



Subject:	Request from Northern Ireland Local Government Partnership on Traveller Issues (NILGPTI) for Council Representation
Date:	20 th September 2024
Reporting Officer:	Jim Girvan – Director of Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Nicola Lane – Neighbourhood Services Manager Godfrey Mc Cartney – Good Relations Manager

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Please indicate the description, as listed in Schedule 6, of the exempt information by virtue of which the council has deemed this report restricted.	
Insert number <input type="checkbox"/>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Information relating to any individual2. Information likely to reveal the identity of an individual3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the council holding that information)4. Information in connection with any labour relations matter5. Information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained6. Information showing that the council proposes to (a) to give a notice imposing restrictions on a person; or (b) to make an order or direction7. Information on any action in relation to the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime	
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sometime in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	Committee is asked to consider a request from Northern Ireland Local Government Partnership on Traveller Issues (NILGPTI) to nominate 1 to 3 elected members and 1 officer to be representatives on the Partnership.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	Members are asked to; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • note the contents of the report and • consider the request from Northern Ireland Local Government Partnership on Traveller Issues (NILGPTI).
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<u>Background</u> NILGPTI was established in 2000 by Councils in order to develop and maintain relationships and communication between Local Government, Ministers, Government Departments and Public Bodies to deal collectively with matters pertaining to Travellers.
3.2	The Partnership was re-constituted in 2014 following the reform of local government. Each council can nominate up to a maximum of 3 elected members and 1 officer. A copy of the constitution is attached at Appendix 1 .
3.3	The Partnership elects an Executive Committee from the membership consisting of the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary. Provision is made to include 2 additional elected members and 2 officers. The Executive Committee is responsible for conducting the business of the Partnership.
3.4	The Partnership meets every two months, with each Council hosting the meeting on a rotational basis.
3.5	Belfast City Council has had limited and sporadic involvement with the Partnership and no involvement since Covid. Previous Partnership meetings were mainly attended by the Traveller Liaison Officer and an Environmental Health Officer. Further to this it is worth noting that whilst the Good Relations Unit has not been involved in the Partnership, work relating to the Traveller Community is included within the wider work of the Good Relations Action Plan. Staff from the Good Relations Unit are content to attend the partnership meetings on an ongoing basis.
3.6	Members are asked to consider the contents of the report, advise if they are content that council continues to attend from an officer perspective and nominate up to 3 elected members to attend as council representatives.
	<u>Financial Implications</u> The Partnership annual membership fee is £500 per Council. Costs related to Members and Staff time and travel would also have to be covered.

	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications and Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>There are no equality, good relations or rural needs assessment associated with this report.</p>
4.0	Appendices
4.1	Appendix 1: Constitution of Northern Ireland Local Government Partnership on Traveller Issues