

A

Report on	Community Development
Reporting Officer	Claire Linney

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To seek Committee approval for Good Relations and Community Festivals rolling grant award recommendations.
1.2	To update on CCTV Phase I, and seek agreement on Phase II for CCTV Mid Ulster.
1.3	To update on Community Development.
2.0	Background
2.1	The Grant Aid Programme for the 2017/18 financial year facilitates applications being made on a rolling basis for Community Festivals and Good Relations.
2.2	CCTV alignment across Mid Ulster has been agreed under a phase I and phase II approach. Phase I to align the towns of Cookstown, Dungannon and Magherafelt, maximising existing provision, has been formally agreed through Committee. Phase II to align the remaining towns and villages which currently have CCTV provision has to be agreed to commence.
2.3	An update is provided on the following areas: Community Support – Grants, Support, Advice, Village Planning, Community Centres, DSD Neighbourhood Renewal Peace IV and Good Relations PCSP
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Grants for this year's rolling programmes. 1 Community Festival application has been received and awarded £900.00. 3 Good Relations applications have been received and awarded £1,945.00. Please refer to Appendix 1 for detail.
3.2	CCTV As per agreement at April Committee; Wired Up Solutions has commenced a phase I upgrade for CCTV for the Mid Ulster principle towns. The works to link them together is underway with activity on the ground starting mid-June and completing mid July. Works in Phase 1 include installation of a Mid Ulster control room and equipment (monitors, NVR and DVR) location Magherafelt; 7 new IP PTZ cameras in Magherafelt, 4 new IP PTZ cameras in Cookstown with wireless links and installation of a new CCTV

	<p>column, 2 new IP PTZ cameras and four bullet cameras in Dungannon (one further camera to be confirmed linking PSNI).</p> <p>There will be live monitoring of all locations through to the Magherafelt control room for 34 hours per week – key times Thursday – Sunday or at times as required (cost for unit hours or transfer of hours).</p> <p>Agreements are being finalised with PSNI for access to the CCTV coverage where required.</p> <p>Wired Up Solutions have been awarded the contract (Sword Security is a partner with Wired Up for monitoring) for a 3 year period at a cost of £82,408, with an annual review. Annual cost breakdown of £33,800 year 1, and £24,804 year 2 and £23,804 year 3.</p> <p>Upon completion of Phase I it is proposed to move to Phase II which will include for the smaller towns and villages of Maghera (4 cameras), Draperstown (1 camera), Fivemiletown (2 cameras)</p> <p>It is proposed this time to include the small town of Coalisland (2 cameras) which will complete provision of all our towns.</p> <p>Ongoing liaison will take place through PCSP with regard to any significant issues that arise across Mid Ulster in relation to the use of the mobile CCTV unit and any proposed longer term solutions required.</p> <p>Phase II - £8908 year 1, year 2 and year 3 is part of the wider maintenance and monitoring contract as per phase I.</p>
3.3	<p><u>Update Community Support</u></p> <p>The Sports Capital Development and Sports Small Development grants have been assessed for recommendation, please refer to Grants report.</p> <p>Rolling programmes for community festivals and good relations are ongoing.</p> <p>Ongoing support to communities and groups on village plan implementation and funding opportunities; with a monthly newsletter on funding and other Council community opportunities.</p> <p>Ongoing management of Council community centres and promotion of other Council community space within our facilities.</p> <p>Advice Service; CAMU presentation to Committee July.</p> <p>Neighbourhood Renewal: NR plan 2017 – 2018 is in development along with DFC; project development and monitoring continues as per letter of offer conditions. Capital initiatives are also in development and being supported in relation to potential funding sources; including continued engagement with DFC to maximise capital to the area.</p> <p><u>Update Peace and Good Relations</u></p> <p>Peace Regional Shared Space Project; No further update; currently with SEUPB for assessment.</p> <p>Peace IV Local Action Plan; Dates have been set for grant clinics to support groups who wish to apply to Peace IV. Partner projects (4 projects) are being finalised with SEUPB re conditions to start with a new commencement date of August/September.</p>

	<p>Council led programmes are in development and due to be tendered or commence through Council September 2017.</p> <p>As per previous update Council is still waiting on SEUPB to open the application call for the additional programmes and Shared Space Aughnacloy.</p> <p>Good Relations; agreement with Executive Office to proceed; with final LOO to be issued. Project development is ongoing with a number of strategic programmes being rolled out; including schools engagement, diversity and cultural awareness days and activity and shared space initiatives. Ongoing engagement with local community on development of good relations projects for grant support. Good Relations partnering PCSP on areas of ASB as detailed within PCSP report.</p> <p><u>PCSP</u></p> <p>The PCSP Action Plan 2017-2018 loo has been received at 96% of allocation and the plan spend has been updated to reflect this.</p> <p>Project development is ongoing; nine projects commenced, including ASB Summer Diversionary work and meetings are ongoing with partners to address current issues raised in relation to ASB and drinking in Maghera, Draperstown plantain, Dungannon Windmill Wood, Coalisland Cornmill and Lineside and Cookstown graveyard. PCSP continues to deliver initiatives to address anti-social driving at Fairhill.</p> <p>Development of packaged programmes for post primary schools on intervention on drugs and alcohol, healthy relationships, internet safety etc. are being planned alongside a marketing and promotions campaign in the schools using the PCSP screens.</p> <p>Ongoing facilitation of integrated working to encourage a safe Night Time Economy.</p> <p>To address crime prevention and fear of crime, older people's events continue to be delivered across the District; Caledon took place 1st June with a great turn out. The PCSP Officer has been delivering presentations on bogus callers and scams to community groups as requested.</p> <p>The PCSP Annual Report 2016/2017 has been approved by the Partnership. Copies are available from the PCSP Manager.</p> <p>PCSP minutes as per previous Committee.</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<p><u>Financial & Human Resources Implications</u></p> <p>Financial:</p> <p>1 Community Festival application has been received and awarded £900.00.</p> <p>3 Good Relations applications have been received and awarded £1,945.00</p> <p>CCTV Phase II - £8908 for Year 1; Year 2 and Year 3 are part of the wider maintenance and monitoring contract of phase I.</p> <p>Human: None</p>
4.2	<p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>None</p>

4.3	<u>Risk Management Implications</u> None
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Approval of grant award recommendations under the Community Festivals and Good Relations programmes as per Appendix 1
5.2	To agree to move to Phase II of CCTV alignment for Mid Ulster.
5.3	To note the community development update report.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 Rolling Grant Programmes award details / recommendations

Appendix 1

Good Relations Grants – July 2017					
	Organisation Name	Title Of Event/project	Request	Band	Award
1	Cunninghams Lane CCR Association	Quarterly newsletter	£1,240	1	£1,000
2	Dungannon Ladies Probus	Promoting Good Relations in the Dungannon Area	£614	7	£245
3	Glór na Speiríní	Sharing Similarities Celebrating our Differences	£1,000	4	£700
				Total	£1945

Bands	Score	%
7	30-39	40%
6	40-49	50%
5	50-59	60%
4	60-69	70%
3	70-79	80%
2	80-89	90%
1	90+	100%

Community Local Festivals Grants – July 2017					
	Organisation Name	Title Of Event/project	Request	Band	Award
1	Maghera Parish Caring Association	Cultural Garden Fete & Vintage Rally	£1,000	2	£900
				Total	£900

Bands	Score	%
7	30-39	40%
6	40-49	50%
5	50-59	60%
4	60-69	70%
3	70-79	80%
2	80-89	90%
1	90+	100%

B

Report on	Community Festive Lights Grant
Reporting Officer	Claire Linney
Contact Officer	Philip Clarke

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

1	Purpose of Report
1.1	To seek approval for the future provision of festive lights funding across the District.

2	Background
2.1	<p>The legacy Councils of Dungannon & South Tyrone Borough, Cookstown District and Magherafelt District all provided festive lighting in their urban centres through direct provision. The provision in settlements outside of the urban towns differed across the District from direct provision to grants.</p> <p>The status quo was maintained for 2015 and a transition arrangement was put in place for 2016 to seek to align provision.</p>

3	Main Report
3.1	A proposed Festive Lights Framework is detailed within the report for members consideration to provide a number of key principles for taking forward festive lights delivery for 2017, based on aligning delivery across the District.
3.2	<p>Direct provision of festive lighting will be provided in the main towns of Dungannon, Cookstown, Magherafelt, Coalisland and Maghera.</p> <p>A grant programme (revenue funding) will be delivered across the remaining settlements.</p> <p>Principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. The grant will be revenue and will support the supply, installations, maintenance, running cost of providing festive lights and any associated switch-on/launch event. The lights will be in a predominant village location visible to the wider community. II. The village settlements and populations will be as per the Mid Ulster Development Plan. III. The grant allocation will be based on village settlement size and range from £1000 - £2500; Up to £2500 settlements greater than 1000 Up to £1500 settlements greater than 500

	<p>Up to £1000 all other listed village settlements</p> <p>IV. Technical support will be available to groups and communities from Council Technical Unit.</p> <p>V. The grant can only be issued to one group per area and the main overall development/regeneration/Chamber group will be given priority.</p> <p>VI. All grant aid will be paid retrospectively to those successful applicants who submit appropriate paid invoices to Council as vouched expenditure.</p> <p>VII. Provision, installation and insurance of lighting and any activity will be the responsibility of the Group applying, the standard LOO will be issued as part of funding.</p> <p>VIII. Assets that Council currently have for provision in some village settlements will be tested and transferred over the relevant Group for continued use.</p> <p>ix. Small settlements that are not classified as villages that have received grant for festive lights previously will continue to receive the same allocation as last year. Other small settlements that would like to start providing festive lights will be directed to the Community Festive grant which is a rolling programme.</p> <p>x. Grant to open August 2017 with groups supported prior to this.</p> <p>Please see attached settlement allocations for discussion and agreement.</p>
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4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<p><u>Financial & Human Resources Implications</u></p> <p>Financial: Budget £74,500 within budget profile.</p> <p>Human: None</p>
4.2	<p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>None</p>
4.3	<p><u>Risk Management Implications</u></p> <p>None</p>
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	To approve the future provision of festive lights funding across the District.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 Village settlement funding allocations for agreement.

<i>Village Settlements</i>	Population	Revenue Grant	Council Assets	2016
Castledawson	2289	£2,500	Council lights transferred	Council direct provision
Moneymore	1897	£2,500	Council lights transferred	Council direct provision
Draperstown	1777	£2,500	Council lights transferred	Council direct provision
The Moy	1598	£2,500		Grant £3000
Fivemiletown	1243	£2,500		Grant £3000
Donaghmore	1136	£2,500		
Bellaghy	1121	£2,500		
Aughnacloy	1045	£2,500		
Annaghmore	870	£1,500		
Tobermore	827	£1,500		
Pomeroy	788	£1,500	Council lights transferred	Council direct provision
Clogher	717	£1,500		
Ballygawley	711	£1,500		Grant £2000
Ardboe	691	£1,500	Council lights transferred	Council direct provision
Killyman	682	£1,500		
Coagh	662	£1,500	Council lights transferred	Council direct provision
Castlecaulfield	659	£1,500		
Stewartstown	650	£1,500	Council lights transferred	Council direct provision
Gulladuff	594	£1,500		
Ballyronan	568	£1,500	Council lights transferred	Council direct provision
Clady	562	£1,500		
Upperlands	561	£1,500		
Newmills	558	£1,500		
Moortown	527	£1,500		
Eglish	497	£1,000		
The Bush	484	£1,000		
Caledon	468	£1,000		
Swatragh	441	£1,000		
Benburb	411	£1,000		Grant £1200
Ackinduff/Cabragh	374	£1,000		
Ballinderry	345	£1,000		
Augher	305	£1,000		Grant £1200
Granville	301	£1,000		
Brocagh	298	£1,000		
Desertmartin	273	£1,000		
Edendork	230	£1,000		
The Loup	220	£1,000	Council lights transferred	Council direct provision
Galbally	179	£1,000		
Sandholes	126	£1,000	Council lights transferred	Council direct provision
The Rock	114	£1,000	Council lights transferred	Council direct provision
Churchtown	110	£1,000		
Orritor	147	£1,000		
Drumullan	174	£1,000		
Tamnamore	259	£1,000		
Ballylifford	135	£1,000		
*Moygashel	Urban under Dungannon settlement	£2,000		
		£67,000		
Previous small settlements- Clonoe, Cappagh, Carland, Ballymaguigan, Culnady, Moneyneena, Sixtowns, Ballinascreen, Carnogher/Tirkane, Tullyhogue £750 each	Apply to local community festivals	£7,500	Council lights transferred Tullyhogue	Tullyhogue direct provision
Total Allocation		£74,500		
Total Expenditure		£216,000		

C

Report on	Sports Grant Funding
Reporting Officer	Liam Glavin, Head of Leisure Services Claire Linney, Head of Community Development
Contact Officer	Philip Clarke, Eunan Murray

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

1	Purpose of Report
1.1	<p>To present to members the proposed community grant allocations for the range of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sports Capital Grants, 2. Strategic Sports Development, 3. Sports Development Grant, 4. Sports Representative Grant ~ Team and Individuals

2	Background
2.1	Council launched a public call on Monday 8 th May for the following grants: Sports Capital Grant; Strategic Sports Development and Sports Development Small Grant. Closing date for these grants was Tuesday 30 th May at 12 noon. The Sports Representative Grants (Individual and Team) is a continuous rolling programme.
2.2	Eligibility criteria compliance was completed by officers followed by grant programme assessment.

3	Main Report
3.1	Detailed analysis of the proposed grant awards are attached for your information.
3.2	<p>The following Sports Grant allocations are proposed for approval. Full details of all applications are in Appendix 1:</p> <p>Sports Capital Grant: Twenty eight Applications were received, one application was ineligible as it had received a grant allocation in 2016 (groups can only apply every 2 years) and another did not meet the minimum score threshold. The remaining twenty six applicants were awarded £100,096. The budget for 2017/18 for capital sports is £165,000.</p> <p>Sports Club Development: Eight applications were received. Eight Applications were awarded £3,950. The budget for 2017/18 is £25,000 (previous award at April 17 grant call £13,350).</p> <p>Strategic Sports Grant: Eight Applications were received. The seven applications were awarded £76,329. The budget for 2017/18 is £50,000.</p> <p>Sports Representative: Two Individual Applications awarded £450 and 3 Team Applications awarded £1,200. This is a rolling programme with a requirement to have a request for support prior to the date of the competition.</p>

4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<p><u>Financial & Human Resources Implications</u></p> <p>Financial</p> <p>The total finances allocated are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sports Capital Grant: £100,096. The budget is £165,000 leaving £64,904. It is proposed to reallocate £26,329 to Strategic Sports Development. • Sports Club Development Grant: £3,950. Annual budget of £25,000 and £13,350 awarded in April 2017. The remaining balance of £7,700. • Strategic Sports Development: £76,329. Annual budget of £50,000; it is proposed that £26,329 is reallocated from Sports Capital Grant. • There is £50,000 in the sports capital budget to allow for sports capital development including School Sports facilities grant, alongside £40k re 2016/17 transfer, it is proposed to reallocate £11,425 to strategic sports development. • The Sports Representative Grant: £1,650. This is a continuous rolling programme with a budget of £10,000 and a total allocation for 17/18 of £8,225 leaving a balance remaining of £1,775 for the remainder of the year. <p>NB. The EBA 2020 Small Grants Programme will have a further £30,000 approximately to be distributed to Clubs in this financial year.</p> <p>The School Sports Facilities Grant 2017/18 is proposed to open after the summer period.</p> <p>Human: None</p>
4.2	<p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>None</p>
4.3	<p><u>Risk Management Implications</u></p> <p>None</p>
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.	To agree the recommendation for sports grant allocations as above.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	Grant recipients and amount of grant award.

Sports Capital Development 2017-2018

	Sports Group	Title Of Event/project	Request	Band	Award
1	Ballinderry Shamrocks GAC	Improved Kitchen & Toilet Facilities	£5,000.00	2	£4,500.00
2	Caledon Rovers Football Club	Redevelopment of football pitch in Caledon	£5,000.00	2	£4,500.00
3	Clogher Valley Golf Club	Greens Sprinkler System - Clogher Valley Golf Course	£5,000.00	5	£3,000.00
4	Clonoe O' Rahilly's GFC	Goalmouths Refurbishment	£4,925.00	1	£4,679.00
5	Coagh Sports Centre(Coagh United FC)	Grass Pitch Improvements at Coagh Sports Centre	£5,030.00	2	£4,500.00
6	Cookstown Fr Rock's GFC	Specialist Pitch Maintenance	£4,620.00	2	£4,158.00
7	Cookstown Hockey Club	Get fit through Hockey	£3,250.00	4	£2,275.00
8	Cookstown Swimming Club	Development of Cookstown Swimming club equipment & facilities	£9,958.00	4	£3,485.00
9	Derrytresk GAC	Community gym project	£5,000.00	2	£4,500.00
10	Dungannon Kickboxing Club	Purchase Of Floor Mats For A Gym	£4,000.00	3	£1,600.00
11	Magherafelt Sky Blues	New Changing Rooms for Magherafelt Sky Blues	£5,000.00	2	£4,500.00
12	Mark Heagney ABC	New boxing ring	£5,500.00	4	£2,450.00
13	Moneymore GFC	Multi Purpose Room	£5,000.00	3	£4,000.00
14	Pearses GAC, Kilrea	Equipment store	£5,000.00	3	£4,000.00
15	Pomeroy Plunketts GAC	New Turnstiles	£5,000.00	2	£4,500.00
16	Pomeroy Plunketts Handball Club	Glass Wall for Handball Alley	£5,000.00	3	£4,000.00
17	Rainey Old Boys RFC	Rainey OB RFC Upgrade	£5,000.00	1	£4,750.00
18	Robert Emmets GAC Slaughtneil	Multi Purpose Underage Games / Training Area	£5,000.00	2	£4,500.00
19	Square Wheels CC	Enhancing club cycling events	£1,022.00	4	£715.00
20	St Malachy's GAC Castledawson	Provision of an external Multi Skills Play Area	£5,000.00	3	£4,000.00
21	St Malachys Edendork GAC	Development of Multi Purpose Fitness Area/Room, Equipment Storage	£6,000.00	2	£4,500.00
22	St Oliver Plunketts GAC Greenlough	Outdoor Facilities improvements	£5,000.00	3	£4,000.00
23	St.Michaels GAC Lissan	Provision Of New Flood Lights	£5,000.00	2	£4,500.00
24	Stewartstown Harps Gaelic Athletic Assoc	Provision of tarmac parking area	£5,000.00	3	£4,000.00
25	Watty Graham's GAC, Glen	Purchase of Genset to power new floodlights	£5,000.00	2	£4,500.00
26	Wolfe Tones GAC, Bellaghy	Installation of 3 new water heaters for 3 changing rooms.	£4,980.00	3	£3,984.00

Ineligible Sports Capital Development			
	Bc Wolves	Competing at the next level	Ineligible proposal
	Dungannon Golf Club	Junior/Juvenile Development	Did not meet minimum score threshold

Band	%
1	95%
2	90%
3	80%
4	70%
5	60%

Sports Development Small Grant

Organisation Name	Title Of Event/project	Amount Requested	Band	Amount Awarded
Dungannon Ladies Hockey Club	Strength and Conditioning	600.00	3	500.00
Dungannon Football Club trading as Dungannon Rugby Football Club	Coach Development	600.00	2	550.00
Eoghan Ruadh Hurling Club	Festival of Youth Hurling and Camogie.	600.00	4	450.00
Killymoon Rangers	Killymoon Rangers	600.00	5	400.00
Knockmany Running Club	Youth Summer Programme	520.00	5	400.00
Naomh Colum Cille CLG	Campa Cholum Cille	600.00	2	550.00
Rainey Old Boys Rugby Football Club	Coach Development Programme	600.00	2	550.00
St. Anne's Table Tennis Club	St Anne's Table Tennis Coaching Camp 2017	600.00	2	550.00
		£3,950.00		
		Score	Band	Amount
		90+	1	£600.00
		80-89	2	£550.00
		70-79	3	£500.00
		60-69	4	£450.00
		50-59	5	£400.00
		40-49	6	£350.00

Strategic Sports Development

	Organisation Name	Title Of Event/project	Amount Requested	Band	Amount Awarded
1	Basketball NI	Club Development Officer	15,000	5	5,000.00
2	Derry GAA	Employment of Games Development Officer within Mid Ulster Council	16,000	2	12,500.00
3	Irish FA Foundation	Grassroots participation	14,000	1	14,000.00
4	Swim Ulster Limited	Implement Pathway Development Centres and Talent ID / Development Centres in Mid Ulster	15,000	2	12,500.00
5	Tyrone GAA	The Continues Employment of a FT GPO in the Cookstown / Dungannon area (Nov 17 - Nov 18)	14,329	1	14,329.00
6	Ulster Hockey Ulster Branch of	Hockey coach Mid Ulster	5,500	1	5,500.00
7	IRFU	Rugby in the Community	15,000	2	12,500.00
					£76,329.00

Score	Band	Amount
90+	1	£15,000.00
80-89	2	£12,500.00
70-79	3	£10,000.00
60-69	4	£7,500.00
50-59	5	£5,000.00

Sportsperson Representative 75% grant on eligible cost to maximum of £250

Padriag Lynch	International Mahnlio Selis Cup	250	2	225.00
Anne Paul	World Triathlon Championships	250	2	225.00
				£450.00

Score	Band	Amount
90+	1	£250.00
80-89	2	£225.00
70-79	3	£200.00
60-69	4	£175.00
50-59	5	£150.00

Sportsteam Representative 75% grant on eligible cost to maximum of £500

Desertmartin GAC	All Ireland Football Finals - Feile na nOg Gaelic Football	500	3	400.00
Derrylaughan Kevin Barry's GAC	Feile	500	3	400.00
O'Donovan Rossa, Magherafelt	All-Ireland Féile 'A' Finals	500	3	400.00
				£1,200.00

Score	Band	Amount
90+	1	£500.00
80-89	2	£450.00
70-79	3	£400.00
60-69	4	£350.00

D

Report on	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strategic Review of Economic Development Services to Business 2. SGN Gas to the West 3. Change to processing locations for Income Support 4. Village Renewal Project 5. Cookstown & Magherafelt Town Centre Brand Refresh 6. Cookstown Continental Market Evaluation Report 2017 7. Dungannon Regeneration Partnership 8. Coalisland Economic Appraisal 9. Mid Ulster Business Spruce Up Scheme 10. Business Improvement District's Feasibility Study 11. Business Events 2017-18 12. Business Programmes – Proposals to EU Growth and Jobs Fund 13. ICBAN Funding Request 2017-18 14. Caledon Regeneration Partnership 15. Foreign Direct Investment app (FDI APP) Upgrade 16. Sponsorship Request from DIGG for Charity Event in Dungannon 17. ESF Funding – NOW Group
Reporting Officer	Fiona McKeown, Head of Economic Development

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.	To provide Members with an update on key activities as detailed above.
2.0	Background
2.1	<p>Strategic Review of Economic Development Services to Business</p> <p>Council's is corporately striving to become more accessible to the public by moving greater volumes of its services online. In keeping with this policy objective, there is a need to take stock of the variety of services offered to businesses by the economic development unit with a view to making them more accessible and responsive to the needs of business.</p>
2.2	<p>SGN Gas to the West</p> <p>Gas to the West is a multi-million pounds energy infrastructure project which is being delivered in Northern Ireland by SGN Natural Gas Limited, and will bring natural gas to over 400,000 homes and businesses across Mid Ulster, Including Cookstown, Dungannon and Magherafelt.</p>

2.3	<p>Change to processing locations from Income Support</p> <p>Correspondence has been received from the Department for Communities to advise of a change to the location for processing of claims for Income Support</p>
2.4	<p>Village Renewal Project</p> <p>Council is leading on the Village Renewal Scheme included within the Rural Development programme 2014 -2020.</p> <p>Council will make an application to the Local Action Group for the village renewal programme and will lead on development and delivery. The LAG has allocated a budget of £2.15m in grant aid to the Village Renewal Scheme for the implementation of strategic and minor works within agreed villages. Council will contribute match funding of 25%, to complement the funding from RDP.</p>
2.5	<p>Cookstown & Magherafelt Town Centre Brand Refresh</p> <p>In 2016 Council commissioned a Town Centre Positioning Study, which provided a comprehensive assessment of the 3 town centres (Cookstown, Dungannon & Magherafelt) and produced a report which provided clarity on the future positioning of the 3 towns. An outcome of this study is the requirement to refresh the Cookstown and Magherafelt brands to reinforce and enhance a positive image of the town centres.</p>
2.6	<p>Cookstown Continental Market Evaluation Report 2017</p> <p>Cookstown Continental Market was held Saturday 20 – Sunday 21 May 2017, William Street, Cookstown. The Market was delivered in association with Marketplace Europe and Cookstown Town Centre Forum.</p>
2.7	<p>Dungannon Regeneration Partnership</p> <p>Dungannon Regeneration Partnership (DRP) was set up in 2000 to advance the revitalisation, regeneration and development of Dungannon Town using a co-ordinated approach. The Partnership meet on a quarterly basis to address key challenges and issues facing the town centre.</p>
2.8	<p>Coalisland Economic Appraisal</p> <p>Following the completion of Dungannon, Cookstown and Magherafelt public realm schemes, the Department for Communities have proposed that the next stage of public realm works will consider Coalisland.</p>
2.9	<p>Mid Ulster Business Spruce Up Scheme</p> <p>The proposed Mid Ulster Business Spruce Up Scheme will offer discretionary grants of up to 75% eligible costs, capped at £5,000 per business property for eligible external and/or internal improvements which do not require planning permission. The Scheme is available to both occupied business premises and vacant/derelict units and is proposed the eligible area will include Village Settlements only as documented in section 3. It is proposed that town centres and small settlements are excluded from the scheme.</p>
2.10	<p>Business Improvement Districts Feasibility Study</p> <p>The Business Improvement District Pilot Programme- Northern Ireland BID's Academy delivered by Department for Communities (DfC) has recently been completed. Six towns</p>

	<p>in Northern Ireland were successful in securing support through the Northern Ireland BID's Academy.</p>
2.11	<p>Business Events 2017-18</p> <p>i) Digital Seminars Members will recall that three successful Digital Seminars for businesses were delivered across the 3 towns from January- March 2017 and due to the high uptake, there is a clear demand for further seminars of this nature to be developed.</p> <p>ii) Brexit Briefing Event In past months, Council has been contacted by local businesses enquiring about the potential impact of Brexit and any measures they should be considering to address this.</p> <p>iii) 'Empowering Women' Events In 2015/16, two events were delivered by Council in Magherafelt and Dungannon under the theme 'Leaders in our Community' to enable women in Mid Ulster to hear from others' experiences and providing an opportunity for networking.</p>
2.12	<p>Business Programmes – Proposals to EU Growth and Jobs Programme Three business support programme(s) are currently being developed for Members consideration, to seek support from the EU Growth and Jobs Programme (managed by Invest NI) over the next 3 - 4 years. Up to 80% funding is available under this Programme (60% from the ERDF Programme for Growth and Jobs and 20% from Invest NI) with 20% contribution required from Council. While 80% is a significant funding contribution, in order to access this funding, Council must commit to Programmes achieving the main objective of creating 1 job for approximately £1,000 spend, (with applications having a minimum value of £250,000) which will be extremely challenging.</p>
2.13	<p>ICBAN Funding Request 2017-18 Over the past number of years, a group of 8 northern and southern Councils (as listed) have provided a financial contribution towards ICBAN to support their work: Mid Ulster District Council, Fermanagh and Omagh Council, Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Council and Monaghan, Donegal, Sligo, Leitrim and Cavan County Councils. ICBAN has now submitted a request to Mid Ulster District Council for a contribution of £10,000 for financial year 2017/18 (i.e. at the same level as 2016/17)</p>
2.14	<p>Caledon Village – Proposed Regeneration Scheme Correspondence dated 22 May 2017 has been received from Caledon Regeneration Partnership, related to a possible Heritage Scheme in Caledon village.</p>
2.15	<p>Foreign Direct Investment app (FDI APP) Upgrade The existing Foreign Direct Investment app (FDI APP) for Mid Ulster was developed during the local government transition period. Since the development of the FDI app, more detailed information and graphics has become available and as such it is proposed to substantially update the FDI app.</p>

2.16	<p>Sponsorship Request from DIGG for Charity Event in Dungannon</p> <p>DIGG Childrenswear in Dungannon has submitted a request to Council to ask for sponsorship for a Charity event in aid of “Cash for Kids”. The event will be similar to a Trade Fair showcasing products and activities from businesses across the District.</p>
2.17	<p>ESF Funding – NOW Group</p> <p>The NOW Group is a social enterprise supporting people with learning difficulties and autism into jobs with a future. They have requested to meet with officers to discuss if this programme could be rolled out in Mid Ulster.</p>
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>Strategic Review of Economic Development Services to Business</p> <p>In keeping with Council’s corporate policy objectives, there is a distinct need to take stock of the services currently provided to the business community by the economic development section and determine how best we can move more of these services online (website and other social media channels) to be responsive to business needs. With this in mind, it is proposed that Council employ the services of a professional organisation to conduct a strategic review of all economic development services with a view to determining which of these can be delivered online. There is a need to consider wider business services, ie, those not currently being delivered online in Mid Ulster but whereby Council could consider to augment our service offering. Clearly Council would benefit from a comprehensive review of best practice and benchmarking elsewhere to guide us over the next few years. A specialist consultant is necessary to provide the professional expertise in terms of conducting the strategic review, best practice, benchmarking models, customer engagement options, all of which would combine in a comprehensive report and time-bound action plan with costings and online delivery models to guide us on our way. Furthermore a detailed set of specification(s) are required from the consultant to assist Council procure against the agreed recommended actions to commence from 2018/19 onwards.</p>
3.2	<p>SGN Gas to the West</p> <p>As part of SGN communications with the local business community, Mid Ulster District Council is facilitating an information event for local businesses due to the significance of the project and its local impact:- works are due to commence within the Cookstown area Monday 17 July 2017. A Business Information Event will take place on Wednesday 28 June 2017, 12 noon – 1.30pm, Glenavon House Hotel, Drum Road, Cookstown. This is an opportunity for businesses to hear first-hand about the project and the work schedule for the Cookstown area. Members will also be invited to attend the event.</p> <p>Furthermore, Elected members also raised an issue regarding proposed SGN works in the Clogher area when Clogher Valley Show is taking place, ie, 26th July 2017. Elected members have requested that there are no works in the vicinity during the period of the show. Officers have liaised with SGN who have subsequently advised that they are liaising with Transport NI and their contractor with the aim of accommodating Council’s request.</p>
3.3	<p>Change to processing locations from Income Support</p> <p>As part of the Department for Communities Service First initiative, Dungannon Jobs and Benefits office will no longer process claims for Income Support. Claims for Jobseekers Allowance will continue to be processed at the Enniskillen office. Effective immediately, the following change will take place – the Andersonstown Benefit Processing Centre will</p>

	<p>process Income Support (IS) claims for Dungannon, Enniskillen, Omagh and Armagh. This means any Income Support related post should not be sent to Dungannon Jobs and Benefits office but should now be sent to Andersonstown Benefit Processing Centre (see Appendix 1 attached).</p>
3.4	<p>Village Renewal Project</p> <p>A professional led design consultancy team has been appointed to commence design schemes for the various projects identified in the villages. A cross council working group has been established for the lifetime of the project. Economic Development staff are working alongside Technical Services to deliver these schemes.</p> <p>A number of schemes have been identified for delivery in Year 1 of the project – 2 villages with major works – Ballygawley and Fivemiletown. Villages with minor works include - Augher, Caledon, Killyman, Eglish, Granville and Tobermore. These villages were selected on their state of readiness in accordance with the guidelines of the Rural Development Programme. The Design Team have a number of these projects at concept design stage, which will be presented to the community for agreement.</p> <p>The Design Team and Officers will present an update to the Mid Ulster Rural Development Programme Local Action Group on 26th June 2017.</p>
3.5	<p>Cookstown & Magherafelt Town Centre Brand Refresh</p> <p>Officers have prepared a specification to appoint a suitably qualified organisation to conduct a review of the existing Cookstown and Magherafelt town brands as a key recommendation from the Town Centre Positioning Study Implementation Plan, costed at £20,000. The appointed company will also be required to prepare an associated Brand Implementation Action Plan to ensure successful and effective implementation and execution of the brands for each town.</p>
3.6	<p>Cookstown Continental Market Evaluation Report 2017</p> <p>To receive Evaluation Report on Cookstown Continental Market held 20 – 21 May 2017 (Appendix 2)</p>
3.7	<p>Dungannon Regeneration Partnership</p> <p>Minutes of Dungannon Regeneration Partnership Meeting held on the 12th May 2017 are attached at (Appendix 3)</p>
3.8	<p>Coalisland Economic Appraisal</p> <p>It is anticipated that a further public realm scheme will be progressed in Coalisland this financial year. However, in advance of funding confirmation from Department for Communities, approval is sought to employ suitably qualified consultants to undertake an economic appraisal in readiness for the scheme. An appraisal budget of £25,000 for Coalisland is available from Council's economic development budget during the 2017/18 financial year.</p>
3.9	<p>Mid Ulster Business Spruce Up Scheme</p> <p>It is proposed that the scheme will offer businesses/commercial properties grant aid of up to 75% per property for eligible works, capped at £5,000 per property. The proposed scheme will include the villages outlined below and will offer applicant businesses the</p>

opportunity to apply for grants towards small minor works to both the exterior of their building and internal works to areas where the public have access to.

The methodology for selecting the villages is based upon the proposed Mid Ulster settlement report as per the development of the Area Plan 'strategic settlement evaluation – position paper'. An additional 'Village' which has been included below is 'Moygashel'. Moygashel is classified as an urban settlement linked to Dungannon town. It is not recognised by the Department as Dungannon town under regeneration but a village settlement in its own right due to its size and location. It is not recognised as a rural settlement and given both scenarios therefore does not receive either urban or rural regeneration support. For the purposes of equity of recognition of Moygashel as a settlement and given its size it is proposed that Moygashel be included to benefit from this scheme.

Eligible expenditure includes items such as redecoration, signage, lighting, visual graphics and improvement works to existing structures. Works which require planning permission will be deemed ineligible. It is anticipated that this project will be delivered as a pilot during 2017/18, and if demand exceeds supply, then the scheme could be further extended over an additional two year period and budgeted for accordingly. Approval is sought to set aside £150,000 from Council's economic development budget in 2017/18 and if there is a strong demand from applicants for the scheme, a further funding request will be brought before the Development Committee for consideration to extend the scheme.

It is also anticipated that a Chartered Architect will be required to manage the overall scheme, and accordingly a budget of up to £20,000 has been included in the economic development budget for 2017/18.

Settlement Hierarchy	Former Cookstown Local Government District	Former Dungannon & South Tyrone Local Government District	Former Magherafelt Local Government District
Villages	Ardboe Ballinderry Ballylifford Ballyronan Churchtown Coagh Drummullan Moneymore Moortown Orritor Pomeroy Sandholes Stewartstown The Loup The Rock	Aghaginduff/Cabragh Annaghmore Augher Aughnacloy Benburb Brockagh/Mountjoy Caledon Castlecaulfield Clogher Donaghmore Edendork Eglish Fivemiletown Gallbally Granville Killyman Moy Moygashel Newmills Tamnamore The Bush	Bellaghy Castledawson Clady Desertmartin Draperstown Gulladuff Swatragh Tobermore Upperlands

3.10

Business Improvement Districts Feasibility Study

An action identified in the Mid Ulster Town Centre Positioning Study is to investigate the potential of developing a BID in the Mid Ulster area. Officers recently met with Officials from DfC who advised the first step in the process is to conduct a feasibility study to investigate the viability and structure of a potential BID in Mid Ulster. Officers propose to develop a terms of reference to appoint a company to carry out a feasibility study to identify the potential for developing BID’s in Mid Ulster.

3.11

Business Events 2017-18

i) Digital Seminars

It is proposed to seek suitably experienced delivery agents to deliver a further series of Digital Seminars in Mid Ulster at a cost of approximately £8,000 (may increase/decrease subject to level of demand) to promote the use of digital media to Mid Ulster businesses and demonstrate, on a practical level, how businesses can use this to maximise their use of digital media.

ii) Brexit Briefing Event

Given the current uncertainties regarding Brexit and its potential implications, it is proposed to signpost businesses to InterTradelreland’s ‘Brexit Advisory Service’ for businesses which offers a range of supports, including ‘Brexit Readiness Vouchers’ aimed at helping businesses access expert advice to address specific Brexit-related queries. When more information becomes available about the impact of Brexit, and future-proofing requirements become clearer for businesses, particularly in this sub-region, it is proposed Mid Ulster Council organise a large scale ‘Brexit Briefing Event’ with high profile speakers in the Autumn 2017 to help inform local businesses to become ‘Brexit ready’.

iii) ‘Empowering Women’ Events 2017-18

It is proposed to deliver a further 2 events in Magherafelt and Dungannon in 2017/18 to provide women from across Mid Ulster with the opportunity to hear other successful local women’s experiences and build networks.

3.12

Business Programmes – Proposals to EU Growth and Jobs Programme

Approval is sought to submit three business focused applications to the EU Growth and Jobs Programme, namely;

Programme	Total Costs 100%	ERDF /Invest NI 80% Funding	Mid Ulster Council 20% Funding
Tender Programme – to build the capacity of local businesses by helping them identify new work opportunities, prepare professional tender bids and get the necessary pre-qualification documents in place to become ‘tender ready’.	261,200	208,960	52,240
Fast Growth / Digital Programme – currently there is no dedicated support to help local businesses in Mid Ulster which have the capacity to grow fast and create jobs. This programme will provide a wrap-around service to nurture business growth and support companies at one	540,900	432,720	108,180

	of the most important stages in their life cycle. It will also provide dedicated support to participant companies to encourage them to create/increase their digital online presence.			
	Engineering Support Package – This flagship programme will provide strategic intervention to Mid Ulster's engineering sector. It will address the specific skills shortage issues impacting local engineering businesses. This initiative will adopt a partnership approach, with Council taking the lead and collaborating with local employers, education providers, business development bodies/agencies and sectoral bodies to identify key issues and develop solutions to address the critical shortage of labour in local engineering companies which is impeding their growth prospects and presenting problems in meeting customer orders.	400,000	320,000	80,000
	TOTAL	£1,202,100	£961,680	£240,420

These proposed programmes if approved by Invest NI, will be delivered over a 3 – 4 year period and provide good value for money as Council expenditure of £240,420 will leverage ERDF and Invest NI funding in the region of £961,680.

Members will be updated on the progress of the development of these submissions.

3.13 **ICBAN Funding Request 2017-18**

ICBAN's Report on work completed in 2016/17 was presented at the Development Committee in March 2017. ICBAN's request to Mid Ulster District Council is for a contribution of £10,000 for the financial year 2017/18 (and is for the same amount as 2016/17 – see Appendix 4).

3.14 **Caledon Regeneration Partnership**

Correspondence received from Caledon Regeneration Partnership dated 22 May 2017 (see Appendix 5), outlining their desire to apply to the Heritage Lottery Fund to develop a regeneration scheme for Caledon village. The correspondence requests an officer of the Council to be designated to support the Group as an active member of the sub-committee. The letter outlines that progression of any such scheme(s) would be reliant on Council involvement and also its additional financial support.

3.15 **Foreign Direct Investment app (FDI APP) Upgrade**

It is a corporate objective of the Council to have a fit for purpose FDI app that provides a vital online service. The existing FDI App is in need of an upgrade to reflect all that the region offers to potential investors. To do this the services of a skilled and experienced operator familiar with best practices is being sought who will deliver an upgraded quality

<p>3.16</p> <p>3.17</p>	<p>FDI App. This will require a review of the current provision and the redevelopment of the app to include the latest InvestNI statistics, info graphics, modern photos and high level statistics of Mid Ulster District Council area.</p> <p>Sponsorship Request from DIGG for Charity Event in Dungannon A request for sponsorship has been received by Council to support an event which will take place, Sunday 10th September 2017 (Appendix 6). The Baby & Toddler event, which will promote businesses not only in Dungannon but across the entire Mid Ulster district, aims to become a yearly event. The event organisers aim to showcase a minimum of 25 businesses from across the district that specialise in baby and toddler products and activities. The total request for sponsorship is £2,000.</p> <p>As this event is not co-ordinated through Dungannon Traders Association or Dungannon Regeneration Partnership, it is recommended that Council do not financially support this request, as it would set a precedent of providing funding to individual businesses for events.</p> <p>ESF Funding – NOW Group The NOW Group is a social enterprise supporting people with learning difficulties and autism into jobs with a future. They have requested to meet with officers to discuss if this programme could be rolled out in Mid Ulster (Appendix 7). The NOW Group's intention is to bid for funds from ESF Round 2 to expand their current programme being delivered from BHSCT, Newtownabbey & Antrim Council and North Down & Ards Council. It is recommended that Council note the correspondence until such times as officers have the opportunity to review and determine the future intentions of the groups Council is presently financially supporting through ESF Round 1.</p>
<p>4.0</p>	<p>Other Considerations</p>
<p>4.1</p>	<p><u>Financial & Human Resources Implications</u></p> <p>Strategic Review of Economic Development Services to Business - Provision of £27,000 funding is available from within the economic development budget.</p> <p>SGN Gas to the West- Business Information Event Provision of £800 within Council's Economic Development Budget to hold a business information event</p> <p>Cookstown & Magherafelt Town Centre Brand Refresh Provision of £20,000 funding has been included in Council's Regeneration Budget</p> <p>Coalisland Economic Appraisal Provision of £25,000 funding is available from within the economic development budget.</p> <p>Mid Ulster Business Spruce Up Scheme Provision of £170,000 (£20k for Chartered Architect fees and £150k for grant aid) funding for 2017/18 from Council's economic development budget.</p> <p>Business Improvement Districts Feasibility Study Provision of £20,000 within Council's Regeneration Budget</p>

	<p>Business Events £8,000 is available from the 2017/18 LED Budget for the procurement of a delivery agent for Digital Events (may increase/decrease subject to demand) and further budget is available for the delivery of a Brexit event and Empowering Women Events.</p> <p>Business Programmes – Proposals to EU Growth and Jobs Programme Council funding of £240,420 over a period 3 to 4 years to support the three programmes; Tender Programme, Fastrack/Digital Programme and Engineering Support Programme.</p> <p>ICBAN Funding Request 2017-18 £10,000 requested is provided for within the 2017-18 LED budget</p> <p>Foreign Direct Investment app (FDI APP) Upgrade Provision of up to £10,000 within Council's Economic Development Budget for quotations to be sought</p>
4.2	<p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>N/A</p>
4.3	<p><u>Risk Management Implications</u></p> <p>If Council's funding applications to the EU Growth and Jobs Programme are successful these carry a risk in terms of achieving the number of jobs created.</p> <p>Any offer of funding will be made on the basis that for each £1,000 of funding awarded, one job must be created. There is no other funding stream that attributes such a heavy burden to create jobs, however, in order to avail of the ERDF funding available to support Mid Ulster's economic needs, there is a need to accept that some level of risk does exist in terms of creating the number of jobs. Council officers will put in place steps to attempt all 'reasonable endeavours' to create the required jobs from the three programmes detailed in this report at section 3.12. The jobs requirement is as follows;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £961,680 ERDF Funding <u>equates to</u> the creation of 961 jobs.
5.0	<u>Recommendation(s)</u>
5.1	<p>Review of Economic Development Services to Business Members to note progress and requirement to appoint a suitably qualified organisation to strategically review the economic development section's interface with businesses and provide specific recommendations, actions and costings upon how more of these services can be moved online from 2018/19. Project costs estimated at up to £27,000.</p>
5.2	<p>SGN Gas to the West Members to note update.</p>
5.3	<p>A change to processing locations from Income Support Members to note correspondence.</p>
5.4	<p>Village Renewal Project Members to note progress</p>

5.5	<p>Cookstown & Magherafelt Town Centre Brand Refresh Members to note progress and requirement to appoint a suitably qualified organisation to undertake the assignment to provide a 'brand refresh' for the Cookstown and Magherafelt town brands, with costs of up to £20,000.</p>
5.6	<p>Cookstown Continental Market 2017 Members to note Evaluation Report on Cookstown Continental Market 2017</p>
5.7	<p>Dungannon Regeneration Partnership Members to note minutes of Dungannon Regeneration Partnership</p>
5.8	<p>Coalisland Economic Appraisal It is recommended that Council seeks to appoint a suitably qualified organisation to conduct an economic appraisal for Coalisland for a fee of up to £25,000, in preparation for a future public realm scheme in the town.</p>
5.9	<p>Mid Ulster Shop Spruce Up Scheme It is recommended that the Council agrees to allocate a sum of up to £150,000 during the 2017/18 financial year to facilitate Council to match fund and deliver a pilot Mid Ulster Business Spruce Up Scheme. Additionally it is recommended, a separate budget of £20,000 be set aside for the costs of an independent chartered architect to oversee the scheme. Monies have been allocated within Council's economic development budget to cover the costs of the scheme.</p>
5.10	<p>Business Improvement Districts Feasibility Study It is recommended that Council seeks to appoint a suitable organisation to undertake a Feasibility Study costing in the region of £20,000 to identify the potential of developing BID's in Mid Ulster.</p>
5.11	<p>Business Events 2017-18 Members to approve the procurement of consultants to deliver a series of Digital Seminars, Brexit Events, and Empowering Women Events at a cost of up to £8,000 (including expenses and excluding vat).</p>
5.12	<p>Business Programmes – Proposals to EU Growth and Jobs Programme Members to approve the development of the following three applications to the EU Growth and Jobs Programme for to be delivered from 2017/18 to 2020/21 with estimated costs to Council as follows;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tender Programme £52,240 • Fast Growth / Digital Programme £108,180 • Engineering Support Package £80,000 <p>If the programmes are approved by Council and Invest NI, Council's investment of £240,420, will leverage further funding circ. £961,680 from ERDF/Invest NI.</p>
5.13	<p>ICBAN Funding Request 2017-18 It is recommended to: i) approve the provision of up to £10,000 funding for ICBAN from Council's Economic Development Budget 2017/18, to be paid in two equal instalments, subject to Council being provided with the requisite documentation (application form, confirmation of match funding, copies of accounts, insurances financial report and</p>

	Progress Updates). ii) approve the release of the first 50% payment once Council is in receipt of all documentation requested (outlined above). Progress updates from ICBAN will be provided to future Development Committee meetings.
5.14	<p>Caledon Regeneration Partnership</p> <p>It is recommended that Caledon Regeneration Partnership be advised that Council will informally support their group to develop a Regeneration Project via the Heritage Lottery Fund by way of officer attendance at their meetings, however, it is not recommended that a dedicated staff member provide direct support to the Group, as this would set a precedent and Council simply do not have sufficient staff resources to meet requests of this nature. The correspondence also alluded to requesting financial support from Council towards their regeneration project, but no specific value was attributed.</p>
5.15	<p>Foreign Direct Investment app (FDI APP) Upgrade</p> <p>Members to note progress and requirement to procure a suitably qualified organisation to undertake the upgrade work on the existing FDI App, estimated to cost £10,000.</p>
5.16	<p>Sponsorship Request from DIGG for Charity Event in Dungannon</p> <p>It is recommended that Council do not financially support the request for £2,000 funding towards a Charity Event in Dungannon, organised by DIGG in September 2017, as this event is not co-ordinated through Dungannon Traders Association or Dungannon Regeneration Partnership, and would set a precedent of providing funding to individual businesses for events.</p>
5.17	<p>ESF Funding – NOW Group</p> <p>It is recommended that Council note the correspondence from the NOW Group until such times as officers have the opportunity to review and determine the future intentions of the groups Council is presently financially supporting through ESF Round 1.</p>
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	<p>Appendix 1 – Information from Department for Communities re A change to processing locations for Income Support</p> <p>Appendix 2 – Evaluation Report on Cookstown Continental Market 2017</p> <p>Appendix 3 – Dungannon Regeneration Partnership Minutes</p> <p>Appendix 4 – ICBAN Funding Request 2017-18</p> <p>Appendix 5 – Letter from Caledon Regeneration Partnership</p> <p>Appendix 6 - Sponsorship Request from DIGG for Charity Event in Dungannon</p> <p>Appendix 7 – Letter from NOW Group re ESF Funding Round 2</p>

APPENDIX 1 – CHANGE OF PROCESSING LOCATIONS FOR INCOME SUPPORT



SERVICE FIRST

A CHANGE TO PROCESSING LOCATIONS FOR INCOME SUPPORT (IS)

Dear Sir/Madam

As part of the Department for Communities Service First initiative, Dungannon Jobs and Benefits office will no longer process claims for Income Support. Claims for Jobseekers Allowance will continue to be processed at our Enniskillen office.

Effective immediately, the following change will take place:

- **Andersonstown Benefit Processing Centre** will process **Income Support (IS)** claims for Dungannon, Enniskillen, Omagh and Armagh.

This means that you should no longer send any Income Support related post to Dungannon Jobs and Benefits office.

All Income Support related post previously sent to Dungannon Jobs and Benefits Office should now be sent to **Andersonstown Benefit Processing Centre** at the address below.

Any Jobseekers Allowance related post should continue to be sent to Enniskillen Jobs and Benefits Office.

Contact by Telephone:

There will be **no change** to the office telephone contact details for claimants.

Please note:

Although Dungannon Jobs and Benefits Office will no longer process Income Support, claimants will continue to be able to visit the office and have access to the full range of benefits and employment services as they currently do.

If you have any queries in relation to this please email them, in the first instance, to servicefirstproject@communities-ni.gov.uk.

Postal Arrangements

INCOME SUPPORT

OFFICE POSTAL ADDRESS
Andersonstown Benefits Processing Centre 580A Falls Rd Belfast BT11 8FX

JOB SEEKERS ALLOWANCE No Change

OFFICE POSTAL ADDRESS
Enniskillen Benefit Processing Centre Crown Buildings Queen Elizabeth Road Enniskillen BT74 7JD



APPENDIX 2

Comhairle Ceantair
Lár Uladh
Mid Ulster
District Council

COOKSTOWN CONTINENTAL MARKET

20 – 21 MAY 2017

EVALUATION REPORT



1.0 Introduction

Mid Ulster District Council, in partnership with Cookstown Town Centre Forum, hosted the Continental Market, from Saturday 20 – Sunday 21 May 2017. This was the fourth year Cookstown hosted the Market, with the Market returning to the traditional slot of May. The market was located along William Street Cookstown Town Centre, with a full road closure in place from 11.00pm Friday 19 May – 10.30pm Sunday 21 May 2017, to meet Health & Safety requirements. The event is delivered through strong partnership workings with statutory bodies and cross departmental which have been continually enhanced over the past three years.

2.0 Background

The planning and delivery of the Continental Market has emanated from Cookstown Town Centre Masterplan, which was launched in May 2012. The Masterplan was compiled following extensive consultation with local stakeholders, including local businesses. The Masterplan identifies particular issues, problems, opportunities and strengths of Cookstown Town Centre, including two key initiatives:- to reinvigorate the town markets by attracting a Continental Market and to effectively deliver Strategic Events in Cookstown Town Centre.

3.0 Feedback from Continental Market 2017

From 20 – 21 May 2017, the Market was located on William Street, with road closures in place from Friday 19 May – Sunday 21 May 2017.

Recommendations for future delivery of the Continental Market included:-

- More seating arrangements
- More Stalls and variety of stalls- food & craft
- Two day event sufficient

4.0 Event Planning of Continental Market 2017

4.1 Continental Market

The Continental Market reverted to its traditional slot of May 2017. Council officers worked closely with the providers, Marketplace Europe Ltd, to ensure that all elements of project delivery are considered, implemented and delivered to a high standard. It is Marketplace Europe's responsibility to attract a wide and varied range of international traders to participate in the Market.

The market is located on William Street, with Continental Market stalls erected back to back to the central reservation, leaving footpaths free of pedestrian congestion. Due to the location of stalls back to back to the central reservation, a road closure was in place from 11pm Friday 19 May – 10.30pm Sunday 21 May 2017. This year the market was delivered over a two day period, with extended opening hours and for the first year the inclusion of a German Beer Stall.

4.2 Local Market Traders

During the Continental Market local Saturday traders traded as per the weekly Saturday Market, under the rules and regulations of P Orr. No trading licences were issued for the Sunday outside of the Continental Market area (William Street).

4.3 Marketing & Promotion

The marketing & promotion campaign was delivered over a five week period commencing 23 April 2017. A variety of marketing channels were implemented:-

- ❖ Billboards- Two week cycle, delivered at one location, namely Fountain Road, Cookstown.
- ❖ 5,000 leaflets distributed across Mid Ulster District Council area to Council Facilities and Schools.
- ❖ Radio Advert on Q106 & Q102, 40 30 second adverts from 12-20 May 2017. A radio interview was also conducted with the Chairman of Mid Ulster District Council.
- ❖ Letters to local businesses:- Letters were distributed to town centre businesses advising them of the Continental Market and associated road closures weeks commencing 20 April and 10 May 2017. Business were encouraged to consider putting on special offers to attract the increased footfall in town to their business.
- ❖ Advertising was conducted in the local press through paid advertising and news releases weeks over a five week period commencing 23 April 2017
- ❖ Advertising was conducted in the regional press- Friday 10 May Belfast Telegraph Events Guide, Tuesday 16 May 2017- Newsletter and Irish News.
- ❖ Social Media channels of facebook and twitter. Regular posts were conducted, pre/during/post the Continental Market, including a short promotional videos. A competition was run through social media channels with the opportunity of winning one of £50 vouchers to spend at the market. Promoted posts were conducted commencing 8 May 2017.
- ❖ Mid Ulster District Council Website.
- ❖ Mesh Banner, Burnavon.
- ❖ Events Guides listings/websites
- ❖ Cookstown Branded Shopping Bags distributed to local shops



4.4 Continental Market Competition

A competition was run to heighten the profile of the market through social media. The competition via social media provided people with the chance of winning one of twenty £50 vouchers to spend at the market.

A Live feed was also conducted at the Market on Saturday 20 May 2017 for a chance to win a £50 voucher.



4.5 Street



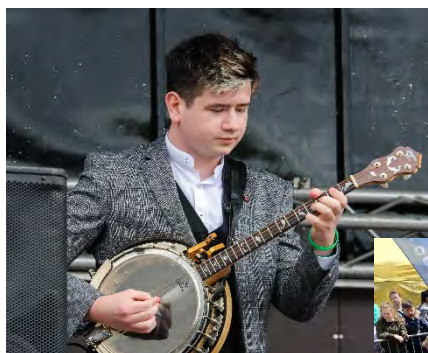
Entertainment

To add to the Continental Market and create an ambiance a variety of street entertainment was planned and delivered over the two day period at various periods. This included an aerial acrobatics show by Fidget Feet, face painters, balloon modellers, caricature, and cartoon characters. Musical entertainment was Saturday afternoon/evening, and 1-6pm Sunday- this included a variety including Traditional Schools Project joined by Ulster Scots Juvenile Pipe Band, Fritzafrenic Grafton Street Buskers, Limavady Big Band, local community groups- Caroline Creggan School of Dance, The Banjacks, The Hub BT80 Choir, Cookstown Folk Club and Glor Tire 2017 winner.

5.0 Continental Market 2017 Outputs

- ❖ 25,000 visitors to the Continental Market
- ❖ 49 traders within the Continental Market arena
- ❖ Social Media:-
 - Visit Cookstown facebook- 69 facebook posts, 342k people reached, 44k people engaged,
 - Visit Cookstown facebook event page- 97k reach, 2.4k responses (stating interested in attending the event), 13k viewed video
 - 36 twitter posts, over 30k impressions (number of times a tweet has been delivered to twitter stream of users), 1.2k engagements (Number of users that interacted with post), video views of 1.5k

❖ An



- ❖ Vouchers to the value of £1,000 to be spent at the Continental Market
- ❖ Variety of street entertainment provided over the two days estimated additional spend of £323,225 additional spend in



Cookstown over the two days

- ❖ Total Cost of delivery £36,000- £35,000 Mid Ulster District Council, £1,000 contribution from Marketplace Europe

Estimated additional spend in local area:

	Average Spend	Spend
Accommodation	£50	£11,400

Subsistence	£150	£8,500
Refuelling	£50	£3,325
Footfall	£20 (average normal weekend 10,000 people, additional £10,000 Continental Market Weekend)	£300,000
	TOTAL	£323,225

6.0 Feedback/Evaluation of Continental Market

6.1 Feedback from Public

A Survey Monkey questionnaire (Appendix 1) regarding the Continental Market was compiled and the link created published on Mid Ulster District Council website and social media via facebook to obtain feedback from the public.

The response rate was higher than last year, with 94 people completing the questionnaire.

Feedback from the public included:-

'This was the best year yet. Much better than the Belfast Market. Nice to be able to sit down and wat your food.'

'Fabulous event I look forward to it again!'

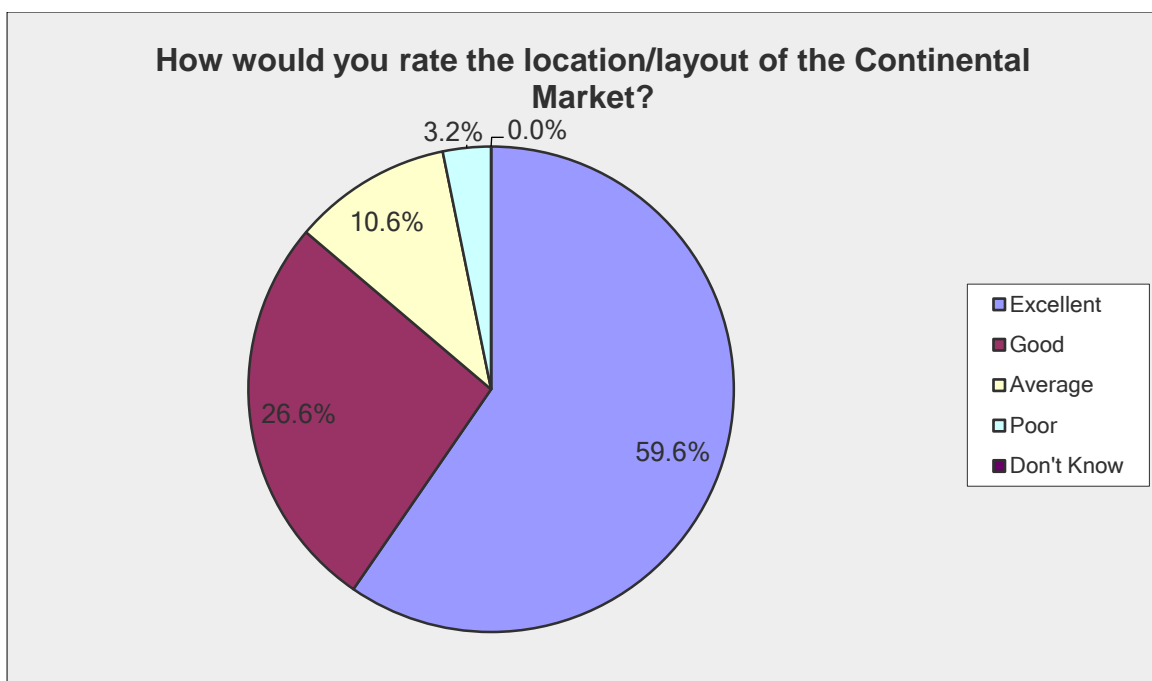
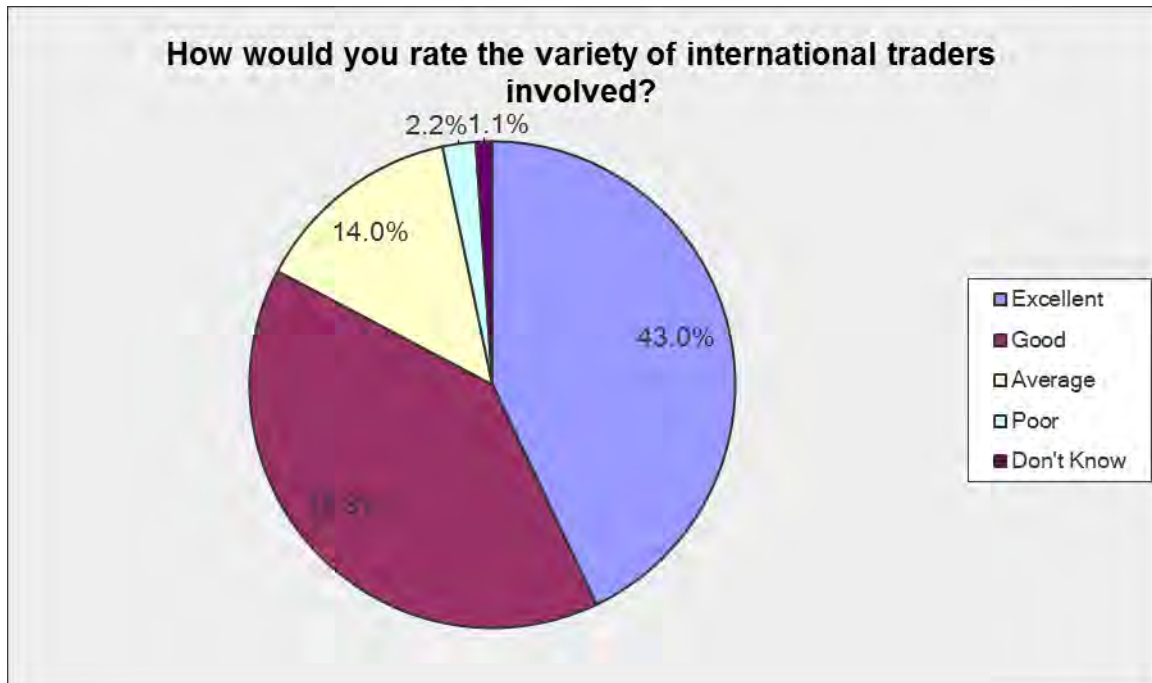


'Well done Cookstown!'

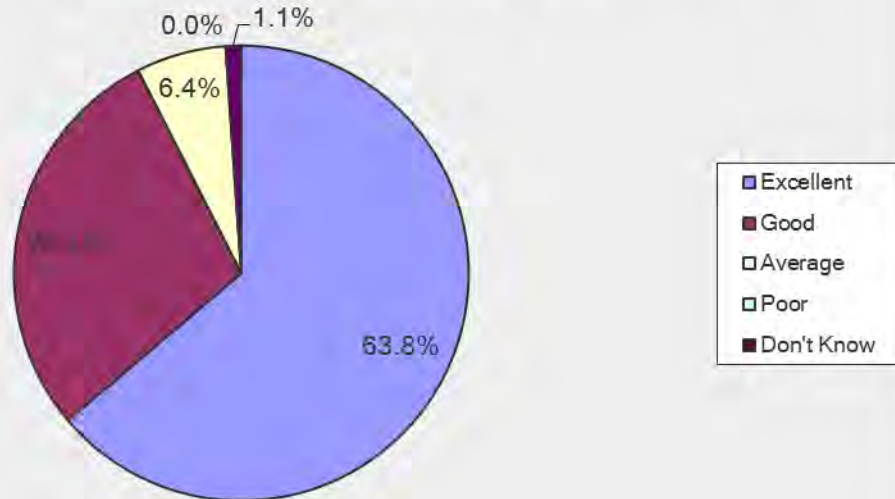


'This was the best year yet. Very well organised and a truly memorable atmosphere, great to see so many smiling faces in Cookstown.'

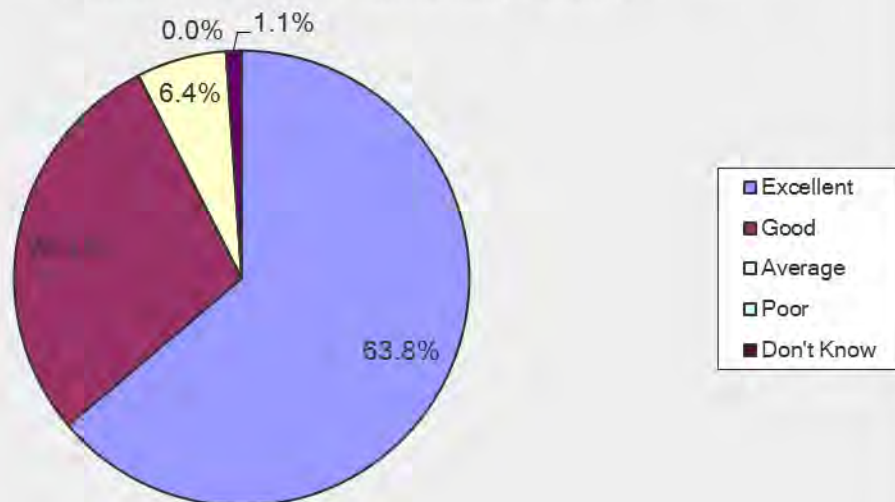
A sample of responses are depicted in the following pie charts:-



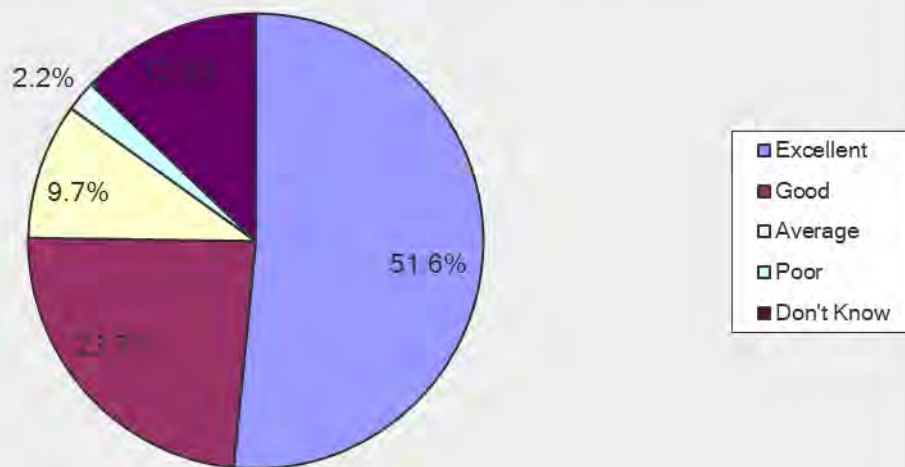
How would you rate the atmosphere in Cookstown Town Centre during the Continental Market?



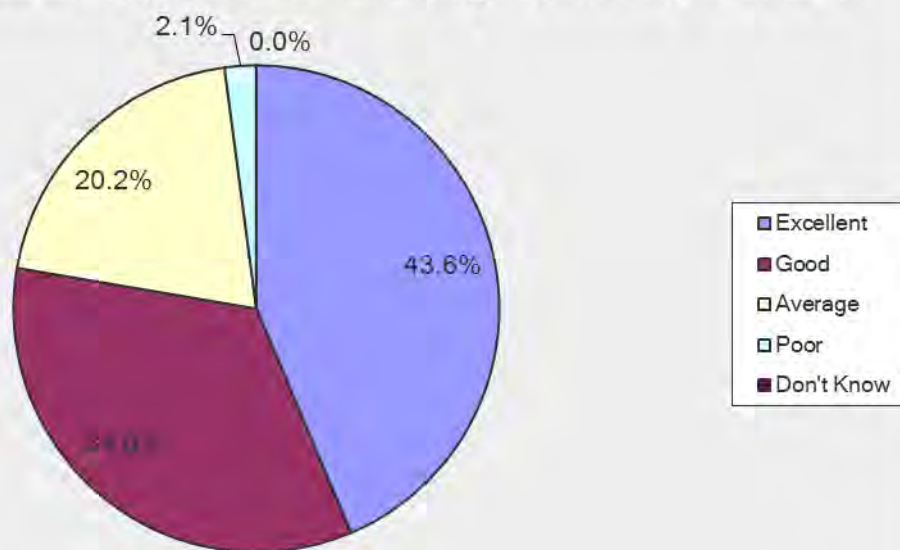
How would you rate the atmosphere in Cookstown Town Centre during the Continental Market?



**How would you rate the Musical Entertainment provided
(Saturday 16:00-19:30, Sunday 13:00-18:00)?**



How would you rate the Marketing/Promotion of the Event?



Other key statistics recorded include:-

- ❖ The majority of people who responded came from within a 20 mile radius of Cookstown Town with people travelling from as far away as Limavady, Armagh, Sion Mills and Belfast.
- ❖ Saturday was the most popular day for visiting the market with 64% of respondents.

- ❖ 36.2% of people spent 1-2hrs in Cookstown Town Centre, followed by 27.7% who attended for more than 3hrs
- ❖ 93.6% thought the operating times were appropriate
- ❖ 73.1% visited local businesses while at the market
- ❖ 97.8% stated they would return to Cookstown to shop

6.2 Feedback from Businesses

An Evaluation Form (Appendix 2) was prepared and distributed to Town Centre businesses to obtain feedback on the Continental Market.

20 businesses completed and returned the Evaluation Form

The feedback from businesses was mostly positive:

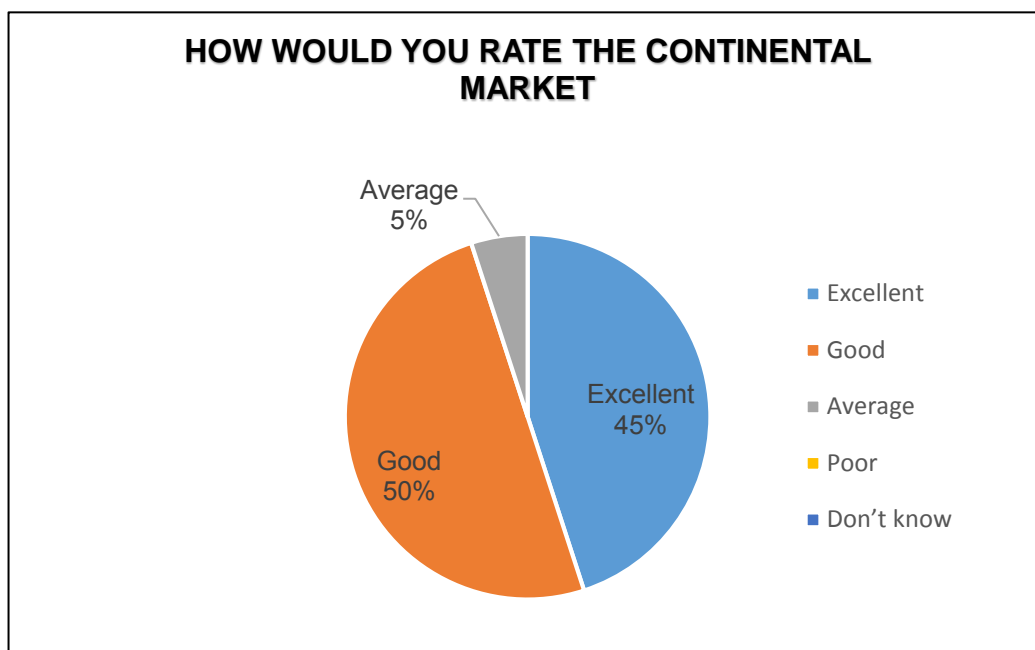
'A very enjoyable weekend inclusive of all ages.'

'2 days better than 3, better variety of stalls this year, beer tent a positive'

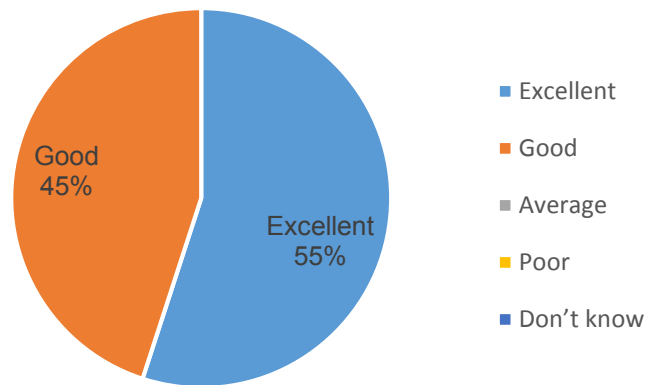
'Better seating arrangements for eating food etc, level of policing/stewards and litter gathering was excellent and really helped the friendly carnival atmosphere'

'It is always great fun. Would love to see promotion of more local produce both food and craft'

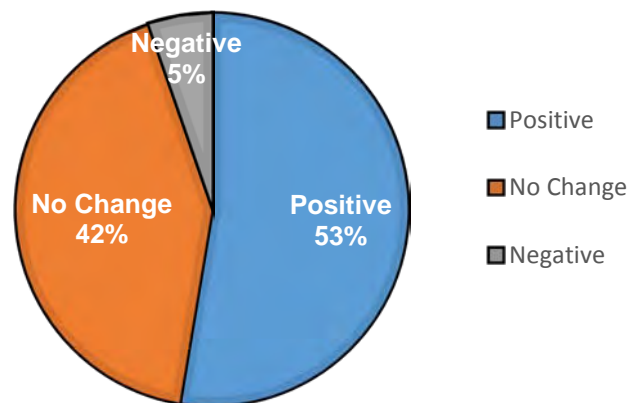
'Would love to see it again next year - bigger and better'

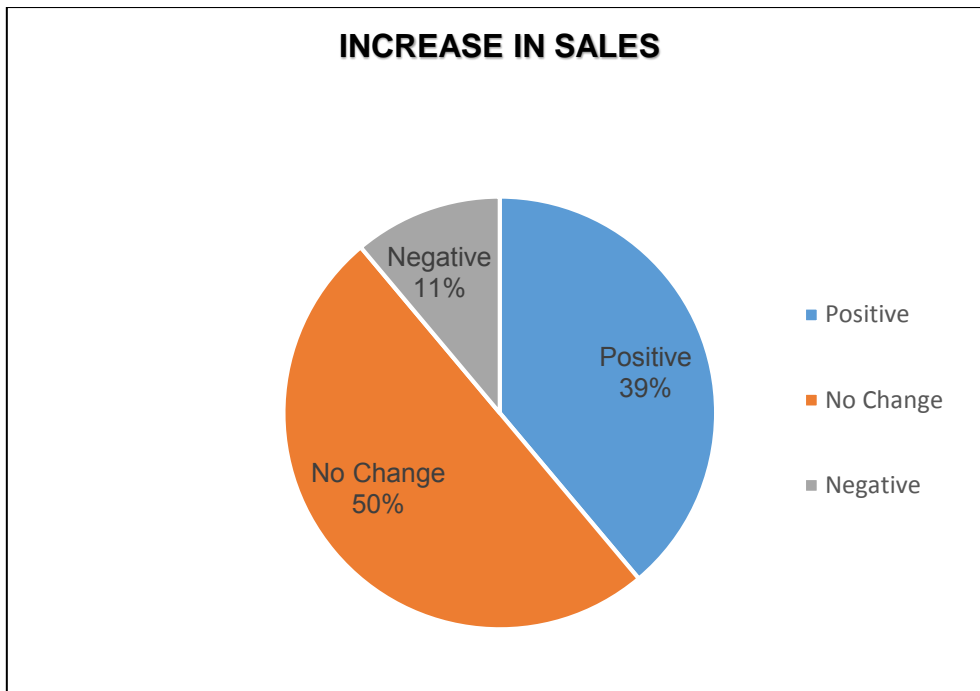


HOW WOULD YOU RATE THE LOCATION/LAYOUT OF THE EVENT



INCREASE IN FOOTFALL





Other key statistics recorded include:

- ❖ 70% rated the Atmosphere in the Town as Excellent/Good
- ❖ 57% rated the Street Entertainment as Excellent/Good
- ❖ 16% operated extended opening hours throughout the market
- ❖ 95% felt Cookstown town benefitted from the event

6.3 Feedback from Market Place Europe

Managing Director, Allan Hartwell stated:-

'Despite restricted set up time this did go better than expected but did result in traders being tired on the morning of the first day. Traders would still prefer the 3 days as a consequence. Chris and the traders reported significant increase in footfall, with the German Beer Stall a huge success and will certainly want to return.

Both days were exceptional and traders have reported that this was one of the best events in Cookstown showing an increase of circa 10% - 15% in takings based on the May 2015 event it would be unfair to compare the September 2016 event. Traders would welcome the opportunity to return in 2018.'

6.4 Street Entertainment

A variety of Street Entertainment was delivered over Saturday and Sunday (Appendix 3). The entertainment was well received as per the feedback under item 6.1.

7.0 Recommendations

Should the Continental Market return to Cookstown the following recommendations have been submitted through the evaluation process

Public

- ❖ Limited viewing for Schools project- review positioning
- ❖ Extend Continental Market area
- ❖ More walking space between end of stalls and stage area
- ❖ Route for wheelchair users
- ❖ More for kids and more seating area
- ❖ Lack of artisan crafts
- ❖ Inclusion of NI producers
- ❖ Encourage local shops to open on the Sunday

Town Centre Businesses

- ❖ Two day market worked well, perhaps a Saturday, Sunday and Bank Holiday Monday would be worth considering
- ❖ Better seating arrangements for eating
- ❖ Greater engagement with local shops (Shop window themes to tie them into the weekend's events)
- ❖ More stalls non-food based
- ❖ More toilets

**EVALUATION OF COOKSTOWN CONTINENTAL MARKET
SATURDAY 20 - SUNDAY 21 MAY 2017**

From 20-21 May Cookstown hosted the Continental Market.

This was one of the Mid Ulster District Council's signature events for 2017, delivered in conjunction with Cookstown Town Centre Forum. 48 international traders were involved in the two day event, with free on-street entertainment provided to add to the ambiance.

To assist us in evaluating the Continental market, we would appreciate if you could take a few moments to complete and submit this brief questionnaire.

1. How would you rate the variety of international traders involved?
 - ☐ Excellent
 - ☐ Good
 - ☐ Average
 - ☐ Poor
 - ☐ Don't Know
2. How would you rate the location/layout of the Continental Market?
 - ☐ Excellent
 - ☐ Good
 - ☐ Average
 - ☐ Poor
 - ☐ Don't Know
3. How would you rate the seating facilities provided?
 - ☐ Excellent
 - ☐ Good
 - ☐ Average
 - ☐ Poor
 - ☐ Don't Know
4. How would you rate the toilet facilities provided?
 - ☐ Excellent
 - ☐ Good
 - ☐ Average
 - ☐ Poor
 - ☐ Don't Know

5. How would you rate the atmosphere in Cookstown Town Centre during the Continental Market?

- ☐ Excellent
- ☐ Good
- ☐ Average
- ☐ Poor
- ☐ Don't Know

6. How would you rate the Children's Entertainment provided during the Continental Market?

- ☐ Excellent
- ☐ Good
- ☐ Average
- ☐ Poor
- ☐ Don't Know

7. How would you rate the Musical Entertainment provided (Saturday 16.00 – 19:30 and Sunday 13.00-18.00)?

- ☐ Excellent
- ☐ Good
- ☐ Average
- ☐ Poor
- ☐ Don't Know

8. How would you rate the Marketing/Promotion of the Event?

- ☐ Excellent
- ☐ Good
- ☐ Average
- ☐ Poor
- ☐ Don't Know

9. How did you hear about the event?

- ☐ Billboard
- ☐ Regional Press
- ☐ Local Press
- ☐ Radio
- ☐ Facebook/Twitter
- ☐ Other _____

10. Where did you travel from to attend the Market?

11. Which day(s) did you visit the market?

- ☐ Saturday 20 May
- ☐ Sunday 21 May

12. Did you visit the market during the extended opening hours on

- Saturday 20 May 18.00-21.00
- Sunday 21 May 18:00-19.00

13. How long did you spend in Cookstown Town Centre?

- Up to 1 Hour
- 1-2 Hours
- 2-3 Hours
- More than 3 hours

14. Did you feel the operating hours were sufficient Saturday 9.00-21:00 & Sunday 11.00-19.00?

- Yes
- No

If No, please comment

15. Did you visit any of the local businesses while in Cookstown?

- Yes
- No

16. Did you visit the local market trader stalls, located on James Street?

- Yes
- No

17. Would you return to shop in Cookstown?

- Yes
- No

18. If the event was to be again in Cookstown Town Centre, are there any areas for improvement regarding the development and delivery of the event?

APPENDIX 2

COOKSTOWN CONTINENTAL MARKET COOKSTOWN TOWN CENTRE SATURDAY 20 – SUNDAY 21 MAY 2017



Comhairle Ceantair
Lár Uladh
Mid Ulster
District Council

EVALUATION FORM

1. Name of
Business: _____
2. Business
Address: _____
3. Telephone
Number: _____
4. Email
Address: _____
5. How would you rate the Continental Market held from Saturday 20 – Sunday 21 May 2017?
(Please Tick)

	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	Don't Know
Continental Market					
Location/Layout of Market					
Seating Facilities					
Toilet Facilities					
Atmosphere in the town					
Street Entertainment					
Marketing/Promotion					

6. Did you visit the Continental Market?

Yes ☐ No ☐

7. How would you rate the impact of the market in terms of: - (Please tick)

	Positive	No change	Negative
An increase in footfall			
An increase in sales			

8. Did your business operate extended opening hours on the Friday/Saturday/Sunday opening?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes what trading hours did you operate? _____

9. Do you feel Cookstown Town benefited from the event?

Yes ☐ No ☐

10. Please provide further comments/suggestions regarding the event?

11. If the event was to be delivered next year in Cookstown Town Centre, are there any areas for improvement regarding the development and delivery of the event?

12. Are there any other events/activities which you would like to see delivered in Cookstown Town Centre?

Thank you for your co-operation, your feedback is greatly appreciated!

Please return to: Ms Mary McCullagh, Regeneration Manager, Mid Ulster District Council, Cookstown Office, Burn Road, Cookstown BT80 8DT by **Friday 2 June 2017.**



APPENDIX 3

COOKSTOWN CONTINENTAL MARKET – 20-21 May 2017

EVENT ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE

Date	Times	Entertainment
Saturday 20 May	9am	Continental Market opens
Saturday 20 May	12 Noon – 5pm	Entertainment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face Painting • Balloon Modellers • Caricaturist • Fidget Feet Ariel Dance Shows (12noon, 2.15pm, 2.45pm, 3.15pm, 3.45pm, 4.15pm, 4.45pm & 5.20pm) • Beauty & Beast Walkabouts
Saturday 20 May	1pm-2pm	The Traditional Music in Schools Group, joined by Ulster Scots Juvenile Pipe Band
Saturday 20 May	2pm – 4pm	The Fitzafrenic, Graton Street Buskers Saxophone Lounge Ryan McGarrity Finn McMahon
Saturday 20 May	7pm-8.30pm	Limavady Big Band
Saturday 20 May	9pm	Continental Market closes
Sunday 21 May	11am	Continental Market opens
Sunday 21 May	1pm- 6pm	Music Performances – On stage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caroline Creggan School of Dance • The Banjacks • The Hub Choir • Cookstown Folk Club • Lauren McCrory, Glor Tire Winner 2017
Sunday 21 May	1pm- 5pm	Entertainment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face Painting • Balloon Modellers • Star Wars Walkabouts
Sunday 21 May	7pm	Continental Market closes

DUNGANNON REGENERATION PARTNERSHIP

Minutes of meeting on Friday 12th May 2017

VENUE: Tower Room, Ranfurly House Arts & Visitor Centre @ 1pm

Present: Cllr W Cuddy, Cllr B Monteith, Cllr D Molloy, Cllr C Cuthbertson, Cllr D Mullen, B MacAuley, S Mohan, P Kerr, T Stewart and C McHugh.

In Attendance: P Anderson (DfC), A McCreesh (MUDC), C McKenna (MUDC), F McKeown (MUDC), P McCreedy (MUDC), JA Spence (MUDC), P McCarey (MUDC) and A Sharkey (DfC).

1. Apologies:

Cllr K Ashton, S McCammon, C Fox (MUDC) and S McGowan (DfC).

2. Consideration of letter of resignation from Niall Maneely, Chairperson

Following the resignation letter from Niall Maneely, Chairperson Brian MacAuley chaired the meeting.

B MacAuley advised members that a letter of resignation has been received from Niall Maneely, which was included in the documents circulated to members. B MacAuley invited members to express their views.

Cllr Cuthbertson said that he would like to wish Niall Maneely best wishes in the future. He stated that DRP Board members are mostly made up of Dungannon Town Councillors and officials with very little representation from members of the public. This needed to be reviewed.

T Stewart said that Niall Maneely was an excellent DRP chairperson and will be sadly missed.

Cllr W Cuddy said that he would like to thank Niall Maneely. He advised that DRP need to be clear what the future direction is. There needs to be a vehicle to drive the town centre forward.

Cllr B Monteith and Cllr D Mullen advised that they would like to wish Niall Maneely all the best. Cllr Mullen reiterated her best wishes.

Cllr D Molloy proposed that a letter of thanks should be sent to Niall Maneely from DRP Board members.

B MacAuley advised members that the next meeting of DRP should be the appointment of a new chairperson.

3. Adoption of minutes of last meeting

That the minutes dated Friday 20th January are taken as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Proposed By: - Cllr D Molloy

Seconded By: - Cllr C Cuthbertson

That the minutes dated Friday 10th March are taken as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Proposed: - Stephen Mohan

Seconded: - Cllr B Monteith

4. Matters Arising

4.1 Off Street Car Park

Members asked about the present situation regarding off street car parking report and were informed that the report is currently being compiled.

5. Ann Street Development

A McCreesh advised that today Friday 12th May is the deadline for expressions of interest for the Ann Street site and couldn't comment any further as it was still a live tender.

S Mohan stated that Cllr W Cuddy had an article in the paper in relation to Ann Street and queried his thoughts.

Cllr W Cuddy advised members that the Job Centre in Thomas Street, Dungannon is closing and that many of the staff employed there have been redeployed to Cookstown.

He stated that nothing is happening in Dungannon and that he is constantly telling members of the public what is going on and then nothing appears to be happening. He also stated that members of the public are frustrated with Dungannon town. He said Ann Street needs to complement the town centre with good linkages via Irish Street. He also said it is important that Ann Street works for the benefit of the whole town.

6. Presentation by Sharon Scott (Place Management Solutions) re Innovative Approaches to Reducing Vacancy and Dereliction in Dungannon town centre

B MacAuley welcomed Sharon Scott from Place Management Solutions to the meeting to present her findings from the study. The study focuses on "Innovative Approaches to Reducing Vacancy and Dereliction in Dungannon town centre".

Following the presentation by Sharon Scott, B MacAuley invited members to express their views.

B MacAuley stated that the dereliction on Georges Street and the old police station at the top of Market Square should have been included within the report.

Cllr C Cuthbertson advised 4 -36 Perry Street is currently occupied by a Martial Arts Group.

T Stewart said that the report is very detailed but that the premises identified are vacant for a reason.

Cllr W Cuddy stated that he agrees that the report is very detailed and feels that infrastructure which supports the town is also an important part of the process.

Cllr B Monteith advised that the Old Courier building should be demolished and be replaced with a Play Park, which would be of benefit to members of the public who live at that side of the town centre. He said he didn't agree with the priorities identified within the report and those premises which are facing on to the street should be addressed first. He also advised that there should be an incentive to address the dereliction problem in Dungannon by sourcing enterprise solutions. He suggested that revenue from the sale of Ann Street should be reinvested in Dungannon town centre and be available to tackle dereliction and vacant properties.

Cllr D Mullen agreed with the priorities within the report.

Cllr D Molloy stated that there was a major problem with opportunity site owners and renewed planning permission. He felt that we need to find a way to unlock key derelict sites in Dungannon Town Centre by engaging with absentee property owners.

S Scott advised that in addition to the dereliction report there is a fact sheet for each of the derelict properties outlining ownership, rent and rates.

B MacAuley said that there should be priority to do the Fort Bar and the Old Police Station on Market Square.

P Kerr stated that there should be more assistance for retailers.

S Mohan stated he was dissatisfied with the workings of Council in Dungannon town. He said the Traders Association stepped in to provide funding for lights at the entrance from the Fort Bar to Irish Street.

P Anderson advised that Dungannon Town Centre Masterplan was completed in 2010, funded by the Department for Communities. P Anderson stated that much work had been completed by Council to date, supported by the Department for Communities which demonstrates a clear commitment to Dungannon town centre. He also said that Urban Development Grants had been a useful source of funding for Dungannon.

A McCreesh advised that this study focusing upon finding innovative approaches to reducing vacancy and dereliction in Dungannon town centre was commissioned by Council in partnership with DRP. He stated that it is important that all partners play their part in finding solutions to regenerate Dungannon town centre.

7. The Future of DRP

B MacAuley advised members that a discussion needs to take place on the future of DRP, he invited members to express their views.

Cllr B Monteith advised that Dungannon Regeneration Partnership was created by Dungannon & South Tyrone Borough Council to draw down funding for Dungannon Town Centre. At the time there was no traders association, but now that there is he does not see the benefit of DRP. This is a level of bureaucracy not required.

S Mohan stated that DRP had remained in existence to access funding and had been successful in receiving £300,000 over a three year period from 2012 – 2014, (£100,000 per year) from Dungannon and South Tyrone Borough Council. He said he felt there needs to be a more structured approach between DRP and Council.

Cllr W Cuddy advised that DRP has good representation at meetings. He felt that it would be beneficial to forge a new partnership with Council, as Dungannon is the largest town in Mid Ulster. He believes it still has a role but must be different in future.

C McHugh reported that it is beneficial for Translink to work in partnership moving forward.

T Stewart stated that there is a need to have a mechanism to report to and that has strong accountability for all actions.

A McCreesh stated that he was reluctant to advise DRP on their future, as he believed they are better placed to determine their future direction. He did however, point out that Mid Ulster District Council will work in partnership with whatever organisation remains to regenerate Dungannon Town Centre. He also alluded to a fairly recent independent report completed by Venturei regarding the future of DRP and suggested that this should be revisited.

A McCreesh stated that all the problems discussed pertaining to Dungannon cannot be attributed to Mid Ulster District Council. There are many issues to address in the town but these will require a partnership approach eg, out of town retail, dereliction, need for progress on a bypass, etc.

Cllr D Molloy advised that the initial Public Realm Scheme had a detrimental impact on the town centre but stated that in moving forward, the partnership needs to have a clear focus and direction.

B MacAuley stated that the Venturei report and the minutes from July 2015 and February 2016 will be circulated to members again.

8. Any Other Business

S Mohan advised that a paper from Dungannon Traders Association has been prepared and he would like to present it at the next meeting. B MacAuley requested that the paper is presented as the first item on the agenda. B MacAuley also asked if MUDC would prepare a short paper to share their views on the future of DRP, prior to the next meeting.

9. Date of Next Meeting

DRP members agreed that a meeting is to be held within the next two weeks to discuss the future of DRP.

It was proposed by Cllr B Monteith
Seconded by: S Mohan

That the agreed date for the meeting is **Friday 26th May 2017 @ 1pm, Tower Room, Ranfurly House, Arts and Visitors Centre, Dungannon.**

B Monteith suggested that the day of meeting is reviewed at the next meeting, as Fridays are a bad day.

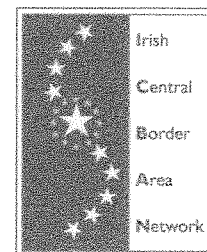
Meeting ended at 2.10pm.

Irish Central Border Area Network Ltd
Units 4-6 Enniskillen Business Centre
21 Lackaghboy Road
Enniskillen
Co Fermanagh
BT74 4RL

Tel: (0)28 6634 0710

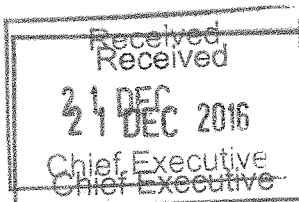
Email: info@icban.com

Website: www.icban.com



16 December 2016

Mr Anthony Tohill
Chief Executive
Mid Ulster District Council
Burn Road
COOKSTOWN
County Tyrone
BT80 8DT



Dear Anthony,

ICBAN Member Councils Annual Contribution (2017-18)

The ICBAN Management Board agreed at their meeting in November that member Council contributions for the next financial year would be maintained at £10,000 stg per Council. This relates to the financial year of 2017 for County Councils in Ireland and 2017/18 for District Councils in Northern Ireland.

Member Council subscriptions are a very important contributor towards our core administration resources and for which we are most appreciative. Our cost base has been reduced in the past 18 months through a restructuring and efficiencies programme and a key task for the organisation will be to source funding for longer term sustainability.

Our delivery focus continues to be on areas which will benefit our member Councils. The latest attached 'Update' profiles our current work programme, which has centred on broadband telecommunications, literary tourism, creative industries and rural development initiatives, for the wider Central Border Region. Representations continue to be made on key connectivity infrastructure and on the potential impact of Brexit on the border region. During the next year we will be focusing efforts to advance various such projects and representations. Some of these projects will be advanced for national funding, EU funds and indeed some may be presented to local authorities and Local Action Groups for support. We will continue to keep you informed of progress and developments.

On behalf of the ICBAN Management Board I would like to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to the Council for your continued support and assistance.

Should you have any queries or would like more information please do not hesitate to contact me.

With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year,

Shane Campbell
Chief Executive Officer

APPENDIX 5 – REQUEST FROM CALEDON REGENERATION PARTNERSHIP



CALEDON REGENERATION PARTNERSHIP

Company Secretary: Florence Trimble

Vat Reg: 722 3309 67

Mr A Tohill
Chief Executive
Mid Ulster District Council
15 Circular Road
Dungannon
BT71 6DT

22 May 2017

Dear Mr Tohill,

We were pleased to meet with two of your officers, Fiona McKeown and Catherine Fox, on Wednesday 10th May, concerning possible Heritage Lottery schemes for Caledon village. At the end of our presentation we discussed avenues of progression for the schemes, and it was suggested that we write a further letter to you. Hence the enclosed.

Caledon Regeneration Partnership has elected a sub-committee to advance these projects, which has not met formally to date, since it has been pendant on this visit from your officials. Our expectation was that an appropriate officer of the council would be designated to support our group as an active member of the sub-committee. Progression of any such scheme, or schemes, would be reliant on council involvement, and ideally its additional financial support.

During preliminary discussions with Heritage Lottery we were advised of the need to engage with our local council at the outset of any formal plans, and to try to insure their support and professional guidance throughout.

Recently representatives of CRP participated in a built heritage workshop hosted by ABC Council. A presentation on the day by a council employee, highlighted their close involvement with Heritage Lottery, and their contribution in terms of both manpower and finance, to schemes of this nature within the council area. In respect of resources, the council employs a manager and support officer to two Heritage Lottery schemes located in Richhill and Armagh City. Both are additionally supported financially by way of core-funding. On the same day, we also had an opportunity to speak with an employee of Derry/Strabane Council, who was working on a project for the village of Sion Mills.

Our understanding from conversations held on 10th May is that an additional Heritage Lottery scheme within your Council area is currently being considered for Draperstown, and that our scheme should compete with this for support and funding. We respectfully suggest that both initiatives could be supported equally by your council if the models adopted by similar council bodies in the province were followed. When you have had the opportunity of considering our letter we would very much appreciate a further meeting.

I look forward to hearing your thoughts at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely,

Sandra Mortimer
Administrator

Cc Cllr Gildernew, Cllr Burton, Cllr McAleer, Cllr Mulligan

Caledon Courthouse, 42 Main Street, CALEDON. County Tyrone. BT68 4TZ.

Tel: 028 37569899

Email: sandramortimer.crp@hotmail.co.uk

APPENDIX 6 – DIGG SPONSORSHIP REQUEST



11-13 Irish Street

Dungannon

Co Tyrone

BT70 1DB

26/4/17

Dear Catherine,

Hope you are keeping well and enjoying your new post. Thank you for calling into DIGG and introducing yourself. Now I have a face to the name and it's so much easier to make contact with yourself.

As discussed we are planning to hold a Baby & Toddler event (name to be decided) to promote Dungannon businesses & other Businesses within the Mid Ulster area. We hope to have a minimum of 25 other businesses all specialising in all aspects of baby and toddler products from clothes, to activities etc, from new born to age 16.

We are hoping to hold this event on Sunday 10th September @ Ranfurly house. We envisage it being a family day out which can grow each year. I also own Changing Events which is an events company so I do have experience in running events however we really feel we need the help and support of the Mid Ulster Council to make it the success we know it can be. We intend to run this event as a charity event & our nominated charity will be "Cash for Kids" as this is a charity close to our heart and we meet many children in DIGG and in the wider community who will benefit from any money which will be raised.

We will use radio and newspapers as well as our thriving social media to promote this. We anticipate raising a minimum of £2000 but would hope to raise much more. We have over 5000 followers on facebook and over 1000 on snapchat and instagram, so we will be able to reach many people with our advertising campaign.

We would like to request consideration from the Council for support and sponsorship of £2000 to help us run this event to its best potential, and to help us promote dungannon and the local businesses in mid-Ulster area. We will include The Mid Ulster Council logo and their involvement in the project in all our advertising campaigns. We plan to use the sponsorship towards

- *hire of premises for the event and meetings running up to it
- *employing extra staff to ensure smooth running of the event
- *any equipment hire needed and any other unforeseen costs which may arise.

We would hope the success of this event would lead to a yearly event, to help promote our town, its businesses and other local businesses in mid-Ulster.

We have spoken to Cash for Kids and we have a meeting with them this month to discuss further plans and they have already assured us that they will be promoting this event on Cool FM as they work in conjunction with the radio station.

We really feel this is a good, positive event which will create a feel good factor about Dungannon and Mid Ulster and make everyone aware of the great businesses which exist in the area.

We hope you will consider us for sponsorship as without it we would not be able to run the event.

Many thanks for taking the time to read our proposal.

Kind regards

Caroline O'Neill

APPENDIX 7 – REQUEST FROM ‘NOW GROUP’ FOR ESF FUNDING

From: Pauline Fitzsimons [mailto:pauline.fitzsimons@nowgroup.org]

Sent: 12 June 2017 13:20

To: Fiona McKeown <Fiona.McKeown@midulstercouncil.org>

Subject: ESF Match Funding

Hi Fiona

I would like to introduce ourselves, the NOW Group is a social enterprise supporting people with learning difficulties and autism into jobs with a future.

We support trainees every step on their road to paid employment including accredited training to build up skills and confidence as well as work experience and voluntary work placements. We also support people already in employment and employers themselves by providing workplace support for employees, employers and co-workers. We work with SES (Supported Employment Solutions) as part of a consortium delivering the NI Executive's flagship 'Workable (NI)' disability employment programme.

Our services focus on supporting people into employment, training, transition and volunteering. We currently deliver our Employment & Training Service through an ESF funded project with match funding from BHSCT, Newtownabbey & Antrim Council and North Down Ard's Council.

We would like to build on the success of the programme and have been looking at areas where we have established connections and have successfully worked with participants.

Our ask would be the opportunity to come and talk to you about what we do and the success we have had through our current programme and how we could emulate this in your area through the potentially last round of ESF funding. We feel our model of working fits extremely well with your council economic strategy and with those often marginalised people to secure and maintain jobs.

I would be grateful if you could contact me on 02890436400 to arrange a meeting.

Thank you

Pauline Fitzsimons

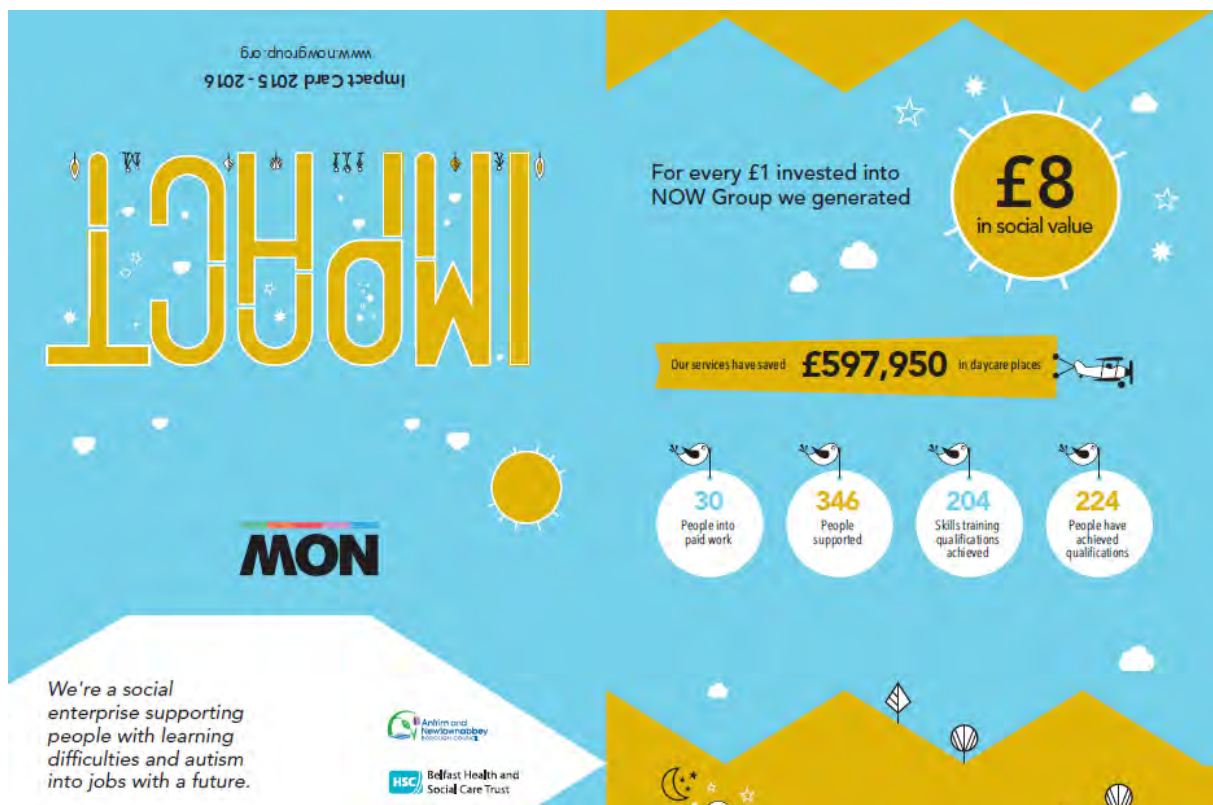
Head of Services



NOW Group, Head Office, 428 Springfield Road, Belfast, BT12 7DU.

Tel: 028 9043 6400 | **Web:** www.nowgroup.org | **Twitter:** [/NOW_Group](https://twitter.com/NOW_Group) | **Facebook:** [/nowgrouporg](https://www.facebook.com/nowgrouporg)

Charity number: XR23504, Company number: NI043774.



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Report on	Mid Ulster District Council Response to Guidance on the Children's Services Co-operation Act (NI) 2015
Reporting Officer	Anne-Marie Campbell
Contact Officer	Anne-Marie Campbell

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To obtain member approval of the Mid Ulster District Council Response to Guidance on the Children's Services Co-operation Act (NI) 2015.
2.0	Background
2.1	The Children's Services Co-operation Act (Northern Ireland) 2015 (the CSCA) came into effect in December 2015. The aim of the Act is to improve co-operation between named Children's Authorities and other children's service providers who provide a children's service or are engaged in activities which contribute to improving the well-being of children and young people.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	District Councils are named Children's Authorities in the Act which places a number of duties on them. The Act sits within an overarching framework designed to improve the well-being of children and young people and the guidance must therefore be considered in this broad context rather than in isolation. The broad framework includes the Northern Ireland Executive's Programme for Government and the Children and Young People's Strategy, the outcomes they are working to achieve and their associated processes for partnership working, monitoring and reporting.
3.2	Council supports that the well-being of our children and young people is central to the development of a progressive, cohesive and prosperous society and welcomes the development of guidance on how organisations co-operate to achieve this
3.3	The Programme for Government (PfG) identifies that a key desired outcome is "giving our children and young people the best start in life". The Children's Services Co-operation Act (NI) 2015 and The Children and Young People's Strategy are key components to achieve this. Agreeing mechanisms to support improved working practices and outlining the key outcomes to achieve takes the first step in making a real and lasting impact on the lives of children and young people.

4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<u>Financial & Human Resources Implications</u> Financial: None Human: None
4.2	<u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u> N/A
4.3	<u>Risk Management Implications</u> N/A
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Approve the Mid Ulster District Council Response to Guidance on the Children's Services Co-operation Act (NI) 2015.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 - Mid Ulster District Council Response to Guidance on the Children's Services Co-operation Act (NI) 2015.

Mid Ulster District Council Response to Guidance on the Children's Services Co-operation Act (NI) 2015

Introduction

The Children's Services Co-operation Act (Northern Ireland) 2015 (the CSCA) came into effect in December 2015. The aim of the Act is to improve co-operation between named **Children's Authorities** and **other children's service providers** who provide a children's service or are engaged in activities which contribute to improving the **well-being** of children and young people.

District Councils are named Children's Authorities in the Act which places a number of duties on them. The Act sits within an overarching framework designed to improve the well-being of children and young people and the guidance must therefore be considered in this broad context rather than in isolation. The broad framework includes the Northern Ireland Executive's Programme for Government and the Children and Young People's Strategy, the outcomes they are working to achieve and their associated processes for partnership working, monitoring and reporting. Council supports that the well-being of our children and young people is central to the development of a progressive, cohesive and prosperous society and welcomes the development of guidance on how organisations co-operate to achieve this.

Comments on guidance

- **Section 2 – Who is the guidance for?**

It is helpful that named Children's Authorities are listed which includes District Councils. The section also includes a definition of a children's service provider which is clearly set out. This provides clarification as to who the Act applies.

- **Section 3 – Wellbeing of Children and Young People**

Council strongly supports the view that it is important to ensure our children and young people reach their full potential, to live happy fulfilling lives, able to contribute fully to society. The definition of well-being in terms of eight general characteristics which are interconnected and overlapping highlights the need for cooperation between authorities to make sure that the well-being of children and young people is improved.

To date Council has engaged and continues to engage meaningfully with children and young people through various aspects of its activities and services that will deliver outcomes for many of the eight characteristics listed. This can be evidenced, in for example;

- Community planning consultation and engagement events;
- Hosting of primary and post primary schools visits to our offices;
- Receptions hosted by the Chair and/ or Deputy Chair of Council for schools;
- Hosting school student council events;
- Event to mark the anniversary of the UN involving local post primary schools;

- Participation in the wide variety of programmes provided by Council including sports, culture and arts, good relations, community safety, health and well-being;
- Council also supports a vast range of community, arts and sports organisations who work in the community providing programmes and access to facilities; and
- Extensive facilities including play, parks, leisure, cultural venues and sports.

Council welcomes the opportunity to work with other Children's Authorities and other children's service providers to improve well-being through a more joined up approach. However Mid Ulster's Community Plan and the structures that have been established to deliver it, provide a strong mechanism to deliver against the factors that have been identified as contributing to well-being. Council would suggest that the community planning model and approach should be the foundation from which connections and interdependencies are made and formed. It would also be useful if the contact details for the nominated Children's Champions within each NI Government Department were included in the guidance.

- **Section 4 – Co-operation**

Council recognises that improving the lives of children and young people will require the assistance and support of schools; the health service; the police service; local communities; councils and businesses; the voluntary and community sector; parents and guardians; and we need the help of our children and young people. It is only by everyone working together in pursuit of a common goal that we will secure the present and future we want for our children and young people.

It is vital therefore that we focus our efforts and resources to ensure that our children and young people enjoy the best start in life. This means that they are healthy; that they have opportunities to play; that they learn and achieve; that they contribute positively to society; that they feel safe and stable where they live; that they experience economic and environmental well-being; that their rights are respected; and that they are treated equally and have the opportunity to experience good relations with those of a different race, religion or culture.

Council recognises that it has an important role to play in this. Through the Community Planning approach, Council does and will continue to cooperate with other Children's Authorities and service providers. The guidance should provide a framework to the types of cooperation expected whilst taking cognisance of the cooperation mechanisms that already exist and successfully operate through Community Planning and other arrangements. This should avoid duplication of effort and maximise the impact of available resources. Mid Ulster's Community Plan also identifies a range of outcomes and success measures that will be used to measure the impact of the Community Plan. It will be essential that any future requirements in terms of data collection or evidence based impact evaluations fits into the monitoring arrangements of the Community Plan so that there is a single overarching framework against

which to review progress and assess the impact of actions.

- **Section 5 – Development of a Children and Young Peoples Strategy**
Council supports the development of a Children and Young People's Strategy. We would welcome further guidance on how Council will be able to contribute to the development of Delivery Plans and the actions contained therein. It will however be essential that measurement of achievements fits into arrangements being established as part of the Community Plan process.
- **Section 6 – Reporting on the operation of the Act**
Further clarification is needed on the reporting mechanisms that the Act will require. The Children and Young People's Strategy included a range of draft outcomes and indicators. Council would suggest that the guidance links to these and provides further explanation of how for example co-operation and sharing of resources is measured and the impact of this established. Further data may need to be collected. It is essential that the reporting mechanism is not overly burdensome or result in significant expense to implement and manage. As highlighted previously, Council works closely with its partners and other Authorities through the Community Planning process and normal service delivery models. These already have established reporting mechanisms which should be considered before any new approach is adopted so as to avoid duplication and maximise the utilisation of existing resources.
- **Section 7 –Sharing of resources and pooling of funds**
Whilst supportive of co-operating and proactively working with other Authorities and service providers, Council would ask for further clarification on the governance and risk management arrangements that would be required to share resources and pool funds. There is a lack of guidance/certainty provided around making contributions to a fund from which expenditure would be incurred. Any process that is developed would need to reflect/incorporate the Council governance process and standing orders.

The Programme for Government (PfG) identifies that a key desired outcome is "giving our children and young people the best start in life". The Children's Services Co-operation Act (NI) 2015 and The Children and Young People's Strategy are key components to achieve this. Agreeing mechanisms to support improved working practices and outlining the key outcomes to achieve takes the first step in making a real and lasting impact on the lives of children and young people.

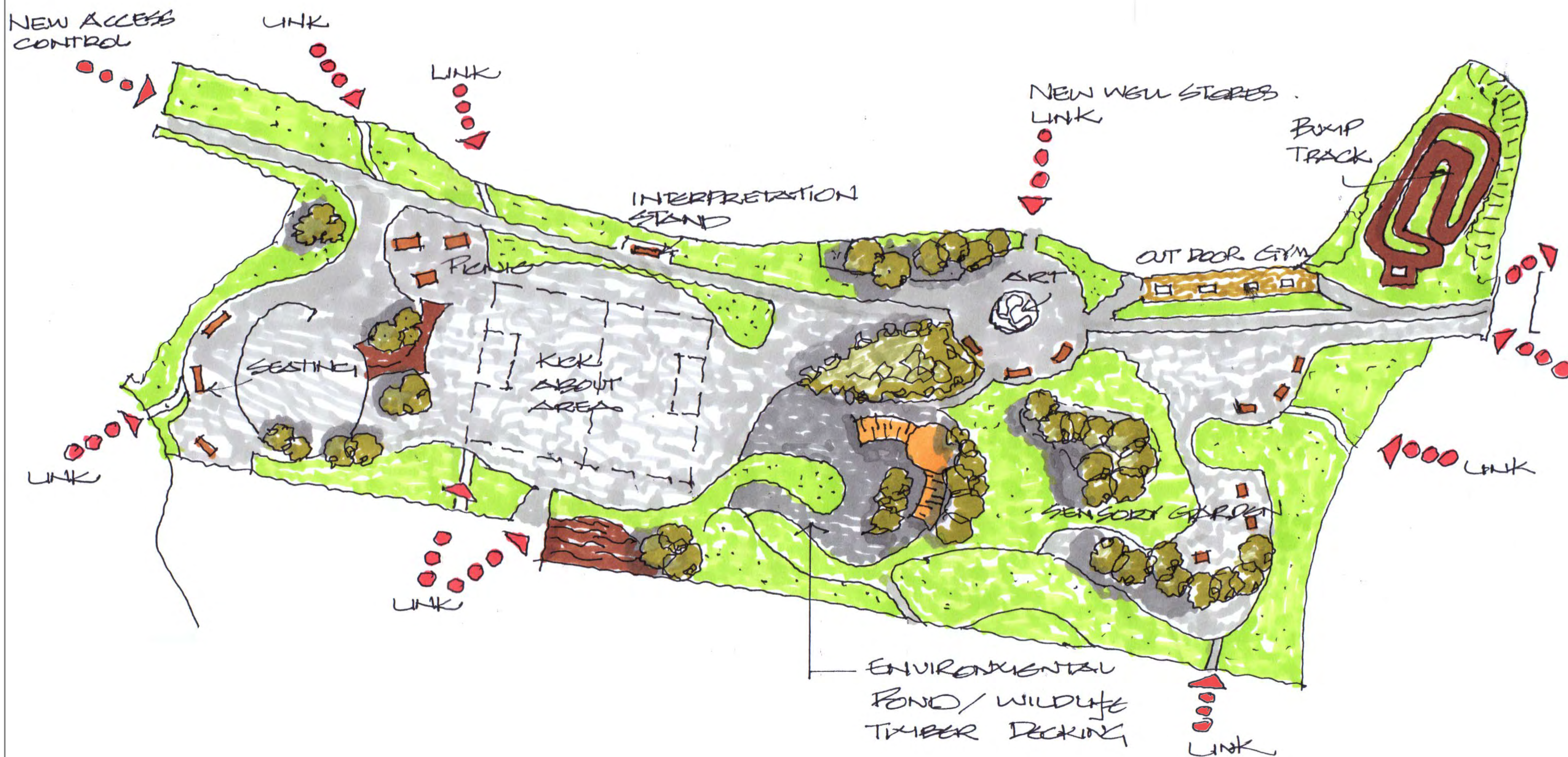
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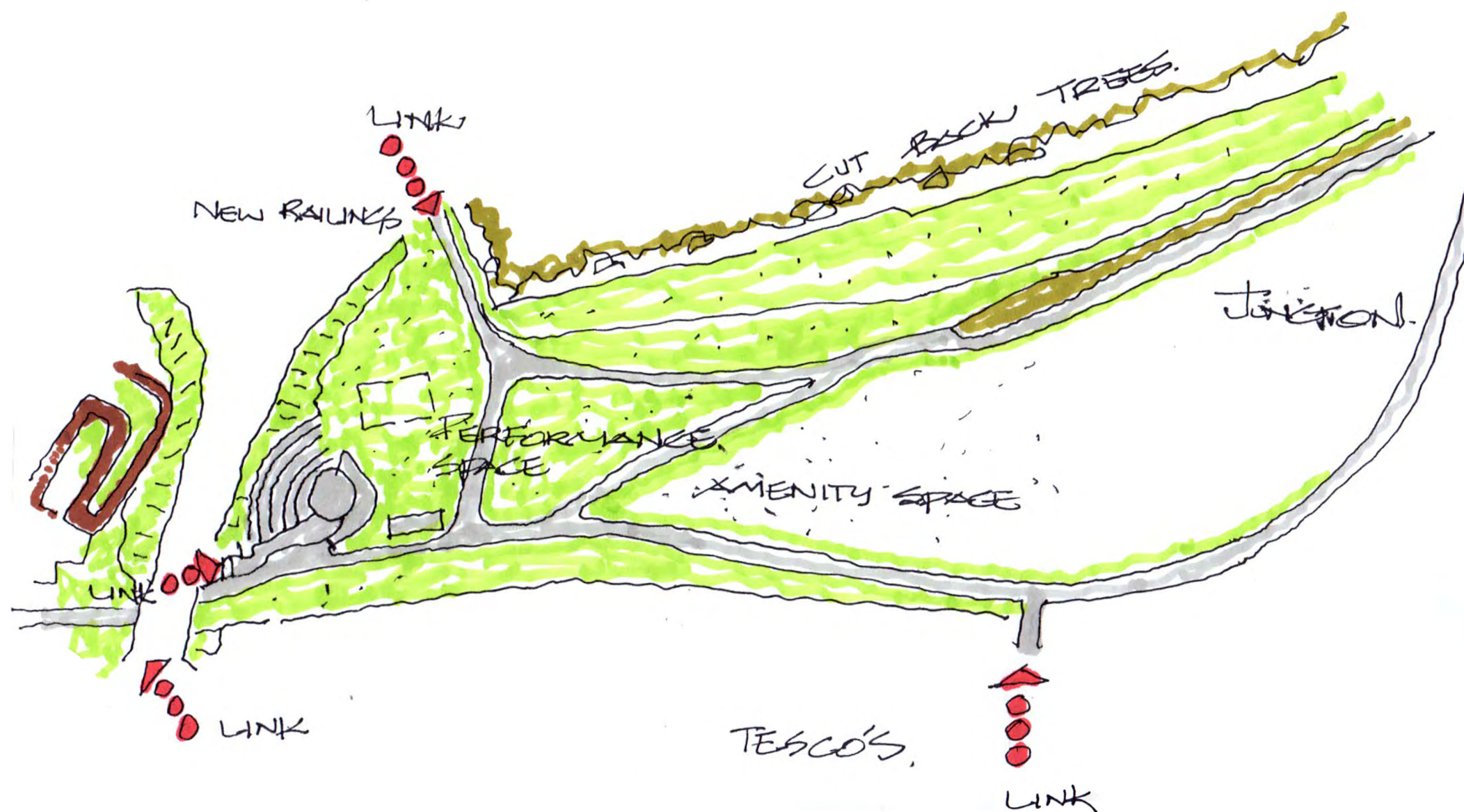
Report on	Railway Park, Dungannon Project
Reporting Officer	Head of Parks
Contact Officer	Nigel Hill

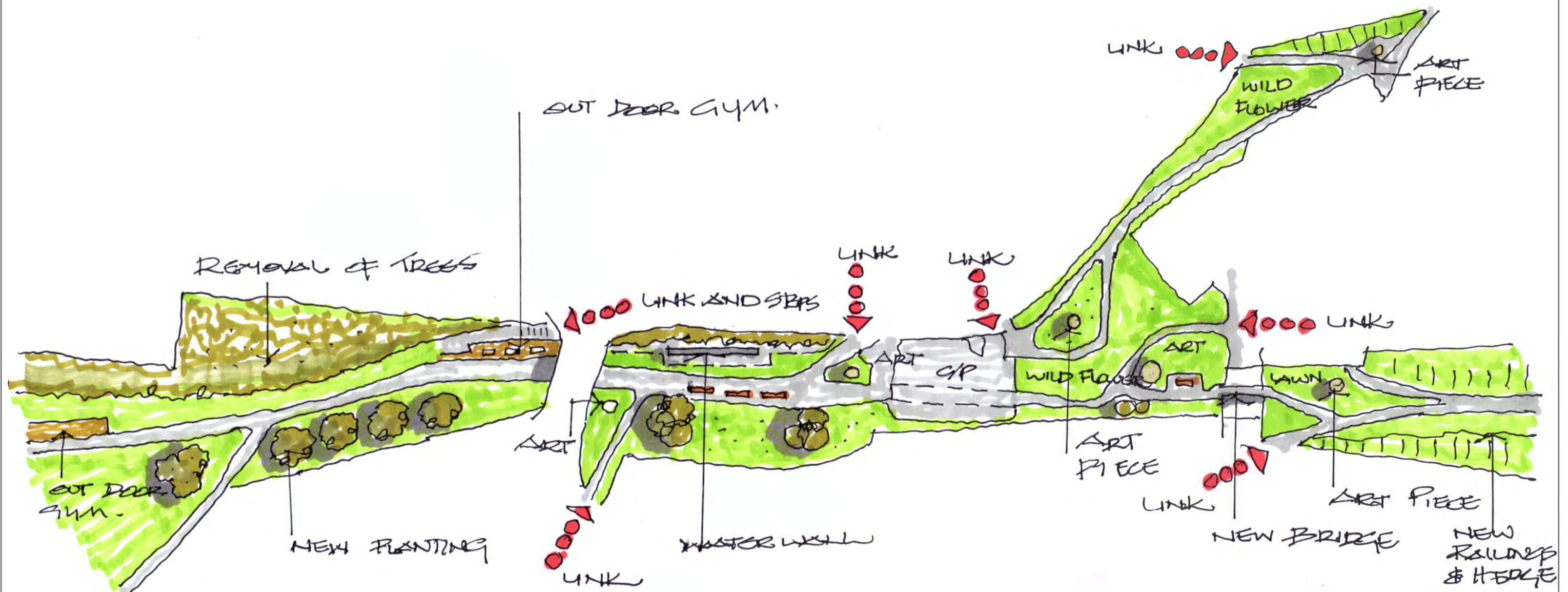
Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	x

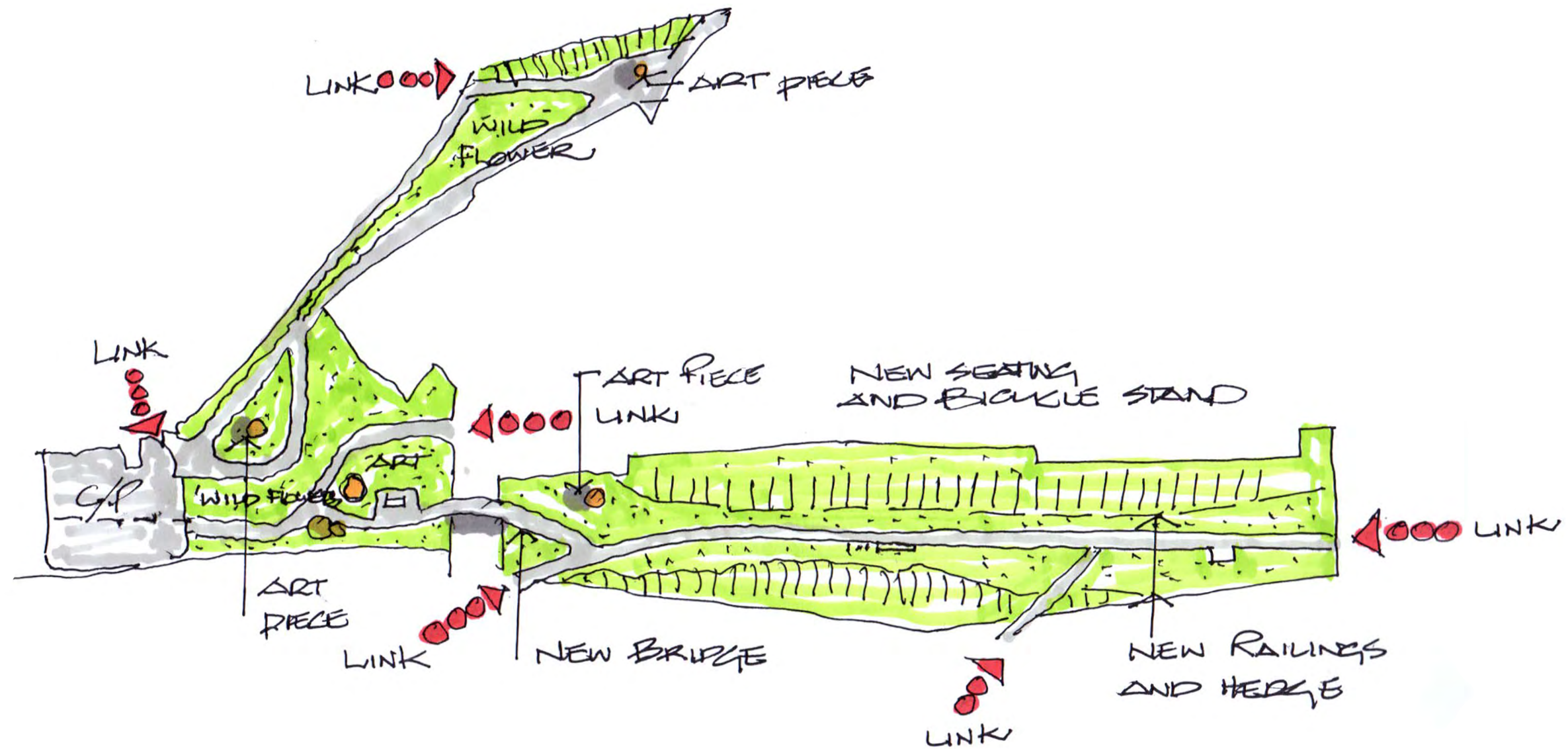
1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update members on progress on draft development proposals opportunities for Railway Park, Dungannon.
2.0	Background
2.1	Funding of £7.3 million has been invested in Dungannon as part of the European Peace Programme Shared Spaces. Council and STEP have secured the funding through a collaborative application for the development of community facilities across the town, these include: the development of the linear pathway linking the recreational sites of Drumcoo, Railway Park, Windmill Wood and Lettermad Wood, the development of an events space at Hill of The O'Neill and development of a shared community building at Beechvalley.
2.2	The Railway Park element for the project was off particular focus with an application submitted to Space and Place (CFNI) for the purchase and development for an open community greenspace (6.5 acres) which would extend development opportunities in Railway Park West. The application was not successful, however Dungannon & South Tyrone Borough Council decided in July 2014 to go ahead with the purchase of the lands to develop open space as a future project. Mid Ulster District Council resolved in December 2016 to proceed with the purchase and transfer of the lands, which extended to 6.5 acres (or 2.63 hectares).
2.3	The Railway Park project emphasises the need for prioritisation of sufficient council capital and revenue resources to supplement external funding opportunities in order to develop, manage and maintain the public space to a quality standard that are intrinsic to the achievement of a National Green Flag Standard for Railway Park, which will be our objective by 2020.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	This report presents conceptual design proposals for the development of Railway Park for member's consideration. It is planned to engage at DEA level to work out local issues through community meetings as part of the continued conceptual development process to strengthen the design and capture specific requirements, such as public art and consultation on key features important to local communities including children's play and environmental landscaping.
3.2	It should be noted that these are very early conceptual proposals which have been developed to initiate a process of further consideration relating to availability of budget to

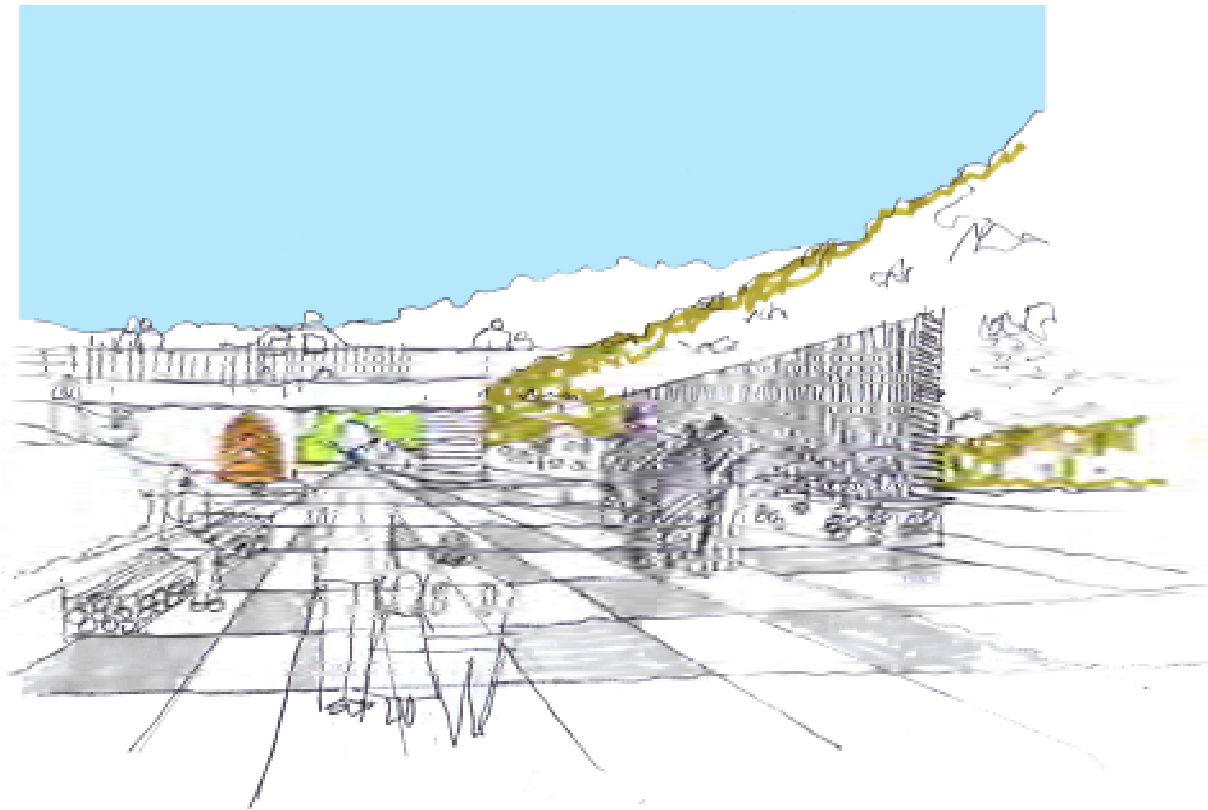
3.3	<p>progress to next stage, alternative funding sources, ongoing revenue costs resulting from the development and prioritisation within the overall Councils capital programme. These proposals will need further refinement and agreement before progression to the next stage.</p> <p>A business case for the Railway park Project will need to be completed to enable council to position the project with in the council's rolling capital programme and to assist with potential external funding opportunities. Following this the appointment of suitable qualified and experienced Integrated Consultancy Team (ICT) will be required to develop comprehensive designs to include specifications and all associated tender documentation, subject to available funding.</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<p><u>Financial & Human Resources Implications</u></p> <p>Financial: The capital and revenue cost implications require further development within the context of Council's capital programme. Human: Existing staff resources sufficient to coordinate initial project development objectives.</p>
4.2	<p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>N/A</p>
4.3	<p><u>Risk Management Implications</u></p> <p>N/A</p>
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Approval for engagement at DEA level and progression of community meetings to further develop the conceptual process and allow progression of the business case. All members of council will be invited to attend any meetings on this project.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Railway Park, Dungannon Conceptual Design Proposals



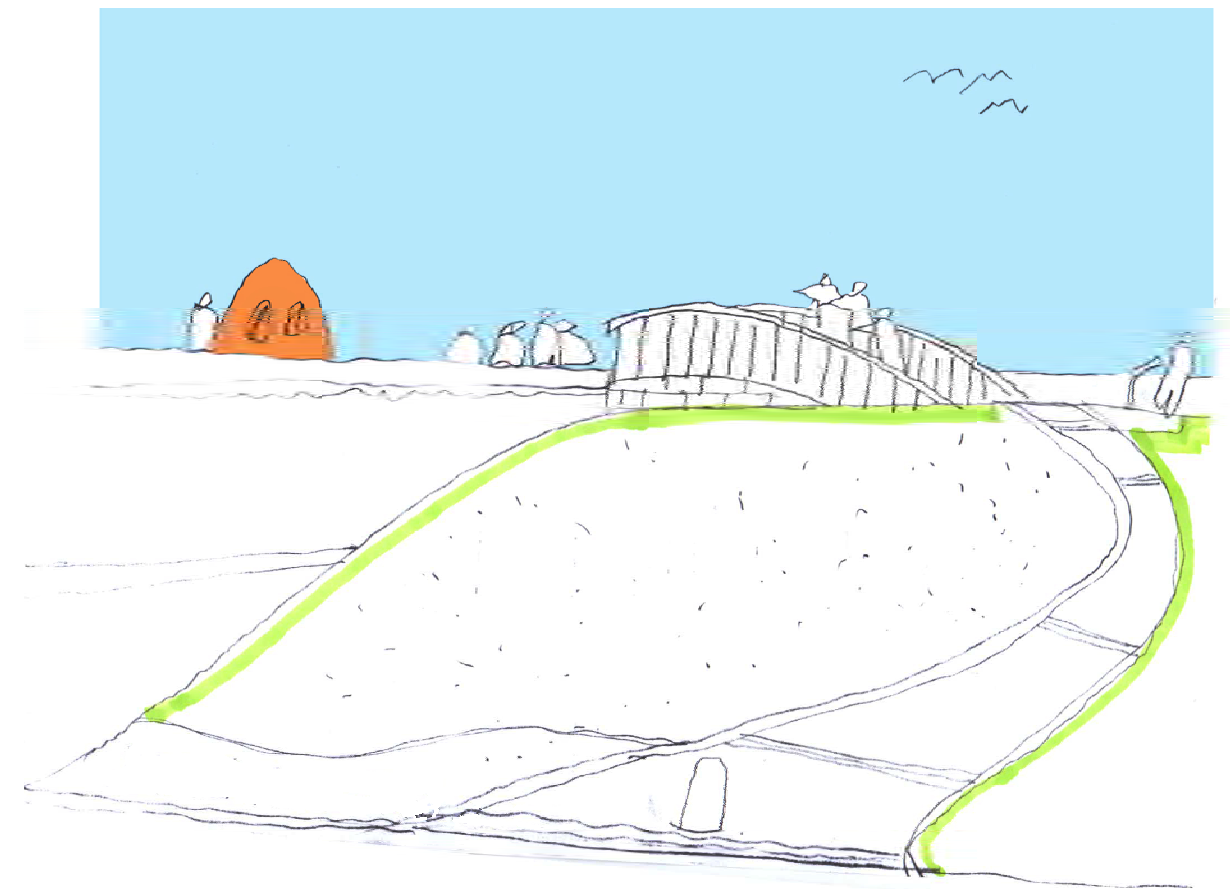




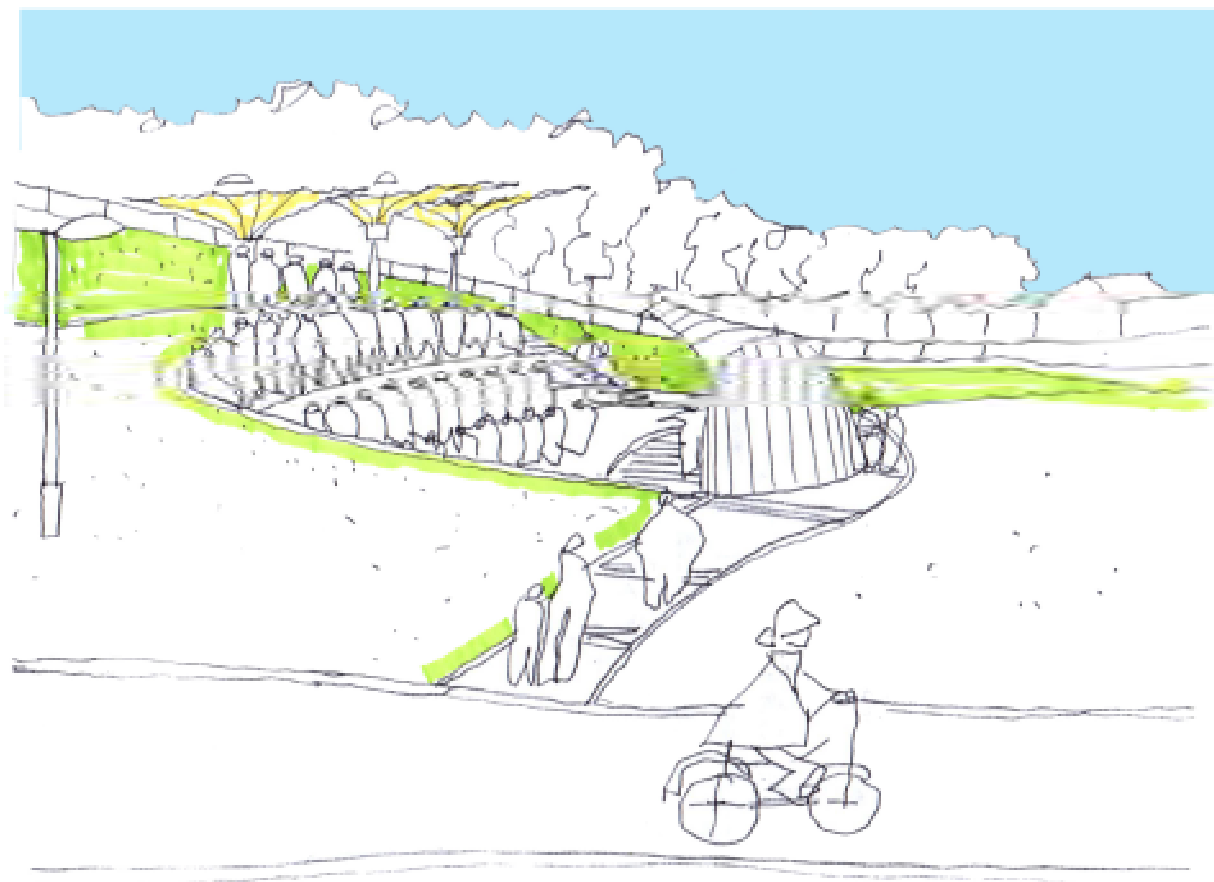




Water Feature
Railway Park East



Bridge Connecting Railway Park
East and Railway Park Central



View of Amphitheatre
Railway Park Central

Perspectives
Sketch SK005
May 2017

mha

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Report on	Ballysaggart Lough Development Proposal
Reporting Officer	Head of Parks
Contact Officer	Nigel Hill

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

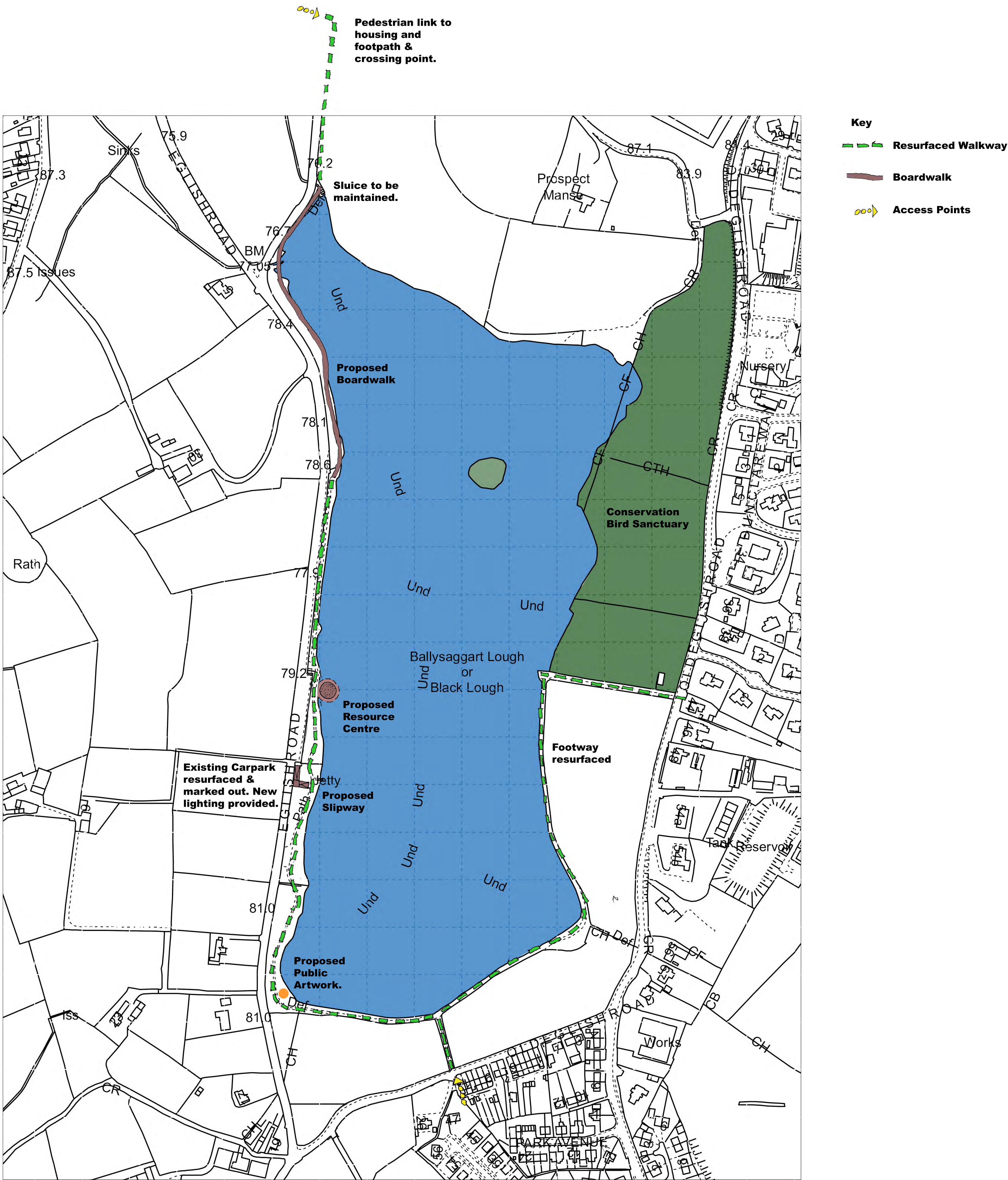
1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update members on progress on draft development opportunities for Ballysaggart Lough Development.
2.0	Background
2.1	<p>The forty-two acres of Ballysaggart Lough, or better known locally as the 'Black Lough' is recognised by the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust as a significantly important wetland area in the District after Lough Neagh. Ballysaggart Lough is one of a large number of eutrophic (nutrient rich) lakes occurring in inter-drumlin landscapes of South Tyrone providing a distinctive element of natural biodiversity. Ballysaggart lough is of particular value for birds demonstrated with a recorded annual peak count of over 500 migratory wildfowl across 19 species. Ballysaggart Lough became an asset of Mid Ulster District Council from April 2015 under the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure transfer of Water Recreation facilities.</p> <p>The importance of the site at Ballysaggart is recognised under the Local Landscape Policy Area (LLPA 03 Ballysaggart Lough). It states:</p> <p>This LLPA is designated at Ballysaggart Lough and adjacent landscape, to help protect the area's visual amenity, nature conservation interest and recreational use. It is important that its banks and surrounding land are kept free from inappropriate and visually intrusive development. The northern bank of the Lough is overlooked by a localised hill, which contains significant areas of woodland around the historic 'Manse'. The open undeveloped northern slopes of this hill are important when viewed from Dungannon town centre, providing a backdrop of mature woodland on steeply rising ground.</p> <p>Active conservation activities have been undertaken by the Ballysaggart Environment Group (BEG) whose mission is to 'engage the community and local council, stimulate interest and debate and ensure that this habitat is developed in a sustainable manner preserving it for future generations'. A study of the Lough was conducted by Wildfowl and Wetland Trust on behalf of BEC group with particular focus on current challenges, conditions and future potential for development.</p> <p>The Ballysaggart Area Community Association (BACA) are also important stake holders in the future of the Lough and surrounding area and in the past have lobbied locally for improved access and recreational facilities on site, given the close proximity of Ballysaggart Lough to Dungannon West catchment area. Further engagement with the</p>

	community including both these groups will be under taken in partnership with the Mid Ulster District Council.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	This report presents conceptual design proposals for the development of Ballysaggart Lough for member's consideration. It is planned to engage at DEA level to work out local issues through stakeholder meetings as part of the continued conceptual development process to strengthen the design and capture specific requirements, such as, modal links visitor services, public art, environmental landscaping, conservation and water quality.
3.2	It should be noted that these are very early conceptual proposals which have been developed to initiate a process of further consideration relating to availability of budget to progress to next stage, alternative funding sources, ongoing revenue costs resulting from the development and prioritisation within the overall Councils capital programme. These proposals will need further refinement and agreement before progression to the next stage.
3.3	A business case for the Ballysaggart Lough Project will need to be completed to enable council to position the project with in the council's rolling capital programme and to assist with potential external funding opportunities. Following this the appointment of suitable qualified and experienced Integrated Consultancy Team (ICT) will be required to develop comprehensive designs to include specifications and all associated tender documentation, subject to available funding.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<p><u>Financial & Human Resources Implications</u></p> <p>Financial: The capital and revenue cost implications require further development within the context of Council's capital programme. Human: Existing staff resources sufficient to coordinate initial project development objectives.</p>
4.2	<p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>N/A</p>
4.3	<p><u>Risk Management Implications</u></p> <p>N/A</p>
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Approval for engagement at DEA level and progression of community meetings to further develop the conceptual process and allow progression of the business case. All members of council will be invited to attend any meetings on this project.

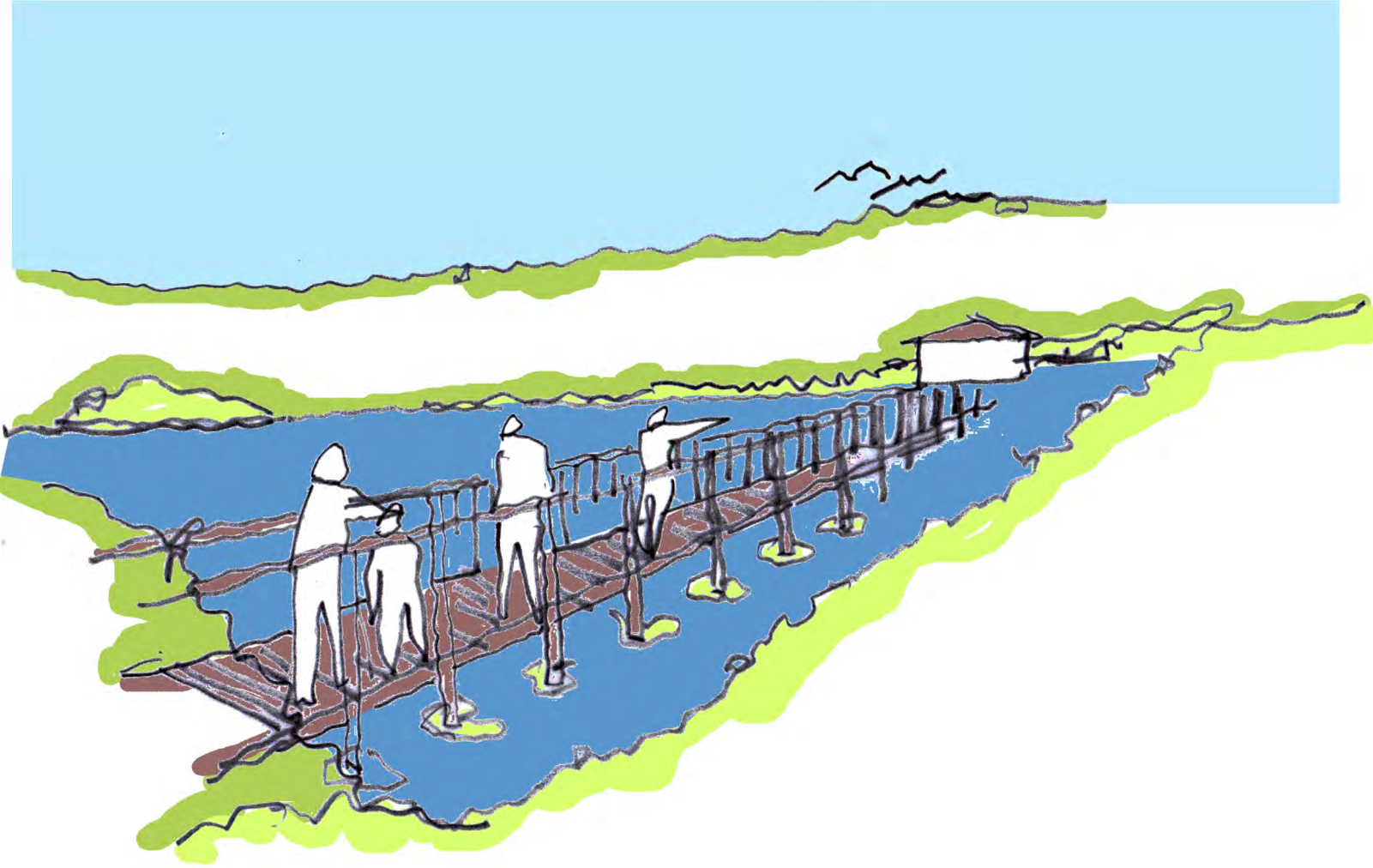
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Ballysaggart Lough Project Development Concept Proposal (Appendix 1)

Ballysaggart Lake

scale 1:2500



Artist's impression of new Resource Centre



Artist's impression of new Boardwalk

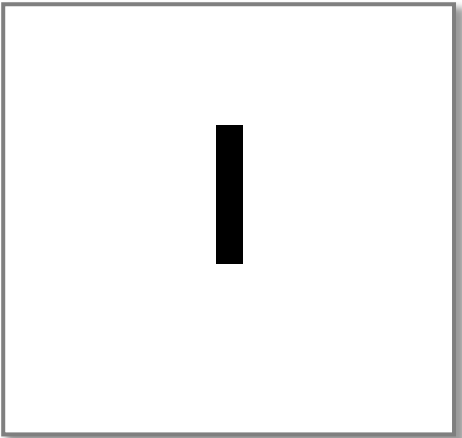
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Report on	Coalisland Town Centre – Town Centre Civic Event
Reporting Officer	Michael Browne
Contact Officer	Catherine Fox / Julie Ann Spence

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	Seek approval to deliver an additional town centre civic event in Coalisland in the autumn.
2.0	Background
2.1	To date Coalisland has two civic events, the Halloween fireworks display and funfair on 31 st October and the Switch-On of the Christmas lights which has been traditionally has been the first Sunday of December and has been delivered in partnership with the Craic Theatre.
2.2	The larger towns in the District have an equal number of civic events throughout the year, however Maghera & Coalisland are not on a parity with each other, with Maghera enjoying 3 town events including the Walled Garden Event in August, Halloween Fireworks Display and a town centre Christmas Switch-On.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Given this, we would now recommend that we add another event into the annual civic events calendar to include a Coalisland town Centre event. We would recommend that we consult the local traders to establish the most suitable date and times for such an event, but not look beyond September as it is envisaged that most of the activities will take place in the town Centre.
3.2	We are now proposing to deliver a civic event day in September in partnership with the businesses in Coalisland, with a focus on creating economic benefit for the town and deliver a positive feel good factor.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<u>Financial & Human Resources Implications</u> Financial: To address the issues as outlined in section 2, we would recommend a civic event with a budget of £7,000 from Council's Economic Development budget.

4.2	<u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u>
4.3	<u>Risk Management Implications</u>
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	We would recommend that we work closely with the Coalisland traders and develop a late summer/early autumn town centre event with a total budget of £7,000.
6.0	Documents Attached & References



Report on	Lower Bann Corridor Identification Study - Summary Report
Reporting Officer	Michael Browne
Contact Officer	Charmain Bell

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

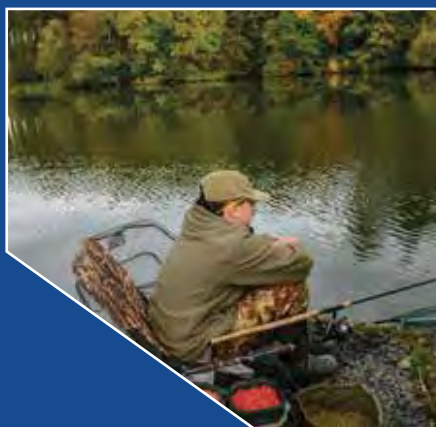
1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To report and inform Council of the Recreational, Tourism and Commercial Product Identification Study Summary Report for the Lower Bann Corridor.
2.0	Background
2.1	<p>The reports requires approval from committee to commence with the action plans.</p> <p>A number of sites have been identified within the Mid Ulster Council area, which will help to develop and enhance current tourism provision within the district.</p>
3.0	Main Report
3.1	This study was commissioned by a partnership of Waterways Ireland, the four local authorities within whose areas the river runs (Antrim & Newtownabbey, Causeway Coast & Glens, Mid & East Antrim, and Mid Ulster Council), together with Tourism NI, Sport NI and The Honourable The Irish Society.
3.2	The river corridor is rich in wildlife and its history, built and natural heritage, environment, landscape setting and visual amenity are highly rated. A wide range of landscape and environmental designations evidence this. But three serious challenges needed to be addressed to allow the development of opportunities for recreation, sport and tourism, as well as to offer stronger facilities for resident.
3.3	The summary report explores the policy context for recreation and sport, tourism and planning, the environment and consumer technology. It also explores the markets and participation rates for recreational sports users and for tourism and the implications of these for the Lower Bann.
3.4	The report highlights opportunities, visions and an action plan.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<p><u>Financial & Human Resources Implications</u></p> <p>Financial: No financial commitment has been requested.</p> <p>Human: A staffing commitment in the form of a Council Officer attending the steering group meetings to oversee delivery of the action plan from a Mid Ulster District perspective.</p>

4.2	<u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u>
4.3	<u>Risk Management Implications</u>
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	<p>It is recommended that council agrees to the vision and action plan of the study.</p> <p>Council agrees to the continuation in relation to the participation of an officer on the steering group.</p>
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	Copy of Lower Bann Study Executive Summary.



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 **OUTDOOR
RECREATION**
NORTHERN IRELAND

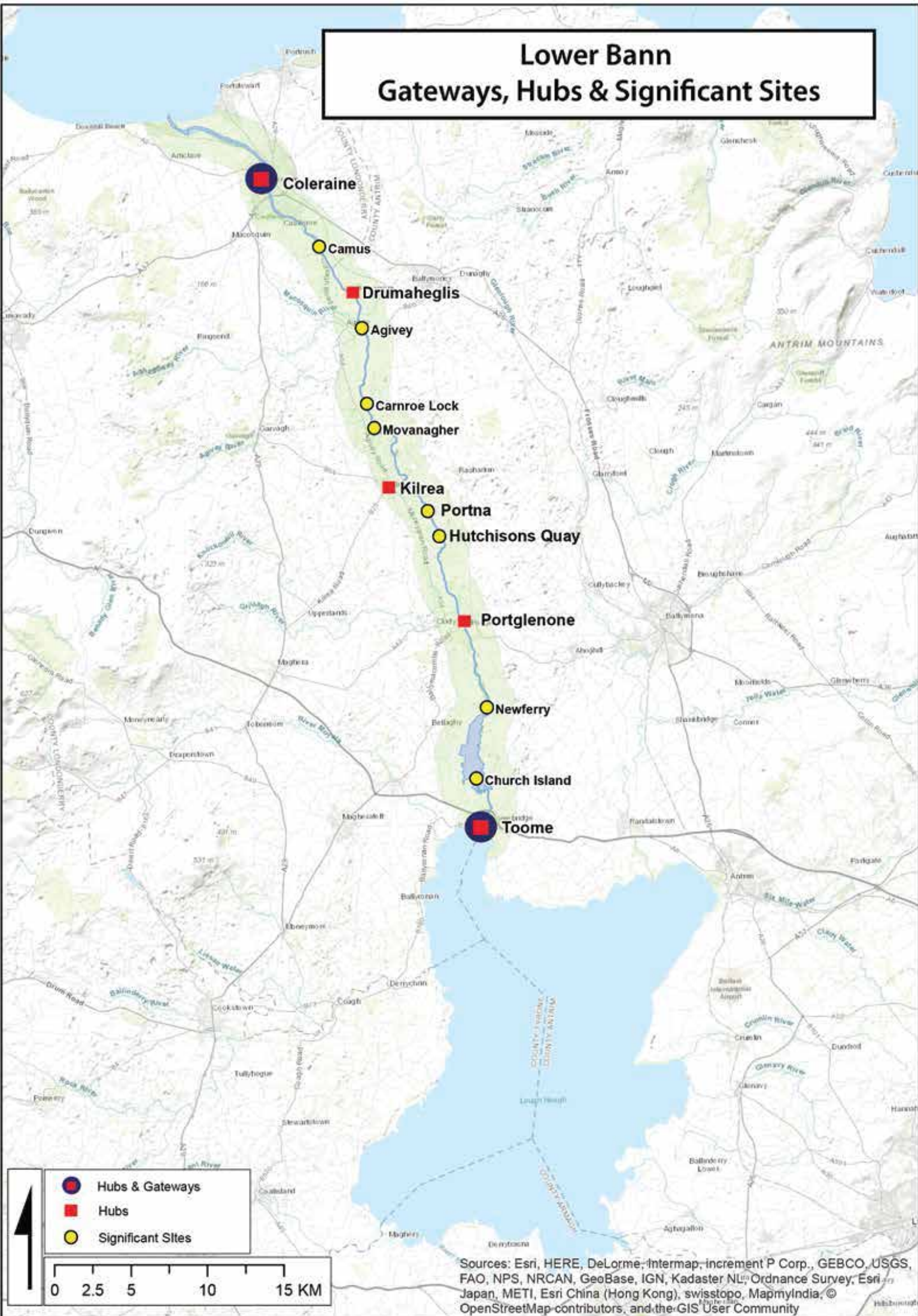


Recreational, Tourism &
Commercial Product Identification
Study for the Lower Bann

May 2017



Lower Bann Gateways, Hubs & Significant Sites



1. Introduction

This executive summary of the Recreational, Tourism and Commercial Product Identification Study for the Lower Bann Corridor provides an overview of the challenges and opportunities presented for development of this important 60km waterway, the largest river in Northern Ireland.

The study was commissioned by a partnership of stakeholders - Waterways Ireland, the four local authorities which bound the river (Antrim and Newtownabbey, Causeway Coast and Glens, Mid and East Antrim Borough Councils and Mid Ulster District Council) together with Tourism NI, Sport NI and The Honourable Irish Society. A steering group of these stakeholders was established to deliver this study.

The full report provides detailed analysis of the existing infrastructure and activities as well as identifying the potential opportunities for recreation, tourism and commercial development along the river corridor. This is available on line at www.waterwaysireland.org. The study will provide an integrated and strategic reference framework to inform cohesive implementation of appropriate sustainable development opportunities.

2. Background

The Lower Bann river corridor is rich in wildlife and its history, built and natural heritage, environment, landscape setting and visual amenity are highly rated. A wide range of landscape and environmental designations evidence this. Three major challenges have been identified which need to be addressed to allow the development of opportunities for recreation, sport and tourism, as well as to offer improved facilities for local communities:

- Overall, the Lower Bann is a “hidden” asset, not readily identifiable as a destination and actions to enhance the profile and make it better known will support the objective of capitalising on the Lower Bann’s role in social and economic development.
- Secondly, access on the water allows full length navigation but the river banks only allow fragmented river bank routes for walkers and cyclists.
- The river drains Lough Neagh, the largest freshwater lake in Britain and Ireland, with a catchment of 5,000 sq. km, the equivalent of 43% of the land surface of NI. Rivers Agency is the statutory agency obligated to manage water levels in Lough Neagh (between 12.45 and 12.60 metres above ordnance datum Belfast and has to release excess into the Lower Bann with consequent impacts on water levels and flows, which themselves impact water and river bank based recreation (e.g. boating, angling).

3. Strategic, Market and Environmental Context

Strategic Context

This study established a partnership of stakeholders that sought to create and embrace a unified strategic vision for the development of the Lower Bann corridor, to encourage appropriate and sustainable tourism, recreation and commercial development.

The study and action plan meets strategic needs identified in the Waterways Ireland Corporate Plan, the Outdoor Recreation Action Plan for Northern Ireland, The draft Tourism NI strategy and the tourism development strategies and draft community plans for each of the councils along the Lower Bann Corridor.

This plan takes cognisance of the local development plans which are being developed under the Regional Development Strategy and Planning Policy Statements.

The Draft Programme for Government in Northern Ireland (2016) articulates an outcome of improving wellbeing for all by tackling disadvantage, and driving economic growth. This study for the Lower Bann contributes to the delivery of these outcomes.

Market context

Three key markets have been identified within the marketing analysis section of the study:

- Local communities
- Domestic visitors
- International visitors

The local councils are in the process (2016) of developing community plans that have highlighted, through public consultation, a very significant demand for access to green (and blue) space for recreation that improves health and well-being. This mirrors the consultation for the development of the NI Outdoor Recreation Action Plan in which the demand for community trails was clearly voiced.

Tourism development authorities across both NI and ROI have carried out market segmentation analysis which cross match and reinforce each other. The following groups of visitors have been identified as being interested in the outdoor and adventure tourism product. The Lower Bann Corridor offers significant potential to align with all of these segments in terms of increasing visitor numbers from both domestic and international markets.

Domestic:

- Time Together - gentle walking, relaxation, natural scenery
- Mature Cosmopolitans - natural beauty, relaxation
- Family Fun - child orientated attractions and activities
- Young and Lively - contemporary culture and music festivals, events, the local scene

International:

- Social Energisers - talking to locals, festivals, entertainment
- Culturally Curious - Mesolithic or early Christian sites, gardens, unique local festivals and events
- Great Escapers - breath-taking landscapes, remote and exciting places, gentle exploration – walking, cycling, boating.

Environmental context

The natural environment of the River Bann is rich in biodiversity and can be divided into three distinct zones – Lough Beg; the river channel; and the Bann Estuary and coastal areas. There are significant national and European designations along the Lower Bann corridor and the development of any infrastructure, plans or programmes must take account of these designations through environmental impact assessments. Sustainable and responsible development principles must underpin all actions to ensure that the Lower Bann corridor remains a valuable and attractive natural asset.

4. Vision, Principles and Outcomes

The vision for the Lower Bann Corridor is:

“The Lower Bann – a wonderful and accessible river corridor that generates and sustains a vibrant and healthy community and economy”

Principles

A number of principles underpin the successful development of recreational and tourism opportunities. These must guide how partners and stakeholders evaluate, manage and deliver opportunities and actions to encourage investment, recreational use of the river and the surrounding area and strengthen the market position of the Lower Bann.

These principles are:

1. Partnership working
2. Engagement with stakeholders and communities
3. Sustainability – both environmental and economic
4. Promoting health and well being
5. Promoting social and economic benefit

Outcomes

Following a series of stakeholder consultations along with desktop research, the steering group have agreed seven key outcomes that will be derived from the development of the Lower Bann Corridor. These outcomes are highlighted as follows:

OUTCOMES	
1	Effective partnership established, delivering Integrated development of the river corridor
2	The Lower Bann corridor established as an internationally recognised destination for tourism, heritage, recreation and sport including international events
3	The infrastructure of the Lower Bann corridor provides an attractive, highly accessible and usable resource for both water and land based activities
4	The Lower Bann corridor generates economic benefit through new business start ups, employment and products.
5	Local communities and visitors have improved health and well-being through access and participation in outdoor recreation and tourism opportunities
6	The Lower Bann corridor is a catalyst for social inclusion, community cohesion and education
7	The natural heritage of the Lower Bann corridor continues to be rich in biodiversity and is valued by both local communities and visitors alike.

5. The development of key hubs and significant sites

Five key hubs and a further eight significant sites were identified that provide the structure and framework for connected and clustered activity and product development. These will have a significant impact in helping to unlock the full value of the Lower Bann corridor as a leisure and tourism resource.

Each hub should be developed to have the following opportunities / facilities:

- Mooring and parking provision (good access by road and by water);
- Service facilities (toilets and changing facilities);

- Information and orientation (both site-specific and reference to other hubs);
- Accommodation and associated hospitality services nearby;
- High quality outdoor amenity space;
- Directional signage to the hub;
- Broadband / 4G connectivity

The significant sites have less existing and/or potential development facilities and opportunities but nevertheless are complementary to hub facilities and are important for the delivery of the vision and helping to unlock the potential of the river corridor for recreation, tourism and commercial development.

HUBS		
No.	Hub	Attributes
1	Toome	Gateway to/from Lough Neagh Town services Lock & Jetty Lockkeepers cottage/amenity site Riverside walk
2	Portglenone	Town services Marina Major coarse angling facility Portglenone Wood/ Riverside walk
3	Kilrea	Town services Portneal Lodge/coarse angling stands Jetty Riverside walk
4	Drumaheglis	Caravan site and cafe Marina
5	Coleraine	Gateway to/from the sea Cutts lock Somerset Riverside Park / Christie Park / Mountsandel / Marinas at Coleraine, Seatons, & Cranagh Town services Cranagh activity centre Riverside walk

SIGNIFICANT SITES		
No.	Hub	Attributes
1	Lough Beg & Church Island	Old church / Seamus Heaney / Environmental interest
2	Newferry East & West	Jetties Waterski facility
3	Hutchisons Quay	Jetty Riverside walk
4	Portna	Locks/Jetty & services Campsite and riverside walk
5	Movanagher	Wild campsite/ glamping Service facilities Vow jetty & wood
6	Carnroe	Lock Toilet Amenity site/ game angling
7	Agivey Bridge	Parking Angling
8	Camus	Wood/Car park Amenity site

NOTE: Table provides an overview of the sites identified as suitable for development. Further details of existing and potential facilities at each site are listed in the main report.

6. Action Plan

Following the feedback from consultations, market orientation analysis and input provided by steering group partners, an agreed Action Plan has been created. The implementation of this action plan is the most effective way of delivering the stated outcomes and to achieve the Vision. The actions are "SMART" in nature and will provide a clear focus at implementation phase for the steering group in terms of delivery, reporting and monitoring.

The table below highlights what actions should be undertaken, what will be delivered, and which of the stated outcomes the action contributes to. For each action, key delivery partners have been identified, and a timescale for delivery proposed.

The structure of the action plan is presented under four headings:

1. Strategic Management:

Provides an implementation structure and a co-ordinated approach for delivery

2. Plans and Reports:

Creates the knowledge, evidence and strategic thinking to underpin development

3. Development of Infrastructure:

Invests in the development of hubs, significant sites and facilities

4. Marketing, Events, Education:

Increases awareness and promotes use of the " Lower Bann Corridor" as a destination

The timescales for delivery are as follows:

- Short term (2017 – 2019)
- Medium term (2020 – 2022)
- Long term (2022 onwards)

The organisations identified for delivery and the timescales are indicative only and will be reviewed and confirmed by the Steering Group through the implementation phase.

Abbreviations for potential partners are:

Statutory Agencies	
WI	Waterways Ireland
TNI	Tourism Northern Ireland
SNI	Sport Northern Ireland
RA	Rivers Agency
DAERA	Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs
NIEA	Northern Ireland Environment Agency
HLF	Heritage Lottery Fund
NIAF	Northern Ireland Angling Forum

Councils	
ANBC	Antrim and Newtownabbey
CCGBC	Causeway Coast and Glens
MEABC	Mid and East Antrim
MUC	Mid Ulster Council

Voluntary Sector Organisations	
HIS	Honourable Irish Society
CANI	Canoe Association of NI
ANI	Angling NI
RI	Rowing Ireland
DofE	Duke of Edinburgh / Joint Award
IWAI	Inland Waterways Association of Ireland (Lower Bann & Lough Neagh Assoc)
	Community groups –
TIDAL	Toome
KEG	Kilrea
PEG	Portglenone
WBCG	Coleraine

Ref	What will be done (Action)	What will be delivered (Output)	Result (Outcome)	Delivery Partners	Timescale
1 STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT					
1	Steering group to manage the implementation of the agreed action plan	An integrated partnership delivering joint working and shared responsibility for the implementation of the action plan	Outcome 1	Steering group (SG)	Short Term
2	Agree a regular stakeholder and community engagement programme	Key stakeholders engaged with in the delivery of the action plan	Outcome 1	SG	Short
3	Integrate with the four relevant councils' community, recreation and tourism development plans e.g. to create linkages with existing major tourism products in the area such as Giants Causeway, Game of Thrones, Seamus Heaney etc.	Improved joined up working for the Lower Bann corridor between councils and external agencies. Enhanced developments and economies of scale from strategic and integrated working.	Outcome 1	SG	Short
4	Support and develop new tourism and recreational products and experiences by commercial operators and community groups	New start-up businesses along the Bann corridor. Clustering of businesses. Joint marketing of facilities and opportunities. New and enhanced opportunities for tourists and recreational users along the Bann corridor.	Outcome 4 & 5	SG	Ongoing

Ref	What will be done (Action)	What will be delivered (Output)	Result (Outcome)	Delivery Partners	Timescale
5	Coordinate the provision of a range of accommodation options for both domestic and international visitors.	A diverse range of accommodation options provided, including camping, campervans, glamping, Bed and Breakfasts and guest houses, hostels & bunkhouses (including "houseboat" accommodation) established.	Outcomes 2 & 4	SG	Short
6	Replace the River Users Code of Conduct and develop byelaws for the Lower Bann Navigation	Improved responsible behaviour by all recreational users in a structured, multi-zone activity framework.	Outcomes 1 & 3	SG/WI	Medium
7	Improve mobile connectivity along the Lower Bann corridor	4G and free Wi-Fi available at all key hubs on Lower Bann.	Outcomes 1 & 3	SG	Short/ Medium
8	Improve communication with users of the river on water levels and flows	Digital technology solution implemented that provides live information on water flow and levels	Outcomes 1 & 3	RA/SG	Short/ Medium
9	Review and recommend appropriate changes to the legislation determining water level and flow management	Suitable level and flow maintained to maximise opportunity for recreational use of the waterway	Outcomes 1 & 3	RA/DFI/SG	Long
10	Develop a co-ordinated approach to volunteering	An integrated volunteer plan for the Lower Bann corridor. Promote opportunities for volunteering. Local people and visitors have strong sense of ownership of the lower Bann.	Outcomes 1 & 3	RA/DFI/SG	Short/ Medium

Ref	What will be done (Action)	What will be delivered (Output)	Result (Outcome)	Delivery Partners	Timescale
2. PLANS AND REPORTS					
1	Commission primary market research to capture baseline figures on numbers and economic benefit derived from all aspects of recreational, tourism and commercial activity	Baseline KPI's established to underpin strategic development and provide a mechanism for effective monitoring.	Outcome 1	SG	Short
2	Commission a comprehensive feasibility study into establishing a continuous riverside multi-use trail (walking and cycling) along the length of the river.	Report produced which details and prioritises sections of trail development. Land ownership and costings established. "Quick wins" identified, contributing to continuous trail for full length of river corridor.	Outcome 1	SG/SNI	Short
3	Following the study above, Councils to review arrangements and develop implementation programme for countryside points of access to the riverbanks	Improved access along the river corridor for both local communities and visitors.	Outcomes 1, 3 & 5	SG/ Councils	Short
4	Carry out a feasibility study on potential and existing heritage sites, and connecting trails along with associated facilities.	Key heritage sites identified and agreed. Trail development potential established. Funding sources identified.	Outcomes 1 & 2	SG/NIEA/ HLF	Short

Ref	What will be done (Action)	What will be delivered (Output)	Result (Outcome)	Delivery Partners	Timescale
5	Prepare a Blueway product proposition for the Lower Bann, based on evidence from the trail development studies highlighted above and stakeholder engagement.	Blueway proposal defined through engagement with businesses and communities. Business case developed for key actions.	Outcomes All	SG/WI/ Private Sector	Short
6	Produce and implement an Angling Action Plan for Game, Coarse and Sea angling.	Co-ordinated plan created to prioritise development opportunities, attract visitors, support communities and the development of local angling clubs	Outcomes 1, 2, 4 & 5	SG/NI Angling	Short
7	Review possible locations for the installation of canoe and fish passes within any scheduled weir upgrades	Safer routes created through weirs for canoeists, & legislative requirements met in terms of fish passes.	Outcomes 1 & 3	SG/WI/CANI/ DAERA	Short

Ref	What will be done (Action)	What will be delivered (Output)	Result (Outcome)	Delivery Partners	Timescale
3. DEVELOPMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND FACILITIES					
1	Extend existing and create new trails along the Lower Bann at locations identified through the feasibility studies	Blueway trails established and improved access provided. Clear linkage between hubs and significant sites.	All Outcomes	SG	Short
2	Create the Lower Bann Heritage Trail to connect agreed heritage sites and integrate with other heritage assets and trails in the Lower Bann corridor and Lough Neagh identified through the feasibility studies .	Integrated connectivity between Mountsandel, Seamus Heaney Centre, Toome Waterways Heritage Centre, Lough Neagh Trail, Portglenone Trail.	All Outcomes	SG/NIEA	Medium
3	Develop improved changing and toilet/shower facilities at key hubs and significant sites underpinned by Business Case	Funding sources identified & accessed. Facilities provided at hubs and where appropriate, at significant sites.	Outcomes 2 & 3	SG	Short/ Medium
4	Support the development of visitor centres at Mountsandel, Toome and Portglenone to service visitor needs for information and to tell the story of the rich heritage of the Lower Bann e.g. Mesolithic, Christian, Industrial and Natural	3 high quality visitor centres in place and supported/operated by local authorities/commercial enterprise and communities as appropriate.	Outcomes 2,4 & 7	SG/NIEA/ HLF	Short/ Medium

Ref	What will be done (Action)	What will be delivered (Output)	Result (Outcome)	Delivery Partners	Timescale
5	Support a range of accommodation provision at hubs, significant sites and appropriately defined locations	Increased provision of accommodation along the corridor at suitable locations e.g. Portneal, Mountsandel/Cutts, Movaghan, Cranagh	Outcomes 1,2 & 4	SG/ Private Sector	Short/ Medium
6	Support market-led development of marinas, cruise and day boat facilities such as the proposed marina at Toome (TIDAL group)	Increased provision of mooring facilities / new marinas / with appropriate services provided..	Outcomes 1,2,3,4,5 & 6	SG/private sector/ community sector	Medium/ Long
7	Provide and/or improve suitable riverside car parks for outdoor activity users	Improved access for outdoor recreation at hubs and significant sites.	Outcomes 2,3,5	SG/ Councils	Short/ Medium
8	Increase opportunities for access to the water through small craft, day boat & cruiser hire, evaluating the market and encouraging the private sector to make provision	Range of small craft and boat hire provided on the river. Increased numbers of visitors using the navigation	Outcomes 2,3 & 4	SG/WI/ IWAI	Short/ Medium
9	Improve navigation service provision – pump outs, water, lighting and electricity supplies at moorings	Improved service facilities at all appropriate jetties, moorings	Outcomes 2 & 3	SG/WI	Short/ Medium
10	Develop appropriate facilities on Lough Beg for wildlife watching, recreation and tourism which recognise environmental sensitivities	Increased visitor numbers to Lough Beg..	Outcomes 2 & 7	SG/WI	Short/ Medium

Ref	What will be done (Action)	What will be delivered (Output)	Result (Outcome)	Delivery Partners	Timescale
11	Remove the metal rods from the weir at Toome and develop the standing wave for freestyle kayaking.	A world class freestyle canoe venue in place	Outcomes 2, 3 & 4	SG/CANI/DAERA	Short/ Medium
12	Develop an artificial canoe slalom site.	World class recreation facility created	Outcomes 2, 3 & 4	SG/CANI/DAERA	Short/ Medium
13	Upgrade access to canoe steps to avoid 180 degree turns at key locations where feasible.	Improved access for canoeists	Outcome 3	SG/WI/CANI/RI	Short/ Medium
14	Increase provision of fishing pegs at Glenone and Portneal	Creation of sites that can attract and facilitate international angling competitions.	Outcomes 2, 3, 4 & 6	NIAF/SG/ Private sector	Short
15	Identify suitable waterside cafe sites and support development of cafes/restaurants	Enhanced customer facilities provided to improve visitor experience	Outcomes 2, 3, & 4	SG/ Private sector	Short/ Medium

Ref	What will be done (Action)	What will be delivered (Output)	Result (Outcome)	Delivery Partners	Timescale
4. MARKETING & EVENTS					
1	<p>Develop a Marketing Strategy based on the identified target visitor markets, appropriate market segmentation and identified visitor propositions, i.e.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bann Blueway • Heritage product • Natural environment and wildlife watching e.g. Lough Beg / Church Island • Healthy active lifestyles • Water recreation activities e.g. cruising, angling, watersports, canoeing and rowing • Potential of film and TV to promote the area e.g. using Game of Thrones as hook to key sites and opportunities to commission TV programmes • Maximising linkages for Lower Bann content within local and national destination web sites • Develop “Lower Bann” shared stories for all tourism businesses to use when promoting the Lower Bann i.e. includes words, images, things to do, stories 	<p>A strategic marketing and communications plan will be delivered to cohesively promote the diverse product range of the Lower Bann corridor</p>	Outcomes 1 & 2	SG	Short

Ref	What will be done (Action)	What will be delivered (Output)	Result (Outcome)	Delivery Partners	Timescale
2	Develop an agreed identity or brand for use in all partners' and stakeholders' promotional and marketing activities and literature	The creation of a clear and consistent brand message to Improve the awareness, visibility and appeal of the Lower Bann as a destination, across all signage and marketing material	Outcomes 1 & 2	SG	Short/ Medium
3	Develop and implement a signage and orientation plan	Consistent and integrated directional, Interpretative and orientation signage provided, to improve the visitor experience	Outcome 2	SG	Short/ Medium
4	<p>Develop and promote a programme of Events, Competitions and Activities along the corridor to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International events and competitions • Engaged Communities to promote Health & Wellbeing • A multi-disciplinary "Challenge Event" that incorporates all of the river corridor, i.e. an Adventure Race • Events on key dates (Easter, Bank Holidays, Halloween etc.) to promote 'Family Friendly' activity with things for children to do with parents, both on and off the water e.g. Pokemon hunt, guides, interpretation, and treasure hunts along the Lower Bann 	A programme that will engage with communities, promoting active lifestyles, as well as attracting tourists	Outcomes 2, 4, 5 &	SG/ Councils/ Private Sector	Short/ Medium

Ref	What will be done (Action)	What will be delivered (Output)	Result (Outcome)	Delivery Partners	Timescale
5	Create a curriculum-led Education package for day visits by schools, youth and education groups including water based outdoor education such as school field studies, sports activity and Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme	Increased participation and engagement with schools using the Lower Bann for curriculum based activities	Outcomes 5 & 6	SG/ Education sector/ Youth Groups	Short/ Medium
6	Review and update the Lower Bann Canoe Trail Guide & website. Review and update Lower Bann Navigation guide and website and promote increased use of the online guide.	Improved access and updated information for waterway users	Outcomes 3 & 5	SG/ORNI/ CANI/WI	Short/ Medium

7. Success indicators

What will successful achievement of the vision and outcomes, through the action plan, look like?

The main report sets out what the monitoring KPIs should be, and these should include:

- Number of users, by activity/segment
- Number of trips
- Length of stay
- Number of overnight stays
- Spend
- Origin of visit
- Reason for visit
- Levels of satisfaction

This study has highlighted a substantive issue in that the research foundation for assessing numbers of visitors and river users is weak. This is partly because the river hasn't formed a discrete and identifiable destination, therefore research has not been structured to cover the whole area.

Secondly, the length of the river is so great that only Waterways Ireland's Waterway Users Research addresses activity along the full length, but, to date, the sample for the Lower Bann is very modest.

There is a priority need (addressed in the action plan) to collect the baseline user data for the Lower Bann corridor, to underpin the project going forward by providing business intelligence and establishing key metrics by which to measure performance.

8. Next Steps

This study provides a guidance framework for the Steering Group in the progression of this project. The next steps will be:

- 1) Steering Group to act as the Implementation Team and the focus for stakeholder engagement
- 2) Establish baseline data and agree KPIs for measuring success
- 3) Develop an agreed Business Plan for years 1 to 3, based on prioritised actions, subject to agreeing resources, obtaining statutory approvals and securing funding.
- 4) Monitor progress and review KPIs.

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Minutes of Meeting of the Development Committee of Mid Ulster District Council held on Thursday 15 June 2017 in the Council Offices, Burn Road, Cookstown

Members Present	Councillor Wilson, Chair Councillors Clarke, Cuddy, Doris, Forde, McAleer, McEldowney, McFlynn, McNamee, Milne, Monteith (7.07 pm), G Shiels and J Shiels
Officers in Attendance	Ms Campbell, Director of Leisure and Outdoor Recreation Mr McCreesh, Director of Business and Communities Mr Browne, Head of Tourism Mr Glavin, Head of Leisure Mr Hill, Head of Parks Mr McCance, Head of Culture and Arts Ms McKeown, Head of Economic Development Ms Grogan, Committee Services Officer
Others in Attendance	British Telecom – Superfast Broadband Messrs Irwin and McManus Councillor T Quinn

The meeting commenced at 7 pm.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

D119/17 Apologies

Councillors Burton, Elattar and Molloy.

D120/17 Declaration of Interests

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

The Chair, Councillor Wilson asked members to consider Paper D - Community Development Report – Grants.

Councillor McEldowney declared an interest in Lough Neagh Partnership.

Councillor McNamee declared an interest in Paper I – Sports Representative Grants-Terry Devlin.

D121/17 Chair's Business

No issues.

D122/17 British Telecom – Superfast Broadband

The Chair welcomed representatives from BT to the meeting and invited them to make their presentation.

Councillor Monteith entered the meeting at 7.07 pm during presentation.

Members questioned representatives from BT during which the following was noted -

Councillor McAleer referring to the plan presented asked if this would bring further inequality to rural areas and mentioned residents in Augher area.

Mr Irwin advised that in relation to provision in rural areas BT must look for the value for money aspect of any project emphasising that if the postcode has not been highlighted it was unlikely that provision will be made within the current plan.

In response to Councillor Cuddy's question regarding government funding, Mr Irwin stated that from 2009 onwards, government funding had been in the region of 50% of costs. He advised that each case is taken on its merit and that the more rural the location, the more capital was required to deliver the project.

Mr McManus stated that within the current model BT payback would be in the region of a 20 year period.

Councillor Cuddy stated that gas providers get a return from the installation date and thus government needs to be lobbied to provide BT with more money.

Councillor J Shiels stated that physical infrastructure needs to be improved constantly.

Mr Irwin stated that technology was constantly changing, highlighting the examples of Sky moving away from a dish to use of broadband and terrestrial tv moving from an aerial.

Councillor Clarke stated that there should have been an exchange in the Broughderg area and was not content with current plans for broadband provision. The Councillor made reference to the need for investment in infrastructure to deliver broadband to rural areas and emphasised that you could live beside a green box and still not be able to access this service.

Mr McManus stated that there were 21 exchanges within the Mid Ulster area and that the aim was to design modern technology to ensure every home had fibre broadband. However, there was always going to be some exclusions to this as the region has some of the longest lines in the UK. He advised that if homes had fibre optic broadband there would be more choice of providers. Mr McManus stated that BT was keen to work in partnership with Council to investigate a funding programme, the alternative was to wait until government funding becomes available.

The Chair stated that he lived within an urban area and struggled to get good broadband speeds, he emphasised that there was a green box at the end of his road. The Councillor stated that a housing development nearby had fibre optic broadband yet he could not access same.

In response Mr McManus stated that such enquiries should be forwarded to email address provided for Members.

Councillor Doris requested a breakdown of funding provided to rural areas from Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs

Mr McManus advised that £5million went to rural areas and an additional £2.3 million at a later date.

In response to Councillor Clarke's question with regard to housing development of approximately 30 houses Mr Irwin stated that both BT and developer contributed.

The Director of Business and Communities stated that there had been a number of conversations in recent months and that Council were not prepared to take a back seat and would work with BT to develop proposals which will be brought to committee for consideration. The Director made reference to current issues such as road infrastructure and energy provision stating that the programme for government was falling short and it hopes that the relevant Government departments would work with Council in the coming months.

Councillor Monteith emphasised that Council should be investing in both broadband and infrastructure stating that for generations provision in the areas had fallen short and that the onus was now on Council to get such matters sorted. He stated that, going forward, planners should be considering if sufficient infrastructure was in place, this in turn would create a mindset for developers.

The Chair thanked representatives for their presentation following which they left the meeting at 7.52 pm.

The Chair concurred with Councillor Monteith's recommendation to the Planning Committee, that developers must ensure that new houses are equipped with fibre broadband when an application is submitted. He also stated that Council should be supportive of BT in trying to move forward to find a solution to Mid Ulster's ongoing broadband problems.

Matters for Decision

D123/17 Service Improvement Plan, Culture & Arts Services

The Head of Culture and Arts drew attention to the previously circulated report to seek Member approval for the Culture and Arts Service – Service Improvement Plan for 2017/18.

Councillor J Shiels sought clarification as to why Tullaghoge Fort budget 2017/18 was £10,000 whilst other service budget headings was considerably more.

The Head of Culture and Arts advised the budget was set as the result of previous studies and events and that this may increase in the future given recent development at the site.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Cuddy and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council to approve the Culture and Arts Services – Service Improvement Plan for 2017/18.

D124/17 Arts & Culture Strategic Support Programme

The Head of Culture and Arts drew attention to the previously circulated report to present to members the proposed participant organisations in the Arts & Culture Strategic Support Programme and proposed level of financial support identified for each participating arts organisation in 2017/18.

Proposed by Councillor McFlynn
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that the 7 organisations identified below receive support through the Mid Ulster District Council Arts & Culture Strategic Support Programme at a total cost of £90,000, with 50% of costs being met through the Arts Council Challenge Fund:

- Bardic Theatre, Donaghmore
- Brantry Cultural facility
- Carntogher
- Cornstore, Draperstown
- Benburb Priory
- CRAIC, Coalisland
- Open Door -The Hub BT80, Cookstown

D125/17 Regional and Minority Language Bursary Scheme

The Head of Culture and Arts drew attention to the previously circulated report to ask for approval for the proposed:

- Regional and Minority Language Bursary Scheme allocation to be awarded to successful applicants for 2017/18.
- Delivery of Irish Language Activity Funding Programmes 2017/18 across Mid Ulster District Council.

Councillor Monteith declared an interest in Gaelscoil Aodha Rua and Comhaltas Uladh (An Chaobh Rua).

Councillor McNamee asked if there was any reason for the low number of applications for bursaries.

The Head of Culture and Arts advised that applications were increasing year on year and had been widely advertised.

Councillor Cuddy asked if Council gives the bursary directly to the individual.

The Head of Culture and Arts advised that the bursary is allocated directly to the individual applicant but can also be allocated to the participating Gaeltacht if need be.

Councillor Cuddy asked how did Council know that the person had been to Gaeltacht.

The Head of Culture and Arts advised that the process is authorised and signed off by the participating Gaeltacht and also authorised by the Irish Language Development Officer Team who confirm that the individual has attended the Gaeltacht

Councillor McFlynn advised that the person does not get paid the bursary until they have attended the Gaeltacht.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

- Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council that approval be granted to:
- Regional and Minority Language bursaries for the 239 successful applicants identified with a total amount allocated of £30,000
 - Irish Language Activity for 23 groups with a total allocation of £45,000.

D126/17 Community Development Report

The Director of Business and Communities drew attention to the previously circulated report to seek approval for Good Relations and Community Festivals rolling grant award recommendations and to update the Committee on Community Development.

Proposed by Councillor Forde
Seconded by Councillor McNamee and

- Resolved:** That it be recommended to the Council that approval be given to:
- 1) Grant award recommendations under the Community Festivals and Good Relations Programmes as per Appendix 1
 - 2) Note update report on Community Development.

Councillor Doris referred to anti social behaviour at Lineside, Coalisland and asked that CCTV be considered in that area.

The Director of Business and Communities advised that a report could be brought to a future meeting.

D127/17 Capital Discretionary Funding

The Director of Business and Communities drew attention to the previously circulated report to seek guidance on a proposed Capital Discretionary Fund for Mid Ulster Council.

Councillor McNamee suggested that a workshop be arranged and that findings be brought back to future committee.

Councillor Monteith stated that funding should also be considered for listed buildings and heritage sites to bring them back into use and this matter could also be considered and a list of viable options agreed at the proposed workshop

Councillor Cuddy suggested that NIEA should also be included in discussions.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Monteith and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that approval be given to a Capital Discretionary Fund for Mid Ulster Council, pending agreement from Policy and Resources on a finalised budget. Workshop to be arranged to discuss viable projects.

D128/17 Lough Neagh Partnership Core Funding 2017-2018

The Head of Tourism drew attention to the previously circulated report to receive a request from Lough Neagh Partnership for Core Funding for 2017/18 and review the Lough Neagh Destination Management Plan.

Proposed by Councillor McNamee
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that approval be given to continue to fund Lough Neagh Partnership £22,000 as requested and subject to funding being secured from all 5 Councils around the shoreline.

D129/17 World Travel Market

The Head of Tourism drew attention to the previously circulated report to seek approval for the Tourism Manager, Tourism Officer and Business Engagement Officer to attend International World Travel Market (WTM), Excel, London from 6th – 8th November 2017.

Proposed by Councillor J Shiels
Seconded by Councillor McFlynn and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that approval be granted for Tourism Officers to attend the event to increase and continue to

develop existing business relationships, create new leads/growth and network within trade organisations.

D130/17 Drumnaph Community Nature Reserve

The Head of Parks drew attention to the previously circulated report to seek approval and financial support for Drumnaph Community Nature Reserve Landfill Communities Fund (LCF) application.

Proposed by Councillor McEldowney
Seconded by Councillor Doris and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council that approval be granted to support the Drumnaph Nature Reserve application for LCF funding as a special designation project with a committed total contribution of £85,000 over the three year period of the project, subject to successful application.

D131/17 Sports Representative Grants

The Head of Leisure drew attention to the previously circulated report to present to members the proposed Community Grant Allocations for the range of:

- Sports Representative Grants – Team and Individuals

Councillor Wilson referred to previous issue regarding a hockey team and stated that at a previous meeting it had been requested that the criteria for the sports representative grants would be brought back to committee for consideration.

Proposed by Councillor Cuddy
Seconded by Councillor Clarke and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council to approve the recommendation for Sports Representatives Grant Allocations.

D132/17 Sports Development Report

The Head of Leisure drew attention to the previously circulated report to inform members on the Sports Development Summer Programme, Junior Park Run in Magherafelt area and to seek permission to proceed with the Everybody Active (EBA) 2020 Small Grants Draft Programme.

In response to Members questions the Head of Leisure stated that the programme was still at draft stage and that Council was endeavouring not to clash with other summer camps in the District.

Proposed by Councillor McFlynn
Seconded by Councillor Monteith and

Resolved: That it be recommended to the Council to approve the review and development of a grant programme to avail of the additional SNI investment.

D133/17 Economic Development Report

The Head of Economic Development drew attention to the previously circulated report provide Members with an update on key activities as detailed below:

- 1) Brexit and the Northern Ireland/Ireland Border Corridor**
- 2) Ofcom Mobile Summit**
- 3) Mid Ulster Business Start Programme & Update on NIBSUP**
- 4) Magherafelt Town Centre Forum Minutes**
- 5) Cookstown Town Centre Forum Minutes**
- 6) Dungannon Regeneration Partnership Minutes**
- 7) Village Renewal Project**
- 8) Commencement of Rural Needs Act**
- 9) Gas to the West Project**
- 10) Mid Ulster Telecommunications Study**
- 11) Bluebox Telecoms Proposal to Mid Ulster District Council**

Councillor Clarke stated that Bluebox was worth considering in the short term as it is the only broadband service within his locality.

Councillor McFlynn referred to poor broadband in Loup and also queried the Bluebox service stating that it was in use in the Ardboe area.

- 12) Report on Innovative Approaches to Reducing Dereliction and Vacancy Levels in Dungannon Town Centre**

Councillor Monteith requested that a meeting be arranged with Members to discuss and progress potential options to move forward.

- 13) Maghera Development Framework and Action Plan (2017-2030)**

- 14) Sponsorship Request for Runway Magherafelt Fashion Show**

Proposed by Councillor McFlynn
Seconded by Councillor Cuddy and

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

- 1) Brexit and the Northern Ireland/Ireland Border Corridor**
Note content of report, brochure and presentation slides.
- 2) Ofcom Mobile Summit**
Note content of report.
- 3) Mid Ulster Business Start Programme & Update on NIBSUP**

Note update on NI Business Start Programme and the Mid Ulster Business Start Programme including the contribution of the current Contract with Mid Ulster Enterprise Partnership to provide 30 Plans per month at a cost of £400 per Plan from 1 April 2017 until a delivery agent is appointed for the regional programme or 31 December 2017.

4) Magherafelt Town Centre Forum

Note minutes of Magherafelt Town Centre Forum on 29 March 2017.

5) Cookstown Town Centre Forum

Note minutes of Cookstown Town Centre Forum on 30 November 2016.

6) Dungannon Regeneration Project

Members to note minutes of Dungannon Regeneration Partnership on 10 March 2017.

7) Village Renewal Project

Note progress.

8) Commencement of Rural Needs Act

Note correspondence from DAERA.

9) Gas to the West Project

Note progress.

10) Mid Ulster Telecommunications Study

Approve Council's recently completed Telecommunications Study for Mid Ulster and actively pursue all avenues of funding to address deficiencies in provision.

11) Bluebox Telecoms Proposal to Mid Ulster District Council

Note content of Bluebox proposal. Officers to investigate and explore wider options pursuant to improving telecoms in Mid Ulster, prior to any commitments being made to individual suppliers.

12) Report on Innovative Approaches to Reducing Dereliction and Vacancy Levels in Dungannon Town Centre

- Approve Report focusing on Innovative Approaches to Reducing Dereliction and Vacancy Levels in Dungannon Town Centre.
- Dungannon be selected as a pilot town in Mid Ulster to develop the first Pilot Dereliction Project(s) and source funding through Department for Communities (DfC), Council and/or others in advance scheme(s) as a matter of urgency.
- Arrange meeting with Members to discuss and progress potential options to move forward.

13) Maghera Development Framework and Action Plan (2017-2030)

- Approve the Maghera Development Framework and Action Plan (2017-2030)
- Proceed to appoint a consultant team to initiate early design work to prepare for an application for funding to Department for Communities

14) Sponsorship Request for Runway Magherafelt Fashion Show

Approve request for £500 sponsorship towards the Runway Magherafelt Fashion Show on Thursday 12 October 2017, the same arrangement as per previous years.

Matters for Information

D134/17 Minutes of Development Committee held on Thursday 11 May 2017

Members noted minutes of Development Committee held on Thursday 11 May 2017.

In response to Councillor Monteith's question the Head of Parks stated that as directed, any proposed scheme for Ballysaggart Lough was being considered through the Capital Projects Steering Group.

Councillor Monteith was emphatic that Ballysaggart Lough be an item on the agenda for the next Development Committee meeting and asked that a meeting be arranged with Dungannon DEA Councillors.

D135/17 Mid Ulster Rural Development Partnership

Members noted previously circulated report, which provided an update on interim rural development strategy for Mid Ulster.

Local Government (NI) Act 2014 – Confidential Business

Resolved: In accordance with Section 42, Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Local Government Act (NI) 2014 that Members of the public be asked to withdraw from the meeting whilst Members consider item D136/17.

Matters for Information

D136/17 Confidential Minutes of Development Committee held on Thursday 11 May 2017

D137/17 Duration of Meeting

The meeting commenced at 7 pm and concluded at 8.25 pm.

CHAIR _____

DATE _____

K



Report on	Mid Ulster District Tourism Development Group
Reporting Officer	Michael Browne
Contact Officer	Allison O'Keefe

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To present Minutes of Tourism Development Group meeting held on 5 April 2017 and ratified at meeting on 14 June 2017.
2.0	Background
2.1	<p>Tourism Development Group (TDG) was established to create a working forum between Council and private sector businesses. The TDG will assist with policy development and support the implementation of Council's Tourism Strategy and associated work in order to create economic growth, increase visitor numbers and create employment.</p> <p>The group meet on a bi-monthly basis and as per the agreed Terms of Reference all business will be reported to Council through the Development Committee.</p>
3.0	Main Report
3.1	The ratified minutes of the most recent meeting of the Tourism Development Group dated 5 April are attached as Appendix 1.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<p><u>Financial & Human Resources Implications</u></p> <p>Financial: NA</p> <p>Human: NA</p>
4.2	<p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>NA</p>
4.3	<p><u>Risk Management Implications</u></p> <p>NA</p>



5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	NA
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	Appendix A – Minutes of Tourism Development Group Meeting dated 5 April 2017.

MID ULSTER TOURISM DEVELOPMENT GROUP**Wednesday 5 April 2017 at 10.30am****In Walsh's Hotel, Maghera****Attendees:**

Chair Cllr Sean Clark - MUDC
Cllr Tony Quinn - MUDC
Cllr Niamh Doris - MUDC
Norman Bell - Lissan House
Anna-Marie McFerran - The Old Thatch Inn
Hugh McCloy – Jungle NI
David Bradley – Northern Regional College
Simon Wiggins – South West College
Kieran Bradley – Walsh's Hotel
Neil Somerville – Horses Welcome
Bobby Bell – J&K Coaches
Brian McCormick – Seamus Heaney
HomePlace

Mary McKeown - Tourism Manager
Grainne Mullholland – South West College

Officers:

Adrian McCreesh – Director of Business & Communities
Michael Browne – Head of Tourism
Tony McCance – Head of Culture & Arts
Mary McGee - Business Engagement
Genevieve Bell - Tourism Officer
Charmain Bell - Tourism Officer
Graeme Major – Tourist Information
Supervisor
Sharon Arbuthnot - Events Officer

Apologies:

Colleen Lowry - Blessingbourne
Terry McCrory – Heraldic Craft

Secretariat:

Allison O'Keefe - Business Support

Chair welcomed David Bradley, who would replace Allastar McGarry as NRC representative at future meetings and Bobby Bell, J&K Coaches.

1. Minutes of Meeting held on 8 February 2017

Request to amend minutes to note that H McCloy, Jungle NI was not in attendance at previous meeting. Having been circulated in advance of the meeting and amendment noted the minutes were taken as read and correct.

Proposed: Cllr N Doris Seconded: Cllr T Quinn

2. Matters Arising**2.1 Mid Ulster Community Planning Coordinator**

Chair read correspondence received from MUDC Community Planning Coordinator, inviting a member of the TDG to join the Economic Growth working group. A McCreesh provided an overview of the 5 Thematic Working Groups, made up of statutory, community and voluntary organisations who will develop delivery plans and then oversee the delivery and monitoring of community planning actions thereafter. He stressed that a strong private sector representative would ensure profile of tourism. As no nominations were brought forward it was agreed to contact those unable to attend and provide an opportunity for private sector businesses to meet and discuss.

3. Tourism Clusters Expression of Interest

M McGee informed that a public call was placed in 5 local newspapers and email sent to all tourism contacts on MUDC database. A list of nominees for each Cluster was circulated.

4. Cluster Staff Reports

Tourism Cluster Report dated 5 April 2017 was circulated to members in advance of the meeting.

Businesses were encouraged to forward information to G Major, Tourist Information Officer, for inclusion in the 'What's On Guide' thus raising the profile for their event.

Events officer informed that an events calendar will be produced and circulated to trade, VIC's and attractions to attract a wider audience.

Business Engagement Officer stated that there is a need for greater use of local produce, excellent customer service as evidenced when speaking with group organisers at Tourism NI's Meet the Buyer, they all sought to see local produce and local producers named on the menu.

Chair and Cllr T Quinn acknowledged the work being done, however felt that need to capture the figures to encourage more businesses and visitors. In response to a query regarding item 2.3 Scenic Driving Routes, Head of Tourism stipulated that Councils could engage with Transport NI to ensure roads are fit for the purpose and provide a pleasurable experience to the visitor. Chair advised that routes have been changed due to safety issues and to ease traffic. Cllr Quinn proposed that Council work with Transport NI to ensure safer driving routes and establish viewing points.

Cllr Quinn commended all involved in the Tourism Strategy Launch and especially in bringing Hugh O'Neill and Ulysses Grant together. Members were informed that copies of the strategy were available to take with them.

In response to monitoring footfall, Business Engagement Officer stated the importance of following up with trade, accurately recording stats and not underestimating figures. She reported that through follow-ups with trade, 4 businesses received groups from the Meet the Buyer event and by using a code to track a recent Active Retirement advert encourages a call to action and phone call to monitor success.

Director of Business and Communities concluded that Council will not provide a solution alone. He stressed that Council will endeavour to monitor visitors, expenditure, install electronic counters, and capture non-domestic users, however, trade also have a responsibility to capture and share data. Businesses need to provide honesty and confidence to work with Council to show a true picture of how Mid Ulster is performing.

5. Browne Signage Proposal

Head of Tourism informed that trade are invited to make an application for signage on an annual basis. He stated that Transport NI are responsible for the erection and removal of signage and proposed inviting both Tourism NI and Transport NI to the next TDG meeting. Members were advised that there would be an opportunity to train trade on completing applications through the Digital Hub. H McCloy informed there was an issue resulting in court between Council and Jungle NI.

6. Mid Ulster Council Tourism Strategy

Head of Tourism commented on the success of the launch which incorporated the 3 main themes and showcased the value of what lies within the District, in particular the actor I McElhinny (White Beard in Game of Thrones) reading a poem connecting both Seamus Heaney and William Carleton. He remarked on the co-operation of the trade following 18 months of engagement.

7. Digital Strategy

Head of Tourism reported that as a result of engagement with trade minor changes have been made and a draft of the Strategy should be available within coming weeks.

8. Industry Update

Business Engagement Officer invited trade to take the opportunity to share any progressions within their business.

Lissan House advised that they will open at Easter following an extensive heating project.

Head of Tourism informed coverage of the Cookstown 100 is to feature on an ITV 4 Motorcycling adrenaline programme. Council have engaged with race organisers to maximise PR.

The Old Thatch Inn informed members that through Council's emails and sharing of information she was able to include her business in the World Ambassador programme and although she did not have direct access to Meet the Buyer, she received 2 tours as a result of Council attending.

Jungle NI reported their Rampage event attracted 1,000 visitors with 500 bed nights. They aim to target 2,000 in 2018. He also informed that visitor numbers had increased 50% in the first quarter compared to last year. However, he was concerned over action taken against them over signage. Head of Tourism indicated that once the Digital Strategy is complete the technology will be put in place to make it straight forward to record and capture data to show success.

Walsh's Hotel spoke of the benefits of working together and gave an example of local cycling events creating bed nights and signage increasing footfall, however he highlighted, the issue of signage being removed from A roads. Head of Business and Communities encouraged businesses to work together with Council and challenge such issues. He stated that signage is the responsibility of Planners and an internal signage meeting should take place between Council, planners and Transport NI in order to shape policy and the outcome.

N Somerville informed that it was encouraging for a private sector business to work with Council in pushing forward horse trails through forests in Clogher Valley which will be the first in Mid Ulster.

9. VIC Statistics Update

Head of Tourism circulated 2016 VIC Figures for Cookstown, Magherafelt and Dungannon and also district wide monitoring results for some major attractions. The figures will be presented on a monthly basis. Ranfurly House have re-registered with Tourism NI as a VIC and should be in a position to provide figures in the future. When asked about the location of a VIC in Dungannon town centre, Head of Tourism responded that other strategic points will be digitally recorded. Director of Business and Communities stated that currently figures only reflect tourism enquiries, therefore council are looking to put in place a system to count accurately.

10. District Wide Monitoring Results

Taken in Item 9.

11. Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency

Chair welcomed Sarah McAuley and Paddy O’Kane, NISRA to give a presentation and provide an overview on how tourism stats are recorded and presented in N Ireland. They stressed that all stats are collated impartially and in strict confidentiality. Stats recorded are based on overnight trips, expenditure, occupancy rates etc. and published on nisra.com. NISRA will liaise with Tourism NI and engage with Councils. Following discussions the subsequent issues were raised that reflect poor figures for council areas:

- Low and nil response rates
- Inaccurate recordings
- Unable to capture data from ROI
- Complexity of capturing data
- Caravan and camping excluded
- Figures required for investment

Director of Business and Communities stressed that such figures are grossly misleading and stated Tourism NI should make it conditional that accommodation providers submit figures to ensure accuracy. He reiterated the need for consensus among trade, council, TNI and NISRA suggesting all meet to bridge gaps and find solutions. Chair felt that businesses need to be given an incentive to submit figures.

Head of Tourism proposed that Tourism NI and Transport NI both be invited prior to next meeting.

12. Community Planning Forum Representative

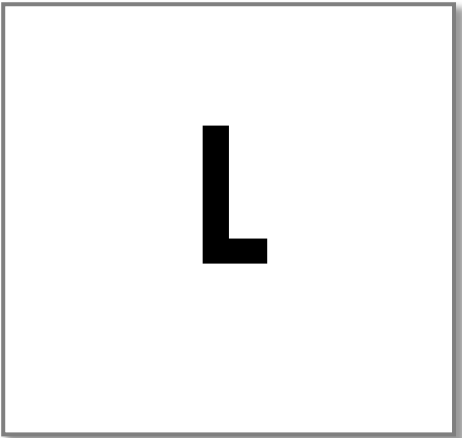
Taken at Item 2.

13. AOB

No other business was presented.

Chair thanked K Bradley, Walsh's Hotel, for his hospitality in hosting the meeting and providing lunch.

Meeting ended at 12.20am. The next meeting of the Tourism Development Group will be held on 14 June at 10.30am in Lissan House, Cookstown.



Report on	Summer Events
Reporting Officer	Michael Browne
Contact Officer	Sharon Arbuthnot

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To provide an update of Summer Strategic Events
2.0	Background
2.1	<p>The aim of our strategic events is to maintain/improve the reputation of Mid Ulster District Council as an area that delivers high quality public facing events.</p> <p>Good quality strategic events will also contribute to increasing visitor numbers to the area, and has an economic benefit to the economy. Visitors attending our strategic events will be encouraged to visit our town centres and local shops.</p>
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p><u>Busking Festival/Blues on the Hill</u> Battle of the Buskers returns for it's 3rd year on Saturday 5th August 2017 from 12noon to 4:30pm in Dungannon Town Centre Musicians, singers, bands and solo artists are being invited to showcase their musical talent in this exciting competition. Each Busker will be allocated a pitch to perform on the street during the day and a time slot to perform in the civic space in Upper Market Square. Additional street and family entertainment will also form a great out in Dungannon.</p> <p>After the busking has end, the Hill of The O'Neill will take centre stage hosting an open air ticketed concert. The concert includes a number of well-known artists such as Band of Friends, Dublin Gospel Choir, Grainne Duffy, Kick the Bucket and Rusty Jacks.</p> <p><u>Lumerina</u> The shores of Lough Neagh will be illuminated on Friday 18 August from 6pm until 10pm at Ballyronan Marina. This free family event will host live music, fun fair, hot and cold drinks, and loads to keep the family entertainment. The entertainment will continue on Saturday 19 August from 2pm until 6pm with a programme filled with free family fun to include arts and crafts workshops, climbing wall, children's performers and much more.</p>

	<p><u>Maghera Walled Garden</u></p> <p>Maghera Walled Garden will be transformed into an Enchanted Garden where children will be able to discover a magical mix of fairies and elves on Saturday 26 August from 12noon – 4pm.</p> <p>A range of free activities will be on offer including fairy wand / elf hat making workshop, a treasure hunt for fairy and elf houses, cookie making workshop, pot up a fairy or elf garden, children's entertainment, storytelling and games. A selection of hot and cold food and drinks will also be available.</p> <p><u>Picnic in the Park</u></p> <p>The Idyllic and picturesque Dungannon Park site will host the annual Picnic the Park on Monday 28 August 2017 from 12noon until 5pm.</p> <p>This free family event will attract thousands of visitors to the park. Mr Bubble will wow, thrill and amaze you. He will draw you into the enchanting world of bubbles.</p> <p>Limavady Big Band will perform throughout the afternoon, there will be plenty to keep the family amused including African Drumming Workshops, dancing workshops, family performances.</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<p><u>Financial & Human Resources Implications</u></p> <p>Financial: Delivered within Human: Delivered by officers</p>
4.2	<p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>N/A</p>
4.3	<p><u>Risk Management Implications</u></p> <p>N/A</p>
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	N/A
6.0	Documents Attached & References
	N/A

M

Report on	Knockmany Forest Licence Agreement
Reporting Officer	Head of Parks
Contact Officer	Nigel Hill

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update members on progress in relation to proposed Licence Agreement and Lease associated to Knockmany Forest development.
2.0	Background
2.1	<p>In June 2013, Outdoor Recreation NI was commissioned by Dungannon and South Tyrone Borough Council to complete a Forest Recreation Audit for nine forests within the Council area namely; Altmore, Caledon/ Brantry, Crocknagrally, Dunmoyle, Fardross, Favour Royal, Knockmany, Mullaghfad and Parkanaur. Mid Ulster District Council in April 2015, considered it an opportune time to complete a similar audit of the forest product in the former Cookstown and Magherafelt District Council areas namely; Bann Woods South, Cookstown Forest, Creggan Forest, Davagh Forest, Derrynoyd Forest, Drum Manor Forest Park, Iniscarn Forest, Moydamlaght Forest, Moyola Forest, Portglenone Forest and Pomeroy Forest.</p> <p>With the completion of this second audit, a complete overview of the current recreation facilities and future potential for twenty forests within the new Mid Ulster council area was determined.</p> <p>For each forest, the current provision of and opportunities for future outdoor recreation development was considered, within the context of what is happening at a regional and national level.</p> <p>The study employed both primary and secondary research methods including desk top research of existing reports and strategies, individual site assessments, consultation with a wide range of local and national organisations, user groups and the private sector and an analysis of best practice taking place at a national scale and from Great Britain.</p>
2.2	It is recognised that whilst some of the forests in the Mid Ulster District currently provide a range of outdoor recreation and activity tourism opportunities, the potential of the forests have not yet been realised. They are currently a relatively untapped resource in terms of outdoor recreation and activity tourism opportunities but with considered investment and management have the potential to become key sites for both the local community and visitors. Through the study three forests were identified as having the potential to attract day visitors in their own right to the area if developed appropriately and sensitively namely, Parkanaur, Drum Manor and Davagh.
2.3	In addition, several forests although recognised as providing primarily for the local community, were identified as having the potential to add to the wider visitor offering of the area namely, Pomeroy, Knockmany, Drumcairne Portglenone and Lough Fea.

	<p>All forests in the Council area were found to be deficient in basic infrastructure and consequently customer-focus. A significant change is therefore required to ensure that the forests become more 'visitor inspired' moving forward. In addition all forests considered in the study, with the exception of Davagh, were found to require significant improvements to the visitor welcome, interpretation and waymarking in order to inspire user confidence. It is recommended that developing an overall 'brand' for the Mid Ulster forests, would help provide a cohesive experience for users, as well as instilling a sense of place.</p>
2.4	<p>It was identified that creating new or enhancing existing outdoor recreation facilities, such as adventure play, multi-use trails, mountain biking trails, walking trails, angling facilities would also benefit many of the forests in the area as would co-ordinating a series of planned events throughout the year and improved promotion of the forest resource.</p>
2.5	<p>The importance of the forests in providing doorstep opportunities for the local community and consequently the direct benefits that this brings in terms of improvements in health and well-being, social capital and protection of the resource cannot be underestimated. It is essential that moving forward local communities are 'bought in' to the future development of the forests in their area and many of these proposals have been captured through the community planning process and are referenced in the draft MUDC Outdoor Recreation Strategy.</p>
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>Mid Ulster District Council made formal representations to Forest Service in April 2015 in relation to establishment of an amended Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The amended Memorandum of Understanding was formalised in June 2016.</p>
3.2	<p>Representations to Forest Service in relation to acquiring licence agreements for Parkanuar, Knockmany, Portglenone and Drum Manor Forests were initiated in December 2016. Drumcairne Forest was added to the list in May 2017.</p>
3.3	<p>Forest Service requested proposals to create additional lease agreements for specific locations to include Knockmany and Pomeroy Forest projects. These agreements would provide formal lease arrangements for car park, play park areas and standing structures the scope of the licence agreements.</p>
3.4	<p>Instructions for the creation of lease agreements were submitted to Forest Service in June 2017. (appendix 1)</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<p><u>Financial & Human Resources Implications</u></p> <p>Financial: Specific forest and outdoor recreation development proposals are being considered as part of the Outdoor Rec Strategy Development and are subject to associated capital and revenue funding being available.</p> <p>Human: Existing staff resources sufficient to coordinate project support.</p>
4.2	<p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>N/A</p>

4.3	<u>Risk Management Implications</u> N/A
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Information provided to members for update purposes only.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Knockmany Lease proposals (Appendix 1 & 2)



Comhairle Ceantair
Lár Uladh
Mid Ulster
District Council

19th June 2017

Ian Irwin
Director of Forest Management
Forest Service Northern Ireland
Forest Service Headquarters
Inishkeen House
Killyhevlin
Enniskillen
BT74 4EJ

Re: Request for Licence and Lease Agreements

Dear Ian,

Further to our initial request, 16th May 2017, which outlined the areas and nature of development proposed by Mid Ulster District Council in relation to the Council's priority sites. I wish to provide details of lease arrangements which would be necessary to support and permit development at Knockmany and Pomeroy Forests.

Knockmany Forest

Lease Proposal

Council propose to support and develop recreational use of the Knockmany with the local community through a partnership arrangement with Knockmany Runners Club. Council request the creation of a formal lease with Forest Service for two parcels of land as identified on the attached map along with a formal right of way. The project will make provision for a visitor's building/public toilets/event space and picnic/children's play area located at the central hub area with an overflow (lower) carpark adjacent to the county road. I have attached initial concept details of the proposed building, which will be a pitched roof, prefabricated modular structure with a finished wooden clad exterior comprising a foot print of 12m x 6m.

Licence Proposal

Council propose to support and develop recreational use of the Knockmany through the provision of a licence agreement with Forest Service for the full area of Knockmany Forest inclusive of all features such as the lake, pathways and trails currently mapped within the boundaries of the forest.

Pomeroy Car Park

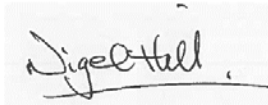
Lease Proposal

Council propose to create additional car park spaces on existing available lands owned by Forest Service. Council request the creation of a lease agreement with Forest Service for the identified lands as per attached map to also include the existing play park and associated formal rights of way from the county road. Works to the entrance and access road leading to the car park will also be subject to improvements as required by planning service. I also attach for your reference the council's project plans as approved in February 2017.

Mid Ulster District Council and Forest Service Northern Ireland (FSNI) have a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) relating to collaborative partnership within FSNI lands to create social recreational tourism and economic benefits for the Mid Ulster District. The Council understands it is required to provide an overview of our proposed development in order to obtain necessary licences an Agreement for Licence (valid during development) and Licence (valid during management and maintenance). The information provided, we hope is sufficient at this stage to initiate the lease and licence agreements as presented.

I would be grateful if you could advise if any additional information is required as Council is keen to progress in order to avail of a current external partnership and funding opportunities associated to these projects.

Yours Sincerely,


A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nigel Hill', with a horizontal line underneath.

Nigel Hill
Head of Parks
Mid Ulster District Council

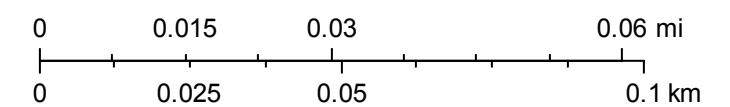
Knockmany Forest Lease



June 16, 2017

 Mid_Ulster_Outline

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Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland - © Crown Copyright and Database Right

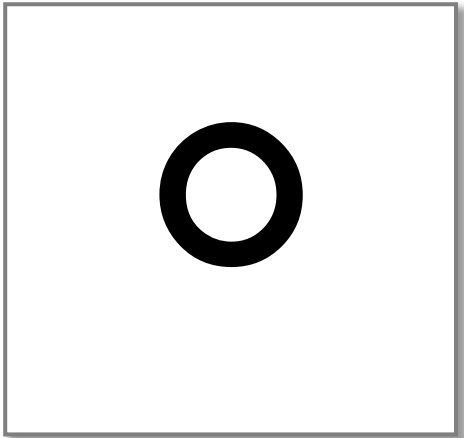
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Report on	Altmore and Cappagh Reservoirs Update
Reporting Officer	Head of Parks
Contact Officer	Nigel Hill

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update members on the current position in relation to Almore and Cappagh Reservoirs and the proposal from NIWater to dispose of the amenities.
2.0	Background
2.1	Altmore reservoir was constructed during the period between 1854 and 1907. The reservoir was used to supply water to Dungannon and district. There are no designated environmental areas within the immediate vicinity of the reservoir, however the downstream watercourse is designated as an Area of Local Conservation Interest. There are no designated monuments or antiquities in the vicinity of the reservoir.
2.2	Cappagh Village Regeneration Group expressed an interest in the recreational development and the use of adjoining Forestry lands to Northern Ireland Water in 2013. The community group also made representations to legacy council Dungannon & South Tyrone Borough in 2013. The community group had a desire to develop recreational facilities as part of a funding proposal under the Space and Place Funding Programme.
2.3	Cappagh Community Group Development Proposal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fully accessible walking/ family cycling trail connecting village to bottom pond (Community Path) <p>Bottom Pond</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creation of a visitor hub Trail around pond including fitness equipment Creation of a Sensory Trail to include reinstatement of herb garden Play provision including play area and play trail Landscaping of site (in keeping with natural environment) Camping space/ pods/ tree houses <p>Top Pond</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walk Trail to connect bottom and top reservoirs Parking at Upper reservoir
2.4	Issues identified by Cappagh Community Group Land ownership was the main constraint to development. Security of Tenure was needed before any funding can be secured or development took place. Northern Ireland Water and Forest Service NI were the identified landowners. No formal agreement was secured to develop the project at that stage.

2.5	In the financial year 2014/15 NIWater declared the impounding reservoirs at Altmore and Cappagh as no longer in service and surplus to requirements. Initial discussions with legacy Council Dungannon & South Tyrone Borough yielded no progress due to the pending impacts of RPA.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Recent communications (June 2017) between Mid Ulster District Council and Northern Ireland Water confirmed that the reservoirs at Altmore & Cappagh were offered to the public sector through the LPS D1 process in May 2014.
3.2	NIWater confirmed that Dungannon & South Tyrone Council expressed an interest in these properties, but records indicate that no formal development proposal materialised.
3.3	NI Water confirmed that they did not advertise these properties on the open market and presently have no plans to do so.
3.4	Council decision on any potential development must be considered in the context of the Outdoor Recreation Strategy that is currently being developed.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<p><u>Financial & Human Resources Implications</u></p> <p>Financial: Altmore and Cappagh development proposals are not currently included in MUDC's capital development programme.</p> <p>Human: Existing staff resources sufficient to coordinate project support.</p>
4.2	<p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>N/A</p>
4.3	<p><u>Risk Management Implications</u></p> <p>N/A</p>
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Information provided to members for update purposes only.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	N/A



Report on	Public Rights of Way (PRoW) Update
Reporting Officer	Head of Parks
Contact Officer	Nigel Hill

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


1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update members on the current position in relation to current programme of MUDC Public Right of Way investigations.
2.0	Background
2.1	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.
2.2	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.
2.3	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. The current gap in service delivery is being procured through an external countryside constancy service since August 2016. This service was due to expire on 31 st March 2017. A twelve extension of this interim contract was approved by Council to provide an amended expiry date of 31 st March 2018. This extension was required to complete current cases due to unavoidable delays associated to public evidence gathering and the need to seek additional legal advice on two current cases, which are likely to be appealed.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Mid Ulster District Council initiated four investigations from August 2016. These were Shore Road, Ballyronan, Spring Road/Brookmount Road, Ballinderry, Brackaghreilly, Maghera and Duman/Lismoney Road, Cookstown.
3.2	Two cases have been completed, Shore Road, Ballyronan and Brackaghreilly, Maghera, one of which may be subject to an appeal.
3.3	One case, Spring Road to Brookmount Road is currently with council solicitor seeking legal advice before submission of the report.

3.4	The fourth case, Dunman/Lismoney Road has not been progress due to lack of user evidence and public initiation.
3.5	Two pending investigations include Gortavale Moss, Rock and a review of Innevall Railway Walk.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<p><u>Financial & Human Resources Implications</u></p> <p>Financial: Budget allocation of £4,800 for an extended service contract up to 31st March 2018.</p> <p>Human: Existing staff resources currently assisted by consultancy to coordinate PRow information advice and investigations.</p>
4.2	<p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>N/A</p>
4.3	<p><u>Risk Management Implications</u></p> <p>N/A</p>
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Information provided to members for update purposes only.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	N/A

P

Report on	Parks Service Progress Report
Reporting Officer	Head of Parks
Contact Officer	Nigel Hill

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To 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
2.0	Background
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
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>BIG Spring Clean</p> <p>In March 2017 the annual BIG spring clean of the shore line along Ballyronan Marina to TRYAD point was held. Volunteers from the TRYAD wildlife & conservation club and staff from Ballyronan Marina worked together to clear the stretch of shore line from litter. Over 100 bags of litter were lifted from the shorelines during the event. This environmental initiative is 1 of 3 that contributes towards the Blue Flag Marina status at Ballyronan.</p>  <p>Volunteers working their way through the Woodland at Ballyronan and Traad.</p>

3.2

Open Day Event at Castledawson Allotments.

Castledawson allotments recently hosted its first open day. Members of the public were invited to attend. They were treated to activities such as a tour of the site, the making of bumble bee homes, seed planting along with spring and summer bedding preparations



Trevor Wilson officiates on the Open Mid Ulster District Council Chair Councillor Day at Castledawson allotments.

3.3

Easter Events at Dungannon Park and Round Lake, Fivemiletown

Two family/children's events were scheduled for Easter Weekend with fun, games and side shows to fill Easter Sunday afternoon from 2.00pm to 5.00pm for families on the festive break. All activities and entertainment was free and attended by 1281 children over the two venues.



There's no beating a bit of fun, local children enjoying Easter Fun at Round Lake Fivemiletown

3.4

Blue Flag Awards

Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful have presented Beach and Marina Operators with 14 national and 10 internationally recognised awards for excellence in facilities, environmental management, education and water quality. The international Blue Flag will be flown at 8 of Northern Ireland's beaches and 2 marinas to signify world class facilities and destinations. The Blue Flag is an award programme certified by the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE). 47 countries participate in awarding Blue Flags to more than 4000 beaches and marinas worldwide making this award accessible to local beach goers and tourists alike. Beaches and marinas with a Blue Flag are demonstrating their commitment to protecting the coastal environment, excellent water quality, safety, and access for all. Blue Flag beaches and marinas also offer environmental education activities, as an important part of the award criteria. The Awards Ceremony was hosted by Mid Ulster District Council at Ballyronan Marina, the proud recipients of a Blue Flag Award for Ballyronan Marina. The 2017 awards were held at Ballyronan Marina on the 24th May 2017. The Ballyronan Marina Award was received by Cllr Gildernew.



Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful Beach and Marina Operators Blue Flag Award Winners at Ballyronan Marina

3.5

Picnic site vandalism

The Height Barrier at Murtray Picnic site Ballygawley was recently damaged, the swift action of both Parks staff and Building Services insured that no users were put in risk.



The scene at Murtray Lough Picnic Layby

3.6

Parks targeted by Anti-Social Behaviour

A number of parks in Dungannon were subject to acts of vandalism and anti-social behaviour with fire damage reported in Windmill Wood and Railway Park during the week ending 26th March. Parks staff received reports from the general public inconvenienced as a result of the activities



Damage to the public footpath at Railway Park where glass and melted plastic posed a significant risk to park users

3.7	<p>Kids Get Hooked on Fishing this summer!</p> <p>Mid Ulster District Council has launched a series of fly and coarse fishing schools taking place across the district in July and August.</p> <p>The fishing courses are part of Mid Ulster District Council's programme of summer activities, and are being organised in partnership with the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA), Ufish Coaching, Moyola Angling Association and APGAI Ireland.</p> <p>For those who want to dip their toe into the water, there are free coarse angling taster sessions (each lasting 25 minutes) happening on Friday evenings throughout July from 6.30pm – 8.30pm at Dungannon Park.</p> <p>The first fishing course in the series is a 3 day coarse angling school taking place from Thursday 3rd – Saturday 5th August, with morning and afternoon sessions running from 9.30am – 12.30pm, and 1.30pm – 4.30pm, at Dungannon Park's 12 acre freshwater lake. Suitable for children aged 11 and over, the course will give participants an opportunity to try out angling and gain some practical coarse fishing experience, all using the expertise of qualified instructors. All angling equipment is supplied and it is suitable for beginners and improvers.</p> <p>The second fishing school (also suitable for children aged 11 and over) to take place is a fly fishing school at Bradley's Lake, Tobermore from Monday 7th August to Friday 11th August from 10am to 2pm. Qualified instructors will be on hand to give advice on techniques. All angling equipment is supplied and it is suitable for beginners and improvers.</p>
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Chair, Councillor Kim Ashton launches Mid Ulster District Council 2017 Angling Summer Schools along with participating instructors and participants.

4.0 Other Considerations

4.1 Financial & Human Resources Implications

Financial: N/A
Human: N/A

4.2 Equality and Good Relations Implications

N/A

4.3	<u>Risk Management Implications</u> N/A
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Information provided to members for update purposes only.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	

Q

Report on	Leisure Services Quarterly Progress Report
Reporting Officer	Anne-Marie Campbell
Contact Officer	Liam Glavin

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update Members of the progress being made regarding activities in Leisure Services and highlight events that will be occurring in the future.
2.0	Background
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.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	Full details of key elements of Leisure Service provision for the last quarter is included with a summary of key highlights in Appendix 1:
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<u>Financial</u> N/A <u>Human resources</u> N/A
4.2	<u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u> N/A
4.3	<u>Risk Management Implications</u> N/A

5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members are asked to note activities being undertaken in Leisure Services and the events that will be occurring in the future.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Appendix 1 - Key elements of Leisure Service provision in the last quarter.

Dungannon Leisure Centre

Classes and Courses

- The fitness programme continues during April, May and June. Circuit Training on Wednesday night continues to be as popular, as does ½ AND ½ Spin Classes on Mondays, along with the Tuesday and Friday Spin Classes.
- Other classes included are- H.I.I.T., S.W.E.A.T. (Strength, Work, Endurance, Agility Training). Our S.W.E.A.T. class has been very well attended so far, with excellent numbers taking part each week. H.I.I.T. is a lunchtime class run on Mondays and is a high intensity 30 minute workout for all abilities.
- Yoga, Step Aerobics and Jive Class also continue to be popular activities.
- Insanity Live came to Dungannon Leisure Centre from Saturday 8th April. This exciting new class gives customers the opportunity to experience cardio conditioning and strength based training. The fully qualified instructor will demonstrate and lead the class through all the movements and exercises involved. There was plenty of dodging, ducking, dipping and diving at the Every Body Active Easter Dodgeball Camp in April at the centre. The kids enjoyed the camp and learned new skills throughout the week. Great fun was had by kids and coaches.
- 9 people participated and enjoyed an evening at the Save a Babys Life course on 12 June. New skills and knowledge were taught throughout the two hour course, with people going away more confident with child and baby CPR.

Fitness Suite

- Two promotions were offered over Easter – Teen Fit for 13-15 year olds- (Aerobic equipment only) and a new members offer. Both offers were successful in encouraging new members to use the fitness suite.

School of Aquatics

- Masters swimming classes continue on Monday and Friday 6-7pm and Thursday 7-8am. These classes regularly attract over 40 swimmers, many of who now use the pool frequently outside these class times.
- The Saturday morning Swimmer Development class - 6.30-8.30am is ongoing.
- 1-1's for April to June on sale Monday 27th March, they have proved as usual very popular with all availability and slots now sold out.

- **Easter Intensive Programme**
Following the sale of 1-1's for the next term, we also are offered children the opportunities to avail of four day 1-1's over Easter week. These lessons were identified for anyone who was struggling with a specific class, aspect of swimming or just needed that one on one attention to progress to the next stage. Again the lessons were very popular and have sold out with massive interest from the public.
- 1-1's for July and August will go on sale Monday 19th June, they have proved as usual very popular, and so the summer programme will provide people with different lesson options within these months.
- Aqua Academy classes continue to sell out as participants as participants continue to practice while waiting to Dungannon Amateur Swimming club.
- **Teen Swim/Lifesaving**
With the continued success of Teen Swim and consultation with the participants, we have revamped the class to introduce lifesaving to the class. The class is now 30 minutes swimming technique and drills followed by 30 minutes lifesaving skills. Positive feedback has been given by both parents and children taking part, with this class providing best of both worlds over the duration of the class. There is also potential for people in this class to feed into the National Pool Lifeguard in the future with prior lifesaving skills which will be a massive benefit to the individual.
- On the 2nd June Dungannon Leisure Centre hosted the final of the Forest Fruit Aqua Sprint Final. This event brought over 200 new comers to our centre, and feedback was very positive with people commenting how good the gala set up was and the cleanliness of the pool and water.

Clubs

- Local clubs include- 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. The centre also hosts Dungannon Rifle Club in the Projectile hall three to four times a week. Dungannon Amateur Swimming Club continues to train four times a week in our pool.
- The 50+ club attracts large numbers on Tuesdays and Thursdays in our sports hall, fitness suite and pools and have increased its activity programme to include supervised fitness classes. The summer break commences end of June.

Men's Health Club

- The Men's Health club continue to meet in the centre on Wednesdays enjoying a range of activities including swimming, fitness suite and football. The 10 week fitness/sports programme continues.
- May 29 saw the SwiMOYthon where swimmers swam 4.8miles/308 lengths of the main pool in order to raise funds for Moy Primary School.

Cookstown Leisure Centre

Summer Scheme

- The first Summer Scheme enrolments took place on the 1st June, although the first two weeks have been slow for uptake. The first course to get underway in the Cookstown Area will be “Fairhill Tennis Camp” on the 3rd July.
- The squash club hosted a tournament over June in memory of Nick Hastings who passed away earlier this year. The competition is running from 12th June to 17th June.

Evolve Fitness

- During the month of April to June “evolve FITNESS” ran a members rowing challenge. There were two levels for members to complete; a beginner’s level where they had to row 30km or an advanced level where members had to row 60km using the rowing machine over a 1 month period. This challenge proved popular with close to 49 entering the challenge. This year a total of 43 members managed to complete the challenge; 5 taking on the advanced level and 38 taking on the beginner level. The challenge was advertised on posters within the centre and on the centre facebook page.
- A total of 30 new members signed up over the last month.
- Gym Users have been offered the following promotions over May to June:-

May 2017

Mad May Promotion Join between 01- 07 May ‘Get June Free’

- Receive 12 months for price of 11 on D.D’s and 1 month extra on cash memberships

Evolve FITNESS Marathon Challenge

Members to complete 42km beginner level to get 1 month free or 84km advanced level to get 2 months free during June

June 2017

Summer Promotion ‘A Little Ray of Sunshine’

Join between 01 – 30 June ‘Get 2 MONTHS FREE’

- Over the last three months the “Physical Activity Programme” has increased considerably, with currently 90 plus clients, either at the initial 12 weeks’ stage by the “phase three practitioners (Cardiac), local GP’s, and Charis (Cancer) or re-referred by their local GP’s.
- The swimming coordinator has awarded “Orritor P.S. (P6)” the “Chairman’s Cup for 2017. A full report will be presented, following the presentation on 22nd June.

Davagh MBT/Forest Trails

Volunteer Day

- An annual volunteer day took place with local mountain bikers and John Howard to help carry out some major trail resurfacing. Four dedicated volunteers attended on Saturday 10th June 2017, where they worked tirelessly and made repairs on Wolfs Hill, Big Wig Jig and Giants Bed sections of the trail. Pothole repairs at the top of the trail head have now been completed by Council contractor.



Volunteer Day on Saturday 10th June 2017 with 4 volunteers present

Davagh Enduro “2017”

- For the third year Davagh will host a family fun weekend on 25th/26th June with coaching sessions and youth races. The races for boys and girls were divided into under 8, 10, 12 and 14 years age categories and senior categories.
- The objective of this youth development event was to encourage new riders to the sport and to promote the excellent facilities at Davagh Forest through coaching, skills development sessions and fun demonstrations and to create a fun filled family event for the region.

Usage Figures

Usage figures for April to September 2016:-

Usage Figures

Davagh Forest Trails	Car park	Total Trails	Pump Track	New Counter on top red trails	Running Trails Total
April to June 2016	5,711	3,469	1,690	2,822	3,469
July to Sept 2016	5,713	4,285	1,951	2,366	7,754
Oct to Dec 2017	4,205	3,149	1,314	2,328	10,903
Jan to April 2017	5,883	2,561**	1,188	178***	13,464

** Trail diversion in place during March and no bikers crossing this point during March and April 2017.

*** Counter not working.

Events and Closures for Davagh 2017

Date	Time	Event	Trails
29 th April 2017	9-5	Cookstown Motor Club Targa Rally	Full Closure
Sunday 7 th May	9.30am-4.30pm	NPS XC Ulster –MTB	Full Closure
*Wednesday 17 th May, 14 th June, 19 th July and 16 th August	6 - 9pm	Carn Wheelers Wednesday night youth series- MTB	Part Closure and restrictions
Sat 24 th & Sun 25 th June	9-5	Davagh Enduro - MTB	Restrictions on Sat and full closure Sun
* Friday 25 th August	5.00pm to 10.30pm	Magherafelt Motor Club	Full Closure
Sat 14 th Oct	12.00	10 mile Acorns	Part Closure
* Sat 4 th November	9-5	Magherafelt Motor Club	Full Closure
* Sat 25 th November	9-5	Magherafelt Motor Club	Full Closure

*Dates currently provisionally booked

Mid Ulster Sports Arena

- During the above period, Mid Ulster Sports Arena (MUSA) remained as busy as ever, with increasing demand for all pitches.
- Demand remained steady for the Gaelic pitches from schools and clubs and also demand increased for the soccer pitches, from teams trying to get their fixtures finished up for the season. Schools matches and blitzes remained steady. The week commencing 15 May saw major schools tournaments each day in soccer, gaelic football and hurling. With Ulster Colleges Hurling, Ulster Ladies GAA, Tri County Soccer and St Patrick's Academy Feeder Schools P7 blitz. Ulster Rugby had their final booking for their ulster youth rugby plate and shield events at the beginning of May with high praise for the staff and facilities and the promise to return again next year.
- The largest single event this month though was undoubtedly the NIBFA National League finals on 12 and 13 May, this is the fourth year the event has been held at MUSA with matches on the Friday evening and all day on the Saturday. Over the course of the two days it is estimated that in the region of 1,000 people attended the event.
- The pitches were in fantastic shape and a credit to the grounds staff which according to the organisers is one of the reasons this event returns time and time again, they have another cross border tournament booked for Saturday 3 June and have the NIBFA Finals booked again for May 2018.



Street League

- The launch of Cookstown Street League took place at the beginning of May with the tournament to kick off in on 15 July and run until 9 April 2017. This

year there is a new format for the event which sees the introduction of a new Super League section for Junior Clubs only (intermediate or Irish League clubs aren't allowed to enter), alongside the original Street League section for non-registered / recreational team entry's. (no registered player from any junior, intermediate or senior leagues can play). Entries opened on 5th May and will close on 9 June with the draw to take place week commencing 12 June.



- This year group games will be played throughout the district in Dungannon, Cookstown and Magherafelt with the semi-finals and finals being played at MUSA. As in previous years games have a 7.30pm kick off Monday to Friday and a 2.30pm kick off on Saturday.

NIBFA Cross Border Soccer Tournament Sponsored by Subway

- On Saturday 2 June the NIBFA once again returned to MUSA this time for a cross border soccer event sponsored by Subway. Teams from Cork, Dublin and Donegal attended this event. It is estimated that attendance at this event was in the region of 1,500 people.



- Other large events include Tri County Soccer Tournament with around 600 children attending over the two days, Ulster Colleges Hurling Tournament on Friday 2 June with around ten schools from throughout Ulster, taking part in small sided games with around 200 children in attendance, and the Northern

Ireland Cub Scouts five aside finals which were held on Saturday 10 June on one of the 3G pitches and was attended by at least 16 teams.



Events during this time

- Parkrun continues every Saturday morning at 9.30am (100+ participants weekly)
- Couch to 5K Programme on Tuesday and Thursday evenings 150 registered participants
- IFA GRDO Small Sided games centre
- CYFC Development Centre – 200+ children
- Usage of the Trim Trail by walkers and runners remains steady especially during the day. Estimated numbers using this facility in the region of 100 per day.
- Ulster Rugby U14 Ulster Youth Plate, Bowl and Shield Finals
- Ulster College Hurling Finals (100)
- Ulster Ladies Year 8 Gaelic Football Blitz (250)
- St Patricks Academy Primary 7 Gaelic Football Blitz (200)
- Tri County Soccer Tournament (2 days) (300).
- Birthday Parties
- TriCounty Sports Day (600)
- Ulster College Hurling Tournament (200)
- NIBFA Subway All Ireland Challenge Cup on 2 June (1,500)
- NI Cub Scouts Five Aside Tournament (200)
- **Parkrun Graduation Saturday 10 June 2017**

Future events and activities

- NIBFA National League Cup and Plate finals on 12 and 13 May
- Tyrone County Board Primary School Hurling and Camogie
- NIBFA Cross Border Soccer Tournament Sponsored by Subway on 2 June
- Street League Competition to start mid-July
- Summer Camps
- Harps Cycling Sportif 21 May 2017

Summer Camps

- Musa will be home to a number of Mid Ulster District Council run summer camps over the next eight weeks, such as Multi-sports, Tennis, Disability Sports, Hurling/Camogie and Soccer. We also have a booking for camps from

the Elite Performer Development Centre (IFA) which will see them using MUSA for most of July to prepare for various tournaments.

Moneymore Recreation Centre

- **Easter Scheme 2017.** On Wednesday 19th to Friday 21st April 2017 (10am-12.30pm) Moneymore Recreation Centre held an Easter Scheme. Approximately 19 kids daily attended the scheme daily to enjoy the activities on offer such as a Bouncy Castle, Football, Unihoc, Badminton, Tennis etc.
- **Moneymore Fun Run.** A 5k Fun Run was held in Moneymore village on Friday 21st April 2017 from Springhill.
- **Local Gaelic Clubs.** Moneymore Gaelic Club continued using Moneymore Recreation Centre into April 2017 for their winter training.
- **Jill's Cakes,** A cake designing class takes place at Moneymore Recreation Centre. 15 People attend these classes which are held in the Committee Room. During this programme all the participant's learn how to ice and design Wedding and Birthday Cakes.
- **Headway Brain Injury Association.** Kelly Shepherd from Headway has booked the Committee Room 3 Wednesdays every month from 11am-1pm to hold classes with people who have suffered Brain Injuries. The class started on Wednesday 24th August and they will continue using the facility until the end of December 2017.
- **Climbing Wall Bookings.** The climbing Wall is being advertised currently through social media and by leaflet drops. A number of bookings have been confirmed in May & June 2017.
- **Pilates Classes.** A new 5 week Pilates programme started at Moneymore Recreation Centre on Monday 20th March 2017 (6.15pm-7.15pm).
- **Tuesday pm Yoga Classes.** 2 new 5 week yoga programmes have started at Moneymore Recreation Centre. These classes started on Tuesday 21st March 2017 (6pm-7pm & 7pm-8pm).
- **Birthday Parties.** During April 2017 (8) Birthday Parties were held at Moneymore Recreation Centre.
- **Outdoor MUGA.** The outdoor Tennis nets have now been erected again due to the longer evenings. Parents and children are starting to use the area again to play Tennis, Basketball and other games.
- **Pilates Classes.** A new 5 week Pilates programme started at Moneymore Recreation Centre on Monday 5th June 2017 (6.15pm-7.15pm).
- **Tuesday pm Yoga Classes.** 2 new 5 week yoga programmes have started at Moneymore Recreation Centre. These classes started on Tuesday 6th June 2017 (6pm-7pm & 7pm-8pm).

Meadowbank Sports Arena

- There has been new bookings for this quarter; Maghera Cricket club, Venture Urban Sports (BMX, scooter & skate classes), Buggy Fit and a number of GAA blitzes. There was an Easter Gaelic camp which ran for 2 days organised by Derry GAA and sponsored by Nutty Crust. Mid Ulster Soccer Academy and an IFA Girls Soccer Course are also running throughout May and June.
- Some events of note that have taken place since the last report are:
 - Ulster GAA School Gaelic Blitz – Wed 29th March – (180 Kids)
 - Derry GAA Underage Blitz – Friday 31st March – (220 Kids)
 - Rainey Mini Rhinos Rugby Festival – Saturday 1st April – (200 Kids)
 - O Donovan Rossa OG Underage Gaelic Blitz – Sun 2nd April – (70 Kids)
 - Ulster GAA School Gaelic Blitz – Wed 5th April – (160 Kids)
 - Derry GAA Underage Blitz – Friday 7th April – (420 Kids)
 - Triangle Triathlon Club Duathlon – Sunday 9th April – (80 Athletes)
 - Cricket Ireland Matches – Sunday 9th April – (150 Players)
 - Derry GAA Easter Camp – Wed & Thu 19th & 20th April – (58 & 53 Kids)
 - Barcelona Experience Soccer Camp – Thurs 27th April - (25 Kids)
 - Boys Brigade Soccer Tournament – Sat 29th April – (200 Players)
 - Ulster GAA Gaelic Blitz – Thurs 11th May – (250 Pupils)
 - Holy Family P.S. Athletics – Turs 11th May – (300 Pupils)
 - Rainey Endowed Sports Day – Fri 12th May – (850 Pupils)
 - Woods P.S Soccer Tournament – Thurs 18th May – (150 Pupils)
 - Knockloughrim Campus (Primary) – Thurs 25th May – (150 Pupils)
 - County Derry Secondary School Sports Athletics – Thurs 1st June – (160 Pupils)
 - Sky Blues Youth Annual Soccer Tournament – Sat 3rd & Sun 4th June – (650 & 450 Players)
 - Woods P.S. Sports Day – Wed 7th June – (200 Pupils)
 - St Marys Grammar School Sports Day – Wed 7th June – (165 Pupils)
 - Kilross P.S. Sports Day – Thurs 8th June – (100 Pupils)
 - Spire IPS Sports Day – Friday 9th June – (600 Pupils)
 - Sperrin Harriers Stunnerz ‘n’ Runners Race – Sat 10th June – (350 Stunnerz)
- Upcoming Events in June:
 - Holy Family P.S. Sports day – Wed 14th June
 - Anahorish P.S. Sports day Thurs 15th June
 - Roger Talbot Cricket and Hockey Fun Day – Sat 17th June
 - Holy Family P.S. Sports Day – Tue 20th June
 - Fit for Life Fun Day (Holy Family P.S.) – Thurs 22nd June
 - Gael Scoil Fun Day – Thurs 22nd June
 - Fit for Life Fun Day (Primary schools) – Fri 23rd June
 - Kilronan School Sports Day – Mon 26th June
 - St Marys Grammar School Sports Day – Wed 28th June

Spring Programmes

- Venture Urban Sports have booked Meadowbank for BMX, Scooter and Skating classes for a 10 week course.
- Maghera Cricket Club are using the 3g pitches as their home ground for Matches during the Spring and Summer.
- Cricket Ireland are also going to book the pitches both indoor and outdoor for various Cricket Activities.
- There is a new Buggy Fit Programme underway organised by the Everybody Active Programme with 20 places available per class.
- MUDC Couch 2 5k Programme continues with over 90 runners registered on the first night. The programme runs on a Monday and Wednesday night for 9 weeks.
- New Row Primary School have booked the Outdoor track on a Wednesday evening for a couch 2 5k programme for parents and pupils of the school to participate in.
- Acorns Running club train on the track every Monday and Wednesday Night with 30-50 runners attending each session.
- Slimming World continues on a Thursday and the regular sessions average 85/120 participants.
- There have been 32 parties booked at the Arena to date from the start of April.
- Rainey Mini Hockey hold their weekly training on Friday afternoons with 40/50 children attending each week.
- St Colmcilles Girl Guides meet on a Thursday evening in the Café area with 35 girls attending.
- Mary Hill Ballet School continues on Saturday afternoons with 40/50 dancers attending each week.
- The Meadowbank Fit for Life programme has attracted 9 Primary Schools from the local area this term.
- Northern Region Recovery College are currently running courses in our Meeting Room, 2-5pm twice a week.
- “Magherafelt Soccer Sixes” continues on the 3G pitches and is attracting a lot of teams from the local area.
- The 3G outdoor pitches are block booked every night by local clubs for training. Soccer and Rugby being the main bookings.

- NI Chest Heart and Stroke booked the meeting room for a 6 week course every commencing Wednesday 10th May.
- The Lighthouse church group have booked our café area for regular Sunday morning meetings from 21st May.
- Mid Ulster Soccer Academy have booked for a 6 week course on a mini pitch commencing on 8th June.
- There is a 7 week IFA Girls Soccer course also booked on the mini pitches that has been running from 8th May.



Maghera Leisure Centre

Centre Based Classes and Activities.

- **Annual 10k & 5K Road Race 23rd May.** There was an absolute huge turnout for the annual Maghera Leisure Centre 10k; this year also seen the introduction of a 5k road race. A total of 456 runners took to the road making this year's event, the most successful race ever.



Programmes

- Adult Centre Tuesday and Thursday.
- Kettlebells Tuesday & Thursday.
- Gymnastics Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday finished week commencing 2nd June
- Senior Citizen Club Wed 2pm – 4pm
- Fit Kids Session Mon & Thurs.
- Kirsty Kinetic Kidz Dance Fri 5.15pm – 7.15pm finished Friday 26th May.
- Delivery of GP Referral Programme.
- Daily Morning session classes 10am – 11am.
 - Mon -Core Stability.
 - Tues – Spin.
 - Wed - Circuit Training.
 - Thurs - BLT Blitz.
 - Fri Circuit Training.
- Sunday boot camp & Spinning class.
- Circuits Monday & Thursday Circuit Training (60+ in attendance).
- Spinning Classes Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri & Sat.
- Easter Scheme 19/20/21st April average daily attendance 15.
- Cheerleading 19/20th April – 18 attended.
- 5th June Naiscoil Carntogher School Sports Day & end of year Trip.
- 6th Lissan P.S school Trip.
- 7th St Joseph's P.S school trip.
- 9th St Oilver Plunketts School Trip.
- Easter Boot Camp, 6.30am – 7.15am – Mon 24th – Fri 28th April (average daily attendance 47).
- Pre Summer Boot Camp, 6.30am – 7.15am – Mon 4th June – Fri 9th June (average daily attendance 51).

Clubs at Maghera Leisure Centre

- Ju Jitsu Mon – 7pm – 9.30pm & Sat 10am – 1pm.
- Slaughtneil Camogie Club Tuesday 6pm – 7pm. April only.
- Leo Maguire Taekwondo Club, Main Hall Thursdays 5pm – 6 Karate Friday night.
- Tobermore UTD Mini Soccer Friday 8pm – 9pm.
- Mid Ulster Floral Art Tues 4th April.
- Maghera & District Gardening Group Tues 18th April & 16th May.
- Womens' Institute – Tues 30th May
- Carn Wheelers Annual Cycle 19th April

Tobermore Golf Driving Range

Friday Academy Club – Junior coaching

- The Friday Academy Club commenced on 21st April. The club runs weekly throughout the golfing season providing our young golfers with the chance to come and try the game, practice their skills in game based sessions and take part in “Fundamental Movement Skills” activities; under the expert tuition and guidance of Tony Mulholland resident PGA professional coach at Tobermore Golf Centre.
- Resident PGA Professional Tuition
 - Trackman Lessons – 80 Lessons
 - Standard – 35 lessons
- Easter Junior Camp, 19th, 20th & 21st April, 10am – 1pm & 2pm – 5pm.
- Friday Academy Club 21st, 28th April; 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th May & 2nd, 9th June.
- Short Game Course, delivered on a Tuesday 7pm – 9pm, 25th April – 30th May.
- Kilronan School 27th April, 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th May.
- Special Olympics 8th, 22nd May & 5th June.
- Improvers 5 week course commence Thursday 8th June.

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Report on	Mid Ulster Rural Development Partnership
Reporting Officer	Head of Economic Development

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

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update members on progress with the interim rural development strategy for Mid Ulster.
2.0	Background
2.1	<p>Mid Ulster Rural Development Partnership has been allocated £10.16m for the roll out of a local rural development strategy for Mid Ulster funded under the 2014-2020 NI Rural Development Programme.</p> <p>The Schemes within the local rural strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural Business Investment Scheme • Rural Services Scheme • Village Renewal • Rural Broadband; and • LAG Co-operation <p>Further detail on these Schemes is available on the LAG website www.midulsterrdp.org</p>
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>Members are asked to note progress on the roll out of the strategy schemes as follows:</p> <p>Rural Business Investment Scheme (RBIS) To date 30 businesses have been approved for funding under this Scheme to the value of £613,000. The job creation target from these projects is 71. 15 of these projects have completed to date drawing down just over £348,000 in grant aid.</p> <p>A further 29 applications were received on 25th May 2017 which are currently undergoing eligibility checks before moving to full assessment. Total grant aid requested from these applications is £660,000.</p> <p>There will be further calls for applications under RBIS with the next series of workshops expected in Autumn 2017.</p> <p>The LAG strategy target under RBIS is to support 100 businesses and create 100 jobs.</p>

	<p>Rural Basic Services Scheme</p> <p>Assessment of the 12 applications received from the 1st capital call under the Rural Services Scheme are continuing. The first LAG assessment panel will meet on 19th June 2017. A second panel will be scheduled for early July and third and final panel for mid August.</p> <p>LAG Co-operation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Appalachian Trail (IAT) – Derry and Strabane Local Action Group are leading on this project. Outdoor Recreation NI has been appointed by Derry and Strabane LAG to commence a feasibility study on the development potential of the trail across the LAG areas involved in this project. A public workshop to inform the consultation process for the feasibility study will be held on 19th June 2017 in Council offices Magherafelt at 6:30pm. An invitation has been issued to the members. • Lough Neagh – a pre-development study will be carried out to explore specific actions to improve accessibility and joint marketing of the Lough as a tourism resource. The terms of reference for the study is still being finalised. <p>2017/2018 Spend target</p> <p>The LAG's spend target for 2017/2018 is £1.23m. The majority of this spend will come from the Rural Business Investment Scheme and Village Renewal (£403,000). Due to the timing of calls most of this spend is profiled for the third and fourth quarters of 2017/2018.</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<p><u>Financial & Human Resources Implications</u></p> <p>Financial: N/A Human:N/A</p>
4.2	<p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>N/A</p>
4.3	<p><u>Risk Management Implications</u></p> <p>N/A</p>
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	Members are asked to note the progress outlined above.

6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	