

Report on	Rural Community Network Membership Subscription
Date of Meeting	3 December 2020
Reporting Officer	Philip Moffett, Head of Democratic Services
Contact Officer	Ann McAleer, Corporate Policy and Equality Officer

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	x

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	The purpose of this paper is to provide committee members with an opportunity to consider if Mid Ulster District Council would nominate a Member to join RCN's Board.
2.0	Background
2.1	Rural Community Network (RCN) is a regional voluntary organisation established by community groups from rural areas in 1991 to articulate the voice of rural communities on issues relating to poverty, disadvantage and equality.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	RCN is a membership organisation managed by a voluntary Board of Directors, elected every two years. Two community representatives from each county in Northern Ireland make up the main component of the Network's Board with statutory, voluntary, farming, environmental, cross border and other sectoral groups making up the rest.
3.2	The Council is currently a member organisation of the Rural Community Network.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: A £200 annual membership fee is paid by Mid Ulster District Council
	Human: N/A
	Risk Management: N/A

4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: An Equality Screening is not required at this point
	Rural Needs Implications: Membership of RCN would fulfil, in part, the rural organisation engagement requirements as detailed in Council's Rural Needs Action Plan.
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	That the committee notes request for membership renewal payment from the Rural Community Network for 2020-21
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	Appendix A - Renewal of Membership 2020-21