

**A**

**Minutes of Meeting of the Development Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 12 May 2016 in the Council Offices, Burn Road, Cookstown**

<b>Members Present</b>	Councillor Burton, Chair  Councillors Clarke, Elattar, Forde, McEldowney, McNamee, Molloy, Monteith, G Shiels, T Quinn and Wilson
<b>Officers in Attendance</b>	Ms Campbell, Director of Culture and Leisure Mr McCreesh, Director of Business and Communities Mr Brown, Head of Tourism Mr Glavin, Head of Leisure Mr Hill, Head of Parks Ms Linney, Head of Community Development Mr McCance, Head of Culture and Arts Mrs Grogan, Committee Services Officer
<b>Others in Attendance</b>	<b>Agenda Item 4: Christians Against Poverty</b> Rob Lawrence

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm.

**D116/16      Apologies**

Councillors McAleer, C O'Neill and Reid.

**D117/16      Declaration of Interests**

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

Councillor Molloy declared an interest in Dungannon Enterprise Centre.  
Councillor Wilson declared an interest in Economic Development – Interim Arrangements – New Business Start Programme.

**D118/16      Chair's Business**

No business was raised.

**D119/16      Christians Against Poverty**

The Chair, Councillor Burton welcomed Mr Rob Lawrence from Christians Against Poverty to the Committee. Mr Lawrence delivered a presentation outlining the services provided by CAP to include:

- Budget and Priority Payments
- Non-Priority Payments

- Continued Client Support
- Insolvency
- Specialist Advice

The Chair, Councillor Burton thanked Mr Lawrence for his impressive presentation and advised that it was a very useful service.

Councillor G Shiels enquired if there was an opportunity for CAP to work with other advice services.

Mr Lawrence advised that CAP Magherafelt works closely with other advice services like Citizens Advice and would signpost clients to relevant agencies which would best cater for their needs.

In response to Councillor Forde's query, Mr Lawrence said that CAP Magherafelt work through the Lighthouse Church on Rainey Street, but would work with all churches and volunteers in the area.

Councillor Forde advised that the CAP service is a very worthwhile cause as debt can be a major problem.

Councillor Monteith stated that he couldn't speak highly enough of CAP, as the Dungannon branch had a first class service and helped a huge amount of people in the area.

The Chair, Councillor Burton felt that it would be beneficial if CAP liaised with other advice agencies as some may not be aware of their services.

The Chair, Councillor Burton thanked Mr Lawrence at which he left the meeting at 7.15 pm.

## **D120/16      Minutes of the Development Committee held on Thursday 14 April 2016**

Proposed by Councillor Wilson  
Seconded by Councillor Molloy and

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the meeting of the Development Committee held on Thursday 14 April 2016 (D093/16 to D115/16 and D111/16 to D114/16), were considered and signed as correct and accurate.

### **Matters for Decision**

#### **D121/16      Service Level Agreements (SLAs)**

The Director of Culture and Leisure drew attention to the previously circulated report to discuss future arrangements for Service Level Agreements (SLAs) and legacy arrangements for 2016/17.

*Councillor Clarke declared an interest in Service Level Agreements (SLAs).*

Councillor Molloy advised that he agreed with the link with schools, but would need discussions with schools as from 3.30 pm they are non-operational.

The Director of Culture and Leisure advised that the Facilities Strategy currently being developed is considering the need of opening school estates up to the community, but a model needs to be developed that would work for both the Council and schools.

Councillor Monteith said that there were plenty of schools that opened up for the community, but felt that the Council should work towards not funding the schools. He stated that he was opposed to paying for schools staying open as schools already are charging the community to use it.

Councillor Monteith referred to the bullet points no. 7 and 8 under recommendations and felt that in his opinion No. 7 was more favourable to the Council.

In response to Councillor Elattar's query about the timeframe, the Director of Culture and Leisure advised that she anticipated bringing details of criteria to next month's meeting and once approval at June's Council was sought, this would be open in July. The timeframe would be similar to what it was last year and it would be open for 2 – 3 weeks with scoring and it would be all systems go.

Councillor Elattar enquired if there was any way of speeding the process up.

The Director of Culture and Leisure said she would investigate to see if the process can be done any quicker.

Councillor Wilson felt that it would be more beneficial to have the Council deliver the defibrillator training rather than open it up to local clubs.

The Director of Culture and Leisure advised that criteria for programmes could be written into the programme.

Proposed by Councillor Elattar  
Seconded by Councillor Forde and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council that approval be given to the recommendations outlined in report regarding the future approach with SLAs.

## **D122/16      Castledawson Allotments**

The Head of Parks drew attention to the previously circulated report to seek Council approval to undertake interim management responsibilities for village allotment facilities due to the winding up of Castledawson Community Association and temporary closure of site.

Councillor Forde stated that it was unfortunate that Castledawson allotments has ended up this way and that it would be important to move forward and bring them back to life and investigate the possibility of letting other people take them over. She said that it would be also beneficial to investigate the childrens play area.

Councillor G Shiels said that at the beginning of the scheme, people were very proactive in keeping their allotments tidy but over time people have lost interest and were not adhering to rules and regulations.

The Head of Parks agreed with Councillor G Shiels and felt that if rules and regulations are not adhered to then the allotments should be taken back.

Proposed by Councillor Forde  
Seconded by Councillor Wilson and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council that approval be granted to undertake full operational management responsibility for the Castledawson allotment facility and playpark adjacent to the community house as from the date of Council ratification 26<sup>th</sup> May 2016. To work with associated stakeholders and partner organisations to development future opportunities for renewed community management options for Castledawson allotments.

**D123/16      Seamus Heaney HomePlace Education and Community Engagement Update**

The Head of Culture & Arts drew attention to the previously circulated report to:

- 1) Update members on the Education and Community engagement activity currently being delivered by Officers within Culture & Arts and Community Services relating to the Seamus Heaney HomePlace.
- 2) Seek approval for the delivery of a pre-opening engagement day and associated costs.
- 3) Seek approval from Council to commission professional support to develop a trails master plan for the sites to be shortlisted for proposed development as part of Seamus Heaney Trails development project.

Councillor Wilson stated that he was happy to support the Annex Opening but felt that Bellaghy was a small village and may be better having one main event run by Big Telly Theatre in Magherafelt during the day and something in the evening in Bellaghy as this may generate more people.

The Head of Culture and Arts felt that the main event should be held in Bellaghy where Seamus Heaney came from.

Proposed by Councillor Wilson  
Seconded by Councillor Elattar and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council that approval be given to:

- 1) Note the Education Programme and Community Engagement Programme activity being delivered by Officer teams
- 2) Deliver the event proposed on and associated costs for delivery of the event
- 3) Commission the external professional support as funded under HLF round 1 submission, to assist with the further development of the Seamus Heaney Trails project, as required in advance of the Heritage Lottery Fund Round 2 submission in September 2016.

#### **D124/16      Fivemiletown Round Lake Development Proposal**

The Head of Parks drew attention to the previously circulated report to ask members to consider Draft Action Plan in relation to suggested development opportunities and maintenance resource scheduling for Round Lake and Caravan Park, Fivemiletown.

The Chair, Councillor Burton said that barbecue areas would be useful for visitors. She felt that the Round Lake was a great asset to the area, but that a lot of work needs to be done in trying to tidy up the area as there is a lot of overgrown trees and hedges. It would be important to enhance this great asset to try and attract visitors to the area.

Proposed by Councillor Monteith  
Seconded by Councillor Wilson and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council that approval be granted to further develop proposals and seek funding.

#### **D125/16      Royal Highland Games**

The Head of Tourism drew attention to the previously circulated report to seek approval to promote the Seamus Heaney Experience and the Mid Ulster Council tourism product at Royal Highland Show, 2016 under the Tourism Ireland's Northern Ireland Industry Co-Operative Programme – NIICP 2016 with the opportunity to receive 75% funding towards costs of attending and had received notification from Tourism Ireland that this had been approved.

Proposed by Councillor Molloy  
Seconded by Councillor T Quinn and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council that approval be given to continuous engagement with Tourism Ireland and participate in Northern Ireland Industry Co-Operative Programme by promoting at Royal Highland Show, Edinburgh from 23 – 26 June 2016.

#### **D126/16      Spring & Summer Marketing Promotions**

The Head of Tourism drew attention to the previously circulated report to seek Council approval for tourism staff to attend and promote the Hill of The O'Neill centre and events plus the Seamus Heaney HomePlace and other Mid Ulster Council

Outdoor Recreation and Culture and Heritage tourism products using a number of platforms over the spring and summer season. Costs of stand hire and associated electrical/furniture, staffing including mileage and subsistence, promotional and marketing material.

Proposed by Councillor Monteith  
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council that approval be given to the contents of the report.

## **D127/16      Economic Development Report**

The Director of Business & Communities drew attention to the previously circulated report to provide Members with an update on key activities as detailed below:

- 1) Regional Start Initiative Update
- 2) Interim Arrangements – New Business Start Programme
- 3) Update on Business Development Programmes 2016
- 4) Interreg VA 1.1 Application – Proposal from Sligo Institute of Technology – ‘Carbon Neutral North’ Project
- 5) Town Centre Update to include:
  - Ann Street Development Site, Dungannon
  - DSD Revitalise Scheme, Coalisland
  - Strategic Issues – Retail Accommodation
  - Granville Industrial Estate

*Councillor Molloy declared an interest in Granville Industrial Estate.*

Councillor Monteith referred to item 3.5 Ann Street Development Site, Dungannon and advised that when calling a DEA meeting that it would be important that Dungannon elected members be involved and not just Lisney.

The Chair, Councillor Burton stated that the meeting should be opened up to all elected members.

The Director of Business and Communities advised that no decisions had been made with Lisney yet, only options, but would take on board members suggestions and arrange a meeting with all elected members. He said that lessons learned from the Ann Street Development process will be valuable for the Maghera Project.

Councillor G Shiels referred to Horizon 2020 and advised that it was the biggest EU Research and Innovation programme ever with nearly €80 billion of funding available over 7 years (2014 to 2020) – in addition to the private investment that this money would attract. He felt that Council show interest in trying to generate funding.

The Director of Business and Communities stated that an Officer is currently investigating this funding.

Proposed by Councillor Clarke

Seconded by Councillor T Quinn

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council that approval be given to:

**1) Regional Start Initiative and New Business Start Programme**  
Note progress on the current Regional Start Initiative Programme.

**2) Interim Arrangements – New Business Start Programme**

**a) Interim Manager**

Contribute up to £2,392 towards the cost of Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council recruiting and employing an Interim NIBSUP Programme Manager for an initial period to October 2016, but only on the condition that this does not commit the Council to making any further payments towards this post, should Council decide to progress its own programme, post October 2016.

**b) Digital Marketing Proposal**

Contribute up to £1,260 per month towards the costs of Derry City and Strabane Council delivering a digital marketing campaign to promote the Regional Start Programme initially from July 2016 until at least October 2016.

**3) Business Development Programme 2016**

Members to note progress.

**4) Interreg VA Application – Request from Sligo Institute of Technology re ‘Carbon North Project’**

Council advising Sligo IT that it agrees to be a partner in a collaborative bid lead by Sligo Institute of Technology to the Interreg VA Programme.

**5) Ann Street Development Site, Dungannon**

Members to note progress.

Arrange a meeting with all elected members and Lisney.

**6) DSD Revitalise Scheme – Coalisland**

Members to note progress.

**7) Strategic Issues – Retail Accommodation**

Members to note progress.

**8) Granville Industrial Estate**

Members to note progress.

**D128/16 Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014-2020**

*Councillors Burton, Clarke, Forde, McEldowney, G Shiels and Wilson declared an interest in Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014-2020.*



The Director of Business & Communities drew attention to the previously circulated report to update Members on progress with the interim rural development strategy for Mid Ulster.

He updated members with regard to queries raised by the LAG on the communication of the recent Village Renewal Programme. The Director stated that he had informed the LAG of the Council process regarding communication of issues discussed at Council Committee, that it was normal procedure that there was no communication until formal ratification through Council. However it is important that we move forward in partnership together and that we establish effective communication channels.

Councillor Monteith wanted it recorded that it was important that as much business as possible remains in Open Business of Committee, such as Village Renewal, as in his view too much Council business is already done in Confidential Business.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor T Quinn and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to Council that Members note the report on Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme 2014-2020.

*Councillor Monteith left the meeting at 8.15 pm.*

**D129/16      Report on Lough Neagh: “Its Future Our Shared Responsibility Conference”**

*Councillor McEldowney declared an interest in Lough Neagh.*

The Head of Tourism drew attention to the previously circulated report to:

- 1) Outline current work taking place with regards to the Cross Departmental Working Groups investigations into the Ownership of Lough Neagh
- 2) Submit a report on Lough Neagh: Its Future Our Shared Responsibility Conference held in the White River Hotel, Toomebridge on 29 February, 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> March.

In response to Councillor G Shiels query regarding where it was worth it or not, the Head of Tourism advised that while investigating the Scottish model it proved to be very successful, bringing together different interested parties together.

Councillor McEldowney stated that the presentation made on the Scottish model was magnificent and that the Lough had huge potential which had not been tapped into before.

Proposed by Councillor Clarke  
Seconded by Councillor Molloy and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council to approve the key recommendations of the DTNI 'The Future of Lough Neagh' as outlined:

- a) Bringing all key stakeholder groups together at once and ensuring that all ideas are heard. This means everyone has a chance to put all the pieces of a puzzle together and see the whole.
- b) A focus on finding "common ground" where all agree on a direction of travel (rather than working to try to resolve conflicts).
- c) Looking at the global context – the Lough's past and how it relates to history, the external forces impacting the Lough, and present responses to challenges and opportunities – in order to design a realistic and desirable future.
- d) Group responsibility for self-management to ensure everyone is heard and tasks get done on time.

#### **D130/16      Park Service Improvement Plan**

The Head of Parks drew attention to the previously circulated report to seek Members' approval in respect of the Service Improvement Plan 2016/17 for Parks.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor T Quinn and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council that approval be granted for the Service Improvement Plan for Parks.

#### **D131/16      Culture and Arts Services, Service Improvement Plan**

The Director of Culture and Leisure drew attention to the previously circulated report to seek Members' approval in respect of the Service Improvement Plan 2016/17 for Culture and Arts.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor T Quinn and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council that approval be granted for the Service Improvement Plan for Culture and Arts.

#### **D132/16      Tourism Department Service Improvement Plan**

The Head of Tourism drew attention to the previously circulated report to seek Members' approval in respect of the Service Improvement Plan 2016/17 for Tourism.

Councillor Clarke referred to Page 3 item 1.3 and felt that it would be important to include Strategic Partners.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor T Quinn and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council that approval be granted for the Service Improvement Plan for Tourism.

**D133/16 Economic Development Service Improvement Plan**

The Director of Economic Development drew attention to the previously circulated report to seek Members' approval in respect of the Service Improvement Plan 2016/17 for Economic Development.

Proposed by Councillor Molloy  
Seconded by Councillor Forde and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council that approval be granted for the Service Improvement Plan for Economic Development.

**D134/16 Community Development Service Improvement Plan**

The Head of Community Development drew attention to the previously circulated report to seek Members' approval in respect of the Service Improvement Plan 2016/17 for Community Development.

Proposed by Councillor Molloy  
Seconded by Councillor Forde and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council that approval be granted for the Service Improvement Plan for Community Development.

**D135/16 Leisure Services, Service Improvement Plan**

The Head of Leisure Services drew attention to the previously circulated report to seek Members' approval in respect of the Service Improvement Plan 2016/17 for Leisure Services.

Proposed by Councillor Molloy  
Seconded by Councillor Forde and

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council that approval be granted for the Service Improvement Plan for Leisure Services.

**Matters for Information**

**D136/16 Leisure Services Progress Report**

The Head of Leisure drew attention to the previously circulated report to update Members of the progress being made regarding activities in Leisure Services and highlight events that will be occurring in the future.

Councillor Elattar referred to the Plantin Park in Draperstown and advised that there was a need to replace 2 benches as these were taken out and never replaced.

The Director of Culture and Leisure advised that she would investigate the matter.

Proposed by Councillor Elattar  
Seconded by Councillor T Quinn

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council that Members notes the report on Leisure Services Progress.

#### **D137/16 Parks Service Progress Report**

The Director of Culture and Leisure drew attention to the previously circulated report to update Members of the progress being made regarding activities and associated to Parks Services and highlight events or consultations that will be occurring in the future.

Councillor Elattar advised that a slide was removed from Swatragh Playpark and was never replaced. She said that this was over a year ago and very badly missed as there was nothing for children in the area.

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council that Members notes the report on Parks Service Progress.

#### **D138/16 Culture and Arts Progress Report**

The Head of Culture and Arts drew attention to the previously circulated report to update Members on progress being made in Culture and Arts Services and highlight events that have occurred during the months of March and April. Also to identify events and activities within Culture and Arts Services that will be occurring in the future.

Councillor Molloy requested that Council show no particular interest in the Old Police Barracks next door to Ranfurly House Arts & Visitor Centre.

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council that Members notes the report on Culture and Arts Progress.

#### **D139/16 Hidden Heritage**

The Head of Tourism drew attention to the previously circulated report to inform Council of the planned Hidden Heritage Programme 2016 from 21<sup>st</sup> June until 20<sup>th</sup> August 2016.

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council that Members notes the report on Hidden Heritage.

#### **D140/16 Mid-Ulster Relevant US Links**

The Head of Tourism drew attention to the previously circulated report to inform Council of the Relevant UK Links tourism research project.

**Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council to work up a proposition to encourage longer visits and overnight stay across the entire region.

**Confidential Business**

Proposed by Councillor McNamee  
Seconded by Councillor T Quinn and

**Resolved:** That items (D14/16 to D146/16) be taken as confidential business.

**D148/16 Duration of Meeting**

The meeting commenced at 7.00 pm and ended at 9.10 pm

CHAIR \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**B**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Council Arts and Culture and Sports Development Community Support 2016/17</b>
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	<b>Anne Marie Campbell, Director of Arts, Culture and Leisure</b>
<b>Contact Officer</b>	<b>Tony McCance, Liam Glavin</b>

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To agree the Arts and Culture and Sports Development Strategic support Programmes for 2016 – 2017

<b>2</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	Members previously agreed further support programmes for Arts and Culture and Sporting organisations as part of the review of SLA and legacy arrangements.

<b>3</b>	<b>Update</b>
3.1	Council has agreed to develop two additional support programmes for arts and culture and sports development within communities across Mid Ulster. This is in addition to the 9 current revenue grants and 1 capital grant; alongside language development bursaries. This will now be 11 revenue grants and 1 capital grant. Please see table attached. This will provide for all the arts and culture and sporting SLAs Council has had previously with the community and voluntary sector.
3.2	Copies of applications have also been attached for information.
3.3	If agreed it is proposed to advertise the additional programmes first week of July with a 4 week closing date to allow for the holiday period with recommendations to Committee in September.
3.4	The Arts & Cultural Support programme proposed is subject to external funding of £50,000 being secured from external sources. Successful applicants will be required to work with Audiences NI to develop their arts and cultural activity audience participation levels.
3.5	<b>Support Programmes Revenue Grants</b>

Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Category 4
<u>Arts and Culture Strategic Development Programme</u> <b>Arts/Culture group</b> <b>£145,000 (subject to funding)</b> <b>Maximum £20,000</b> <b>Lead: Tony McCance</b> <b>One call July 2016</b>	<u>Sports Strategic Development Grant</u> <b>sports group</b> <b>£50,000</b> <b>Maximum £15,000</b> <b>Lead: Liam Glavin</b> <b>One call July 2016</b>	<u>Strategic Events</u> £66,000 Maximum £8000 Lead: Philip Clarke One Call February 2016	<u>Strategic Community Support Grant</u> £75,000 Maximum £8000 Lead: Claire Linney One call February 2016
<u>Arts &amp; Culture Grant</u> £32,000 Maximum £600 Lead: Tony McCance One Call February 2016	<u>Sports Development Grant (uplift to allow volunteer/club dev.)</u> £25,000 Maximum £600 Lead: Liam Glavin Call Feb & July 2016	<u>Local Community Festivals</u> £62,000 Maximum £1000 Lead: Philip Clarke Rolling programme	<u>Community Venues</u> £85,000 £3000 Lead: Claire Linney Venues 80% community dev group One Call Feb 2016
	<u>Sports Representative Grant</u> (Individuals/Teams) £10,000 Maximum £250/£500 Lead: Liam Glavin Rolling Programme	<u>Good Relations</u> Maximum £1000 Lead: Claire Linney £40,000 Rolling programme	<u>Community Development Small Grant</u> £45,000 Small Grant £600 Lead: Philip Clarke One Call Feb 2016

#### Capital Revenue Grants

<u>Sports Capital Development Grant</u> <b>Recognised Sports Clubs</b> <b>£165,000</b> <b>£5,000 with 50% match contribution</b> <b>Lead: Liam Glavin</b> <b>One Call July 2016</b> <b>(As per 2015)</b>	<u>Capital Grant</u>  To be confirmed
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Grants process as per the Grants Policy and eligibility as per the Policy and specific conditions and criteria set as below.



3.6

**Award Criteria****Arts and Culture Strategic Development Support Programme**

The purpose of the programme is to support strategic arts and culture organisations that play a key role across the Mid Ulster District Council area in the development and delivery of arts and culture through the delivery of their own programme of activity and utilising their own dedicated arts and culture performance spaces. The programme is designed to provide support to assist established and developing arts organisations operating within key areas of the district (complimenting the offering and services delivered through the councils three main arts & cultural venues); to assist in the development of their programme of arts and cultural activity; To develop and increase participation in arts and cultural activity in rural areas; To encourage engagement in arts and cultural activity particularly among the youth, creating opportunities to develop their skills and provide support mechanisms for career paths in the creative industries; To help Arts organisations deliver tangible benefits for their local communities.

The service must:

- Provide the structured delivery of an annual arts and culture programme within the organisations own performance space/theatre.
- Provide accessible arts and culture development opportunities of a strategic nature that is providing for a large number of people across Mid Ulster and addresses barriers to engagement.
- Provide 100% dedicated arts and culture activity and be delivered by a dedicated arts and culture group.
- Provide at least bi weekly arts and culture activities.

**Assessment Criteria**

1. Arts and Culture Programme/Activity
2. Level of Benefit and Beneficiaries
3. Outcomes
4. Arts and Culture Infrastructure
5. Geographical Coverage
6. Value for Money

3.7

**Sports Strategic Development Grant**

The purpose of the grant is to support Governing Bodies that play a key strategic role across the Mid Ulster District Council area in developing their affiliated Clubs. It aims to provide Grant

3.8	<p>Aid to those Governing Bodies that provide direct support to Clubs across the area in increasing participation rates and improving playing standards through the employment of a Sports Coach.</p> <p>The service must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide the structured delivery of an annual sports development programme of a main sport.</li> <li>• Be delivered through a recognised NI Sports organisation; through or in partnership with a sporting governing body; with no duplication of coverage within the same area or targeting of the same groups.</li> <li>• Provide accessible sports development opportunities of a strategic nature that is providing for a large number of people across Mid Ulster.</li> <li>• Provide the programme through a partnership approach with local clubs and groups.</li> <li>• Provide a minimum of 50% dedicated sports development officer time to the area of coverage in Mid Ulster.</li> <li>• Provide for an active sport within Mid Ulster</li> <li>• Liaise with Mid Ulster District Council Leisure Development Unit.</li> </ul> <p><b>Assessment Criteria</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sport Programme/Activity</li> <li>2. Level of Benefit and Beneficiaries</li> <li>3. Outcomes</li> <li>4. Partnership (with local clubs/groups)</li> <li>5. Geographical Coverage</li> <li>6. Value for Money</li> </ol> <p><b>Sports Development Grant</b></p> <p>There has been another £15,000 added into this Grant to allow further development of Clubs and volunteers. This Grant details have already been agreed by Council.</p>
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4	<b>Resource Implications</b>
4.1	<p><b><u>Financial</u></b></p> <p>£50,000 Sports Strategic Development Grant Budget</p> <p>£145,000 Arts and Culture Strategic Development Support Programme</p> <p>(dependent upon financial support contribution of £50,000 being made available from identified external funding sources)</p>

4.2	<p>£15,000 Uplift to Sports Development Small Grant</p> <p><b><u>Human</u></b></p> <p>As per Council resources.</p>
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5	<b>Other Considerations</b>
5.1	None

6	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	To agree the proposed Arts and Culture Support Programme and Sports Development Grants

7	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
7.1	<p>Arts and Culture Strategic Support Programme Application</p> <p>Strategic Sports Development Grant</p>



Comhairle Ceantair  
**Lár Uladh**  
**Mid Ulster**  
District Council

# Arts & Culture Strategic Support Programme

**Name of Organisation:**

**CLOSING DATE: at 3.00pm**



Applicants should be aware that the information provided in this grant aid application form could be disclosed in response to a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

**Government Funders Database**

Please note it is a requirement that all Council funding to the Community/Voluntary Sector be recorded on the Government Funders Database from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013.

**The onus is on the applicant to provide all relevant information and supplementary documentation.** Applications that are not completed accurately and in full will not be considered.

**Before you complete the application you must speak to  
Mary Crooks ~ 028 8676 9949**

Completed Application Form, should be returned to the office below, clearly marked “**Arts & Culture Strategic Support programme**” or email to: [communitydevelopment@midulstercouncil.org](mailto:communitydevelopment@midulstercouncil.org)

Mid Ulster District Council Community Development Cookstown Office Gortalowry house 94 Church Street Cookstown BT80 8HX	Mid Ulster District Council Community Development Magherafelt Office 50 Ballyronan Road Magherafelt BT45 6EN	Mid Ulster District Council Community Development Dungannon Office Circular Rd, Dungannon BT71 6DT
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(for office use only)

**Ref Number**

**Date and time Application Received**

## **Specific Information**

The maximum financial support available is £20,000. Financial support will be commensurate with the level of arts and culture development activity, geographical coverage, beneficiaries, value for money, outcomes from the development activity/programme, and level of arts and culture infrastructure to be supported.

There is no guarantee that successful applicants will receive the amount applied for.

### **Purpose of the Fund**

The programme is designed to provide support to assist established and developing arts organisations operating within key areas of the district (complimenting the offering and services delivered through the councils three main arts & cultural venues); to assist in the development of their programme of arts and cultural activity; To develop and increase participation in arts and cultural activity in rural areas; To encourage engagement in arts and cultural activity particularly among the youth, creating opportunities to develop their skills and provide support mechanisms for career paths in the creative industries; To help Arts organisations deliver tangible benefits for their local communities.

The purpose of the programme is to support strategic arts and culture organisations that play a key role across the Mid Ulster District Council area in the development and delivery of arts and culture activity through the delivery of their own programme of arts and cultural activity and utilising their own dedicated arts and culture performance spaces.

The service must:

- Provide the structured delivery of an annual arts and culture programme within the organisations own performance space/theatre.
- Provide accessible arts and culture development opportunities of a strategic nature that is providing for a large number of people across Mid Ulster.
- Provide 100% dedicated arts and culture activity and be delivered by a dedicated arts and culture group.
- Provide at least bi weekly arts and culture activities.

### **Eligibility**

1. Groups must be a not for profit constituted community or voluntary organisation with an AGM.
2. Funding cannot be allocated for a project or venue where an existing Service Level Agreement exists with Council for a core service/project, building or facility.
3. Publicity of Council must be received for support.
4. Statutory and 'for profit' organisations, activities and recipients (including activities that receive statutory core provision) are not eligible for funds under this programme.

5. Regional groups/organisations are not eligible to apply.
6. Religious or political activity cannot be funded under any grant
7. All applicants must present a programme that will take place within the Mid Ulster District Council area.
8. Applicants must present a programme of activity that will be delivered between 1<sup>st</sup> April - 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017.
9. Evidence of good management practices/policies, including annual AGM, Group bank account, financial management practice, insurances, etc. will be required.
10. Successful applicants will draw down financial support retrospectively based on vouched expenditure, with procurement processes being adhered to at all times.
11. Successful applicants will be required to work in conjunction with Mid Ulster District Councils Culture and Arts Services in the delivery of the approved programme of activity and to work in conjunction with Audiences NI to develop their arts and cultural activity audience participation levels (this support is provided by Mid Ulster District Council as part of the Arts & Culture Strategic Support Programme).

The following items are not eligible for support under this programme: Hospitality greater than 20% of the total project cost / Activities or equipment that duplicates what already exists or is covered by other funding sources / Bad debt, loans, bank charges, deficits or arrears in payments of any organisation / Retrospective funding applications/ Salaries/Residential courses or training greater than 20% of funding sought / Activities that discriminate against one section of the community /Celebrity appearances /Gifts or donations /Reclaimable VAT/ Flags or bunting /Alcohol

## Section 1 – You and your Group/Organisation

### 1.0 The Organisation's name and address:

Name and Address of Organisation:

### Main point of contact

Title: First Name: Surname:

Position held in your Organisation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address:

Tel:

Mobile: Email:

### 1.2 About the Organisation

What type of organisation are you? (Please tick appropriate box)

Unincorporated club or association ☐

Company limited by guarantee ☐

Company limited by shares ☐

Recognised charity/trust ☐

Individual ☐

Other, Please specify

### 1.3 How many people are involved in running your group?

Paid staff: Full time ☐

Paid staff: Part time ☐

Committee members/volunteers ☐

Total Voluntary Hours per week ☐

### 1.4 Aims and objectives of your group

## Section 2 – Your Programme/Activity

### 2.0

Title of Programme \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Facility \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

### 2.1 Level of Arts & Culture Development Activity

Please detail the level of planned Arts & Culture Development Activity within the Group owned/leased Performance Space/Theatre for the year 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017

Please attach a detailed activity plan



## 2.2 Level of benefit – number of beneficiaries

Provide the number of people /groups that will benefit from your programme of activity and facility; including Section 75 and disadvantage groups. Supply weekly average numbers participating / annual volume of participants

## 2.3 Outcomes

Provide details of the outcomes of your arts and culture programme or service

## 2.4 Arts and Culture Infrastructure

Please provide details of your arts and culture performance space/theatre, and detail the venue capacity and full usage level of activity on a weekly basis

Please ensure to provide dimensions of the arts and culture space(s)

## 2.5 Level of geographic coverage

Provide details on the geographical area you will be covering

Preference will be given to Mid Ulster wide provision (Partnership approach will be acceptable, where another sub regional organisation is also delivering the same support in the area)

## 2.6 Value for Money

Tell us how much money you need for your programme of activity and give us a breakdown of what the money is for (include VAT where it applies).

Item or Activity	Total Cost	Requested Amount
	£	£
	£	£
	£	£
	£	£
	£	£
	£	£
	£	£
	£	£
	£	£
	£	£
	£	£
	£	£
<b>Totals</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>

Please list below your anticipated income for the project/event. Do not include any grant requested from Mid Ulster District Council.

Estimated Income:	£
<b>Total Income</b>	

### Section 3 – Checklist of attachments

#### Checklist - TO BE COMPLETED BY ALL APPLICANTS

- ☐ I have answered all the questions on the form.
- ☐ I am the main contact named in Question 1.
- ☐ The Chairperson, Vice Chair, Secretary or Treasurer of our group, who is different from the main contact, has completed section 4.1.

#### The following documents are required with your application.

- ☐ A copy of our constitution or set of rules.
- ☐ List of Office Bearers.
- ☐ Copy of minutes of Annual General Meeting (not applicable to groups formed less than 1 year).
- ☐ An original Bank or Building Society statement not more than three months old that show your group's name, account number and current balance.
- ☐ Details of insurance relating to the project
- ☐ Child Protection Policy / Statement

### Section 4 – Verification and Authorisation

**Data Protection Policy -All data gathered will be held securely by the Mid Ulster District Council in line with the Data Protection Act 1998. All such data will not be shared with any third party unless required to do so by law.**

#### 4.0 YOUR SIGNATURE.

This must be the signature of the main contact named in Question 1.1

I confirm that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, all the information in this application form is true and correct. I understand that you may ask for more information at any stage of the application process.

**Signed:**

**Date:**

#### 4.1 Your Chairperson, Vice Chair, Secretary or Treasurer must complete.

Name

Position in  
Organisation

Signature



Comhairle Ceantair  
**Lár Uladh**  
**Mid Ulster**  
District Council

# Strategic Sports Development Grant

**Name of Organisation:**

**CLOSING DATE: at 3.00pm**



Applicants should be aware that the information provided in this grant aid application form could be disclosed in response to a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

**Government Funders Database**

Please note it is a requirement that all Council funding to the Community/Voluntary Sector be recorded on the Government Funders Database from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013.

**The onus is on the applicant to provide all relevant information and supplementary documentation.** Applications that are not completed accurately and in full will not be considered.

**Before you complete the application you must speak to  
Eunan Murray or Leigh Gilmore ~ 03000 132 132**

Completed Application Form, should be returned to the office below, clearly marked “**Sports Strategic Development Grant**” or email to: **communitydevelopment@midulstercouncil.org**

Mid Ulster District Council Community Development Cookstown Office Gortalowry house 94 Church Street Cookstown BT80 8HX	Mid Ulster District Council Community Development Magherafelt Office 50 Ballyronan Road Magherafelt BT45 6EN	Mid Ulster District Council Community Development Dungannon Office Circular Rd, Dungannon BT71 6DT
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(for office use only)

**Ref Number**

**Date and time Application Received**

## **Specific Information**

It is anticipated that grants awarded will be not more than a maximum of £15,000. There is no guarantee that successful applicants will receive the amount applied for.

### **Purpose of the Fund**

The purpose of the grant is to support Governing Bodies that play a key strategic role across the Mid Ulster District Council area in developing their affiliated Clubs. It aims to provide Grant Aid to those Governing Bodies that provide direct support to Clubs across the area in increasing participation rates and improving playing standards through the employment of a Sports Coach.

The service must:

- Provide the structured delivery of an annual sports development programme of a main sport.
- Be delivered through a recognised NI Sports organisation; through or in partnership with a sporting governing body; with no duplication of coverage within the same area or targeting of the same groups.
- Provide accessible sports development opportunities of a strategic nature that is providing for a large number of people across Mid Ulster.
- Provide the programme through a partnership approach with local clubs and groups.
- Provide a minimum of 50% dedicated sports officer time to the area of coverage in Mid Ulster.
- Provide for an active sport within Mid Ulster.
- Liaise with Mid Ulster District Council Leisure Development Unit.

### **Grant Eligibility**

1. Groups must be a not for profit constituted community or voluntary organisation recognised NI Sports Organisation with an AGM.
2. Groups must apply to the correct grant and seek advice if they are unsure which grant to apply to.
3. Funding cannot be allocated for a project or venue where an existing Service Level Agreement exists with Council for a core service/project, building or facility.
4. Publicity of Council must be received for grant support.
5. Groups can only apply for one grant per category and one grant per grant fund; groups are encouraged to put a range of activities within a single application.
6. The same project cannot be split across different grant categories.

7. Individuals can apply to the sports representative fund and language bursary.
8. Statutory and 'for profit' organisations, activities and recipients (including activities that receive statutory core provision are not eligible for funds under any grant programme.
9. Regional groups/organisations are not eligible to apply.
10. Religious or political activity cannot be funded under any grant
11. All applicants must present a project that will take place within the Mid Ulster District Council area (exception Sports Representative Grant).
12. Applicants must present a project that will be delivered between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 - 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017.
13. Evidence of good management practices/policies, including annual AGM, Group bank account, financial management practice, insurances, etc. will be required.
14. Successful applicants will draw down grants retrospectively based on vouched expenditure, with procurement adhered to.

The following items are not eligible for funding: Hospitality greater than 20% of the total project cost / Activities or equipment that duplicates what already exists or covered by other funding sources / Bad debt, loans, bank charges, deficits or arrears in payments of any organisation / Retrospective funding applications/ Residential courses or training greater than 20% of funding sought / Activities that discriminate against one section of the community /Celebrity appearances /Gifts or donations /Reclaimable VAT/ Flags or bunting /Alcohol

## Section 1 – You and your Group/Organisation

### 1.0 The Organisation's name and address:

Name and Address of Organisation:

### Main point of contact

Title: First Name: Surname:

Position held in your Organisation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address:

Tel:

Mobile: Email:

### 1.2 About the Organisation

What type of organisation are you? (Please tick appropriate box)

Unincorporated club or association ☐

Company limited by guarantee ☐

Company limited by shares ☐

Recognised charity/trust ☐

Individual ☐

Other, Please specify

### 1.3 How many people are involved in running your group?

Paid staff: Full time ☐

Paid staff: Part time ☐

Committee members/volunteers ☐

Total Voluntary Hours per week ☐

### 1.4 Aims and objectives of your group



## Section 2 – Your Project/Activity

### 2.0

Sport \_\_\_\_\_

Governing Body \_\_\_\_\_

Governing Body lead or partner \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please submit a copy of the letter of partner approval with your application)

### 2.1 Level of Sports Development Activity

Please detail the level of planned Sports Development Activity for the year 2016 – 2017

Please attach a detailed activity plan

**2.2 Level of benefit – number of beneficiaries**

Provide the number of people /groups that will benefit from your programme of activity; including Section 75 and disadvantage

**2.3 Outcomes**

Provide details of the outcomes of your Strategic Sports Development Programme

**2.4 Partnership**

Please provide details of partnership with the local clubs you will be supporting (please evidence)

**2.5 Level of geographic coverage**

Provide details on the geographical area you will be covering
Preference will be given to Mid Ulster wide provision (Partnership approach will be acceptable, where another sub regional organisation is also delivering the same support in the area)

## 2.6 Value for Money

Tell us how much money you need for your project and identify how you will provide the match funding. Give us a breakdown of what the money is for (include VAT where it applies).

Item or Activity	Total Cost	Requested Amount
	£	£
	£	£
	£	£
	£	£
	£	£
	£	£
	£	£
	£	£
	£	£
	£	£
	£	£
	£	£
	£	£
<b>Totals</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>

Please list below your anticipated income for the project/event. Do not include any grant requested from Mid Ulster District Council.

Estimated Income:	£
<b>Total Income</b>	

### Section 3 – Checklist of attachments

#### Checklist - TO BE COMPLETED BY ALL APPLICANTS

- ☐ I have answered all the questions on the form.
- ☐ I am the main contact named in Question 1.
- ☐ The Chairperson, Vice Chair, Secretary or Treasurer of our group, who is different from the main contact, has completed section 4.1.

#### The following documents are required with your application.

- ☐ A copy of our constitution or set of rules.
- ☐ List of Office Bearers.
- ☐ Copy of minutes of Annual General Meeting (not applicable to groups formed less than 1 year).
- ☐ An original Bank or Building Society statement not more than three months old that show your group's name, account number and current balance.
- ☐ Details of insurance relating to the project
- ☐ Child Protection Policy / Statement

### Section 4 – Verification and Authorisation

**Data Protection Policy** -All data gathered will be held securely by the Mid Ulster District Council in line with the Data Protection Act 1998. All such data will not be shared with any third party unless required to do so by law.

#### 4.0 YOUR SIGNATURE.

This must be the signature of the main contact named in Question 1.1  
I confirm that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, all the information in this application form is true and correct. I understand that you may ask for more information at any stage of the application process.

**Signed:**

**Date:**

#### 4.1 Your Chairperson, Vice Chair, Secretary or Treasurer must complete.

Name

Position in  
Organisation

Signature

C

**Subject**                      **Erasmus Youth Project**

**Reporting Officer**      **Claire Linney, Head of Community Development**

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To propose Council participation within a European ERASMUS youth project based on European citizenship and participation

2

Background

2.1

PROJECT PARTNERS

Mid Ulster District Council through its ongoing liaison with the NI Rural Support Centre (based in Clogher Village) has been afforded an opportunity to participate in a European Erasmus project to support young people in citizenship and active participation.

The project is being led by the main partner Europe Direct Centre in France and has a number of other EU partners, these are listed below.

Region	Europe Direct Centres	Coordinator
France	EDIC PACA	Nathalie Grilli
		Key Contacts
Bulgaria	EDIC Varna	Ivan Tabakov
Bulgaria	EDIC Smolyan	Stoyanka Lyuncheva
Croatia	EDIC Sibenik	Miroslav Petrovic
Finland	EDIC Kuopio	Jari Sihvonen
UK	EDIC N. Ireland	Heather McLaughlin
Italy	EDIC Basilicata	Antonino Imbesi
Italy	EDIC Calabria	Alessandra Tuzza
Lithuania	EDIC Alytus	Nijole Vitiene
Slovakia	EDIC Kosice	Katarina Pezlarova
Spain	EDIC Guadajoz	Raquel Moreno
Sweden	EDIC Vasterbotten	Jan Hult

2.2

The key objectives of the project are:

- To identify good practice projects where young people from 13-25 years engage in citizenship and engagement
- To allow young people an opportunity to engage online with other regions through a youth forum of the website
- To trial a number of projects and share results – good relations and active citizenship linking young people to democracy.

a) Each local youth group will define the subjects they want to deal around the way of life, culture, identity and representation of youth in their region – topics to explore

will be migrants, young people and citizenship, social issues e.g. poverty/employment/skills, multilingualism, mobility of young people in Europe

- b) The local youth groups will then develop a DVD/Interactive report to be shared locally and with the other partners on how they undertake active citizenship in their local area and views of what they would like to further participate.
- c) All the young people will be trained on the use of multimedia tools and citizen reporting.
- d) All materials will be shared on a European open exchange platform.
- e) The youth groups will then trial other models of good practice from other regions and report back on these to the network.
- f) A youth exchange visit will take place where the young people can visit other regions and meet youth in that area to share and see first-hand project work (4 exchange visits – France, Sweden, Spain and Bulgaria – 5 day programme of activity with 5 young people per visit, with 2 local partnership members)
- g) Shared newsletter on the project for disseminating across EU partners

The NI Rural Centre (Heather Mc Laughlin) is the main UK partner. As part of their participation they will establish a local project delivery, target area and local project working group.

The local target area is proposed as:  
Mid Ulster Young people (3-4 local youth groups)

The local project team will include:  
The Rural Centre  
Local Municipality (Council Good Relations)  
Youth Leaders

The Local Project Team will communicate monthly to manage the local project tasks, monitor achievement of objectives, control deadlines and resolve any issues which may affect achievement of project objectives within budget and control deadlines.

The NI Rural Centre will be the lead local agent responsible for delivery, management, communication and governance to the wider European Partnership.

The project will be delivered over a 2 year period.  
**BUDGET €16,671 per region (£15,000 approx.)**

Transnational Meetings (travel budget):	€2295
Meeting expenses, accommodation etc	€2000
Project Management and Administration	€4000
Contribution to EU Platform	€3240
Contribution to production of Strategy	€5136



<b>3</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
3.1	<p><b>Mid Ulster District Council participation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participate in the local partnership in an advisory role.</li> <li>• Facilitate and support Europe Direct NI with engagement of young forums/groups in the project</li> <li>• To support in bringing best practice/methods to the project – trialling engagement of young people in citizenship</li> <li>• To support the dissemination of the project across Mid Ulster.</li> <li>• To promote the project activities and achievements among elected representatives, media and press and other stakeholders</li> <li>• Participate in the shared engagement visits with young people and other regions.</li> <li>• Support with communication of the project through website, social media, PR, events and networks, newsletters etc.</li> </ul>

<b>4</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
4.1	<p><b><u>Financial</u></b></p> <p>No financial cost to Council.</p>
4.2	<p><b><u>Human resources</u></b></p> <p>Participation of officer in local partnership, engagement activities with young people and exchange visits where required.</p>

<b>5</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
5.1	None

<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	Agree partnership approach with officers time committed to transnational meetings over three years

<b>7</b>	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
7.1	None

**D**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Countryside Management Services</b>
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	<b>Nigel Hill Head of Parks</b>

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	Approval to seek specialist consultancy/investigatory services to assist Parks Service with current Countryside Access disputes and public path development issues.

<b>2</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	<p>District councils are key enablers in the development of sport and physical recreation and have the primary responsibility for the provision of public open space facilities within their areas. Their statutory powers to provide for and facilitate recreation are considerable, ranging from leisure and tourism promotion, acquisition of land for recreational use and provision of facilities, to securing public access to the countryside. It should be noted, however, that many of the powers of councils are discretionary; some are limited by legislation while others have been used infrequently due to the resources required.</p> <p>The statutory responsibility for district councils to secure the provision for their area of adequate facilities for recreational, social, physical and cultural activities is set out in the Local Government Order 1972 and the Recreation and Youth Service (NI) Order 1986. Specific functions regarding the adoption and subsequent maintenance of open space by councils are contained in the Open Spaces Act 1906.</p> <p>Under the Access to the Countryside (NI) Order 1983, district councils have a duty “to assert, protect and keep open and free from obstruction or encroachment, any public right of way....”. They are also given discretionary powers to repair and maintain rights of way, to create, divert or close public paths and to make access agreements or orders to open land.</p>

<b>3</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
3.1	Council 's have a specific duty to assert, protect and keep open any public right of way and to make and preserve maps and other records of the rights of way in its area. The council must enforce the public's common law rights of passage and investigate and record where those rights exist.
3.2	The duty to assert public rights of way is one of the council's most important duties. It is the basis on which the council can set up, and make known to farmers and landowners and the public, what public rights of way exist, where they run and how they can be used legally.
3.3	The council will often need to assert a path as a public right of way before it can take action to protect the path, or to allow the route to be signposted, improved and promoted. This is necessary both to decide the precise line and status of the path, and to make sure that the council is acting correctly and within the powers that are available to it.
3.4	Mid Ulster District Council do not have access to a dedicated resource with in the Parks Service to deliver on the statutory or discretionary obligations placed on Council's under the Access to the Countryside Order 1983.
3.5	The current gap in service delivery is adding to a back log of access investigations and development opportunities. The most effective means to address the current situation is to engage through procurement a specialist service provider. This approach will require an interim contract with the successful provider up until 31st March 2017 to deliver a number of outcomes (such as investigating PRow's to a point of agreed conclusion) and working up local level access plans/permissive paths etc. with communities that have proposals with the council at this stage.
3.6	Longer term, to review the resource requirement for countryside management services as part of the Council's Countryside Management Strategy.

<b>4</b>	<b>Resources</b>
4.1	<p><b><u>Financial</u></b> Budget allocation of £25,000 for an interim service contract up to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017.</p> <p><b><u>Basis for Professional/ Consultancy Support</u></b></p> <p>Specialist consultancy will form the basis of the countryside management services required to delivery on the outcomes of the interim contract.</p> <p><b><u>Other</u></b></p> <p>N/A</p>

<b>5</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
5.1	N/A

<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	Approval to procure the necessary services to assist Mid Ulster District Council in the delivery of Countryside Management Services over a period not extending beyond 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2017. To consider a request for the additional resources to be sourced from slippage monies available to the Council.

<b>7</b>	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
7.1	N/A

**E**

<b>Subject</b>	Irish Language Development Programme and Code of Courtesy
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Tony McCance

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To seek Council decision with regard to the delivery of the Irish Language Development Programme 2016/17 to be delivered by Irish Language Development Officers across Mid Ulster.
1.2	To seek Council decision with regard to the adoption of the Code of Courtesy for Irish.

<b>2</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	Prior to the formation of Mid Ulster district Council, An Irish Language Development Programme had been successfully delivered within the former legacy Council areas of Magherafelt, Cookstown and Dungannon in excess of eight years. The proposed Irish Language Development Programme for Mid Ulster District Council 2016/17 takes the learning from the delivery of the Irish Language Development programme within each of the three former Council areas and the learning from the inaugural Irish language development programme delivered across Mid Ulster during 2015/16. The Programme is designed to have maximum impact within the community and is aimed at promoting opportunities to learn Irish, develop the language within the community and promote and use the language both within and by Mid Ulster District Council.
2.2	The Code of Courtesy for Irish sets out the procedures that Mid Ulster District Council staff should follow when engaging with members of the public who want to conduct their business with Council in Irish. Based on the understanding that everyone is entitled to respect and courtesy, this also extends to the use of an individual's language, the Courtesy code is therefore applicable to both Irish speakers and non-Irish speakers.
2.3	Both the proposed Irish language Development Programme 2016/17 and the proposed Courtesy Code for Irish was presented and discussed at the meeting of the Irish language implementation Working group on Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> May 2016.

<b>3</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
3.1	The programme attached, relates to Irish Language Development activity proposed to be delivered in 2016/17. The programme does not include other aspects of the Regional and Minority Language Programme delivery.

	These, along with the mechanism and resources required for their delivery will be presented to Council at a later stage.
3.2	<p>Programme focuses upon three key themes for development of the Irish Language within the region:</p> <p>Theme 1: Promoting Opportunities to Learn Irish</p> <p>Theme 2: Irish Language in the Community</p> <p>Theme 3: Promotion and Use of Irish within and by Mid Ulster District Council</p>
3.3	The MUDC Code of Courtesy for Irish is largely based upon the Courtesy code that had previously operated within Magherafelt District Council.
3.4	Proposed Courtesy Code provides guidance on how staff should respond to face to face interviews and meetings (including public meetings), telephone calls, written correspondence and use of addresses and names in Irish.

<b>4</b>	<b>Resources</b>
4.1	<p><b><u>Financial</u></b></p> <p>As per budget and as identified within the proposed Irish Language Development Plan</p>
4.2	<p><b><u>Human</u></b></p> <p>Programme to be delivered by 1.5 Irish Language Development Officers (previously 1 officer shared between Legacy councils of Dungannon and Cookstown and 1 officer Shared between Magherafelt and Limavady).</p> <p>Staff training and familiarisation in application of Courtesy Code for Irish</p>
4.3	<p><b><u>Basis for Professional/ Consultancy Support</u></b></p> <p>None identified or required at this stage</p>
4.4	<p><b><u>Other</u></b></p> <p>N/A</p>

<b>5</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
5.1	None



<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	Permission is sought to approve the proposed Irish Language Development Programme 2016/17.
6.2	Permission is sought to approve the proposed Courtesy Code for Irish

<b>7</b>	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
7.1	Proposed Irish Language Development Programme 2016/17
7.2	Proposed Courtesy Code for Irish

# Irish Language Development Programme Implementation Plan

## Mid Ulster District Council

April 2016-March 2017

<b>Theme 1: Promoting Opportunities to Learn Irish</b>		
<b>Action</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Budget (£)</b>
Deliver language taster days and or Cultural Workshops at various locations within the community	September – December January – March	20,000
Deliver Irish language classes at key locations across the District <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beginner Level</li> <li>• Intermediate Level</li> <li>• Advanced Level</li> </ul> This will also include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Clustering &amp; Collaboration with other groups e.g schools, sporting and cultural groups, community organisations</li> <li>➤ Youth &amp; Adult classes – support for Seal (Spraoi) youth models aimed at young people</li> </ul>	September – December January – March	
Assist with provision of facilities /promotion for delivery of University of Ulster Diploma in Irish	September – March	2,500
Deliver a schools Irish language taster programme possibly aimed at Key Stage 2 classes across the region Examples include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8 weeks of Irish language lessons in schools similar to 15/16 year (Sept-Nov)</li> <li>• Other examples; Nigh Do Lámha project in conjunction with Environmental Health* and Blitz Uladh sports event for Irish Medium schools</li> </ul>	September – November January - March	20,000
Produce material and regular phrases/words publications/booklet for use by community.	January - March	5,000
Provide development support, advice, information and guidance to individuals, groups and schools within the region in the promotion and development of the Irish Language.	September – March	2000
2016 Mid Ulster Council Gaeltacht Bursary	April-June 2016	30,000

<b>Theme 2: Irish Language in the Community</b>		
<b>Action</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Budget (£)</b>
Provide development support, advice, information and guidance to Irish language groups, communities and schools within the region in the promotion and development of the Irish Language.	September - March	1,000
Provide development support to external cultural and sporting organisations to establish Irish language programmes and to promote the language among its audience base.	September – December January – March	15,000
Participate in and be an active member of Mid Ulster Irish Language Forum.	September - March	500
Establish and maintain conversation circles and reading groups in local communities and possibly link to graduates and participants of Ulster University & Mid Ulster District Council Diploma participants	September – December January – March	3,000
Cooperate with Irish Language community to develop a Mid Ulster Seachtain na Gaeilge programme branded as ‘Gaelfest Lár Uladh’ which will feature a range of engaging activities aimed at Irish speakers and non-Irish speakers wanting to get involved in the language and profiling the Irish Language across the district	January – March 2016	5,000

<b>Theme 3: Promotion and Use of Irish within and by Mid Ulster District Council</b>		
<b>Action</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Budget (£)</b>
Deliver Irish language training and awareness sessions for staff to include a series of lunch time talks on place names, surnames, local history by a series of experts.	September-March	5,000
Develop and maintain relations with relevant organisations.	September – March	500
Provide in-house translation services to Council Departments.	September – March	2,000



Comhairle Ceantair  
**Lár Uladh**  
**Mid Ulster**  
District Council

# **Code of Courtesy for Irish**

**Introduction**

This Code of Courtesy sets out the procedures that Mid Ulster District Council staff should follow when dealing with members of the public who want to conduct their business in Irish, and how members of staff should expect to be treated in such situations.

Linguistic diversity must be regarded as a common cultural wealth. Everyone is entitled to respect and courtesy, which extends to their language. Every effort should be made to convey this respect even if it is not possible to deal with the person in the language of his/her choice.

## Personal Names

A person is legally entitled to assume any name he or she wishes – in English or in any other language. If he or she is generally known by that name, it is valid for purposes of legal identification. Unless it appears that he or she is not generally known by that name, staff must respect the wishes of anyone who wants to be known by the Irish version of their name, and should use only that name in official business. Care should be taken to avoid confusion and duplication if an individual is known by both Irish and English names. It may be useful to put a record of both versions on file.

If an officer believes that the person in question may also have been using an English form of their name, they might ask, *“Is this the form of your name you always use? I have to ensure that all your records are together”*.

If a person gives his/her name in Irish, for instance, and the officer dealing with the person has difficulty in writing or even pronouncing it, they should ask the person to help them spell it.

If the name includes an accent, this can be accommodated. Practically all computer software packages cater for this<sup>1</sup>.

In short, a person may use whatever form of their name they choose. This right should never be questioned. Every effort should be made to write and/or pronounce a person's name correctly. Don't be embarrassed to seek that person's help.

<sup>1</sup> Vowels in Irish may have long accents, similar to the *accent aigu* in French. However, unlike French, the accent in Irish is also used in the case of capitals. When using Microsoft Word, the accent can be keyed in by pressing the *Alt Gr* key and then the vowel in question. In the case of capitals the *Shift* key should also be pressed. All such letters can also be accessed by using the *Insert –Symbol* facility.

### **Face-to-Face Interviews and Meetings in Irish**

If someone starts speaking in Irish to staff who do not speak Irish you should explain this and offer the person the choice of:

- continuing the interview/meeting in English;
- giving written views in Irish;
- making an appointment for a meeting when an interpreter is present.

If in doubt, clarify that the language in question is Irish.

If a person gives advance notice that they want to speak Irish, an interpreter should generally be arranged. In this case contact the Irish Language Officers on extensions 23605 and 24702, or by email [deaglan.odoibhlin@midulstercouncil.org](mailto:deaglan.odoibhlin@midulstercouncil.org) or [ursula.nidhonnaile@midulstercouncil.org](mailto:ursula.nidhonnaile@midulstercouncil.org)

An exception to the general requirement to provide an interpreter might be recruitment interviews, where necessary testing of communication skills in English could not be carried out properly unless English was the working medium.

If no notice is given, the person should be offered the choice of -

- making their point in English
- giving written views in Irish.
- making an appointment for a meeting when an interpreter is present.

If a meeting is arranged, double-check beforehand that the interpreter is available. Never promise a service on which you cannot deliver.

## **Telephone Calls**

If a caller begins the conversation in Irish the officer may respond in this language [if they speak Irish] or English. If the officer does not speak Irish they should explain this and offer alternatives for dealing with the call. The following form of words may be helpful:

*"I am sorry I cannot answer you in Irish. But I can offer you the following options for dealing with your call. You may:*

- *continue the call in English*
- *write to us in Irish*
- *transfer you to our Irish Language Officer where you can conduct your conversation in Irish."*

## **Correspondence – Irish**

The Policy obliges staff to accept written correspondence in Irish. If it seems that, taking translation into account, it will not be possible to provide a substantive reply by the relevant deadline, an acknowledgement should be issued in the normal way, explaining that the letter is being translated and that a substantive reply will follow.

The Policy obliges staff to acknowledge or reply in Irish to correspondence received in Irish. If you need your reply translated into Irish you should contact the Council's Irish Language Officer.

When someone communicates with Council in Irish in writing you should refer the document immediately to the Irish Language Officer who will arrange for it to be translated and returned to you. Where the document is, or appears to be, urgent or where there is a specific target time for response / action, you should draw this to the attention of the Irish Language Officer.



## **Addresses**

The Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Northern Ireland) Order 1995 provides that a District Council may place a version of a street name in another language alongside the English name. For up to date information on non-English street names adopted by District Councils go to

[http://www.ulsterplacenames.org/street-names\\_project.htm](http://www.ulsterplacenames.org/street-names_project.htm)

or contact the Ordnance Survey ([info@pointer-ni.gov.uk](mailto:info@pointer-ni.gov.uk)).

When a person has used a lawful Irish street name staff should use this form in replying to correspondence or while processing applications. Both versions should be noted on the official record.

Where third parties may be involved i.e. where a document may need to be scrutinised (e.g. driving licence) or publicised (e.g. planning application) the English form of the street address should be shown as well as the Irish version. There are no restrictions on using Irish versions of other parts of an address e.g. townland, town, county, country.

### **Courtesy to non-Irish Speaking Staff**

Courtesy should be afforded by Irish speakers to non-Irish speakers. If a person begins speaking in Irish and you do not speak Irish, you should explain this to the person and offer the person alternative methods of communication. The following form of words may be helpful:

*"I am sorry I cannot answer you in Irish. But I can offer you the following options. You may:*

- Discuss the matter in English
- Send details of your query in writing in Irish
- Arrange to speak in person with the Irish Language Officer

**Public Meetings**

If a person gives advance notice that they intend to speak in Irish, you should contact the Irish Language Officer as soon as possible who will arrange for an interpreter to be present. Where notice is not given and the officials present cannot speak Irish, you should offer the person the choice of making their point in English, giving written views in Irish or arranging a private meeting when an interpreter can be present.

**F**

<b>Subject</b>	Regional and Minority Language Bursary Scheme
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Tony McCance
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Déaglán Ó Doibhlin, Maria Thomasson

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To seek members approval for the proposed Regional and Minority Language Bursary scheme allocation to be awarded to successful applicants for 2016/17.

<b>2</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	The Regional and Minority Language Bursary programme was advertised in local press on 26/4/16 with a closing date identified for all returned submissions of 13/5/16.
2.2	In total 232 applications were received, with a total of 231 bursaries being proposed to be awarded to a total of 231 recipients.

3	Key Issues																																	
3.1	The number of bursaries awarded in 2016/17, represents an increase in successful applications of 23% from 2015/16.																																	
3.2	<p>The total allocation of funding required to support the language bursary scheme for 2016/17 is £29,895.65. This represents a 22% increase in budget allocation for Regional and Minority Language Bursary scheme from 2015/16.</p> <p>List detailing number of recipients per geographic area</p> <table><tr><th>Geographic Area</th><th>Number of successful applications</th><th>Total amount awarded</th></tr><tr><td>Bellaghy/Newbridge/P'glenone</td><td>18</td><td>£2,387.44</td></tr><tr><td>Castledawson</td><td>10</td><td>£869.83</td></tr><tr><td>Coalisland</td><td>28</td><td>£3,998.98</td></tr><tr><td>Cookstown &amp; District</td><td>17</td><td>£2,062.02</td></tr><tr><td>Draperstown</td><td>17</td><td>£2,462.19</td></tr><tr><td>Dungannon &amp; District</td><td>69</td><td>£9,946.04</td></tr><tr><td>Maghera</td><td>19</td><td>£2,543.34</td></tr><tr><td>Magherafelt &amp; District</td><td>44</td><td>£4,553.11</td></tr><tr><td>Moneymore</td><td>9</td><td>£1,072.69</td></tr><tr><td></td><td><b>TOTAL 231</b></td><td><b>TOTAL £29,895.65</b></td></tr></table>	Geographic Area	Number of successful applications	Total amount awarded	Bellaghy/Newbridge/P'glenone	18	£2,387.44	Castledawson	10	£869.83	Coalisland	28	£3,998.98	Cookstown & District	17	£2,062.02	Draperstown	17	£2,462.19	Dungannon & District	69	£9,946.04	Maghera	19	£2,543.34	Magherafelt & District	44	£4,553.11	Moneymore	9	£1,072.69		<b>TOTAL 231</b>	<b>TOTAL £29,895.65</b>
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<b>4</b>	<b>Resources</b>
4.1	<p><b><u>Financial</u></b> Total financial allocation proposed for the Regional and Minority Language Bursary Scheme for 2016/17 is £29,895.65. This can be met from within the funding allocation identified within the Regional and Minority Language Programme for 2016/17</p>
4.2	<p><b><u>Human</u></b>  N/A</p>
4.3	<p><b><u>Basis for Professional/ Consultancy Support</u></b>  N/A</p>
4.4	<p><b><u>Other</u></b> None</p>

<b>5</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
5.1	None

<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	It is recommended that the Regional and Minority language bursaries be approved for the 231 successful applicants identified with a total amount allocated of £29,895.65.

<b>7</b>	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
7.1	None

**G**

**Subject:** Leisure Services Progress Report

**Reporting Officer:** Liam Glavin, Head of Leisure

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To update Members of the progress being made regarding activities in Leisure Services and highlight events that will be occurring in the future.
<b>2</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	Mid Ulster District Council recognises the important role that leisure plays in today's society and that the equitable availability of accessible, high quality sport and leisure provision can enhance the quality of life, health and wellbeing of the local community. The facilities and programmes provided in Mid Ulster are designed to maximise participation in sport and leisure activities from all sections of the community and provide pathways that enable every resident within the Mid Ulster area to maximise their health, sporting abilities, aspirations and potential.
<b>3</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
3.1	<p>Full details of key elements of Leisure Service provision in the last month is included in Appendix 1. A summary of key highlights is provided below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Northern Ireland Boys Football Association National League and Place Finals at Meadowbank Sports Arena</li> <li>• St Patricks Academy Tournament at MUSA</li> <li>• Mid Ulster Squash Tournament at Cookstown Leisure Centre</li> <li>• Maghera Leisure Centre 10K Road Race.</li> </ul> <p>A range of events and activities was provided in Leisure Services across Mid Ulster. A summary is included in Appendix 2.</p>
<b>4</b>	<b>Resources</b>
4.1	<b><u>Financial</u></b> N/A
4.2	<b><u>Human</u></b> N/A
4.3	<b><u>Basis for Professional/ Consultancy Support</u></b> N/A
4.4	<b><u>Other</u></b> N/A

<b>5</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
5.1	N/A

<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	Members are asked to note activities being undertaken in Leisure Services and the events that will be occurring in the future.

<b>7</b>	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
7.1	Appendix 1 - Key elements of Leisure Service provision in the last month.
7.2	Appendix 2 - Key Events



## **Appendix 1 – Key Elements of Leisure Service Provision in Last Month**

### **Sports Development - Every Body Active 2020**

Every Body Active 2020 went live on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016, with 3 coaches employed targeting women and girls, disabled and people living areas of high social need. This May saw the commencement of the Fit Friday Programme which was run in conjunction with local workplace CDE Global and delivered by Every Body Active 2020 Multi Sports Coach Steven Mc Elhatton.

The aim of this programme is to introduce employees to a fitness programme and to improve their general fitness levels. The programme includes circuits, fitness tests and body exercises, and takes place every Friday morning at Mid Ulster Sports Arena before the employees go to work. So far the programme is a great success and the 20+ participants are really enjoying themselves on a weekly basis.

Below are photos of some of the participants in action:



### **Every Body Active 2020 Disability Multi-Skills Coach**

April 2016 saw the commencement of the first activity sessions within the new Every Body Active 2020 programme. Every Body Active 2020 Disability Multi-Skills Sports Coach Kathleen Brogan organised and delivered a series of Adults Learning Support Programmes across the Mid Ulster Council Area. These sessions took place in Meadowbank Sports Arena, Cookstown Leisure Centre and Maghera Leisure Centre and were open to adults with various types of disabilities. Each session lasted 1 hour and consisted of circuits and small fun games that allowed the participants to improve on their health and wellbeing. These sessions also allowed each individual to enjoy sport and physical activity in a fun and safe environment whilst meeting new friends. To date 55 participants have taken part in these sessions across the Mid Ulster Council Area.

Please see below pictures from the Adult Learning Support Programme.



Everybody Active Multi Sports coach Ruth Bell organised and delivered a Buggy Fit programme aimed at mothers and babies, due to the high level of interest across the Mid Ulster area. This programme is delivered at Mid Ulster Sports Arena, Meadowbank Sports Arena and Dungannon Park from, 11.00-12.00 noon, costing £2.00 per week or £10.00 for 6 weeks, followed by tea and coffee.

The aims of this programme are to give mothers the opportunity to get back into shape from having their child, exercising without have to worrying about getting a child minder and for the social side, mothers getting to meet other mothers. Every week Ruth has between 40-50 participants across the 3 council areas. Each session includes a mixture of cardiovascular and resistance based exercises that enable mothers to get a good balance of physical activity.





## Triathlon

Preparations for this year's Felix Triathlon Super Sprint are under way. The proposed date is Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> September from Dungannon Leisure Centre.

## Summer 2016

Sports Development staff are currently finalising plans for a wide range of Get Active Summer Camps throughout the district. This year there is something for everyone from dance and gymnastics to water sports, sports specific camps and camps for those with a disability.

## Dungannon Leisure Centre – Sport Development

- The School Of Aquatics programme continues to provide a range of lessons for children and adults with classes fully booked.
- Swimmer Development class is on Saturday mornings 6.30-8.30am. This class is aimed at club swimmers who want to refine their swimming technique to enable them to improve on their performances.
- Masters swimming classes continue on Monday and Friday 6-7pm and Thursday 7-8am. These regularly draw in over 40 customers, many of who now use the pool frequently outside these class times.
- Rookie Lifeguard Courses continue throughout May.
- Squad Training classes cater for 120 children every Tuesday, the additional classes on Saturday afternoon continue to be a popular addition to the programme. The leisure centre swim coaches work tirelessly to provide the highest standards possible for all customers.

- The Centre also provides a comprehensive one to one programme and once again all available slots have been booked.
- Coming into the holiday season adult swimming classes on Tuesday and Thursday continue to be fully booked.

## **Leisure Facility Based Activities**

### **Cookstown Leisure Centre**

- Cookstown Leisure Centre Drop In Classes and Courses. The drop in classes on offer to the general public and also as part of the total “Evolve Membership” are performing well.
- Following further interest from local ladies who all attend local slimming clubs a Friday Aquafit Class has been introduced to compliment the Wednesday morning Aquafit Class in the learner pool. This group have also been receiving introductory Spinning sessions with the aim of developing this into a regular addition to their activities.
- Courses continue in Recreational Gymnastics and Hatha Yoga, the latest of the Hatha Yoga Courses commenced on Tuesday 17th May.
- The Centre is currently facilitating the Every Body Active 2020 Ladies activities and the Girls After Schools.
- The spring wet/dry enrolment generate slightly over £30,000 with swimming classes selling well. The programme offered in excess of 95 group lessons and a range of levels catering for all abilities. Adult and Children lessons are performing well.
- Sport Developments, “EBA 2020” programme got underway on the 11<sup>th</sup> May with the “Adult Learning Support Programme, which over the first two week has been well attended. Client information is current being populated by Jason Talbot onto the “EBA2020” database.

### **Dungannon Leisure Centre**

- The fitness programme continues during May. Circuit Training continues to be as popular as ever, as does ½ AND ½ Spin Classes on Mondays, along with the Tuesday and Friday Spin Classes. Yoga and Step Aerobics classes continue to attract good numbers.
- Three new classes have been added to the programme. H.I.I.T. Thursday 12.45-1.15pm, Jive Class Thursday 6.30-7.30pm and Spin Class Friday 6-7pm.
- S.W.E.A.T. (Strength, Work, Endurance, Agility Training) class has been very well attended, with over 30 customers taking part each week.
- Early Burn is a class aimed at customers who want to start their day with an intense training session before they go to work.
- H.I.I.T. is a lunchtime class run on Mondays and Thursdays, and is a high intensity workout for all abilities.
- HardCore Running @ Gortgonis takes place on Saturday mornings at Gortgonis running track in Coalisland from 10-11am.
- Aqua-Fit classes on Tuesdays continues to be a popular activity for the young and old.
- Dungannon Leisure Centre continues to hire out many of its facilities to local clubs including- Ren Bu Ken Judo Club, Cobra Kai Karate Club, Ju Jitsu Club,

Tae Kwon Do Club, Dungannon Gymnastics Club, Dungannon Sub Aqua Club, Island Triathlon Club, Fit 4 You Club and others.

- Tyrone Towers Basketball Club train in the centre every Saturday and Sunday.

### **Meadowbank Sports Arena**

- The “Couch 2 5K” is currently running on Monday and Friday nights. The programme attracts upwards of 100 runners each evening.
- The PHA has again agreed to fund a “Couch to 3k” for year 8 pupils on Mondays and Wednesdays after school. The programme attracts upwards of 60 children.
- Ulster Rugby continue to base one of their Regional Youth Squads at the Arena and used the facilities on a regular basis with an average of 60/80 participants at each session.
- Slimming World continues on a Thursday and the regular sessions average 85/120 participants.
- The Arena continues to be a popular venue for Children’s Birthday Parties with 15 parties booked to date.
- Rainey Mini Hockey is popular on Friday afternoons with 40/50 children attending each week.
- Rainey Mini Rugby also continues on Friday evenings with between 80 and 110 attending each session.
- St Colmcilles Girl Guides continues to grow with 30 girls attending on the first night.
- A new Irish Dancing Class has been booked in the Pavilion on a Saturday Morning commencing on the last Saturday of May.
- Mary Hill Ballet School continues on Saturday afternoons with 40/50 dancers attending each week.
- O Donovan Rossa GAC hold their underage juvenile training on Sundays indoor and outdoor with 70/100 children attending weekly.
- The Meadowbank Fit for Life programme has attracted 9 Primary Schools from the local area this term.
- Northern Region Recovery College are currently running a stroke rehabilitation clinic for various clients, Meeting Room 10am-1pm.
- Rainey Endowed School held their Sports Day with 500 pupils taking part.
- Special Olympics N.I. are holding a Boccia tournament over 2 days in the Main Arena at the end of May.
- “Magherafelt Soccer Sixes” continues to thrive on the 3G pitches and is attracting a lot of teams from the local area. Over 100 players attend per night.







## Maghera Leisure Centre

- Party Packages 41
- Profiles Fitness Suite & Cardio Theatre continues to be busy both casual and Personal Training.
- Gymnastic sessions Tues, Wed & Fri completely booked.
- Leo Maguire Taekwondo Club, Main Hall Thursdays 5pm – 6pm
- Karate, Main Hall Fridays 6pm – 7pm.
- Jujitsu Club Saturdays 10am – 12.30pm & Monday 6.30am – 9pm.
- GP Referral Program ongoing.
- Adult centre Tuesday & Thursday.
- Senior Citizen Club Wednesday 2pm – 4pm.
- Daily Morning session classes 10am – 11am. (Core Stability, Spin, Circuit Training, BLT Blitz, Circuit Training).
- Sunday boot camps & Spinning classes.
- Circuits Monday & Thursday Circuit Training.
- Spinning Classes Mon, Wed, Thurs & Fri.
- Old Mill Youth Academy – Main Hall Wednesdays 7pm – 8pm.
- Tobermore Utd. Mini Soccer, Saturdays Main Hall 10am – 11am.
- Maghera Gardening Group – monthly meeting.
- Womens Institute – monthly meeting.
- Mid Ulster Floral Art – monthly meeting.
- Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> Mid Ulster Guide Dogs
- Saturday 9am – 10.am Footy pups
- EBA – Mondays Ladies only physical activity.
- EBA – Thursday Kids Active Multi Skills Club, children aged 5 – 8 years with Autism.
- EBA – Thursday Disability Multi Skills Club, children aged 9 – 12 years old with all disabilities.

## **Tobermore Golf Centre**

- Resident PGA Professional Tuition
- 37 \* Trackman lessons
- 24 \* Standard Studio lessons.
- Short Game Course commencing 3<sup>rd</sup> May
- Beginners Course commencing 5<sup>th</sup> May
- Fri Club – Junior Academy commencing 29<sup>th</sup> April
- Killymoon Juniors
- Kilronan School

## **Outdoor Leisure Facilities**

### **Castlecaulfield**

The Island Wheelers held a cycling event at Castlecaulfield Playing Fields on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2016 with over 250 people attending this popular event.

### **Blessingbourne Mountain Bike Trails, Fivemiletown**

- Blessingbourne Mountain Bike Trails have been busy with a lot of Groups visiting the estate and enjoying the trail.
- The Discover Northern Ireland Activity Weekend was a very successful event, Jacqueline McGonigle and her family had a brilliant time trying out the tracks and wandering around the Estate.
- Mountain bike enthusiasts have been enjoying Pinocchio's at Blessingbourne, it also attracted road cyclists from the Fermanagh Lakelands, Clogher Valley and visitors from the border counties, Dublin and Galway.
- The Apollo Rockets Group recently visited and had a fantastic time barrelling around the trails and playing on the wooden play area as well as racing go-carts and outdoor toys.

### **Mid Ulster Sports Arena**

- IFA Excellence Bookings four times per week continues on the 3G and grass pitches at the Mid Ulster Sports Arena Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings and also on Sundays until the end of June.
- Caman Tir Eoghan – hurling and camogie programme for children P4 to P7.
- Parkrun continues every Saturday morning at 9.30am 60 participants weekly.
- Couch to 5K Programme on Tuesday and Thursday evenings 100 participants each night.
- Soccer Sixes programme.
- Usage of the Trim Trail by walkers and runners remains steady especially during the day. Estimated numbers using this facility in the region of 200 per day.
- A number of Birthday Parties have taken place in the indoor hall with people from Coalisland, Dungannon and Omagh areas all availing of the facilities.

## **Other External Events at MUSA**

- Ulster Ladies GAA Schools Blitz – 27 May 2016
- Irish Language Schools Fun Day – 31 May 2016

## **Moneymore Recreation Centre**

- Jill's Cake Designing. Cake making/designing cake classes have continued using our Committee Room into 2016. 15 people attend these classes designing cakes and learning all aspects to do with cake design.
- Climbing Wall Bookings. The climbing wall bookings are as follows. Monday 28th March Dungannon Park, Thursday 19th May Howard Primary School Dungannon, Saturday 4th June Meadowbank Magherafelt, Saturday 11th June Cookstown Presbyterian Church (Girl Guides), Friday 17th June Stewartstown Primary School, Sunday 19th June Ranfurly House Dungannon & Sunday 31st July Lough Neagh Rescue, Kinnego Marina..
- Easter Coaching Sessions. A Multi –Sports Camp was held at Moneymore Recreation Centre on Wednesday 30/3/16 from 10am-12pm. Despite advertising around the local schools and on Facebook only 5 kids attended. The coach in charge of the Camp was Graeme Eastwood and despite low numbers all the kids had a great time.
- A Tennis Camp (Mr Graeme Eastwood) was held at Moneymore Recreation Centre on Thursday 31/3/16 from 10am-12 noon 13 kids attended this camp and all that attended had a great time.
- On Friday 1st April 2016 a Gaelic Football Camp (Ronan Devlin Musa) was held at Moneymore Recreation Centre from 10am-12 noon.
- Mid Ulster Vintage Club. The Mid Ulster Vintage Club has recently Booked our Committee Room for their monthly meetings. They will be using our facility on the 3rd Tuesday of every month 8.30pm-10pm until December 2016.
- Moneymore Primary School Indoor Hockey. Moneymore Primary School used our Sports Hall on Monday 11th April (3pm-4pm) for indoor hockey practice. 30 Kids from the Primary School walked down from the Primary School to practice their hockey skills.
- School Multi-Skills/After Schools. A 6 week Multi Skills programme has been arranged for Girls aged 6-12 years old to start on Wednesday 18th May 2016 at Moneymore Recreation Centre (4pm-5pm).
- Cedar Foundation. The Cedar Foundation Group from Ballymena has recently started hiring our Committee Room for meetings.
- Local Gaelic Football Clubs. Due to the brighter evenings now upon us again most Gaelic Clubs have now started training at their own facilities again.
- Pilates Classes. Monday 6.15pm-7.15pm. Pilates classes continued into April 2016.
- Tuesday Yoga Classes. 1 Class Tuesdays 6pm-7pm.
- Birthday Parties. During April 2016 six Birthday Parties were held at Moneymore Recreation Centre.



## **Davagh Forest Trails**

- Ongoing checks and minor repairs have been carried out by Peter Newell on a weekly bases which include, spraying around the trailhead and picnic areas, strimming on the trails and minors repairs on all the trails.
- A volunteer day is going to be planned for June to carry out repairs on the big wig jig trail section. A date has to be confirmed with Mountain Bike NI.
- Two closures were in place for motor rallies on the 30th April and 7th May 2016. Both motor rallies went off without any major incident. The yellow/black ramps (between both car parks) where removed for the rallies and will be put back down on 11th May.
- The Davagh Enduro is scheduled for the 25th and 26th June 2016.

## **Usage Figures for Davagh Forest Trails**

Usage figures for January to March 2016

Car park	Pump Track	Trail Counter	Red trial
3,885	1,643	4,473	2,303

## **Fairhill Bowling/ Tennis Pavilion**

- Fairhill Bowling season is well underway with provincial league matches and “IBA” competitions.
- Some further additional works have taken place, with a new spot light was installed (in-house), to highlight the scoreboard for both clubs.

## Appendix 2 – Key Events

### Northern Ireland Boys Football Association Finals

The Northern Ireland Boys Football Association (NIBFA) held their Finals at Meadowbank on Bank Holiday Monday with teams from all over NI participating. There were over 2500 people (Players and spectators attending). (see pictures)



### St Patricks Academy Tournament at MUSA



### **Mid Ulster Squash Tournament**

Mid Ulster squash club hosted its first annual tournament, catering for novice and intermediate level with handicaps assigned accordingly to ability. The competition ran from 18<sup>th</sup> April to 23<sup>rd</sup> April. The competition was well attended over the week, with 25 players participating. The tournament was arranged to promote squash in the Mid-Ulster area, but also in conjunction with Cancer Fund for Children.

### **Maghera Leisure Centre Annual 10K**

Sponsored by HM Electrics and Kellys Eurospar. In glorious and perfect race conditions a strong field of over 300 competitors took part, this event keeps going from strength to strength. Liam Glavin, Head of Leisure Services was under starters order and got the race on the way, with Vice Chair of Mid Ulster District Council Kim Ashton presenting the awards.

**H**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Small Grants for Greenways</b>
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	<b>Nigel Hill Head of Parks</b>

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To inform members of the opportunity for initial funding for Council's and other bodies to develop their own schemes as part of the greenway network for the entire region.

<b>2</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	<p>'Building an Active Future for Northern Ireland' – an active Travel Strategy was published by the Department for Regional Development in 2013 as an integral part of the executives wider initiatives to improve public health and environment. 'Northern Ireland Changing Gear – a bicycle Strategy for Northern Ireland' was subsequently published in August 2015. This 25 year Strategy sets out an ambition to transform cycling Northern Ireland with a vision to give people the freedom and confidence to travel by bicycle for everyday journeys. Government policies across different departments all lend support to increase physical activity across the population with walking and cycling recognised as a major contributor to improved public health. The Department is developing a strategic plan for greenways in Northern Ireland that will provide a framework to assist local councils in the creation of their own greenway schemes.</p>

<b>3</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
3.1	The department is seeking proposals for greenways that will help to encourage walking and cycling as a means of travel whether through commuting, travel between local places, recreation or leisure.
3.2	Proposals should be aimed at increasing the volume of people walking and cycling by off-road, traffic free routes connecting local communities.
3.3	Proposals should also demonstrate community engagement, design and softer measures including promotion and capture the opportunity to encourage people to incorporate activity into their everyday lives.
3.4	Councils are invited to participate by taking part in a three stage competitive process. Stage one is an Expression of Interest (EoI) which will identify the proposals in the format of a short, high level overview of the project. The top eight projects will advance to stage two.
3.5	Stage Two will require the production of a feasibility study and business case with community engagement and support for the project. Successful

3.6	<p>shortlisted applicants to stage two will be offered up to £8,000 to develop their proposals. The top four projects will advance to stage three.</p> <p>Stage Three will require a detailed design and cost options appraisal from shortlisted applicants. More information will be required about land issues and costs with evidence that the design is technically robust. Successful shortlisted applicants to stage three will be offered up to £25,000 to finalise their detailed proposals.</p>
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<b>4</b>	<b>Resources</b>
4.1	Staff time for initial stage. If proposals progress to stage two and beyond match funding contribution maybe required to supplement allocated grant from department.

<b>5</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
5.1	Procurement of specialist consultancy for specific components of the scheme proposals such as design, costing and consultation.

<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	To produce and submit by 3 <sup>rd</sup> June initial Expressions of Interest for two proposed greenway routes. To include Ulster Canal route from Moy to Caledon and Caledon via Clogher Valley to Lisnaskea. These routes link into proposals being considered by Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Council and Fermanagh and Omagh District Council as part of Portadown to Caledon and Clones to Enniskillen greenway proposals.

<b>7</b>	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
7.1	Appendix 1 - Northern Ireland Greenways Map

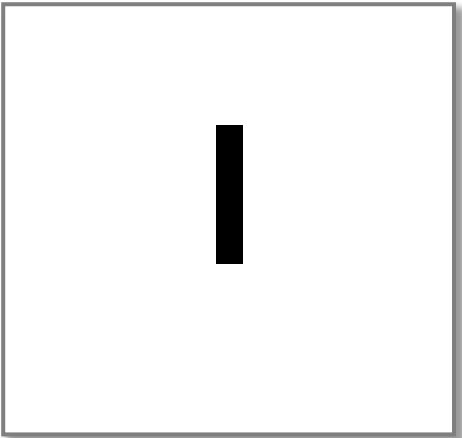


Ap

# NORTHERN IRELAND GREENWAYS



@nigreenways





<b>Subject</b>	<b>Mid Ulster District Angling Summer Schools</b>
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	<b>Nigel Hill Head of Parks</b>

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To update members of the scheduled launch date and promotional event for the Mid Ulster District Council Summer Angling Schools.

<b>2</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	<p>In November 2015 Council approval was given to progress negotiations with DCAL Inland Fisheries Group to develop a programme of events for 2016. Council officers have engaged with Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) formerly DCAL, to develop a programme of angling school events commencing 25<sup>th</sup> July 2016.</p> <p>A launch date has been agreed for our proposed angling schools with DAERA. This will take place at Dungannon Park on Tuesday 21 June 2016 at 4.00pm. A request for the chairs attendance has already been forwarded and it is hoped that DAERA Minister Michelle McIlveen will attend the launch event. All three events will be launched under the theme of <b>GO FISHING – Mid Ulster Angling Summer Schools</b>.</p> <p>The dates for the schools are;</p> <p><b>Dungannon Park Lake Angling Summer School:</b> Monday 25 July – Friday 29 July 2016 Learn to fly fish 5 day school 10.00am – 2.00pm daily Cost £25.00 running 10 years organised in partnership with DAERA</p> <p><b>Bradley's Lake Angling Summer School</b> Monday 01 August –Friday 05 August 2016 Learn to Fly Fish Bradleys Lake, Maghera Road, Tobermore, BT45 5QB 10.00am – 2.00pm daily Cost £25.00 Inaugural event Organised in partnership with DAERA and Moyola Angling Association</p> <p><b>Glenone Angling Summer School</b> Wednesday 03 August &amp; Thursday 04 August 2016 Glenone, Portglenone Learn to Coarse Fish 10.00am-5.00pm daily Cost: £10</p>

	Inaugural event Organised in partnership with DAERA and the Ulster Coarse Fishing Federation
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<b>3</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
3.1	<p>Establish a programme of angling events across the Mid Ulster District Council area in conjunction with DAERA Inland Fisheries for 2016.</p> <p>Profile the 10th Anniversary of the Park Lake Summer Angling School in August 2016</p> <p>Introduce new venues at Glenone and Bradley Lake and encourage angling clubs to partner with Mid Ulster District Council and DAERA to delivery programme of events.</p>

<b>4</b>	<b>Resources</b>
4.1	<p><b><u>Financial</u></b> The programme will be supported through Parks events and promotions revenue budget allocations and DAERA Outreach Programme. Council expenditure.</p> <p><b><u>Human</u></b> Existing resources adequate.</p> <p><b><u>Basis for Professional/ Consultancy Support</u></b> Professional Instruction from qualified angling coaches as required supporting programme of events and workshops.</p> <p><b><u>Other</u></b> N/A</p>

<b>5</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
5.1	N/A

<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	Members asked to note the planned event to launch Mid Ulster Angling Summer School at Dungannon Park on 21 <sup>st</sup> June 2016.

<b>7</b>	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
7.1	Appendix 1 - Angling Summer School promotional material.

Call: 028 8772 8690  
Email: [parks@midulstercouncil.org](mailto:parks@midulstercouncil.org)

Go Fishing!

Bradley's Lake, Tobermore

# Bradley's Lake Angling Summer School

Mon 01 to Fri 05 August 2016 from 10am - 2pm

Open to boys & girls from 11 years old!

## Learn to Fly Fish...


- Suitable for beginners & improvers
- Professional instruction
- End of week competition
- All equipment supplied

**Only £25pp**  
£5 Deposit Secures Place

**DAERA**  
Department of Agriculture,  
Environment and Rural Affairs  
[www.davera.gov.uk](http://www.davera.gov.uk)

**Moyola Angling Association**  
Established 1982

**Comhairle Ceantair Lár Uladh**  
Mid Ulster District Council




<b>Monday</b>	Introduction to equipment Knots   Fly-tying
<b>Tuesday</b>	Basic entomology (with demonstration) Trout diet & life cycle (with demonstration)
<b>Wednesday</b>	Hooking, playing and landing trout, Catch and release trout handling, Casting Theory
<b>Thursday</b>	Safety when fishing Boat safety demonstration Risk analyses   Clothing   Fly-tying plus test
<b>Friday</b>	Casting skills demonstration Team quiz   Tests   Prize giving

- Learn to fly fish under professional instruction.
- All levels of ability catered for, beginners and improvers.
- Fun packed practical and theory sessions designed to get you hooked on fishing!
- All angling equipment supplied (just bring a packed lunch & outdoor clothing).
- All participants receive an angling certificate of competence and anglers starters pack.
- Join in the games, challenges and competitions as part of the summer school event.

### End of week competition to test your skills!

**Register your child now - only £25 (£5 Deposit Secures Place)**

**Family Group Discount also available.**

**Limited places please book early to avoid disappointment.**

Call: 028 8772 8690

Email: [parks@midulstercouncil.org](mailto:parks@midulstercouncil.org)

Web: [www.midulstercouncil.org/parklake](http://www.midulstercouncil.org/parklake)

This event is organised in partnership with  
DAERA Inland Fisheries Community Outreach Programme  
and Moyola Angling Association

**J**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Parks Service Progress Report</b>
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	<b>Nigel Hill, Head of Parks</b>

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To update Members of the progress being made regarding activities and associated to Parks Services and highlight events or consultations that will be occurring in the future

<b>2</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	Mid Ulster District Council recognises the important role that Parks, Countryside recreation and play has in today's society and the ease of accessible, open space can have on basis quality of life issues and the health and wellbeing of the local community. The facilities and programmes provided in Mid Ulster are designed to maximise participation from all sections of the community and provide opportunities to maximise quality outdoor experiences for our residents across Mid Ulster District Council.

<b>3</b>	
3.1	<p><b>Nunnery Hill Allotments Update</b></p> <p>There are now seven full size plots and nine half size plots on the site plus the open plot at the entrance which can be used by everyone for growing &amp; harvesting of herbs, beneficial wildflowers, fruit etc. For this year all allotments have now been allocated. The schools gardening area has been moved to beside the Conservation Volunteers plot and we had pupils from the Howard Primary School out recently to set up a few raised beds and containers and sow a range of vegetable seeds, onion sets and potatoes. Oaklands Respite Unit from the Southern Health Trust have linked with the Council allotment scheme and are planning to come down regularly with a group of young people to sow and plant up a small patch within the Conservation Volunteers allotment plot. All allotment holders have now been issued with electronic access cards to provide improved access to the site and to assist with monitoring activity on site,.</p>





Nunnery Hill allotments, Dungannon Park plot map (appendix 2).

3.2 **Friends of Dungannon Park Meeting**

The second bi-monthly 'Friends of Dungannon Park' group meeting is scheduled for Thursday 2nd June 2016 at Dungannon Park at 7.30 pm. The group have so far been instrumental in assisting with the roll-out of new visitor information signage and discussions are informing the Parks Service of a range of customer issues that can be further investigated collectively. The Parks Service will be extending an invitation to communities and users to set up similar groups for Railway Park, Dungannon and Ballyronan Marina in the coming months.

3.3. **Forest Service Partnership Working Group.**

Mid Ulster District Council and Forest Service NI met to review current licence agreements and operational issues in relation to the Forest Service properties currently covered under the scope of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). Agreed priorities encompassed additional car parking at Pomeroy, access and facility development at Knockmany and Moydamlaght and the completion of play and long distance cycle trials at Pomeroy and Clogher Valley. On the issue of car parking charges at Drum Manor, Forest Service confirmed no plans to amend current practice, should Council wish to extend licence agreements to include Drum Manor Forest, this would be an issue for Council to consider.

### 3.4 **Annaghshree Play Park Project.**

Work to create an all new play facility at Annaghshree, Dungannon commenced on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2016. The contract will run for approximately 4 weeks with an anticipated completion date mid June. The successful tendering company was Garden Escapes from Ballynahinch Co. Down. The project is a partnership scheme through the Neighbourhood Renewal Funding Programme and co funded by Mid Ulster District Council. The total project budget is £75,000 (DSD funding £62,000).



### 3.5 **Caledon Play Park**

Quotations for the specified remedial works at Caledon village play park have been received and evaluated. Works to replace defective safety surfacing and improve the public access and realignment of public paths will be completed by the end of June. Value of works £7, 837.00.

## 3.6

**Parks Service Updated Events Calendar June – August 2016**

Park Services Events Calendar 2016					
✓ indicates who is involved in Event					
Date	Month	Location	MUDC Organised Event	Outside Organiser	Organised in Conjunction with MUDC
<b>June</b>					
03.06.16	Mid Ulster CEF - annual bbq and fun day	Dungannon Park		✓	
05.06.16	Van Convoy	Granville Mart		✓	
Monday 06-27.06.16	Cavanleck Presbyterian Church Ladies Walking group weekly walks	Round Lake		✓	
11.06.16	Sponsored Walk - Laghey Primary School	Dungannon Park		✓	
12.06.16	Festival of Praise	Dungannon Park		✓	
24.06.16	End of Year BBQ - Dungannon Swimming Club	Dungannon Park		✓	
25.06.16	Picnic for Vintage Cars - Janette Treanor	Dungannon Park		✓	
28.06.16	Sponsored Walk - Aughnacloy College	Dungannon Park		✓	
29.06.16	Church BBQ & Fun activities	Dungannon Park		✓	
<b>July</b>					
02.07.16	Annual Static Show of old vehicles, Ballyronan & District Vintage Club	Ballyronan Marina		✓	
04.07-08.07.16	Canoeing Course	Ballyronan Marina	✓		
08.07.16	BBQ & Fun activities - Drumglass Parish Church	Dungannon Park		✓	
16, 23, 30.07.16	Sailing Course	Ballyronan Marina	✓		
17.06.16	BBQ & Church get together	Dungannon Park		✓	
25-29.07.16	Parklake Junior Angling School	Dungannon Parklake	✓		
31.07.16	Dungannon Silver Band	Dungannon Park	✓		
31.07.16	Coalisland Silver Band	Ballyronan Marina	✓		
31.07.16	Murley Silver Band	Round Lake	✓		
Sundays	Lifeboat fellowship 6.30 pm - 9.30 pm	Band Stand		✓	✓
<b>August</b>					
01-03.08.16	Junior Game Angling School at Bradleys Lake (conjunction with Moyola AC)	Bradleys Lake			✓
04-06.08.16	Junior Coarse Angling School at Glenone (conjunction with UCAF)	Glenone, Portglenone			✓
02.08.16	Marie Curie Sponsored Walk	Dungannon Park		✓	
03.08.16	Play Day Event	Dungannon Park	✓		
06.08.16	Sailing Course - Final day (course started in July)	Ballyronan Marina	✓		
7.08.16	Four Counties Youth Ensemble	Dungannon Park	✓		
7.08.16	Ryhm & Blues Embsemble (TBC)	Ballyronan Marina	✓		
13.08.16	Triathlon	Ballyronan Marina			
14.08.16	Bawn Silver Band	DPK & Ballyronan M	✓		
19-21.08.16	Camping NI Caravan Club - Annual Rally	Dungannon Park		✓	
21.08.16	Roughan Silver Band	Dungannon Park	✓		
21.08.16	LIMAVADY BIG BAND	Ballyronan Marina	✓		
Sundays	Lifeboat fellowship 6.30 pm - 9.30 pm	Band Stand		✓	
TBC	Lumarina	Ballyronan Marina			✓

*Dates and content maybe subject to change.*



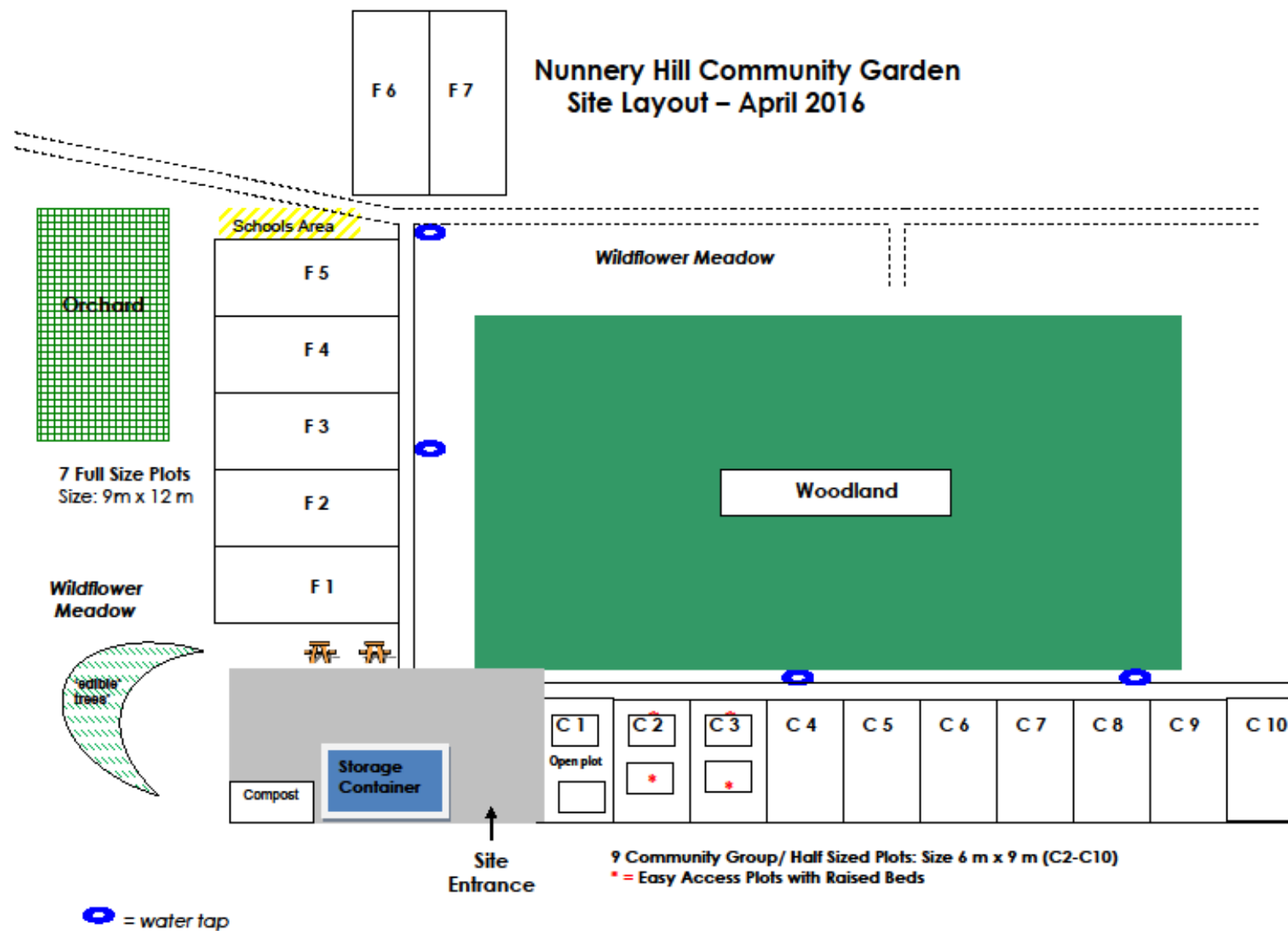
3.7	<b>Review of Mid Ulster District Inland Slipways</b> The Parks Service in conjunction with the council's Health & Safety Officer conducted a facilities review of the current slipway amenities managed by council. Eleven sites were included in the audit. Recommendations from the review provides for renewed public safety signage at all sites, the erection of bollards or swing barriers were applicable and access road markings as deemed appropriate. The identified works is now part of a schedule of works that will be implemented and completed by September 2016.
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<b>4</b>	<b>Resources</b>
4.1	<b><u>Financial</u></b> N/A
4.2	<b><u>Human</u></b> N/A
4.3	<b><u>Basis for Professional/ Consultancy Support</u></b> N/A
4.4	<b><u>Other</u></b> N/A

<b>5</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
	N/A

<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
	N/A

<b>7</b>	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
	Appendix 1 – Nunnery Hill Allotments, Dungannon Park



**K**

<b>Subject</b>	Culture and Arts Update Report
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Tony McCance

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To update Members on the progress being made in Culture and Arts Services and highlight events that have occurred during April and May. Also to identify events and activities within Culture & Arts Services that will be occurring in the future.

<b>2</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	Mid Ulster District Council recognises the important role that Culture and Arts plays in today's society and that the availability of accessible, high quality culture and arts provision can enhance the quality of life and wellbeing of the local community. The Culture and Arts facilities and programmes provided in Mid Ulster are designed to maximise participation from all sections of the community and provide pathways that enable every resident within the Mid Ulster area to maximise their enjoyment, aspirations and quality of life.

<b>3</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
3.1	Full details of key elements Culture and Arts Service provision during April/May is included in Appendix 1.

<b>4</b>	<b>Resources</b>
4.1	<b><u>Financial</u></b>  N/A
4.2	<b><u>Human</u></b>  None
4.3	<b><u>Basis for Professional/Consultancy Support</u></b>  N/A
4.4	<b><u>Other</u></b>  None

<b>5</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
5.1	None

<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	Members are asked to note upcoming activities being undertaken in Culture and Arts Services.

<b>7</b>	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
7.1	Appendix 1 – Key elements of Culture and Arts Service provision in the last month.

## Culture & Arts Service Progress Report

### Progress Report    Appendix 1

#### Burnavon Arts & Cultural Centre

##### Programme of Events

During the period covered within this report 8 performances were held in the auditorium a mix of music, drama and children's performances.

39 other events (workshops, meetings, launches) were held in the Burnavon.

The Summer programme of events has something for everyone.

A mix of drama, family and comedy. A number of new workshops have been introduced to accommodate request and demands from patrons.

The autumn/winter programme of events has been finalised and is extensive. The programme will be circulated end of July and cover the period September – December (and also publicise the yearly panto planned for January 2017).



## Events

### ***“A Decade of Anniversaries”***

During the week commencing 16<sup>th</sup> May 3 fantastic workshops were held in the Burnavon (16<sup>th</sup> May), Bridewell (17<sup>th</sup> May) and Ranfurly House (20<sup>th</sup> May). 60 Year 10 pupils attended each event from 2 different schools from each area (total of 180). They participated in “Creative Centenaries” a programme with a digital approach to the decade of anniversaries which was organised by Culture & Arts and part funded by Good Relations. The pupils concentrated on the anniversaries of the Easter Rising and the Battle of the Somme, and were involved in a series of innovative iPad activities / Comic Design which aided their learning concerning these two important historical events.

The outputs of the workshops are currently being produced by Creative Centenaries and will be made available.



Pupil from Holy Trinity College and pupil from Cookstown High School making ipad movie.





### **Gathering of the Clans Festival 17<sup>th</sup> June – 26<sup>th</sup> June**

The final plans for the festival are ongoing. Marketing material is currently being finalised and will be circulated shortly.

The Official Opening of Tullaghoge Fort is planned for Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June time to be confirmed depending on Minister of Department for Communities availability.

Summary of events as part of festival attached.

### **Events**

Planning underway for July Celebrations Concert on 9<sup>th</sup> July and International Day of Peace Concert on 21<sup>st</sup> September in conjunction with Good Relations.

Final plans for Superstars production on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June now taking place and everyone is getting excited.





## Visual Arts

Cookstown Youth Football Club celebrated their 25 years anniversary with an exhibition providing a flavour of its history since 1991, showcasing past kits, pictures, features on former players and trophies gathered through the year. A launch event was held in early May.

## Burnavon Writers Group

Burnavon Writers Group has commenced work on new publication.

## Public Art

Loup artwork "Leaves" have been returned and work commenced on making new surfaces for their re-installation.

## Support Services (weekly)

The following weekly sessions continue to be delivered as part of the Burnavon programme and its associated outreach programme.

- South West College – Performing Arts Students
- Cookstown Folk Club
- Burnavon Writers Group
- Superstars Club Musical Theatre Group
- Traditional Music in Schools Project (delivered in local schools)
- Diploma (delivered in partnership with University of Ulster).
- Circus Skills



## Workshops

Watercolours course completed Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May.

Circus workshops resumed on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May.

Planning and recruitment is currently underway for Summer programme, including Traditional Music, Ballet and Pipes and Drums.

Summer workshops for kids include Bath Bomb Cupcakes, Candle Making, ArtFunkle and Wood Craft.

## Hill of The O'Neill & Ranfurly House Arts & Visitor Centre



### Dungannon Arts Forum

Members of the Dungannon Arts Forum met on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> May to finalised the list of acts for the blues event on the Hill of the O'Neill on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> July

Proposed acts include:

**Headline Act** - Eric Bell (Original Guitarist of Thin Lizzy)

**Main Support acts include** - Ronnie Greer and Grainne Duffy, the Bob Dylan Tribute band and Dana masters, to be confirmed.

**Opening Acts** - Denver McCord and Wookalily.

There will be an exhibition of Rory Gallagher memorabilia in the Tower Room all day Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> July.

The Margaret Noble event planned for the Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> October in Ranfurly House was discussed. This event celebrates 150th birth/anniversary of Dungannon born Margaret Noble, Sister Nivedita with drama, short talks, pictorial exhibition, music, dancing and light refreshments.

### Dungannon History Forum

On Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May Ranfurly House Arts & Visitor Centre hosted the talk Encountering William Carleton.

This talk was based on the recently published book *The Clogher Story*. There was also a dramatised reading of Carleton's short story *Neal Malone* adapted by Liam Foley, directed by Aidan Fee and performed by The Carlton Players.

Forum members decided earlier in the year not to host a talk in June to avoid a clash with other celebrations.

The Arts & Culture Officer made members aware of a talk she was assisting with as part of the Gathering of the Clans celebrations.

This talk titled *Hugh O'Neill Celebrating 400 Years* and will take place on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm. Admission £3.00

This evening of short talks will mark the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Hugh O'Neill, the last Gaelic chieftain of Ulster. Each presentation will be delivered by an international scholar in this field, introducing various sources from both English and Irish which illuminate the history of the O'Neill dynasty in general and help understand the period of the Nine Years War and the subsequent Flight of the Earls in 1607. All presentations will be in English and no prior knowledge of O'Neill history is required to attend.

Chair: Dr Malachy Ó Néill, Ulster University

Speakers:

Dr Malachy Ó Néill, Ulster University

Topic - *Irish Language Sources of O'Neill History*

Dr James O'Neill, University College Cork

Topic - *The Nine Years' War in Ireland and the Military Revolution*

Dr Hiram Morgan, University College Cork

Topic - *Enemy of England: The Career of Hugh O'Neill, Earl of Tyrone*

Míchéal Mac Craith - National University of Ireland, Galway and Collegio S. Isidoro in Rome.

Topic - Beatrice Cenci, Caravaggio and Hugh O'Neill

A request has come forward for a Charlie Donnelly Commemorative Event on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2017 from the Friends of the International Brigades Ireland (FIBI).

This proposal is for an event to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the death in Spain of Dungannon native, Charlie Donnelly. Charlie Donnelly is featured in the wall of fame in Ranfurly House.

Details attached

### **Invitation to local history groups in the Mid Ulster area**

Forum members discussed extending an invitation to other local history groups throughout Mid Ulster, for a representative from their group, to attend one of the history forum meetings before the forum breaks for the summer recess, they felt this would be a good way of getting to know what was happening with other local groups and also to make them aware of what is happening in the Dungannon area.

## **Ulster Architectural Heritage Society local built heritage workshops**

Literature was distributed to members regarding a series of practical workshops on protecting your local built heritage hosted by the Ulster Architectural Heritage Society attention was focused on the Fermanagh/Tyrone workshop held in the Intec Centre in Enniskillen on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May. Members expressed an interest in attending.

## **Square Box events**

Riverbank Productions a touring production company delivered Alice in Wonderland to a captive audience of pupils from Primate Dixon Primary School, Coalisland and Lisfearity Primary School, Dungannon on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April at 10am.



## **Music in the Square Box**

The Folk group Camhanach made a return visit to the Square Box on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May and Brid Harper, Tony O'Connell and Arty McGlynn delighted an audience of traditional music enthusiasts on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May, this event was supported by Brantry Bard Sessions Group.

*Tony  
O'Connell,  
Brid Harper  
and Arty Mc  
Glynn*



## **Classes/Workshops**

The Guitar classes resumed with full attendance on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May, The violin classes planned to commence the same week did not have sufficient numbers to run this season.



The Saturday Children's Drama Club for 4 to 11year olds commenced on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May under the guidance of Brian Mc Mahon, B Dramatic, this class is becoming a popular activity each term.

The beginners guide to sewing with Clarice Smith commenced on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May with full attendance. The acrylic painting class continues to attract a full class with tutor Angela Hackett and the parent and toddler art class with Nicola Bernie delivered on a Friday morning continues to be a very popular class.

A children's one day workshop in Batik painting for 8 years plus, attracted an enthusiastic audience of boys and girls on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April. This one day workshop was repeated this season due to its popularity.



### **Ranfurly Education Programme**

One new education programme has been piloted at the Hill of The O'Neill. It is entitled "In Sight – In Touch – In Mind" and it takes place in the gardens of the Hill. On 16<sup>th</sup> May, children from Howard Primary School were led through these gardens on a bug hunt by Mark Edgar, Biodiversity Officer, and they then took part in a writing workshop based on their findings facilitated by Peter Lant. This new approach was successful, and this programme will now be added to the Education Programme at Ranfurly House.

### **Seamus Heaney Pilot Education Programme**

Officers have been involved in the organisation and presentation of a number of events which are part of the pre-opening education programme for Seamus Heaney HomePlace:

On Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> April over 170 Primary 6 pupils from Cookstown, Holy Trinity and Phoenix Integrated Primary Schools attended a sketching masterclass with Children's Laureate and renowned artist and political cartoonist, Chris Riddell.



The event in the Burnavon, Cookstown, organised by the reading charity BookTrust, with funding from Arts Council of Northern Ireland, took place as part of Mid Ulster District Council's Seamus Heaney Education Programme in advance of the new Seamus Heaney HomePlace opening in September 2016.

Chris Riddell, a multi-award-winning author whose books include *Goth Girl* and *Ottoline*, is known especially for his distinctive line drawings with their clever caricature and often enchanting fantasy elements. Each child who attended the event was given one of Mr Riddell's books as a memento of the day.

On 10<sup>th</sup> May, the children's writer and sports journalist Dan Freedman held a series of workshops in Ranfurly House Arts & Visitor Centre for classes from six schools in the Dungannon area (below). This was part of the pre-opening education programme for Seamus Heaney HomePlace.

It was really well received by the participating children.



On 17<sup>th</sup> May the poet and broadcaster Lemn Sissay held a workshop for post-primary pupils in the Bridewell, Magherafelt. This was very highly thought of by the visiting teachers. Carol McClelland, Head of English in Rainey Endowed School, said, "The speaker was so engaging and inspiring and it certainly gave us some ideas for refreshing how we teach poetry in school."

Three Bellaghy primary schools took part in a hard-hat tour of Seamus Heaney HomePlace on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May. Two of the schools had been participating in a built heritage study of Bellaghy with PLACE (Planning Landscape Architecture Community Environment) as part of the education programme for Seamus Heaney HomePlace.



The project has entered its final stages with showcase events for the participants involved in the various project strands planned as follows:

#### *Storytelling with Imovie*

Film Premiere                      Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May                      Burnavon

#### *Music for Special Needs*

Performance                      Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June                      Burnavon

#### *Creative Writing*

Poetry Book Launch                      Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June                      Burnavon

### **Irish Language Development**

#### Theme 1: Promoting Opportunities to Learn

- **Irish in the Primary Project** is currently being evaluated in preparation for the next round of the project which will run for 8 weeks from September-November (budget depending).
- **Irish Language Diploma** classes have now ended for this academic year. Final exams will end on Monday 23 May. The diploma classes will resume in the Burnavon on Monday 19 September 2016.
- **The Regional Languages Bursary Scheme** closed on 13 May 2016. Much time was spent in the last month taking phone calls from individuals regarding the application process. In all, 231 applications were received. Applications are now being collated and will be sent to DCAL and other organisations in the coming weeks in order to ensure that all applicants are not in receipt of other public funds.



## Theme 2: Irish Language in the Community



- Providing support, advice, information and guidance to Irish language groups continues on a regular basis through regular meetings, phone calls and sharing information on behalf of local Irish language groups on the council facebook page.

- **Weekly intermediate classes** continue in the Burnavon on Tuesday mornings.
- **Tús/Nasc** classes took place in the Burnavon on Saturday 7 May with approximately 20 people in attendance.
- **Féis Charn Tóchair** took place on Saturday 14 May and while An Carn was not in receipt of funding for the event from Mid Ulster Council, the 850 entrants shows the interest in and commitment to the Irish language in Mid Ulster.



Bishop Donal McKeown at the launch of "Leabhar Urnaí", a new Irish language publication from An Carn which was published recently.





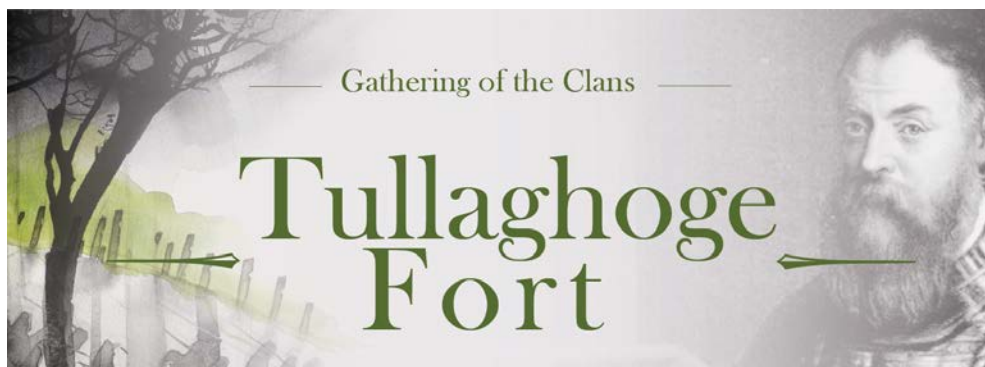
### Theme 3: Promotion of Irish within and by Mid Ulster District Council

- **Spoken Irish for Beginners**-a third course is now continuing for a further 6 weeks for participating staff in Council Offices, Magherafelt, to finish on the 24<sup>th</sup> May.
- **The Irish language Policy Implementation Group** has begun work. A range of documents including an implementation plan, a courtesy code and a communications plan are in development.

### Tullaghoge Fort

Construction is reaching an advanced stage on site at Tullaghoge Fort, with an estimated completion of the development works scheduled for end of first week in June 2016.

The official opening of Tullaghoge Fort will coincide with the delivery of the Gathering of the Clans programme, detailed below. Culture and Arts Staff are currently engaging with the Historic Environment Division of Department for Communities with regard to organising a joint opening event between MUDC and the Department. This official opening of Tullaghoge Fort will herald the commencement of the Gathering of the Clans 2016 event.



## **Programme for information:**

### **Gathering of the Clans 2016**

#### **PROGRAMME**

##### **Sat 18<sup>th</sup> June**

#### **Guided Tours in the Sperrins and The Battle of the Yellow Ford**

##### ***Hill Walking in the Sperrins - "In the Footsteps of O'Neill"***

Follow in the footsteps of O'Neill on this Hillwalking tour of the Sperrins

The bus will depart from the Burnavon @ 9am going to Broughderg. From here the group will set off on a linear walk which will take in key points of the Sperrins.

The bus will arrive back at the Burnavon for approx. 2.15pm

Booking Essential

£5 per person

Please ensure to wear suitable clothing and footwear and bring a packed lunch

Bus Depart Burnavon, Cookstown: 9.00am

Bus Return Burnavon, Cookstown: 2.15pm

Places can be booked at Burnavon Box Office – 028 8676 9949 (option 1)

Cost £5.00

##### ***Tour of Battle of the Yellow Ford site, Benburb***

The Battle of the Yellow Ford (1598) was the most famous Irish victory over the English. It is the main reason why the Earl of Tyrone was hailed as a war hero in many parts of Europe as he travelled from France to Rome following the Flight of the Earls.

Please ensure to wear suitable clothing and footwear

Bus Departing Council Office, Circular Road, Dungannon 3.00pm

Bus Returning to Council Office, Circular Road, Dungannon 6.00pm

Places can be booked at Ranfurly House Box Office – 028 8772 8600

Cost: £5

##### **Mon 20<sup>th</sup> June**

#### **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> June @ 7.00pm - History Evening Hugh O'Neill, Celebrating 400 years**

This evening of short talks will mark the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Hugh O'Neill, the last Gaelic chieftain of Ulster. Each presentation will be delivered by an international scholar in this field, introducing various sources from which illuminate the history of the O'Neill dynasty in general and help understand the period of the Nine Years War and the

subsequent Flight of the Earls in 1607. All presentations will be in English and no prior knowledge of O'Neill history is required to attend.

Chair: Dr Malachy Ó Néill, Ulster University

Speakers:

Dr James O'Neill, University College Cork  
*The Nine Years' War in Ireland and the Military Revolution*

Dr Hiram Morgan, University College Cork  
*Enemy of England: The Career of Hugh O'Neill, Earl of Tyrone*

Míchéal Mac Craith - NUI Galway and Collegio S. Isidoro, Rome  
*Beatrice Cenci, Caravaggio and Hugh O'Neill*

Admission £3.00

**Mon 20<sup>th</sup> June – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June**  
**Educational Tours**

As part of the celebrations Mid Ulster District Council will be running Schools Educational Tours to Tullaghoge Fort and Ranfurly House/Hill of The O'Neill throughout the week.

### **Tullaghoge Fort**

Key Stage 2 pupils, most of whom took part in 'The Big Dig' in 2014 have been invited back to Tullaghoge Fort to see the development and progress made at the site since their last school visit. Pupils will re-visit the site of 'The Big Dig' and then be given a guided tour along the new interpretative path up to the fort itself. The educational tours will be facilitated by Brian Sloan (CAF QUB) and have been timetabled over 4 days, taking in 14 schools in total.

### **Hill of The O'Neill & Ranfurly House: Warrior School!**

Key Stage 2 pupils will take part in Living History and Art workshops. The children will learn about the life of a warrior in Gaelic and Tudor times, and then they will create the armour and weapons used in the late 16<sup>th</sup> and early 17<sup>th</sup> centuries. Two school groups will participate each day (10.00am – 14.30pm)

Both sites are opened throughout the year. For further information on guided tours and educational days out contact Cookstown Visitor Information Centre reference Tullaghoge Fort on 028 867 69949 or Ranfurly House & Hill of The O'Neill on 028 877 28600.

**Tues 21<sup>st</sup> June**

### ***Mid Summer Solstice celebrating World Music Day***

Come along and enjoy the Summer Solstice at Beaghmore Stone Circles. Learn a little about the history and significance of the stones while also enjoying some music of the ages to celebrate World Music Day, followed by light refreshments.

The bus will depart from the Burnavon @ 6.30pm

Booking Essential

£10 per person

For further information or to make a booking contact the Burnavon Box Office on 028 867 69949 (option 1)

Bus Depart Burnavon, Cookstown: 6.30pm

Bus Return Burnavon, Cookstown: 8.30pm

Places can be booked at Burnavon Box Office – 028 8676 9949

Cost £10.00

### **Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> June**

***The Rebel Crown @ The Burnavon Arts & Cultural Centre, Cookstown***

**Written and performed by Owen O'Neill**

Venue: Burnavon Arts & Cultural Centre, Cookstown

Time: 8:00 pm

Cost: £13.00 (£11 concession)

The Rebel Crown is a poetic history of the extraordinary turbulent life of Red Hugh O'Neill, Earl of Tyrone, written by award winning comedian, actor and writer, Owen O'Neill.

Tickets can be booked at Burnavon Box Office – 028 8676 9949 or online [www.burnavon.com](http://www.burnavon.com)

### **Thur 23<sup>rd</sup> June**

***The Priests in Concert in St Patrick's Church, Dungannon***

#### **Performing**

**The Priests** accompanied by **Ruth McGinley**

also appearing Gemma Prince, Soprano and Cantobelles

Compere Noel Thompson

Venue: St Patrick's Church, Dungannon

Time: 7.30pm start

Cost: £10.00

Tickets can be booked at Ranfurly House Box Office – 028 8772 8600

### **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June**

**Sounds of the Clans @ Burnavon Arts & Cultural Centre**

A night of Music, Song, Dance and Drama to celebrate the culture, heritage and talent of the local area.

Time: 8.00pm  
Cost: £5

Tickets can be booked at Burnavon Box Office – 028 8676 9949 or online  
[www.burnavon.com](http://www.burnavon.com)

### **Sat 25<sup>th</sup> June**

#### **O'Neill's Noble Feast**

Ranfurly House and Hill of The O'Neill—Living History Banquet

A Banquet commemorating the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Hugh O'Neill. Enjoy music, song and dance with living history characters transforming us back in time.

Venue: Hill of The O'Neill, Dungannon  
Time: 7.30pm  
Cost: Tickets £15 (includes food and entertainment)

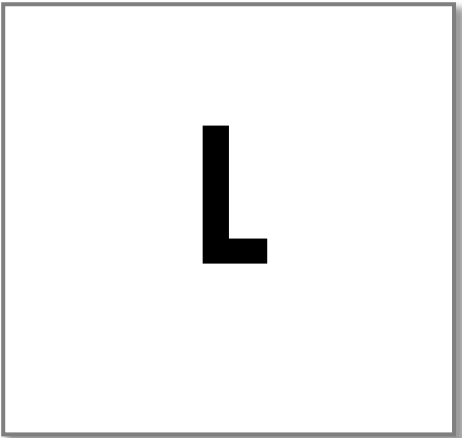
Places can be booked at Ranfurly House Box Office – 028 8772 8600

### **Sun 26<sup>th</sup> June**

#### **Family Fun Day on The Hill of The O'Neill, Dungannon**

Bring your family to the Hill for a free family fun day  
Step back in time to 1591 meet Hugh O'Neill and his wife Mabel and other members of the O'Neill Clan  
Plus a range of outdoor activities to suit all ages  
Why not join us for a great family fun day out as part of the grand finale of the Gathering of the Clans

Venue: Ranfurly House / Hill of The O'Neill  
Time: 2pm-5pm  
Cost: Admission: Free



<b>Subject</b>	Supplementary Guidance on Regional and Minority Languages
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Tony McCance

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To update members on the supplementary guidance issued by DCAL for Regional and Minority Languages.

<b>2</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	The European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages (the Charter) is a Council of Europe Treaty, signed by the UK, which is binding on public authorities in the north – including departments, associated bodies and district councils. The UK subscribed to commitments for Irish and Ulster Scots under Part II of the Charter, and a number of provisions for Irish under Part III of the Charter

<b>3</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
3.1	In 2004 and again in August 2005, the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure (DCAL), which has been the lead department for the implementation of the Charter, issued ' <i>Guidance on Meeting UK Government Commitments in Respect of Irish and Ulster Scots</i> '.
3.2	<p>The Charter provides a commitment that new administrative divisions do not constitute an obstacle to the promotion of the regional minority language in question (in our case Irish and Ulster Scots). Also, in the ten years since the DCAL Guidance was issued, the Council of Europe treaty-body, which monitors compliance with the Charter, the Committee of Experts (COMEX), has provided significant commentary and authoritative interpretation of the implications of the Charter.</p> <p>In light of this, DCAL has produced supplementary guidance, which largely summarises how COMEX has interpreted the Charter in seven key areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the nature of obligations under the Charter</li> <li>• objectives and principles when developing policy and practice</li> <li>• language policy and the rights of others</li> <li>• bilingual signage; non-discrimination</li> <li>• prohibition on unjustified distinctions</li> <li>• differential treatment for Irish and Ulster Scots, and engagement between speakers</li> <li>• non-retrogression: local government reform.</li> </ul>

<b>4</b>	<b>Resources</b>
4.1	<b><u>Financial</u></b> N/A
4.2	<b><u>Human</u></b>  N/A
4.3	<b><u>Basis for Professional/ Consultancy Support</u></b>  N/A
4.4	<b><u>Other</u></b> None

<b>5</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
5.1	None

<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	Members are asked to note the supplementary guidance issued by DCAL.

<b>7</b>	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
7.1	Appendix 1 – DCAL Guidance on the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages





# Guidance on the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages

the evolving authoritative interpretation of provisions

April 2016

## Introduction

The European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages (the Charter) is a Council of Europe Treaty signed, further to a commitment in the Belfast/Good Friday Agreement, by the UK on 2 March 2000 and ratified on 27 March 2001. The Charter came into force on 1 July 2001. The UK subscribed to commitments for Irish and Ulster Scots under Part II of the Charter, and a number of provisions for Irish under Part III of the Charter.

The lead department for Charter implementation has been the Department for Culture, Arts and Leisure (DCAL). A Circular entitled '*Guidance on Meeting UK Government Commitments in Respect of Irish and Ulster Scots*' was issued by the Department, first in 2004 and again in August 2005.

We are currently in a significant period of administrative reorganisation; eleven new Councils commenced last year and are currently considering, devising or implementing language policies and shortly Executive Departments will be reorganised. Article 7(1) b of the Charter provides a commitment that new administrative divisions do not constitute an obstacle to the promotion of the regional minority language in question (in our case Irish and Ulster Scots). In the ten years since the Guidance was issued the Council of Europe treaty-body which monitors compliance with the Charter, the Committee of Experts (or COMEX) has provided significant commentary and authoritative interpretation of the implications of the Charter. This relates both to our local compliance but also the situation of other State parties.

In light of this, and of the assistance of the growing jurisprudence of the Charter in clarifying how it is to be implemented, the following supplementary guidance is issued which summarises how COMEX has interpreted the Charter in seven key areas, namely:

1. the nature of obligations under the Charter
2. objectives and principles when developing policy and practice
3. language policy and the rights of others
4. bilingual signage
5. non-discrimination: prohibition on unjustified distinctions
6. differential treatment for Irish and Ulster Scots, and engagement between speakers
7. non-retrogression: local government reform

## 1. Nature of obligations under the Charter

The Charter is binding on the UK. As set out in the current guidance the Charter is not framed to establish individual or collective rights for speakers, rather it is framed to oblige public authorities to take positive action without speakers having to invoke such rights. The Committee of Experts (COMEX) has clarified:

An important feature of the Charter is that it does not as such set out individual rights for speakers of minority languages whose implementation would largely depend on whether or not the speakers invoke such rights. Rather, the Charter places legal obligations on its States Parties which need to be implemented in practice, taking account of the situation of each language. Implementation of the Charter's legal obligations thus requires that its States Parties take positive measures, on their own initiative, with a view to protecting and promoting the minority languages.<sup>1</sup>

## 2. Objectives and principles when developing policy and practice

Article 7(1) of the Charter applies to both Irish and Ulster Scots and provides that public authorities shall base their “policies, legislation and practice” on a number of enumerated objectives and principles. This provision is qualified to applying to territories where the languages are used and in accordance with the specific situation of the language.

### Meaning of “Resolute Action”

One of the objectives and principles, under this Article is the “**...the need for resolute action to promote [Irish and Ulster Scots] in order to safeguard them;**” (Article 7(1) c).

The Committee of Experts has elaborated on the interpretation of ‘resolute action’ as *including* three key elements:

Resolute action to promote regional or minority languages in order to safeguard them covers several aspects. These include the creation of a legal framework for the promotion of regional or minority languages, the establishment of bodies which are responsible for the promotion of these languages and, provision of adequate financial resources.<sup>2</sup>

The creation of a ‘legal framework’ has been interpreted by the treaty body as relating not just to legislation but to policy, both at NI and local government levels.<sup>3</sup>

In relation to the second explicitly identified element of Article 7(1) c – “the establishment of bodies which are responsible for the promotion of these languages”

*Foras na Gaeilge* and the Ulster Scots Agency have been established to this end.

### Development of policies impacting on Irish and Ulster Scots

In relation to the above provision regarding duties to develop language policies, and other policies which concern Irish or Ulster Scots, attention is drawn to Article 7(4) of the Charter which provides that:

In determining their policy with regard to regional or minority languages, the Parties shall take into consideration the needs and wishes expressed by the groups which use such languages. They are encouraged to establish bodies, if necessary, for the purpose of advising the authorities on all matters pertaining to regional or minority languages.

The treaty body has elaborated that this undertaking to take into consideration needs and wishes of speakers places a duty on Councils, government departments and

other public authorities to consult with representatives of users of Irish and Ulster Scots when developing policy impacting on them. COMEX states that this provision:

...requires the authorities to consult with representatives of users of regional or minority languages, when minority language policy is determined. The Committee of Experts considers this undertaking to be of great importance in creating, maintaining and enhancing a constructive dialogue between the authorities (local, regional and national) and the speakers of the languages in question.<sup>4</sup>

The provision for the establishment of bodies to advise public authorities on all matters pertaining to Irish and Ulster Scots has been taken forward by the aforementioned establishment of Foras na Gaeilge and the Ulster Scots Agency. Foras na Gaeilge has produced a Specific Guidance document on Irish language services in the Councils.<sup>5</sup>

The Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission also has a specific remit in relation to promoting compliance with human rights treaties including the Charter.<sup>6</sup> The Human Rights Commission has issued a specific Briefing Paper on the implications of the Charter, the European Convention on Human Rights and other instruments in relation to the Irish language and Ulster Scots.<sup>7</sup>

### 3. Language policy and the rights of others

COMEX and its sister committee, the Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for National Minorities have dealt with a number of instances where it has been alleged that Irish language policy or provision is 'discriminatory', otherwise interferes with the rights of others, or that such provision breaches duties under section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998. In response COMEX has stated:

The Committee of Experts has been informed about several instances, especially within local councils, where it was decided not to promote or use the Irish language as it may contravene section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act, which states that public authorities should take due regard to the need to promote equality of opportunity, among others between persons of different religious belief and political opinion. The Committee of Experts emphasises that the adoption of special measures in favour of regional or minority languages aimed at promoting equality between the users of these languages and the rest of the population or which take due account of their specific conditions is not to be considered an act of discrimination against the users of more widely used languages.<sup>8</sup>

The treaty body to the Council of Europe's Framework Convention for National Minorities (FCNM) has stated:

The Advisory Committee was disconcerted to hear that some representatives of the authorities consider that promoting the use of the Irish language is discriminating against persons belonging to the majority population. Such statements are not in line with the principles of the Framework Convention, and in particular with the provisions of Article 10. It also reiterates that, in line with Article 4.2 and Article 4.3<sup>9</sup> of the Framework Convention, implementation of minority rights protected under the Framework Convention are not be [*sic*] considered as discriminating against other persons.<sup>10</sup>

The Committee held again in relation to Irish that: "It is regrettable that measures to promote the visibility and use of this language have often been opposed with the justification that they constitute discrimination against other groups of the population."<sup>11</sup> In relation to the good relations duty the Advisory Committee stated:

...The Advisory Committee has been informed that, in some instances, the need for keeping good relations has been used as justification for not implementing provisions in favour of persons belonging to minorities, such as the erection of bilingual signs...<sup>12</sup>

In Northern Ireland, the Advisory Committee regrets that only limited progress has been made regarding the erection of bilingual signposting and topographical indications, particularly road signs, despite the fact that there is, reportedly, a demand for this in a number of municipalities. Additionally, it finds it problematic

that the official policy is to limit the erection of such signs to certain areas where the issue would not raise controversies. The Advisory Committee regrets the decision by Belfast City Council to reject in March 2011 a proposal to erect bilingual signs in this city (in English and Irish or Ulster Scots). The Advisory Committee is concerned that this approach is not in line with the spirit of the Framework Convention and, in particular, the provisions of Article 11,<sup>13</sup> the aim of which is to value the use of minority languages, including through the setting up of bilingual signposting, with a view to promoting more tolerance and intercultural dialogue in society. It is of the opinion that comprehensive legislation on the use of the Irish language, including on signposting and other topographical indications, could improve the situation by providing clear legal guarantees on the use of minority languages.<sup>14</sup>

The Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission in its aforementioned briefing paper states:

The Commission has on several occasions been asked to provide advice when organisations in fulfilling commitments to promote the Irish language, through for example bilingual policies, have subsequently received a complaint alleging that obliging staff to promote Irish violates their rights. One of these instances relates to local government – when the Council of Limavady/Léim a' Mhadaidh consulted over the extension of the Council's bilingual logo in early 2009. The Commission concluded that promotion of minority languages in logos or corporate materials in Northern Ireland is entirely in step with the positive human rights obligations of the United Kingdom, and that official acknowledgement of a minority language cannot constitute a violation of the rights of those who do not use that language.

The Commission has advised that from a human rights perspective it is difficult to see any legitimate grounds for objecting to the Irish language being promoted by an employer or, more generally, a public authority.<sup>15</sup>

The Human Rights Commission also addresses the issue of engagement with the rights of others:

... the Commission has drawn attention to the fact that there is no “right to be [*sic*] offended” by another party exercising a right. This is a general principle of freedom of expression ([European Convention on Human Rights -ECHR Article 10, which must be read in conjunction with ECHR Article 14 on non-discrimination on grounds that include language). The Commission is aware of arguments that there are ‘sensitivities’ regarding the Irish language. Indeed the UK government within the Belfast (Good Friday) Agreement encourages the Assembly to sustain commitments to the Irish language in a manner that ‘takes account of the desires and sensitivities of the community’ (albeit it is not clear if this refers to the Irish-speaking or English-speaking community.) In general *restricting use or promotion of Irish* to accommodate the ‘sensitivities’ of others would be incompatible with freedom of expression. However, both [European Court of Human Rights] jurisprudence and the Charter provide a clear indication of how the sensitivities of non-speakers can be

accommodated, namely through the prevention of monolingualism in the minority language. The promotion of linguistic pluralism implicit in [ECHR] jurisprudence is reflected in and explicitly codified into the Charter. For example the UK's commitment to allow Irish to be used in debates in the Assembly and Council chambers stands alongside an explicit provision that this has to be done without excluding the use of English. The same principle indicates that the sensitivities of non-Irish speakers could be met by ensuring that English is not excluded from appearing alongside Irish in corporate identities.<sup>16</sup>

The Equality Commission has set out that it has no specific jurisdiction in relation to language issues.<sup>17</sup> The Commission does advise on equality and anti-discrimination legislation, which presently does not cover the grounds of language. In relation to the use of minority languages the Equality Commission guidance on harmonious workplaces states:

The use of languages other than English, for example in corporate logos and communications, will not, in general, constitute an infringement of a good and harmonious working environment.<sup>18</sup>

The Equality Commission has also issued Advice on Good Relation on Local Councils. In a section on Definition of Good Relations, in addition to drawing attention to previous definitions, the Commission sets out elements of the duty and the definition of good relations in law in Great Britain to provide direction to public authorities on compliance :

The Commission has indicated that there are a number of elements that would be helpful in the formulation of such a definition. Good relations could be said to exist where there is:

- a high level of dignity, respect and mutual understanding
- an absence of prejudice, hatred, hostility or harassment
- a fair level of participation in society

The definition contained in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 in Great Britain is also useful in that it provides public authorities there with direction on how they should comply with their duty to have due regard to the need to foster good relations, as follows:

*(5) - Having due regard to the need to foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to:*

- (a) tackle prejudice, and*
- (b) promote understanding<sup>19</sup>*



## 4. Bilingual signage

The Council of Europe has supported the use of minority language signage as a way of enhancing the visibility of a minority language:

...Council of Europe reiterates that the use of minority languages in official signage is a promotional measure with a considerable positive effect for the prestige and public awareness of a minority language. This position is supported by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, which in recent years adopted several recommendations calling on states to use minority languages on public signs.<sup>20</sup>

Under Part III of the Charter there is a particular duty to allow and/or encourage (alongside English if necessary), the traditional and correct forms of place names in Irish (Article 10(2)g). The Framework Convention for National Minorities also commits the UK to endeavour “to display traditional local names, street names and other topographical indications intended for the public also in the minority language” in areas where there are speakers of minority languages, taking into account the specific conditions of the language, and demand (Article 11(3)).<sup>21</sup>

There are also links between bilingual signage and other provisions in the Charter. This includes the duties to promote tolerance and awareness of minority languages under Article 7(3). For example In April 2015 the Committee of Ministers recommended, in relation to Croatia and duties on local authorities including the use of traditional and correct forms of place names, that the “*authorities continue their efforts to promote awareness and tolerance vis-à-vis the minority languages, in all aspects, including usage of signs and traditional local names with inscriptions in Cyrillic script...*”<sup>22</sup>

The Council of Europe has expressed concerns when municipal authorities take regressive steps in relation to bilingual signage, and sought in such circumstances full compliance with the Charter:

The Council of Europe notes with regret that on 17 August 2015, the City Council of Vukovar / Вуковар (Croatia), where Serbs constitute a significant proportion of the population, decided to amend the city statute in such a way as not to provide bilingual signs in Latin and Cyrillic scripts at official town buildings, institutions, squares and streets...

...The Council of Europe therefore strongly regrets the removal of signs in minority languages through vandalism or pursuant to formal decisions aiming at limiting the presence of minority languages in the public and urges all relevant public authorities in all States Parties to fully implement the provisions of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages (ECRML).<sup>23</sup>

The treaty body has also dealt with the issues of ‘tensions’ in relation to the use of signage, again in the context of duties to promote the traditional and correct forms of place names. COMEX has indicated that there is an obligation upon public authorities to remove any legal or practical obstacles to the use of minority language place names.

185. The Committee of Experts has been informed by the representatives of the Polish speakers that there are still problems with respect to the bilingual signs and these often create tensions. The situation differs in each municipality and in some cases no steps have been taken to set up bilingual signs. Furthermore, bilingual signs are often destroyed and are not always replaced, partly due to funding problems. Moreover, funds from the state budget are provided with delays, causing problems in the municipal budget and further hesitation from the authorities in approving the bilingual signs. As to the railway stations, no further bilingual signs have been installed on the new corridor, in stations such as Třinec-Konska and Ropice. Where Polish signboards have been installed, these remain switched off. Problems have been indicated as well at the railway stations in Třinec and Vendryně.

186. The authorities are aware that bilingual signs have been destroyed and the former Minister for Human Rights and Government Commissioner for Human Rights has publicly protested against such actions. Furthermore, the authorities explain that bilingual signs are a sensitive issue and the majority population is reserved in this respect.

187. As to the legislation, the authorities have informed the Committee of Experts that an amendment to the relevant legislation has been prepared, which is expected to enter into force in the near future. The amendment maintains the 10% threshold and foresees that an application for bilingual signs can also be submitted by a civic association which represents the interests of the minority in question and has been present on the territory of the municipality for at least five years. The authorities explain that the request of the representatives of the national minorities through the committee for national minorities would remain the main method, while the application submitted by an association would be an exceptional solution in cases where the committee does not properly fulfil its role. The amendment has been prepared by the Committee for Co-operation with Local Authorities of the Government Council for National Minorities, the Secretariat of this Council and the Ministry of the Interior.

**The Committee of Experts urges the Czech authorities to remove the legal and practical obstacles to the use of Polish place names and topographical signs in accordance with the Charter.**<sup>24</sup>

In relation to the issue of ‘quotas’ or thresholds for bilingual signage COMEX has stated:

During the on-the-spot visit, the Committee of Experts was informed of a civic initiative to hold a referendum with a view to replacing the current threshold of over

one third with a 50% threshold. Representatives of the Serbian and Hungarian speakers voiced strong concern with regard to this initiative, which had been taken against the background of controversies relating to the presence of Serbian (Cyrillic) signage in Vukovar. At the request of the Croatian Parliament, the Constitutional Court examined the question of holding a referendum and concluded in August 2014 that a referendum would violate the constitution. As the matter does not seem to have been resolved politically, the Committee of Experts would like to underline that limiting the application of Charter provisions to local self-government units where more than 50% of the population belong to a national minority would lead to a legal set-up incompatible with the obligations under the Charter and deprive minority languages of protection accorded to them. With this in mind, however, **the Committee of Experts would like to point to its standing interpretation of the Charter with regard to 20% thresholds in other States Parties, which, taken alone, has always been perceived as being too high.** A 50% threshold is, in any case, too high as it would deprive minority languages of full protection under the Charter in any place where a 50% threshold is not reached.<sup>25</sup>

[NOTE: **Bold** added, above, for emphasis]

## 5. Non-discrimination: prohibition on unjustified distinctions

Under Article 7(2) all public authorities in Northern Ireland, in relation to Irish and Ulster Scots, are obliged to:

...eliminate, if they have not yet done so, any unjustified distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference relating to the use of a regional or minority language and intended to discourage or endanger the maintenance or development of it. The adoption of special measures in favour of regional or minority languages aimed at promoting equality between the users of these languages and the rest of the population or which take due account of their specific conditions is not considered to be an act of discrimination against the users of more widely-used languages.

On a number of occasions COMEX has pointed to provisions in Northern Ireland which appear incompatible with Article 7(2), namely: the NI Tourist Board's policy on funding bilingual signage<sup>26</sup> and the Administration of Justice Act (Ireland) 1737.<sup>27</sup>

## 6. Differential treatment for Irish and Ulster Scots, and engagement between speakers

The Charter is clear that Irish and Ulster Scots should not be treated on the basis of parity, which would be to the detriment of both, but should each be treated in accordance with their own specific situation. The Committee of Experts in 2010 stated:

In the previous evaluation report... the Committee of Experts observed that inappropriate claims for parity of treatment between Irish and Ulster Scots in a number of instances led to the result that no measures were taken for either language, since it was not practically possible to apply the same measures to Ulster Scots. The Committee of Experts encountered similar issues in the current monitoring round, in particular in the general support of the languages. For instance, the opinion was even presented to the Committee of Experts that before any further steps were taken to promote Irish, the Ulster Scots language should be brought into the same position.

The Charter is based on treating each regional or minority language in accordance with its specific situation. The situation of the two languages is quite different, and language measures specifically directed towards each language are needed. That is the only way that both languages can be protected and promoted according to their specific needs.

...

The St Andrews Agreement Act 2006 places a statutory duty on the NI Executive to adopt a strategy to enhance and protect the Irish language. So far no strategy has been adopted. However the Minister for Culture Arts and Leisure (DCAL) intends to bring forward one strategy entitled “A Strategy for Indigenous or Regional Minority Languages”, which is intended to be a single strategy for Irish and Ulster Scots. The

Committee of Experts is concerned that the strategy will strive towards parity between the two languages and therefore not serve the needs of either the Irish-Speakers or the Ulster-Scots speakers and will hold back the development of both languages.<sup>28</sup>

Under Article 7(1)(e) there is a specific duty, encompassing Irish and Ulster Scots but also in relation to other languages to establish cultural relations between groups using different languages. In 2014 the Committee of Experts stated:

During the on-the-spot visit the Committee of Experts observed that amongst speakers there was a spirit of mutual understanding between those wishing to promote the Irish language and the promotion of Ulster Scots. There was a realisation that the situation and needs of the two languages were different. The Committee of Experts was particularly encouraged by initiatives taken by the

Minister for the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure (DCAL) to bring the two language communities together. This spirit of mutual tolerance and understanding appears to the Committee of Experts to be a valuable platform on which to build a political consensus.<sup>29</sup>

## 7. Non-Retrogression: local government reform

Article 7(1)b of the Charter provides for the “...respect of the geographical area of each regional or minority language in order to ensure that existing or new administrative divisions do not constitute an obstacle to the promotion of the regional or minority language in question.”

The 2014 COMEX Report specifically addresses concerns which exist where new council boundaries may have an impact on the protection of the Irish language:

NGOs expressed their concerns to the Committee of Experts that the changing of local council areas and amalgamating of some councils with others is likely to impact on Irish language provisions and policies, including in the existing council areas where Irish Language Officers are currently employed... The Committee of Experts therefore reiterates its concern and urges the authorities to ensure that the new administrative divisions will not be less favourable to the existing minority language protection.<sup>30</sup>

COMEX has therefore stated that in accordance with Article 7(1) b the creation of the 11 Councils established in 2015 should not lead to less favourable treatment.

## NOTES

<sup>1</sup> Paragraph 26, Report of the Committee of Experts on the Application of the Charter to Bosnia Herzegovina ECRML (2013)5

<sup>2</sup> Paragraph 41, Fourth report of the Committee of Experts in respect of Slovenia, CM(2014)36 16 April 2014.

<sup>3</sup> In relation to Irish under Article 7(1)c in their Third Monitoring Report in 2010 COMEX dealt with a previous Committee of Ministers recommendation to ‘develop comprehensive Irish language policy, including measures to meet the increasing demand for Irish medium education.’ RecChL(2007)2. The Committee of Ministers subsequently recommended ‘the adoption of comprehensive Irish language policy, preferably through the adoption of legislation’ RecChL(2010)4. This recommendation was repeated in 2014, specifically advocating that the legislation provide statutory rights for Irish speakers (CM/RecChL(2014)3). In relation to Scots and Ulster Scots the Committee of Ministers had recommended in 2007 a strengthening of “the efforts to improve the position of Scots and Ulster Scots” RecChL(2007)2 and COMEX makes reference, under Article 7(1)c, to the strategy to enhance and develop Ulster Scots further to the St Andrews Agreement, and the Committee of Ministers subsequently recommends the adoption of such a strategy in co-operation with speakers of Ulster Scots. In relation to Scots in Scotland COMEX also makes reference to a proposed strategy and duties for language plans on local authorities, provisions on Scottish Gaelic and Cornish also reference strategies and policy at the level of local councils.

<sup>4</sup> Application of the Charter in the UK, 1st monitoring cycle, paragraph 89 [MIN-LANG/PR (2002) 5].

<sup>5</sup> Foras na Gaeilge ‘Guidance Document: ‘Irish Language Services in the new Councils’ December 2015.

<sup>6</sup> “The Commission, as the National Human Rights Institution for Northern Ireland, has a formal role in relation to monitoring and promoting compliance with human rights treaty-based obligations. These include the UK’s commitments under the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages (‘the Charter’)” NIHR ‘Minority Language Rights: The Irish language and Ulster Scots, Briefing paper on the implications of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, European Convention on Human Rights and other instruments’ (June 2010), page 5.

<sup>7</sup> NIHR ‘Minority Language Rights: The Irish language and Ulster Scots, Briefing paper on the implications of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, European Convention on Human Rights and other instruments’ (June 2010).

<sup>8</sup> Council of Europe (2010) Report of the Committee of Experts on the Charter (UK 3<sup>rd</sup> Monitoring Cycle) ECRML (21 April 2010)4, para 123.

<sup>9</sup> Framework Convention for National Minorities:

Article 4(1) The Parties undertake to guarantee to persons belonging to national minorities the right of equality before the law and of equal protection of the law. In this respect, any



discrimination based on belonging to a national minority shall be prohibited. (2) The Parties undertake to adopt, where necessary, adequate measures in order to promote, in all areas of economic, social, political and cultural life, full and effective equality between persons belonging to a national minority and those belonging to the majority. In this respect, they shall take due account of the specific conditions of the persons belonging to national minorities. (3) The measures adopted in accordance with paragraph 2 shall not be considered to be an act of discrimination.

Article 10 (1) The Parties undertake to recognise that every person belonging to a national minority has the right to use freely and without interference his or her minority language, in private and in public, orally and in writing. (2) In areas inhabited by persons belonging to national minorities traditionally or in substantial numbers, if those persons so request and where such a request corresponds to a real need, the Parties shall endeavour to ensure, as far as possible, the conditions which would make it possible to use the minority language in relations between those persons and the administrative authorities. (3) The Parties undertake to guarantee the right of every person belonging to a national minority to be informed promptly, in a language which he or she understands, of the reasons for his or her arrest, and of the nature and cause of any accusation against him or her, and to defend himself or herself in this language, if necessary with the free assistance of an interpreter.

<sup>10</sup>Council of Europe (2011) Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for National Minorities (Third Opinion on the UK) ACFC/OP/III(2011)006 (adopted 30 June 2011), paragraph 147.

<sup>11</sup>As above, paragraph 21.

<sup>12</sup>As above, paragraph 126.

<sup>13</sup>“Article 11 (1) The Parties undertake to recognise that every person belonging to a national minority has the right to use his or her surname (patronym) and first names in the minority language and the right to official recognition of them, according to modalities provided for in their legal system. (2) The Parties undertake to recognise that every person belonging to a national minority has the right to display in his or her minority language signs, inscriptions and other information of a private nature visible to the public. (3) In areas traditionally inhabited by substantial numbers of persons belonging to a national minority, the Parties shall endeavour, in the framework of their legal system, including, where appropriate, agreements with other States, and taking into account their specific conditions, to display traditional local names, street names and other topographical indications intended for the public also in the minority language when there is a sufficient demand for such indications.”

<sup>14</sup>As above, paragraph 158.

<sup>15</sup>NIHRC, Minority Language Rights, The Irish language and Ulster Scots, Briefing paper on the implications of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, European Convention on Human Rights and other instruments, June 2010, page 25.

<sup>16</sup>As above, page 26.

<sup>17</sup>In ECNI submissions, for example Response to Limavady Council on the Extension of the use of the Councils Bilingual Logo

<sup>18</sup>‘Promoting a Good and Harmonious Working Environment, A Guide for Employers and Employees’, Equality Commission, October 2009, page 9.

<sup>19</sup>Equality Commission advice on Good Relations in Local Councils, September 2015.

<sup>20</sup> in ‘Council of Europe supports use of minority languages in official signage’ Press Release <http://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/-/council-of-europe-supports-use-of-minority-languages-in-public-signs> also citing: CM/RecChl2013(1) concerning the Czech Republic, CM/RecChl2013(3) concerning Serbia, CM/RecChl2013(6) concerning Bosnia and Herzegovina, CM/RecChl2014(1) concerning Ukraine.

<sup>21</sup>Article 11(3) “In areas traditionally inhabited by substantial numbers of persons belonging to a national minority, the Parties shall endeavour, in the framework of their legal system, including, where appropriate, agreements with other States, and taking into account their specific conditions, to display traditional local names, street names and other topographical indications intended for the public also in the minority language when there is a sufficient demand for such indications.”

<sup>22</sup>Recommendation CM/RecChL(2015)2 on the Committee of Ministers on the application of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages by Croatia (adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 15 April 2015 at the 1225<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Ministers’ Deputies).

<sup>23</sup> Press Release <http://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/-/council-of-europe-supports-use-of-minority-languages-in-public-signs>

<sup>24</sup>Application of the Charter in the Czech Republic 2nd monitoring cycle, paragraphs 185-7 [ECRML (2013) 2].

<sup>25</sup>Application of the Charter in Croatia, fifth monitoring cycle, paragraph 25, [ECRML (2015) 2]

<sup>26</sup>COMEX, Application of the Charter in the UK, 4<sup>th</sup> monitoring round ECRML (2014) para 245

<sup>27</sup>COMEX, Application of the Charter in the UK, 3<sup>rd</sup> monitoring round ECRML (2010) para 121

<sup>28</sup>COMEX, Application of the Charter in the UK, 3<sup>rd</sup> monitoring round ECRML (2010), 16, 17, 20, see also paragraph 57 and Finding D.

<sup>29</sup>COMEX, Application of the Charter in the UK, 4<sup>th</sup> monitoring round ECRML (2014) 1 Paragraph 15.

<sup>30</sup>COMEX, Application of the Charter in the UK, 4<sup>th</sup> monitoring round ECRML (2014) 1 page 9

**M**

<b>Subject</b>	Tourism Department Update
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Michael Browne

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	The purpose of the report is to update and inform the Council about the activity and programmes which the Tourism Department have undertaken to date.

<b>2</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	The Tourism Department within Mid Ulster District Council have the responsibility for Events, Tourism Development and Visitor Servicing.

<b>3</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
3.1	<p><b>Community Evening at HomePlace</b></p> <p>On Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May the tourism department provided tour guiding services at HomePlace for the local Community of Bellaghy. The tour guide led the group through the various zones in the centre ending in the magnificent auditorium. It was estimated that 190 visitors attended the event with very positive feedback.</p>
3.2	<p><b>Balmoral Show 11<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> May</b></p> <p>Mid Ulster Council tourism staff promoted tourism in Mid Ulster with trade representatives at the Balmoral Show from 11- 13 May. Tourism businesses from across the region including: Blessingbourne Mountain Bike Trail, Tullylagan Country House Hotel, Glenavon Hotel, The Jungle Ni, Lough Neagh Eels and Corick Country House Hotel along with tourism staff worked over the three days to sell the region. Over 800 pieces of literature including the Mid Ulster Guide, special offers brochure and individual attractions literature were distributed. Feedback from trade has been excellent with individual businesses reporting in excess of £7,200 worth of bookings and sales of weekend breaks plus great development of leads and potential business. One business reported making a contact with potentially a single £1,000 booking. Businesses also developed their databases in terms of collating email addresses through competitions and doing follow up mailshots to these. Overall there has been positive feedback from businesses promoting on the stand and they appreciate the opportunity to showcase their businesses and network at this significant consumer event, the largest in Northern Ireland. There was great interest in Seamus Heaney HomePlace with literature distributed and the poem “Digging” forming a fun activity for children on the stand,</p>

	<p>professional photography of this activity was captured by Brain Morrison and featured on Balmoral Show facebook page (36,000 followers)for the duration of the show.</p>
3.3	<p><b>Active Retirement Ireland</b>, (ARI) Travel Trade show, Wexford 18<sup>th</sup> May</p> <p>Tourism staff promoted Mid Ulster tourism at this event attended by 2,000 active retirement group organisers. ARI have over 600 Active Retirement Groups across Ireland. Literature was distributed on the key attractions of the region and details of key group collated. Staff also promoted the Hill of O'Neill marriage event to members and has secured attendance by the National president of Active Retirement Ireland – Mai McQuaid and two directors of the organisation. They will participate in the fam trip on the day and visit, Hill Of The O'Neill, Tullaghoge Fort and participate in the Seamus Heaney HomePlace presentation plus attend the banquet. Staff also promoted Hill of The O'Neill to travel trade present and JMG Coached, Donegal will schedule Seamus Heaney HomePlace into their programme for 2017.</p>
3.4	<p><b>Hugh O'Neill Wedding Banquet</b></p> <p>Guests at the historic Hill of the O'Neill and Ranfurly House Arts and Visitors Centre were treated to a wedding banquet with a difference on Wednesday past (1<sup>st</sup> June), as a unique re - creation of a wedding banquet celebrating the marriage between Hugh O'Neill and Mabel Bagenal took place.</p> <p>In this, the year of the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Hugh O'Neill and the Northern Ireland Year of Food and Drink, Mid Ulster District Council in partnership with South West College hosted 90 guests from the regional travel and tourism trade, accommodation providers and Visitor Information Staff for an evening designed to bring the past to life.</p> <p>The re-enactment of the banquet, set in 1591, took place on the original site of O'Neill's castle in Dungannon, with locally sourced food and delicacies including ale basted short rib of beef, smoked sea trout, spit roast suckling pig and much more, prepared and served by students of the South West College.</p> <p>Hill of the O'Neill and Ranfurly House Arts and Visitor Centre along with Tullaghoge Fort, Cookstown, will be the focus of the 'Gathering of the Clans' week long series of events this June. For two weeks from Saturday 18 to Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June, the two ancient sites will be the venues for historical tours and talks and dramatic re-enactments and performances, exploring the legacy of the clans in the Mid Ulster District.</p> <p>Feedback to date:</p>

	<p><b>Matthews Coaches</b></p> <p>Combining Hill of The O'Neill and Seamus Heaney HomePlace with Armagh City Tour, perhaps onto Derry. Promote alongside Irish/Ulster Scots nights focusing on US market.</p> <p><b>Aspects of Ireland</b></p> <p>Programming SH HomePlace for 2017 for the Nordic market, hill walking, hiking but in down time feels it would be a complementary activity.</p> <p><b>PAB Tours &amp; Tours -</b></p> <p>Has programmed in Hill of The O'Neill following Wednesday visit, and will definitely look at HomePlace and Tullahoge for 2017.</p>
3.5	<p><b>Active Retirement Ireland</b></p> <p>Plan to hold AGM on Hill of The O'Neill and have 550 active retirement groups across Ireland.</p>
3.6	<p><b>Bellaghy Village World Host Village Award</b></p> <p>Mid Ulster District Council are creating an arts, literary and visitor centre in Bellaghy which will highlight the significant contribution Seamus Heaney made as an Irish poet, playwright, translator and lecturer. The building will also reflect his international standing and his achievements, not least of which was the award of the Nobel Prize in Literature.</p> <p>Through the Bellaghy WorldHost Village programme Mid Ulster Council has engaged with the customer facing businesses and their staff to enhance their essential customer service skills and techniques that form the fundamentals of being a genuine service professional.</p> <p>The WorldHost programme has encouraged people to take pride in the unique legacy Seamus Heaney has gifted to the region and it is planned that Bellaghy will achieve WorldHost Village status as a result of this project.</p> <p>To date 35 people in Bellaghy have completed the Bellaghy WorldHost Village Programme and have received their certificates.</p> <p>The programme has been fully funded by Tourism NI.</p>
3.7	<p><b>Straw Festival</b></p> <p>The Straw was the draw in Magherafelt on <b>Saturday 4 June</b>. The Straw Festival took place at Meadowbank Sports Arena from 1.30pm until 5pm. The event began in 2013 with the building of numerous Straw Men designed by local community groups. The event has grown each year, and visitors on Saturday admired 3 large straw Sculptures along with 17</p>

	<p>scarecrows designed by Schools within the Mid Ulster District using recycled materials.</p> <p>The new activity of “Go Fly your Kite” was very successful and other activities on the day included family performances, the climbing wall and a selection of inflatables. The event attracted over 2,000 people throughout the day.</p>
3.8	<p><b>Teddy Bears Picnic 13<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> June</b></p> <p>The annual Teddy Bears Picnic will take place at US Grant Ancestral Homestead from 10am-12pm on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2016, this event will be attended by approximately 400 primary school children (P1-P3) from the Dungannon, Omagh and Armagh areas. The children will be welcomed to the site by a 30 foot tall inflatable teddy and will enjoy performances from Tom Sweeney and Jump, Jiggle &amp; Jive. All children will be presented with a pack which will include information on the US Grant site to entice a return visit with their families and friends.</p>
3.9	<p><b>Cookstown Comedy Festival 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> June</b></p> <p>Now in its 4<sup>th</sup> year the town prepares itself for more belly laughs as the 2016 Cookstown Comedy Festival swings into town from 16<sup>th</sup> June – 18<sup>th</sup> June, based at the Burnavon theatre. This year’s headline act is the superb Russell Kane, who will appear on the finale night of Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June, Jake O’Kane will appear on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June with Micky Bartlett opening the festival on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June.</p>
3.10	<p><b>Hidden Heritage Programme 2016</b></p> <p><b>Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June – Clan’s Return Walk</b></p> <p>Follow in the footsteps of O’Neill on this Hillwalking tour of the Sperrins. The bus will depart from the Burnavon @ 9am going to Broughderg. From here the group will set off on a linear walk which will take in key points of the Sperrins.</p> <p>The bus will arrive back at the Burnavon for approx. 2.15pm</p> <p>Booking Essential</p> <p>£5 per person</p>
3.11	<p><b>21<sup>st</sup> June – Summer Solstice @ Beaghmore Stone Circles</b></p> <p>Come along and enjoy the Summer Solstice at Beaghmore Stone Circles. Learn a little about the history and significance of the stones while also enjoying some music of the ages to celebrate World Music Day, followed by light refreshments.</p> <p>The bus will depart from the Burnavon @ 6.30pm</p> <p>Booking Essential</p> <p>£10 per person</p>
3.12	<p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> July – Killymoon Castle</b></p> <p>Come along and enjoy a living history tour of Killymoon Castle, experience what life was like in 1802 when after being destroyed by fire in</p>

	<p>the previous year, Colonel William Stewart built a new more imposing castle, designed by John Nash, the famous London Architect.</p> <p>The tour will be followed by light refreshments The bus will depart from the Burnavon @ 3.30pm</p> <p>Booking Essential £10 per person</p>
3.13	<p><b>30<sup>th</sup> July – Heritage Of Maghera</b> Take the opportunity to explore the hidden heritage of the Maghera area. Visit key sites such as Tirkane Sweathouse, Tirnoney Dolmen and St Lurach's Church. Finish the day at Mid Ulster Garden Centre where there will be an opportunity to browse the wide variety of plants and gifts followed by light refreshments. Booking Essential £10 per person</p>
3.14	<p><b>6<sup>th</sup> August – Blessingbourne Estate</b> Step back to the Victorian era with a tour of the Blessingbourne Estate. There will be an opportunity to view the house, carriages and costumes while listening to fascinating stories from the current owners. The tour will be followed by light refreshments. Booking Essential £10 per person</p>
3.15	<p><b>20<sup>th</sup> August – Lissan House</b> Come along and enjoy a living history tour of this enchanting 17<sup>th</sup> century country residence, set within a 300 acre demesne. Modern interactive exhibits and original family furnishings combine to take you on a unique journey through the history of the estate and the family characters that have shaped it. The tour will be followed by light refreshments</p> <p>Booking Essential £10 per person For further information or to make a booking contact the Burnavon Box Office on 028 867 69949 (option 1)</p>
3.16	<p><b>Walled Garden</b> The Garden is a two acre Victorian inspired walled garden which has been re-built. This idyllic setting makes it a very attractive site for a great day out for both local residents and visitors from outside the Mid Ulster District Council area. The main objective is to showcase the Walled Garden to visitors from outside the District whilst increasing footfall in Maghera town centre.</p> <p>The event will take place on <b>Saturday 6 August</b> from 2pm until 7pm and will play host to well-known c-beebies character Mr Bloom to attract</p>



	visitors in the garden. There will be live bands, family performances, art workshops, craft exhibitions and cookery demonstrations by local restaurants to showcase local food as part of the year of food using ingredients grown in the garden.
3.17	<b>Railway Park</b> This year we purposely moved the event to the bank holiday weekend, <b>Friday 26 August</b> . This will attract visitors to the Dungannon area for the weekend. The event will promote local bands with a headline act. To link with the BBQ theme as part of the Year of Food we propose having a BBQ.
3.18	<b>Picnic in the Park</b> Dungannon Park site has been used in the past to run major events that have attracted large numbers of people. This year's event will take place on <b>Monday 29 August 2016</b> from 12pm until 6pm. The event will act as a platform to showcase the recent refurbishments within the Park. This will be a free family event, with family performances and games. To link with the Year of Food we are aiming to make a New World Record for the largest number of Chefs in one place at one time which is currently 3,634.

<b>4</b>	<b>Resources</b>
4.1	<b><u>Financial</u></b> Appropriate financial provision has been made within the estimates for the 2016/2017 financial year.
4.2	<b><u>Human</u></b> It is recommended that Council Officers will deliver these actions and this will be factored into their overall work plan.
4.3	<b><u>Basis for Professional/ Consultancy Support</u></b> N/A
4.4	<b><u>Other</u></b> N/A

<b>5</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
5.1	N/A

<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	N/A

<b>7</b>	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
7.1	N/A

**N**

<b>Subject</b>	Halloween Activities in Mid Ulster
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Michael Browne
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Sharon Arbuthnot

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To report and inform Council of the Halloween activities planned to celebrate Halloween in Mid Ulster

<b>2</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	Our aim is to enhance a portfolio of Halloween events that will attract visitors to the area as well as attracting local residents to support the event.
2.2	We need to strive to continually exceed expectations at our events to encourage repeat visits and increase the reputation of the Mid Ulster Council as a district which delivers high quality corporate events.

<b>3</b>	<b>Key Issues</b>
3.1	<p>The programme of Halloween activities will take place from 28<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> October:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <b>Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2016 - Dungannon</b>  The Halloween programme of activities will be launched in Dungannon. The event will start at 7pm and finish with a fantastic fanfare of fireworks.   This year the display will not be fired from the hill as in previous years. However, approval has been granted to use a vacant site on Killymeal Road, Dungannon which will be used to fire the display. This is an opportunity to move the event and spectators onto The Hill of O'Neill. A programme entertainment will be organised to include fire performances and historical enactments which will utilise and promote the site. </li> <li> <b>Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2016 – Magherafelt</b>  The fun and shenanigans will continue at Meadowbank Sports Arena at the children's Halloween Hooley from 2pm until 5pm. This is a family event, where children can enjoy a programme of activities in a venue regardless of the weather whilst showcasing the facility to an audience of over 2,000 people. </li> </ul>

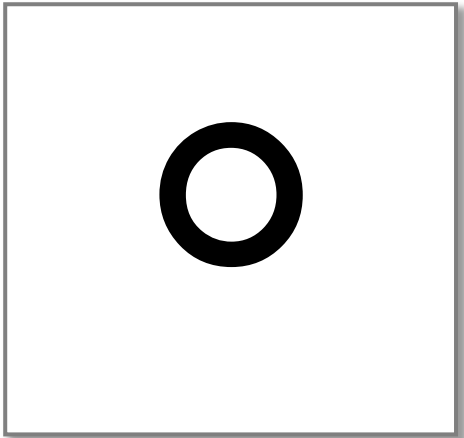
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <b>Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2016 – Mid Ulster Sports Arena</b>  The ghostly goings-on will resume at 6.30pm in Mid Ulster Sports Arena. This event will include food, spooky storytelling and children's activities all before the skies are lit up with the firework display. </li> <li> <b>Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016 – Maghera</b>  The ghoulish happenings will continue at the new site of the Walled Garden. This event will be revamped this year whilst again showcasing one of Council's facilities. The event will run from 6pm until 8pm and will incorporate an "Enchanted Garden" theme before the skies explode into a fantastic fanfare of colour lights at the annual fireworks display. </li> <li> <b>Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016 - Coalisland</b>  The weekend of activities will conclude with community carnival, leading the way to Gortinis Park. On site there will be fun fair equipment and the event will finish with a spectacular fireworks display. </li> </ul>
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<b>4</b>	<b>Resources</b>
4.1	<b><u>Financial</u></b>  All detailed events will be delivered within current budgets
4.2	<b><u>Human</u></b>  A staffing commitment will required to oversee delivery of this event from a number of departments to include, Events, Economic Development, Property Services and Parks.
4.3	<b><u>Basis for Professional/ Consultancy Support</u></b>
4.4	<b><u>Other</u></b>

<b>5</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
5.1	N/A

<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	To note the contents of the report.

<b>7</b>	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
7.1	N/A



<b>Report to</b>	Development Committee
<b>Subject</b>	1) Regional Start Initiative Update 2) Maghera Development Framework
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Fiona McKeown, Head of Economic Development

<b>1</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To provide Members with an update on key activities as detailed above.

<b>2</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	<p><b>Regional Start Initiative (RSI)</b> All 11 Councils agreed to roll forward the Regional Start Initiative Contract by Invest NI to at least March 2016, with Councils repaying expenditure from the Transferring Functions Budget. Invest NI will continue to forward updates to Councils on performance. Invest NI agreed to continue delivering the RSI on behalf of Councils until October 2016, to enable Councils to develop an ERDF Application to the new 'Growth and Jobs' Programme for a future initiative, and to then procure delivery agents for this.</p>
2.2	<p><b>Maghera Development Framework</b> One of the projects identified in the Town Centre Action Plan 2016/17 is to develop and deliver a Development Framework and Action Plan for Maghera.</p>

3	Key Issues																
3.1	<p><b>Regional Start Initiative (RSI)</b></p> <p>From 1 April 2015, the RSI Contract has being managed by Invest NI on behalf of the 11 Councils until the end of the third Service Level Agreement period in October 2016. Annual performance targets were established at the outset (as per Invest NI's Contract with Enterprise NI) and have been used to set the target to for the period 1 April – 22 October 2016 (on a pro-rata basis).</p> <p>The targets for Mid Ulster from 1 April – <b>22 October 2016</b> are summarised below:</p> <table><tr><th></th><th><b>7 month Target for Mid Ulster</b></th><th><b>Achieved</b></th><th><b>% Achieved</b></th></tr><tr><td></td><td>(1 Apr 2015 – 22 Oct 2016)</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Business Plan Approvals</td><td>244</td><td>20</td><td>8%</td></tr><tr><td>Jobs promoted</td><td>150</td><td>15</td><td>10%</td></tr></table> <p>Members have approved the Service Level Agreement and marketing proposal from Invest NI (for April- July 2016) at the Development Committee meeting on 10 March 2015; Invest NI have now provided the updated Service Level Agreement for the period 1 April – 21 October 2016.</p>		<b>7 month Target for Mid Ulster</b>	<b>Achieved</b>	<b>% Achieved</b>		(1 Apr 2015 – 22 Oct 2016)			Business Plan Approvals	244	20	8%	Jobs promoted	150	15	10%
	<b>7 month Target for Mid Ulster</b>	<b>Achieved</b>	<b>% Achieved</b>														
	(1 Apr 2015 – 22 Oct 2016)																
Business Plan Approvals	244	20	8%														
Jobs promoted	150	15	10%														

<b>3.2</b>	<b>Maghera Development Framework</b>  Venturei Network, in partnership MWA Partnership, have been appointed to develop and deliver a Development Framework and Action Plan for Maghera. The Development Framework and Action Plan will provide a strategic focus for regeneration activity in Maghera Town Centre and act as a platform to access funding from public bodies. Completion date for the project is 30 November 2016.
<b>4</b>	<b>Resource Implications</b>
4.1	<b><u>Financial</u></b> Within budgets.
4.2	<b><u>Human</u></b> Officers' time.
4.3	<b><u>Basis for Professional/ Consultancy Support</u></b> N/A
4.4	<b><u>Other</u></b> N/A
<b>5</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
5.1	None
<b>6</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
6.1	<b>Regional Start Initiative</b>  (1) To note progress on the Regional Start Initiative Programme  (2) To note Invest NI's Service Level Agreement from 1 April 2016 to October 2016 for the delivery of the programme to October 2016 and programme marketing to 31 July 2016.
6.2	<b>Maghera Development Framework</b> Members to note progress.
<b>7</b>	<b>List of Documents Attached</b>
7.1	Appendix 1: Service Level Agreement with Invest NI (1 April – 22 October 2016)

Dated this 27<sup>th</sup> day of May 2016

**MID ULSTER DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**With**

**INVEST NORTHERN IRELAND**

**ADDENDUM TO SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT**

**Contract for Regional Start Initiative**



This AGREEMENT made the 15<sup>th</sup> day of May 2016

BETWEEN:-

1. **MID ULSTER DISTRICT COUNCIL** (hereinafter referred to as the "Council") of Circular Road, Dungannon, BT71 6DT; and
2. **INVEST NORTHERN IRELAND** having its registered office at Bedford Square, Belfast, County Antrim BT2 7ES (hereinafter called 'Invest NI') of the other part.

**WHEREAS:-**

**THIS AGREEMENT IS SUPPLEMENTAL** to a Service Level Agreement dated the 1<sup>st</sup> day of April 2015 in respect of contracts for Regional Start Initiative ('RSI') and the Social Entrepreneurship Programme ("the SLA") and an Addendum to this Service Level Agreement dated 17<sup>th</sup> November 2015 in respect of the Regional Start Initiative contract, whereby the Council and Invest NI agreed that the Invest NI will continue to deliver the RSI and the Council shall repay to Invest NI the costs set out therein.

**IT IS HEREBY AGREED** as follows:-

1. The Council and Invest NI have agreed to extend the SLA in respect of the RSI contract until 21<sup>st</sup> October 2016. No further extension beyond 21<sup>st</sup> October 2016 is possible.
2. The Councils pro-rata BPA target for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 to 21<sup>st</sup> October 2016 is 244, the costs for same are broken down as follows:

BPA cost:	£81,984.00
Invest NI Staff Costs:	£11,603.88
Marketing Costs:	£26,678.03
<b>TOTAL COSTS:</b>	<b>£120,265.91 (inclusive of VAT)</b>
3. Invoicing shall include the business plans, Invest NI staff costs and marketing and shall take place in arrears and reflect the activity to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2016 and 21<sup>st</sup> October 2016, respectively.
4. Invest NI shall deliver the Go For It Campaign Proposal until 31<sup>st</sup> July 2016, a copy of same is incorporated hereto and annexed to this Addendum.
5. In all other respects the provisions of the SLA shall continue in full force and effect.

**IN WITNESS** whereof the Council and Invest NI have executed this Agreement in the manner hereinafter appearing:

**On behalf of MID ULSTER DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**On behalf of Invest NI**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_