



08 November 2018

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee to be held in
The Chamber, Magherafelt at Mid Ulster District Council, Ballyronan Road,
MAGHERAFELT, BT45 6EN on Thursday, 08 November 2018 at 19:00 to transact
the business noted below.

Yours faithfully

Anthony Tohill
Chief Executive

AGENDA

OPEN BUSINESS

1. Apologies
2. Declarations of Interest
3. Chair's Business

Matters for Decision

- | | |
|--|---------|
| 4. Economic Development - Revitalisation Projects, Village Renewal and Public Realm | 3 - 6 |
| 5. MUDC/Forest Service Davagh Lease | 7 - 8 |
| 6. Brantry Forest Development Project MUDC and DAERA | 9 - 14 |
| 7. Railway Park, Dungannon - User Safety Works | 15 - 24 |
| 8. Internal Lighting Upgrade Meadowbank Sports Arena, Magherafelt | 25 - 30 |
| 9. Representation on Working Group of Northern Ireland Strategic Migration Partnership | 31 - 34 |
| 10. Member Conference, Seminar and Training: Annual Allocation | 35 - 38 |
| 11. Lease and Licence of Lands at Knockmany Forest from DAERA/Forest Service | 39 - 42 |

Matters for Information

- | | |
|--|---------|
| 12 Minutes of Policy & Resources Committee held on Thursday 4 October 2018 | 43 - 50 |
| 13 Appointment of Approved Humanist Celebrant | 51 - 56 |

Items restricted in accordance with Section 42, Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014. The public will be asked to withdraw from the meeting at this point.

Matters for Decision

14. Village Renewal Scheme - Rural Development Programme
2014-2020 - Lease of Lands at Market Yard, Fivemiletown
15. 2019/20 Rate Estimates
16. 2018/19 Review of Treasury Management Policies, Practices
and Activities
17. Staffing Matters for Decision
18. Provision and Upgrade of CCTV Systems to the Council Offices
in Magherafelt and Dungannon

Matters for Information

19. Minutes of Confidential Business of Policy & Resources
Committee held on Thursday 4 October 2018
20. Staffing Matters for Information
21. Contracts and DAC
22. Financial Report for 6 months to 30 September 2018

Report on	1) Magherafelt Revitalisation Project 2) Cookstown Revitalisation Project 3) Village Renewal Project 4) Coalisland Public Realm
Date of Meeting	8 th November 2018
Reporting Officer	Adrian McCreesh, Director of Business & Communities
Contact Officer	Fiona McKeown, Head of Economic Development

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	To provide Members with an update on key activities as detailed above.
2.0	Background
2.1	<p>Magherafelt Revitalisation Project An application was submitted to Department for Communities for funding to deliver a Revitalisation Project in Magherafelt Town Centre.</p>
2.2	<p>Cookstown Revitalisation Project The preferred project that Cookstown would require assistance with during the 2018/2019 financial year is the A29 roundabout project, located on a key gateway to Cookstown.</p>
2.3	<p>Village Renewal Project Council is leading on the Village Renewal Scheme included within the Rural Development programme 2014 -2020. Council will make an application to the Local Action Group for the village renewal programme and will lead on development and delivery. The LAG has allocated a budget of £2.15m in grant aid to the Village Renewal Scheme for the implementation of strategic and minor works within agreed villages. Council will contribute match funding of 25%, to compliment the funding from RDP.</p>
2.4	<p>Coalisland Public Realm A design team has been appointed for the £2.75M redevelopment of Coalisland town centre. The scheme will include works to The Square, Main Street, Lineside, Dungannon Road, Stewartstown Road, Barrack Street, Barrack Square, Station Rd and Washingbay Road. The overarching aim of the project is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Create a safe, high-quality pedestrian-friendly environment; ▪ Revitalise and reinvigorate the town to help encourage more visitors and shoppers into the town centre; ▪ Be accessible to pedestrians and vehicles; ▪ Have free flowing traffic and retain most on-street car parking. <p>The works will include the provision of new high quality natural stone paving, street furniture, tree planting, signage, lighting and drainage and will be developed in compliance and co-operation with the Department for Infrastructure and to current DDA standards.</p>

3.0	
3.1	<p>Magherafelt Revitalisation Project</p> <p>Department for Communities have issued a Letter of Offer for £160,707 towards the project. The project is part of the Seamus Heaney HomePlace Project which aims to develop the visitor experience for people visiting Seamus Heaney HomePlace. The project will involve upgrading the two pedestrian walkways on Broad Street leading from Central and Union Road Car Parks including the surfaces on the alleyways, removing graffiti on the walls and installing a piece of public art to reflect the connection with Seamus Heaney HomePlace.</p>
3.2	<p>Cookstown Revitalisation Project</p> <p>The project would involve refreshing the 'Cookstown' brand, and associated works related to upgrading lighting and hard stand area at the A29 roundabout. It is proposed that an application is submitted to DfC for funding to deliver this initiative. The estimated cost is approximately £40,000 (DfC £32,000, Council £8,000).</p>
3.3	<p>Village Renewal Project</p> <p>A number of Village projects are currently being delivered as outlined below -</p> <p>Ballygawley – Works completed</p> <p>Playparks – Caledon, Granville, Augher and Tobermore – Works completed.</p> <p>Upperlands –Works completed on MUGA. An application has been submitted to the LAG for Playpark element at the Community Centre.</p> <p>Maghera – Walkway from Walled Garden to Tobermore Road. Application has been submitted to the LAG.</p> <p>Newmills (Car Park upgrade), Castlecaulfield (conservation area and additional play equipment), Benburb (Car Park at recreational fields) & Gulladuff (EI Scheme at Bus Shelter) –Construction works have been completed in Benburb and Newmills. Gulladuff and Castlecaulfield works have commenced onsite.</p> <p>Ardboe – A letter of Offer has been received for development at the Community Building with the provision of a new lift. Works to commence mid-November.</p> <p>Fivemiletown – Market Yard and Playpark upgrade – Application will be made to the LAG in November following the procurement process to appoint Contractor.</p> <p>Clady/Glenone (play equipment), Swatragh (play equipment), Killyman (play equipment), The Loup (Informal Play area) and Ballynakelly (play equipment) have been submitted to LAG on 19th October.</p> <p>The next schedule of Villages includes Pomeroy, Ballyronan, Ballinderry & Ballylifford, Clogher, Desertmartin & Longfield, Broughderg and Galbally.</p> <p>Legal agreements are being processed through the legal team. ED staff are currently compiling all the leases and completing the application forms and business cases to be submitted to the LAG.</p>
3.4	<p>Coalisland Public Realm</p> <p>A preferred option has been identified with work ongoing with all key stakeholders including utilities. An Economic Appraisal is currently being assessed by the Dept. for Communities economist and the planning application has been formally submitted. Public consultation meetings have been ongoing with both Members (11th October 2018) and the Public (16th October 2018).</p>

4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial:
	<p>Magherafelt Revitalisation Project Magherafelt revitalisation project has been awarded 80% funding from DfC, provision of 20% match funding is required from Council's Capital budget as follows;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Magherafelt Project - £44,000 <p>Cookstown Revitalisation Project If this revitalisation project is successful in being awarded 80% funding from DfC, provision of 20% match funding is required from Council's Capital budget as follows;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cookstown Revitalisation Project - £8,000
	Human: Officer time.
	Risk Management:
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/A
	Rural Needs Implications: N/A
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	<p>Magherafelt Revitalisation Project To accept the DfC Letter of Offer of £160,706. Approval is sought to provide 20% match funding from Council's capital budget, of approximately £40,000</p>
5.2	<p>Cookstown Revitalisation Project To approve recommendation to prepare and submit 'shelf ready' application to DfC for Cookstown revitalisation project during 2018/19. Approval is sought to provide 20% match funding from Council's capital budget, of approximately £8,000</p>
5.3	<p>Village Renewal Project Members to note progress</p>
5.4	<p>Coalisland Public Realm Members to note progress</p>
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	N/A

Report on	MUDC/ Forest Service Davagh Lease
Reporting Officer	Director of Leisure & Outdoor Recreation
Contact Officer	Nigel Hill

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	To inform members of project costs in relation to lease/annual rental valuation.
2.0	Background
2.1	A review of current licence and lease arrangements with forest Service for Davagh Forest has been conducted to take into consideration the additional requirements associated to the Dark Skies Development
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Forest Service have presented to Council a proposed lease arrangement for the lands associated to the Davagh Dark Skies development having consulted with Council's legal team.
3.2	The lease will be for the period of 20 years.
3.3	The lease has been valued at £2,500 per annum. The valuation was carried out by Land and Property Services (LPS) on behalf of by Forest Service.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<u>Financial & Human Resources Implications</u> Financial: Annual cost £2,500 for a period of 20 years. Human: Current staff structure sufficient to manage the project.
4.2	<u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u> N/A
4.3	<u>Risk Management Implications</u> The project will be managed in accordance with MUDC policies and procedures

5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Approval is sought to progress with the Lease Agreement for Davagh Forest Dark Skies Project based on the valuation provided by Forest Service.
5.2	Annual Lease Payment £2,500.00 for an agreed Lease period of 20 years.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	N/A

Report on	Brantry Forest Development Project MUDC and DAERA
Date of Meeting	Thursday 8 th November 2018
Reporting Officer	Head of Parks
Contact Officer	Nigel Hill

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	To seek approval for development proposal at Brantry Forest, Caledon in partnership with DAERA and Forest Service NI.
2.0	Background
2.1	<p>In June 2013, Outdoor Recreation NI was commissioned by Dungannon and South Tyrone Borough Council to complete a Forest Recreation Audit for nine forests within the legacy Council area. This study included the investigation of development potential for Brantry Wood Caledon. The purpose of the audit was to identify current provision of and opportunities for outdoor recreation and outline recommendations relating to future development, investment and management of these forests. This study was included into a wider audit undertaken and subsequently adopted by Mid Ulster District Council in 2015.</p> <p>Caledon Forest is a collective name for a number of Drumlin forests in south Tyrone. It consists of one main block of forest, along with other smaller plantation blocks.</p>
2.2	The woodland blocks are commonly known as: Scroggys, Greceans, Cumber Glen, Yellow Horn Hill, Derryhaig, Dunmacmay Curlagh, Dromore, Ballagh, Derrycourtney, Knockginney and Kilgowney.
2.3	It is 179 hectares in size and the main forest block is situated approximately 6 miles east of the village of Aughnacloy. It is also referred to as Brantry Forest. Initial development plans identified in the 2013 audit suggested the provision of walking trails and the upgrade of the hunting or game keepers lodge into a visitor service facility. As part of a legacy council capital programme, supported by landfill tax funding the game keepers lodge and site was leased from Forest Service and renovated in 2012. The suggested development of walking trails along with any further development proposals with Forest Service NI did not progress towards a second stage.

3.0	Main Report
3.1	Brantry Forest is used by locals for walking, running and dog walking. Brantry Lough which is adjacent to the main forest block is used for angling as well. There is a large car park present adjacent to Brantry Lough, along with a slipway and a jetty. Lough Macronan situated within the forest block is also used for angling purposes and has some fishing stands present, although these have fallen into disrepair.
3.2	There is a car park to facilitate access to Caledon Forest on the Brantry Road. This car park would allow parking for approximately 15 cars. The game keepers lodge is adjacent to this car park. There are currently no formal outdoor recreation activities taking place in this forest at present. Shooting and walking both happen on an informal basis. The shooting rights to the main sections of the forest are owned by private individuals. FSNi own the shooting rights to five out of 24 pockets of forest that make up Caledon Forest.
3.3	Brantry Forest was identified as a priority two development proposal by the Forest Recreation audit in 2013. The audit suggested the creation of trails on existing forest roads, the refurbishment of game keepers lodge to a visitor facility and the provision of picnic, barbeque and seating facilities and associated visitor infrastructure.
3.4	The following SWOT analysis details the strengths and weaknesses in Brantry Forest and the opportunities and threats that have the potential to influence the future development of tourism and recreation. These were identified through fieldwork, consultation and desk research undertaken at the time of the audit in 2013. The current position remains relatedly unchanged in terms of access however some opportunities and improvements have been achieved in relation to potential funding streams and the Game Keepers Lodge and the visitor facilities it provides.

3.5

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Strong community support for the development of the forest.- Could be used to develop multi-use trails – walking and off road cycling.- Basic infrastructures present to be built upon – forest roads, car park and Hunting/Game Keepers Lodge.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Little investment to date- Limited natural features within the forest- Nothing to attract visitors to the forest- Very basic activities and attractions- Basic facilities present with no services- Signage non existent
THREATS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- No Licence Agreement in place between Council and FSNI- Perceived lack of investment within the forest to date- Lack of open, and suitable funding streams to take forward any proposed developments.	
OPPORTUNITIES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- To develop the forest in partnership, for example FSNI and DAERA- Could be used to develop multi-use trails – walking and off road cycling- Create a ‘welcome’ for visitors to the forest- Create visitor facility to entice visitors to the forest at the Hunting/Game Keepers Lodge and bespoke play facilities.- Install picnicing and bin facilities- Link Caledon Forest to Brantry Lough through a waymarked trail- Potential for activity tourism in partnership with DEARA- Installation of appropriate waymarking and interpretation	

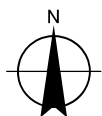
Recommendations for Future Development

The development potential of Brantry Forest, Caledon provides an opportunity to provide a valued local resource. Simple improvements such as waymarked trails can make a marked difference to the recreational value of the forest, for a relatively modest investment. The presence of the asset in the form of the recently restored Game keepers Lodge could also be capitalised upon in order to increase the recreational value of the forest. Developing new facilities and activities is recommended, given that existing activities are informal and are concentrated on adjacent land, and that on site facilities are limited. The existing car park could be upgraded and expanded if necessary.





The overall development of Brantry Forest, Caledon should include the provision of bespoke childrens play experiences, visitor welcome signage, interpretation, waymarked multi-use trails suitable for passive leisure walking and off road cycling, the consideration of provision of picnic/barbecue facilities, as well as further development of the Game Keepers Lodge for community use.


	<p>Funding opportunities have been sourced with an offer from Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) currently being considered by council. The scope of the project would be £230,000 funding breakdown DAERA £175k/MUDC £55k.</p> <p>Mid Ulster District Council will be required to develop a Licence Agreement with Forest Service NI to enable development of the forest to proceed and contractors to progress the proposal.</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	<p>Financial: MUDC Capital project contribution £55,000.00</p>
	<p>Human: Existing staff resource available to assist proposal development supported by internal Capital Programmes function and external ICT.</p>
	<p>Risk Management: In conjunction with Council policies and procedures.</p>
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	<p>Equality & Good Relations Implications: In conjunction with Council policies and procedures.</p>
	<p>Rural Needs Implications: In conjunction with Council policies and procedures associated to rural proofing.</p>
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Provide Council capital contribution funding of £50,000 to the development project.
5.2	Accept Letter of Offer from DAERA and draw down £175,000 funding package.
5.3	Establish a Licence Agreement/Lease with FSNI for Council approval.
5.4	Establish community partnership agreement for sustainable management solutions for Brantry Forest in the format of Service Level agreement with local community group.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 Brantry Forest map


Brantry Wood,
Caledon Forest,
Dungannon and
South Tyrone
Borough Council

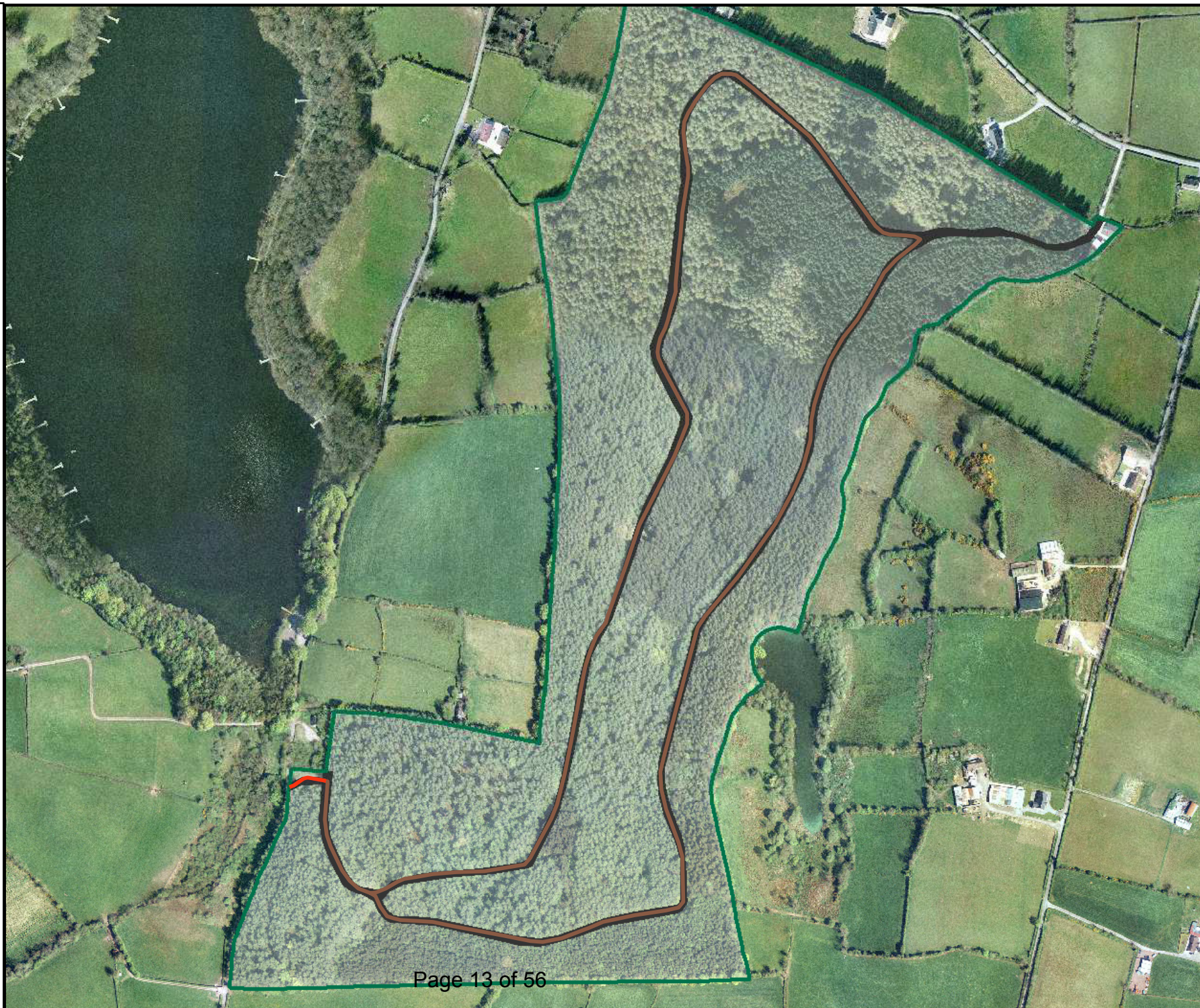


0 25 50 100 150 Meters

-  Dual Track Cycle / Walking Route (Forest Road)
-  Vehicular Access
-  Forest Road
-  Forest


 Department of
**Agriculture and
 Rural Development**
www.dard.gov.uk
 AG: 2016
 Talmhaíochtaí agus
 Forbairt Tuisiú
 Département
 Éireannach
 Kítrá Fíordéir


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Report on	Railway Park, Dungannon; User Safety Works
Date of Meeting	8 th November 2018
Reporting Officer	Terry Scullion - Head of Property Services
Contact Officer	Eunan Murray, Grounds and Cemeteries Manager

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	To seek members' approval to carry out extensive tree and foliage removal, and Lighting enhancement along pathways in Railway Park to improve user safety.
	Background
2.1	Railway Park is one of a number of small to medium urban parks owned and maintained by Council. Located in Dungannon, Railway Park covers an area of 20 acres including the 6.5 acres of land recently purchased by the Council in 2017. The original linear greenway was developed by the Council in the 1980's and follows the line of the former Railway. Railway Park can be accessed from the surrounding residential areas through numerous routes and by visitors using the Park's main car park located at Railway Road. Several businesses including Tescos, Newell Stores, Ballysaggart Business Park Complex, the STEP Community centre 'Junction' complex and the Bus Station 'back' onto the Park.
2.2	The site is managed by Parks and maintained by Property Services. A singular lit tarmac path, accompanied by seating and bins, approximately 3 metres wide runs the length of the original linear greenway. This path is surrounded by areas of open green space particularly in the central area of the Park. Other sections of the park are quite densely planted with mixed broadleaf tree species.
2.3	A recent request has been made to carry extensive tree and foliage removal along a number of sections of pathway, approximately 200 metres in total, and lighting improvements.

3.0	Main Report
3.1	As a result of increased antisocial behaviour and Councillor representation a Designing Out Crime audit was conducted the PSNI in conjunction with Council Officers. See Appendix 1 for further detail. The audit identifies a number of recommendations including, “ <i>Planting should not impede the opportunity for natural surveillance and must avoid the creation of potential hiding places such as the area behind The Junction and the closed off pathway leading to Railway Road/Linfield Street as well as the area close to the Old Eglish Road</i> ”.
3.2	<p>Works proposed include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tree and foliage removal along three specific sections of the Park to remove tightly packed vegetation which now encroaches the main pathway to improve visitor visibility and safety. It also improves soiling and making good the respective areas of approximately 200 linear metres – approximate cost £17,345 • Upgrade of 14 number pathway lights from 250 watt metal Halide to 11 watt LED fitting at a cost of £4,480. This will enhance lighting quality and support safety improvements while also resulting in energy consumption improvement with a payback less than 12 months.
3.3	<p>The benefits of the works will see the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved Access and Movement - clear paths that provide for convenient movement without compromising security. • Visibility - Walkways that are publicly accessible, overlooked and well lit. • Activity - Safe walkways that generate increased users that the level of human activity is appropriate and creates a reduced risk of crime and sense of safety at all times. <p>By carrying these works it will have a very positive outcome for the local community of Railway Park and its users. It will not only enhance the area but by ways of looking to design out crime it will reduce their fear of crime and improve the health and wellbeing of users.</p>
3.4	Consequences of not doing the work would see anti-social behaviour levels increase and deter people using the area for recreational activities.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	<p>Financial:</p> <p>These works are considered to be facility user safety enhancement and upgrade, rather just than planned or reactive maintenance. Therefore, funding is requested from Council revenue reserves. The investment required is £21,825 which includes labour and materials.</p>

	<p>Human: Officers time in preparing and managing the scheme and coordinating the work programme with Parks to minimise the impact on access while work is underway.</p> <p>Risk Management: Mid Ulster Council has a duty of care under the Health and Safety at Work Order to its staff and the public who use the facility to provide a safe and secure environment. This project will help mitigate that risk by providing enhanced lighting, better access and movement within the Park, and allow for greater security.</p>
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	<p>Equality & Good Relations Implications:</p> <p>None.</p>
	<p>Rural Needs Implications:</p> <p>None.</p>
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members are asked to approve the release of £21,825 plus 10% contingency, (i.e. £24,008) from revenue reserves to undertake Tree clearance, foliage removal and lighting upgrade as outlined at Railway Park using approved Council procurement framework Contractors.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 – Designing Out Crime Audit



Police Service of Northern Ireland
Crime Prevention Design Service
Crime Prevention Office
PSNI Cookstown
19 Molesworth Street
Cookstown, BT80 8NT



Oliver Donnelly,
Community Development Section
MUDC
Circular Road
Dungannon
BT71 6DT

Please reply to: Joanne Smyth

Your ref: -

Our ref: -

Date: - 6th October 2017

Dear Oliver,

Re: Designing Out Crime Advice – Railway Park, Dungannon

Thank you for the opportunity to review the proposed development plans for Railway Park and to meet and visit Railway Park, with you and our Inspector Gibson on 15th September. As requested I have compiled the following report which offers advice in relation to designing out crime.

Project Profile

The proposals and designs outline the further development of Railway Park in Dungannon. This area has been the subject of numerous incidents of Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) and some violent crime. This project could have a very positive outcome for local community and by looking at ways to design out crime it will help reduce their fear of crime and improve the quality of life. Seven attributes of sustainable communities that are particularly relevant when working towards designing out crime in projects such as this one are set out below.

Access and movement: places with well-defined routes, spaces and entrances that provide for convenient movement without compromising security.

Structure: places that are structured so that different uses do not cause conflict.

Surveillance: places where all publicly accessible spaces are overlooked.

Ownership: places that promote a sense of ownership, respect, territorial responsibility and community.

Physical protection: places that include necessary, well-designed security features.

Activity: places where the level of human activity is appropriate to the location and creates a reduced risk of crime and a sense of safety at all times.

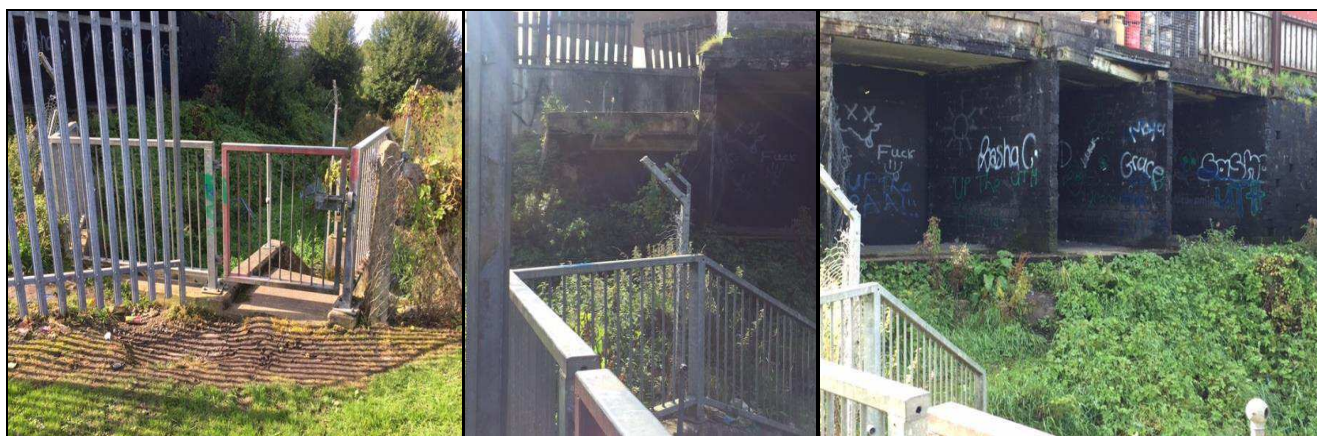
Management and maintenance: places that are designed with management and maintenance in mind, to discourage crime in the present and the future.

Observations

Below are some photos of the area which highlight particular problems.

The first set is of an area sometimes referred to as “The Cubes”. This area is accessible from the park and is clearly used for ASB activities. There is palisade fencing along one side of the access point to this area but stops at the gated area shown in the first photo below. The middle photo shows another access/egress point from a local garage forecourt. The last photo shows the cubes where the youths congregate.

Areas such as this generate fear and make the park appear unappealing and dangerous to the local community.



Trees and shrubs are naturally associated with parks however, planting should not impede the opportunity for natural surveillance and should avoid the creation of potential hiding places. There are areas throughout the park where trees have provided cover and shelter for those engaging in ASB activities. The evidence seen from the photos below were taken in the wooded area just behind The Junction community building and also in the area near the Old English Road.





This photo shows an access/egress point in the park which runs behind the wooded area at The Junction and has a number of fear generators. The trees and planting on either side prevent natural surveillance, there is no lighting and the evidence shows that this has made it an area which is regularly and frequently used for ASB activities. The access/egress point has been blocked off but the 1m fencing is not sufficient to prevent its use for the purposes of ASB. Numerous 'rat runs' were noted leading on to the path in Railway Park which at this point gives access to off-licences – the local Tesco is situated close by.

The area under the bridge below again provides cover for those who commit crime. I noted floodlights have been added to the lampposts at either side of the bridge however, because my visit took place during the hours of daylight, I cannot confirm if they are working or provide sufficient lighting in this area. There was also some graffiti on the bridge.



The planting on the access/egress path leading to/from Newell Road has become overgrown obscuring the lighting. Planting should not impede the opportunity for natural surveillance nor create the opportunity for hiding places.

One of the areas to be developed is set alongside McKee's Terrace, an area of housing near the end of Newell Road and a Skateboard park is proposed for the area shown in the second photo below. As the skateboard park will abut the rear vehicular entrance leading to the rear of McKee's Terrace the boundary will need to be secure taking account of issues such as privacy and noise concerns. Across from this area, just off the Ballygawley Road a Performance Space is planned which appears to include a covered stage area and perhaps some cover along the rear seating area. This has the potential to create further ASB problems if care is not taken to ensure it is well lit and has good surveillance.



Recommendations

The recommendations refer to not only the new development but also areas within the existing park.

Landscaping – My report has highlighted areas where the planting may be contributing to ASB by providing cover or obscuring view. However, park areas are green areas and landscaping plays an essential part in making such an environment friendly and pleasant. The correct use of certain species of plants such as spiny or thorny shrubs can help prevent graffiti and loitering and create or enhance perimeter security. Defensive planting is not just about prickly shrubs; it is about selecting the right type of plant for the right aspect and environment. For example, open branched and columnar fastigiated trees can be used in a landscape scheme where natural and formal surveillance is required. Climbing plants can be used to cover walls to deter graffiti. Carefully selected trees and shrubs can be used to 'green up' the most hostile of environments providing both horizontal and vertical interest without adding to crime risks.

Planting should not impede the opportunity for natural surveillance and must avoid the creation of potential hiding places such as the area behind The Junction and the closed off pathway leading to Railway Road/Linfield Street as well as the area close to the Old English Road. As a general recommendation, where good visibility is needed, shrubs should be selected to have a mature growth height of no higher than 1 metre, and trees should have no foliage, epicormic growth or lower branches below 2 metres, thereby allowing a 1 metre clear field of vision – the gradient of the landscape will need to be considered when deciding what planting to use.

Access/Egress – The park is designed to allow local residents easy access. These pathways should not be secluded areas but should be as straight as possible, have good lighting and should be designed to provide good visibility i.e. where users are visible by others through

natural surveillance - concealment spots or entrapment spaces must be avoided. Unauthorised access points such as 'The Cubes' area should be closed off. The Palisade fencing should be extended - if access is required to that area a gate which is of the same height and construction as the fence should be put in place and securely locked. The secluded pathway which leads to Railway Road/Linfield Street is an area of concern. The current fencing is not adequate or high enough to prevent access but replacing the fence with palisade fencing will not, on its own, provide a solution to the problems of ASB that exist at present. The pathway itself is still a concern. However, it could be re-opened if the bank of trees was cleared and replaced with a new planting design which takes full account of opportunities for crime.

At the moment Council Vehicles have access to the park – I recommend that provisions are put in place to ensure that Emergency Services can also gain access when necessary.

Graffiti - In situations where Graffiti is frequently painted on walls it is recommended that the graffiti be removed as soon as possible. Anti-social behaviour attracts further such behaviour. I recommend it is removed or painted out. Treating walls with an anti-graffiti glaze will make future removal of graffiti much easier.

Lighting - A successful lighting scheme requires good but not oppressive levels of light that is evenly distributed. Well-positioned lighting deters and reveals potential intruders and reduces fear of crime. It is important that the landscape architect and lighting engineer co-ordinate their plans to avoid conflict between lighting and tree canopies. Where CCTV is to be used the lighting should complement the chosen scheme. A CRI of 65+ is best to aid recognition and identification which produces quality images and avoids light spillage.

CCTV – Where natural surveillance cannot be achieved consideration should be given to the use of CCTV. The area under the bridge has in the past given cause for concern. It is clear that steps have been taken to address this issue and flood lighting installed. However, whilst improved lighting can reduce the fear of crime, lighting without any natural or formal surveillance may prove to be ineffective.

Signage - Clear Signage is a very positive way to set out expectations for people's behaviour and to exercise control over your space. A welcome message to visitors giving directions and advising of services provided is useful but signage which sets out rules will clarify and define what behaviours are unacceptable. Drinking has been identified as one of the ASB activities in the park but currently there are no signs which state that drinking is prohibited.

Where any unacceptable behaviour is presented, a sign may be used as a mandate to challenge the behaviour. Challenging someone by saying "The sign says 'No Drinking'" is very different to telling someone "I say that you cannot exhibit the behaviour".

Signs should be clear and multi-lingual as appropriate. The use of simple recognised symbols is recommended. If CCTV is to be in operation, clear signage at the entrance should be erected to alert the public.

Ownership – A launch day and subsequent events such as park runs, theatre events etc. will encourage local residents to use the park. This in turn should help to create a sense of ownership which in turn encourages the residents to take pride and ownership of the park.

Conclusion

For further guidance on security I would recommend checking www.securedbydesign.com and www.psni.police.uk/index/crime-prevention

This report is based on information supplied and current crime trends in the area concerned. Crime prevention advice is given free without the intention of forming a contract.

The Police Service does not accept liability for the advice given. The total elimination of crime cannot be guaranteed but the advice if acted upon and implemented, will reduce the fear of crime and the opportunity of crime being committed.

In compiling this, I have endeavoured to maintain a reasonable, realistic and cost effective approach. If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Joanne Smyth
Crime Prevention and Designing Out Crime Officer

Tel: 101 Ext 52069
Mob: 07801 738392

Report on	Internal Lighting Upgrade Meadowbank Sports Arena, Magherafelt
Date of Meeting	8 th November 2018
Reporting Officer	Terry Scullion - Head of Property Services
Contact Officer	Cormac McGinley, Building Maintenance 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	To seek members' approval to upgrade and fund the replacement of existing interior lighting in Meadowbank Sports Arena to energy efficient LED lighting.
	Background
2.1	<p>Meadowbank Sports Arena in Magherafelt is the largest arena in the Council estate. It opened on January 2008. The site offers indoor and outdoor facilities for a range of sports. Indoor provision includes a synthetic surface (137m x 70m) which allows multiple sporting activities to take place simultaneously, or can also accommodate an indoor 300m track (flat). It also has a 450-seat spectator area. While the facility is primarily used for sports, it has been used for an election count and entertainment events to good effect due its capacity and layout. It is a busy facility that operates seven days per week, including evenings with a significant interior lighting requirement inside the main arena area.</p> <p>Under the Energy Performance of Buildings (Certificates and Inspection) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2008 and Amended Regulations 2014 Display Energy Certificates (DEC's), the facility has a current rating of F141. The DEC gives an insight to the energy usage of the building, with the rating for the building from A to G, where A is very efficient and G is the least efficient.</p>
3.0	Main Report
3.1	In total there are 182 number 400watt low bay metal halide light fittings within the main arena. Repairs and replacement of the existing lighting are carried out periodically through a third party electrical contractor organised by Property Services from a Council procurement framework. At present approximately 30% of the existing lights are not operational and are due for replacement. The number of lights not being operational has an effect on overall lighting levels and the quality of light at pitch level for facility users.

3.2	To carry out repairs to the existing lighting and replace with like for like fittings/bulbs, it is estimated that this would require an expenditure of £5,750. This cost is made up of labour, materials and the hire of working at height equipment.
3.3	Having reviewed the level of annual maintenance, energy consumption and lighting application, LED lighting is considered a viable alternative. A full breakdown of the costs associated with replacing the existing lights with new energy efficient LED's is included in Appendix 1. This includes a breakdown of the running costs for the existing lights; material and labour costs for replacement LED lights; the expected running costs of the new lights; and the anticipated payback period of investment in the new lighting.
3.4	<p>The 'spend to save' lighting scheme advantages include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Energy efficiency improvement of approximately 50% compared to the existing lights, reducing the annual spend on electricity, ○ LED lighting has been proven to last longer than conventional lighting, reducing maintenance costs over the longer term, ○ The lighting illuminates immediately on start-up, no warming up period required, ○ The light fittings are physically more durable as they are not manufactured from glass. ○ Significant improvement in light quality at pitch level
3.5	The main disadvantage is the initial investment requirement on the LED lighting and the associated installation costs. However, there is a payback period of 3.69 years. In addition, there is currently a grant available from Energia for up to 20% on the cost of new energy efficient lighting. This grant is based on a first come first served basis until the allocated funds have been committed or expended. There is no guarantee that if an application was made that funding would still be available, but if submitted and successful the investment required would be lower and the payback would be 3.22 years.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	<p>Financial: This work is considered to be significant energy improvement initiative to the facility, rather just than planned or reactive maintenance. Therefore funding is requested from Council revenue reserves. The investment required is £40,480, excluding any potential grant. However, a grant application is proposed.</p>
	<p>Human: Officers time in preparing and managing the scheme, including making the grant application and coordinating the work programme with Leisure Services to minimised the impact on facility operations.</p>

	<p>Risk Management:</p> <p>Mid Ulster Council has a duty of care under the Health and Safety at Work Order to its staff and the public who use the facility to provide a safe and adequately lit environment. This project will help mitigate that risk by upgrading lighting provision in the facility.</p>
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	<p>Equality & Good Relations Implications:</p> <p>None.</p>
	<p>Rural Needs Implications:</p> <p>None.</p>
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members are asked to approve the release of £40,480 plus 10% contingency, (i.e. £44,528) from revenue reserves to undertake the LED lighting upgrade as outlined at Meadowbank Sports Arena using an approved Council procurement framework Contractor.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 – Summary Lighting costs

Appendix 1 – Summary Lighting costs

Running Costs per year for the Existing Lighting within the Arena

Section	Existing lighting	No. Req'd	Watts	Approx. Power Used (W)	Total Power Used (W)	Annual Running Hours	Total kWh consumption	Unit cost of electricity	Total Cost
Main Arena	400 watt lowbay Metal Halide	182	400	440	80080	1224	98,017.92	£0.17	£16,663

Forecasted Running Costs per year based on Energy Efficient LED Lighting

Section	Proposed Lighting	No. Req'd	Watts	Approx. Power Used (W)	Total Power Used (W)	Annual Running Hours	Total kWh consumption	Unit cost of electricity	Total Cost
Main Arena	150 watt LED Highbay fitting	182	150	150	27300	1224	33,415.20	£0.17	£5,680

Installation Costs for the new Fittings

- Material costs for new LED fittings - **£25,480** (182 x £140 (cost per fitting))
- Estimate cost for the labour and plant hire costs - **£15,000**

Summary of Costs without Energia grant on Materials

Project Investment (materials only)	£25,480
Project Investment (labour & plant hire)	£15,000
Total Project Spend	£40,480

Current electric Spend	£16,663.05
Post investment electric spend	£5,680.58
Potential annual saving	£10,982.47

Payback on total overall investment – 3.69 years

Summary of Costs including 20% Energia grant on materials

Project Investment (materials only)	£20,384
Project Investment (labour & plant hire)	£15,000
Total Project Spend	£35,384

Payback on total overall investment – 3.22 years

Report on	Representation on Working Group of Northern Ireland Strategic Migration Partnership
Date of Meeting	Thursday 8 th November 2018
Reporting Officer	P Moffett, Head of Democratic Services
Contact Officer	P Moffett, Head of Democratic Services

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	To consider and agree representation of an Elected Member from Mid Ulster District Council on a working group of the Northern Ireland Strategic Migration Partnership (NISMP).
2.0	Background
2.1	The NISMP has corresponded with the Chief Executive requesting that it nominate an Elected Member to represent the Council on its cross-council <i>Sustainable Communities & Demographics Working Group</i> . The letter is attached as appendix A and provides information on the background and role of the NISMP.
2.2.	The NISMP is hosted by NILGA and further information on the work of the Partnership can be found at http://www.migrationni.org/
2.3.	This a nomination to a Working Group of the NISMP and not to the full Partnership. The full Partnership currently has representation of one councillor from each of the following political parties - DUP, Sinn Fein, UUP, SDLP and Alliance.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>The relevant NISMP officer has confirmed that the broad focus of this group is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • gain an greater understanding of changes of demographics with regards to migrants and migration • act as a forum for sharing good practice across districts on delivery of initiatives such as the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Relocation Scheme • discuss and review issues such as; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ social cohesion ○ hate crime ○ interpretation & service provision ○ current legislation
3.2	The first meeting of this Group was to take place at end of October 2018 to agree priority areas and a Terms of Reference for the working group.

3.3	It is recommended and preferable that the Elected Member be from Policy & Resources as the NISMP activity is linked in particular to this committee, though a councillor from Policy & Resources is not an absolute requirement.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: expenses incurred with any travel claims submitted for attendance
	Human: not applicable
	Risk Management: not applicable
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: not applicable in this instance
	Rural Needs Implications: not applicable in this instance
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	That the Committee agrees to nominate an Elected Member to represent the Council on the cross-council <i>Sustainable Communities & Demographics Working Group</i> of the NISMP
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix A: Correspondence from Northern Ireland Strategic Migration Partnership

APPENDIX A

Antony Tohill
Mid Ulster District Council
Circular Road
Dungannon

24th July 2018

Dear Mr Tohill,

The NI Strategic Migration Partnership (NISMP), hosted by NILGA, is seeking nominations to a cross-council Sustainable Communities and Demographics working group.

NISMP is a regional body which provides an advisory and coordinating role in relation to migration in Northern Ireland. Councils are represented on the board through 5 elected members on a cross-party basis and the board also comprises senior representation from NI Departments, key non-governmental organisations and the Home Office.

The Sustainable Communities and Demographics working group will be instrumental in identifying and addressing council needs and concerns relating to changing demographics and ensuring that these are understood by decision makers at both Westminster and Stormont.

In the first instance, we propose that a primary focus for the group will be to determine the impact of migration on the economic and social priorities for each council. The group will also act as a forum for sharing of good practice among members on issues such as hate crime, support services and social cohesion.

The group will comprise both officers and elected members. We would be grateful if you could nominate an officer to this group **and request council to nominate an elected member**. Ideally both nominees will have a strategic understanding of your council's economic and social priorities, be an effective communicator within the council and have an interest in the themes under discussion. If you would like any further information about NISMP or the terms of reference of the Sustainable Communities and Demographics working group, the NISMP secretariat at NILGA will be happy to either meet with you or chat by phone, at your convenience.

Best regards,



Cllr Alex Baird
Chair, NISMP

Report on	Member Conference, Seminar and Training: Annual Allocation
Date of Meeting	Thursday 8 th November 2018
Reporting Officer	P Moffett, Head of Democratic Services
Contact Officer	E Forde, Member Support 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	To consider implementation of an arrangement brought forward by the Elected Member Development Working Group to maximise learning opportunities the availability of annual Conference, Seminar & Training allocations per member.
2.0	Background
2.1	The current council policy on Conferences, Seminars and Training facilitates an annual allocation to each elected member, which can be drawn upon for their attendance and participation at same.
2.2	The current allocation is £750 per annum with anything incurred in excess of this being met by the Councillor.
2.3	The Elected Member Development Working Group had previously recommended that a paper/ report be brought to Policy & Resources Committee to explore the scope for the policy being widened to permit allocations being transferred between party members. This was referenced within the Report of the Elected Member Working Group brought to June 2018 Policy & Resources Committee and subsequently discussed at the meeting.
2.4	The overriding purpose of a reallocation would be to maximise opportunities for Members to allow those who have time to avail of training opportunities to do so and then share the learning with their party/council colleagues. This would be in cases where a member has exceeded their allocation, or likely to, in any given financial period (April to March).
2.5	Some members, for varying reasons, are unable to attend and participate in conferences, Seminars and Training during the day. Transfers of allocations permits those members with greater availability to attend such activities, therefore increasing opportunities for knowledge to be shared with party/council colleagues, thus increasing the knowledge base.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	On consideration, it is proposed that the existing policy be amended to permit elected members to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. transfer up to £250 (one third of their allocation) to a party colleague for the purpose of attendance at conferences, seminars and training.

	<p>2. transfer only when the recipient elected member has or is anticipated to exceed their annual allocation; and</p> <p>3. receive up to £500 (i.e. two thirds of their annual allocation) in transfers from party colleagues annually. This will place a ceiling/cap on transfers.</p>
3.2	This approach ensures; (i) elected members are always left with at least two thirds of their annual allocation still affording them with an opportunity to avail of conferences, seminars and training should the need arise and; (ii) avoids unnecessary and excess transfers which would not otherwise be required.
3.3	<p>The current policy does not allow for the transfers of monies between elected members. It is proposed that the policy be amended at Section 5.2.5 and include the following:</p> <p><i>Each Member shall be allocated £750 per annum as a contribution towards conference, seminar and training costs, where training is of specific relevance to the role of a Councillor. This allocation shall not be transferable between financial reporting periods. Members may, however choose to transfer up to £250 to a colleague of their political party within a financial reporting period. A cap shall be placed on the amount that can be received by an elected member in any financial period and be set at £500 (i.e. two thirds of the annual allocation). Transfer requests to another political party colleague shall be notified in writing to the Head of Democratic Services who will undertake an eligibility check for transfer and arrange for the process to be monitored.</i></p>
3.3	Members will be aware that returns are made to the Department for Communities on allowances paid for each financial period, under Part 3 of the Local Government Finance Act (NI) 2011 and the Local Government (Payments to Councillors) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2012. This return includes courses/conferences/visits.
3.4	Democratic Services will maintain a record of expenditure against each member, with any expenditure from transfers being recorded against the recipient and not the member who transferred it. Thus, if a Member receives a transfer for example of £250 from a party colleague the amount will be recorded against them and a note be incorporated to advise that monies have been transferred from the party colleague in line with Council policy.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: Proposals within existing budgetary arrangements
	Human: Not Applicable
	Risk Management: Not Applicable
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: All knowledge gained will benefit Council.
	Rural Needs Implications: not applicable in this instance

5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	<p>That the committees considers the proposal to facilitate transfers between elected member annual allocations for conferences, seminars and training. Transfers will be subject to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) members being permitted to transfer up to £250 only (one third of their allocation), to a party colleague; (ii) transfers being permitted only when the recipient elected member has or is anticipated to exceed their annual allocation and; (iii) a member receiving up to £500 only (i.e. two thirds of their annual allocation), in transfers annually
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	None

Report on	Lease and Licence of Lands at Knockmany Forest from DAERA/Forest Service
Date of Meeting	8 th November 2018
Reporting Officer	Claire McNally, Council Solicitor
Contact Officer	Claire McNally

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	To seek Members' approval in principle to enter into a legal arrangement with DAERA/Forest Service ("FS") in relation to lands at Knockmany Forest ("the Lands").
2.0	Background
2.1	The Council and DAERA/FS aim to work together in relation to the provision of recreational facilities within forestry lands as a platform to create social recreational tourism and economic benefits for the Council area. To this extent, a Memorandum of Understanding ("MoU") between the parties was approved by Council on 30 th June 2016 in order to determine the scope, limits and practical workings of the collaborative partnership between the Council and DAERA/FS in this regard.
2.2	The Council has entered into 20 year Licenses which are site specific with DAERA/FS in order to manage the recreational use of a number of forests within the district.
2.3	Some of the proposed projects and development opportunities within a number of the forests, have led to DAERA/FS requiring that the Council enter into a Lease of specific parcel(s) of land that are subject of said opportunities.
2.4	The importance of the forests in providing doorstep opportunities for the local community and consequently the direct benefits that this brings in terms of improvements in health and well-being, social capital and protection of the resource cannot be underestimated. It is essential that moving forward local communities are 'bought in' to the future development of the forests in their area and many of these proposals have been captured through the community planning process and are referenced in the draft Mid Ulster District Council Outdoor Recreation Strategy.
2.5	Knockmany Forest Project was confirmed as successful in the Sport NI competitive application process and was to initially receive a capital investment up to £75,000 ("the Project"). In December 2017, the Head of Service for Parks sought Council approval for the Council to undertake the management and delivery of the Project to enable the scheme to secure funding through the Sport NI Renewal programme.

	It was approved that the Council would contribute £25,000 match funding towards this Project in support of the grant from Sport NI. Since this was approved by Council, the funding package has increased; Sport NI were able to avail of additional funding up to £120,000 and this amount would also be match funded by DAERA. The total Project fund adding up to an overall amount of £265,000.
2.6	In the delivery of this Project, the Council proposes to support and develop the recreational use of the Forest with local community groups through partnership development. The Project will make provision for a new modular building consisting of a meeting room/toilet facility accommodation. The 90m2 modular building will consist of the following: meeting room with kitchen facilities; male/female WCs; disables WC; stores; extension of existing car parking facility; improvements to site entrances; improvements to existing trims trails, improved signage and associated facilities.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	DAERA/FS has not yet provided the Council with a draft Licence and draft Lease in relation to Lands within Knockmany Forest. DAERA/FS has advised that they anticipate a rental value of up to £2,500 in respect of the Lands, depending on the scale of the scheme, subject to a LPS valuation.
3.2	The Lease would be on similar terms as other DAERA/FS leases of a similar nature and would include the following:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Term of 20 years; • Rental value of up to £2,500 per annum, confirmation subject to pending LPS valuation; • 5 yearly rent reviews linked to market rent (upwards bound only).
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: The Council will be responsible for costs to include: the annual rent; providing and maintaining land boundaries; insurance; and the inspection/examination of trees and subsequent costs of remedial works as required.
	Human: Officers' time in completing the Project and ongoing maintenance.
	Risk Management: N/A
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/A
	Rural Needs Implications: N/A

5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	<p>That Members approve in principle that:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The Council enters into a 20 year Lease with DAERA/FS in respect of Lands within Knockmany Forest, up to the maximum rental value of £2,500 per annum; and ii. The Council enters into a Licence with DAERA/FS in respect of Lands within Knockmany Forest.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	N/A

Minutes of Meeting of Policy and Resources Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 4 October 2018 in the Council Offices, Burn Road, Cookstown

Members Present

Councillor McKinney, Chair

Councillors Ashton, Bateson (7.04 pm), Doris, Forde, Gildernew, Kearney, S McGuigan, McPeake, Molloy, M Quinn (7.04 pm), Totten

Officers in Attendance

Mrs Campbell, Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation
Mrs Canavan, Director of Organisational Development
Ms McNally, Council Solicitor
Ms Mezza, Head of Marketing and Communications
Mr Moffett, Head of Democratic Services
Mr JJ Tohill, Director of Finance
Miss Thompson, Democratic Services Officer

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm.

PR196/18 Apologies

Councillors Buchanan, Cuddy and McLean.

PR197/18 Declaration of Interest

The Chair reminded members of their responsibility with regard to declarations of interest.

PR198/18 Chair's Business

None.

Matters for Decision

PR199/18 Cyclical Replacement Plan for Leisure Fitness Equipment

The Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation presented previously circulated report which sought approval for a Cyclical Replacement Plan for Leisure Fitness Equipment.

Councillor Ashton asked if the monies being requested were within a current budget or if it would be a new budget for next year.

The Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation advised that Council would likely get a loan for the equipment.

The Director of Finance advised that the £300,000 being requested would essentially be additional in the rates.

Councillor Ashton referred to previous discussions related to pressure on the capital programme and asked how this additional cost would affect this programme.

The Director of Finance advised that the capital programme had not included leisure equipment and that the capital expenditure for the cost of the equipment was a new budget going forward. The Director advised that rates predication had not been undertaken yet as to how this additional cost would affect rates for next year.

Councillors Bateson and M Quinn entered the meeting at 7.04 pm.

Councillor McPeake proposed the officer recommendation as he felt an investment in leisure equipment was needed.

Councillor Gildernew seconded Councillor McPeake's proposal.

In response to question from the Chair the Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation advised that the replacement plan would include all Council leisure facilities and highlighted that if Council does not invest it cannot compete with other privately run facilities.

Councillor Molloy asked if the cost included a maintenance contract for the equipment.

The Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation advised that maintenance would be built into the cost of the future contract.

The Director of Organisational Development referred to ongoing restructuring within leisure services and that staff had also raised the need to invest in leisure equipment if Council facilities are going to be able to compete with other gyms in the future.

- Resolved** That it be recommended to Council –
- To develop and implement a cyclical replacement plan for all leisure facilities equipment that would see its replacement on a 7 year cycle. This would support the leisure transformation agenda by ensuring Council facilities and equipment are modern and of sufficient quality. Spin bikes to be replaced initially, due to the demand for the programmes and the age of the current spin bikes.
 - To release £300,000 per annum to undertake the Cyclical Fitness Equipment Replacement Plan and that a phased approach be adopted in line with Council procurement guidelines.

PR200/18 Davagh Dark Skies Project

The Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation presented previously circulated report which advised of increased project costs and sought approval to progress project based on revised costs.

Councillor Ashton asked if there was any more funding available from DAERA for this project.

The Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation advised that there was no further funding available from DAERA and that officers were constantly seeking funding avenues, the Director advised that Council were currently bidding for additional funding for the outside of the visitor hub building to make it more of a visitor attraction.

The Chair, Councillor McKinney referred to the road on which the visitor hub will be located and stated that this was a narrow road with nowhere to pass when two cars met. The Chair stated that this will cause difficulties accessing the attraction in the future and suggested that consideration be given to creating laybys along the road to allow passing to take place.

The Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation stated that she would bring the Chair's comments to the attention of the technical team for their consideration.

Proposed by Councillor Gildernew
Seconded by Councillor Doris and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to progress Davagh Dark Skies Project based on revised construction costs of £1,009,169 (an increase of £259,169) and additional Council contribution of £259,169 (total Council contribution of £504,169). Revised total project cost being £1,254,169.

PR201/18 Strategic Business Case for the proposed development of Railway Park

The Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation presented previously circulated report which sought approval to progress developments at Railway Park to the next stage as outlined in the strategic business case.

Councillor Gildernew stated that this project had been on the go for a long time and proposed the recommendation.

Councillor Molloy seconded Councillor Gildernew's proposal.

The Chair, Councillor McKinney asked for an update in relation to project at Thomas Street.

The Council Solicitor stated that discussions were ongoing in relation to Thomas Street project and that there was agreement in principle however there were some issues still to be determined and that a further update would be provided in due course.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council –
▪ To appoint a suitably qualified and experienced Integrated Consultancy Team (ICT) to develop detailed design options for the

complete Railway Park Project. Create detailed specifications and prepare all associated tender documentation for agreed phases of the Railway Park development proposal.

- To allocate phase one capital budget of £431,500 as projected under option 2 of Railway Park (Western Section) Strategic Business Case.

PR202/18 Beechland Park, Clady – Proposed Transfer to Northern Ireland Housing Executive of lands for Community Development Scheme

The Council Solicitor presented previously circulated report which provided update in relation to a proposed Community Development Scheme at Beechland Park, Clady and sought agreement in principle to transfer lands at Beechland Park, Clady to Northern Ireland Housing Executive in order to progress the scheme.

Councillor McPeake stated that this was a good news story and proposed the recommendation.

Councillor Kearney seconded Councillor McPeake's proposal and stated that this was an excellent scheme in which the community would be delighted to be involved.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council –

- To agree in principle to transfer lands at Beechland Park, Clady to NIHE.
- To agree the engagement with Land and Property Services to seek a valuation and to approve that negotiations with NIHE are progressed in relation to the proposed transfer.

PR203/18 Request to Illuminate Council Property

The Head of Democratic Services presented previously circulated report which considered request from Diabetes UK (Northern Ireland) to light up/illuminate buildings blue to mark World Diabetes Day on Wednesday 14 November 2018.

Councillor Molloy proposed the recommendation however he stated that Diabetes was one of the major health concerns of the modern age and suggested that Council should be doing more to promote Diabetes awareness.

Councillor S McGuigan seconded Councillor Molloy's proposal.

The Head of Marketing and Communications stated that a communications campaign could be undertaken to mark World Diabetes Day and that staff awareness of Diabetes could be promoted through the Health and Wellbeing Group.

Resolved That it be recommended to the Council to –

- Approve the request to light up Ranfurly House and Visitor Centre, Dungannon; Burnavon Arts and Cultural Centre, Cookstown and Bridewell, Magherafelt blue on Wednesday 14 November 2018 for World Diabetes Day.

- Undertake a communications campaign to mark World Diabetes Day and promote Diabetes awareness through the Health and Wellbeing Group.

PR204/18 Elected Member Development Working Group

The Head of Democratic Services presented previously circulated report which considered the report of a meeting of the Elected Member Development Working Group held on Wednesday 12 September 2018. The Head of Democratic Services advised that assessment for the Elected Member Development Charter had taken place on 2 October.

Proposed by Councillor Gildernew
Seconded by Councillor Doris and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the report of the Elected Member Development Steering Group meeting held on Wednesday 12 September 2018.

Councillor Ashton advised she had sent apologies for the working group meeting in September however she noted it had went ahead with only one member and asked how this had happened and how minutes could be approved.

The Head of Democratic Services advised that Councillor Ashton's comments were valid however there were no governance arrangements in place regarding minutes of this working group and that it was decided to go ahead with one member on the night of the meeting as the charter assessment was coming up.

Councillor Ashton stated she thought there were Terms of Reference for the working group.

The Head of Democratic Services advised that there was a Terms of Reference for the working group but would check if a quorum had been agreed and was in place.

The Chair, Councillor McKinney stated he was Chair of this working group and had sent in his apologies late for the September meeting as he was unable to attend.

Councillor Doris stated she had went to Dungannon for the September meeting and therefore her apology was also late.

Councillor Gildernew stated that no decisions had been taken at the meeting on 12 September and that discussion had related to upcoming assessment.

Councillor McPeake suggested increasing the membership of the group to avoid similar circumstances occurring again.

The Head of Democratic Services advised that the membership of the Elected Member Development Working Group was currently five but that other working groups had a membership of ten.

Councillor McPeake proposed that the membership of the Elected Member Development Working Group be increased from five to ten members.

Councillor Gildernew seconded Councillor McPeake's proposal.

Resolved That it be recommended to Council that the membership of the Elected Member Development Working Group be increased from five to ten members.

Matters for Information

PR205/18 Minutes of Policy and Resources Committee held on Thursday 6 September 2018

Members noted Minutes of Policy and Resources Committee held on Thursday 6 September 2018.

PR206/18 Somme Association – 2018/19 Subscription

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on correspondence received from the Somme Association on annual membership contributions payable for period 2018-2019.

PR207/18 Corporate Health Indicators: 2017-18

Members noted previously circulated report which provided update on Council's Corporate Health Indicators for the period 2017-18.

PR208/18 Marketing and Communications Activity Update

Members noted previously circulated report which provided an update on key areas of recent marketing and communications activity.

Local Government (NI) Act 2014 – Confidential Business

Proposed by Councillor M Quinn
Seconded by Councillor S McGuigan and

Resolved: In accordance with Section 42, Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014 that Members of the public be asked to withdraw from the meeting whilst Members consider items PR209/18 to PR218/18.

Matters for Decision

- PR209/18 Transfer of Council owned lands situated at Coagh Road, Stewartstown
- PR210/18 Staffing Matters for Decision
- PR211/18 Employee Healthcare Provision

- PR212/18 Procurement of and Integrated HR/Payroll/Expenses and
Time and Attendance IT System
PR213/18 Procurement of Valuation Services

Matters for Information

- PR214/18 Confidential Minutes of Policy and Resources Committee
held on Thursday 6 September 2018
PR215/18 Contracts and DAC
PR216/18 Financial Report for 5 months to 31 August 2018
PR217/18 Managing Attendance
PR218/18 Staffing Matters for Information

PR219/18 Duration of Meeting

The commenced at 7pm and concluded at 7.46 pm.

Chair _____

Date _____

Report on	Appointment of Approved Humanist Celebrant
Date of Meeting	8 November 2018
Reporting Officer	Marissa Canavan
Contact Officer	Sandra Matchett-Gabr

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	To inform of the legal requirement for The General Register Office to direct the Council to approve appointment of Humanist Celebrants to conduct humanist led civil ceremonies.
2.0	Background
2.1	After a judicial review of the current legislation 2003 Marriage Order, GRO was required to broaden the interpretation of Article 31 (3) of the 2003 Marriage Order to include the appointment by Councils of Humanist Celebrants to conduct civil ceremonies on a temporary basis.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	GRO in the short term have amended procedures to facilitate the approval of humanist celebrants by:- - Using a new version of the marriage notice form - GRO determining the suitability of humanist celebrants for each wedding and - The Council appointing the approved humanist as a temporary celebrant for the marriage detailed in the notice of marriage form
3.2	The Registrar Sandra Matchett-Gabr will be nominated to receive details of the approved Humanist Celebrant from GRO and notify the Celebrant of their appointment by letter. The Celebrant will not be an employee of the Council.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: N/A
	Human: N/A

	Risk Management: N/A
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/A
	Rural Needs Implications: N/A
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	N/A
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Letter from Registrar General to Chief Executive from GRO outlining change in law regarding allowing humanists to conduct civil ceremonies

3 August 2018

Anthony Tohill
Mid-Ulster Council
Dungannon Office
Circular Road,
Dungannon
BT71 6DT

Dear Anthony

You will be aware that in June of last year a civil marriage was carried out by a humanist celebrant in Ballymena. This was due to a Judicial Review of the current legislation (2003 Marriage Order) regarding the types of marriages offered in Northern Ireland.

A summary of the case is that in early 2017 a couple were refused a humanist wedding by the General Register Office (GRO). The case went to Judicial Review at the High Court which found in their favour. The Department of Finance and GRO appealed. Due to the time that would be required to complete the appeal process, I, as Registrar General, was instructed by an interim judgment to facilitate the marriage to be carried out by a humanist celebrant in June 2017.

The appeal judgment was delivered on 28th June 2018 (see links below). The Appeal Court requires GRO to broaden the interpretation of Article 31 (3) of the 2003 Marriage Order to include the appointment by Councils of humanist celebrants. Article 31 refers to "Registrars and other staff" in the context of civil marriages, therefore weddings solemnized by humanist celebrants will be civil.

GRO are currently amending procedures to facilitate the approval of humanist celebrants and are working to assess the longer term impact of the judgment.

The changes required in the short term are:

- 1) using a new version of the marriage notice form,
- 2) GRO determining the suitability of humanist celebrants for each wedding and
- 3) the council appointing the approved humanist as a temporary celebrant for the marriage detailed in the notice form.

As part of the process to appoint a humanist celebrant GRO will need to inform the Council of successful applicants. Would you please notify me of the appropriate person or role who will coordinate these appointments. They will receive details of approved humanist celebrants from GRO, inform the Registrar of the celebrant's appointment and send the appointment letter.

I have attached a short humanist celebrant appointment letter with guidance notes that you may wish to customise for your Council. Note that humanist celebrants will not be employees of the Council

Although appointments will initially be on a marriage by marriage basis this may change after the review. It is important in this period that we get all the documentation and processes right in each case so that for each marriage we have the approval of the celebrant in place, the temporary appointment letter specifying the celebrant, the marriage and the date accurately and clarity about the respective responsibilities of the celebrant and the registrar in the context of a civil wedding conducted by a humanist celebrant.

We will continue to update District Registrar Offices on relevant changes via the bulletin process.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Kathie Walker the Deputy Registrar General (Kathie.walker@finance-ni.gov.uk)

Yours sincerely



Siobhan Carey CBE
Registrar General

The judgment is available at:-

[https://www.judiciary-ni.gov.uk/sites/judiciary/files/decisions/Smyth's \(Laura\) Application 0.pdf](https://www.judiciary-ni.gov.uk/sites/judiciary/files/decisions/Smyth's%20(Laura)%20Application%200.pdf)

The Marriage (Northern Ireland) Order 2003 is available at:-

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/nisi/2003/413/contents>

Overview of changes to Council processes.

	Council process	
	Notice form available from NI Direct to download or from Council office	
	Couple complete Notice forms, adding details of the humanist celebrant with the celebrant's signature	
	Submit notice form to Registrar	
	Registrar produces the schedule	
	Registrar releases schedule to couple.	
	Schedule returned after ceremony.	
	Marriage registered.	

	Process to approve and appoint a humanist celebrant	
	Celebrant completes application form 470 and forward to GRO	
	GRO make decision on celebrant	
	GRO register celebrant	
	GRO inform Council	
	Council issue appointment letter.	

