

Report on	Works at Dungannon Roundabout
Date of Meeting	8 th March 2022
Reporting Officer	Mark McAdoo, Assistant Director, Environmental Services
Contact Officer	Eunan Murray, Grounds & 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 update members on works at the Thomas Street roundabout in Dungannon
2.0	Background
2.1	Significant development works have taken place in recent years across the main gateway roundabouts in the Mid Ulster district including the A29/Loughry roundabout in Cookstown and more recently the Castledawson roundabout.
2.2	The redevelopment of the Dungannon roundabout has been identified as another potential project in the Council Capital Framework 2020-2024 (subject to funding).
2.3	In advance of any major redevelopment scheme some preparatory (first phase) works are now required to clear and refresh the existing landscaping/structures on the roundabout and to address risks associated with the maintenance of the site.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The maintenance of the existing seasonal "butterfly" planting at the roundabout including watering of same will no longer be feasible due to the significant traffic management measures that would have to be put in place to facilitate this. Indeed DfI Roads have now advised that a lane closure must be put in place when such maintenance is being undertaken in the future which is not feasible as this would create a "bottle neck" at this gateway roundabout 2-3 times a week during the summer season. Therefore perennial planting in the raised beds is now planned and the butterfly structures will be relocated to Polepatrick and Maghera Walled Garden where they can be safely maintained with no traffic management issues.
3.2	The existing trees on site have also been surveyed by Dr Philip Blackstock (see report included at appendix 1) and he has reported that both are of average quality and have a fairly limited life expectancy with significant work required e.g. the Norway maple has a weak fork and is currently vulnerable to crown failure.

3.3	In order to clear/prepare the site for a larger scheme it is proposed to replace the two large trees with a small group of trees that can be replanted elsewhere if necessary when a larger redevelopment scheme is undertaken at a later date.
3.4	These planned works will give the roundabout an instant refresh whilst leaving the site in a state suitable for further development works when funding is available. The second phase development works could include the replacement of perimeter railings and the installation of a central art piece as key features of the scheme.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: In December 2021 the Development Committee approved the transfer of £20,000 from Economic Development to Ground Maintenance for phase 1 of the works.
	Human: Staff resources to deliver and supervise the planned works as outlined.
	Risk Management: Removal of the seasonal planting addresses a significant health and safety risk.
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/A
	Rural Needs Implications: N/A
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members are requested to approve the approach being taken regarding works at Thomas Street roundabout.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 - Tree Survey Report