120	4.91
Craigavon	21.8620	22.3757	0.5137	2.35	0.3395	0.3474	0.0079	2.33
Derry	23.2804	24.4336	1.1532	4.95	0.3365	0.3533	0.0168	4.99
Down	21.7020	23.1531	1.4511	6.69	0.2873	0.3065	0.0192	6.68
Dungannon & South Tyrone	18.7035	19.9338	1.2303	6.58	0.2284	0.2434	0.0150	6.57
Fermanagh	14.7191	15.7343	1.0152	6.90	0.2032	0.2172	0.0140	6.89
Larne	21.9370	22.4881	0.5511	2.51	0.3236	0.3318	0.0082	2.53
Limavady	22.8353	24.3376	1.5023	6.58	0.3335	0.3555	0.0220	6.60
Lisburn	17.3615	17.6598	0.2983	1.72	0.2275	0.2314	0.0039	1.71
Magherafelt	17.5397	18.0474	0.5077	2.89	0.2214	0.2278	0.0064	2.89
Moyle	26.2998	28.7678	2.4680	9.38	0.3245	0.3550	0.0305	9.40
Newry & Mourne	19.5449	20.5026	0.9577	4.90	0.2672	0.2803	0.0131	4.90
Newtownabbey	22.1185	23.4281	1.3096	5.92	0.2832	0.2999	0.0167	5.90
North Down	16.5433	17.7803	1.2370	7.48	0.2235	0.2402	0.0167	7.47
Omagh	19.9548	20.9199	0.9651	4.84	0.3243	0.3400	0.0157	4.84
Strabane	19.9891	21.2820	1.2929	6.47	0.2937	0.3127	0.0190	6.47