



05 March 2020

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee to be held in
The Chamber, Cookstown at Mid Ulster District Council, Council Offices,
COOKSTOWN, BT80 8DT on Thursday, 05 March 2020 at 19:00 to transact the
business noted below.

Yours faithfully

Anthony Tohill
Chief Executive

AGENDA

OPEN BUSINESS

1. Apologies
2. Declarations of Interest
Members should declare any financial and non-financial interests they have in the items of business for consideration, identifying the relevant agenda item and the nature of their interest.
3. Chair's Business

Matters for Decision

- | | | |
|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 4. | Capital Discretionary Grant Budget | 3 - 10 |
| 5. | Corporate Plan 2020-2024: Consultation Outcome | 11 - 40 |
| 6. | Amendments to the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers to reflect changes in the Senior Staff Structure | 41 - 68 |
| 7. | Lease of lands at Pomeroy Forest from DAERA/Forest Service - Update | 69 - 74 |
| 8. | Consideration of Corporate Improvement Objectives for 2020-2022 | 75 - 82 |
| 9. | Report of Recommendations from Working Group: Representation on Outside Bodies | 83 - 100 |
| 10. | Response to NILGA Consultation: Council Reform to Date | 101 - 110 |
| 11. | Council and Committee Meeting Schedule 2020-2021 | 111 - 114 |
| 12. | Member Services | |

Matters for Information

- | | | |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 13 | Minutes of Policy and Resources Committee held on 6 | 115 - 140 |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------|

February 2020

14 Local Government Staff Commission: 2020-21 Contribution 141 - 144

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

15. Staffing Matters for Decision
16. Replacement of the Clocking Technology within Mid Ulster District Council Facilities
17. Contract for the Collection and Processing of Mixed Dry Recyclates (Blue Bin Contract)
18. Land Acquisitions & Disposals

Matters for Information

19. Confidential Minutes of Policy and Resources Committee held on 6 February 2020
20. Staff Engagement Survey Results
21. Prudential Code for Capital Finance Indicators and Authorised & Operational Borrowing Limits
22. Financial report for 10 months ended 31 January 2020
23. Contracts and DAC Register

Report on	Capital Discretionary Grant Budget
Date of Meeting	Thursday 5 th March 2020
Reporting Officer	Adrian McCreesh, Director of Business & Communities
Contact Officer	As above

Is this report restricted for confidential business?		Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon		No	X
X	Information relates to financial or business affairs of a person (including the council)		

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To propose a transfer of budget (£300,000) from reserves to the capital funding for Discretionary Capital projects across Mid Ulster.
2.0	Background
2.1	Council agreed a new Capital Discretionary Grant for community led projects. The process opened in November 2018 for the period 2018 – 2019 and 2019 - 2020. Following assessment 6 projects were presented for funding of £50,000 each as per the grant criteria.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	At the Development Committee of February 2019, Appendix 1, and Council of 2019, it was agreed to support 6 projects to a value of £50,000 each and total of £300,000 over a 2 year budgetary period 2018 – 2020; with an option to go out for further projects in 2020, which was agreed in November 2019, pending budget setting.
3.2	The third phase of the Discretionary Grant is currently being processed with recommendations due to Development Committee in April 2020; pending this a further paper will be issued to Committee regarding an expenditure budget.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: £150,000 year 2018 – 2019 £150,000 year 2019 – 2020 £150,000 year 2020 – 2021 (pending grant process and recommendation)
	Human: None

	Risk Management: None
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/A
	Rural Needs Implications: N/A
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	To agree the transfer of £300,000 from reserves to Capital Discretionary Grant for the period 2018 – 2019, 2019 – 2020.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	Appendix 1 Development Report February 2019

Report on	Capital Discretionary Grant
Date of Meeting	14 th February 2019
Reporting Officer	Claire Linney, Head of Community Development
Contact Officer	Philip Clarke, Community Services Manager

Is this report restricted for confidential business?		Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon		No	X
X	Information relates to financial or business affairs of a person (including the council)		

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To propose capital funding for Discretionary Capital projects across Mid Ulster.
2.0	Background
2.1	Council agreed a new Capital Discretionary Grant for community led projects. An expression of interest (Stage 1) was called in November 2018. Following receipt of 8 expressions of interest a total of 6 projects were then submitted to full application (Stage 2), one application did not meet eligibility and one decided they were not at a stage or readiness to submit to stage 2.
2.2	<p>A total of 6 projects returned the Stage 2 application forms and were assessed and scored against the grant criteria. As a result, 6 projects have met the criteria and achieved a minimum pass mark of 50%. Details of this are included in Appendix 1. The projects are as follows;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Kildress GAC £1.2m 2. Aughnacloy Presbyterian Church Community Group £345,000 3. Ballinderry GAC £338,283 4. Eoghain Ruadh Hurling, Dungannon £463,754 5. Pomeroy £326,388 6. Ballymaguigan £400,000 <p>Dungannon Swifts did not apply as they are at a stage of early development and will apply at a later time. DUY did not meet the eligible criteria.</p>
3.0	Main Report
3.1	It is proposed that letters of offer are issued to all 6 projects that have been assessed based on agreement of a minimum score of 50 and that they would proceed to receipt of funding up to £50,000, subject to all of the conditions/clauses in the letter of offer being met.

	<p>To allow the budget allocation to be maximised it is proposed that 3 projects would commence financial year 2018 – 2019 and the remaining 3 would commence year 2019 – 2020. The projects would commence based on the timeline for project delivery that has been provided by the Groups, as follows:</p> <p>Current financial year allocation (2018 – 2019) Aughnacloy ready to commence immediately Eoghain Ruadh – commenced (post EOI) Ballinderry – ready to commence immediately Letter of Offer to be issued end February 2019 with all match funding confirmation in place, for completion of project within 18 months end August 2020.</p> <p>New Financial Year 2019 – 2020 Kildress Ballymaguigan Pomeroy Letter of Offer to be issued by end September 2019 with all match funding confirmation in place for completion of project within 18 months end March 2021.</p>
3.2	It is proposed that a special meeting would be arranged for members for the projects to present on their proposals.
3.3	It is further proposed that this would be an annual programme and a call for applications for 2020 – 2021 would take place at the end of 2019 (3 potential applications) with letters of offer to be received April 2020 to complete September 2022.
3.4	<p>One application was informed that it did not meet the essential criteria in that they were not leading and delivering as a community group on a capital community project greater than £300,000; criteria ‘Must be led by a community and voluntary organisation’. The project in discussion is currently being delivered by Council in partnership with the Group.</p> <p>An appeal was received on 11th January, which has been addressed at its first stage by a senior officer not involved in the initial scoring process. The senior officer recommendation was as per the original decision of officers. This has been informed to the Group on 28th January 2019, with the provision that a second stage appeal can be sought.</p> <p>Guidance on the eligibility of the project was provided in advance of an expression of interest being received and this was the same advice given to other similar schemes; including Donaghmore walkway and Pomeroy Recreation building.</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: £150,000 year 2018 – 2019 £150,000 year 2019 – 2020
	Human: Community Monitoring
	Risk Management: Project monitoring re spend

4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/A
	Rural Needs Implications: N/A
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	<p>To agree the grant recommendation awards to the maximum value of £50,000 per group as per the list of Groups and as per financial year allocations.</p> <p>To agree to open the Discretionary Grant in November 2019 for a further call, for up to £150,000, pending budget setting.</p>
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	None

Appendix 1

Capital Discretionary Grant

Organisation	Project Brief	Rank	Score (100)	Project Value	Award
Kildress Wolfe Tones	Community Hub Building (1500 sq. m)	1	100	£1.2m	£50,000
Aughnacloy Presbyterian Church Community Group	Aughnacloy Community Hub Building (345 sq. m)	2	88	£345,000	£50,000
Ballinderry Shamrocks GAC	Ballinderry Community Hub Building (450 sq. m)	2	88	£338,283	£50,000
Eoghan Ruadh Hurling Club Dungannon	Building inc. changing rooms, community room, toilets (268 sq. m) and carpark	4	67	£463,754	£50,000
Pomeroy Plunkett's GAC	Phase 3 of wider Community Hub and Recreation Complex: Includes resurfacing of pitch, carpark and access works	5	61	£326,388	£50,000
Ballymaguigan St Trea's	Replacement Community Hall (380 sq. m)	6	57	£400,000	£50,000
Dungannon Swifts FC	Community Building, full size 3G & training 3G		Propose to submit at a later stage project not at a stage of readiness		

Report on	Corporate Plan 2020-2024: Consultation Outcome
Date of Meeting	Thursday 5 March 2020
Reporting Officer	Ursula Mezza
Contact Officer	Ursula Mezza

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 report provides details of the outcome of the public consultation on the Council's draft Corporate Plan 2020-2024 for the Committee's reconsideration following a decision of the Council in February 2020.
2.0	Background
2.1	The Council's first Corporate Plan (2015-2019) came to the end of its natural lifespan in March 2019 and work has been on-going to prepare a new plan for the period 2020-2024.
2.2	The draft plan issued for a period of consultation (Monday 11 November 2019 - Friday 10 January 2020).
2.3	Response to the consultation was low with 7 external respondents, 2 individual internal respondents and 5 internal service teams (estimated to be upwards of 50 staff members in total).
3.0	Main Report
3.1	At the Council meeting in February 2020, members agreed that the draft Corporate Plan and consultation outcome report be re-considered by the Policy and Resources Committee.
3.2	The report on the consultation outcome and associated recommendations is now re-represented.
3.3	A detailed analysis of consultees' comments is provided in the outcome report at Appendix 1. Proposed changes to the draft plan are outlined in a series of 6 recommendations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council's vision is considered robust and should be retained

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council's 6 stated values should be retained, with 1 amendment to the wording of 'excellence' to reflect the Council's accountability for its resources. • Given broad agreement, the 5 stated themes should be retained. • Stated priorities should be retained, with suggested amendments to 6 as detailed in the main report. • The final plan's narrative should refer to or reflect certain issues raised by respondents. • Corporate commitments should be retained, with a minor change to the wording of one.
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: To be assessed as part of the final Corporate Plan development.
	Rural Needs Implications: To be assessed as part of the final Corporate Plan development.
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	That the Policy and Resources Committee re-considers the outcome of the public consultation and the 6 associated recommendations.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Draft Corporate Plan (2020 – 2024) Consultation Report.

Draft Corporate Plan 2020 – 2024 Consultation Report

Summary

- The draft Corporate Plan (2020-2024) issued for a period of 9 weeks' public consultation from Monday 11 November 2019 to Friday 10 January 2020.
- Potential external consultees were contacted directly via the Council's standard consultee list, with requests to both the economic development and community development sections to draw the consultation to their contacts' attention. Standard public notice and news releases were issued, together with social media posts to direct people to the relevant web page for further information and to access a link to an online survey.
- Internally, Heads of Service were provided with guidance and key questions to ask when considering the draft Plan with their teams and staff were informed of the opportunity to respond via the staff newsletter, team brief and intranet.
- Externally 7 responses were received via the online survey and internally 5 service teams (representing upwards of 50 individuals) and 2 individuals responded.
- The detail of consultees' comments is provided in the pages with follow, together responses to comments and recommendations for amendments and additions.

Recommendations

Recommendations are reflected in the body of the main report below. However, for ease of reference, a summary of recommendations is provided here.

1. 'At the heart of our community' should be retained as the Council's vision.
2. The Council's 6 values should be agreed with an amendment to the definition of 'excellent' to reflect the Council's accountability for how resources are allocated.
3. The 5 strategic themes should be carried forward to the final plan.
4. The identified priorities should be retained, with changes as detailed in the table below.

Leadership	
L1 We will use our influence to shape and facilitate: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the delivery of strategic infrastructure schemes including the road transportation network (including bypasses for both Cookstown and Dungannon)• the drainage and sewerage network• our energy and broadband connectivity• the future development of health provision• the direction of wider policy impacting on economic growth.	<i>Recommendation: retain strategic priority with addition of housing and education to those areas of work which the Council will seek to use its influence to shape and facilitate.</i>
Service Delivery	
SD3 We will enhance our financial performance and strength, identifying opportunities to increase income and reduce deficits, as well as to leverage external funding.	<i>Recommendation: retain strategic priority and as per the 'Excellence' value above, include accountability for resources.</i>

Communities	
<p>C0 Mental health should be specifically mentioned, given the growing importance of the issue.</p> <p>There should be some focus on Health and Mental Health with community planning partners.</p>	<p><i>Recommendation: retain strategic priority and include the specific issue of mental health under Leadership L1 above as an area where the Council seeks to use its influence to influence and shape health provision.</i></p>
<p>C1 We will open up and sustain accessible pathways to participation in leisure and outdoor recreation activities which enhance health and well-being by providing high quality, accessible facilities in local communities and through programmes tailored to community need and delivered by a skilled, flexible and motivated staff.</p>	<p><i>Recommendation: retain strategic priority and given repetition in another strategic priority (SD2), delete ‘and delivered by a skilled, flexible and motivated staff’.</i></p>
<p>C5 We will promote and protect regional minority languages and culture.</p>	<p><i>Recommendation: replace this strategic priority (which continues to be a specific action in the Community Plan) to reflect the broader commitment to ‘develop, promote and sustain the arts in Mid Ulster’ (also a commitment in the Community Plan).</i></p>
<p>C6 We will continue, through our community development programmes, financial assistance schemes and our partnership-working, to support local communities and to build capacity in the community and voluntary sector.</p>	<p><i>Recommendation: retain strategic priority and remove ‘financial assistance schemes’ to replace with ‘grant aid’.</i></p>

5. The final plan's narrative should reflect issues raised via the consultation as identified below.
 - under the Service Delivery theme, the Council's statutory functions should be visible in the plan's text and an 'Asset Management Plan' and what it encompasses should be clearly explained.
 - In the Economic theme, a description of the breadth of the Council's work in this area should be included, highlighting issues such as the importance of sustaining our town centres as economic hubs, the importance of employment opportunities for young people.
 - In the Environment theme, the role of street cleansing should also feature in text.
 - While the Communities theme does not include a specific reference to older people and an ageing population, the final plan should include an area profile and issues of demographics will be captured there.
 - Comments across themes on sustainability suggest the final plan narrative should reflect the issues raised around sustainability more cohesively.
6. The Council's Corporate Commitments should be retained as stated with one amendment to the wording of 'Work in partnership across the public, private, community and voluntary sector to achieve shared objectives' which should change to read 'work collaboratively across the...'

Vision

Respondents were asked to consider if the Council's vision represented its ethos.

Vision Statement	Comments	Response/ Recommendation
At The Heart Of Our Community	<p>Internal responses showed agreement with the retention of the existing vision.</p> <p>Externally 1 respondent disagreed with the vision statement:</p> <p><i>Mid Ulster District Council's ambitious Draft Corporate Plan is welcomed however it would be remiss if the Protestant Unionist Loyalist (PUL) community in Mid Ulster did not make their views known and recorded. We note the vision to 'be at the heart of the community'. In recent years the PUL Community has felt that Mid Ulster District Council has not only rejected them but quite definitely excluded them of all opportunities and directed the majority of resources to the Catholic Nationalist Republican community. This given the use of terms such as equality and respect are colourful terms on paper however if they do not translate to meaningful outputs they are nothing only words on a page.</i></p> <p>2 other respondents commented as follows:</p> <p><i>The vision is ambitious yet achievable for the Council in the Mid Ulster area.</i></p> <p><i>It does however in the growth section for the Seamus Heaney centre it is being run as a ongoing concern and must be appraised in terms of the value it is adding to rate payers due to subventions of rate payer money.</i></p>	<p>Referenced under ECON6</p> <p>Recommendation: retain the existing vision.</p>

Values

The draft Plan reconsidered the Council's 6 existing values (customer-focussed, innovative, quality-driven, team-focussed, professional and trustworthy). The draft Plan proposed that some were retained, while others were broadened and re-defined, and others replaced to better reflect how we feel we operate as an organisation.

Respondents were asked to consider if the Council's values are the right ones to guide its work and behaviour.

All internal and external respondents stated they agreed with the values.

Values: General Comments

There were 2 general comments on values from external respondents as follows

- 1. The Protestant Unionist Loyalist Community welcome the values set out in the Mid Ulster District Council's ambitious Draft Corporate Plan however we once again stress the translation of these to the Protestant Unionist Loyalist Community. We strongly believe your values does not translate to practices within council. The terms of Trustworthy, Respect and Inclusive and great goals and aspirations however the PUL community can provide strong case studies to show this is not the case. To value ones contribution and to champion a cause of equality requires respect and tolerance shown to all communities not just that of the domineering Nationalist/Republican council representatives.*
- 2. The values are correct though through actions it must be proven.*

Values: Specific Comments On Individual Values

Proposed Values	What does this mean?	Comments	Response/Action
Citizen and Customer-focussed	<i>Designing and delivering our services in response to and around the needs of our citizens and customers and within our resources.</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Citizen element of this value is important. However, would like to see greater recognition for services which work with internal customers. 2. Often we are driven by KPIs, rather than customer needs. 3. I am not sure if the 'customer' focussed is necessary as citizens are all customers irrespective of whether they engage in the local community or wider societal activities. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Staff recognition forms part of strategic priority SD2. 2. This perception supports the need for this value and for the organisation to 'live' this value. 3. While citizens of Mid Ulster can all be considered customers, the Council would also have customers beyond local residents (e.g. visitors to the district) and also uses the term internally (i.e. internal customers) <p><i>Recommendation: retain value.</i></p>
Innovative	<i>New and better ways of doing what we do.</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We may lack innovation. 2. Is 'Innovative' the correct word? Should it not be 'Adaptive'? 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The formalisation of an innovation agenda has begun and this is referenced in Strategic Priority SD1. 2. We believe innovative is defined differently to 'adaptive' which implies more flexibility or fluidity in ways of

			<p>working, rather than seeking new and better ways.</p> <p><i>Recommendation: retain value.</i></p>
Excellence	<p><i>Striving to excel in every aspect of our work, delivering the best, value for money services.</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Excellence could be considered to be a product of all our values working together. 2. Restrictive access to training policy/process does not fit well here. 3. There is no reference to money, how we spend it or are accountable for it. 4. From an architectural perspective there is agreement with the proposed value of “excellence” and that we should deliver the best value for money service. <p>However, it is important that value is placed on design. This is particularly pertinent</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This is true. However, the Council believes that stating that we strive to achieve excellence as standard is an important value to articulate clearly. 2. The development of a skilled workforce forms part of strategic priority SD2. 3. A financial element can be added to this value’s definition: ‘...<i>being accountable for and delivering the best, value for money services</i>’. See also response to SD0 and SD3. 4. The value of excellence in design in this context can be reflected in ECON5 which articulates the Council’s priority around the planned delivery of its capital investment programme.

		<p>given the extent of investment into development proposals and the wide ranging nature of these schemes from village regeneration to large scale opportunities sites.</p> <p>As a point of reference, this year Norwich City Council's social housing scheme with almost 100 highly energy efficient homes – 'Goldsmith Street' was awarded the prestigious RIBA Stirling Prize and the Neave Brown award for housing.</p> <p>Tom Foggin, RIBA East Regional Chairman: "The combined win of the RIBA Stirling Prize 2019 and inaugural Neave Brown Award reflects the new benchmark that Goldsmith Street has set for housing across the UK. The project is an exemplar of what can be achieved when a well-</p>	
--	--	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--

		informed and committed client takes a long term view of sustainability and placemaking, which I hope will inform housing design and procurement across the Eastern region.”	<i>Recommendation: retain value with addition to definition to reflect accountability.</i>
Trustworthy	<i>Working for our communities in a spirit of friendliness and openness by delivering fair, transparent, equitable and ethical services to all customers.</i>	1. The word ‘honesty’ is missing.	1. Honesty is considered to be implicit in the trustworthiness. <i>Recommendation: retain value</i>
Respect	<i>Treating each other, our customers and our stakeholders in the same considerate way that we wish to be treated ourselves.</i>	1. Should the word be ‘respectful’? 2. In the definition, refer to the fact that respect is earned.	1. Respect is considered a better way to reflect the two-way nature of the relationships between the Council, its customers and stakeholders. 2. This is implicit in the definition. <i>Recommendation: retain value</i>
Inclusive	<i>Creating a culture which values, supports and celebrates diversity to the</i>	1. Can the definition include the word ‘belonging’?	1. See below.

	<i>benefit of the organisation and the people we serve.</i>	2. The definition talks about diversity, keep the focus on being inclusive rather than diverse.	2. Diversity and Inclusion are often used interchangeably and while they are different ' <i>Diversity is the 'what'; inclusion is the 'how'. Inclusion is a measure of culture that enables diversity to thrive</i> ' the current definition places the creation of the inclusive culture to the fore. <i>Recommendation: retain value</i>
--	-------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Corporate Commitments & Strategic Themes

The draft Plan set out a series of corporate commitments, together with 5 proposed themes around which the Council proposed to build its strategic focus.

Respondents were asked if they:

- agreed with the overall strategic direction and whether the themes under which priorities had been groups were appropriate for Mid Ulster.
- felt that the themes under which priorities have been grouped are appropriate/right for Mid Ulster.
- felt that the strategic priorities identified under each themes were the right ones.
- felt that there were any strategic priorities which should not be included
- felt there were any strategic priorities which were missing.

Strategic Direction: General Comments

All respondents agreed with the Council's overall strategic direction, with 2 general comments as follows:

Volunteer Now believes that the direction is clear and achievable and would encourage the Council to consider the impact of volunteer involvement in all areas.

The Protestant Unionist Loyalist Community welcome the strategic direction set out in the document and in particular 'promote equality and good relations'. We would question what this means and how the council suggest they will meet this strategic objective. Giving the sincerity of this document if it passes all stages of consultation and council approval, then the Protestant Unionist Loyalist community will be waiting and watching intently to the effort and balance of these outputs within communities.

Themes: General Comments

Of the 7 online respondents, 1 did not agree that the themes under which priorities were grouped were correct.

Specific comment on specific themes is captured in the tables below.

One general comment was made as follows:

The priorities seem to be reflective of the needs of the local community and the role of the Council.

Strategic Priorities Are The Right Ones: General Comments

Of the 7 online respondents, 1 did not agree that the strategic priorities were the right ones.

Specific comment on individual strategic priorities is captured in the tables below.

Strategic Priorities Which Should Not Be Included: General Comments

Of the 7 online respondents, 1 stated that there were priorities which should not be included. No comment on which ones was provided.

Specific comment on individual strategic priorities is captured in the tables below.

Strategic Priorities Which Are Missing: General Comments

Of the 7 online respondents, 4 stated that there were priorities which were missing and 3 did not believe any priorities were missing.

Specific comment on individual strategic priorities is captured in the tables below.

One general comment was made as follows:

The Protestant Unionist Loyalist community awaits Mid Ulster District Council's practical response to the ambitious strategic priorities set out within the plan and how the Protestant Unionist Loyalist community will benefit and prosper from these outcomes. We do not feel any are missing.

Theme 1: Leadership

Reference	Theme/Priority	Comment	Action
L0	Leadership	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Theme does not make sense – leadership is a principle. 2. Volunteer Now would also like to see the Council taking leadership in the development of a Volunteer Policy and the integration of good practice in volunteer management. Volunteer Now believes that through taking a leadership role in this area the Council can be a positive role model for other public and statutory bodies in the area as well as further afield. Volunteer Now would be happy to support 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Showing leadership can be considered to be a principle or value. In this sense, the concept is of an organisation which is leading the development of itself and its district via its lobbying and influencing role. The distinction can be highlighted in the final Plan narrative. 2. Volunteering is a specific action in the Community Plan (Theme 5: Vibrant and Safe Communities 'Support the community and voluntary sector to build capacity and promote volunteering opportunities' with an associated measure based on the level of volunteering). <p>Specific volunteering policy commitments are likely to</p>

		the development of the policy and practice.	arise as part of that broader process.
L1	<p>We will use our influence to shape and facilitate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the delivery of strategic infrastructure schemes including the road transportation network (including bypasses for both Cookstown and Dungannon) the drainage and sewerage network our energy and broadband connectivity the future development of health provision the direction of wider policy impacting on economic growth. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Broadband is economic driven, sewerage is environmental infrastructure, housing should be included in Communities theme and health should be in Communities theme. The Council's role in shaping and influencing education is not referenced while other significant areas are, such as health and infrastructure. Broadband activity is seen as very important. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Consider addition of housing to areas of work where the Council seeks to have influence and shape policy. Consider addition of education to areas of work where the Council seeks to have influence and shape policy. Included as part of strategic priority L1. <p><i>Recommendation: retain strategic priority with addition of housing and education to those areas of work which the Council will seek to use its influence to shape and facilitate.</i></p>
L2	We will continue to progress towards the adoption of our Local Development Plan 2030 and delivery against the plan objectives.		

L3	We will work collectively to meet the identified needs and priorities of our citizens and to connect the people of Mid Ulster.		
----	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--	--

Theme 2: Service Delivery

Reference	Theme/Priority	Comment	Response/Action
SD0	Service Delivery	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Theme does not make sense – service delivery is a principle. 2. This theme provides an opportunity to reflect how we use our resources accountably (as per comment under Values above). 3. Our statutory functions are not obvious in the plan. Difficult to see where some of the statutory functions fit under the priorities. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Expansion of the theme name or clearer descriptor may help to explain why this is a theme, rather than a principle or value. 2. Financial accountability has been suggested as an addition to the 'Excellence' value and to SD3 below. 3. Statutory functions can be made more visible in the narrative of the final Plan.
SD1	We will improve services for our citizens through the development and delivery of an innovation agenda.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is this focussed on customers? Would like to see this for staff also e.g. increased options in home/ flexible working arrangements which will help efficiency. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. While the innovation agenda is at early stage development, it will include how we can innovate in our internal processes and policies which involves staff

			and which ultimately benefits our service delivery for customers.
SD2	We will invest in our people to create a customer-focussed, purposeful, skilled, high performing, engaged, healthy and safe work-force.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is no detail in the priorities about how our 'human assets' are professionally developed to sustain and foster high performing service delivery. 2. However, would like to see greater recognition for services which work with internal customers. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The commitment in this priority is to ensure there is a skilled workforce. Details of how this can/should be delivered will flow from subsequent implementation work. 2. Referred from Values section, recognising staff is part of the Council's approach to investing in its people.
SD3	We will enhance our financial performance and strength, identifying opportunities to increase income and reduce deficits, as well as to leverage external funding.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. See comment under SD0 above and comment under 'Excellence' value. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The concept of accountability can be woven into this priority. <p><i>Recommendation: retain strategic priority and as per the 'Excellence' value above, include accountability for resources.</i></p>
SD4	We will develop and implement an Asset Management Plan for the Council and, with our partners, work to develop a public sector-	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. (a) An Asset Management Plan requires explanation to ensure this priority is properly understood. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Include definition of an Asset Management Plan in narrative to aid understanding.

	wide Asset Management Plan for Mid Ulster.	(b) Will everyone in the organisation understand what is meant by an Asset Management Plan? Is it all Council assets, will the expectation in an estate context be different across services and how will it be implemented?	
--	--------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--

Theme 3: Economy

Reference	Theme/Priority	Comment	Action
ECON0	Economy	1. There is no reference to assisting/sustaining the economic hubs/drivers of our district i.e the main towns. We have always highlighted our towns are the main economic hubs and if they are not performing well our hinterlands will suffer. If they are performing well they have a multiplier effect across the district.	1. While these are not specifically referenced, the significance of our town centres as economic hubs remains central to the Council's economic development plans and approach. It is articulated in the Mid Ulster Community Plan (Theme1: Economic Growth 'Create a competitive advantage for our principal towns, complimenting a 'Town Centre First' principle') and is also a key tenet of the Council's new draft Local Development Plan (L2).

			It is also implicit in ECON2 and can be added to final plan narrative.
ECON1	We will develop and deliver the Mid, South and West Regional Economic Strategy in collaboration with our partner Councils (Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council and Fermanagh and Omagh District Council).		
ECON2	We will continue to build on our work to generate business diversification, innovation and expansion and increase employment opportunities.	1. Needs to focus on employment opportunities for young people.	1. This can be reflected in the final Plan narrative.
ECON3	We will continue to support the work of our partners, including the Mid Ulster Skills Forum, to address employability and skills to ensure the existing and future needs of our region's business base are met.		
ECON4	We will continue to identify opportunity sites for development proposals and to deliver against existing plans for other key strategic sites (including Ann		

	Street, Dungannon and the former Maghera High School site).		
ECON5	We will have a prioritised, sustainably resourced programme of capital investment supporting the enhancement of facilities for local people and contributing to the regeneration of our district.	1. If led by the Council, this programme needs supported with revenue resources to ensure it is actually sustainable and can realise the Council's vision.	1. The Council recognises this and has reflected its importance in the wording of ECON5: 'sustainably resourced'.
ECON6	We will work to deliver tourism investment and employment concentrating on Mid Ulster's 3 identified tourism strands.	<p>1. Seamus Heaney HomePlace is included here but should, from the wider perspective of culture and arts be reflected in the 'Communities' theme.</p> <p>2. It does however in the growth section for the Seamus Heaney centre it is being run as a ongoing concern and must be appraised in terms of the value it is adding to rate payers due to subventions of rate payer money.</p> <p>3. Growth within the private sector for tourism, despite a new strategy, private sector are being forced to follow themes that are not generating income.</p>	<p>1. Response under C5</p> <p>2. All Council leisure, arts and cultural facilities require a subvention.</p> <p>3. The Council's tourism strategy (to 2021) was created with considerable input from and consultation with the local industry. Currently under review, any disparity between its aims and the industry's income</p>

			generating approach should be identified as a result.
--	--	--	-------------------------------------------------------

Theme 4: Environment

Reference	Theme/Priority	Comment	Action
ENV0	Environment	<p>1. (a) While sustainability is a corporate commitment, it merits inclusion under this theme with a specific project or plan attached to it.</p> <p>(b) In relation to sustainability, under Theme 3: Environment we outline our commitment to mitigate against the impacts of climate change by taking steps to reduce our carbon emissions. Again I just wanted to reiterate the importance of sustainability in relation to development, from the very basics of using passive solar design. I acknowledge that we note 'design and deliver our services more sustainably' has been listed at the outset but would question whether, given the current concerns in relation to climate, if</p>	<p>1. The final Plan narrative will reflect the issues raised around sustainability more cohesively.</p>

		<p>sustainability should feature more heavily and if the theme should revert to the former title: Sustaining our environment?</p> <p>2. Environment and Communities should be higher up.</p>	<p>2. The themes aren't ranked in any order of importance.</p>
ENV1	We will continue to reduce our dependency on landfill through waste reduction and increased recycling and recovery.		
ENV2	We will continue to promote and protect our environment through our environmental and anti-littering programmes of education, awareness-raising and enforcement.	<p>1. Add street cleansing.</p>	<p>1. Street cleansing as a function will be reflected in the final Plan narrative.</p>
ENV3	We will increase the protection of, access to and development of our heritage assets, both natural and man-made, including our strategic visitor sites.	<p>1. Biodiversity and natural green spaces should be included.</p>	<p>1. While natural green spaces are implied by the general descriptor, they are also referenced specifically in C3, where biodiversity should also be reflected by implication in the term 'sustainable development'.</p>

ENV4	We will work to mitigate against the impacts of climate change by taking steps to reduce our carbon emissions as an organisation.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Taking steps to reduce carbon emissions is important. It can be achieved through investment decisions in fleet with alternative fuel vehicles, use of technology to reduce carbon footprint of the Council's grey fleet travelling within the Council estate, more consideration of whole life energy choices, 'spend to save' energy initiatives, smarter water consumption and re-use. How is it going to be implemented and by whom? 2. The Mid Ulster Council could aim to plant more trees in the area - creating woodland corridors for wildlife. There are a lot of areas that could be redevelopment and indigenous woodland could be planted.(Belfast City council plan to plant 1million trees) MUC should do the same. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This priority has emerged as a result of the increased global action on climate change and is a new area of focus for the organisation. An implementation plan, together with responsibilities, will be developed when the final plan is agreed. 2. Tree-planting is anticipated to form part of the Council's mitigation work.
------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Theme 5: Communities

Reference	Theme/Priority	Comment	Action
C0	Communities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Safety should be mentioned in one of this theme's priorities. 2. (a) Social inclusion and social connectivity e.g. around creating spaces and places for people to connect is missing. (b) Social inclusion, social cohesion and social connectivity are a priority. The stronger the emphasis we place on digital connectivity, the greater the onus on us to ensure the balance with social connectivity. 3. (a) Mental health should be specifically mentioned, given the growing importance of the issue. (b) There should be some focus on Health and Mental Health with community planning partners. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This is encapsulated in the Community Plan theme 'Vibrant and Safe Communities' and is reflected in associated actions. 2. Social inclusion and connectivity are considered as implicit in work across this theme e.g. C1, C3. 3. The specific issue of mental health can be included under Leadership theme (L1).

		<p>4. (a) Older people and Mid Ulster's aging population are not referenced and we should be preparing for this changing demographic and reflecting it in the new Corporate Plan.</p> <p>(b) Focus more on ageing population and disadvantaged groups.</p> <p>5. Volunteer Now believes that the inclusion of a volunteering priority could add a positive dimension into the Strategy. Volunteering is well recognised to improve the mental health and emotional wellbeing of those who participate; it develops skills pertinent to employability and an individuals own personal development; it creates a sense of community, inclusion and ownership and enables initiatives in all areas including the environment and service delivery both of which are included in the overall plan. Volunteer Now would be happy to discuss our thoughts further.</p>	<p>4. The final Plan will include an area profile and issues of demographics will be captured there.</p> <p>5. See comments under LO above.</p> <p><i>Recommendation: retain strategic priority and include the specific issue of mental health under Leadership L1 above as an area where the Council seeks to use its influence to influence and shape health provision.</i></p>
--	--	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

C1	We will open up and sustain accessible pathways to participation in leisure and outdoor recreation activities which enhance health and well-being by providing high quality, accessible facilities in local communities and through programmes tailored to community need and delivered by a skilled, flexible and motivated staff.	1. Motivated staff should not be included specifically here, as all staff should be motivated.	1. Well-motivated staff are included in 'Service Delivery' theme and given this theme is focused on communities, this does not need to be repeated. <i>Recommendation: retain strategic priority with deletion of 'and delivered by a skilled, flexible and motivated staff'.</i>
C2	We will continue to support the sustainable development of our parks, forests and green spaces, together with access to outdoor assets, including walking and cycling trails, and water recreation.	1. Revenue resourcing for upkeep of outdoor assets is critical in this theme and managing community expectations of the Council's drive to create sustainable community programmes. 2. Although there is reference to sustainable in the context of the sustainable development of our parks etc, there perhaps could be more emphasis on sustainability across the Plan in a wider sense.	1. Revenue resourcing has been identified above as significant (ECON5) for capital development. Here specifically, the sustainable development of assets will not be possible without appropriate revenue tails being built into projects. 2. See ENV0.
C3	We will, along with our community planning partners, work to address		

	poverty and deprivation across the Mid Ulster region.		
C4	We will support and promote respect for diversity and the integration of our minority communities.	<p>1. (a) The Protestant Unionist Loyalist community recognise in particular the use of the term 'minority communities' when talking about the promotion of diversity and protection of culture. Given the demographics within Mid Ulster District Council, the Council officials and Councillors will note that the Protestant Unionist Loyalist communities are indeed in the minority. Therefore we await the ideas as to how you wish to help the Protestant Unionist Loyalist communities promote its rich heritage traditions and cultures displayed for hundreds of years across the Mid Ulster area.</p> <p>(b) Mid Ulster District Council has clearly set out their ambition to ensure local communities feel safe, and have their diversity respected and prosper equitably within the area. The Protestant Unionist Loyalist community feel very isolated, marginalised and disregarded throughout the Mid Ulster District area. The</p>	<p>1. Our commitments to equality of opportunity and good relations and our on-going community development and good relations programmes seek to address these issues.</p>

		ambitious language used is creative and we await to see how these identified priorities are addressed within and throughout the Protestant Unionist Loyalist Community.	
C5	We will promote and protect regional minority languages and culture.	1. As per comments under Economy, the wider and valuable role which culture and arts services have, should be reflected in this theme.	<p>1. This priority can be broadened to reflect the Community Plan commitment to 'develop, promote and sustain the arts in Mid Ulster'.</p> <p>Recommendation: replace this strategic priority (which continues to be part of the Community Plan) to reflect the broader commitment to 'develop, promote and sustain the arts in Mid Ulster'.</p>
C6	We will continue, through our community development programmes, financial assistance schemes and our partnership-working, to support local communities and to build capacity in the community and voluntary sector.	1. Given the level of community support via grants, they should be more visible in this priority rather than summarised under the term 'financial assistance'.	<p>1. Priority wording can be amended to include reference to grant aid.</p> <p>Recommendation: retain strategic priority and remove 'financial assistance schemes' to replace with 'grant aid'.</p>

Corporate Commitments

The draft Plan also contained a series of ‘corporate commitments’ which work across and weave through each theme. Some respondents also commented on these as detailed in the table below.

Corporate Commitment	Comment	Action
Address rurality	None	Retain.
Promote equality of opportunity and good relations	None	Retain.
Continuously improve our services	None	Retain.
Design and deliver our services sustainably	1. See various comments on sustainability (Excellence Value, ENV0, ENV3, ENV4, C2, C3).	Retain.
Work in partnership across the public, private, community and voluntary sector to achieve shared objectives.	1. This definition would be strengthened with a re-focus on collaboration/collaborative working.	Retain, with amendment: replace ‘work in partnership’ with ‘work collaboratively’.

General Comments

The final plan should include a profile of the Mid Ulster District and details of the Council’s expenditure.

Internally, some services have responded to suggest they struggle to see where they ‘fit’. This appears to be with statutory services in particular, as well as those which may be support services working across the organisation.

The plan should include more emphasis on our internal communications to ensure we are working and communicating across departments and not in isolation.

The plan is very ‘Community Plan’ focussed in terms of some priorities which are likely to be delivered by others, albeit the Council role most likely lobbying through influencing and shaping (road transportation, drainage and sewerage under Leadership).

Ursula Mezza
24 January 2020

Report on	Amendments to the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers to reflect changes in the Senior Staff Structure
Date of Meeting	5 th March 2020
Reporting Officer	Claire McNally, Council Solicitor
Contact Officer	Claire McNally, Council Solicitor Philip 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 seek members' approval on the changes to the Scheme of Delegation resulting from amendments to the staff structure.
2.0	Background
2.1	<p>In November 2019 a report was taken through Council in relation to the proposed senior staff structure The key changes were as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of Directors/Departments has been reduced by one to five • The post, Director of Environment & Project is removed from the structure • Environmental Health will be aligned with Leisure and Parks in a new Department under the Director of Public Health & Wellbeing • Environmental Services, Property Services, Technical Services & Building Control will now form a new Department under the Director of Environment & Infrastructure • The Department for Business & Communities remains unchanged having already taken responsibility for Arts & Culture. • The Department of Finance remains unchanged having recently assumed responsibility for Risk Management • The Department of Organisational Development will assume responsibility for the Councils main office buildings
2.2	Members endorsed these changes to the senior staff structure in November 2019. At that time, members also approved the changes to the Committee Terms of Reference resulting from the amendments to the staff structure. Members were also advised that a further report would be brought back on changes to the Scheme of Delegation resulting from the staffing structure amendments.

3.0	Main Report
3.1	The changes to the Terms of Reference & Delegation to Committees resulting from the staff structure amendments will be made to the Constitution in the relevant parts and will take effect on 6 th April 2020.
3.2	The changes to the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers (“the Scheme”) resulting from the amendments to the staff structure is included at Appendix 1. For ease of reference, the changes have been tracked and in colour (Contents page, pages 6, 11-14 and Appendix A).
3.3	The opportunity has also been taken to ensure any changes previously agreed by Council, but not yet reflected within same, are incorporated in to the Scheme (e.g., Business & Communities Directorate taking on responsibility for Culture and Arts.)
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: As per the Policy & Resources Committee Report in November 2019
	Human: As per the Policy & Resources Committee Report in November 2019
	Risk Management: As per the Policy & Resources Committee Report in November 2019
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/A
	Rural Needs Implications: N/A
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	That members approve the changes to the Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers resulting from amendments to the staff structure in accordance with Appendix 1.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	Appendix 1 – Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers (Amended version March 2020)

Mid Ulster District Council

Scheme of Delegation for Senior Officers

March 2015

CONTENTS

Section	Page
1.0 Introduction	3
2.0 General Principles on Delegation	4
3.0 Delegated Functions: General	5
3.1 General Administration	
3.2 Finance	
3.3 Emergencies & Cases of Urgency	
3.4 Management of Land & Property Assets	
3.5 Human Resources	
3.6 Procurement	
4.0 Delegated Functions: By Officer	9
4.1 Chief Executive	9
4.2 Director of Business and Communities	9
4.3 Director of Public Health <u>Environment</u> and Infrastructure	10
4.4 Director of Environment and Property	11
4.4 4.5 Director of Culture <u>Public Health</u> and Leisure <u>Wellbeing</u>	11
4.56 Director of Finance	12
4.67 Director of Organisational Development	12
4.78 Planning Manager	13
4.89 Council Solicitor	13
Appendices	
Appendix A: Senior Officers	14
Appendix B1: Statutes which Director of Public Health <u>Environment</u> and Infrastructure has delegated authority	15
Appendix B2: Statutes which Director of Public Health and	18

Appendix C: Delegated Authority on Planning Matters

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This Scheme of Delegation ('the Scheme') is made by Mid Ulster District Council pursuant to Sections 2 and 7 of the Local Government (Northern Ireland) Act 2014. The Local Government (Northern Ireland) Act 2014 ('the Act') states that 'a council may arrange for the discharge of any of its functions by a committee, a sub-committee, an officer of the council or by any other council. This scheme has been developed with specific reference to matters delegated to senior officers and the solicitor of Council. Senior officers for the purpose of this scheme are identified in Appendix A.
- 1.2 The purpose of the Scheme is to set out the decisions and authorisations which Senior Officers and the Council Solicitor can make or grant without any further reference to Council or Committees subject to, where highlighted, the relevant Committee being kept advised by means of regular reports in relation to the exercise of these delegated powers. The Scheme is designed to aid the integrated management of the organisation, the effective deployment of resources and the efficient delivery of services.
- 1.3 In line with the Act this Scheme does not delegate to Senior Officers any matter which may only be discharged by the council itself:
 - (i) Making a district rate under the Rates (Northern Ireland) Order 1977
 - (ii) Making a determination under section 13(1) of Local Government Finance Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 (affordable borrowing limit) and monitoring an amount determined
 - (iii) Borrowing money, and
 - (iv) Acquiring and disposing of land
- 1.4 A Senior Officer may only exercise a delegated function under this Scheme subject to, and in accordance with:
 - (i) The agreed plans (including but not limited to Corporate and Departmental Plans), policies, programmes and objectives approved by the Council
 - (ii) The Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, Equality Scheme, Codes of Conduct And any other relevant governance policies contained within the Council's Constitution
 - (iii) The agreed estimates for their Department
- 1.5 Delegation to deal with any matter shall not derogate from the power of the Council or the relevant Committee to call for a report on any decision or action taken under the Scheme.
- 1.6 A Senior Officer may, notwithstanding their power of delegation, refer a matter to the relevant Committee in any case requiring discussion or unusual circumstances.

- 1.7 Authority to take decisions and other actions pursuant to the Scheme shall be exercised in the name of the delegated officer but not necessarily personally by them. In the absence of the officer to whom a function is delegated, the function may be exercised by the officer(s) responsible for the performance of their duties during such absence.
- 1.8 Where the authority is given, but without naming an officer, such authority shall be deemed as authorising the Chief Executive or the appropriate Senior Officer to take such steps.
- 1.9 In any case where the exercise of a delegated power involves considerations within the remit of another Senior Officer, the Senior Officer exercising the power shall consult with that other Senior Officer prior to taking any final decision.
- 1.10 The Chief Executive may exercise the powers delegated to any Senior Officer and to any proper officer except in the relation to those functions allocated to the Chief Financial Officer, within the meaning of the Local Government Finance Act (Northern Ireland) 2011, unless he or she is appointed as the Chief Financial Officer for the purposes of the Act.
- 1.11 In the event that a senior officer's post ceases to exist or his or her responsibilities are transferred to another senior officer, temporarily or permanently, then the powers given by this scheme shall be exercisable by the officer in whose area of responsibility the power falls to be exercised.
- 1.12 Any reference in the Scheme to a statutory enactment shall be deemed to include any modification thereof.
- 1.13 Authority to exercise any delegated power shall include authority to take all reasonable necessary actions of an incidental or consequential nature.
- 1.14 Where the Council, a committee or sub-committee gives authority for the doing of anything, the officer designated shall be entitled to take all necessary steps for doing such a thing.

2.0 GENERAL PRINCIPLES ON DELEGATION

- 2.1 Where decisions are taken by officers under delegated powers and authority the following principles and conditions shall be taken considered and applied at all times:
- Powers shall be exercised in accordance with the constitution and Standing Orders of Mid Ulster Council
 - The officer exercising such powers shall give effect to any resolution of the Council or committee, upon any matter of principle or policy in relation to the functions concerned
 - Where an officer is authorised to take decisions, action to implement such decisions shall be taken in the name of (but not necessarily personally by) that officer.

- The officer dealing with a matter shall arrange any inter-departmental or member level consultation that shall be required. If inter-departmental agreement is not reached at senior officer level, the matter shall be referred to the Chief Executive for consideration.
- In a case of where the officer exercising the power considers that a new departure in policy is likely to be involved, or if the implications are such that the officer considers that such course is necessary, the matter shall be referred to the Chief executive for consideration
- The exercise of delegated authority shall be subject to there being adequate and appropriate budgetary provision, in the year of exercise and future years.
- Any decision which may attract to the Council legal liability shall be taken in consultation with the Council Solicitor
- Any decision which has financial implications shall be taken in consultation with the Director of Finance or Head of Finance within council
- The exercise of functions under the scheme shall have regard to all relevant considerations

3.0 DELEGATED FUNCTIONS: GENERAL

The exercise of the following general functions is delegated to all Senior Officers:

3.1 General administration

- 3.1.1 Taking all necessary action for the effective day-to-day management, administration and supervision of the department, services and land and property assets for which the Senior Officer is responsible.
- 3.1.2 Implementing those actions, programmes and initiatives which the Senior Officer is responsible for, as set out in agreed Council plans subject to regular reporting to the relevant Committee and to the expenditure being within agreed estimates.
- 3.1.3 Engaging consultancy assistance, where required, subject to relevant Council policies and regular reporting to the relevant Committee on the use of this delegated authority.
- 3.1.4 Carrying out surveys and other research in connection with the functions of the department, subject to Council policies on procurement.
- 3.1.5 Responding to consultation documents on matters which are routine or which do not have significant policy or financial implications for the Council.
- 3.1.6 Making initial applications for grant funding from external bodies where there is not sufficient time for Council approval to be obtained provided that there is no

Commitment for Council funding and that any subsequent decision to proceed remains subject to Committee approval.

- 3.1.7 Developing and implementing specific promotions, schemes and events (including the provision of prizes) in line with any relevant Council policies.
- 3.1.8 Instructing the Council Solicitor to take legal proceedings in regard to the recovery of debt(s), the enforcement of contractual rights, the service of notices, the prosecution of statutory offences and the instituting and defending of claims and proceedings affecting the Senior Officer's department.

3.2 Finance

- 3.2.1 Paying the cost of an employee's professional fees where it is legally necessary for the employee to perform their duties in line with the Local Government Finance (Northern Ireland) Act 2011
- 3.2.2 Writing off any loss of money (including bad debts) and loss of stores and obsolete equipment and materials in accordance with the limits outlined in the Financial Regulations.
- 3.2.3 Approving payments to employees for damage to personal apparel or other items up to a limit of £500 where the damage has occurred in the course of the duties of that employee.
- 3.2.4 Authorising any employees to attend training and development events, technical visits and courses within their jurisdiction, subject to any relevant Council policies.
- 3.2.5 Authorising appropriate payments to employees in their department in respect of telephone, travel and subsistence allowances, standby and call out allowances, overtime, additional duties, in accordance with Council policies.
- 3.2.6 Granting of small scale hospitality pursuant to sec. 37 and 38 of the Local Government Finance (Northern Ireland) Act 2011 subject to the financial limits set.

3.3 Emergencies and cases of urgency

- 3.3.1 Taking such measures, including incurring expenditure, as may be required in emergency situations or cases of urgency, subject to advising the appropriate Chair and reporting to the appropriate Committee as soon as possible.

3.4 Management of Land & Property Assets

The exercise of the following delegated powers is in relation to the management of the land and property assets, for example, cultural centres, leisure centres, parks and open spaces but excluding the 3 Civic Council Offices which are the ~~Chief Executive~~ has ultimate responsibility of the Director of Organisational Development. The use of

these delegated powers is subject to paragraph 1.3 above that there is no disposal, holding or acquisition of land involved.

- 3.4.1 Permitting the use of such assets by Council departments and services and outside bodies in accordance with any relevant Council policies.
- 3.4.2 Varying the opening times of, or restricting access to, or closing such assets in special circumstances (for example to permit maintenance or other operational reasons) in consultation with the Chairman of the relevant Committee.
- 3.4.3 Approving the holding of non-controversial events, conferences and promotions in such assets and applying any necessary hire and/or admission charges or discounted pricing in line with Council policies.
- 3.4.4 Approving, after consultation with the Chairman of the relevant Committee and Council, requests received in respect of deemed controversial events and activities in such assets where there is not sufficient time for Council approval to be obtained, subject to a report being taken to Committee as soon as possible thereafter
- 3.4.5 Granting temporary licences for the use of Council assets for the purpose of events/car parking or other temporary uses on appropriate commercial terms, subject to consultation with the Council Solicitor and Director of **Public HealthEnvironment** and Infrastructure

3.5 Human Resources

The exercise of the following delegated powers is subject to consultation with the Director of Organisational Development to ensure that decisions are taken in accordance with any relevant Council policies and that, where necessary, the appropriate Committee is kept fully advised by way of regular reporting. Staff management changes which result in an increase in the approved staffing establishment and staffing budget for a department and/ or which effect any changes to posts at third tier and above, Head of Service level, will be subject to approval by the Council.

- 3.5.1 Undertaking service reviews, including the deletion of permanent posts and the creation of new permanent posts, provided that there is no increase in the Department's approved staffing establishment and staffing budget for permanent posts, subject to approval of the Chief Executive.
- 3.5.2 Creating new temporary posts provided that there is no increase in the Department's approved staffing establishment and staffing budget, in accordance with Organisational Development Department's approach.
- 3.5.3 Approving the use of agency resources in accordance with all relevant Council policies, following approval from Director for Organisational Development.

- 3.5.4 Appointing successful applicants to posts in line with the employment policies and practices adopted by the Council.
- 3.5.5 Agreeing to a one month overlap period for the appointment of employees, provided that this can be accommodated within budget.
- 3.5.6 Allowing or disallowing all requests for leave, of any kind, in accordance with the Schemes of Conditions of Service adopted by the Council.
- 3.5.7 Granting paid special leave (up to 3 days) to an employee in exceptional circumstances, and approving other paid or unpaid leave of absence subject to all relevant Council policies.
- 3.5.8 Taking action, including terminating or varying contracts of employment in respect of employees in the relevant department in accordance with Council policies following consultation with the Director of Organisational Development and the Council Solicitor

3.6 Procurement

The exercise of the following delegated powers is subject to consultation with the Director of Finance to ensure decisions are taken in accordance with relevant Council policies, including Standing Orders and the Financial Regulations, and that where necessary, the appropriate Committee is fully advised by way of regular reporting.

Under the Local Government (Northern Ireland) Act 1972 any contract that exceeds the statutory amount of £30,000 exclusive of VAT must be made under the Corporate Seal. The Corporate Seal can only be affixed when there is a resolution of the Council.

- 3.6.1 Procuring goods, services or works under the statutory limit of £30,000 where the procurement:
 - (1) is in relation to matters of a routine or recurring nature; or
 - (2) is in relation to the operational requirements of the Department; or
 - (3) is contained within an agreed Council plan.
- 3.6.2 Authorising the completion of a contract for the procurement of goods, services or works over the statutory limit of £30,000, following a tender exercise, where the Council has approved the invitation to tender and been notified of the award of the contract in accordance with the predetermined award criteria.
- 3.6.3 Approving the changing of sureties by contractors provided the Council's interests remain fully protected.
- 3.6.4 Determining a contract awarded by the Council where the contractor is in breach of contract and unable or unwilling to proceed therewith, subject to prior

consultation with the Chairman of the relevant Committee, Council Solicitor and Director of Finance.

3.6.5 Taking action to ensure contract compliance and negotiating claims and contract variations.

3.6.6 Signing maintenance agreements subsequent to capital acquisitions agreed by the Council subject to consultation with the Council Solicitor.

3.6.7 Making arrangements for the supply of goods and services pursuant to Section 105 of the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 1972.

4.0 DELEGATED FUNCTIONS: BY OFFICER

4.1 Chief Executive

The Chief Executive is the Head of Paid Service who is accountable to Mid Ulster District Council for the delivery of its statutory and non-statutory services.

In addition to those areas identified as general delegated functions, at 3.0 above, the post holder is also delegated authority to:

- Sign legal documents on behalf of the council
- Sign documents to which seal is affixed in line with section 120 (2) of the Local Government (NI) Act 1972
- Affix the corporate seal, as required on resolution of the council
- To sign annual accounts and annual governance statements as Chief Financial Officer (CFO)

The Deputy Chief Executive is delegated the functions above at 4.1, with the exception of the signing of the annual accounts and annual governance statements, during periods of leave of the Chief Executive.

4.2 Director of Business and Communities

The Director of Business and Communities is responsible for and accountable to the Chief Executive for the delivery of community services; Policing and Community Safety Partnership; former transferred functions of the Department for Social Development; rural development; economic development; physical regeneration; transferred functions from the former Department for Enterprise, Trade and Investment; cultural venues; arts development; languages; Tourism and Events functions.

In addition to those areas identified as general delegated functions, at 3.0 above, the post holder is also delegated authority to:

No specific matters are delegated as of the date of this Scheme

4.3 Director of ~~Public Health~~Environment and Infrastructure

The Director of ~~Public Health~~Environment and Infrastructure is responsible for and accountable to the Chief Executive for waste management; cleansing; recycling; vehicle maintenance; property management; cemeteries; grounds maintenance; off street car parking functions; Building Regulations; ~~licensing; entertainment, petroleum and cinema licensing, premises registration,~~ property certificates; ~~food control; health and safety; pollution control;~~ capital project delivery; sustainability; and biodiversity functions.

In addition to those areas identified as general delegated functions, at 3.0 above, the post holder is also delegated authority to:

- To sign and issue notices on behalf of Council
- Issue 'Seven Day Notices' in respect of abandoned vehicles under the Pollution Control and Local Government (NI) Order 1978, as amended
- ~~In accordance with the relevant statutory provisions as listed in Appendix B, to act for and on behalf of Council, and authorise staff where required, to meet the required service provision, and the regulation and enforcement of relevant statutory powers as conferred on Council~~
- Authorise Building Control Officers to act on behalf of council to exercise functions, as follows, in line with Building Control statutory rules detailed in Appendix B1 in regard to:
 - (a) enforcing all regulations, orders and bye-laws made under the said legislation
 - (b) issuing and serving certificates and notices
 - (c) granting and refusing authorisations, approvals and consents, rejecting plans
 - (d) exercising any powers in relation to the issue (but not refusal) of licences
 - (e) effecting (but not cancelling or refusing to effect) registrations and maintaining statutory registers
 - (f) authorising individual officers for the purpose of exercising any statutory power
 - (g) dispensing with or relaxing, or refusing to dispense with or relax Building Regulations and inviting representations thereon, and extending prescribed periods
 - (h) exercising powers in relation to the energy performance of buildings
 - (i) exercising of powers under Article 18 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous

Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1985 in relation to the removal or obliteration of graffiti, placards or posters

4.4—Director of Environment and Property

The Director of Environment and Property is responsible for and accountable to the Chief Executive for waste management; cleansing; recycling; vehicle maintenance; property management; cemeteries; grounds maintenance; and off street car parking functions.

In addition to those areas identified as general delegated functions, at 3.0 above, the post holder is also delegated authority to:

- Issue 'Seven Day Notices' in respect of abandoned vehicles under the Pollution Control and Local Government (NI) Order 1978, as amended

4.45 Director of Culture Public Health and WellbeingLeisure

The Director of Culture Public Health and Leisure Wellbeing is responsible for and accountable to the Chief Executive for licensing; food control; health and safety; pollution control; road closure orders; cultural venues; arts development; languages; leisure; sports development; water recreation sites; parks and open spaces; play parks and countryside access functions.

In addition to those areas identified as general delegated functions, at 3.0 above, the post holder is also delegated authority to:

- To sign and issue notices on behalf of Council
- In accordance with the relevant statutory provisions as listed in Appendix B2, to act for and on behalf of Council, and authorise staff where required, to meet the

required service provision, and the regulation and enforcement of relevant statutory powers as conferred on Council
No specific matters are delegated as of the date of this scheme

4.56 Director Finance

The Director of Finance is responsible for and accountable to the Chief Executive for the administration of finance to include debtors, creditors and payroll and information computer technology functions within Council.

In addition to those areas identified as general delegated functions, at 3.0 above, the post holder is also delegated authority to:

No specific matters are delegated as of the date of this scheme

4.67 Director of Organisational Development

The Director of Organisational Development is responsible for and accountable to the Chief Executive for the delivery of the human resource and registration services functions within Council; responsibility for the 3 Civic Council Offices.

No specific matters are delegated as of the date of this scheme

4.78 Planning Manager

The Planning Manager is responsible for and accountable to the Chief Executive for the delivery of Development Planning and Enforcement and Development Management Functions of Council:

In addition to those areas identified as general delegated functions, at 3.0 above, the post holder is also delegated authority to:

- Determine all local development applications as detailed in Appendix C, whether for approval or refusal, with the exception of those as contained
- On processing planning consents, certificates, tree preservation orders, enforcement of planning control and other determinations to the extent as detailed in Appendix C

4.89 Council Solicitor

The Council Solicitor is responsible for accountable to the Chief Executive for the provision of legal service to the Council by undertaking legal services, providing legal advice, assistance and support across all functions.

In addition to those areas identified as general delegated functions, at 3.0 above, the post holder is also delegated authority to:

- Instituting legal proceedings on behalf of Council, acting on the instructions of council or the relevant Senior Officer.

APPENDIX A: SENIOR OFFICER

In this Scheme the expression Senior Officer means:

- Chief Executive
- Director of Business and Communities
- Director of ~~Public Health~~Environment and Infrastructure
- ~~Director of Environment and Property~~
- Director of ~~Culture~~Public Health and ~~Wellbeing~~Leisure
- Director of Organisational Development
- Director of Finance
- Planning Manager

APPENDIX B1: STATUTORY RULES

Building Control Functions

- Building Regulations (Northern Ireland) Order 1979 (as amended)
- Building Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2012 (as amended)
- Petroleum (Regulations) Act (Northern Ireland) 1929 and 1937
- Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act (NI) 2011
- Health and Safety at Work (Northern Ireland) Order 1978
- Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1985
- Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1995
- Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1992
- Public Health Acts 1878 to 1971
- The Energy Performance of Buildings (Certificates and Inspections) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009

Building (Prescribed Fees) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013

APPENDIX B2: STATUTORY RULES

1.0 Environmental Health Functions

Legislation	Animal By Products Regulations (NI) 2003
	Anti-Social Behaviour (NI) Order 2004
	Betting, Gaming, Lotteries & Amusements (NI) Order 1985
	Building Regulations (NI) Order 1979 (as amended)
	Building Regulations (NI) 2012 (as amended)
	Building (Prescribed Fees) Regulations (NI) 1997 (as amended)
	Caravans Act (Northern Ireland) 1963
	Children and Young Persons (Protection from Tobacco) (Northern Ireland) Order 1991
	Cinemas (NI) 1994
	Clean Air (Northern Ireland) Order 1981
	Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act (NI) 2011
	Construction Products Regulations 1991
	Consumer Protection Act 1987
	Dangerous Dogs 1991
	Dogs (NI) Order 1983
	Energy Performance of Buildings (Certificates and Inspections)(Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2014
	Environment (NI) Order 2003
	European Communities Act 1972
	Fire & Rescue Services NI Order 2006
	Food and Environment Protection Act 1985
	Food Hygiene Regulations (NI) 2006
	Food Labelling Regulations (NI) 1996
	Food (Northern Ireland) Order 1989
	Food safety (Temperature Control) Regulations (NI) 1995
	Food Safety (Northern Ireland) Order 1991
	General Product Safety Regulations 2005
	Good Rule and Government Bylaws
	Hairdressers Act (NI) 1939
	Health and Safety at Work (Northern Ireland) Order 1978
	Health and Personal Social Services (NI) Order 1978

High Hedges Act (NI) 2011
Industrial Pollution Control (Northern Ireland) Order 1997
Licensing (NI) Order 1996
Litter (Northern Ireland) Order 1994
Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 1972 - Byelaws
Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1985
Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1992
Noise Act 1996
Petroleum (Consolidation) Act (NI) 1929
Pleasure Grounds Bylaws
Poisons (Northern Ireland) Order 1976
Pollution Control and Local Government (Northern Ireland) Order 1978
Pollution Prevention and Control Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2003
Private Tenancies (NI) Order 2006
Public Health Acts 1878 to 1971
Public Health and Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1949
Rats and Mice Destruction Act 1919
REACH Enforcement Regulations 2008
Rent (Northern Ireland) Order 1978
[Road Traffic Regulation \(NI\) Order 1997](#)
Shops (Sunday Trading etc) (Northern Ireland) Order 1997
Street Trading Act (Northern Ireland) 2001
Smoking (NI) Order 2006 and associated Regulations
Sunbeds Act (Northern Ireland) 2011
Safety of Sports Grounds (Northern Ireland) Order 2006
Tobacco Advertising and Promotion Act 2002
Volatile Organic Compounds in Paints, Varnishes and Vehicle Refinishing Products Regulations 2005
Waste and Contaminated Land (NI) Order 1997
Welfare of Animals Act (NI) 2011
Welfare Services Act (Northern Ireland) 1971

EC Regulations

Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 Laying Down the General Principles and requirements of Food Law, Establishing the European food Safety Authority and Laying Down Procedures in matters of Food Safety

Regulation (EC) No 852/2004 The Hygiene of Foodstuffs

Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 Laying Down Specific Hygiene Rules for Food of Animal Origin

Regulation (EC) No 854/2004 Laying Down Specific Rules for the Organisation of Official Controls on Products of Animal Origin Intended for Human Consumption

Regulation (EC) No 882/2004 Official Controls Performed to Ensure the Verification of Compliance with Feed and Food law, Animal Health and Animal Welfare Rules

Regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006 concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals.

~~2.0 — Building Control Functions~~

- ~~• Building Regulations (Northern Ireland) Order 1979 (as amended)~~
- ~~• Building Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2012 (as amended)~~
- ~~• Petroleum (Regulations) Act (Northern Ireland) 1929 and 1937~~
- ~~• Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act (NI) 2011~~
- ~~• Health and Safety at Work (Northern Ireland) Order 1978~~
- ~~• Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1985~~
- ~~• Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1995~~
- ~~• Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1992~~
- ~~• Public Health Acts 1878 to 1974~~
- ~~• The Energy Performance of Buildings (Certificates and Inspections) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009~~
- ~~• Building (Prescribed Fees) (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013~~

|

APPENDIX C DELEGATED AUTHORITY ON PLANNING MATTERS

Scheme of Delegation of Planning Applications

The Scheme of Delegation for planning applications was agreed by Mid Ulster District Council at its meeting of *Thursday 23 April* following approval by the Department of the Environment for Northern Ireland on 1 April. The approval is in accordance with Section 31 of The Planning Act (NI) 2011. The Scheme of Delegation takes effect from Wednesday 1 April.

Part A – Mandatory applications for determination by the Planning Committee:

Statutory requirements require that certain types of application must be determined by the planning committee and these cannot therefore be delegated to officers:

- Applications which fall within the Major category of development;
- An application for planning permission where the application is made by the council or an elected member of the council, and
- The application relates to land in which the council has an interest/estate.

Part B – Delegated Applications:

The appointed person within the Council is the Planning Manager.

To determine all local development applications with the exception of:

- Applications which are significant departures from the Development Plan or planning policy and which are recommended for approval.
- Applications submitted by the Chief Executive, Directors, planning staff, or their close relatives (parents, partners, siblings, and children).
- Applications attracting valid planning objection including those from a statutory consultee, where the officer's recommendation is to approve.
- Any application referred to the Planning Committee by a Council Member, subject to a valid planning reason being provided by the Member for the deferral.
- All refusals of planning permission.
- Applications where the Planning Manager considers that the proposal merits consideration by the Committee, for example an application subject to an Enforcement Notice where the recommendation is to refuse permission.
- Applications where a legal agreement is required.

Part C – Publicity:

On adoption of this scheme of delegation the council made a copy

- available on the councils website at www.midulstercouncil.org.

- available at Mid Ulster Council Offices

Magherafelt Office

50 Ballyronan Road

Magherafelt

BT45 6EN

An advert was placed in the local press.....

Scheme of Delegation of planning consents, certificates, tree preservation orders, enforcement of planning control and other determinations

The Scheme of Delegation for planning consents, certificates, tree preservation orders, enforcement of planning control and other determinations was agreed by Mid Ulster District Council at its meeting of *Thursday 23 April*. The Scheme of Delegation takes effect from Wednesday 1 April and is in accordance with Section 7 (4) (b) of the Local Government Act 2011.

The Planning Committee shall be required to consider and determine:

- the serving of a Tree Preservation Order;
- confirmation of a Provisional Tree Preservation Order;
- the serving of a Temporary Listing: Building Preservation Notice.

Delegated planning consents, certificates, orders and other decisions:

The Planning Manager is delegated the authority to:

- serve a Provisional Tree Preservation Order;
- determine an application:
 - to carry works to a Protected Trees;
 - for Hazardous Substance Consent;
 - for a Certificate of Lawful Use of Development and for Non Material Changes.
- make determinations under The Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations (Northern Ireland)

All applications for listed building consent, conservation area consent and advertisement consent are delegated with the exception of the following which require determination by the Planning Committee:

- The application is made by the council or an elected member of the council.
- The application relates to land in which the council has an interest.
- The application is submitted by the Chief Executive, Director, planning staff, or close relatives (parents, partners, siblings, and children)
- The application has attracted valid planning objection including those from a statutory consultee, where the officer's recommendation is to approve.
- The application is recommended for refusal.
- Where the Planning Manager considers that the proposal merits consideration by the Committee.

The Planning Committee reserves the right to request a report for information purposes on any of these delegated matters.

Investigation of Breaches of Planning Control and Enforcement Action:

The Planning Committee shall be required to consider and determine the serving of an Enforcement Notice, Stop Notice, and Listed Building Enforcement Notice, Listed Building Urgent Works Notice.

The Planning Manager is delegated the authority to:

- investigate all complaints of a breach of planning control and where appropriate may close a case on the grounds that a breach has not occurred or that it is not expedient or in the public interest to take action;
- serve of a Breach of Condition or Submission Notice;
- instruct the District Solicitor in the pursuit of legal action provided the Committee is aware of the action and may instruct the Planning Manager to cease or to hold in abeyance any legal proceedings.

The Planning Manager may in exceptional circumstances and where there is a risk to human health or safety serve an enforcement notice or stop notice.

The Planning Committee reserves the right to request a report for information purposes on any of these delegated matters.

Report on	Lease of lands at Pomeroy Forest from DAERA/Forest Service - Update
Date of Meeting	5 th March 2020
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 update Members on the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs/Forest Service Northern Ireland's ("DAERA/FSNI") legal arrangement with the Council in relation to lands at Pomeroy Forest ("the Lands") and to seek approval to the amended terms.
2.0	Background
2.1	The Council and DAERA/FSNI 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.
2.2	The Council has entered into 20 year Licenses which are site specific with DAERA/FSNI in order to manage the recreational use of a number of forests within the district including Pomeroy Forest. Some of the proposed projects and development opportunities within a number of the forests, have led to DAERA/FSNI requiring that the Council enter into a Lease of specific parcel(s) of land that are subject of said opportunities.
2.3	In relation to the lands at Pomeroy Forest, the development of visitor facilities resulted in the need to extend the current visitor car park and provide necessary visitor amenities. Council approval for the extent and cost of these works was taken to the Development Committee in October 2017, the Council granted approval to progress these Phase 1 Works, which have now been completed.
2.4	In February 2018, the Council approved in principle entering into a 20 year Lease with DAERA/FSNI in respect of the Lands, the final terms of which were to be negotiated with DAERA/FSNI.
2.5	In July 2018, the Council agreed the final revised terms of the Agreement for Lease and draft Lease Agreement with DAERA/FSNI in respect of the Lands.
2.6	The Agreement for Lease was entered into with DAERA/FSNI to allow the Phase 1 Works to proceed.

3.0	Main Report
3.1	Prior to the execution of the Lease, it transpired that the Council required a lease of additional lands situated at Pomeroy Forest. Funding had been granted from SEUPB under the Peace IV fund for the development of a strategic Pomeroy Shared Space Project, known as 'Connecting Pomeroy'. One element of PEACE IV Project relates to development within Pomeroy Forest.
3.2	It was agreed by both parties that it would be appropriate to have one consolidated Lease from DAERA/FSNI incorporating all of those lands required within Pomeroy Forest by the Council, as opposed to having a number of Leases in place.
3.3	<p>The main differences in the terms of the further amended revised draft Lease and that draft Lease previously taken through Council in July 2018 include:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in rental value from £500 to £1000 per annum. This is as a result of the increased landtake to be leased by the Council; • Increase in leased area of land from DAERA/FSNI to the Council. The amended Lease Map is attached at Appendix A. The previously agreed draft Lease Map is included at Appendix B for information and comparison purposes; • Minor general amendments.
3.4	LPS was instructed by DAERA/FS to value the lands in respect of this matter.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	<p>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. There is provision for the annual rent within the leisure and outdoor recreation budget, which is where the rental monies will be taken from.</p>
	<p>Human: Officers' time in completing the project and ongoing maintenance.</p>
	<p>Risk Management: N/A</p>
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	<p>Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/A</p>
	<p>Rural Needs Implications: N/A</p>
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	That Members note and agree the revised terms of the 20 Year Lease in relation to lands at Pomeroy Forest including those in section 3.3 of and Appendix A to this report, between DAERA/FSNI and Mid Ulster District Council.

6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	<p>Appendix A – Amended Lease Map in respect of lands within Pomeroy Forest between DAERA/FSNI and Mid Ulster District Council;</p> <p>Appendix B – Extent of Lease area previously agreed by Council in July 2018.</p>



Department of
Agriculture and
Rural Development

www.dardni.gov.uk

in Irish
Talmhaíocht agus
Forbairt Tuaithe

in Scottish Gaelic
Eòlais an
Kìnntrì Fòrderin



FOREST SERVICE

Crown Copyright Reserved ©

This material is based upon Crown Copyright and is reproduced with the permission of
Land and Property Services under delegated authority from the Controller of Her Majesty's
Stationary Office, © Crown copyright and database rights NIMA EMOU201.1

ANNEX 1

LEASE

POMEROY FOREST

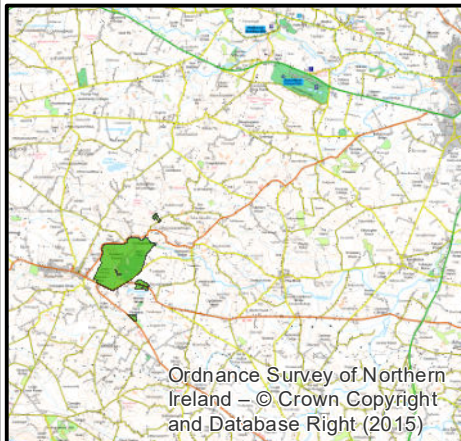
Leased area to Mid Ulster
District Council



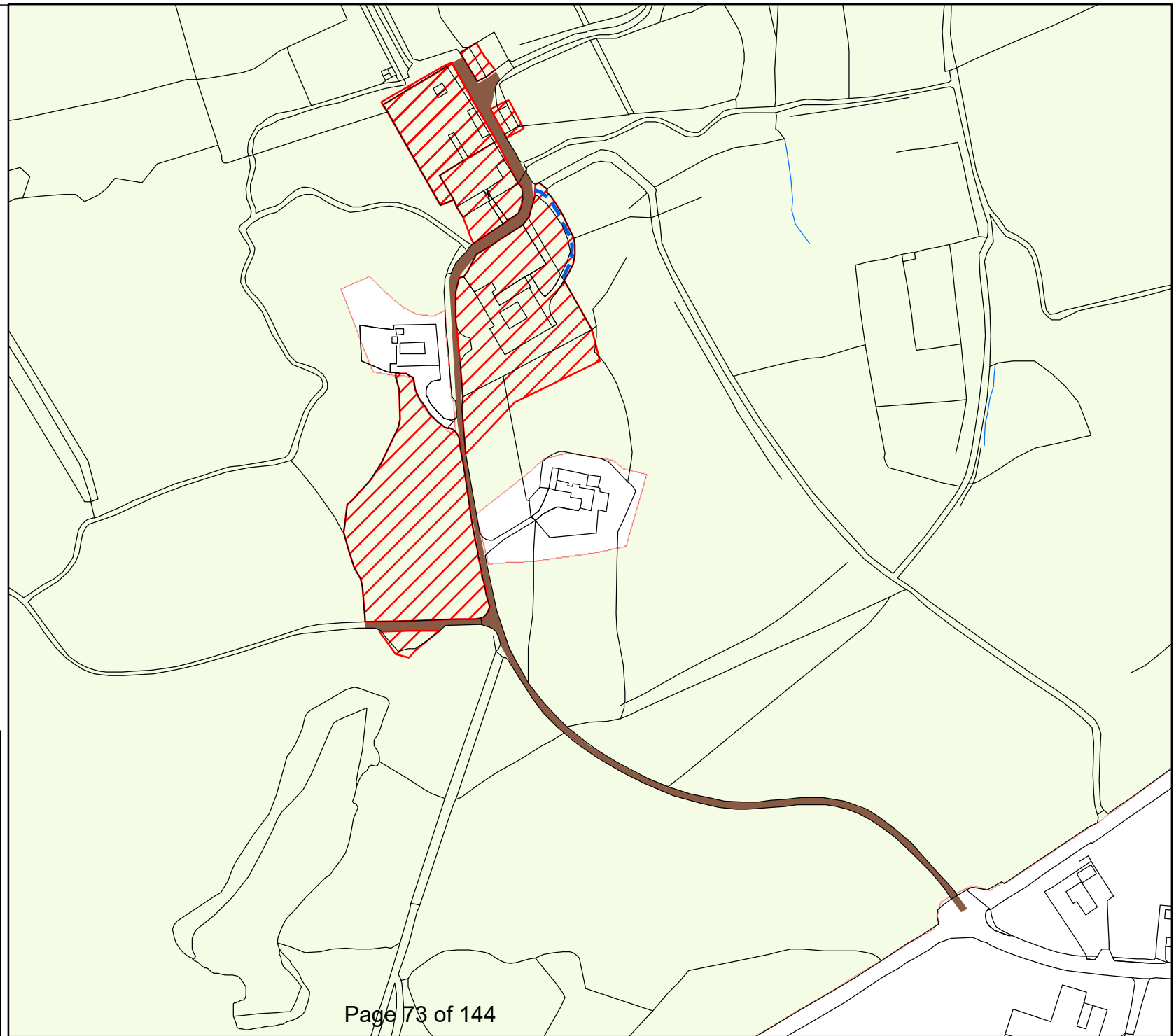
- Permitted Access Route
- Forest Service Access
- ▨ Pomeroy leased area
- ▨ Pomeroy Forest

0 25 50 100 Metres

Prepared: 17/06/2019



Ordnance Survey of Northern
Ireland – © Crown Copyright
and Database Right (2015)







ANNEX 1

LEASE

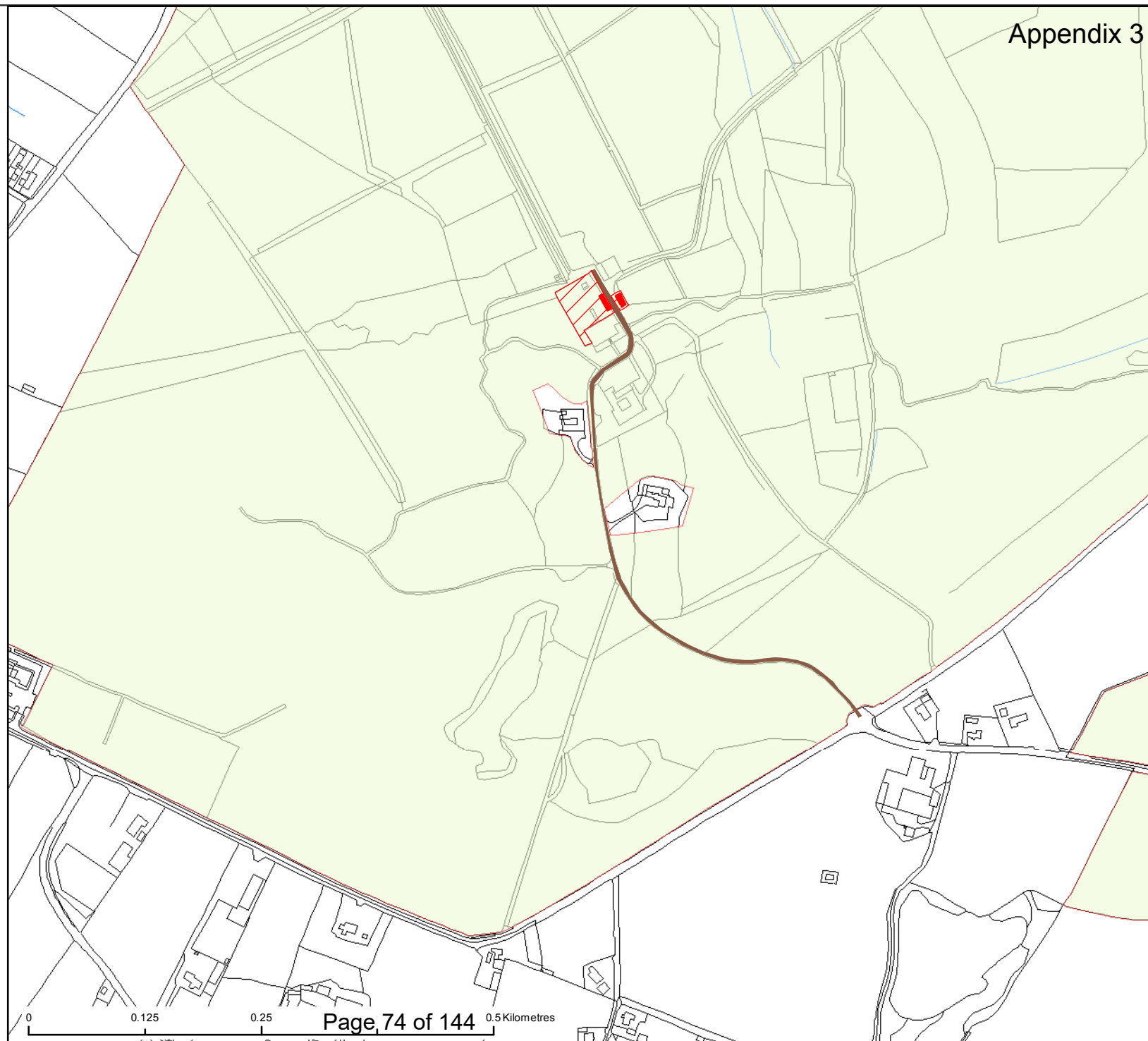
POMEROY FOREST

**Leased area to Mid Ulster
 District Council**



-  Permitted vehicular access
-  Leased recreation area
-  Buildings within leased area
-  Pomeroy Forest

Prepared: 10/11/2017



Report on	Improvement Objectives: - 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 (proposed) and timeline for public consultation
Date of Meeting	Thursday 5 th March 2020
Reporting Officer	P Moffett, Head of Democratic Services
Contact Officer	L Jenkins, Performance & Quality 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 and agree the proposed improvement objectives for 2020/21 and 2021/22 as set in compliance with the Local Government Act (NI) 2014 (the Act) and timelines for public consultation exercise.
2.0	Background
2.1	The 2014 Local Government Act places a general duty on the Council to “.... <i>make arrangements to secure continuous improvement</i>” in the exercise of its functions.
2.2.	Each year the Council develops an annual Performance Improvement Plan (PIP), containing improvement objectives, associated activity and outcomes for citizens and local communities. The plan also includes the statutory performance indicators and standards as outlined in the Local Government (Performance Indicators and Standards) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015, as well as Council’s Corporate health indicators (measures).
2.3	The council previously approved 4 improvement objectives, which were set for a two year period 2017-18 to 2018 -19. Officers subsequently developed council’s performance improvement plan around the 4 improvement objectives. Three of these improvement objectives were then retained in 2019/20, in order to provide sufficient time to bring about increased tangible outcomes for citizens, with one new improvement objective added to in year. All four of the improvement objectives for 2019/20 are now coming to their project activity conclusions.
2.4	Senior management undertook a workshop in February 2020, to look at areas for improvement, moving forward, with a focus on current and future issues for Mid Ulster citizens, the contextual issues relating to current Council operations and short to medium term Council priorities (in relation to the newly developed corporate plan 2020-2024). The outworking’s from this session were analysed and four draft improvement objectives developed, with supporting rationales. Appendix A details the draft Corporate Improvement Objectives 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 together with a section entitled “Why are we doing it?”
2.5	Each improvement objective will have an assigned Senior Responsible Officer (SRO), along with a project team, to develop and embed a body of work to deliver improvement outcomes for citizens specific to the improvement objectives. The proposed objectives are (refer to table one)

Table One - Proposed Improvement Objectives 2020-21 to 2021-22

Proposed Improvement Objectives		Status
1.	Mid Ulster District Council will seek to reduce the environmental impacts of our own activities and will contribute to the improvement of the wider environment through local action	New
2.	We will ensure a more connected Mid Ulster where new technologies and ways of working, empower citizens to get the best services that matter to them	New
3.	To create cleaner neighbourhoods, where everyone takes responsibility for their waste and environment	New
4.	We will contribute to the on-going regeneration of our district by delivering a capital investment programme, enhancing facilities and opportunities for local people.	New

3.0 Main Report

- 3.1 Statutory Guidance issued by the Department for Communities to Councils on taking, requires that the council consult on a yearly basis on their improvement objectives. This requirement on consultation falls from section 87 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014.
- 3.2 There is no statutory duty to consult on the improvement plan, but rather the improvement objectives. Four new improvement objectives have been proposed for a two year period from 2020-21 to 2021-22. Each improvement objective and their assigned SRO will conduct a review at the end of 2021 to ensure that the improvement objectives and associated milestones and activities are still relevant.
- 3.3 A report on the delivery of the current improvement objectives (2019 to 2020), detailing the key performance outcomes will be provided in September.
- Consultation & Improvement Plan 2019/20**
- 3.4 It is proposed that arrangements to consult on the Improvement Objectives, as referred to in section 2.5 above, commence following the Policy & Resources Committee meeting and run from March to early May 2020.
- 3.5 The following is an outline timeline for the consultation and development of the Council's 2020-21 and 2021-22 Improvement Plan:
- Consultation from Friday 6th March to Friday 1st May 2020.
 - Outcomes Report on the Consultation considered by June P&R Committee
 - Draft Performance Improvement Plan (2020-2021 to 2021-22) to be considered at June P&R Committee

4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: N/A
	Human: N/A
	Risk Management: N/A.
4.2	<u>Screening & Impact Statements</u>
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: N/A
	Rural Needs Implications: N/A
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	That members give consideration to the approval of the four improvement objectives for 2020-21 to 2021-22, and the initiation of consultation together with associated timeline.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	Appendix A - Proposed Corporate Improvement Objectives 2020-21 to 2021-22

Proposed - Corporate Performance Improvement Objectives: 2020-22

Corporate Improvement Objective	1) Mid Ulster District Council will seek to reduce the environmental impacts of our own activities and will contribute to the improvement of the wider environment through local action.	
Senior Responsible Officer:	Community Plan Theme & Outcome	Project (Action)
To be Assigned	Theme 2: Infrastructure Outcome: We increasingly value our environment and enhance it for our children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a rolling programme of projects and actions to work towards and contribute to a more sustainable Council and District.
<p>Why we are doing it?</p> <p>Climate change has been recognised internationally as the most important environmental challenge that we currently face it is a large scale, long-term shift in the Earth's weather patterns and average temperatures. Scientific consensus recognises human activity¹ as a major cause of recent unprecedented warming and climate projections, show that past, current and future gas emissions will influence the climate for decades. The Climate Change Act, passed in 2008, committed the UK to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by at least 80% by 2050 when compared to 1990 levels. This approach has now been used as a model for action across the world, and is mirrored by the United Nations' Paris Agreement.</p> <p>The intergovernmental panel on climate change predicts increases in extreme weather events over the twenty first century and attributes this to a result of greenhouse emissions and rising surface temperatures. The latest U.K Climate Change projections (UKC P18)² predict that Northern Ireland will experience warmer, wetter winters and hotter drier summers by the 2050's, with extreme weather events becoming more frequent³.</p> <p>We recognise the key role and contribution that the Council has in supporting and promoting local actions and local people, businesses and partners in the move to a low carbon future. Taking action to protect the environment for future generations is a priority for Mid Ulster and is recognised in the Districts Community Plan and Corporate Plan. We care about the environment and understand our legal duty to protect it. We seek to minimize the environmental impacts of our own Council activities and work with other partners and stakeholders to protect and enhance our local environment. Subject to procurement regulations, we can also choose to buy local produce which not only supports our local economy, it also reduces carbon emissions from freight transport and travel. Climate change is a collective issue and we can all make changes to our lifestyles to reduce the impact on the environment.</p> <p>1. https://climate.nasa.gov/scientific-consensus/ 2. https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/research/approach/collaboration/ukcp/download-data 3. https://www.theccc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/UK-CCRA-2017-Northern-Ireland-National-Summary.pdf</p>		

Corporate Improvement Objective	2) We will ensure a more connected Mid Ulster where new technologies and ways of working, empower citizens to get the best services that matter to them.	
Senior Responsible Officer:	Community Plan Theme & Outcome	Project (Action)
To be Assigned	Theme 1: Economic Growth Outcome: We prosper in a stronger and more competitive economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of framework/roadmap to optimise how the Council uses digital design/technology to work efficiently, collaborate, make informed decisions, adapt and innovate our service provision.
<p><i>Why we are doing it?</i></p> <p>Digital technology is transforming the way people live their lives – from the way we communicate, to the way we purchase goods and services and highlights how we are becoming increasingly reliant on digital devices. The increasingly pervasive growth of online shopping, mobile device use, social media and ultra-fast broadband presents many opportunities and it is connecting us in ways that were unimaginable just a few generations ago. Research by Steria¹ found that 83% of people want to access public services via digital channels and they increasingly expect a user experience that is intuitive and similar to what they get from their bank or supermarket.</p> <p>We want to harness the potential of digital design, data and technology to work efficiently, transform the relationship between residents and the Council, and make Mid Ulster a leading destination for growth, opportunity and quality of life. To embrace such opportunities we are developing a roadmap to define how our future use of technology and human resources will be optimized to enable the efficient delivery of our business and community priorities to the businesses and citizens of Mid Ulster. Technology is only an enabler, transformation involves changing how we work, how we organise ourselves and how we serve our citizens. We will have real opportunities to radically rethink, and redesign our services, as we move towards being a more agile and flexible organisation, with staff able to work from any location as we make more efficient use of physical space and mobile technology. More of our high volume, low contacts that we deal with, should be completed at our customer's convenience, enabling Council staff to focus on more completed and sensitive enquiries that benefit from the human touch. All of this can help us manage the rising cost and demand pressures the Council is facing.</p> <p>Whilst we want everyone to become digital citizens, we recognise that not all residents have the means or skills to take up digital. The council aims to grow and develop its digital inclusion work to provide skills and confidence in this area for staff, and our customers will always be able to speak to a person when they need to, and the person they speak to will be able to provide improved customer service. We will not leave anyone behind, however, we must continue to maximise technology to drive better services and lower delivery costs. As a Council, we already offer online access in a number of areas, however we need to push further, faster with our digital approaches, data and technology, to ensure the district thrives through the fourth industrial revolution.</p> <p>¹https://www.soprasteria.co.uk/newsroom/publication/citizen-view-digital-transformation-government</p>		

Corporate Improvement Objective	3) To create cleaner neighbourhoods, where everyone takes responsibility for their waste and the environment.	
Senior Responsible Officer:	Community Plan Theme & Outcome	Project (Action)
To be Assigned	Theme 2: Infrastructure Outcome: We increasingly value our environment and enhance it for our children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To develop and deliver programmes/activities in conjunction with our partners & communities to ensure clean neighbourhoods.

Why we are doing it?

We all use public spaces every time we leave home. These include the footpaths and streets we walk or drive along each day, the parks our children play in and the outdoor areas we go to exercise or relax in. Many of our daily decisions and activities are influenced by our perceptions of the quality and cleanliness of the public areas we encounter. The importance of clean, green and blue (our rivers, canals, loughs etc.) spaces, parks, cannot be underestimated. Many benefits derive from a pleasant environment. The following are seen as particularly valuable and complement some of the wider aims of the Council and link to some of our other areas of work.

Good quality parks and attractive open space contribute economic benefits to towns and villages. As Mid Ulster competes with others to attract growth, tourism and inward investment a clean, green and pleasant environment plays an important role in marketing the District as a place to live in, move to and visit. Businesses are drawn to places with good quality environment as this in turn attracts customers, employees and services into the local area. In addition well maintained towns and villages has a positive impact on commercial and domestic property values.

Regionally and locally increases in obesity, are linked to more sedentary lifestyles including lower levels of outdoor activity. Patterns of exercise in adults are set early in life, so obesity and inactivity in childhood can lead to poor health in later years. Good quality public open space is required to encourage healthier lifestyles by providing opportunities for walking, cycling and other outdoor pursuits, as well as being beneficial to mental well-being. Clean and well maintained play areas, parks and open space provide important beneficial opportunities for children to learn and develop (their social and emotional development) and stay healthy.

Clean neighbourhoods engender social pride, add vibrancy, reduce crime and anti-social behaviour, all of which are essential to the development of strong prosperous neighbourhoods. Anti-social behaviour can be seen through dog fouling, littering, abandoning vehicles, graffiti, and fly tipping etc. We are very much aware that many of our clean and green services are demand led, whilst much of this demand is inevitable, it is also clear some of it is avoidable. We want to be clear about our service promises, standards, and the response times we aim to achieve to ensure our communities understand what levels of service they can expect. On its own the Council cannot deliver a cleaner and greener environment for residents. We want to work collaboratively, with residents, communities, visitors and businesses and through active citizenship we hope to see reduced demands on our services and more residents taking greater pride in and ownership of their local environment. This is more necessary than ever as overall public sector expenditure reduces at an unprecedented rate.

Corporate Improvement Objective	4. We will contribute to the ongoing regeneration of our district by delivering a capital investment programme, enhancing facilities and opportunities for local people	
Senior Responsible Officer:	Community Plan Theme & Outcome	Project (Action)
To be Assigned	Theme 4: Economic Growth Outcome: We prosper in a stronger and more competitive economy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development and delivery of a place shaping capital economic regeneration programme across the District.

Why we are doing it?

Regeneration is a long term process and is delivered through a wide range of projects, programmes, partnerships, initiatives. Since the late 1990s, policymakers have recognised the wider social factors that affect the success of regeneration schemes, but this is even more vital in the current economic climate. Making the most of existing social capital and providing opportunities for local people to be involved in regeneration is a vital part of making the best use of limited resources.

As a Council we support locally developed place based regeneration projects, we continue to invest in Mid Ulster, as well as providing essential services paid by your rates. Our Capital investment programme is our commitment to addressing the economic downturn and making the District a better place to live, work and invest. The programme includes major schemes to boost the economy, create jobs and improve the quality of life for our citizens.

Quality of place matters in economic, social, cultural and emotional terms. A sense of place helps establish strong social infrastructure which supports people to improve their prospects and maximize their potential. We are taking a “Whole District” approach creating places that are attractive, well-designed and well managed. Our approach focuses on tailored solutions for settlements within the District and also business locations. We recognise our major assets as those that have the potential to deliver the greatest impact. Building on and investing in these assets alongside complementary interventions will release the District’s potential for growth and connect areas of growth with deprived places in need of generation. By following a planned phased approach across the District we will be able to deliver greater impact for each locality, using the resources available to best effect.

Report on	Working Group Council Representation on Outside Bodies: Recommendations Report
Date of Meeting	Thursday 5 th March, 2020
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 receive and consider final Recommendations Report emanating from the activity of the Working Group on Council Representation on Outside Bodies together with the report of its meeting held on Thursday 6 th February 2020.
2.0	Background
2.1	Council previously resolved that a working group of councillors be established to review, council's representation on outside bodies and on the approach taken to appoint representatives.
2.2	<p>The remit of the Working Group is detailed within its Terms of Reference. It extends to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying outside bodies to which council has representation • Reviewing continuing need for representation on the identified outside bodies • Reviewing appropriateness of the number of representatives on the outside bodies • Reviewing continuing need for those bodies, forums and partnerships established and facilitated by Council • Reviewing approach taken on filling positions on outside bodies at annual meetings and as they arise • Reviewing approach to dealing with in-term requests to nominate to an outside body
2.3	A meeting of the Working Group took place on Thursday 6 th February and a meeting report is attached as appendix A to this report.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	At the meeting of the Working Group held on 6 th February 2020 it was agreed that the draft Report of Recommendations emanating from the activity of the Group be brought forward for consideration and approval at March Policy & Resources Committee.
3.2	<p>Appendix B to this paper is the draft <i>Report of Recommendations from the Working Group: Representation on Outside Bodies</i>. The report brings together matters worked through and agreed by the Group, with specific reference to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continuing need for Representation on documented Outside Bodies

	<p>2. Number of Councillor representatives to Outside Bodies</p> <p>3. Working Groups established by Council</p> <p>4. Filling positions on Outside Bodies at AGMs and in-term</p> <p>5. District Electoral Area (DEA) Meetings</p> <p>The report, at appendix B, also refers to issues raised through the Group and already dealt with by way of Policy & Resources Committee. These have included sending:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • representatives to Fermanagh & Omagh DC facilitated A5/N2 Cross Border Group • representatives to NILGA Policy & Learning Networks • representatives to Sustainable NI All Party Group on Climate Change
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: not applicable
	Human: not applicable
	Risk Management: not applicable
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: not applicable
	Rural Needs Implications: not applicable
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	That the committee considers the report of the meeting of the Working Group on Outside Bodies held on Thursday 6 th February 2020 and approval for the Report of Recommendations from the Working Group.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	<p>Appendix A - Working Group Meeting Report: Thurs 6th February 2020</p> <p>Appendix B - Report of Recommendations from Working Group</p>

Working Group Report Council Representation on Outside Bodies

Report of Outside Bodies Working Group meeting of Mid Ulster District Council held on *Thursday 6 February 2020* in *Magherafelt* at *6.00pm*

Attendees **Members:** Councillors Brown, Forde, S McPeake, B McGuigan, McKinney (representing Cllr Cuddy)
Officers: Head of Democratic Services (P Moffett), Member Support Officer (E Forde)

Apologies Councillor Cuddy (represented by Cllr McKinney), Mallaghan

AGENDA	MATTERS AGREED	ACTIONS & RESPONSIBILITY
1.0	Election of Chair	
	In the absence of the Chair, Councillor Mallaghan AGREED that Councillor Brown Chair the meeting in the absence of the Chair	
2.0	Working Group Report 5 December 2019	
	NOTED report of meeting held on 5 December 2020	
3.0	Consideration of draft Final Working Group Report of Recommendations	
	P Moffett referred took members through the draft final Working Group Report of Recommendations highlighting; 2 reps were still to be appointed to Fermanagh & Omagh Council facilitated A5/N2 Cross Border Group; appointments had been made to the NILGA Policy & Learning Networks and; confirmation was to be made regarding Sustainable NI All Party Group on Climate Change. P Moffett took members through the recommendations emanating from the Working Group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuing need for Representation on documented Outside bodies 	Head of Democratic Services

	<p>Councillor McPeake sought clarity on timeframe for the bringing forward of a wider arts forum. Councillor Brown asked if it would be scheduled before 2023, as an earlier date would be preferable.</p> <p>AGREED that idea of a wider Arts Forum be referred to Business & Communities Dept. to progress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of Councillor representatives to Outside Bodies <p>AGREED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working Groups Established by Council <p>In addition to that covered in the draft report, all working groups be increased to 10. The need for a stipulation/rider be included that the general principle of d'hondt is observed when filling working groups to ensure no one party dominated with a significant number, when filling them at the 2023 AGM.</p> <p>AGREED a stipulation/rider be included that the general principle of d'hondt is observed when filling working groups to ensure no one party dominated with a significant number, when filled at 2023 AGM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Filling Positions on Outside Bodies at AGMs and In-Term <p>Cllr S McPeake commented that for example ICBAN constitution listed that representation should be inclusive of all parties.</p> <p>AGREED</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DEA (District Electoral Area Meetings) <p>Noted there was a need to be flexible in encouraging DEA meeting activity and seek out possibilities for raising issues with Cllrs as a DEA when other things were already scheduled in the committees' calendar</p> <p>AGREED that this be reflected in the final report</p>	
--	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working Group on Civic Recognition <p>AGREED report as detailed.</p> <p>Final draft Final Working Group Report of Recommendations</p> <p>AGREED subject to the foregoing that the final working group report of recommendations be brought forward to the next available Policy & Resources Committee meeting</p>	
	Meeting ended at 6.45pm	

Report of Recommendations from Working Group

Representation on Outside Bodies

February 2019

The Council previously resolved, through Policy & Resources Committee, that a working group (WG) of members be convened to review Council's representation on outside bodies, and that this include a review on how representatives are selected.

This report provides the final recommendations on the work of the WG for consideration and recommendation to Council for approval.

Background

The Council has elected member representation on a series of 'outside bodies' which have a base within and in some cases outside the Mid Ulster district. The council provides representation to upwards of 46 'outside bodies' some of which are established from within the Council and facilitated by Council Officers.

The WG considered (i) the council's presence on each outside body and (ii) the approach taken to filling appointments at annual meetings and subsequent in-year requests as they arise. The scope of the WG extended to identifying all outside bodies to which council has representation and then reviewing:

1. Continuing need for representation on the identified outside bodies
2. Appropriateness of the number of representatives on the outside bodies
3. Continuing need for bodies, forums and partnerships established/facilitated by Council
4. Approach taken on filling positions on outside bodies at annual meetings
5. Approach to dealing with in-year requests to nominate to an outside body

Overview of Working Group Activity

- Membership was drawn from 5 Sinn Fein, 3 DUP, 1 UUP and 1 SDLP
- Members were Cllrs McPeake, Clarke, McGinley, Mallaghan, B McGuigan, Brown, Forde, Ashton, Cuddy and Quinn
- The Group appointed Cllr Mallaghan as Chair
- 4 Meetings were held in October, November, December 2019 and February 2020
- WG Meeting Reports were presented to Policy & Resources Committee detailing the issues being progressed and discussed
- 3 issues from the WG were brought forward and recommended for approval at Policy & Resources, these being:

1. sending representatives to Fermanagh & Omagh DC facilitated A5/N2 Cross Border Group
2. sending representatives to NILGA Policy & Learning Networks
3. sending representatives to Sustainable NI All Party Group on Climate Change

Recommendations

The following sets out the recommendations from the WG for consideration by Policy & Resources Committee. For clarity, 'outside bodies' are defined as all organisations, forums and committees which receive representation from the Council irrespective of whether they are external or internal to the Council i.e.

- Representation **external** to the Council - defined as those which the Council has no involvement
- Representation **internal** to the Council - defined as those established by a council service, being run or primarily facilitated by the Council

	General Issue/Area	Recommendation	What this Means
1	Continuing need for Representation on documented Outside Bodies	<p>1.1 That Cllr representation continues to be provided on all existing outside bodies except for the following as listed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Organisations of South Tyrone (COSTA) • Cookstown, Dungannon & Magherafelt Community Transport (CDM) • Local Government Forum: Northern Commissioning Group, HSCB • South Tyrone Hospital Community Forum • Southern Childcare Partnership Trust: Early Years Forum • William Carlton Summer School • Flavour of Tyrone <p>1.2 That Cllr representation to the following be included within the overall outside bodies list:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connecting Pomeroy • Sperrins Future Search <p>1.3 Further note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burnavon Arts & Cultural Centre Committee remain in place until consideration is given to establish a district wide forum of all council arts facilities. That this matter be referred to Business & Communities Department for consideration and progression 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Council will no longer send representatives to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Community Organisations of South Tyrone (COSTA) 2. Cookstown, Dungannon & Magherafelt Community Transport (CDM) 3. Local Government Forum: Northern Commissioning Group, HSCB 4. South Tyrone Hospital Community Forum 5. Southern Childcare Partnership Trust: Early Years Forum 6. William Carlton Summer School 7. Flavour of Tyrone ○ Existing representation of the above will remain until May 2023 ○ This does not preclude a councillor becoming a representative on any of the above, but they will not be representing the Council

		Annex 1. details the revised list incorporating this recommendation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Connecting Pomeroy and Sperrins Future Search be added to the outside bodies list
2	Number of Councillor representatives to Outside Bodies	<p>2.1 That the number of Cllrs sent to each Outside Body remain except for the following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shopmobility reduce representation from 5 to 3 <p>2.2 Further note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Somme Association remain but on next membership subscription renewal a report be brought to P&R to consider current Cllr representation being reduced from 2 to 1 <p>Annex 1. details the revised list incorporating this recommendation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Council will appoint 3 representatives to Shopmobility Mid Ulster at its May 2023 AGM, rather than 5 ○ A paper will be brought to a P&R meeting in Feb or March 2021 giving consideration to the number of representatives being sent to Somme Association
3	Working Groups established by Council	<p>3.1 That the existing arrangements on establishment and administration of Working Groups (WGs) remain, subject to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All working groups to have a membership of 10 • 'Planning Forums' be moved to Outside Bodies and filled in same manner as applied to the outside bodies (either by <i>Party Agreement</i> or <i>d'Hondt</i>) • WGs still in operation at end of current Council term (2019-2023) be added to the Outside Bodies list and filled in the same manner as being applied to the existing outside bodies at the 2023 AGM • When filling working groups along with the wider 'outside bodies' the general principle of d'hondt should be observed to ensure no one political party dominated with a significant number when being filled at 2023 AGM (and a mechanism explored to facilitate this) <p>Annex 1. revised Working Groups list incorporating this recommendation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ All WGs to have a membership of 10 ○ The three planning forums (Lough Neagh, Sperrins and Cross Border) be dealt with as outside bodies, and filled by Party Agreement as representation is required to come from Planning Committee ○ WGs which have not been stood down by the end of this Council term (i.e. by May 2023) will automatically be added to the list of outside bodies

4	Filling positions on Outside Bodies at AGMs and in-term	<p>4.1 That the approach taken be inclusive of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the final quarter of 2022-23, the list of all outside bodies to be filled by d'hondt, by party agreement and DEA be agreed • Outside bodies to be filled by d'hondt on a continuous basis (rolling basis), for the incoming four year period (i.e. for 2023-2027) • D'hondt calculation restarts each time a new outside body is agreed to be appointed to during the Council term 2023-2027) • A review be undertaken of those bodies which are specific in their request for political party representation and identified to be filled by party agreement <p>Annex 1. details current method for filling position of each outside body</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Party representation to outside bodies filled in May 2019 will continue until the end of the current Council ○ Positions to outside bodies will be filled by d'Hondt on a rolling/continuous basis until all positions have been filled (excluding those identified to be filled by Party Agreement or by DEA) ○ In-term requests received after the 2023 AGM being filled by d'Hondt will be done by restarting the calculation each time ○ Those organisations which are specific in their political party representation will be identified as to be filled by Party Agreement and not filled by d'hondt
5	DEA (District Electoral Area) Meetings	<p>5.1 That the practice of DEA Meetings be initiated to include the following principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That up to 2 DEA meetings per year are held to discuss maintenance related issues of impact within each of the DEAs • Democratic Services will work to tie in a number of DEA specific issues by way of update from council services and outside agencies, where relevant • Democratic Services will work to choreograph business, where possible, to tie them into a single agenda • Democratic Services will schedule the dates and notify Councillors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A minimum of 2 meetings of each DEA per year will be convened to discuss maintenance related issues ○ Business at the 2 meetings of each DEA per year will be choreographed and scheduled by Democratic Services ○ Will be held at approximately six-month intervals ○ Opportunities to convene wider DEA Meetings be taken throughout the year when matters/meetings are already scheduled in

			the Committees Calendar to bring Cllrs together
6	Other: WG on Civic Recognition	6.1 That the Civic Recognition WG be reconvened on conclusion of the work of Outside Bodies WG to review practice to date in this area and to review the policy, which is due for revision in April 2020.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ WG on Civic recognition will be convened, to look at the existing policy to review its implementation and application to date ○ Party Leaders to identify their reps. of 5 SF, 3 DUP, 1 SDLP, 1UUP

Democratic Services

February 2020

Annex 1 – Outside Bodies List reflecting Working Group Recommendations

The following is a list of the current Outside Bodies (as of 4th Feb 2020) reflecting the recommendations of the council Working Group on Outside Bodies. In summary, should there be no new outside bodies to appoint to this list is reflective of the those which will require appointed to at the May 2023 AGM under the area of Outside Bodies.

Note - this list does not include this which require appointment as Positions of Responsibility, which are dealt with separately at council AGMs (i.e. Partnership Panel, Housing Council, PCSP and Reserve & Cadets).

Name	Number of Council Reps	Method of Filling Positions
Representation External to Council – defined as those which the Council has no involvement in their administration		
Agewell Partnership	5	Council d'Hondt calculation
Caledon Regeneration Partnership	4	Council d'Hondt calculation
Coalisland & District Development Association	2	Council d'Hondt calculation
Coalisland & Dungannon Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership	12	District Electoral Area (Dungannon and Torrent)
Drainage Council for NI	1	Council d'Hondt calculation
Dungannon Enterprise Centre	2	Council d'Hondt calculation
ICBAN	4	Council d'Hondt calculation
Lough Neagh Partnership Board	5	Council d'Hondt calculation
National Association of Councillors	8	Council d'Hondt calculation
NI Amenity Council	3	Council d'Hondt calculation

Name	Number of Council Reps	Method of Filling Positions
NILGA (NI Local Government Association)	8	Council d'Hondt calculation
NILGA Policy & Learning Networks: <i>Reform, Devolution & Improvement</i>	1	Council d'Hondt calculation
NILGA Policy & Learning Networks: <i>Local economic Development, Investment & International Affairs</i>	1	Council d'Hondt calculation
NILGA Policy & Learning Networks: <i>Place Shaping & Infrastructure</i>	1	Council d'Hondt calculation
NILGA Policy & Learning Networks: <i>Health, Social and Environmental Well Being</i>	1	Council d'Hondt calculation
NILGA Policy & Learning Networks: <i>Elected Member Development</i>	1	Council d'Hondt calculation
NI Strategic Migration Partnership: <i>Sustainable Communities & Demographics Group</i>	1	Council d'Hondt calculation
The Honourable Irish Society	2	Council d'Hondt calculation
Shopmobility Mid Ulster	3	Council d'Hondt calculation
Somme Association (Somme Advisory Council)	2	Council d'Hondt calculation
Sustainable NI	2	Council d'Hondt calculation
Workspace, Draperstown	1	Council d'Hondt calculation

Name	Number of Council Reps	Method of Filling Positions
Representation Internal to Council - defined as those established by a council services, being run by or primarily facilitated by the council		
Burnavon Arts & Cultural Centre Sub-Committee	5	Council d'Hondt calculation
Coalisland Town Centre Forum	6	District Electoral Area (Torrent)
Connecting Pomeroy	7	District Electoral Area (Cookstown)
Cookstown & District Town Twinning Meeting	7	District Electoral Area (Cookstown)
Cookstown Town Centre Forum	7	District Electoral Area (Cookstown)
Dungannon Regeneration Partnership	6	District Electoral Area (Dungannon)
Rural Development Local Action Group	12	Council d'Hondt calculation
Magherafelt Town Centre Forum	5	District Electoral Area (Magherafelt)
Maghera Town Centre Forum	5	District Electoral Area (Carntogher)
Mid Ulster Community Plan	10	Council d'Hondt calculation
Mid Ulster Housing Form	10	Council d'Hondt calculation
Mid, South & West Region Growth Deal	4	Party Agreement
Planning Forum: Lough Neagh	2	Party Agreement
Planning Forum: Sperrins	2	Party Agreement

Planning Forum: Cross Border	4	Party Agreement
PEACE Partnership	10	Council d'Hondt calculation
Tullyvar Joint Committee	5	Council d'Hondt calculation

Annex 1: Working Groups Reflecting Outside Bodies WG Recommendation

The following is a list of the Working Groups (as of 4th Feb 2020) reflecting the recommendations of the council's Outside Bodies Working Group. In summary, should there be no new working groups to appoint to this list reflects those which will require appointment to at May 2023 AGM, but as outside bodies if they are still operational.

Working Groups	Party Representation	Active or Inactive
Bonfire Working Group	DUP SF SF SDLP UUP	Active
Broadband Working Group	SF SF SF SF DUP DUP DUP UUP SDLP	Active
Tourism Development Group	DUP SF SF SDLP UUP	Active
Good Relations	DUP DUP DUP SF SF SF SF SDLP UUP	Active
Regional & Minority Languages Working Group	DUP DUP DUP SF SF SF SF SF SDLP UUP	Active
Wind Turbine Working Group	DUP SF SF SDLP UUP	Active

Elected Member Development Charter	DUP DUP DUP SF SF SF SF SF SDLP UUP	Active
Mid Ulster Skills Forum	DUP SF SF SDLP UUP	Active
Outside Bodies	DUP DUP DUP SF SF SF SF SF SDLP UUP	Active
Travellers Working Group	DUP DUP DUP SF SF SF SF SF SDLP UUP	Active
Brexit Working Group	DUP DUP DUP SF SF SF SF SF SDLP UUP	Active
Climate Change	DUP DUP DUP SF SF SF SF SDLP UUP	Active

Report on	Response to NILGA Consultation: Council Reform to Date
Date of Meeting	Thursday 5 th March 2020
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 provide members with an opportunity to give consideration to a draft response to the Northern Ireland Local Government (NILGA) consultation on <i>Council Reform to Date-Driving What's to Come</i> .
2.0	Background
2.1	NILGA corresponded with the Council in late January 2020 to give notification that it would be issuing 3 strategic consultations for comment with a focus on Council Led Reform, the £3.5 billion Shared Prosperity Fund and Shared Services.
2.2.	A consultation entitled, <i>Council Reform to Date/Driving What's to Come</i> has been issued to the Council for comment. A copy of the consultation, together with correspondence from the NILGA Chief Executive is attached as appendix A to this report.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>The consultation emanates from the work of NILGA's Reform, Devolution & Improvement Policy and Learning Network. The consultation seeks feedback on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. At least two major corporate successes for your Council that RPA has triggered and a similar number of barriers to success which might be overcome by further legislation, policy and/or resource changes in wider government. 2. Would further reform improvements ("RPA part II") - an expansion of Council's role - be initially best served via commissioning actual evidence of real benefits, during early & mid 2020 across all councils in preparation for a future electoral term, or should an alternative method / timescale be sought? 3. At strategic policy level rather than concentrating on specific functions, would Council prefer greater legislative powers e.g. to better enable community planning, regeneration, growth / city deals, and locally led decision taking requiring government departments to agree to Council's investment priorities? What specific legislation or actions does Council wish to see?

3.2	<p>4. Does Council have a corporate wish to see neighbourhood services delivered by councils in other jurisdictions delivered as part of its portfolio / directly influenced by it (specific services can be listed as desirable, or not)?</p> <p>5. To protect and ensure adequate resources for councils, NILGA has produced a New Burdens Doctrine. All councils in the rest of the UK are protected by this, in some form to ensure legally that resources are guaranteed to be adequate to meet transferred responsibilities. Does Council consider this protection a "must have" in advance of any further transfer of powers, resources and / or services?</p> <p>6. NILGA believes that council led shared services are essential to the sustainability of local government here. Is Council open to engaging in sector wide strategic discussions around shared services and collaboration, building on some existing cluster work, in order to define a strategic, sector wide vision and approach to this? What are Council's key requirements, if any, in terms of taking such discussions forward?</p> <p>Members are asked to give consideration to the draft response detailed as appendix B to this report.</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<p>Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications</p> <p>Financial: not applicable</p> <p>Human: not applicable</p> <p>Risk Management: not applicable</p>
4.2	<p>Screening & Impact Assessments</p> <p>Equality & Good Relations Implications: not applicable</p> <p>Rural Needs Implications: not applicable</p>
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	That members give consideration to the Northern Ireland Local Government Association (NILGA) consultation on Council Reform to Date and draft response
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	<p>Appendix A: Correspondence from Chief Executive of NILGA</p> <p>Appendix B: Response (draft) to NILGA Consultation: Council Reform to Date</p>

Mr Anthony Tohill
Chief Executive
Mid Ulster District Council
Council Offices
Circular Road
DUNGANNON
BT71 6DT

30th January 2020

Dear Anthony,

Council Reform to Date / Driving What's to Come

As Council is aware, NILGA has formed a series of Policy & Learning Networks, driving the policy & practical development and the financial and constitutional stability needed to create sustainable local government here in Northern Ireland. These council led Networks are illustrated in appendix A.

As part of the 2020/21 workplan for the Reform, Devolution and Improvement Policy and Learning Network (RDIN), which includes membership of both members and officers from across the councils, we are seeking your high level, corporate views on reform to date as well as on developing additional & improving existing powers, resources and services of local government in N. Ireland.

The enclosed questionnaire should be read and responded to corporately, also in the context of the sector's current Programme for Local Government 2016-2021, a summary of which is attached (appendix B).

Your responses are respectfully sought by close of play (1800) on Thursday 2nd April 2020 by sending them to s.little@nilga.org

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact myself or Karen Smyth in NILGA. Thank you for your co-operation and evidence.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Derek McCallan
Chief Executive

CC. Cllr Martin Kearney, Chair, Mid Ulster District Council

Enc. Questionnaire and Appendices A, B and C

A Programme for Local Government (version 2016 – 2021 & beyond)

Guiding Principles

The following Guiding Principles are put forward as the basis for developing a Programme for Local Government:

- **Collaborative working and joint accountability**
 - *The relationship between regional and local government is based on mutual respect and partnership with 11 council areas the hubs of delivery of the Programme for Government*
- **Sustainable finance and investment**
 - *Financial decisions are taken sub-regionally/ locally through a council-led community planning approach*
- **Simplified regulation, audit and bureaucracy**
 - *Greater accountability and integration, with more customer-aligned services*
- **Community Planning**
 - *Local needs/ identified priorities aligned with government targets and budget provision made statutory*
- **Public Sector Improvement**
 - *Two-tier delivery platform for public sector services and their improvement, working on Shared Services to keep taxes and rates prudent and quality of services high*
- **Protection of local democracy**
 - *Political and administrative commitment to the principles of the Charter of Local Self-Government*
- **Strengthening local democracy**
 - *Uniting and profiling local government, putting local democracy at the heart of our public spending future, adopting a co-design approach to new legislation, policies and budgeting*
- **Strong councils and councillors**
 - *Both spheres of government to be equal and empowered*
- **Hard work with clear intent**
 - *To develop an understanding and support for local, elected member led democracy, **with regeneration and related powers transferred to / co-ordinated within local councils***
- **Outward-looking and Innovative**
 - *Building on the best practice, solution-focused and responsive, utilising new technology, skills development, municipal entrepreneurship in practice*

The New Burdens Doctrine

In England a new burden is:

“any policy or initiative which increases the cost of providing local authority services. This includes duties, powers, or any other changes which may place an expectation on local authorities, including new guidance. In some cases, a new burden may arise as a result of a transfer of function.”

The key definition of a New Burden in England is a change that could lead to an increase on council tax, if it was not additionally funded by central government.

The guidance stresses that the NBD in England only applies where central government requires or exhorts authorities to do something new or additional. Action to ensure that they adequately fulfil a role for which they are already funded is not a New Burden.

Wales and Scotland also have initiatives in place to fund new burdens in different ways.

Key Principles of a New Burdens Doctrine for NI

One clear set of rules/guidance for NI.

New Burdens funding provisions should be included in any transfer of powers legislation.

There should be an identifiable department in the lead.

The department lead should be responsible for securing the resources needed to fund the net additional cost falling on local authorities, and for making any necessary resource transfer.

Discussion should take place in relation to how and when resources are transferred to local government.

A review and evaluation process should be a compulsory feature of a new burdens’ regime in Northern Ireland both in relation to the adequacy of funding and the application of the NBD generally.

Potential New Burdens and any linked assessments should be flagged up by DfC or other Departments.

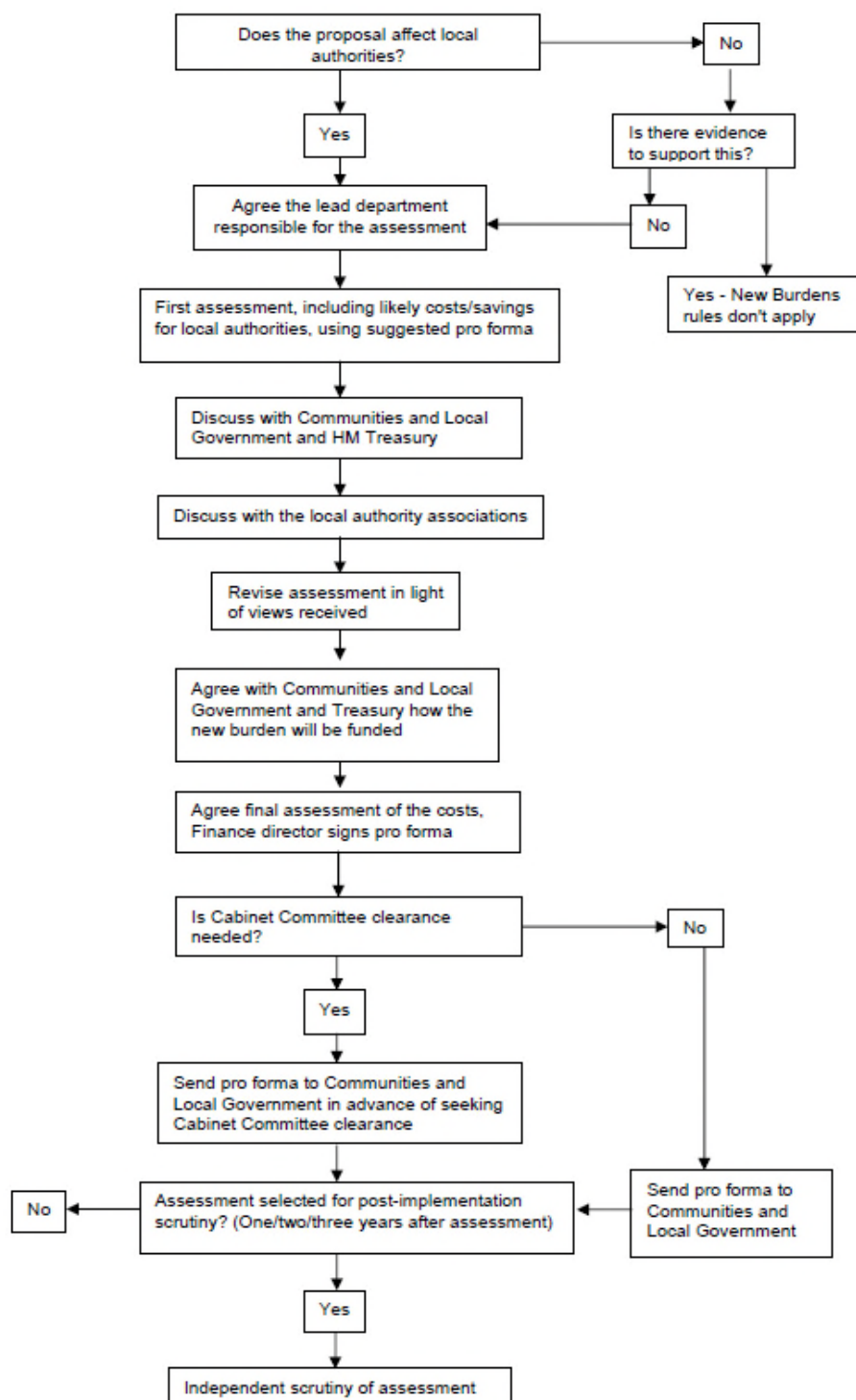
The review and evaluation process should capture data that can be shared across departments and with councils.

The NBD should include a clear requirement to consult throughout the new burdens’ assessment process with both the council and NILGA.

The NBD should include timescales within which new burdens assessments should be completed and any grant awarded paid with the ability to extend this in only exceptional

circumstances. This will enable councils to ensure their needs are prioritised including at times when Government may have different priorities.

Key Stages – Flow Chart



Council Reform to Date / Driving What's to Come

Questionnaire – responses by 1800 Thursday 2nd April 2020

1	<p>RPA to date – please highlight at least two major corporate successes for your Council that RPA has triggered and a similar number of barriers to success which might be overcome by further legislation, policy and/or resource changes in wider government.</p>
	<p>Council is of the view that local government reform was brought forward by the Northern Ireland Executive as an initiative to transform the delivery of local government services, which continues to be a journey and a work in progress for all Councils. Mid Ulster Council's focus during its first term was on the coming together of its predecessor councils but has now turned its attention, in its second term, to challenging and reviewing service delivery across the district for the benefit of all our customers.</p> <p>Council considers the following to be two corporate successes of note during its first term:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The delivery of a substantial capital and investment programme across the district, the extent of which would not have been achieved by either of its predecessor councils working on their own and the resources available to them 2. Directly emanating from local government reform (the Local Government Act (NI) 2014) the Council used the new power of the General Power of Competence. The Council invoked the power to finish and resurface a roadway, together with footpaths adjacent to homes at Curran Terrace on the outskirts of Dungannon. This allowed the Council to resolve the matter to the satisfaction of residents, which had been ongoing for some 40 years. The Department for Infrastructure, or its former roads authorities, had never adopted the roadway meaning works to upgrade and maintain it had never been undertaken. <p>Council considers the following to be two potential barriers to success:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Uncertainty on the continued availability of the Rates Support Grant to Mid Ulster Council. Further discussion at a Ministerial level is required on the funding model for local government to allow it sustain, improve and deliver services 2. Scheduling and delivery of key infrastructure projects within the Mid Ulster region, to include the A5 and A28 Road Network specific to Dungannon, Cookstown and Moy to further open up accessibility to our district for investment and the

	accessibility of our citizens to vital regional services such as health care provision within Antrim and Craigavon Hospitals
2	Would further reform improvements ("RPA part II") - an expansion of Council's role - be initially best served via commissioning actual evidence of real benefits, during early & mid 2020 across all councils in preparation for a future electoral term, or should an alternative method / timescale be sought?
	<p>Council would welcome a discussion within the local government sector on the potential for expansion of its role within its districts. Council believes that research and an analysis should be undertaken, but carried out for the local government sector and not be presented in a way that it is an indication or a fait accompli to central government that an expansion of Council's role will take place and be inevitable. Council believes that many factors will inform any expansion including finance, people, time and expectations of citizens and expectations of all parties involved.</p> <p>Council believes that an emphasis should equally be placed on re-opening discussions on the transfer of functions which did not ultimately transfer in April 2015, namely local regeneration and development.</p>
3	At strategic policy level rather than concentrating on specific functions (see 4.), would Council prefer greater legislative powers e.g. to better enable community planning, regeneration, growth / city deals, and locally led decision taking requiring government departments to agree to Council's investment priorities? What specific legislation or actions does Council wish to see?
	<p>Council is conscious of the time taken to bring forward, initiate, consider and pass legislation to enable it to undertake and progress issues that it has been unable to step in and do to date. In the interests of resource and time, consideration should be given to focusing on the existing legislative provisions afforded to the Council and using them to the best potential to ensure we maximise the benefits of existing legislation. For example a review and an analysis of all the legislative provisions relevant to local government in which it can exercise its powers should be made and extent to which powers have been exercised.</p> <p>Furthermore, such a review and analysis would identify where legislative provisions may help enable Councils to exercise a particular action or power but its use has been inhibited by for example Regulations not being brought forward by a Department, such as the Department for Communities or other relevant government department.</p>

4	Please see below a list of typical neighbourhood services of councils in other jurisdictions which are not the responsibility of councils in Northern Ireland. Does Council have a corporate wish to see such services as part of its portfolio / directly influenced by it (specific services can be listed as desirable, or not)?	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On-street car parking • urban and rural regeneration • local roads and footpaths • local maintenance of roads and wider public realm such as gully emptying and gritting • public housing • preventative health services • fire services • trading standards • sewerage infrastructure • libraries and museums • street lighting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broadband investment – devolved budgetary control • Local public transport • further art, culture, sport policy & budget • further economic development such as Foreign Direct Investment and Skills Development policy & budget • conservation of natural and built heritage • Fisheries • others (please specify)
	<p>Linking to our response to Q2 (above) the Council would be willing to actively engage in a discussion as to where local government should be positioned, like to be or should be in the next 15 to 20 years. Council is of the view that the identification of core services best delivered at the local level and complement our existing services should then be reviewed in the context of a wider 15 to 20 year vision for local government in terms of where it wants to be and the services it should be providing.</p> <p>The Council would welcome some work of identifying services where it can have the greatest impact at a local level, but should be equally accompanied with discussion on service delivery models to include funding, expenditure, sustainability and scope being given to councils on how they can be delivered in response to local needs.</p>	

5	<p>To protect and ensure adequate resources for councils, NILGA has produced a New Burdens Doctrine, summarised in appendix C. All councils in the rest of the UK are protected by this, in some form to ensure legally that resources are guaranteed to be adequate to meet transferred responsibilities. Does Council consider this protection a "must have" in advance of any further transfer of powers, resources and / or services?</p>
	<p>Yes, the Council believes that a 'new burdens doctrine' or a version thereof should be progressed and be the cornerstone of any discussions on new services considered for local government delivery.</p>
6	<p>NILGA believes that <i>council led</i> shared services are essential to the sustainability of local government here. Is Council open to engaging in sector wide strategic discussions around shared services and collaboration, building on some existing cluster work, in order to define a strategic, sector wide vision and approach to this? What are Council's key requirements, if any, in terms of taking such discussions forward?</p>
	<p>The Council acknowledges that Shared Services were explored in the lead up to the local government reform process culminating in April 2015, though events and the need to focus on transition and day one priorities took precedence to ensure the seamless delivery of services from predecessor Councils to the new Council.</p> <p>The Council would be willing, in principle, to engage in discussion around this though with core back office service areas such as HR, ICT and finance having become embedded within councils the concept of shared service and what it means needs to be broadened. An integral requirement in taking discussions forward would be arriving at a definition of what shared services now means to local government in Northern Ireland, and how far it could extend just so as all those engaging in the process are at the same starting point and understanding of what it could deliver.</p>

Report on	Committee and Council Meetings: 2020-2021
Date of Meeting	Thurs 5 th March 2020
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 the 2020-2021 Committee and Council Meeting Schedule for approval.
2.0	Background
2.1	Business of the council is conducted through its committee and council meetings, a schedule for which is considered annually for approval by Policy & Resources Committee.
2.2.	A meeting Schedule for the period June 2020 to June 2021 has been developed.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The council conducts its business through a Traditional Committee System of governance, whereby recommendations are brought from its 5 Committee to the next available meeting of Council for approval. Attached, as appendix A, to this report is the schedule of meetings for the period June 2020 - June 2021.
3.2	<p>In summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 2020 Annual Meeting will take place on Monday 1st June (as previously agreed in 2019-2020 schedule) • Committee meetings have been scheduled to take place across the first two weeks of each month, unless to accommodate public holidays/pending public holidays in which case they take place across a single week • Council meetings will take place on the 4th Thursday of each month, where scheduled, unless to facilitate a public holiday/pending public holiday • the Special Council meeting to consider the 2021-22 District Rate is scheduled to take place on Monday 8th February 2021
3.3	The Committee is requested to give consideration and approval to the attached Schedule to facilitate forward planning by Members and Council Officers.

4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: none
	Human: none
	Risk Management: none
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: none
	Rural Needs Implications: none
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	That the Committee considers and gives approval to the Council & Committee Meeting Schedule for the period June 2020 - June 2021.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	Appendix A: Council & Committee Meeting Schedule 2020-2021

Mid Ulster District Council
DRAFT Council & Committee Meeting Schedule
June 2020 - June 2021

MONTH	COMMITTEE	DATE	LOCATION
June 2020	AGM	Mon 1 st	Dungannon
	Planning	Tues 2 nd	Magherafelt
	Policy & Resources	Thurs 4 th	
	Environment	Tues 9 th	
	Development	Thurs 11 th	
	Audit	Tues 16 th	
	Council	Thurs 25 th	Dungannon
July 2020	Policy & Resources	Thurs 2 nd	Cookstown
	Planning	Mon 6 th	Magherafelt
	Environment	Tues 7 th	Cookstown
	Development	Thurs 9 th	Cookstown
	Council	Thurs 23 th	Dungannon
August 2020	Planning	Tues 4 th	Magherafelt
September 2020	Planning	Tues 1 st	Magherafelt
	Policy and Resources	Thurs 3 rd	
	Environment	Tues 8 th	
	Development	Thurs 10 th	
	Audit	Tues 15 th	
	Council	Thurs 24 th	Dungannon
October 2020	Planning	Tues 6 th	Magherafelt
	Policy and Resources	Thurs 8 th	Cookstown
	Environment	Tues 13 th	
	Development	Thurs 15 th	
	Council	Thurs 22 nd	Dungannon
November 2020	Planning	Tues 3 rd	Magherafelt
	Policy and Resources	Thurs 5 th	
	Environment	Tues 10 th	
	Development	Thurs 12 th	
	Audit	Tues 24 th	
	Council	Thurs 26 th	Dungannon

		DATE	
--	--	-------------	--

MONTH	COMMITTEE		LOCATION
December 2020	Planning	Tues 1 st	Magherafelt
	Policy and Resources	Thurs 3 rd	Cookstown
	Environment	Tues 8 th	
	Development	Thurs 10 th	
	Council	Thurs 17 th	Council
January 2021	Planning	Mon 11 th	Magherafelt
	Environment s	Tues 12 th	
	Policy and Resource	Wed 13 th	
	Development	Thurs 14 th	
	Council	Thurs 28 th	Dungannon
February 2021	Planning	Tues 2 nd	Magherafelt
	Policy and Resources	Thurs 4 th	Cookstown
	Special Council - Rates	Mon 8 th	Dungannon
	Environment	Tues 9 th	Cookstown
	Development	Thurs 11 th	
	Council	Thurs 25 th	Dungannon
March 2021	Planning	Tues 2 nd	Magherafelt
	Policy and Resources	Thurs 4 th	
	Environment	Tues 9 th	
	Development	Thurs 11 th	
	Audit	Tues 16 th	
	Council	Thurs 25 th	Dungannon
April 2021	Policy & Resources	Thurs 8 th	Cookstown
	Planning	Mon 12 th	Magherafelt
	Environment	Tues 13 th	Cookstown
	Development	Thurs 15 th	
	Council	Thurs 22 nd	Dungannon
May 2021	Planning	Tues 4 th	Magherafelt
	Policy & Resources	Thurs 6 th	
	Environment	Tues 11 th	
	Development	Thurs 13 th	
	Council	Thurs 27 th	Dungannon
June 2021	AGM	Mon 7 th	Dungannon

Minutes of Meeting of Policy and Resources Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 6 February in the Council Offices, Ballyronan Road, Magherafelt

Members Present

Councillor Molloy, Chair

Councillors Ashton, Buchanan, Elattar (7.13 pm), Forde, Gildernew, Hughes, McFlynn, S McGuigan, McKinney, McLean, S McPeake, Quinn (7.12 pm), Totten

Officers in Attendance

Mrs Canavan, Director of Organisational Development
Mr Cassells, Director of Environment and Property
Mr Kelso, Director of Public Health and Infrastructure
Mr Moffett, Head of Democratic Services
Mr O'Hagan, Head of IT
Mr JJ Tohill, Director of Finance
Ms Grogan, Democratic Services Officer

Others in Attendance

Mr David Ross – Director of Valuation, LPS

The meeting commenced at 7.02 pm.

PR026/20 Apologies

Councillors Colvin and Doris.
Chief Executive.

PR027/20 Declarations of Interest

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

PR028/20 Chair's Business

None.

PR029/20 Deputation – Land & Property Services Non-Domestic Rate Valuation

The Chair, Councillor Molloy welcomed Mr David Ross, Director of Valuation to the committee and invited him to make his presentation.

Mr Ross provided members with an update on Reval2020 – Revaluing Properties for Business Rates. He said that there were approx. 74,000 non-domestic properties in

Northern Ireland, with a current total Net Annual Value of £1,560m = this has the potential to generate £640 million p.a. rates revenue.

Councillor McLean raised the issue of a business being penalised for being prosperous and this leading to an increase in Rates payable and enquired what happened where a business found themselves in the position of reducing profitability and asked if the Rates payable would decrease accordingly.

Mr Ross agreed that in theory the Rating system generally (for most classes of business property) sought to base Rates on rents paid by the businesses occupying premises as rents were viewed as the best measure to use to equitably distribute the Rate burden between business ratepayers. However, over time, Rates assessed would naturally become based on rents that were determined by LPS a considerable period ago. Consequently, frequent LPS was attempting to increase the frequency of property revaluations. Frequent property revaluations would help ensure that Rates were based on as up to date information as practicable and this should ensure that the distribution of the Rate burden was as equitable as practicable.

In response to a member's query, Mr Ross advised that the last revaluation of properties took place in 2015, with the 2020 revaluation reflecting rents payable in April 2018.

Councillor Quinn entered the meeting at 7.12 pm.

Councillor Elattar entered the meeting at 7.13 pm.

Mr Ross outlined in his overhead presentation the following: (appendix 1)

- Revaluations
- Net Annual Value Growth
- Changes in NAV – Mid Ulster
- NAV Growth by Sector
- Changes in NAV – Mid Ulster – Retail
- Changes in NAV – Mid Ulster – Offices
- Changes in NAV – Mid Ulster – Industrial
- Changes in NAV – Mid Ulster – Warehouses
- NAV Growth and Rate Liability
- Key Dates
- Draft Values and Valuation List Online
- What's Required from Rate Payers

The Chair thanked Mr Ross for his informative presentation and said that the more information made available, the better.

Councillor Forde advised that she had been approached by a concerned businessman during the week regarding the anticipated increase in his business Rates. She said that previously his rates were £900 per annum and when he performed his own calculation using the new revaluation figures it was £2,941.50 and enquired how this could be justified and whether this was an accurate estimation.

Mr Ross advised that the calculation referred to would not accurately estimate the Rates bill as no regional rate had been struck yet by Government. However, he did accept that some ratepayers could see increases while others might see decreases in their ultimate Rates bill.

Councillor Forde enquired if it was acceptable to inform the gentleman of what was said tonight advising that the rate checker was only giving an estimation and not an accurate figure.

Mr Ross said that the rate checker did not have a business rate number to provide an accurate figure for the businessman, but he also noted that the business could yet face a significant increase in Rates anyway.

Councillor S McGuigan said that it's assumed that valuations were going to increase and not decrease which will reflect a Rate increase to the ordinary businessperson and felt that there was no logic to this.

Mr Ross replied that his department was responsible for assessing the value of the property in accordance with the law, which requires that the valuation is to be based on rental values.

In response to Councillor McGuigan's query, Mr Ross advised that LPS had written to every business to advise of the revaluation process and invited them to provide details such as rents payable in relation to their properties to enable the LPS to ascertain the rateable value of the properties.

Mr Ross stated if more regular valuations were carried out then revaluations and their effects would not be such a surprise to people, but due to resource issues it was not possible to have revaluations as frequent as the LPS would like.

Councillor McFlynn said that the Council and people pride themselves on the business ethic within Mid Ulster and enquired if property revaluation was related to profit or income.

Mr Ross advised that valuations were generally based on rentals. However, other factors would be taken into account to calculate a fair and reasonable net rental value for rating purposes. He said that some sectors, including the hospitality sector would see their rental values being derived from turnover. However, this was how the private sector would value a property in many cases when a business was being sold.

Councillor McFlynn said that Mid Ulster had a huge engineering and agri-food sector and felt that this revaluation could have a detrimental effect on businesses which could yet be hit very hard by the financial consequences of the new valuations.

Councillor McFlynn said that it would be unfair if the revaluation directly contributed to increased Rates as this Council prided itself on helping its businesses prosper within Mid Ulster.

Councillor S McPeake enquired about the average 6.8% growth figure for all non-domestic properties within the North of Ireland and enquired what the growth rate overall for Mid Ulster was.

Mr Ross advised that the growth rate for Mid Ulster was in the region of 9.1%.

Councillor S McPeake enquired if there was any way of using the consequences of the revaluations to help businesses.

Mr Ross advised that this was a question for the Council as LPS only provides information to councils on property valuations. He said that correspondence was issued to all Councils in November of each year in relation to property valuations which should help the officers to understand what was happening.

Councillor S McGuigan said that even if the regional rate went down, this Council struggled with the lack of information at Rate setting time in relation to both Rate Support Grant and regional rate.

Mr Ross advised that although he could not comment in relation to Rate Support Grant, he understood that the regional rate had to be set before the end of March.

Councillor S McGuigan enquired as to the likelihood of the regional rate being reduced.

Mr Ross said that this happened at the last revaluation of properties in 2015.

The Chair referred to Dungannon town and said that rental rates were very high and that some owners had preferred to let properties on a rates only basis rather than not rent them and be faced with paying Rates without any rental income.

Mr Ross said that all types of deals were on the market within the private sector to try and help people overcome these issues. He said that LPS were not there to try and resolve these types of issues.

Councillor McLean said that what he was reading into this was that LPS were looking at a fair and even rateable value for all properties, which would see there being some increases and decreases.

Mr Ross said that this was the case and that they were interested in lease and rent patterns throughout Northern Ireland as this would help them perform their work effectively.

Councillor McLean referred to the previous reduction in regional rate of 2p in the £1 and asked what this purpose of this reduction was and how this figure was reached.

Mr Ross said that the calculation effectively allowed Stormont to raise the amount of income from the regional rate as it had prior to the 2015 revaluation.

The Chair enquired if the regional rate came down, would council ratepayers see a reduction in their Rates bill.

Mr Ross said that in crude terms that this should be the case.

Councillor McLean said that often councils get bad press for the increase in regional rates and suggested that if the Minister for Finance could not make a 2p reduction in regional rate and give the relevant funds back to council so that councils could transparently apply the monies for the benefit of non-domestic ratepayers.

Mr Ross accepted the Member's point but replied that this would be a matter for the Assembly.

The Chair thanked Mr Ross for this attendance tonight at which Mr Ross withdrew from the meeting at 7.41 pm.

Matters for Decision

PR030/20 Corporate Plan 2020-2024: Consultation Outcome

The Head of Democratic Services presented previously circulated report and to provide details of the outcome of the public consultation on the Council's draft Corporate Plan 2020-2024.

The proposed changes to the draft plan as outlined in a series of 6 recommendations listed below:

- 1) The Council's vision is considered robust and should be retained
- 2) The Council's 6 stated values should be retained, with 1 amendment to the wording of 'excellence' to reflect the Council's accountability for its resources
- 3) Given broad agreement, the 5 stated themes should be retained
- 4) Stated priorities should be retained, with suggested amendments to 6 as detailed in the main report
- 5) The final plan's narrative should refer to or reflect certain issues raised by respondents
- 6) Corporate commitments should be retained, with a minor change to the wording of one

Councillor Ashton referred to the commentary reflected in the responses from the 'PUL' community and enquired if the Council's Good Relations section had reflected on same, and if a review had been undertaken in this area of the Council's work.

The Head of Democratic Services said that he would refer the matter back to the Director of Business and Communities to provide an update.

Proposed by Councillor McLean
Seconded by Councillor S McGuigan and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the final corporate plan 2020-2024 following the consultation exercise, subject to recommendations on the vision, values, themes, priorities, the plan narrative being amended to reflect issues raised and the corporate commitments being retained with some minor wording.

The Director of Business and Committees to provide an update on concerns raised regarding commentary reflected in the responses from the 'PUL' community and whether the Council's Good Relations programme had reflected the same.

PR031/20 Request to Illuminate Council Property – February 2020

The Head of Democratic Services presented previously circulated report and advised members that a request had been received from Marie Curie Dungannon Fundraising Group to highlight the start of its flagship campaign the Great Daffodil Appeal by lighting up/illuminating the Burnavon, Cookstown, Ranfurly House, Dungannon and the Bridewell, Magherafelt on Friday 28th February to 1st March 2020 (inclusive).

Proposed by Councillor McFlynn
Seconded by Councillor Hughes and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the request to light up/illuminate the designated properties (Ranfurly House & Visitor Centre, Dungannon; the Burnavon Arts & Cultural Centre, Cookstown and the Bridewell, Magherafelt) yellow on the evenings of Friday 28th February, Saturday 29th February and Sunday 1st March 2020 to mark the commencement of Marie Curie's 2020 Great Daffodil Appeal.

PR032/20 Policy (Draft) on Consultation

The Head of Democratic Services presented previously circulated report and sought approval from elected members on the draft Consultation Policy.

Proposed by Councillor S McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor S McPeake and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the draft Consultation Policy for Mid Ulster District Council.

PR033/20 Publication of Strategy and Action Plan 2019 to 2021 by Equality & Diversity in Local Councils

The Head of Democratic Services presented previously circulated report to provide members with a copy of the Equality & Diversity in Local Councils Strategy and Action Plan 2019-2020 and consider endorsement of the associated Equality and Diversity Framework.

Proposed by Councillor S McPeake
Seconded by Councillor McKinney and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the Equality & Diversity in Local Councils Strategy and Action Plan 2019 – 2021 and Equality and Diversity Framework.

PR034/20 Mid Ulster District Council Health & Safety Policy

The Director of Public Health & Infrastructure presented previously circulated report to inform members of minor revisions to Mid Ulster District Council's current Health & Safety Policy.

Proposed by Councillor Buchanan
Seconded by Councillor Forde and

Resolved That it be recommended to Council to approve the adoption of the attached Mid Ulster District Council Health and Safety Policy.

Matters for Information

PR035/20 Minutes of Policy & Resources Committee held on 9 January 2020

Members noted Minutes of Policy & Resources Committee held on 9 January 2020.

PR036/20 Notification of Consultations from NILGA

Members noted report on Notification of Consultations from NILGA.

PR037/20 Corporate Performance Improvements: 9 Months Update 2019-20

Members noted report on Corporate Performance Improvements: 9 Months Update 2019-20.

Local Government (NI) Act 2014 – Confidential Business

Proposed by Councillor S McGuigan
Seconded by Councillor Quinn 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 PR038/20 to PR051/20.

Matters for Decision

- PR038/20 2020/21 Insurances
- PR039/20 Rate Estimates 2020/21
- PR040/20 Treasury Management Report
- PR041/20 Capital Programme 2020 – 2024
- PR042/20 Contract for the Collection and Processing of Mixed Dry Recyclates (Blue Bin Contract)
- PR043/20 Land Acquisitions and Disposal
- PR044/20 Finance System (Totalmobile) Contract Renewal
- PR045/20 Mobile Network Choice for Contract 2020-2022
- PR046/20 Full Fibre Project

Matters for Information

PR047/20 Confidential Minutes of Policy and Resources Committee
held on 9 January 2020
PR048/20 Staff Matters for Information
PR049/20 Planning System Replacement Update
PR050/20 Finance Report for 9 Months ended 31 December 2019
PR051/20 Contracts and DAC

PR052/20 Duration of Meeting

The meeting was called for 7 pm and concluded at 9.35 pm.

Chair _____

Date _____

Reval2020

Revaluing properties
for business rates

Non Domestic Revaluation Presentation – 6 February 2020
to Mid Ulster District Council – Policy & Resources Committee
by **David Ross**, Director of Valuation, LPS

Reval2020 data in this presentation is correct as at 18 November 2019



Land & Property Services
Seirbhísí Talún & Maoine

Page 123 of 144



Department of
Finance

An Roinn
Airgeadais

Background

- 74,000 non domestic properties
- Current Total Net Annual Value = £1,560m
- £640 million p.a. rates revenue

- Previous Revaluation was in 2015
- Work on 2020 Revaluation started in mid-2017
- April 2018 – Rent and Lease Questionnaires
- **Net Annual Value** = Rental Value at 1 April 2018



Revaluations

- A property tax system requires frequent revaluations to be fair and to minimise excessive adjustments.
- NI - 1976, 1997, 2003, 2015 and now in 2020.
- Revaluations are about redistributing the rate burden.
- A revaluation does not increase or decrease total NI rates revenue

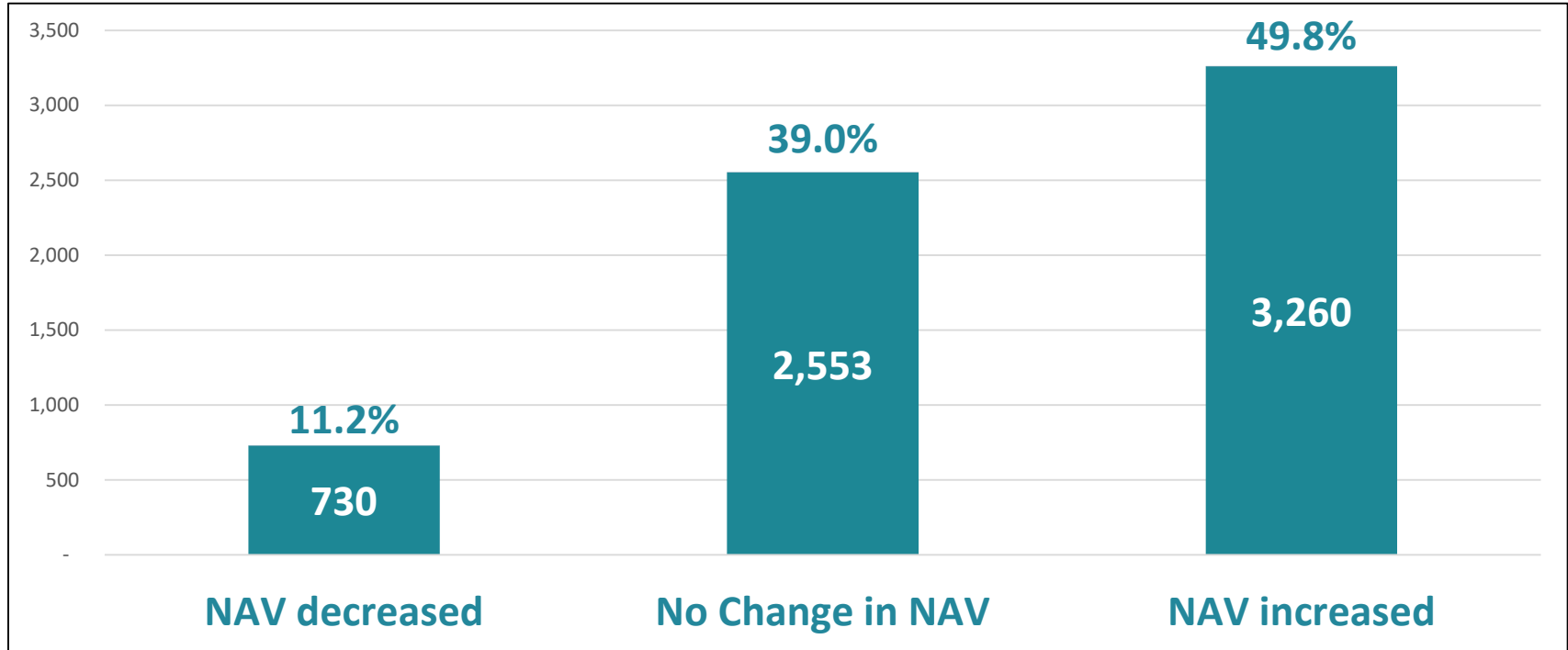


Reval2020

Net Annual Value Growth

	2015	2020	Overall NI Growth
Total NAV	£1,560m	£1,667m	1.068 (6.8%)

	2015	2020	Overall Mid Ulster Growth
Total NAV	£93.3m	£101.8m	1.091 (9.1%)

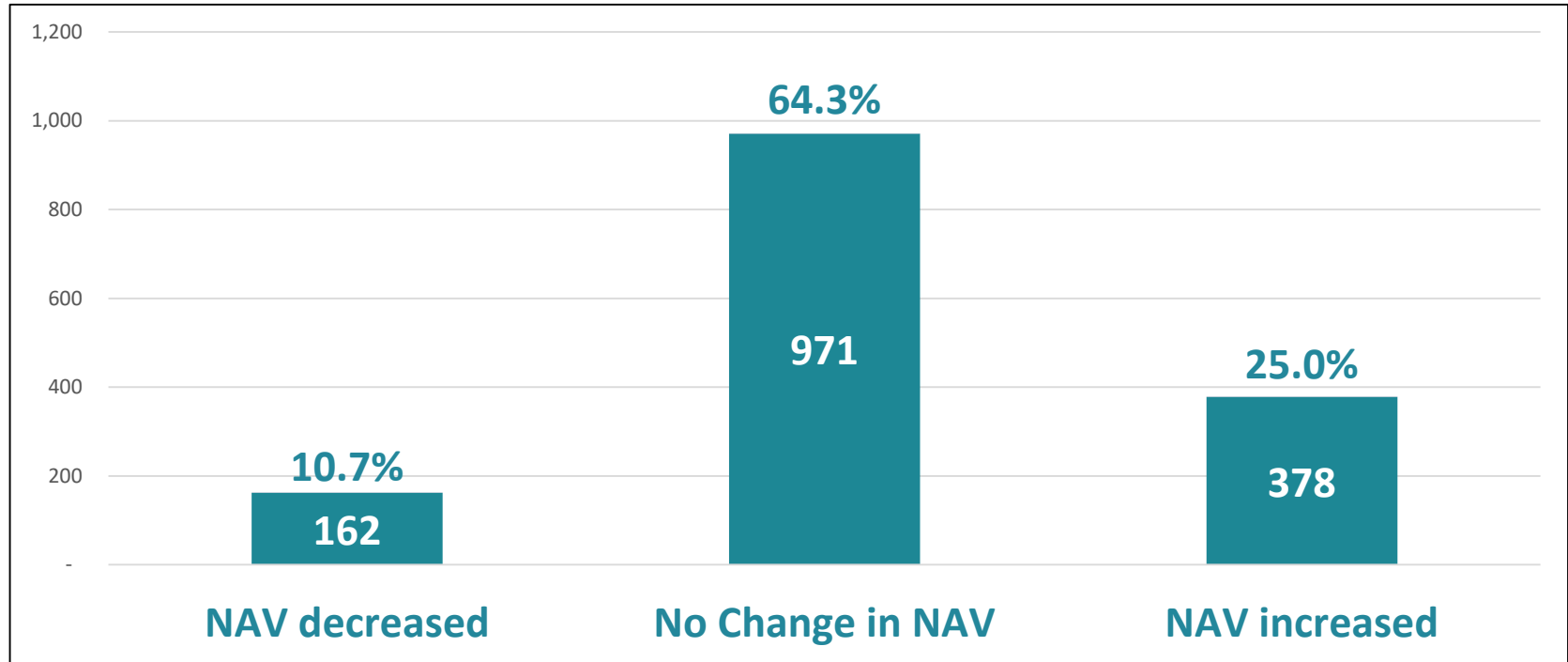


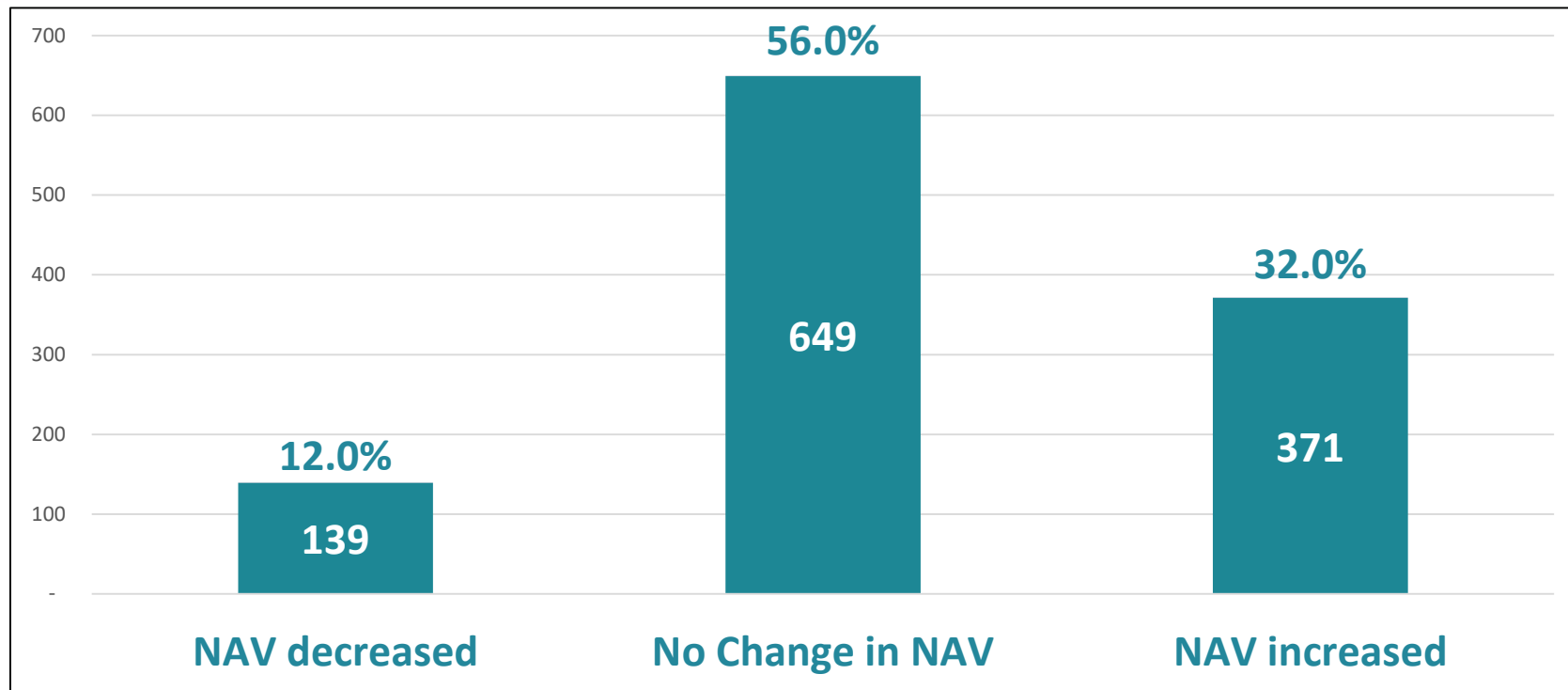
NAV Growth by Sector

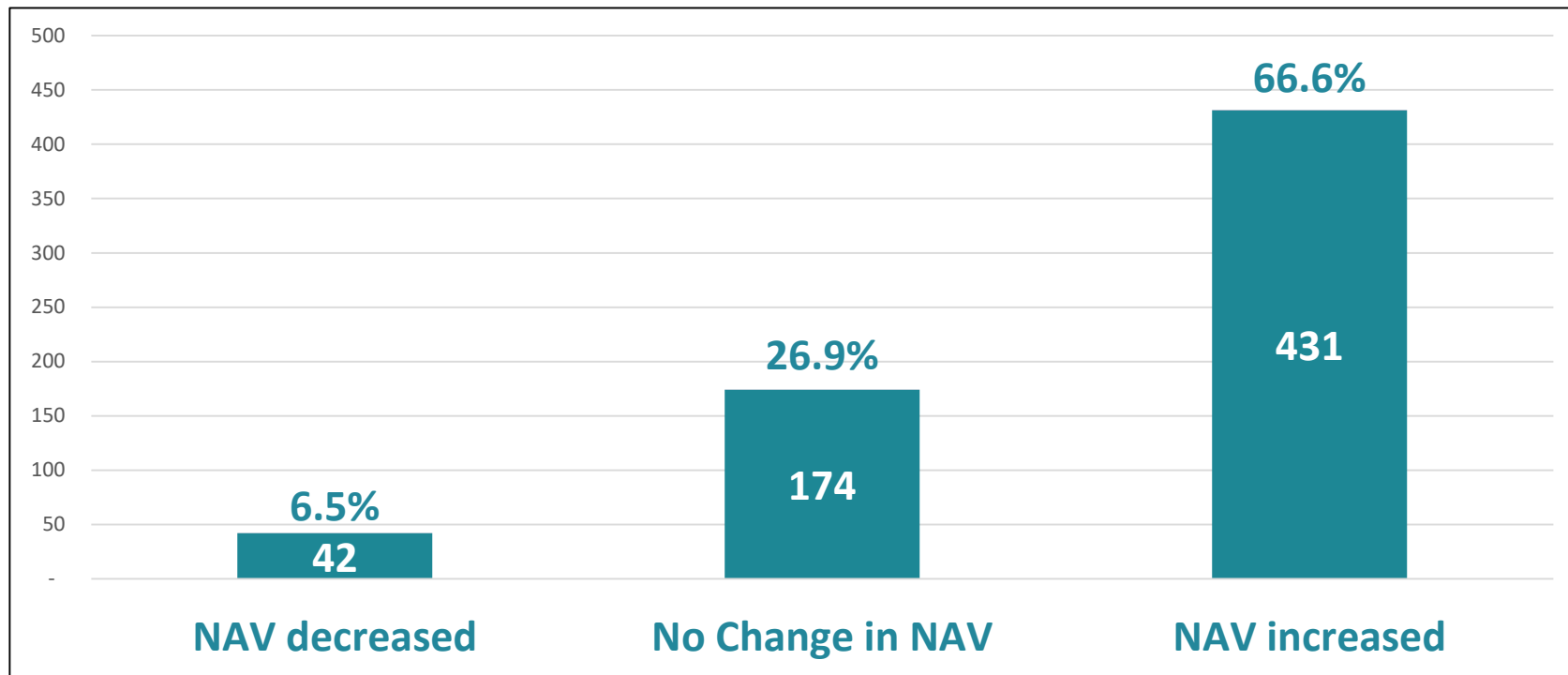
Sector	NI	Mid Ulster
Retail	0.98	1.01
Offices	1.09	1.05
Industrial	1.03	1.11
Warehouses	1.02	1.11
All Properties	1.068	1.091



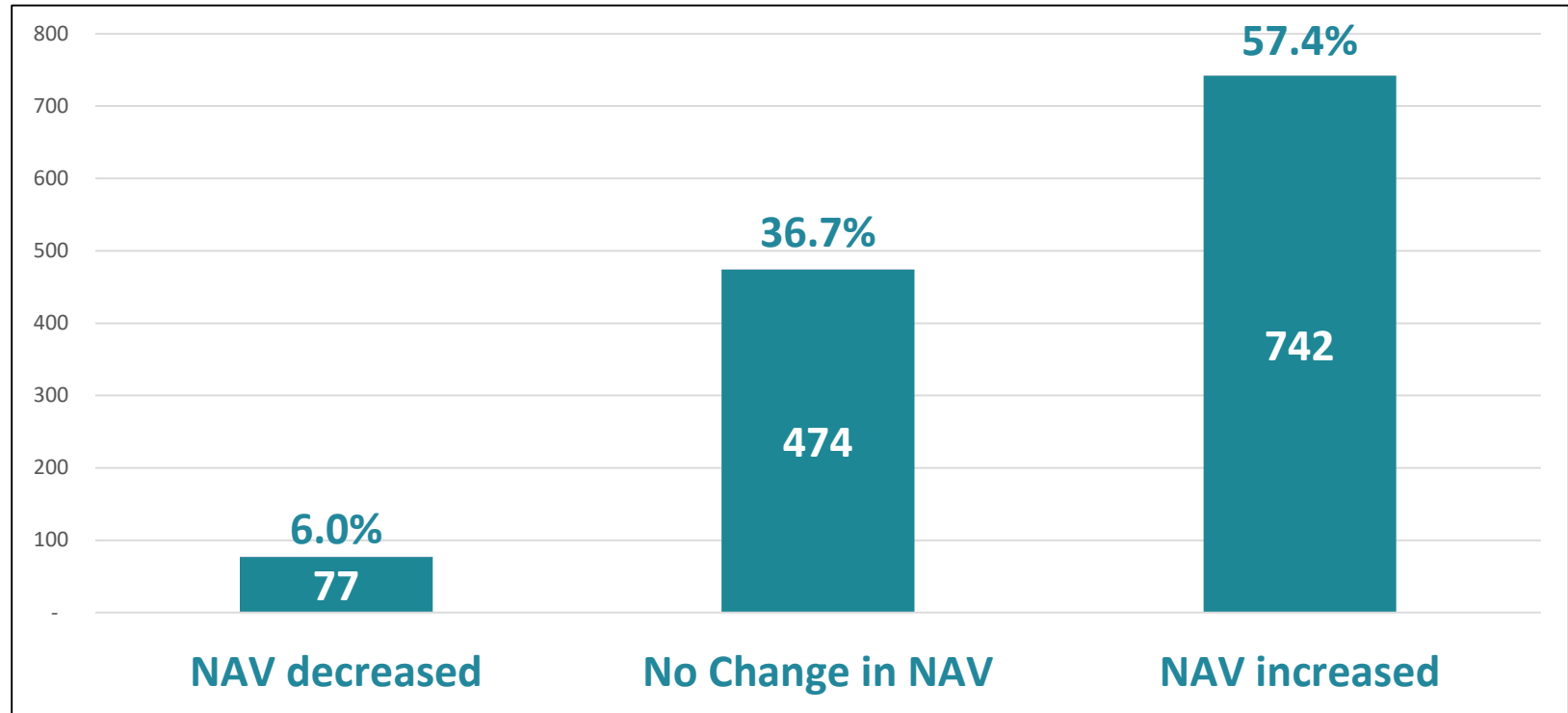
Reval2020 Changes in NAV – Mid Ulster - Retail







Reval2020 Changes in NAV – Mid Ulster- Warehouses



NAV Growth and Rate Liability

- 6.8% Growth at NI level adjusts the Regional Rate downward
- After the 2015 Revaluation -
 - 2003-2015 – Growth 8.1%
 - Regional Rate 2014-15 - £0.3391
 - Regional Rate 2015-16 - £0.3186
- Different Growth for each District Council will result in different adjustments to each District Rate



NAV Growth and Rate Liability

- Rates can only be worked out when poundages are known.
- **Rate Bill = NAV x (District Rate + Regional Rate) - reliefs**
- Jan-March - changes to an NAV compared to NI and District averages used by LPS to give ratepayers an indication of their new liability.
- Existing reliefs and exemptions are unchanged.
- **SBRR**



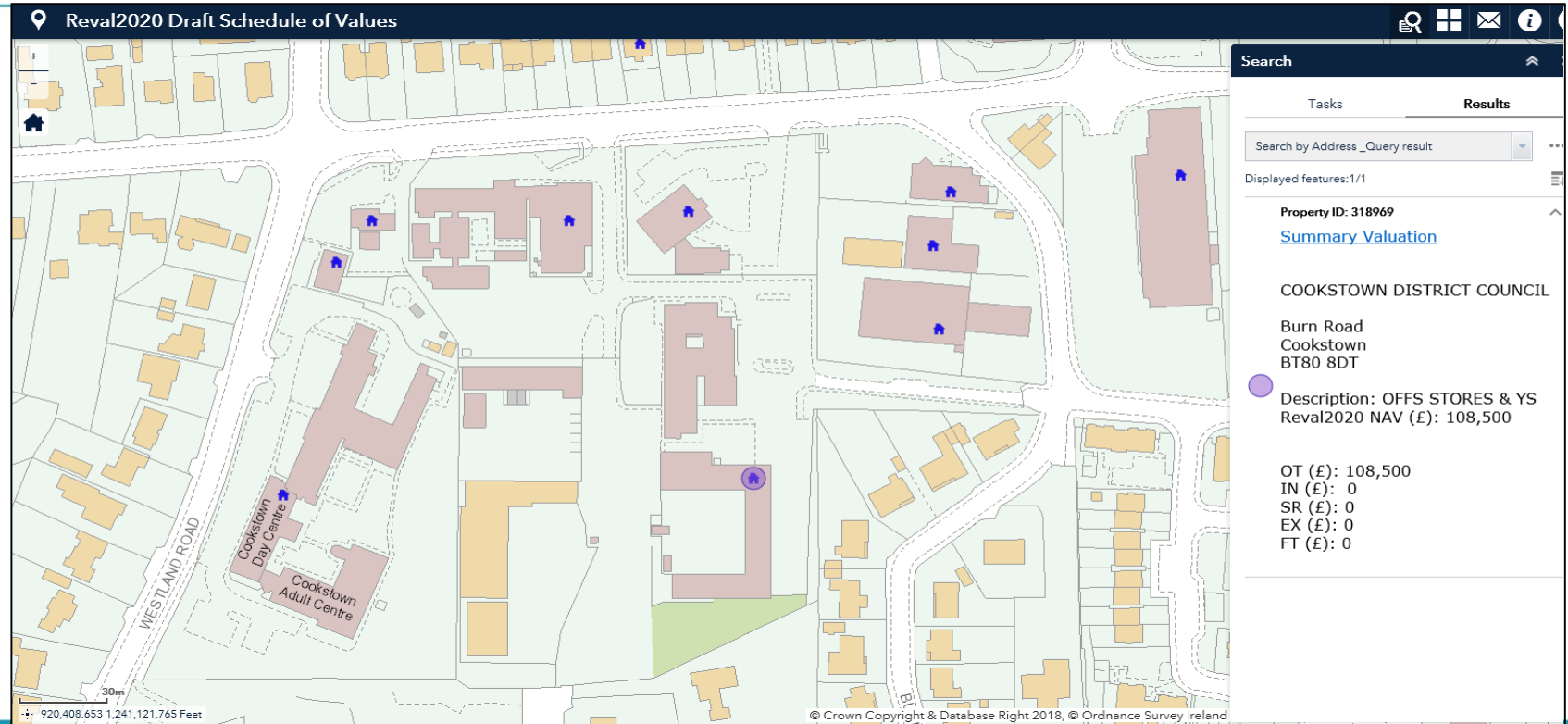
Reval2020 Key Dates

- Nov 2019: New values with Councils for District Rate setting.
- 7 Jan 2020: Draft values online – “informal review”.
- Mid-Feb 2020: District Rate poundages struck.
- By mid-March: NI Budget & Regional rate struck.
- By 31 March 2020: New Valuation List published online.
- April 2020: Rate bills issued.



Reval2020 Draft Values and Valuation List online

Reval2020 Draft Schedule of Values



Search

Tasks Results

Search by Address_Query result

Displayed features: 1/1

Property ID: 318969

[Summary Valuation](#)

COOKSTOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Burn Road
Cookstown
BT80 8DT

Description: OFFS STORES & YS
Reval2020 NAV (£): 108,500

OT (£): 108,500
IN (£): 0
SR (£): 0
EX (£): 0
FT (£): 0

Westland Road

Cookstown Day Centre

Cookstown Adult Centre

30m

920,408,653 1,241,121.765 Feet

© Crown Copyright & Database Right 2018, © Ordnance Survey Ireland



Reval2020

Revaluing properties for business rates

NON-DOMESTIC REVALUATION DRAFT SUMMARY

THIS IS NOT A VALUATION CERTIFICATE.

THIS IS NOT A

Prop ID	318969
Address	COOKSTOWN DISTRICT COUNCIL, Burn Road, Maloot Cookstown, Cookstown, BT80 8DT
Primary Class	Offices(Includes Banks and Post Offices)
Current NAV	£110,500
Reval2020 NAV	£108,500
NAV Change £	-£2000
NAV Change %	-1.81%

Summary Valuation

Floor	Description / Use	Area (m2)	Rate (£ per m2)	Total (£)	Distinctive
GF	WRHSE	485	22.00	10,663	
GF	STO	781	18.70	14,603	
GF	WRHSE	476	18.70	8,903	
GF	WRHSE	109	18.70	2,035	
NA	YARD	1,680	1.87	3,142	
NA	YARD	1,488	1.87	2,783	
GF	OFF	470	68.75	32,313	
GF	STO	62	68.75	4,269	
GF	CANTN	26	68.75	1,801	
GF	STRNG	14	68.75	976	
GF	KITCN	13	68.75	880	
1F	OFF	251	60.50	15,155	
1F	STO	28	60.50	1,700	
1F	KITCN	12	60.50	702	
NA	YARD	1,926	1.54	2,966	
GF	WRHSE	235	24.20	5,677	

Explanatory Notes

Revaluation	A rates revaluation is the reassessment of the individual Net Annual Values (NAVs) of all 75,000 business properties in Northern Ireland. The new values will be used to calculate rate bills for businesses
-------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Reval2020

Revaluing properties for business rates

Non-domestic Revaluation

Draft rateable values now available

Land & Property Services has now completed the revaluation of all non-domestic properties in Northern Ireland. These values will be used to assess rate bills from April 2020 onwards.

When implemented this will help rebalance business rates.

A schedule of draft rateable values is now available online.

More information

To view the schedule of draft rateable values and for further information on Reval2020 visit www.finance-ni.gov.uk/reval-2020-ni or Tel: 0300 200 7801

What do we want ratepayers to do?

- Go online at www.finance-ni.gov.uk/reval-2020-ni
- Find your valuation ask yourself....“could my property have let for this amount in **April 2018**?”
- If yes – nothing further required.
- If any concerns – check your details and similar properties in your locality.
- Remaining concerns? Contact LPS by email / phone or drop in to a **Reval2020** event in Jan-Feb across NI.



Reval2020


Find out more

- www.finance-ni.gov.uk/reval-2020-ni
 - About Reval2020
 - FAQs and videos
- NDR Factsheet for Local Councils
- Council Briefing Packs

Thank you. Questions.

Reval2020
Revaluing properties for
business rates


September 2019



INFORMATION FOR LOCAL COUNCILLORS


What is Reval 2020?
Land & Property Services (LPS) is revaluing properties in Northern Ireland for business rates.

Why is LPS carrying out this revaluation?
The last revaluation was held in 2015 based on 2013 rental levels. It's important that we now carry out another revaluation to ensure that business rates stay up to date and reflect local economic changes by distributing rate liability fairly across all sectors in line with changes in rental values.



reval 2020


information in 2018. The data collected has
es. These values will be used to calculate rate
in November 2019. Rate bills based on the new
on individual ratepayers will be. As a result of
he will go up. Many will stay almost the same.
e process by striking the district rate (also known
al part of the overall bill.
eable value of each business property, also
trict rate and the regional rate (set by the



NAV X

District rate
poundage
+
Regional rate
poundage

= Rate Bill





Report on	Local Government Staff Commission: 2020-2021
Date of Meeting	Thursday 5 th March 2020
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 update the committee on correspondence received from the Local Government Staff Commission (LGSC) on annual contributions payable for 2020-21. This report is for information.
2.0	Background
2.1	The Local Government Staff Commission (LGSC) is an Executive Non-Departmental Public Body established under the Local Government (NI) Act 1972. Members will be familiar that it exercises general oversight and makes recommendations on matters connected to recruitment, training and terms and conditions of employment of officers of council and the NI Housing Executive. Councils are obliged to make annual payment for services provided.
2.2	The NI Executive in June 2014 agreed that the Commission be wound up on 31 st March 2017 (2 years after the establishment of the new Councils i.e. Local Government Reform).
2.3	Correspondence from the Commission (appendix A) details that the Department for Communities has confirmed that a Dissolution Order to wind up the Commission has yet to be initiated and as such, council is required to make payment for 2020-21. Schedule 3 of the Local Government Act (NI) 1972 confirms that the budget for the operation of the Staff Commission is to be apportioned between all Councils and the NI Housing Executive.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The Council has received an invoice for payment to the LGSC for the period 2020-21. The Council is required by statute under the Local Government Act (NI) 1972 to make this payment.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: LGSC £18,175. To be met from within council existing budgetary provision.
	Human: Not applicable

	Risk Management: Not applicable
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: Not applicable
	Rural Needs Implications: Not applicable
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	That the committee notes request for payment from the Local Government Staff Commission (LGSC) for the period 2020-21.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	Appendix A: Correspondence from Local Government Staff Commission



THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT STAFF COMMISSION FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

Commission House, 18-22 Gordon Street, Belfast BT1 2LG Telephone: (028) 9031 3200

E.mail: info@lgsc.org.uk Website: www.lgsc.org.uk

HH/PM

4 February 2020

Mr Anthony Tohill
Chief Executive
Mid Ulster District Council
Council Offices
Circular Road
Dungannon BT71 6DT

Appendix A

Dear Mr Tohill

LOCAL GOVERNMENT STAFF COMMISSION - DISSOLUTION FUNDING AND CONTINUING OPERATIONS 2020/21

The Department for Communities has informed the Commission that they have no new information in relation to the Dissolution Order to wind up the Commission and as such in order to implement our statutory functions, it is necessary for the Commission to determine a financial scheme up to 31 March 2021.

In accordance with the 2019/21 Management and Dissolution Plan, the Commission has estimated its total financial requirement to be £405,141 for the year ahead. Income from ongoing operations, which is offset against this figure is estimated at £35,000, leaving an amount of £370,141 to be raised from District Councils and the NIHE (the NIHE paying £70,776).

You will be aware that in accordance with Schedule 3, paragraph 7 of the Local Government Act (NI) 1972, the budget for the operation of the Local Government Staff Commission is to be apportioned between all District Councils and the NIHE.

By virtue of the apportionment arrangements Mid Ulster District Council is required to pay 4.9103% of £370,141 namely £18,175 (£16,867 in 2019/20). I therefore attach an Account for this amount and would be grateful if it could be remitted to the Commission by 30 April 2020.

If you have any queries in relation to the work of the Commission or the services provided or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Helen Hall
Director of Corporate Services

Enc.

